

RPC meeting 17 March 2025 - minutes
Attendees
The Committee

Chair: Stephen Gibson
 Daniel Dalton (online)
 Caroline Elliott
 Stephen Gifford
 Hilary Jennings
 John Longworth
 Ryan Williams
 Andrew Williams-Fry

New committee members

John Davies
 Allan Little
 Caroline Turnbull-Hall
 Frances Warburton

RPC Secretariat

Stuart Sarson – Head of Secretariat

Regulation Directorate

Chris Carr – Director, Regulation Directorate
 Dora Addei – Deputy Director, RD

A. Minutes of committee meeting 20 January 2025 and matters arising

1. The Chair introduced and welcomed the four new committee members who are due to start in April and had joined this meeting as guests. He provided an overview of their backgrounds and previous roles. The Chair emphasised the importance of updating the register of interests and managing conflicts of interest effectively.
2. **Register of interests:** committee members confirmed the accuracy of their entries in the RPC register of interests (available on the RPC website).
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).
4. The **minutes of the 20 January 2025 meeting were agreed**. The minutes are available on the RPC website.

B. Regulation Directorate update
Better Regulation update

5. Chris Carr (CC) gave an update on the ongoing work in Regulation Directorate. He set out three headlines:
 - Work on taking forward the Government commitment to reduce the administrative costs of regulation by 25%. A system to track achievement against this target is being developed, with input from departments and regulators.
 - Work to improve regulator performance. Regulators will be required to publish their key performance indicators (KPIs) by June.
 - Work to rationalise, consolidate and reduce the number of regulators, with the aim of improving efficiency and reducing internal silos.

The session concluded with RD stating that there was a lot more work to be done on regulator performance and guidance and that the offer of working with the committee on these was welcome.

C. Methodology Sub-Group update (MSG)

6. Stephen Gifford provided an update on the work of the methodology sub-group (MSG), including the development of guidance on monitoring and evaluation and the regulatory scorecard. He said that the sub-group is working on finalising the guidance and addressing issues with the better regulation framework.
7. It was agreed that Caroline Elliott would take over from Stephen Gifford as Chair of the MSG.

D. Engagements update

8. A list of engagements in which the Chair and committee members had participated had been circulated in advance of the meeting.
9. The Chair reported on some engagement that were missing from the list. He met the following:
 - Marcial Boo, Chair of the Institute of Regulation (IoR), who had invited him to record a IoR podcast.
 - The Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR) to discuss their concerns on casework.
 - Ed Humpherson of the Office for Statistics Regulation, about co-ordination with other regulatory bodies.
 - The Make UK Annual Conference, where the Chancellor and the Shadow Business Secretary spoke. Both value the role of the RPC.
 - Andrew Griffiths, the Shadow Business Secretary, said that the RPC's opinion on the Employment Bill impact assessment showed the importance and value of the RPC.
10. Ryan Williams, who had just returned from the USA, said that the future role is uncertain of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) which is the United States Government's central authority for the review of Executive Branch regulations, approval of Government information collections.