

**COMPETITION AND MARKETS AUTHORITY  
Minutes of the Board  
Belfast, 23 March 2017**

**Present:**

David Currie (Chair)  
Andrea Coscelli (Acting CEO)  
Michael Grenfell  
Rachel Merelie  
Erik Wilson  
Anne Lambert  
Sarah Chambers  
Amelia Fletcher  
Alan Giles  
Bill Kovacic  
Annetje Ottow  
Roland Green  
Sarah Cardell (by video link)  
Mike Walker

**CMA staff:**  
Paul Latham

**Executive Office:**  
Erika Lewis  
Kate Hall  
Natalie Allen (minutes)

**Board Associate:**  
Angela MacDonald (by phone)

**1. Introduction**

**Declaration of conflicts / recusals**

The Chair welcomed the Board members to the meeting.

There were no declarations of conflicts or recusals in relation to the meeting agenda.

**Gifts and hospitality**

Alan Giles informed the Board that he had attend the Retail Week Annual Conference and Awards Dinner as a guest of the Editor, and was on the judging panel for the Awards.

Alan also informed the Board of his intention to decline an invitation to a Concurrences Review London private dinner in April to discuss 'recent trends in international mergers'.

There were no further declarations of gifts or hospitality offered or accepted in relation to Board members' roles with the CMA.

## **2. Review of Board minutes**

The Board approved each set of minutes.

## **3. Chief Executive's update**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on major news items and provided an overview of existing work.

The Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee provided a brief update on the March ARAC meeting.

## **4. Pipeline readout**

The Executive Director, Enforcement gave the Board an update on outcomes from the March Pipeline Steering Group meeting.

## **5. Consumer enforcement portfolio and plans**

The Board received an overview of the CMA's recent and current consumer enforcement portfolio and pipeline of projects, and the CMA's role in the wider national and international landscape.

The Board thanked the team for a useful overview of the CMA's consumer work and congratulated them on their progress in reaching this point.

## **6. Brexit**

The Board considered the possible implications Brexit would have for the CMA.

## **7. Annual Plan 2017/18**

The Board reviewed the CMA's draft Annual Plan 2017/18, and agreed it should be published in late March.

## **8. Digital Comparison Tools**

The Board received an update on emerging thinking and themes arising from the market study into digital comparison tools, ahead of the planned publication of an Update Paper in late March.

The Board agreed the content of the Update and not to make a market investigation reference and thanked the team for their work.

## **9. Nations and Regions strategy**

Board members shared outcomes of the different stakeholder meetings held the previous day and general feedback on the trip to Northern Ireland, before reviewing the draft Nations and Regions strategy for 2017-2020.

The Board thanked the team for the update and was content to approve the strategy.

## **10. Staff Survey and Corporate Action Plan**

The Board was updated on the key themes arising from the Staff Survey and the planned programme of work for the Corporate Action Plan.

The Board thanked the team for a useful update on the Survey results and expressed support for the programme of work.

## **11. Annual Concurrency Report and strategy**

The Board reviewed the draft Annual Concurrency Report and received an update on concurrency strategy.

The Board thanked the team for the update and was content to approve the report.

## **12. Matters arising**

The Board noted the following papers which had been provided for information:

- BTL1. MI slides
- BTL2. Industrial Strategy Green Paper response
- BTL3. Retail mergers Commentary

## **13. Review of the meeting / looking ahead**

The Board reviewed the meeting and the future agenda.