

MINUTES OF THE CMA BOARD

Meeting date: 13 October 2021

Venue: The Cabot, 25 Cabot Square, London, E14 4QZ; by videoconference

Members present

Jonathan Scott (Chair)
Kirstin Baker
Martin Coleman
Andrea Coscelli (CEO)
Cynthia Dubin
Amelia Fletcher
Michael Grenfell
Bill Kovacic
Erik Wilson (COO)

Advisors present¹

Sarah Cardell, General Counsel
Mike Walker, Chief Economic
Adviser

CMA staff present

Stuart Hudson, Senior Director, Strategy,
Communications and Advocacy
Kate Bridge, Director of Executive Office and
Performance
Sukhinder Lalli, Legal Director, Governance,
Compliance and Risk
Board Secretary (minutes)

Teams

The meeting was attended by staff from across the
CMA including from the Markets, Consumer, and
Strategy and Advocacy teams.

1. Introduction

The Chair welcomed the Board members to the meeting. There were no new conflicts declared or declarations of gifts or hospitality.

2. Minutes

The Board approved the minutes and actions from the CMA Board meeting held on 15 September 2021 with no changes.

The Board acknowledged the committee minutes received.

3. ARAC update

The Chair of ARAC, Cynthia Dubin, updated the Board on the recent meeting of the Committee.

4. RemCo update

The Chair of RemCo, Amelia Fletcher, updated the Board on the recent work of the Committee.

¹ SC left the meeting for a period between items 9 and 12.

5. Chief Executive’s update including Corporate risk register, External guidance tracker and Future Operating Model

The CEO updated the Board on the work of the CMA, including updates on recent mergers, litigation and other developments in CMA cases and projects. The Board noted the Risk Register and the External guidance tracker.

6. Taskforce on Innovation, Growth and Regulatory Reform (TIGRR) report

The Board was updated on, and discussed, this recent report.

7. Children’s Social Care Interim report

The Board discussed the draft interim report for the Children’s Social Care market study. It highlighted the importance of this work, recognising that the impact of poor outcomes on the most vulnerable children are potentially extremely far-reaching and life-changing. The Board agreed the publication of this report, delegating sign-off to the CEO.

8. Pipeline Steering Group update²

The Board received an update on potential cases in the CMA’s pipeline.

9. Markets Pipeline potential projects³

The Board discussed a number of potential market projects, balancing the CMA’s resources against priorities, and agreeing that the CMA should signal its intent to launch a market study into music streaming as soon as possible.

10. DaTA team strategy

The team updated the Board on its work and its planned priorities for the upcoming year. The Board supported these plans, thanking the team for its work to date.

11. Progress against priorities

The Board was updated on the work to meet the priorities set out in the CMA’s Annual Plan 21/22, noting the current pressure on resources when planning new work. The Board also agreed the draft priorities for the CMA’s Annual Plan 22/23 on which there will be a consultation towards the end of the year.

12. CMA 2020s update

The Board discussed the ongoing work to engage more widely on issues facing consumers, including our work with the third sector and others, noting the significant progress made to building relationships with these key stakeholders, and the development opportunities provided to staff working on this project.

13. Open Banking update

The Board was updated on the next steps following an independent investigation into allegations at the Open Banking Implementation Entity.

² AF and CD stepped out of this item for part of the discussion due to previously raised conflicts.

³ AF, CD and JS each left this discussion for short periods, as potential markets were discussed. This was due to previously raised conflicts.

14. AOB

The Board discussed the work to establish the Subsidy Advice Unit. The Chair thanked the Board for the meeting.