

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING 27 JUNE 2018

Board: Sir David Bean, Chair
Professor Nicholas Hopkins, Commissioner for Property, Family and Trust Law
Stephen Lewis, Commissioner for Commercial and Common Law
Professor David Ormerod QC, Commissioner for Criminal Law
Nicholas Paines QC, Commissioner for Public and Welsh Law
Phil Golding, Chief Executive
Bronwen Maddox, Non-Executive Board Member

Attendees: Sir Nicholas Green
Matthew Jolley
Gulzar Gill
Laura Burgoyne
Henni Ouahes
Jessica de Mounteney

Apologies: Sir David Bell, Non-Executive Board Member
David Connolly

-
- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Sir Nicholas Green, who was announced as the Law Commission's new Chair from 1 August 2018, to the Board meeting.

Item 1: Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 25 April 2018

- 1.2 The minutes were approved subject to a minor amendment to paragraph 1.8. The Board noted that a Board meeting did not take place in May.

Item 2: Matters Arising

- 1.3 The Chair informed the Board that he had not sent a letter to Lord Keen in regard to a potential Arbitration project. However, it is likely that this will be discussed at an upcoming meeting with the Lord Chancellor.

Item 3: Board Report and Forward Look

- 1.4 Commissioners provided updates on each of their projects. SL stated that there was still some interest in the Good Mortgages Bill from MPs although the Bill will not be introduced at this time. On Insurable Interest, the draft Bill had been published for consultation and the responses received so far were positive. Progress had been made on the Right to Manage project, with the MoU with MHCLG about to be signed.
- 1.5 DO stated that progress was being made on POD with the report expected to be published later this year. On Search Warrants, the consultation paper had been published and positive responses received. The Abusive and Offensive Online Communications project was underway with key stakeholder meetings scheduled.

- 1.6 NH stated that the Land Registration report would be published in July. In terms of the Residential Leasehold project, the timetable remains tight for both Commonhold and Enfranchisement, but remains on track. The Surrogacy project is now underway and key stakeholder meetings had been held.
- 1.7 NP informed the Board that a draft consultation paper on the Immigration Rules project had been circulated to Commissioners and stakeholder engagement was underway. In terms of the Employment Law Hearing Structures project, a draft consultation paper was close to being finalised before circulation to Commissioners.
- 1.8 GG provided an update on resource issues in the Corporate Services team, with recruitment underway for three upcoming vacancies. He also confirmed that the Business Plan and Annual Report would be published shortly.

Item 4: Tailored Review

- 1.9 PG reported to the Board that a draft of the Tailored Review would probably be ready within the next couple of weeks. The expectation is that the review will reflect positively on the Commission and its work.

Item 5: Update on the Justice Committee and Commission on Justice in Wales (Thomas Commission) meetings

- 1.10 PG informed the Board that written evidence for the Justice Committee and Thomas Commission had been submitted. The Justice Committee would provide an opportunity for the Commission to provide an update on its work over the last three years. The Law Commission's evidence to the Thomas Commission outlined its work in relation to law reform in Wales.

Item 6: Law Reform Manual

- 1.11 MJ presented the Law Reform Manual to the Board, outlining the structure and its role as a knowledge hub on how to undertake law reform. An editorial board will be set up to keep the manual under review and update it when necessary. MJ thanked colleagues across the Commission for their input into the manual. The Board expressed their belief that the Manual was an excellent document.

Item 7: New Performance Appraisal System

- 1.12 PG provided an overview of the new performance appraisal system introduced by MoJ and which the Law Commission was required to implement. The new system would see more regular feedback discussions replacing the twice-yearly appraisal meetings.

Item 8: Update on Law Commissions Conference

- 1.13 The Chair confirmed that he would be attending this year Law Commissions Conference in Ireland along with PG and NH.

Item 9: AOB

- 1.14 NP informed the Board of the Department of Transport's response to the Law Commission's report on Level Crossings.