



## NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS POLICY

In keeping with the Station's aim to be a local voice for the New England and Northwest area, 88.9FM is committed to a clear and transparent process for delivering information as follows:

- Report accurately, interpret, and make intelligent and informed comment.
- Encourage discussion, debate and exchange of ideas, which contributes to a more informed, educated, co-operative and compassionate society.
- Adopt a genuinely critical and constructive standpoint on all issues and encourage or provoke critical thought and analysis by our listeners.
- Give attention to a wide range of intelligent viewpoints, and especially those under-represented in the media and social decision-making.
- Combine a global perspective with a concern for national and local issues and draw connections between these issues wherever appropriate – taking special note of issues affecting the New England.
- Present news and current affairs material in entertaining and stimulating forms making creative use of the radio medium – including appropriate use of intelligent satire.
- Present information and raise issues without either overestimating the specialised knowledge of our listeners or underestimating their intelligence.
- Emphasise issues as well as action stories; avoid material tending to be purely superficial or sensational; and refrain from sensationalising or trivialising important issues.
- Be critical of all sources of information and take all reasonable steps to check the accuracy of information before broadcast.
- Develop and maintain an independent agenda and priorities, irrespective of those evident in other media.

NOTE: Attention of news and current affairs programmers is drawn in particular to the Community Broadcasting Codes of Practice: Radio as registered by the Australian Communications and Media Authority and the MEAA Journalists' Code of Ethics.