

To:	Legal Services Board	
Date of Meeting:	11 September 2013	Item: Paper (13) 63

Title:	Appointment to the Legal Services Consumer Panel – recommendation to the Board	
Workstream(s):	N/A	
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Status:	Restricted	

Summary:
<p>This paper seeks the Board’s approval to appoint six preferred candidates for membership of the Legal Services Consumer Panel following interviews held on 4 and 5 September 2013. Subject to the Board’s agreement, the Chairman will then request the approval of the Lord Chancellor as to the Board’s recommended appointments.</p> <p>The appointments are necessary due to terms of six current members coming to an end (two at 31 October 2013 and four at 31 March 2014). The paper shows the proposed appointment schedule.</p> <p>The process was the subject of discussion at the Remuneration and Nomination Committee, including the decision to run a single competition for all six members.</p>

Recommendation(s):
<p>The Board is invited to appoint six members to its Consumer Panel and to agree that the candidates recommended for appointment by the selection panel are submitted for approval to the Lord Chancellor.</p>

Risks and mitigations
Financial: N/A.
Legal: N/A.
Reputational: N/A.
Resource: N/A.

Consultation	Yes	No	Who / why?
Board Members:	✓		The Board has been consulted about proposals in relation to appointment of a new Consumer Panel member. The Board Chairman has been advised in relation to the specific recommendations set out in this paper. The RNC approved the appointment

			process.
Consumer Panel:	✓		The Consumer Panel Chair has been involved in the process as a member of the appointing panel.
Others:	The process involved an independent assessor and was supported by Gatenby Sanderson.		

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Fol)		
Para ref	Fol exemption and summary	Expires
Annex A	Section 40 – personal information.	N/A

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD

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Legal Services Consumer Panel appointments

1. This paper seeks the Board's approval to appoint six preferred candidates for membership of the Legal Services Consumer Panel following interviews held on 4 and 5 September 2013. Subject to the Board's agreement, the Chairman will then request the approval of the Lord Chancellor in relation to the Board's recommended appointments.
2. The appointments are necessary due to the terms of six current members coming to an end (two at 31 October 2013 and four at 31 March 2014). In discussions with the Remuneration and Nomination Committee (RNC), it was agreed to hold a single competition to identify six new Panel members for reasons of cost and to ensure that an appropriate blend of skills and experience were identified for what amounts to an almost wholly new Panel. If approved, the appointments will take effect in line with terms of current members ending i.e. two new members to start 1 November 2013 and four to commence 1 April 2014.
3. The Legal Services Act 2007, at section 8, outlines the statutory framework for Consumer Panel member appointments. This makes clear that members are to be appointed by the Board, with the approval of the Lord Chancellor.

Report of Chair of the recruiting panel and recommendation to the Board

4. The report of the Chair of the recruiting panel, which sets out details of the role and person specification and process, as well as the panel's final recommendations, is attached at **Annex A**.
5. For background reference, current membership of the Legal Services Consumer Panel including background and location is attached at **Annex B**.

Recommendation

6. The panel recommends to the Board the appointment of **the following members** to the Consumer Panel, for onward submission to the Lord Chancellor for approval:
 - Andrew Foster – from 1 November 2013
 - Catherine Wolthuizen – from 1 November 2013
 - Phillip Marsden – from 1 April 2014
 - Catherine Gallagher – from 1 April 2014
 - Michelle Goddard - from 1 April 2014
 - Marlene Winfield – from 1 April 2014

The appointment terms are proposed to be for an initial term of two and a half years (for those appointed from 1 November 2013) and for an initial term of three years (for those appointed from 1 April 2014). This will bring Consumer Panel appointments back onto an annual appointment cycle and will allow for more effective succession planning in future years.

7. Current membership and terms of office of the Consumer Panel is as follows:

Member	Appointments 2009/10		Appointments 2011/12		Appointments 2012/13	
	Appointed	Terminates	Appointed	Terminates	Appointed	Terminates
Jeffrey Bell	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2011	1 Nov 2011	31 Mar 2014	-	-
Graham Corbett	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2012	-	-	1 Nov 2012	31 Oct 2013
Elisabeth Davies [∞]	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2012	1 Aug 2011	31 Mar 2013	1 Aug 2012	31 Mar 2015
Emma Harrison	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2011	1 Nov 2011	31 Mar 2014	-	-
Paul Munden	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2011	1 Nov 2011	31 Mar 2014	-	-
Neil Wightman	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2011	1 Nov 2011	31 Mar 2014	-	-
Karin Woodley	1 Nov 2009	31 Oct 2012		-	1 Nov 2012	31 Oct 2013
Frances Harrison					1 Mar 2013	31 Mar 2016

[∞] In response to Dianne Hayter's resignation, LSB agreed on 20 July 2011 to appoint Elisabeth Davies as the Interim Chair of LSCP for the period 1 August 2011 to 31 March 2013. Elisabeth's appointment as Chair was confirmed from 1 August 2012

Annex B

Current membership of the Legal Services Consumer Panel including background and location is as follows:

Name	Background	Location
Elisabeth Davies	Interim Director, Arthritis Care Former Director of Partner Relations, Age UK, working with 160 Age UKs across England and supporting the work of Age Cymru Previously Deputy Chair of Wandsworth Primary Care Trust and former Chair of Wandsworth CAB Career includes senior roles at National Patient Safety Agency, Patient Association and Refugee Council	London
Jeffrey Bell	Trading Standards Consultant Formerly Chief Trading Standards Officer at Redcar and Cleveland Unitary Council Independent Member for Stockton Unitary Council Previously Chair of the North East Trading Standards Association and a Member of the North East Electricity Consumers' Committee.	Stockton-on-Tees
Graham Corbett	A member of the Employment Tribunal Panel Previously PCS Union – Senior National Officer	West Yorkshire
Emma Harrison	Assistant Director of External Relations at Mencap Previously Director of Public Engagement at Action on Hearing Loss (formerly Royal National Institute for the Deaf) Formerly Principal Public Affairs Officer, Which?	London
Frances Harrison	Member, Financial Services Consumer Panel Member, Registry Trust's Consumer Panel Member, Finance and Leasing Association Code Monitoring Group Vice-Chair Brighton and Hove CAB Previously Head of Policy research and Development, National Consumer Council	East Sussex
Paul Munden	Experienced general counsel and chartered director Has held a number of senior board posts at the Business Link operation in London. Previously on the board of NHS Mid Essex and the National Youth Music Theatre	Essex
Neil Wightman	Head of Housing Needs at the London Borough of Lambeth Joint Chair of the Association of Housing Advice Services Previous Panel Member, Beacon Advisory Panel	London
Karin Woodley	Chief Executive of Cambridge House Previously Chief Executive of ContinYou	London

	Previously CEO, Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust Previously Chair of Kensington and Chelsea Metropolitan Police Independent Advisory Group on Race	
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