

Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission Board

Summary Minutes of the Commission Board Meeting 23 June 2009

Members:

Janet Paraskeva – Chair
Deborah Absalom
Rosemary Carter
Stephen Geraghty
Bill Griffiths
Alan Hardy
Heather Jackson
Susan Park
Maeve Sherlock
Keith Woodhouse
Stephen Leonard

Paul Wright - Commission Lawyer
Maria Jobson - Board Secretariat

Apologies:

None

1 Minutes and Matters arising from 19 May meeting

1.1 Minutes

1.1.1 Amendments were taken to paragraph 5.6 of the minutes of the May Board meeting.

1.2 There were no matters arising.

2 The Commissioner's Report

The report provided a detailed summary of progress and developments in key areas of the Commission since the Board last received an update on 19 May. Key points for the Board to note were highlighted as:

Internal Heads of Agency Conference

2.1 Great Britain hosted the International Heads of Agency Conference, from the 15th to 17th June, welcoming colleagues from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States of America. Next years conference will be held in New Zealand. Janet Paraskeva spoke on the final day.

The Child Poverty Bill

- 2.2 The Child Poverty Bill jointly sponsored by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Department for Work and Pensions, and Her Majesty's Treasury was introduced to the House of Commons on 11 June, and published on 12 June. The Bill enshrines in law the commitment to eradicate child poverty by 2020.

Establishing the Commission – Recruitment and Organisation Update

- 2.3 The Commission has completed recruiting all the senior posts.

Internal Assurance

- 2.4 The Commission has agreed that providing letters of assurance was a useful process and would be conducted as an internal exercise for year ending 31 March 09.
- 2.5 Letters of Assurance were received from appropriate Directors.

Commission Businesses

Child Maintenance Options

- 2.6 The new Director of Child Maintenance Options started on Monday 8 June.
- 2.7 The pilot Marketing Campaign in the Central ITV Region goes live in July, initially with the television and radio campaigns, then following up with newspaper and leaflet drops.

CSA

Business Performance

- 2.8 Performance of CSA continues to improve against key targets.

3 End of Year Accounts

- 3.1 The Board discussed and reviewed the Commissions End of year accounts. It is hoped to lay the Annual Report and Accounts before Parliament prior to the Summer Recess.

4 Audit Committee Feedback including Standards Committee

- 4.1 The Board were updated on the Audit Committee meeting which met on 22 June 2009.

5 Future Scheme Timeline

5.1 The Board heard that plans are being developed and current activity is progressing well.

6 Any Other Business

6.1 The next meeting of the Board will take place on 21 July.