

Internet Watch Foundation

BOARD MEETING

10.00am - Tuesday 06 June 2017

**Microsoft
2 Kingdom Street
London
W2 6BD**

MINUTES

Present:	Sir Richard Tilt (RT) (Chair) Brian Webb (BW) (Industry Vice-Chair) Peter Neyroud (PN) (Vice Chair) Philip Geering (PG) Helen Dent (HD) Jonathan Drori (JD) Uta Kohl (UTA) Sue Pillar (SP) Becky Foreman (BF) Jonathan Lea (JL)
Apologies:	Katie O'Donovan (KOD) Emma Hardy (EH) (Director of External Relations – DER)
Observers:	Jacque Mellor (JM) Matthew Eltringham (ME) (Funding Council Chair)
IWF Staff:	Susie Hargreaves (SH) (CEO) Fred Langford (FL) (Deputy CEO) Heidi Kempster (HK) (Director of Business Affairs - DBA) Kristof Claesen (KC) (Director of Policy and Public Affairs – DPPA) Sandrine Harvey (SJH) (Minutes)

IWF Board Closed session

There was a closed session of the IWF Board from 10.00am to 10.10am.

1. a) Welcome and Apologies

The meeting began at 10.15am.

There were apologies from Katie O'Donovan and Emma Hardy.

b) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Draft minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were **approved** subject to the following amendments:

- 5. Audit committee report – c) Investment strategy: It has been clarified that the return on investment should target 2% and the last sentence of the first paragraph should be amended accordingly.

- 8. CEO report - 2. Strategic developments - 2.5: The second sentence of the first paragraph should read: "One of the suggestions submitted, was for two members of IWF staff to be "developed vetting" and not "... deep vetted".

Action: SJH to amend accordingly.

3. Actions arising

Action 4. Audit committee report – 2. Year-end management accounts – 09.09.14:

This action is still on-going and will be discussed with the audit committee.

Action 8. CEO report – 2. Strategic development – 2.5 GCHQ – 14.03.17: This action has been completed.

Action: SJH to amend accordingly.

The Board noted the paper.

4. FC communique

23 May 2017

Further to a query from a Board member, the CEO clarified the issue about the Code of practice and international companies. Penningtons – the law firm in charge of advising the IWF around the issue – will arrange some meetings with a sample of US companies, so they can express their concern about the code of practice and have a better understanding of their legal positions.

The FC will also refine the brief aimed at constructing a form of words which will be acceptable to all Members.

The Board noted the communique.

5. Ethics committee report

The DPPA reported that the committee discussed the issue of engaging with the adult industry in view of the age verification being implemented in May 2018 and in anticipation of the industry asking to join the IWF. The committee suggested there might be a way of engaging with the adult industry by working with trade associations to share best practice in order to eliminate CSAM. The committee also discussed the possibility of considering one of the software providers behind a popular pornography site as a Member and explore the services they could use.

The Board talked about the pros and cons in accepting the adult industry. They concluded the main risk was reputational, but there was also a financial interest, which should not be neglected.

The Board also suggested the FC discuss the issue at the next meeting and get back to the Board.

Action: FC to discuss the issue and get back to the Board for the December Board meeting.

The Chair suggested the IWF should undertake further research and present a proposal at the December Board meeting.

Action: SMT to get back to the Board with a proposal on the ways forward with the adult industry at the December Board meeting.

6. Chair's report

The Chair updated the Board about the Board's vacancies:

Chair's position

The Chair's recruitment process was under way. A good response had been received and the timetable for the process was the following:

- 1) The long listing would take place on 7 June 2017,
- 2) The short listing on 13 June, and
- 3) The interviews were due to take place on 27 June 2017 at the IWF and appointment if successful.

A Board member queried the possibility of the recruitment agency to provide the short-listed candidates with a short CV to share within SMT. The CEO would ask the agency and share with the Executives.

Action: SH to ask the recruitment agency to provide CVs for the short-listed candidates and share with the Board and the Executives.

