

## MINUTES OF THE CMA BOARD

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Meeting date: 20 March 2019

Venue: Hearing Room 4, Victoria House, Southampton Row, WC1B 4AD

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### Members present

Andrew Tyrie (Chairman)  
Andrea Coscelli (CEO)  
Martin Coleman (MC)  
Cynthia Dubin (CD)  
Amelia Fletcher (AF)  
Alan Giles (AG)  
Andrea Gomes da Silva (AGS)  
Michael Grenfell (MG)  
Bill Kovacic (BK)  
Jonathan Scott (JS)  
Erik Wilson (EW)

### CMA staff present

Kate Bridge (KMB), Director of  
Executive Office and Performance  
Claire Jewell (CJ), Assistant Legal Director,  
Governance  
Paul Latham (PL), Director of  
Communications and Strategy  
Paul Ellis (PE), Director of Finance and  
Security  
Nick Seaford, Private Secretary to the  
Chairman  
Kimberley Wicks, Committees Secretary  
(minutes)

### Advisers present

Sarah Cardell (SC), General Counsel (from agenda item 3)  
Mike Walker (MW), Chief Economic Adviser

### Apologies

Kirstin Baker (KB)

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed the Board members to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chairman noted that this was AG's last Board meeting. The Chairman expressed his warm thanks to AG for his enormous contribution both at the CMA and in his previous role at the Office of Fair Trading. The Chairman explained that he had asked AG, drawing on his considerable experience, to produce a valedictory note and to speak to it later in the meeting.

### Declarations of interest, conflicts, and recusals

- 1.3 MC and the Chairman received a redacted version of relevant committee minutes and recused themselves from discussions on the funerals market study (agenda item 6) due to their previously declared conflicts.
- 1.4 AF and MC received a redacted version of relevant committee minutes and recused themselves from discussions on the statutory audit market study (agenda item 9) due to their previously declared conflicts.

### Gifts and hospitality

- 1.5 No declarations of gifts or hospitality were made by members.

## **2. CMA Board and committee minutes**

- 2.1 The Board **approved** the minutes of the CMA Board meeting held on 13 February 2019.
- 2.2 The Board **noted** the minutes of the following CMA committee meetings:
  - Executive Committee (XCo) minutes from 6 and 27 February 2019, and 4 March 2019.
  - European Union Exit Committee (EUEC) minutes from 24 January, 7 and 21 February 2019.
  - Remuneration Committee (RemCo) minutes from 12 February 2019.

## **3. Updates**

- 3.1 The Chief Executive provided a high-level overview of the CMA's current work.
- 3.2 AGS updated the Board on what was discussed at the 11 March 2019 Pipeline Steering Group (PSG) meeting.
- 3.3 JS, the Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC), updated the Board on what was discussed at the 12 March 2019 ARAC meeting. JS noted that, as Bob Spedding is stepping down, CD will join KB and JS on the Committee. The Chairman acknowledged the valuable contribution Bob Spedding has made during his time as a member of ARAC.

#### 4. Funerals market study

4.1 The Board **agreed** the next steps for this market study.

#### 5. Flexible and smart working at the CMA

5.1 The Board **discussed** proposals to further support flexible and smart working practices at the CMA.

#### 6. Annual Concurrency Report 2019

6.1 The Board provided feedback on the content of the draft Annual Concurrency Report 2019<sup>1</sup> and **agreed** the sign-off process for its publication.

#### 7. Statutory audit market study

7.1 The Board **considered** a draft final report and **discussed** next steps.

#### 8. Reform Programme update

8.1 The Board was **updated** on the next phase of the Reform Programme, following the recent publication of the proposals for reform of the competition regime.

#### 9. EU Exit – operational readiness, state aid, and policy update

9.1 The Board **examined** the CMA's operational readiness in the event of a 'No Deal' EU Exit, as well as a summary of actions the CMA would expect to take in the event of an Implementation Period consequent upon the Government's negotiated deal, due to be put before Parliament again shortly.

9.2 The Board **concluded** that the CMA is now at a high state of readiness, whilst also recognising risks and uncertainties associated with a number of outcomes.

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<sup>1</sup> The CMA has a statutory obligation to publish a report annually, as set out in Schedule 4 to the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013.