



<b>Meeting</b>	Board
<b>Date</b>	Friday, 28 May 2021
<b>Title of report</b>	Board Membership and Appointments
<b>Purpose</b>	For information
<b>Public/private report</b>	Public
<b>Author</b>	Corporate Manager (Secretariat Services)

### KEY POINTS

- Following the submission of a business case to reappoint those members whose appointments were due to end in 2021, three reappointments were agreed by Ministers.
- The Secretary of State has confirmed the appointment of Sally Cheshire as Chair of the Board. Approval is being sought to appoint Eileen Munro as Deputy Chair.
- The recruitment campaign to appoint 3 new Board members has commenced and new members are expected to be in post by July 2021.
- Changes to Committee membership, roles and responsibilities have been made following the departure of Board members in 2020/21.
- Susan Smith, Associate Dean at the University of Sussex, has been appointed as a Co-opted Committee member commencing 1 June and will join ARAC to provide additional skills and experience.

## 1. AIM AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Board with an update on Board appointments, roles, and responsibilities as a result of changes in Board membership in 2020/21.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following the submission of a business case to reappoint those members whose appointments were due to end in 2021, three reappointments were agreed by Ministers.
  - Paul Grant – 2 years from 1 April 2021
  - Mandy Jones – 4 years from 14 May 2021
  - Catherine Doran – 4 years from 14 May 2021
- 2.2 Two members left the Board in quarter 4 of 2020-21 due to appointment end and resignation.
- 2.3 The Secretary of State has confirmed the appointment of Sally Cheshire as Chair of the Board for a term of 4 years from 1 April 2021.

- 2.4 The recruitment campaign to appoint 3 new Board members has commenced and we expect new members to be in post by July 2021.

### 3. KEY STRATEGIC AREAS TO CONSIDER

- 3.1 Eileen Munro has been nominated as Deputy Chair. As required in the Regulations, approval for this appointment is being sought from the Secretary of State.
- 3.2 The departure of Board members in quarter 4 has left a gap in membership of the Board's sub-committees, particularly in terms of membership in the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) and Chairmanship of the Performance and Quality Committee. Following consultation between the Chair and Board members, the following changes have been made to committee membership, roles, and responsibilities.
- 3.2.1 Paul Grant will Chair the Performance and Quality Committee.
- 3.2.2 Sophie Humphrey's to become a member of the Performance and Quality Committee.
- 3.2.3 Mandy Jones to move from the Performance and Quality Committee and become a member of ARAC.
- 3.3 Susan Smith, Associate Dean at the University of Sussex, has been appointed as a Co-opted Committee member commencing 1 June and will join ARAC to provide additional skills and experience.
- 3.4 The Board have established a People Committee which will have delegated authority to oversee the policy and strategy frameworks for the recruitment, retention, reward and development of people, improving and preserving their health and wellbeing and the impact of the functioning of the family justice system on their workload and performance. The first meeting will be held in June 2021. Catherine Doran will Chair the People Committee and membership will include Mandy Jones, Rohan Sivanandan, Joanna Nicolas, and Paul Grant.
- 3.5 Joanna Nicolas has been reappointed as a co-opted Board member for a further two year appointment.

### 4. IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- 4.1 Roles and responsibilities within the Board membership allow the Board to achieve their statutory duties in areas of risk management, governance, and internal control, ensuring that the needs of children and families are met through the work of Cafcass.

### 5. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

- 5.1 Provision for a Co-opted Committee Member has been made within the Board budget.

### 6. RISK ANALYSIS

- 6.1 Despite a review of Committee membership there is still a gap in membership within ARAC and a risk that the Board is not compliant with Regulations, which requires '*the Service to appoint at least five of its members as its audit committee and one of those to be Chair*'. Whilst the current recruitment campaign will focus on appointing Board members with finance and audit experience so they can join ARAC, , in the short term arrangements have been progressed to co-opt an external member to ARAC to strengthen the overall skill and knowledge within the Committee.

## 7. ACTION REQUIRED

7.1 The Board is asked to **APPROVE** the report.