

MINUTES OF THE CMA BOARD

Meeting date: 19 October 2022
Venue: In the Cabot, London and by videoconference

Members present

Marcus Bokkerink (Chair)
Kirstin Baker
Sarah Cardell (Interim CEO)
Martin Coleman
Amelia Fletcher
Michael Grenfell
Murdoch MacLennan¹
David Stewart
Erik Wilson (COO)

Advisors present

Stuart Hudson, Senior Director
Strategy, Communications and
Advocacy
Lucy Robbins, Senior Director,
People, Capability and Culture²
Chris Prevett, Interim General
Counsel³
Mike Walker, Chief Economic
Adviser
Jonathan Scott

Apologies

Cynthia Dubin

CMA staff present

Kate Bridge, Director of Executive Office, Security
and Performance
Sukhinder Lalli, Legal Director, Governance,
Compliance and Risk
Chief of Staff, Executive Office
Committee Secretary (minutes)

Teams

The meeting was attended by staff and teams from
across the CMA including Strategy,
Communications & Advocacy, Subsidy Advice Unit,
Markets & Mergers and the Advisory Committee.

1. Introduction

The Chair welcomed the Board members to the meeting, including Jonathan Scott, who was attending in an advisory capacity.

There were no new conflicts declared or declarations of gifts or hospitality.

The Board approved the minutes from the meetings of the Board meeting of 21 September 22 with no changes. The Board acknowledged the committee minutes received.

¹ MM joined the meeting towards the end of item 4.

² LR joined the meeting from item 8.

³ CP joined the meeting during item 5.

Major developments in the external environment in which we operate and Strategy, Policy, Portfolio and Risk Management

2. CEO Comments

The Interim CEO updated the Board on recent strategic and policy developments in the CMA. The Board reviewed the corporate risk register and the external guidance tracker.

3. Medium-term priorities and 2023/24 Annual Plan

The Board discussed the CMA's priorities over the medium term, and noted that its discussions will form the basis of CMA's draft Annual Plan 2023/24, which will be presented to the November Board prior to a wide external and internal consultation.

4. Subsidy Advice Unit - Update ahead of launch

The Board was updated on preparation for the launch of the SAU, including an update on the legislative process, the proposed governance arrangements, draft guidance, the team's readiness activities and stakeholder engagement. The Board noted that the SAU will commence on 4 January 2023.

5. CMA mergers programme: Board update and strategic landscape

The Board considered the strategic landscape for merger control in 2022/23 and discussed the broader strategic issues facing the CMA as it carries out its merger control functions.

Cases

6. CEO Comments

The Interim CEO updated the Board on recent developments in the CMA's casework.

7. Panel update

The Chair of the CMA Panel updated the Board on recent discussions with the Inquiry Chairs and Panel members.

8. Housing

The Board discussed the CMA's work in the housing sector, agreeing that this remains a priority for the CMA.

Business Model

9. CEO Comments

The Interim CEO updated the Board on recent developments in Corporate Services.

People

10. CEO Opening Comments

The Interim CEO updated the Board on recent developments in recruitment and HR.

11. Remuneration Committee update

The Chair of RemCo updated the Board on its recent meeting.

12. CMA Advisory Committee evaluation and next steps

The Board discussed the recent evaluation of AdCo, and agreed the approach and next steps for the AdCo Chair role. The Board agreed what a success AdCo has been and what a large contribution it has made since it was established.

13. AOB

The Board noted the two papers presented to the meeting below the line (the monthly Finance Report for August 22, and a paper on the CMA's approach to the 2022 Staff Survey).

The Chair thanked the Board for the meeting.