

RPC meeting 15 July 2024 - minutes	
The Committee Chair: Stephen Gibson Daniel Dalton Caroline Elliott Stephen Gifford (online) Hilary Jennings John Longworth Ryan Williams (online) Andrew Williams-Fry	RPC Secretariat Stuart Sarson – Head of Secretariat RPC Secretariat staff Smarter Regulation Directorate Chris Carr – Director of SRD Dora Addei – Deputy Director, Frameworks SRD Staff

A. Minutes of committee meeting 13 May 2024 and matters arising

1. The **minutes of the 13 May 2024 meeting were agreed**. The minutes are available on the RPC website.
2. **Register of interests:** committee members confirmed the accuracy of their entries in the RPC register of interests (available on the RPC website). Members were reminded of the importance of ensuring that, when making any public personal statements, they are clear that they are not speaking on behalf of the RPC.
3. **Gifts and hospitality register:** committee members confirmed the accuracy of their entries in the gifts and hospitality register (available on the RPC and DBT websites).

A. Smarter Regulation Directorate update

Better Regulations Framework

4. Chris Carr (CC) gave an update on the impact of the new administration and the likely impact on the Better Regulation Framework (BRF). The update was limited as it is early days for the new Government. The minister with the regulation portfolio is Justin Madders. The minister has accepted an invitation to the next RPC meeting in September where it is hoped, by that stage, he will be able to provide further direction for the RPC and the BRF. In the meantime, CC will be meeting the minister and special advisors to consider what the new Government mission is for the BRF, regulatory reforms to support the industrial strategy, and reforms for regulators.
5. State opening of Parliament (and the King’s speech) is on Wednesday. It will include a very packed programme of bills

Recruitment of committee members

6. The terms of office for five of the current committee members will expire at the end of next January and some may be offered extensions to their terms. It is anticipated that a recruitment process for new members will be initiated early in September following ministerial agreement. One member will have completed two terms and will, therefore, not be eligible to apply under the new campaign, which will need to take account of the skills and expertise required under the new remit.

Machinery of Government (MoG) changes

7. MoG changes have been limited following the election. Digital and Data offices have both moved to the Dept for Science, Innovation and Technology.

B. Engagement update

8. A list of engagements in which the Chair and committee members had participated had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Chair commented on the meetings he had attended. These included:
 - Invitation to the UKAS annual reception,
 - Meeting with Paul Novak, the TUC General Secretary,
 - Presentation on regulation at the University of Pennsylvania; and
 - Presentation to RegWatch Europe on measuring and managing cumulative regulation.

C. MSG meeting 20th May

9. Paper 3 provided a summary of the last MSG meeting. The secretary to MSG provided an update on actions following that meeting.
10. On the 'RPC scrutiny of OAs' summary document, the secretariat had made the changes to the paper to reflect the MSG's comments at the meeting and by email. The secretariat is starting the 'soft launch' described in the MSG paper by initially sharing summary guidance with DBT.
11. On the review of RPC methodology guidance, a high-level, quarter-by-quarter project plan has been produced. This starts in the present quarter with an update to the twelve case history documents and four short guidance notes to make sure they are 'new BRF compliant,' e.g. by removing references to the former business impact target. The plan includes making a start to filling in gaps in guidance before the end of 2024, with producing draft guidance on M&E plans the first to be scheduled. Stephen Gibson noted that Caroline Elliott was overall committee lead on RPC guidance and it was agreed, therefore, that the secretariat should liaise with her on this project.
12. On real options, it was noted that the RPC has started including comments in opinions where it is felt that an assessment might have benefitted particularly from considering real options.