



PUBLIC MINUTES
Of the Regulation Committee meeting
Held on Monday 18 December 2017 at 10am
Marsham Street, London

Present

Julian Ashby	Chairman
Liz Butler	
Simon Dow	
Richard Moriarty	
Ceri Richards	

In attendance

Fiona MacGregor	Director of Regulation	
Mick Warner	Deputy Director Regulatory Operations	
Jonathan Walters	Deputy Director Strategy and Performance	
Richard Peden	Deputy Director Provider Engagement	
Catherine Farrington	Head of Legal, Regulation	Minutes
John O'Mahony	Assistant Director, Regulatory Framework and Performance	Item 7 & 8
Jim Bennett	Assistant Director Regulatory Strategy	Item 7
Fatima Mangerah	Regulation Communications Manager	Item 7
Rob Dryburgh	Assistant Director, Analysis	Item 9
Will Perry	Assistant Director, Commercial/New Entrants	Item 10 & 11
John Craig-Sharples	Head of Quality Assurance	Item 13
Karen Doran	Assistant Director, Investigation and Enforcement	Item 14

01/12/17 There was a confidential session between members and the Director of Regulation.

1 Welcome and apologies

02/12/17 There were apologies from Isabella Freeman.

2 Declarations of Interest

03/12/17 Ceri Richards declared that she has been appointed to the Board of Red Funnel but that this is not a conflict.

3 Minutes of the last meeting – 27 November 2017

04/12/17 There were no comments on the accuracy of the confidential or public minutes.

- The confidential minutes were APPROVED as a true record.

- The public minutes were APPROVED for publication.

4 Matters Arising

05/12/17 Noted.

5 Committee forward look

07/12/17 The Chairman stated that the RC review is due and a discussion should be timetabled for March at the latest.

6 Regulation Director's update on key issues

08/12/17 Hackitt review

FM advised that the interim report of this review of building regulations and fire safety had been published today. The report does not set out specific technical requirements but sets the direction of travel for change in a number of areas.

09/12/17 Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Members noted the information on progress with the inquiry. Procedural hearings had been held on the 11 and 12 December with a range of bodies represented. There were calls from residents for a more representative panel instead of a single chair. The chair has offered a consultative panel instead, to include survivors and relatives, and reflecting diversity. The hearings made it clear that the volume of materials will mean that the original timescales for the inquiry will be extended.

10/12/17 Registrations update

There have been two new registrations - Lets for Life and Swift Homes Limited.

11/12/17 Performance

Of the 31 targets, three have been marked as amber.

Registrations process – there have been delays to the process resulting from new members to the team. This is expected to be back on track over the next three months.

Evaluation programme – the team responsible for this is currently focussed on the maintaining assurance programme .

CRM – this has been slightly delayed as technicalities are taking longer than anticipated. However, this is not a cause of concern for implementation timing.

Internal audit - Members asked who agrees the schedule for Internal Audit. They were advised that this is the DoR in the first instance and then to ARC, on which the Chair sits. We will review the governance around Internal Audit once we are standalone.

12/12/17 Publications, media and stakeholders

Members NOTED the forthcoming publications and stakeholder events.

7 Transition Programme Update

13/12/17 JOM, JB and FaM joined the meeting as MW presented the paper which contained updates on the progress being made with the Transition

Programme. Good progress was reported on all work streams.

14/12/17 *Legislative Reform Order.*

15/12/17 *Service Level Agreement*

18/12/17 *Communications:* JB advised that the HCA plan to rebrand as Homes England in two stages. As regulator, we are planning to fully roll out our rebrand on 11 January, to ensure that our identity is clear following the Homes England launch.

19/12/17 FaM introduced slides detailing the rebranding as the Regulator of Social Housing. Members discussed the timing of the rebrand and APPROVED the detail contained within the slides.

8 Fees

20/12/17 MW provided members with an update. Members noted that the recovery rate to date of 99.9% was excellent and thanked the team for their efforts. They also noted the on-going work on the small amount of remaining fees.

21/12/17 Members also asked officers to be mindful of the VFM in considering which of the agreed approaches to utilise for chasing the remaining fees.

9 Value for Money Consultation

23/12/17 The proposed new VFM standard would require providers to report against a set of metrics defined by the regulator. The paper outlined preliminary feedback on the discussion paper which was published on the 27 September.

25/12/17 JW advised that the metrics have to be in the accounts but that providers wanted to be able to contextualise the information, to show consistency with the accounts.

26/12/17 Members NOTED that the information would give visibility on social housing versus non-social housing units.

27/12/17 RD advised that a more detailed update would be given at the January meeting as the consultation response analysis would be underway. Members stated that we should aim to get final sign off in February.

10 Global accounts

28/12/17 WP introduced the paper and reported that the Global Accounts were published last week – 2 months earlier than in previous years, in line with stakeholder requests. The press coverage has been positive. Members welcomed the early publication and congratulated the team on its hard work in achieving this.

29/12/17 Members NOTED the slides at Annex 1

11 Maintaining Assurance Programme update

30/12/17 WP advised that we have now had two programme boards and are in the process of initiating each project. There was a positive response from Regulation Leadership Team when the programme was presented to them.

31/12/17 Members NOTED the progress made to date.

12 Regulation Committee Scheme of Delegated Authority Amendments

32/12/17 CF introduced the paper.

33/12/17 Members AGREED the amendments as set out in the paper and NOTED that the Head of Legal Regulation will liaise with General Counsel to have the amended SDA submitted to the HCA Board as required by the Governance Manual.

13 Staff Survey 2017 – Headline Results

34/12/17 MW introduced the paper which set out the headline results from the staff survey, which was tailored specifically to regulation this year and run separately from the HCA (Homes England) staff survey.

36/12/17 Members asked about online access and JCS explained that through Civil Service Learning and learning cafes, there was lots of opportunity to attend training.

38/12/17 Members NOTED the results and considered the survey to be a positive result which compares well to other public sector organisations and to the Civil Service benchmarks.

14 Investigation and Enforcement Update

39/12/17 KD introduced the paper.

40/12/17 Members NOTED the reports on the intensive regulatory cases.

41/12/17 **Saffron**

42/12/17 **Impact**

43/12/17 **Expectations**

44/12/17 **Suffolk**

45/12/17 **Consumer Regulation – Vivid**

15 Operations Update

46/12/17 RBP introduced the paper and stated that there were 57 regulatory judgments published at the end of November. 5 of these showed a change in strapline as set out in para 5 of the paper. 21 regulatory judgments will be published on 20th December 2017 of which 20 are as a result of the stability checks.

47/12/17 RBP advised that the IDA Programme update would come to the February meeting.

48/12/17 Members NOTED that there was no additional merger activity

16 Any other business

49/12/17 None.