

MINUTES of the BOARD MEETING Tuesday 6th May 2025

Present: Lord Edward Faulks
Karen Barnes
Matt Brown
Shrenik Davda
Charles Garside
Alison Gow
Eddie Gray
Sarah Lee (remote)
Michaela McAleer
Brendan McGinty
Kavita Reddi
John Witherow (remote)

Attending: Charlotte Dewar – Chief Executive Officer
John Davidson – Head of Communications
Rosemary Douce – Head of Standards
Alice Gould – Head of Complaints
Michelle Kuhler – PA & minute taker (remote)
Tonia Milton – Head of Systems

1. Welcome and Apologies

No apologies were received.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd March 2025 were approved.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report – oral

The Chairman gave an update on developments in Westminster, including his participation in a debate on the Future of News. He noted that an Editors' Code of Practice Committee meeting scheduled this month would include discussion of Clause 12 (Discrimination).

The Chairman updated the Board on the press coverage in relation to a recent ruling in relation to Parliamentary privilege.

The Board discussed correspondence recently received from the Chair of the Press Recognition Panel.

6. Chief Executive's Report

The Board noted the recruitment updates.

7. Operations and performance reports

The Heads of Departments presented updates on operational matters and took questions from the Board.

The Board noted the updates and reports.

8. Finance reports

The Chief Executive presented management accounts for March 2025.

The Board noted the management accounts.

9. Discussion paper: Towards a new communications strategy

The Head of Communications presented a paper for discussion reflecting on the previous communications strategy, noting the refresh of the IPSO brand and the development of a new website, and presented plans for the creation of a new communication strategy. The Board was asked to reflect and advise. Board members considered an analysis of audience engagement and discussed opportunities, making suggestions to support the development of the next strategy.

10. Draft 2024 accounts and audit findings report

The Chief Executive presented to the Board the draft 2024 accounts; a draft statement of going concern; and an audit findings report prepared by IPSO's external auditors, Sayer Vincent.

The Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee commented on behalf of the Committee.

The Board approved the draft 2024 accounts and statement of going concern.

11. Discussion: Risk and scenario planning

The Chief Executive led a discussion session with the Board on risk and scenario planning.

12. Any other business

There was no other business.

13. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 8th July 2025.