

To	Board
From	Glen Scanlon, Chief Performance Officer
Meeting Date	Rāapa 3 Pīpiri Wednesday 5 June 2024
Strategic objective	Foster a strong national identity through trusted content
Title	Implementation of Independent Review Panel (IRP) 22 recommendations
Item for	Information, discussion, and decision

Purpose

To provide the board with a close out report on the implementation of the recommendations made by the independent review into the editing issue.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board **note** the update provided and ask any questions/provide feedback

Summary

Early on June 9, 2023 a Twitter post raised concerns about how a Reuters story about the Ukraine war had been edited on RNZ.co.nz. It led us to conduct an internal audit and the board to engage an external review panel.

The result of [our internal audit can be read here](#) and the board has the independent panel's findings. [The review made 22 recommendations which have been implemented.](#)

Highlights include:

- The appointment of Jane Patterson to the Director, editorial quality and training role.
- The development of more focused editorial training, including addressing referring up and mis and disinformation.
- The revamp of our complaints process and publicly available information.
- Updates to editorial policy including around balance.
- Digital news editing team further integrated into business and resourcing added.
- Updated work from home policy.
- Editorial publishing systems reviewed and to be replaced.

However, while this work has been done it is our view that it doesn't end there. We have gone beyond the recommendations in creating the new board sub-committee focused on editorial policy and quality – it effectively becomes our way to ensure the deeper focus on our editorial standards continues. In addition, we are considering further changes to improve transparency in our storytelling, joining an international coalition of media focused on battling mis and disinformation, work continues developing our training and we are likely to appoint an Ombudsman role in the next financial year when there are personnel changes.

In the last quarter of 24/25, we will ask Jane Patterson to again review our progress against the 22 recommendations to ensure the changes have been embedded. This will be reported back to the editorial sub-committee.