

2:00pm – 6:00pm 04 February 2015
83 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0HW

Present: Deborah Arnott, Iain Christie, Sue Evison, Walter Merricks (Chair), Maire Messenger-Davies, David Robinson, Patrick Swaffer.

In attendance: AC (minutes), JH, NP

1. Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts of interest

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

3. Remote Access

Nicola briefed members on how documentation on the IMPRESS secure system could be accessed remotely.

4. Director's Report

Editors' Code of Conduct.

The board were aware that the Regulatory Funding Company had claimed copyright in the Code. It was agreed that IMPRESS would write to RFC to express intention to use the Code.

The board discussed its approach to short term funding and long term funding. It was agreed that JH would update Board at next meeting about fundraising progress.

5. Articles of Association

A revised version of draft articles of association was considered and a number of amendments were proposed.

6. Working Groups

It was agreed that board member working groups would be formed to work on particular topics.

David Robinson and Deborah Arnott agreed to form a strategy working group, to advise the Board on strategic and financial planning.

Iain Christie and Patrick Swaffer agreed to form a legal working group, to advise the Board on governance, the complaints-handling procedures and the arbitration scheme.

Sue Evison and Maire Messenger-Davies agreed to form a journalism working group, to advise the Board on the standards code and engagement with journalists.

7. Strategic Plan, 2015-16

The Executive Director presented a draft strategic plan for the development of IMPRESS. The board welcomed this comprehensive paper.

8. Recognition Panel

There was discussion about the questions that the Recognition Panel might reasonably be asked.

9. Supporters

While in due course it would be good to take advantage of the many offers of support that had been received from interested individuals, other issues were more pressing on the agenda.

10. Future Business

It was agreed that the Complaint handling and investigation scheme would be on the agenda for the next meeting.