

Summary of the 379th meeting of the Acas Council on Wednesday 20th September 2017 in room 6, 23rd Floor Euston Tower, 286 Euston Road, London NW1 3JJ

Council members present:

Brendan Barber (Chair)
 Michael Gooddie
 Mike Clancy
 Jane McNeill
 Paul Nowak
 Ben Summerskill
 Christina McAnea
 Sally Hunt

Agenda Item	Outcome
Apologies and introductions	<p>Apologies were received from Council members Vikki Hawes, Neil Carberry and Paul Butler.</p> <p>Brendan Barber congratulated Sally Hunt on her recent appointment as the President of the TUC.</p>
Minutes of the 378th Council meeting	<p>The minutes of the July 2017 meeting were reviewed and agreed.</p>
Matters arising from the minutes	<p>All ongoing actions from previous meetings were noted as progressing or completed.</p>
Chief Executive's report	<p>Anne Sharp presented the standing report on operational performance and internal matters.</p> <p>Council welcomed that Helpline Online usage was increasing, in line with the organisation's objective of enabling people to access information directly so that the telephone helpline took fewer information only calls and had increased availability for callers who needed tailored personal help.</p>
Annual People Update	<p>Council received its annual update from the OD&HR Director. Council</p>

	welcomed the focus on improving leadership capability across the organisation, the introduction of a health work and wellbeing strategy (with an in year focus on mental health) and the successful introduction of an apprenticeship scheme.
The Supreme Court's ruling on Tribunal fees	<p>Council were provided with an update following the Supreme Court ruling on the unlawfulness of Employment Tribunal Fees.</p> <p>The impacts of the ruling on Acas' conciliation service were being closely monitored and noted as still evolving.</p>
Chief Conciliator's brief	The Chief Conciliator gave an oral update to Council on collective disputes and Acas involvement.
Strategic Review Day Agenda	Council discussed the developing agenda for its annual strategic review day. The day would be focussed around hearing from speakers in key public policy areas to provide context to some of the strategic challenges for Acas in the coming year and beyond.
Acas Brand Review	Council received an overview of new brand guidelines ahead of introduction in November 2017.
Quarter 1 Balanced Scorecard and Strategic Risk Register	Council noted the Quarter 1 Balanced Scorecard and Strategic Risk Register.
Minutes of the July 2017 Audit Committee meeting	<p>Council noted the minutes of the July Audit Committee meeting.</p> <p>Mike Gooddie was announced as the new Chair of the committee as Paul Butler was due to end his term</p>

	on the Council in November. Council also noted that Ben Summerskill had agreed to join the committee.
AOB	No further business was discussed.