Meeting of the BBC Board

MINUTES

15 January 2019
Board Call (held in Room 3028, Broadcasting House, London)

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Apologies and Conflicts of Interest
2. SVOD Partnership
3. Brexit Risk Report
4. Transparency Reviews – Board Response
5. AOB
ATTENDANCE

Present
- David Clementi  Chairman
- Tony Hall  Director-General
- Simon Burke  Non-executive director
- Tim Davie  Chief Executive Officer, BBC Studios
- Tanni Grey-Thompson  Non-executive Director
- Ken MacQuarrie  Director, Nations and Regions
- Ian Hargreaves  Non-executive director
- Tom Ilube  Non-executive director
- Steve Morrison  Non-executive director
- Nicholas Serota  Non-executive director
- Elan Closs Stephens  Non-executive director
- Ashley Steel  Non-executive director

Apologies:
Anne Bulford

With
- Phil Harrold  Company Secretary
- Jo Clarke  Secretariat Manager
- Bal Samra  Commercial Director (item 2)
- Gautam Rangarajan  Director, Strategy (item 2)
- Alice Dickerson  Senior Advisor, Chairman and Director-General’s Office (item 2)
- Balram Veliath  Director, Quality, Risk and Assurance (item 3)
- Chris Sandford  Senior Advisor, Chairman and Director-General’s Office (item 4)
1. Apologies and Conflicts of Interest

1.1 The Board noted the apologies for this meeting.

2. SVOD Partnership

[paragraph 2.2 redacted for commercial confidentiality]

2.1 The Board discussed a potential subscription on demand partnership.

3. Brexit

3.1 The Board discussed the BBC’s preparedness for Brexit. Among the BBC’s operational risks to consider were the impact of broadcast regulation; transfer of systems and data; mobility of people; impact on supply chain and sourcing; customs and changes to VAT/Duties; and foreign currency fluctuations.

3.2 The Board noted the risks set out in the report and the mitigations which had been put in place to help manage them.

4. Transparency Reviews – Board Response

4.1 The Board had received Will Hutton’s Transparency Review and a first draft of the Board Response for consideration offline, following the December Board meeting. Directors accepted the Review for publication along with the Commercial Transparency Review by Christopher Saul, which had been approved for publication at the December meeting.

4.2 At this meeting the Board discussed an amended draft Board Response, noting Will Hutton’s recommendations, including that pay disclosure in the Annual Report and Account moved to £5k bands rather than £10K bands.

4.3 The Board approved both reports and the Board Response for publication.

5. AOB
5.1 The Director-General told the Board that both Fiona Bruce and Zoe Ball had made successful starts to their new roles respectively as the Chair of Question Time and the Radio Two Breakfast Show.