



Criminal Justice Board meeting

15 May 2019

Attendees, Members

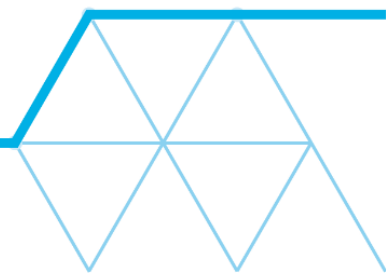
- Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice (The Rt Hon David Gauke MP) – **JS**
- Attorney General (The Rt Hon Geoffrey Cox QC MP) – **AG**
- Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service (The Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP) - **MPFS**
- President of the Queen’s Bench Division (Sir Brian Leveson) – **PQBD**
- Senior Presiding Judge (Lady Justice Macur) – **SPJ**
- Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service (Nick Ephgrave) – **NE**
- Chair of the Youth Justice Board (Charlie Taylor) – **CT**
- Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services, Paul Staff) – **PS**
- Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Representative (Dame Vera Baird) – **VB**
- Chief Executive, HM Prison and Probation Service (Jo Farrah) – **JF**
- Director General, Communications, Policy and Analysis Group, MoJ (Mark Sweeney) – **MS**
- Director General, Crime Policing and Fire Group, Home Office (Scott McPherson) – **SM**
- Chief Executive, HM Courts and Tribunals Service (Susan Acland-Hood) – **SAH**

By invitation

- Chair of the Bar Council (Richard Atkins) - **RA**
- Head of Justice from the Law Society (Richard Miller) – **RM**

Senior Officials

- Nicola Hewer, Director, Family and Criminal Justice Policy, MoJ **NH**
- Melissa Case, Director, Family and Criminal Justice Policy, MoJ, **MC**
- Matthew Gould, Deputy Director Criminal Courts and Criminal Law Policy Unit, **MG**



Introduction

- 1) JS opened the Criminal Justice Board (CJB) meeting by welcoming JF to her first meeting as the new CEO of HMPPS.
- 2) JS also welcomed NE in his new role as the Assistant Commissioner to the Met, standing in for Met Commissioner Cressida Dick.
- 3) JS expressed his thanks to Sir Brian Leveson for his long and exemplary career as it was his last CJB meeting before his retirement. PQBD spoke about the unique ability of the CJB to address the issues facing the system as a whole, rather than component parts. He highlighted areas of the system that he felt needed the boards attention.
- 4) JS thanked PQPD for his reflections and for a long and impressive career.

Agenda item 1: The Criminal Justice System today and CJB actions tracker

- 5) MC provided a high-level overview of published criminal justice system statistics.
- 6) MC highlighted the picture had stayed constant since the previous CJB meeting.
- 7) Board members asked to receive information on specific offence types as well as high level trends.
Action 1: The next CJB will bring more detail on specific offence types.
- 8) MC talked through plans to ensure the CJB acts as a system leader. These included the secretariat reviving engagement with local CJB's and updating the website with the CJB mission statement.
- 9) MC also noted that the Disclosure and Sexual Offences sub-groups of the CJB were both continuing to meet and would bring substantive reports to the CJB where appropriate.

Agenda item 2: Forward look

- 10) MG facilitated a discussion about areas where the Board may like to prioritise issues facing the Criminal Justice System that merit further attention (alongside sexual offences and disclosure).
- 11) The Board decided to add case progression, forensics and cybercrime to the forward look.
- 12) The discussion also focused on the importance of horizon scanning as well as listening to concerns of the day. Members highlighted that the rapid advances in technology would only continue to impact on the system.
Action 2: Secretariat to commission horizon scanning work to bring back to the Board within the year.
- 13) The discussion also addressed the importance of addressing mental health in the CJS in line with current action log. Members noted that mental health and prisons was a particular issue.
Action 3: Secretariat to liaise with HMPPS staff to ensure prisons, probation and reoffending are considered alongside agreed forward look items.

Agenda item 3: Pre-Charge Bail update on data collection

- 14) SM provided an update on pre-charge bail in regard to the ongoing HMCIFRS inspections, the submission of a super-complaint by the Women's centre for Justice and data collection on the use of release under investigation.
- 15) Members discussed the challenges of addressing concerns and acknowledged the complexity of this issue.
- 16) The CJB agreed that more work was needed.
Action 4: HO to continue to work with SOG to consider options for addressing concerns raised and return to the board in autumn with options to go further.

Agenda item 6: A.O.B

No items were raised under A.O.B