Trustees' positions

The recruitment process for the two new independent Trustees would start in July and their appointment would be made in October for a start on 01 January 2018.

a) FC code of practice

This point has been covered under item 4 of the agenda.

b) INHOPE

A new agreement has been received by the IWF, but it had not been reviewed yet. The Board **agreed** that if the agreement had taken into consideration the IWF's points and if satisfied, the IWF should submit its reports into the system as soon as possible in order to comply with the EU commission requirements. The Board also **agreed** that the IWF should point out to the EU commission that the organisation has re-joined the INHOPE system.

Action: IWF to input into ICCAM system as soon as the agreement is signed.

Action: SH to show the differences between inputting into ICCAM and using the alternative system introduced by IWF in the interim period.

The Chair briefly mentioned the government referred to the IWF's model in the context of reproducing it for online terrorism material. The Board agreed to discuss further its position at the Board away day in anticipation of a request from the government. A Board member pointed out that it would be useful to remind the government of the unique nature of the IWF's remit.

Action: IWF to discuss its position further at the Board away day.

7. CEO report

2. Strategic Developments

2.1 Government Issues

2.1.1 The Party Manifestos and 2.1.2 Digital Economy Act 2017 were reported in the DPPA's report.

2.1.3 Non-Photographic Images (NPI) of child sexual abuse

As mentioned in the report, the CEO will draw up a policy and guideline about NPI.

Action: SH to draw up a policy and guideline about NPI.

2.1.4 Meeting with US companies

The CEO, Chair of the Board, FC Chair and US companies met in order to discuss the criticism within parliament and media against major companies. The exchange of views was very useful. The outcomes were the following:

- The IWF should have a stronger presence at government level;
- Joint briefing sessions with journalists;
- Develop a transparency policy for the Members to refer to including a statement, they would intend to do their best to remove CSAM;
- Work with a think-tank to write a positioning paper for the government and media.

The Industry Vice-Chair raised the issue of the services taken or not by companies, which should be addressed. The CEO pointed out that not only should the companies take the appropriate services, but they should also deploy them accordingly in order to avoid comments arising in the media and at government level.

A Press Officer has been hired in order for the organisation to be more pro-active rather than reactive towards media.

2.9 CybertipCa and NCMEC Partnership

The CEO attended the Canadian Missing and Exploited Children Conference in Winnipeg, Canada. She also met with NCMEC and CybertipCa to talk about a joint hash list sharing project and work together. This project had already been suggested and discussed a few years ago by the DCEO. A software development tool provided by THORN is considered to be used for the project. Categories in the list would be A and B ones only as there are some discrepancies in the categorisation.

2.10 Hotline Audit

The Hotline audit is set up for the end of June.

3. International Report

3.1 WeProtect/UNICEF Global Fund to end Violence against Children

The interviews for the position of International Development Manager will take place at the beginning of July. The panel for the interview will be made of the CEO, an Industry Board member and Political Intelligence. The CEO informed the Board that the DPPA was leaving the organisation to return to Belgium and take up a new policy position there. The Board queried the reason for hiring a UK resident. As the work is international, there is no need for the International Development Manager to be based in the UK, having a person based outside the UK could also position the organisation more internationally in case of a potential future global expansion. As the CEO would work closely with this person and the IWF does not have any other offices, she felt the role would be better integrated in the organisation with a base in the UK.

3.2 India

As India could become a major player in the internet industry, it has been suggested that the IWF considers a partner/consultant working like an "Ambassador" for the IWF and help in recruiting Members and or even an offshore hub. The CEO expressed her concerns in managing an office in India due to the difference between the two countries. She acknowledged the idea of an "Ambassador" based in India.

3.3 Portals

3.3.1 The portal in Namibia has been launched by the DPPA.

3.3.2 Bolivia has expressed an interest in the portal and is being discussed.

3.4 Top level domain

The issue with a top level domain is about to be resolved. The wording in the Annual Report to describe domains will be altered and a cooperation letter with IWF will be drafted.

4. CSC Leaders Programme

The CEO took part in the first week of the programme. The second week of the course is taking part in October in India and she is intending to attend. The first week of the course has been useful in networking.

