

Message

From: Tom Wechsler [GRO]
on behalf of Tom Wechsler [GRO]
Sent: 10/04/2016 23:07:24
To: Paula Vennells [GRO]
CC: Avene Regan [GRO]
Subject: Jane's 121
Attachments: FW: Corporate Services Budget savings

Hi

I have kept Jane's PDR and any brief for 121 issues separate (see earlier email). I hope that is ok.

Looking at the issues below:

Accountabilities

- Good to get a clear view on outstanding issues and a clear logic to this following the strategy / TOM. That said, are there any issues that cannot wait until then? I am not aware of any although your thoughts today on postmaster engagement were instructive.
- A gentle and minor reminder to include me in any meetings so that I may represent your view.

Corporate Services Budget

- Attached is the last position you have been sent on the corp servs budget.
- I do honestly think that Jane and team are taking this seriously; and that there is a risk that they are being singled out unfairly.
- I suspect that corp servs were the most extreme of the cases of taking an ideal budget rather than "flat" into the budget setting process; I also suspect they were starting from the lowest base of competence and understanding.

Sparrow

- We do need to ensure that this does not gather any greater momentum.
- Beyond the CCRC and any legal action, we have done as much as we can.
- Fully respecting Tim's position as an individual, and fully aware of pressures on ministers, we do need to close down further lines of enquiry.
- There must be an end to this. Ultimately, if there is a case, the protagonists must make it in Court. (Jane knows this better than me – we just need to be consistent).

And we should not let the quiet and competent closure of the mediation scheme pass unremarked. There was a quiet and small gathering of the team last week. For my part I am very pleased that the expertise and commitment of key team members has been picked up within the business.

Tom

From: Jane MacLeod
Sent: 08/04/2016 19:21
To: Paula Vennells

Cc: Avene Regan

Subject: 1:1/PDR for Monday 11 April

Paula

Attached is my self-assessment for 2015-16. Draft objectives for 2016-17 and commentary on my 2015-16 objectives have already been provided to Avene.

Other issues for discussion on Monday:

- Output of the Accountabilities discussion at GE – there was agreement on most issues however there are a number of areas outstanding. We agreed that these would be deferred and resolved as part of the TOM required to underpin the strategy as approved by the Board in June. I will walk you through the outstanding issues on Monday.
- Corporate Services budget – I have a meeting with AI to discuss this on Tuesday and we are currently finalising the pack for that meeting. I will walk you through the main issues and my areas of concern.
- May RCC/ARC cycle – I would like to walk you through the main items for discussion so that you are sighted on these. From my perspective the paper I am most concerned about (which I am writing) is to support the discussion on how the POMS (and POL) Boards get assurance that POL is compliant with its (regulatory) obligations under the Appointed Representative and related agreements. Give the concerns of the POMS Board (which have been relayed to the POL ARC), and the potential for conflict, this will need to be carefully positioned.
- On a related point, at the FS Training session for GE, we agreed that Nick and I would work with PwC to review the materials which the POL board/committees should receive in order to have effective oversight of the FS business. So you are aware, this session is scheduled for next Thursday (14th April).
- Tim's meeting with BN-R to discuss his enquiry ahead of her meeting with Lord Arbuthnot – this needs to be carefully positioned and both Tim and BN-R need to be aware of the limitations of what can be said to Lord Arbuthnot

It would also be helpful to get your feedback on whether our monthly 1:1s provide you with sufficient information and oversight of the various activities within my areas of responsibility. To that end, please let me know if there is anything else you would like me to cover.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jane



Jane MacLeod

General Counsel
Ground Floor
20 Finsbury Street
LONDON
EC2Y 9AQ

Mobile number: GRO