

**S4C Board Meeting Minute  
14 January 2021 - Zoom Meeting**

**Meeting No. 446**

**Present:**

**Non-Executive Board Members:**

Rhodri Williams	(Chairman)
Hugh Hesketh Evans	(Board Member) – items 1-3.5
Anita George	(Board Member)
Siân Lewis	(Board Member)

**Executive Members:**

Owen Evans	(Chief Executive)
Elin Morris	(Chief Operating Officer)
Amanda Rees	(Director of Content)

**Also present: S4C staff:**

Gwyn Williams	(Director of Communications)
Sharon Winogorski	(Chief Finance Officer) – items 3,5-9
Sioned Wyn Roberts	(Content Commissioner) item 3.1
Owain Lloyd	(Board Secretary)
Bethan C. Williams	(Assistant to the Board Secretary)

**Apologies:**

Owen Derbyshire	(Board Member)
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**STANDING ISSUES:**

**1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to S4C's Unitary Board meeting. He had received an apology from Owen Derbyshire.

The Chairman asked any members with an interest in the business of the meeting to declare their interest. There were no declarations other than that of RhW in relation to Ofcom.

**2. Chairman's Report**

RhW presented his report orally, including the matters below.

**2.1 Membership of the Board**

It was reported that there were many good candidates for the Board members, and that interviews had been held over two days before Christmas. There were several strong candidates with various backgrounds and skills, and the list had gone to the Secretary of State to choose. It is hoped that it will be possible to appoint soon.

**2.2 Meeting with Tim Davie, BBC**

A second meeting with Tim Davie was held on 8 January 2021.

**[Summary:** The progress of the Central Square development was mentioned, and the possibility of obtaining some High-Definition space for the peak hours

and at the weekend. The BBC's statutory supply and the intention to continue with the arrangements over the iPlayer were discussed.

The meeting also identified the need to reach agreement as soon as possible on the BBC's supply of programmes for 2021-22.]

### 3. **Chief Executive's Report**

OE presented his monthly report including the matters below.

#### 3.1 **S4C's Education Plans**

SWR presented an update on the education content that would be available over the coming weeks. With schools closed and parents educating children at home, S4C and the Welsh Government would be announcing that 80 hours of programmes will be available on the Welsh Government's Hwb education platform. The service would be launched on Monday 18 January with the programmes on Hwb consisting of 13 different series including the children's series, Shwshaswyn, Dwylo'r Enfys, Amser Maith Maith yn ôl, and also programmes from the main schedule such as Cynefin and DRYCH. Films and other content that are on the A, AS and GCSE curriculum would also be added to the platform to become part of S4C's offering on Hwb - including Martha Jac and Sianco, and Y Gwyll. In addition, S4C was working with BBC Cymru Wales to broadcast BBC Bitesize's educational packages. Starting on 18 January S4C would broadcast one daily package Monday to Friday at 11.45 a.m.

RhW said that this was an excellent development and asked what the plans were to ensure publicity. GW stated there was a press release and a communication plan with SWR appearing on television and radio programs. It was also noted that S4C was informing the relevant stakeholders.

**[Summary:** There was a lot of content in the archive to develop educational material, but SWR was fully aware that teachers will have to take the lead in using the content in the classroom.

SWR was asked about access to Hwb, and she explained that all children are entitled to use Hwb and that there is an agreement with the ERA in terms of the rights. Members were keen to ensure that teachers and schools were aware of the content available. SL noted that there was a great opportunity here to try to reach the "lost audience" in terms of parents.

We should not over-rely on schools to promote the material but should work with other partners to promote it as well. It was agreed that a communication plan needed to be prepared to reach parents, schools, partners etc.]

#### 3.2 **Strategy 22 Update**

**[Summary:** OE presented a paper to the Board on the strategy. There was a brief discussion including the main messages and suggestions for the next draft.]

#### 3.3 **An update on the preparation of the Licence Fee Application**

**[Summary:** OE presented a summary of the application including an outline of the current service. The DCMS timetable was challenging and the letter

from the Secretary of State had requested the application by 26 February 2021.

OE asked for the Board's feedback and comments. There was a discussion of the application and useful suggestions were made regarding the content. The Board was satisfied with the proposed structure and felt that the work was on the right track.]

#### 3.4 **Outline of proposed costs for 2022-27**

**[Summary:** ShW presented a report on the potential costs for 2022-27. Of course, 80% of the budget pays for the content.

The Board agreed the structure and content suggested, and the costs in ShW's presentation.]

#### 4. **Co-location**

It was reported that the progress was looking promising. It was hoped that the following week the Board would be able to reach a decision on 'Go, no go' and to co-locate in Central Square on 27 January.

#### 5. **The Board's Work Programme**

A copy of the Board's Work Programme for 2021 was submitted for information.

#### 6. **Content Committee**

An oral report was presented on the meeting of the Content Committee held on 9 December 2020.

#### 7. **Minutes of the Meeting of 10 December 2020**

The minutes of meeting number 445 held on 10 December 2020. No issues arising from the minutes were discussed.

The minutes were approved.

#### 8. **Action Points and Decisions Register**

The register was noted.

#### 9. **Any other business**

No other issues were discussed.