



An Coimisiún um Thodhchaí na Meán The Future of Media Commission

Future of Media Commission

2nd Meeting - Thursday, 12 Nov 2020

Minutes

In attendance:

Commission Members:

- Professor Brian MacCraith (Chair)
- Ms. Sinéad Burke
- Professor Gillian Doyle
- Dr. Finola Doyle O'Neill
- Ms. Lynette Fay
- Ms. Siobhán Holliman
- Mr. Mark Little
- Mr. Stephen McNamara
- Ms. Nuala O'Connor
- Mr. Alan Rusbridger

Secretariat:

- Andrew Munro, Secretary to the Future of Media Commission, Department of the Taoiseach
- Cathal O'Regan, Department of the Taoiseach
- Elizabeth Lyne, Department of the Taoiseach
- John Murray, Department of the Taoiseach
- Patricia Murphy, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- Triona Quill, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- Mary Mooney, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



An Coimisiún um Thodhchaí na Meán

The Future of Media Commission

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the 1st meeting of the Commission on 29 October were agreed. They will be published on the website.

2. Updates to Key Questions Document

The Commission discussed the revised Key Questions document. The inclusion of a reference to “accessible and equitable” was noted with approval. The revised text was approved subject to the inclusion by the Secretariat of a reference to what can be learned from the evolution of Public Service Media over the past decade, and any adjustments necessitated by revisions to the Working Definitions document.

3. Draft Outline of Report Structure and Workplan

The Secretary noted that the Draft Outline Structure of the Report was intended to elaborate upon the Key Questions and serve as a guide to the Secretariat in managing the work plan for the Commission. It is a living document which will evolve as the work of the Commission progresses.

Commission members made a number of suggestions for amendments and additions to the document which the Secretariat will incorporate into the next iteration.

4. Draft working definitions / terminology

The Commission considered the draft working definitions document. Commission members suggested amendments to the working definitions of “Public” and “Public Service Content” which were agreed subject to the incorporation of those amendments.

Amendments were proposed to the definition of “public service media”, and to the definition of other related terms. The Secretariat will circulate a revised note on these definitions for further consideration.

5. Stakeholder engagement

The Secretary indicated that the proposed approach to public engagement would evolve in light of the response to the initial general call for submissions.

Commission members made several proposals for developing the engagement to ensure that hard-to-reach groups were consulted, that journalists frank views could be obtained without fear of repercussions, that means of engagement would be accessible and go beyond the standard written submissions and formal seminars approach.



An Coimisiún um Thodhchaí na Meán

The Future of Media Commission

The Commission asked that the initial invitation to engage would be advertised across regional media, bilingually and in an attractive and encouraging manner, and that as broad a range as possible of stakeholders and members of the public be actively approached and encouraged to engage. The Commission approved the outline approach to the initial consultation, subject to those stipulations.

6. Draft research framework on sources and gaps re current state of play

The Commission considered the draft research framework on sources and gaps re current state of play. Members noted that the document will progress toward a specification of research to be commissioned. Members were invited to contribute to the development of the specification.

7. Schedule of future meetings

The proposed schedule of meetings was agreed.