

Minutes

Meeting: CPS Ministerial Strategic Board

Date: 20 July 2022 16:00-17:30

Board Members

Attorney General (AG) - Chair

Solicitor General (SG)

Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)

Director-General AGO, Doug Wilson

CPS Lead Non-Executive Board Member, Monica Burch

Secretary

Director AGO, Kelby Harmes

Presenters

CPS Director of Strategy and Policy, Baljit Ubhey

CPS Deputy Director of Finance, Risk and Assurance, James Crutchley

Apologies

CPS Chief Executive Officer, Rebecca Lawrence

HMCPSP Deputy Chief Inspector, Anthony Rogers

Item 1 - Introductions

1. The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting of the Ministerial Strategic Board (MSB) and welcomed the Solicitor General to his first MSB meeting.

Item 2 - CPS Annual Report and Accounts 2021-22

2. The Board discussed the CPS Annual Reports and Accounts (ARA) 2021-22 and the Chair noted that they tell a positive story. The increase in rape charges was highlighted as a particularly positive achievement.

Item 3 - Q4 Performance

3. The DPP presented the slide deck to the Board and highlighted a number of CPS achievements
4. The Board discussed caseload recovery. The CPS had made good progress in the magistrates' court and had a live caseload within 17% of pre-covid levels. The picture was different in the Crown Court, where recovery has plateaued.

Item 4 - Victim Engagement

5. The CPS provided background on their work to improve their communication with victims. Progress had been made since negative reports from HM CPS Inspectorate (HM CPSI). The CPS also discussed the findings of the victims' needs assessment work undertaken by Crest Advisory.

Item 5 - Economic Crime and Fraud

6. The Board briefly discussed the CPS response to Economic Crime and Fraud, including the new Serious Economic, Organised Crime and International Directorate (SEOCID). The DPP explained that the new Directorate would bring together specialist knowledge and skills from different teams.

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