Meeting of the BBC Wales Committee

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Tuesday 1 May 2018
Broadcasting House, Cardiff

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Review of S4C
3. Minutes from the 1 November 2017 Meeting
4. Draft Terms of Reference for the Wales Committee
5. BBC Wales Performance
   a) Audience Performance in Wales
   b) Radio Wales Performance
   c) Draft ARA Narrative
6. Public Commitment and Targets
   a) Report Against Out of London Targets
   b) Update on Commissioning Process
7. Update on Central Square
8. Suggestions for the next meeting agenda
9. AOB
ATTENDANCE

Members:
- Elan Closs Stephens  Non-executive director (Chair)
- Ian Hargreaves  Non-executive director
- Ken MacQuarrie  Director, Nations and Regions (Chair)
- Rhodri Talfan Davies  Director, BBC Wales

With:
- Rhys Evans  Head of Strategy & Education, Wales
- James Holden  Director, Marketing and Audiences, News
- Christina Roski  Business Partner, DG’s Office (Secretary)
- Euryn Ogwen Williams  Independent Reviewer of S4C (for item 2)
- Colin Paterson  Editor, Radio Wales (for item 5)
- Helen Blenkinsop  Head of Business (for item 6)
1. Welcome and introductions

1.1 Elan Closs Stephens welcome everyone to the meeting and thanked Ken MacQuarrie for having chaired all the Nations Committees up to this point.

2. Review of S4C

2.1 The Committee welcomed Euryn Ogwen Williams to the meeting who had been appointed by the government to conduct a review of S4C which had been delivered before Christmas but not published until March 2018.

2.2 The Committee discussed the report and asked Mr Williams about his thoughts on the partnership with the BBC and the investment he thought would be needed to deliver the transformation required. The discussion also considered the provision of BBC Wales News for S4C, voice recognition in the Welsh language and the establishment of digital hubs.

2.3 Elan Closs Stephens thanked Mr Williams for his comments and insights.

3. Minutes from the 1 November 2017 Meeting

3.1 The minutes were approved.

4. Draft Terms of Reference for the Wales Committee

4.1 The Committee discussed the Terms of Reference which had been drafted for the Nations Committees. These had already been amended to reflect the change in Chairmanship from the Director of Nations and Regions to the non-executive member for Wales as agreed by the Board.

4.2 The Committee agreed the Terms of Reference but noted the Executive plans on public engagement were not yet fully developed. The Committee asked for a paper to come to the next meeting which detailed BBC Wales’ outreach activity including public events.

5. BBC Wales Performance

5.1 The Committee discussed a presentation on audience performance which included the top TV programmes across the different Nations and Regions and in particular the performance of both BBC Wales radio stations and of its main news offering Wales Today and the performance of content on iPlayer for Q4 2017.
5.2 Rhys Evans summarised the draft narrative of the Wales section of the Annual Report. A second draft would be shared with the Committee with Directors being asked to confirm that they were happy with the content.

6. Public Commitment and Targets

6.1 The Committee considered a report on the impacts of the Ofcom Out of London quotas on Network Production in Wales. Further discussions would take place at the full Board in June.

6.2 The Director, BBC Wales gave a short update on the commissioning process.

7. Update on Central Square
7.1 The Committee received an update on Central Square, the new BBC Wales headquarter building which was currently being constructed.

8. Suggestions for the next meeting agenda
8.1 The Committee discussed the forward agenda and agreed to focus on News. Other suggestions were iPlayer Radio and TV opt outs in Wales.

9. AOB
9.1 No other business was raised.