

Ethics & Responsibilities Committee: summary minutes

26 May 2010, 09.30am – 12.30pm

Members

Phil Hodkinson
Philippa Hird
Chris Pond

Standing Invitees

Steve Lamey, Mary Aiston, Judy Greevy, Jane Frost

Secretariat

Diana Endsor

Other Jeff Brooker (Items 2 & 3), Dorothy Brown (Item 5), Emma Sage (Item 6)

Apologies

None

1 Matters Arising

1.1 Phil Hodkinson welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Diana Endsor, Secretariat.

1.2 The minutes and summary minutes of 25 March 2010 were agreed and the action log discussed.

1.3 Judy Clements and Dave Hartnett will be invited to the October Committee meeting to discuss customer service and Adjudicator's Office data.

1.4 Chris Pond has changed his role. He is now the Senior Advisor to the FSA on Consumer Engagement, as well as Senior Advisor to the Consumer Financial Education Body.

2 Data Security

2.1 Jeff Brooker presented a background to the new Data Security DVD which was played to the Committee.

2.2 The Committee were very pleased with the DVD and wished to congratulate those who had worked on it.

3 Information Risk Return (IRR) and interim review from the Information Commissioner's Office on progress in implementing the Poynter recommendations

3.1 Mary Aiston introduced the paper to the Committee. She explained how all government departments are requested by Cabinet Office to complete the IRR. Departmental reports are brigaded in a report to Parliament in the autumn. The IRR requires sign-off by Lesley Strathie in mid-June.

3.2 Mary continued by explaining to the Committee about the ICO's interim review into implementation of the Poynter recommendations. The ICO wishes to publish the executive summary as soon as possible.

4 Corporate Responsibility Strategy

4.1 Judy Greevy introduced the paper to the Committee. She explained that HMRC stipulates that the community work needs to be linked to the business strategy.

4.2 The Committee recognised that work needs to be done to show this as a way to develop people. The Committee felt that this was something that leaders needed to be seen doing and talking about, for example through a Pulse article. They also noted that this formed part of the Directors General targets.

5 Civil Service Code

5.1 Dorothy Brown introduced the paper to the Committee. Phil Hodgkinson noted that there had been discussions last year about which Committee would be responsible for each part of the Civil Service Code.

5.2 The Committee felt their current knowledge of impartiality, in particular political impartiality, was limited. They also noted a similar lack of knowledge on the processes that lie behind it.

6 Willing But Needs Help Strategy

6.1 Jane Frost and Emma Sage introduced the paper to the Committee. Emma told the Committee that this strategy is about management of these customers, not necessarily reducing the numbers within it. The use of trusted intermediaries could aid us, such as the business' work with the National Autistic Society.

7 Forward Look and AOB

7.1 There were no information papers to note.

The next meeting of the ERC will be on 19 July 2010