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Headlines/issues since last board meeting Summer arrangements First published: 18

July 2019 Last updated: 23 July 2019 Overview Date: 18 July 2018 Time: 10am to

11:15am Location: Boothroyd Room, 3 Bunhill Row, London Date of next scheduled

meeting: 19 September 2018 Who was at the meeting Who was at the meeting John Holmes

(JEH), Chair Sue Bruce (SB) Anna Carragher (AC) Sarah Chambers (SC) Elan Closs

Stephens (ECS) John Horam (JRH) David Howarth (DH) Alasdair Morgan (AM) Bridget

Prentice (BP) Rob Vincent (RV) Claire Bassett (CB) Kieran Rix (KR) Ailsa Irvine (AI)

Robert Posner (RP) Craig Westwood (CW) Nancy Bruseker (NB) Apologies None.

Headlines/issues since last board meeting Commissioners and the Executive Team

discussed the release of the Vote Leave investigation report. The group agreed that

the Commission would be more proactive in clarifying inaccurate press reports, and

publicising recommendations made by the Commission on improving electoral processes.

RP updated the Board on ongoing investigations and any potential legal challenges. A

discussion followed on the importance of encouraging all parties to improve

governance for electoral spending reporting. CW noted the upcoming publication of the

interim report by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) select committee

of their investigation into 'fake news' and disinformation. CW also advised

Commissioners about the planned publication of our statutory evaluation on the voter

ID pilots on 19 July. AI provided an update on canvass reform work, and contingency

planning for unplanned electoral events. She noted that Northern Ireland online

electoral registration, introduced in June, was working well; 81% of new

registrations were through the online system and applications had gone up by 50% on

the previous month. KR reported that the Annual Report and Accounts were due to be

laid in Parliament on 19 July as planned. He advised that, subject to background

checks, a new Head of HR would be in place shortly. An appointment had also been made

to the independent advisor to the Audit Committee post, and their first Committee

meeting should be in October 2018. JEH reported that the recruitment of the new

Commissioners was proceeding, and was hopeful that Royal Assent could be received by

October. Summer arrangements Commissioners were asked to provide contact information

over summer holidays.