5. PR agency

The CEO mentioned that the PR agency – is looking at celebrity engagement.

8. Communications report

4. Website

4.1 A Board member pointed that it would be interesting to analyse the figures behind the privacy policy as they could suggest a reassurance from the public in reporting and a trust in the organisation.

Action: EH to look at the figures with JD's help.

7. Harm reduction campaign

The Board was very impressed by the campaign. The ultimate goals of the campaign are now to extend it to more clubs and find some funding partners in order for the campaign to be self-funded. Everton has also agreed to fully support the campaign and promote it. The SMT is very thankful to Everton for going ahead with the pilot project.

The Board queried whether there would be the necessary resources, should the campaign be successful. The current Project Manager will find the resources, but it cannot be done without funding. The Minister for Childcare in Scotland and the Minister of Sports are both supportive of the project. If the campaign goes ahead, the clubs will have to pay for the workshops provided, the IWF should attempt to meet with the Premier League at a higher level. It has been **agreed** that the Chair should write a letter to the Executive Director of Policy at the Premier League to arrange a meeting. The FC Chair has contact with the Executive Director of Policy and will try to coordinate a meeting.

Action: RT to write a letter to the Executive Director of Policy at the PL.

Action: ME to contact the PL and try to organise a meeting with the Director of Policy.

The Board members proposed the following ideas to spread the campaign:

- To engage the Ministers with the campaign, they could write a thank you letter to Everton's Managers to praise the club's initiative.
- Young promising football players should also be approached to spread the word as they are the future stars.
- Considering approaching the sports funding with the national lottery.

The Board asked the CEO to pass on its thanks to the DER for her excellent work.

Action: SH to pass on thank you from the Board.

9. Policy and Public Affairs report

The Board noted the paper.

10. Technical report

Hotline Operational Trends

IWF Country and Overseas Territory Portals

The Chair pointed that it was useful to indicate the number of pages viewed during the first quarter. The number of reports received for India is building up, but it is still early days.

5. IWF Network and Technology

5.2 Child Abuse Image Database Access (CAID)

A Board member suggested that the Chair should write a letter to the Home Office indicating that the IWF will not fund the connection to the database and will only allow access to it.

Action: RT to write to the HO indicating the IWF will not fund the connection and only allow access.

6. Staff (including Hotline expansion)

6.6 The Chairman congratulated the DCEO for completing his course as Chartered Director and now being certified.

7. ICAAlert/Black Box solution

The DCEO briefly explained the black box ICAAlert project to one of the Observers further to her query.

11. IWF/NSPCC project

The DCEO updated the Board on the project for the under 18s to report sexual images (sexting) of themselves to the IWF. The project is due to be launched in the first quarter of 2018.

12. Director of Business Affairs report

3. Membership

3.1 Previous financial year (1 April 2016 – 31 March 2017) at 25 May 2017 (dates for joiners refer to the start date on the Membership agreement)

The DBA pointed out that there was a mistake in the total of joiners in the table provided and instead of being a profit, there was a loss of c.£41k. There was also a query as regards the use of the services and its benefits. A membership strategy has been agreed to redress the areas of concerns (mainly in converting leads into members) by the Executive. The SMT will spend more time in supporting the membership team and the support of the Chair might be required in some cases.

The Board noted the rest of the paper.

13. GCHQ update

The CEO indicated that GCHQ was very keen on working with the IWF which could be a beneficial relationship, but it would need the support of the FC. Several Board members expressed a number of concerns to be explored before any working relationship began and suggested alternative organisations should this not take place.

The Board **agreed** that the IWF has to be very clear about the gains regarding any joint activities proposed by GCHQ and that the FC needs to discuss this issue. The CEO will provide a re-shaped paper for the FC to discuss, reflecting the issues the IWF might encounter.

Action: SH to provide a re-shaped paper for the next FC meeting in September.

14. AOB

The Chair thanked the DPPA for his contribution to the IWF and wished him all the best for the future in his new position.

The meeting ended at 12.40pm.