

Minutes

Meeting: CPS Ministerial Strategic Board

Date: 25 March 2021 10:30-12:00

Board Members

Attorney General (AG) - Chair

Solicitor General (SG)

Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)

CPS Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Director-General AGO, Shehzad Charania

Secretary

Deputy Director AGO Vanessa Watling

By invitation

HMCPSI Deputy Chief Inspector, Anthony Rogers

CPS Lead NEBM, Monica Burch

Presenters

Graham Ritchie, CPS

Sue Hemming CPS

Claire Walsh CPS

Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions

1. The Attorney General gave his thanks to the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) for their efforts in addressing the ramifications of the pandemic over the last year. The case backlog was key priority for this government.

Item 2 – CPS 2021-22 Business Plan

2. Graham Ritchie, CPS Deputy Director, presented an overview of the CPS 2021-22 Business Plan. The plan had factored in a number of key issues including the government's priorities, the effects of the pandemic and central guidance on operational delivery plans.

Item 3 – CPS Performance

3. Sue Hemming, Director of Legal Services, presented the performance update. Discussion focussed on the case backlog, rape and serious sexual offences and finance.

Item 4 – EU Transition

4. Claire Walsh, Deputy Head of the CPS International Justice and Organised Crime Division, provided an overview of the landscape with regards to EU transition. This included an overview of the current arrangements for extradition, working with Eurojust, mutual legal assistance and asset recovery.

Item 5 – Any Other Business

5. None raised.

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