

**The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom
Management Board**

Minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2012

Attending: Jenny Rowe (Chair)

William Arnold
Louise di Mambro
Sian Lewis
Olufemi Oguntunde
Martin Thompson
Chris Maile
Philip Robinson (Non-Executive Director)
Alex Jablonowski (Non-Executive Director)

Paul Brigland (Secretary)

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 No apologies for absence were received.

2. Approval of minutes of the Management Board Meeting of 21 December 2011

2.1 The minutes were approved.

3. Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda

3.1 The following points arising from the minutes of the December Management Board meeting were discussed

- 3.1 – JR, WA and OO were still considering the response to MoJ but were close to having an initial letter for JR to send. JR would update the Board at the February meeting.
- 6.2 The Board noted that work was underway to set up a model to get a more accurate estimate of fees income.

- 7.2 – the Board noted that following discussion with the Justices it had been agreed that some further details on why some appeals are refused should be put on the UKSC website.
- 7.2 – the Board noted that a factual paper had been prepared for the website on the subject of appeals from Scotland
- 13.3 – The Board noted that the draft Strategic Plan had been agreed by Lord Phillips and Lord Hope. It had now been circulated to the jurisdictions who had been asked to give any comments by 17 February 2012.
- 14.1 – the Board noted that the queries raised about the Audit Committee minutes had now been clarified.

4. Scorecard report

- 4.1 The Board noted the monthly Scorecard report (paper MB12/01). OO pointed out that some of the figures in the Financial Performance section were incorrect.

Action point: PB to circulate a corrected version

5. Risk Paper

- 5.1 The board considered the Risk Register (paper MB12/02). The following points were discussed.

- Risk 1 had been updated.
- Risk 2 - the board noted that the planned modelling would give a better view of any trends.
- Risk 5 – the Board noted that the trend had risen and was being kept under review pending further debate, legislation and any moves towards a referendum on Scottish independence.
- The board also noted the new risks (12 and 13).
- There were no changes to risks 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

6. Finance and fees

6.1 OO presented paper MB12/03 and confirmed expenditure was broadly as had been expected.

6.2 The Board noted that there were justifiable reasons for the underspend including having two fewer Justices than the full complement of twelve for part of the year and a reduction in security costs

- The board also considered the potential impact on finances of future IT provision.

7. Press and communications update

7.1 SL presented paper MB12/04.

7.2 The Board noted the following points

- The level of coverage generated by the forthcoming case of Julian Assange v Swedish Judicial Authority. There had been a high number of journalists requesting seats (78 journalists from 65 different media organisations). 40 could be accommodated in Court Room 1. The rest would be seated in the Lawyers suite with TV screens. Court Room 2 would be set up with a screen as an overflow area for members of the public. HMCTS would be loaning a press officer to provide support.
- Relations with Scotland continued to gather coverage.
- Visitor levels were slightly up on December 2010.
- The number of educational visits continued to hold steady.

8. Human resources

8.1 CM delivered an oral update to the board. It was noted that -

- CM had attended a meeting of the HR Shared Services Partnership Board and highlighted that a new Memorandum of

- The Cabinet Office had agreed that the UKSC could do its own HR management information returns with effect from the new financial year, and this would include returns to the Office of National Statistics.
- The arrangements for recruiting the next round of JAs were in hand with Hays Legal.
- The staff survey results had now been placed on the intranet and a 'Results into Action' working group had been set up. CM would do a presentation at the next staff meeting on 27 January

9. Parliamentary Questions and FOI

- 9.1 PB reported that no PQs had been received in the last month and that two FOI requests had been received and answered within the statutory deadline.
- 9.2 The Board also noted that we would only be 'tweeting' as the UKSC (not as individual Justices or staff).

10. Case update

- 10.1 LdiM reported that we were expecting an unusual Habeas Corpus case to be heard, possibly in July.

11. Health and Safety

- 11.1 MT presented paper MB12/05. The Board noted that –
- A fire drill had been carried out in December, with the North door being used as the fire exit.

- The PC Trade Union safety representative had visited and raised a number of minor issues, all of which had been resolved.

12. Energy Consumption

12.1 MT presented paper MB12/06 The board noted that –

- Overall gas and electricity usage was down, although there had been a small rise in the last quarter
- In particular there had been a 40% reduction in the consumption of gas, possibly due to a mild winter.

13. Any other business

13.1 No points were raised

These minutes were approved by the Management Board on 27 February 2012.

UKSC
January 2012