CPS Board | Minutes

Wednesday 28 June 2017, 14:00-16:10 Private Office Boardroom



Members	Alison Saunders (C)	Guests	Monica Burch
	Nick Folland		Sara Carnegie
	Gregor McGill		Mark Summerfield
	Paul Staff		Helen Starkey
	Alison Porter	Secretariat	Lissa Matthews
	Jeremy Newman	Apologies	Jean Ashton
	Alan Jenkins		
	Derek Manuel		

Item 1: Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising

- 1. The minutes of the last meeting held on 24 May 2017 were agreed and progress was noted against the actions arising.
- 2. The Director welcomed Monica Burch who was observing the meeting in advance of joining the Board.

Item 2: Strategic Update

- 3. The Director updated the meeting that the Law Officers remain the same roles post-election. It was unclear how legislation would progress; the Courts Bill is of particular relevance to CPS operations and budget.
- 4. The Queens's Speech and associated publications included reference to the below which are of interest to CPS business:
 - Relationship between SFO and NCA;
 - Terrorism review and legislation;
 - Domestic abuse legislation;
- 5. The Director had met with a number of partners, particularly:
 - The Lord Chief Justice and President of the Queen's Bench Division;
 - The Met Commissioner, Cressida Dick;
 - The Senior Presiding Judge;
- 6. Lastly, the Director noted the success of three members of staff in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

- 7. The Chief Executive updated the Board on the following matters:
 - Common Platform Programme;
 - Charging;
 - Estate security: lock downs at Rose Court in and out of normal hours were successful. A contingency day exercise was scheduled for later in the month;
 - Global IT attack;
 - Departmental Whitley Council;
 - Petty France move;
 - Inspectorate reports due to be published

Item 3: CPS Annual Report and Accounts

8. Paul Staff updated the Board that all statutory obligations had been met. It was recognised that the timing of the annual report could be improved to optimise Board input.

Item 4: Horizon Scan

- 9. Sara Carnegie, the Director's Strategic Policy Advisor, presented a paper. There were five strands: politics; economics; society; technology; and legal and operational
- 10. The Board discussed engagement on Brexit and more broadly engagement with parliamentarians. It was agreed that the Director of Communications and the Strategic Policy Team would consider the parliamentary engagement strategy.
- 11. It was agreed the scan would be presented bi-annually to the Board. Any specific progress or risks could be reported at more regular intervals. The Board considered whether it would add value to invite an external commentator or academic to present on this topic and give an independent take.
- 12. The Board encouraged high level conversations with relevant departments.

Item 5: Audit and Risk Committee Verbal Update

13. Jeremy Newman gave an update on the last meeting. There had been discussion on police file quality issues. HMCPSI would assist with provision of themes from their findings in this area. The Committee was confident that risk was being well handled.

Item 6: HAVAS Employer Brand

14. HAVAS People presented their revised recruitment branding. It was agreed the branding must be used as a consistent, recognisable method of advertising opportunities at the CPS. The brand will be usable in a range of forums. The Board discussed the challenges of branding being relevant to the range of professions the CPS employs.

Item 7: People Survey - Declaration Demographics for Bullying and Harassment

- 15. Mark Summerfield and Helen Starkey presented their findings from analysing the staff survey results. They found there is a higher incidence of reported harassment across all protected characteristics other than gender.
- 16. A range of proposals to tackle this issue would be worked up and presented to the Executive Group for consideration. It was agreed that a strong communications strategy would need to be developed to support the delivery of this work.

Item 8: Any Other Business

17. The Board noted the hard work of Derek and Alan at their last meeting.

Secretariat June 2017