



S4C Authority Bulletin
Meeting 350 – 17 November 2011
S4C, Cardiff

This bulletin reports on the meeting of the Authority held on 17 November 2011.

1. Matters arising from minutes of meeting 349

The minutes of meeting 349 were approved.

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented his report.

3. Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive presented his report.

Efficiency and Innovation Review by Richie Turner

It had not been possible to publish the Report as soon as expected following further comments received. The document needs to be streamlined in order to avoid repetition. A new draft will be distributed to Members shortly.

Internal Efficiency Report

AEO explained the changes that are underway within departments following the voluntary redundancies. He referred to two posts that need to be advertised – a Commercial Officer for the Commissioning Team and a Digital Content Coordinator. A six month contract was recommended for both posts and they should be advertised internally and externally. Members approved the advertisement of the posts as soon as possible.

DCMS / BBC

The response to the agreement reached has been good. The timetable and details of the public consultation were discussed. The latest parliamentary timetable to introduce the proposed changes was outlined. The intention is to have an Order in place by July 2012.

The Bribery Act

AEO drew attention to the Act and said he was arranging a presentation to the Management Team in December. It was agreed that a paper should be prepared for the attention of the Authority.

Report of the New Media Forum

AEO explained that he had received comments from the Management Team and they were supportive of the recommendations and the consultation. It was important to understand exactly what S4C is currently able to achieve in the field given that only two members of staff work on online projects. Resources would have to be reallocated to develop S4C's work in the field.

He also referred to the need to obtain permission from the Secretary of State in the form of an Order if S4C is planning to create digital material not related to any television programme.

4. Re-Structuring the Commercial Group

KM presented a request on behalf of the Commercial Board to restructure the Commercial Group. The recommendations were approved and PW was asked to notify the DCMS of the changes.

5. Report and Recommendations of the Audit and Risk Management Committee

RhT reported back to the Authority following the meeting of the Audit and Risk Management Committee yesterday.

Tenders for the provision of Internal Audit Services and External Audit Services

Interviews were conducted for the above tenders yesterday. The Committee's recommendation is to appoint Grant Thornton to provide external audit and PricewaterhouseCoopers to provide the internal audit service. The appointment of external auditors is subject to the agreement of the DCMS. The Authority approved the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

6. Membership of the Authority's Committees

The Chairman explained that this was the last meeting for Sir Roger Jones. He thanked him on behalf of the Authority and S4C's officers for eight years of service on the S4C Authority.

The implications of Sir Roger Jones' departure on the membership of the Authority's Committees and the Commercial Board were discussed. A new pattern of membership was presented for the Members' consideration.

7. Report of the Director of Commissioning

GR was welcomed to the meeting and he presented the Commissioning report and the Research report, including the following:

- He referred to **Kate y Cofiant** to be broadcast on Sunday, 20.11.2011. The programme coincides with the publication of a new volume by Alan Llwyd.
- **Gwaith/Cartref** and **Pobol y Cwm** are performing well with gripping stories. A second series of **Gwaith/Cartref** has been commissioned for 2012.
- The response to **Zanzibar** has been variable. The series was aimed at young people in particular, but they sometimes respond better to series that are aimed more generally.
- **Fferm Factor** is an example of a reality series with formulaic elements but which has found an original Welsh theme and features. As a result it performs well.

GR pointed out that the second commissioning window had opened on 28.10.2011. Two briefing sessions have been held with 60 attending the session in North Wales and about 80 the session in the South. The closing date for the window is 30.11.2011.

8. The following matters were also discussed/noted:

- Compliance and Complaints Report
- Finance Report
- Personnel Issues