



**Extra-ordinary meeting of the BBC Board**

**MINUTES**

5 March 2020  
Broadcasting House, London, W1A 1AA

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Sports rights – Six Nations

## **ATTENDANCE**

### Present

- David Clementi                      Chairman
- Tony Hall                              Director-General
- Shirley Garrod                      Non-executive director
- Ian Hargreaves                      Non-executive director
- Tom Ilube                              Non-executive director (by phone)
- Ken MacQuarrie                      Director, Nations and Regions
- Steve Morrison                      Non-executive director (by phone)
- Nicholas Serota                      Non-executive director (by phone)
- Elan Closs Stephens                Non-executive director (by phone)
- Ashley Steel                         Non-executive director (by phone)
- Fran Unsworth                        Director, News and Current Affairs (by phone)

### Apologies:

- Tim Davie                              Chief Executive Officer, BBC Studios
- Tanni Grey-Thompson                Non-executive director

### With

- Phil Harrold                            Company Secretary
- Chris Sandford                        Secretary
- Glyn Isherwood                        Group Finance and Operations Director
- Charlotte Moore                        Director, Content
- Barbara Slater                         Director, Sport
- Richard Armstrong                    Head of Rights and Business Affairs, Sport

**1. Sports rights – Six Nations**

[Paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 redacted for commercial confidentiality]

- 1.1 The Board discussed a proposed mandate for the BBC to bid for rights to the Six Nations rugby championship, which were currently being tendered by the Rugby Football Union. The BBC currently held the rights in a shared arrangement with ITV and this arrangement had been seen as a success. The strategic importance of the tournament in the nations was also noted, as was the ability of the coverage to deliver underserved and unique audiences.
  
- 1.3 The Board approved the approach and mandate set out. This was subject to final confirmation of the legal position in relation to the bid approach and also to the Board being kept up to date on the progress of the tender.

Approved by the Board: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)