



Members	Nick Folland (C)	Alison Porter	Secretariat	Lissa Matthews
	Alison Saunders	Jeremy Newman		Jade Whittle-Barnes
	Paul Staff	Derek Manuel	Apologies	Jean Ashton
	Gregor McGill	Alan Jenkins		
Guests				
	Stephen Shaw	Claire Lindley		
	Ed Beltrami			

Item 1: Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising

1. The minutes of the last meeting held on 24 March 2017 were agreed and progress was noted against the actions arising.
2. The Board noted apologies from Jean Ashton.

Item 2: Strategic Update

3. The Chief Executive updated the Board on the following matters:
 - Criminal Justice Board – Senior Official Group;
 - International Steering Group;
 - Civil Service Leadership Group: Permanent Secretary and Director-General Event;
 - Common Platform Programme;
 - Technology Steering Group;
 - HAVAS Employer Branding;
 - HMCTS Court Reform Programme;
 - Leadership Development Programme;
 - Conversations – Round Three

4. The Chief Executive updated the group on the recruitment for new Non-Executive Directors, which was now completed. It was confirmed that two new Non-Executives would join the Board in July.

Item 3: Independent Assessor of Complaints Annual Report Inc. PHSO Update

5. Stephen Shaw, the Independent Assessor of Complaints (IAC), attended to present to his annual report.
6. The Board considered a number of points raised in the report, including the high numbers of complaints in CPS Wales. The IAC confirmed that he had considered this and was confident that there was no evidence that pointed to any specific bad practice in the area. He felt that this was more likely a cluster illusion.
7. The Board agreed the IAC's recommendation that CPS HQ should consider how the CPS can improve the familiarity of its staff with the provisions of the Victims' Code.
8. The Board requested the publication of data illustrating the instances in which the IAC overturns original complaint decisions alongside the IAC's annual report to provide further context.
9. The IAC updated the Board on the progress of his programme of Area visits. The Board invited the IAC to give a full presentation of his findings when these were completed.

Item 4: Audit and Risk Committee Verbal Update

10. Jeremy Newman updated the group on the most recent work of the Committee, which included:
 - A visit to the Common Platform Programme in Croydon, which was followed up by a presentation by the Chief Executive;
 - Early sight of the CPS Annual report and Accounts, which was progressing well;
 - A deep dive on the risk register of CPS Thames and Chiltern;
 - Consideration of Corporate Risk 4 - An increase in rape and serious sexual offences (RASSO) and serious crime workload has a detrimental impact on business delivery in terms of timeliness and/or quality.

Item 5: Q4 Area Performance

11. The Board were pleased to note a number of positives including:
 - An total upward trend score of 10.9;

- All CPS areas had improved;
 - Compliance with judicial orders was at the highest level since recording began;
 - Strong improvement trend scores in London (+15.4), Wessex (+19.6), North East (+17.9) and North West (+17.4).
12. The Board were informed that this would be the last report using the league table. In future, Areas would not be ranked 1 to 13 but will be given a colour rating (green, amber-green, amber-red or red). The rating would be dependent upon performance against the level of ambition for the high weighted measures. A key advantage with this new approach was that Areas would no longer be competing with each other. All Areas would have the opportunity to be given a green rating dependent upon their own performance and regardless of the performance in other Areas.

Item 6: Q4 Corporate Performance

13. Paul Staff presented the new look corporate performance report which now incorporated HR and area performance data. The Board were pleased with the new format and the extra level of detail it added.
14. The Board considered the following:
- 11% caseload reduction in the Crown Court;
 - Unsuccessful outcomes owing to witness issues;
 - Magistrates' court cracked and ineffective trial rate;
 - Proceeds of crime;

Item 7: London Update

15. Claire Lindley and Ed Beltrami, Chief Crown Prosecutors (CCP) for London South and North, attended to present the paper. They advised the Board that the disentanglement of pan- London units was now complete and the areas were now operating separately.
16. The Board discussed recruitment in London and considered how best to attract talent to and encourage them to stay in London. Work was ongoing to change the culture in the area by introducing more staff consultation and management days.
17. The Board were pleased with the recent performance of CPS London but noted that this mainly related to measures within CPS control and more was required to improve relationships with stakeholders.

18. The Board were impressed with the close working relationships between both CCPs and were reassured that this would continue going forward with a quarterly pan-London Board meeting.

Item 8: AOB

19. None raised.

**Secretariat
May 2017**