

Meeting of the Charities SORP-making body
London
4 July 2019

Present:

Joint Chairs:

Laura Anderson, Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

Nigel Davies, Charity Commission England and Wales (CCEW)

In attendance as observers:

Myles McKeown, Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI)

Jelena Griscenko, Charities Regulator (CR)

Purpose of the meeting:

To agree the approach to publicising the decisions of the SORP-making body and to agree the initial steps for implementing the findings of the SORP Governance Review.

Agreed actions from the meeting:

- Agreed that transparency about our work is essential and aids understanding and so we will publish on the SORP site the record of agreed actions once that record is approved (CCEW)
- Agreed that where papers considered by the SORP-making body are taken by the SORP-making body to the SORP Committee then these should normally be published once the Committee has seen and considered them (CCEW).
- The paper on the vision of the SORP and SORP development process should begin with a view as to what the vision for charity financial reporting is. In terms of the role of the SORP-making body the facilitation role needs to better draw out the tensions in managing to achieve a balanced outcome given stakeholder views. The paper in revised form to be taken to a future SORP Committee meeting (CCEW).
- Considering the planned paper to the July SORP Committee meeting. A number of detailed changes were agreed including inserting a provisional time-line to reforming the Committee, and the Committee's key role in advising the SORP-making body on balancing the various stakeholder interests needs better articulation. (CCEW)
- Agreed all are to review the available information on stakeholder concerns in advance of our initiating the engagement strands, including views from the Republic of Ireland (CCEW, OSCR, CCNI with input from CR)
- Agreed to meet on 16 September to consider the next steps in reforming the SORP Committee including a draft recruitment pack and privacy statement (CCEW)
- Agreed that we need to look at convening the SORP Committee after its September meeting. Agreed to convening a meeting in March 2020 in Edinburgh (OSCR)

- The paper on the drafting strategy and time-line to the next SORP was discussed and it was agreed that until preliminary conversations were had with potential engagement partners it was premature to identify the potential resource implications and so the strategy paper is to be recast as an advisory briefing paper to the UK-Ireland Charity Regulators' Forum (OSCR).
- It was agreed all would undertake some initial activity to identify likely willing partners for the planned engagement strands and bring these expressions of interest back to a future meeting of the SORP-making body. (CCEW, OSCR, CCNI with input from CR)
- The time-line to the next SORP was discussed and it is ambitious but until we know how much the SORP may need to change and the timing of any revision to UK-Irish GAAP it was agreed to leave the time-line unchanged and take it and a work-plan based around delivering that time-line to a future SORP Committee meeting (CCEW)
- Agreed to submit an item to the November meeting of the UK-Ireland Charity Regulators' Forum to request their advice on how best to set out the resource requirements for budget year 2020-21 onwards for the participating regulators (OSCR)