

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION (JAC) MEETING

15 December 2022

Minutes of Board Meeting

Present	
Commissioners	Staff
Ajay Kakkar (Chairman) Sue Carr (Vice Chairman) Anuja Dhir Sue Hoyle Andrew Kennon Sarah Lee Barry Morgan Adam Johnson Christa Christensen Jane Furniss Simon Wessely Emir Feisal Brie Stevens-Hoare Greg Sinfield	Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive Head of Operations and Digital Head of Operational Delivery Head of Diversity and Engagement Head of Analysis and Insight Head of Selection Policy Acting Head of Secretariat/Board Secretary Senior Executive Assistant Senior Selection Exercise Manager Selection Exercise Manager
Apologies Mathangi Asokan	

1. Apologies and matters arising

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Mathangi Asokan.
- 1.2 The minutes of the 10 November 2022 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 the 2021-22 and 2022-23 selection exercise programmes;
- provided an update on Chair and Commissioner recruitment;
- provided a legally privileged update on ongoing litigation;
- provided an update on the JAC's financial position and allocation for 2022-23; and
- briefed the Board on the JAC's 2022 People Survey Results

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.

Digital Board

3.2 Andrew Kennon reported back from the Digital Board (DB) which was held on 24 November.

3.3 The Digital Board were updated on the appointment of a new independent member.

3.4 The Digital Board received a report on the technical reasons as to the recent loss of service for the Deputy District Judge Online Qualifying Test, including the lessons learned from that and the steps that are being put in place to ensure this is avoided in future.

3.5 The Digital Board noted recent progress against their Digital roadmap.

3.6 The Digital Board were updated on the RAID (Risks, Assumptions, Issues and Dependencies) Log and updated on QT error rates, which was still under the error rate expected overall for the year.

3.7 The Board noted that Sue Hoyle was stepping down from the Digital Board to take up a role of Chair of the Advisory group

Advisory Group

3.8 Jane Furniss reported back from the Advisory Group which was held on 13 December.

3.9 The AG reviewed:

- the situational questions for Circuit Judge (all three jurisdictions), Deputy King's Bench Master and King's Bench Master, and
- the dry run analysis of the Deputy District Judge scenario test for information following their earlier review.
- the situational questions for the Salaried Judge, First-tier Tribunal Land Registration out of committee.

3.10 The Board noted that Jane Furniss was standing down as Chair of Advisory Group which would now be chaired by Sue Hoyle. The Chairman thanked Jane for her work on the Advisory Group.

4. Chairman's Report

- 4.1 The Chairman reported back on a successful Judicial Diversity Forum meeting on 15 November 2022.
- 4.2 The Chairman reported back on progress in the Lord Chief Justice recruitment campaign.
- 4.3 The Chairman attended a bilateral meeting with the Lord Chancellor on 8 December 2022.
- 4.4 The Chairman advised the Commission Board of his upcoming JAC commitments before his term as Chair of the JAC comes to an end on 31 December 2022.
- 4.5 Anuja Dhir reported back on the Council of Circuit Judges conference and Annual General Meeting which she attended on behalf of the JAC on 25 November.

5. s9(4) Deputy High Court Judge Selection Exercise Process

- 5.1 The Senior Selection Exercise Manager presented the proposed selection process for the forthcoming s9(4) Deputy High Court Judge exercise which is due to launch in January 2023.
- 5.2 Following discussion, the Board agreed to the process set out the paper.

6. Salaried Judges of the First-tier Tribunal Selection Exercise Process

- 6.1 The Senior Selection Exercise Manager presented the proposed selection process for the forthcoming Salaried Judge of the First-tier Tribunal exercise due to launch in February 2023.
- 6.2 Following discussion, the Board agreed to the process set out the paper.

7 Deputy District Judge (Magistrates Court) Selection Exercise Process

- 7.1 The Selection Exercise Manager presented the proposed selection process for the forthcoming Deputy District Judge (Magistrates Court) exercise due to launch in March 2023.
- 7.2 Following discussion, the Board agreed to the process set out the paper.

8 Judicial diversity insights and risks - follow-up to October 2022 Board discussion

- 8.1 The Head of Analysis and Insight and the Head of Diversity and Engagement presented the Board with some draft statistical insights and commentary for inclusion in the JAC's next biannual 'Diversity Update', due to be published in January 2023.
- 8.2 The Board was also presented with a discussion paper prepared by the Senior President of Tribunals Diversity Taskforce, which explores many of the diversity issues pertinent to the JAC from a Tribunal perspective.
- 8.3 Following discussion, the Board agreed to:
- publish statistical insights providing additional context to help explain statistics from the annual combined Diversity of the Judiciary report, in place of the usual statistics section in January's Diversity Update;
 - feedback their reflections from the Tribunals Diversity Taskforce paper to the Senior President of Tribunals and extend an invitation to attend a future meeting of the to discuss some of the issues raised.

9 Forward Look and AOB

- 9.1 The Board noted the 2023 Forward Look and that the next Board meeting would be held on 9 February 2023 at Clive House.
- 9.2 The Board expressed their gratitude to Lord Kakkar for his excellent leadership and dedication to JAC during his tenure as Chair.