

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION (JAC) MEETING

10 April 2025

Minutes of Board Meeting

Present	
Commissioners	Staff
Helen Pitcher (Chairman)	Chief Executive
Mark Warby (Vice Chair)	Deputy Chief Executive/ Head of Strategy and Policy
Nicolina Andall	Head of Operational Delivery
Noel Arnold	Head of Senior Appointments
Christopher Bones	Senior Policy Advisor
Tom Cross	Selection Exercise Manager
Sue Hoyle	Head of Secretariat
Uchechi Igbokwe	Secretariat Manager
Tanweer Ikram	Senior Executive Assistant
Adam Johnson	Secretariat Support Officer
Clare McGlynn	
Barry Morgan	Senior President of Tribunals
Greg Sinfield	Forvis Mazars
Guests	

1. Apologies and matters arising

- 1.1. The minutes of the 13 March 2025 meeting were agreed.
- 1.2. Apologies were received from Angela Rafferty.

2. Senior President of Tribunals

- 2.1. The Senior President of Tribunals delivered a presentation on the work of the Tribunals, and the importance of continued co-operation with the JAC to ensure effective recruitment to the Tribunals judiciary.

3. Chief Executive's Report and Management Information Pack

- 3.1. The Chief Executive provided an update on:
 - the 2024/25 budget allocation.
 - the 2024/25 Judicial recruitment programme.
 - performance against the 2024-25 Business Plan.
 - JAC accommodation update.
 - an update on complaints and ongoing litigation (legally privileged).

4. Report back from Working Groups

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

Digital Board

4.2. Christopher Bones reported back on the Digital Board meeting which took place on 27 March 2025. The Digital Board:

- Discussed the findings of a Scott Logic-led tech stack review of the JAC digital platform.
- Reviewed progress against the Digital Board Roadmap.
- Reviewed the corporate response to a digital incident which resulted in the deferral of a Qualifying Test.

5. Chairman's Report

5.1. The Chairman reported back on the following:

- The Chairman took part in the Chancellor of the High Court Selection Day on 25 March.
- The Chairman attended the Senior Salaries Review Body oral evidence session on 26 March.
- The Chairman took part in the Court of Appeal Selection Days between 31 March and 3 April.
- The Chairman and Vice Chairman met with Forvis Mazars to discuss the draft Board Effectiveness Review report on 7 April.

6. Board Effectiveness Review Report Back

6.1. Representatives of Forvis Mazars presented an early draft of the recommendations included in their Board Effectiveness Review. These recommendations were subject to change ahead of the finalised report's completion.

6.2. The Board noted the presentation and future timelines for completion of the Board Effectiveness Review.

7. JAC Business Plan 2025-2026

7.1. The Deputy Chief Executive presented the draft JAC Business Plan 2025-2026.

7.2. The Board noted and agreed the proposed Business Plan.

8. Annual Review of Indicators for Exercise Length

8.1. The Head of Operational Delivery presented the paper on the Annual Review of Indicators for Exercise Length.

8.2. The Board noted the Review and agreed to the proposals.

9. 262 District Judge – Process Paper

9.1. The Selection Exercise Manager presented the paper on the selection process for the 262 District Judge exercise.

9.2. The Board agreed to the proposals.

10. Statutory Consultation Forward Programme

10.1. The Senior Policy Advisor presented the paper on the Statutory Consultation Forward Programme.

10.2. The Board agreed to the proposals.

11. Forward Look and AOB

11.1. The Board noted the 2025 Forward Look, and the Chairman confirmed the next Board meeting will be held on 12 June 2025.

This concluded the business of the Board.