

# **JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION (JAC) MEETING**

**12 September 2024**

## **Minutes of Board Meeting (Remote via Teams)**

<b>Present</b>	
<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Helen Pitcher (Chairman) Mark Warby (Vice Chair) Nicolina Andall Noel Arnold Christopher Bones Tom Cross Anthony Harnden Uchechi Igbokwe Adam Johnson Clare McGlynn Barry Morgan Angela Rafferty	Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive/ Head of Strategy and Policy Head of Operations and Digital Head of Operational Delivery Head of Selection Policy Head of Analysis and Insights Head of Senior Appointments Head of Panel Member Engagement Selection Exercise Manager Secretariat and Policy Officer Head of Secretariat

### **1. Apologies and matters arising**

- 1.1. The minutes of the 11 July 2024 meeting were agreed.
- 1.2. Apologies were received from Sue Hoyle, Tanweer Ikram and Greg Sinfield.

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

- 2.1. 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
  - an update on complaints and ongoing litigation (legally privileged).

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

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

#### **Advisory Group**

- 3.2. Uche Igbokwe reported back from the Advisory Group meeting which met on 16 July 2024 and 3 September 2024.

- The group reviewed a variety of situational questions, scenario test and role plays over the two meetings and two out-of-committee papers.

### **Digital Board**

3.3. Chris Bones reported back from the Digital Board which was held on 1 August 2024.

- The Board were updated on contractual arrangements, processes for tendering expiring contracts, and progress in securing an IT Health Check/Penetration Test.
- The Board noted progress against the Digital Roadmap.
- The Board was updated on the RAID log.
- The Board considered a paper on Digital Security, Risk and Governance.

### **Audit and Risk Committee**

3.4. Anthony Harnden reported back on the Audit and Risk Committee.

- The Committee welcomed Nicolina Andall as a member of the Committee.
- The Committee reviewed the corporate risk register.
- The Committee was informed that the JAC Annual Report was laid successfully.
- The Committee reflected on outcomes to the annual audit and received feedback from NAO and Deloitte attendees.
- The committee reviewed the security incidents report and confirmed no incidents of fraud and whistleblowing.

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

4.1. The Chairman reported back on the following:

- The Chairman caught up with a variety of commissioners over July and September.
- Filmed a presentation for Judicial Guide event taking place in October at the Supreme Court.
- The Chairman gave an update on undertaking an external Board Effectiveness Review.

## **5. Update on Qualifying Test Action**

5.1. The Head of Analysis and Insights presented an update on work undertaken in relation to the Qualifying Test.

5.2. The Board were content to endorse the next steps.

## **6. Revision to SCC Papers and Panel Reports**

6.1. The Head of Operations and Digital presented a number of changes to the Selection and Character Committee papers.

6.2. The Board agreed with the proposed changes.

## **7. Panel Member Engagement Update**

7.1. The Head of Panel Member Engagement presented an update on the panel member engagement work.

7.2. The Board agreed the proposals outlined in the paper.

## **8. Good Character Guidance**

8.1. The Secretariat and Policy Officer presented the proposed amendments to the Good Character guidance.

8.2. The Board approved the amended guidance, subject to minor amendments.

## **9. 00216 High Court Process Paper**

9.1. The Head of Senior Appointments presented the planned selection process for the forthcoming High Court Judge selection exercise.

9.2. The Board agreed the proposed process for this exercise.

## **10. 00227 Recorder Process Paper**

10.1. The Selection Exercise Manager presented the planned selection process for the forthcoming Recorder selection exercise.

10.2. The Board agreed the proposed process for this exercise.

## **11. Forward Look and AOB**

11.1. The Board noted the 2024 Forward Look and the Chairman confirmed the next Board meeting would be held on 10 October 2024.

This concluded the business of the Board.