

Attendees	
Chairman	RPC Secretariat
Michael Gibbons	BRE Officials
Committee Members	
Jonathan Cave	
Nicole Kar	
Jeremy Mayhew	
Martin Traynor	
Ken Warwick	

1. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the previous meeting

1. Minutes of the previous meeting – 18 July – were approved for publication.

Matters Arising

2. The Chairman thanked the outgoing Assistant Economist cohort for their excellent work during their time with the RPC and wished them good luck in their future careers.
3. The new Head of Secretariat was welcomed into her new role.
4. Ben Gummer, Greg Clark and Margot James will form a triad, replacing the previous quad, of better regulation ministers. Liam Fox and David Davis will be part of the Reducing Regulation Cabinet Committee (RRC), and Greg Clark will be chairing. As a result, the composition of the committee is slightly to the previous committee, but it is likely to remain 'virtual' rather than meet physically.
5. A letter from the chairman will go to Alex Chisholm – new permanent secretary of BEIS – shortly, congratulating him on his appointment and suggesting an introductory meeting.

Quarterly survey results

6. The committee observed that there were only two major changes since the last set of results:
 - The only downward trend was in the clarity of the RPC process – 88% down to 71%. The reason for this was unclear but could be attributed to a small number of departments within the small sample set being unhappy with the RPC's assessment of their measure.
 - A slight increase of cases not receiving a fit for purpose rating – attributed to the lower performing departments.

Progress against the business plan objectives

7. The secretariat provided an update of progress against the business plan objectives. The committee agreed that good progress was being made.

Risk register

8. Jeremy Mayhew – as committee lead on risk – introduced the risk register. After outlining the major amendment, he mentioned the inclusion of a cover note in future would make it clearer to members what has changed from previous versions.

2. Efficiency project

9. Rob Brightwell presented an overview of his efficiency project's findings. He believes the current framework is encouraging the 'wrong' types of behaviours and leading departments gold-plating, or over complying with, the requirements.
10. The members agreed that there were some good ideas included in the presentation. In particular, in relation to the proposals to explore the potential for a principles based fast track system (including post implementation reviews) – but recognising this would require further work on the detail, the need to improve the tracking of measures through the wider system, an increased focus on overt proportionality principles and guidance, and moving fees and charges that do not relate to a change in regulatory scope out of RPC scrutiny.
11. The committee were, however, more concerned with some of the suggestions in relation to arbitrary length guides/limits for impact assessments. Members also felt that the proposals relating to changing how the quality of impact assessments as submitted is recorded and committee review stages were areas for which the RPC is responsible and should not be included in the BRE proposals which should be aimed at improving the efficiency of the better regulation system.
12. The committee agreed to continue to feed into the project.

3. The work of the BRE

13. Rob Brightwell provided the committee with a presentation on the wider work of the BRE.