
S4C Authority Special Meeting Minute

10 January 2013, Swalec Stadium, Cardiff

Present:	Huw Jones	(Chairman)
	John Davies	(Member of the Authority)
	Carol Bell	(Member of the Authority)
	Aled Eirug	(Member of the Authority)
	Dyfrig Jones	(Member of the Authority)
	Glenda Jones	(Member of the Authority)
	Marian Wyn Jones	(Member of the Authority)
	Rheon Tomos	(Member of the Authority)
Elan Closs Stephens	(Member of the Authority)	
S4C staff:	Ian Jones	(Chief Executive)
	Garffild Lloyd Lewis	(Director of Communications)
	Elin Morris	(Director of Corporate and Commercial Policy)
	Kathryn Morris	(Director of Finance)
	Dafydd Rhys	(Director of Content)
	Phil Williams	(Secretary to the Authority)
	Sarah-Jane Pritchard	(Assistant to the Secretary to the Authority)

Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

Declarations of interest

The Chairman asked for any member with an interest in the business of the meeting to declare their interest. No declarations were made.

See the Register of Interests section of the S4C Authority website for general declarations.

1. **Approval of the Agreement between the BBC Trust and S4C Authority**
 - 1.1 PW presented a revised version of the Operating Agreement containing changes that had been incorporated following discussions with officers of the BBC Trust. Most of the changes result from comments made by stakeholders as part of the consultation process.
 - 1.2 A document was presented which summarises the main changes since December and the following changes were noted:
 - It was explained that the agreement now protects the operational independence of S4C as well as its editorial and managerial independence.
 - Several references have been included to explain more clearly the

relationship between S4C's statutory accountability and the accountability arrangements in the Operating Agreement.

- The clauses relating to the public purposes of public broadcasters have been revised to indicate that S4C and the BBC share a number of basic principles which have been described in the public purposes and, therefore, it will not be the duty of S4C to fulfil the BBC's public purposes, but to fulfil the core purposes of public broadcasting.
- Clause 4 sets out clearly that S4C will retain any savings made for re-investment in S4C's content.
- The clause relating to changes in the agreement has also been modified to indicate that public consultation is a necessity, not an option, if the parties wish to make any significant change to the operating agreement.

1.3 **[Summary:** There was a discussion about the “in extremis” clause in paragraph 6.19.]

1.4 Following a discussion, the following changes were suggested to the revised operating agreement:

1.5 **Introduction**

A change was suggested to the last sentence of the penultimate paragraph by inserting “from the UK government” between “receiving funding” and “from other bodies”.

1.6 **Paragraph 2.18**

There was a discussion about the list of genres in paragraph 2.18 and in relation to the comedy provision, it was suggested that “some” be deleted from the last line.

1.7 **Paragraph 4.4**

It was suggested that the following sentence be added to the end of paragraph 4.4: “The S4C Authority is accountable to Parliament for monies provided by DCMS”.

1.8 **[Summary:** The Operating Agreement was approved as it is or with wording based on the above recommendations to be discussed by officers with the BBC Trust.]

The operating agreement will be discussed by the BBC Trust on January 17 for its approval.