



## **Note of the 225th Meeting of the Ofcom Board, held on 15 March 2016**

### **Introduction**

Members were welcomed to the 225<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ofcom Board. Bill Emmott joined the meeting by telephone for (items 1-9). Polly Weitzman (General Counsel), Graham Howell (Corporation Secretary), Steve Gettings (Director, Strategy) and Jenny Leyland (Assistant Corporation Secretary) attended throughout. Other Ofcom colleagues attended for part of the meeting.

### **Corporation Secretary**

1. This was Graham Howell's last Board meeting before leaving Ofcom. The Chairman recorded the Board's appreciation of Graham's professionalism and his significant contribution to Ofcom since the start of the organisation. Steve Gettings would take over as Acting Corporation Secretary for six months following Graham's departure.

### **Minutes of the meetings held on 16 and 26 February 2016 and matters arising**

2. The minutes of the Ofcom Board meeting held on 16 and 26 February 2016 were approved for signature as a correct record. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

### **Chairman's Report**

3. The Chairman provided her report to the Board.

### **Report from the Chairman of the Content Board**

4. Bill Emmott reported on matters discussed at the Content Board meeting held on 23 February 2016.

### **Report from the Chairman of the Nations Committee**

5. Lynne Brindley reported on matters discussed at the Nations Committee meeting held on 8 March 2016.

### **Report from the Chairman of the Risk and Audit Committee**

6. Sheila Noakes report on matters discussed at the Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 14 March 2016.

### **Reports from other Non-Executive Board Members**

7. Graham Mather reported on the key themes discussed during a recent meeting with the Chairman of the Communications Consumer Panel (CCP), Jo Connell. The Chairman referred to the CCPs helpful submission in response to the consultation on Ofcom's Annual Plan 2016/17 and recorded the Board's appreciation for the work done by the Panel.

### **Chief Executive's Report**

8. Sharon White provided her report to the Board.

### **Public Service Broadcasting Update**

9. The Board discussed an update on Public Service Broadcasting.

### **Review of the Regulation of Post**

10. Following discussion of the findings from the review of the regulation of Royal Mail, the Board agreed to consult on the proposals as set out in the Board paper.

### **Ofcom 2016/2017 Budget**

11. Following discussion, the Board approved the Ofcom budget for 2016/2017. The Board noted that the tariffs for 2016/2017 would be set on the basis of the budget and approved by the Policy and Management Board ahead of publication on 31 March 2016.

### **Ofcom Annual Plan 2016/2017**

12. Subject to comments noted during discussion the Board approved the Ofcom Annual Plan 2016/2017 for publication.

### **Ofcom Board Forward Agendas**

13. The Board reviewed business proposed for consideration at future Board meetings and comments were noted

### **Governance: Broadcast Licensing Decisions**

14. Subject to a comment noted during discussion, the Board approved proposals for a revised approach to decision-makers for broadcast licensing decisions.

### **Appointment of Members to MG Alba**

15. The Board approved the appointment of two new members to the Board of MG Alba and the reappointment of four existing members, as recommended in the Board paper.

## **Information papers**

16. The Board noted information papers on the following topics:
  - 16.1 New Spectrum for Programme Making and Special Events
  - 16.2 Network Security Briefing
  - 16.3 Management Information Report
  - 16.4 Strategic Risk Register
  - 16.5 Annual Update on the Health and Safety Management Framework
  - 16.6 Channel 4 Statement of Media Content Policy Update

## **Minutes**

17. The following minutes were noted without discussion:
  - 17.1 Content Board (3 November 2015)
  - 17.2 Communications Consumer Panel (21 January 2016)
  - 17.3 Advisory Committee for England (11 November 2015)
  - 17.4 Advisory Committee for Northern Ireland (4 November 2015)
  - 17.5 Advisory Committee for Scotland (15 November 2015)
  - 17.6 Advisory Committee for Wales (12 November 2015)

## **Any other business**

18. There was none.

## **Date of the next meeting**

19. The next Board meeting will be held on 19 April 2016.

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