

Board Meeting

Minutes of Board Meeting held on 23 March 2022

Location	Present	In Attendance
Hallam Conference Centre	Alan Kershaw (Chair) Mark Bottomley Derek Bray Emeritus Professor ADH Crook Will Freeman Professor Elena Marco Dr Teri Okoro Cindy Leslie Liz Male Stephen McCusker	Hugh Simpson (CEO and Registrar) Emma Matthews Simon Howard Brian James Rebecca Roberts-Hughes Irene Moisis (DLUHC Observer) Hayley Tucker (Minutes) Alice Pun (Observer) Lauren Atkinson (Observer) Suzanne Ensor (Observer)

OPEN SESSION

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

The Chair welcomed Irene Moisis, Policy Lead, from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

The Chair introduced Suzanne Ensor, Interim Project Manager and Lauren Atkinson, Technical Project Manager, who were joining the meeting as observers.

2. Members' Interests

Tony Crook, Mark Bottomley and Stephen McCusker declared an interest in relation to the item on temporary Board member appointments (Item 3i).

The Chair confirmed that they would not be asked to leave the meeting but they should not contribute to the discussion.

MATTERS FOR DECISION

3. **Board Resolution**

Further to the Board's decision to appoint Tony Crook, Mark Bottomley and Stephen McCusker as temporary Board members on 1 March 2022 by write round, the Director of Governance and International confirmed that the Privy Council had since approved their permanent re-appointments for a further four years.

To cover the period from 1 March 2022 until the permanent re-appointments had been confirmed, the Board ratified the decision by write round dated 1 March 2022 in relation to the temporary Board member appointments.

Tony Crook, Mark Bottomley and Stephen McCusker abstained from the ratification and discussion.

4. **Development of International Routes to Registration**

The Director of Governance and International introduced the paper which formalised a series of discussions and updates that had been provided to the Board in relation to this matter over the last year. In Autumn 2021, ARB had issued a consultation and run a roundtable event for stakeholders so that they could provide views on the proposals for the new routes. Those responses had now been collated and approval was being sought to publish the outcome document.

A Board member suggested that the UK Adaptation Assessment could have a central function within the international and UK domestic routes in due course. The Director of Governance and International agreed and noted that there could be natural links between the international and domestic routes to registration; and these would need to be borne in mind as the IET Review progressed. Canada had a comparable model and were having similar discussions.

The CEO explained that the Corporate Strategy committed ARB to reviewing the Prescribed Examination including the model of assessment which is similar to of the proposed UK Adaptation Assessment.

It was noted that there were similar models in the United States of America where a number of States used an Adaptation Assessment to manage State level registration requirements such as an individual's knowledge and understanding of seismic activity. The proposed model was a way of providing assurance to the public and helping to support international architects who wanted to practise in the UK and also to assist UK architects practising overseas.

Members asked if there was an update on any government funding for this post Brexit work. The Policy Lead from DLUHC explained that the directorate settlement from 1 April 2022 was not yet confirmed but she would be able to provide an update in the next two to three weeks.

Members referred to the cost of the Prescribed Examination and noted that some individuals would struggle to meet that. They emphasised the need for transparency and ensuring that any published guidance was as clear as possible to ensure a level playing field. The Director of Governance and International agreed that the parallel guidance for the Adaptation Assessment would be open and transparent and there would be a review, within six to twelve months of the assessment becoming operational, to ensure all was going to plan. She was also working with the Director of Registration and Accreditation to look at the assessment processes ARB was using within both the Prescribed Examination and the UK Adaptation Assessment. The priority was to ensure this was compliant with the new legislation, following which there would be time for review and reflection.

The Director of Governance and International reported that ARB would be piloting the assessment and members offered their support and help with the pilot.

The Board approved the recommendations to:

- i. Note the outcome of the consultation and the responses of the Executive, agree that the outcome document should be published on the ARB website; and
- ii. Agree the framework as outlined in the consultation document should be taken forward.

ITEMS FOR NOTE

5. **Any Other Business**

No other items of business were raised.

6. **Dates of Future Board Meetings**

The Chair reminded members that the Board meeting on 18 May would be in person.