

## JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION (JAC) MEETING

11 November 2021

### Minutes of Board Meeting

<b>Present</b>	
<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Ajay Kakkar (Chairman)	Chief Executive
Mathangi Asokan	Deputy Chief Executive
Sue Carr (Vice Chairman)	Head of Operational Delivery
Christa Christensen	Head of Selection Policy
Anuja Dhir	Head of Diversity and Engagement
Sarah Falk	Head of Digital Delivery and Programme Office
Emir Feisal	Head of Secretariat/Board Secretary
Jane Furniss	Selection Exercise Manager
Brie Stevens-Hoare	Senior Communications Manager
Sue Hoyle	Ministry of Justice's Head of Judicial Statistics
Andrew Kennon	
Sarah Lee	
Simon Wessely	
Greg Sinfield	
<b>Apologies:</b>	
Barry Morgan	

#### 1. Apologies and matters arising

1.1 The minutes of the 14 October 2021 meeting were agreed.

#### 2. Chief Executive's Report and Management Information Pack

2.1 The Chief Executive:

- provided an update on the business plan and 2021 -22 programme at the mid-point of the financial year;
- provided an update on the return of face to face interviews for Circuit Judge;
- provided an update to the changes in JAC senior staffing taking place over the next few months;
- reported on the agreed two-year programme with HMCTS and the work conducted to date; and

- provided an update on the JAC's financial position.

### **3. Report back from Committees and Working Groups**

3.1 The Chairman asked Commissioners to report back on recent meetings of committees and working groups.

#### **Audit and Risk Committee**

3.2 Jane Furniss (JF) updated the Board on the work of the Audit and Risk Committee which took place on 28 October.

3.3 The Committee reviewed the corporate risk register, noting that there were no changes to the risk ratings since the last quarter.

3.4 The Committee reviewed the deep dive paper on 'Confidence in the effective delivery of selection exercises'. The Committee was content with the actions taken by the JAC to manage the risk. This concluded a full round of deep dive discussions on the JAC's corporate risks.

3.5 The Committee received an update on Internal Audit: the Q2 audits of Business Continuity and Financial Management are in fieldwork stage and are expected to be completed by the end of December. The final Q3 audit on Recruitment is now in planning stage and is on track to be completed by the end of the reporting year.

3.6 The Committee received an update on External Audit: the National Audit Office updated the Committee on the handover of the 2021-22 audit to Deloitte.

### **4. Chairman's Report**

4.1 The Chairman briefed the Board on his regular bilateral meeting with the Lord Chief Justice which took place on 18 October.

### **5. Recorder 2022 Selection Process**

5.1 The Selection Exercise Manager presented the selection process for the forthcoming Recorder 2022 selection process.

5.2 Following discussion, the Commission endorsed the proposed selection process and timeline for this exercise.

### **6. Review of s94 list for (salaried) Judge of the First-tier Tribunal**

6.1 The Head of Digital Delivery and Programme Office presented a paper to review the s94 list for (salaried) Judge of the First-tier Tribunal selection exercise.

6.2 Following discussion, the Commission agreed to maintain the list until July 2022.

## **7. Update on Delivery of external Communications & Engagement Strategy 2019-2022**

7.1 The Senior Communications Manager presented an update outlining the delivery of external communications work in line with the Communications & Engagement Strategy 2019-22.

7.2 This work will be reviewed and evaluated at the end of 2022.

7.3 The Commission noted the update for information.

## **8. ‘Deep dive’ analysis of target group progression: final report and publication approach**

8.1 The Head of Diversity and Engagement was joined by the Ministry of Justice’s Head of Judicial Statistics to present the final ‘deep dive’ report and associated publication approach.

8.2 The Commission noted the final report and endorsed the proposed publication approach.

## **9. Reflections on 2021-22 Strategy Discussion**

9.1 The Commission reflected on their annual strategy discussion and noted the progress made at the mid-point of the financial year.

## **10. Forward Look and AOB**

10.1 The Board noted the 2021 Forward Look and the Chairman confirmed the next Board meeting would be held on 16 December 2021.

10.2 This concluded the business of the Board.