

RPC meeting – summary minutes

Monday, 7th October 2013

Present: Michael Gibbons (Chairman), Alex Ehmann, Jeremy Mayhew, David Parker, Ian Peters, Martin Traynor, Sarah Veale; secretariat.

Apologies: Ken Warwick

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Committee approved the minutes of the previous meeting, and reviewed the action points and matters arising.

2. Presentation of Government's One-in, Two-out account

The Committee discussed ways in which the presentation of the Government's One-in, Two-out (OITO) balance could be kept more up-to-date: thus providing more live information than a bi-annual update. It concluded that this should be discussed with the Better Regulation Executive, as the organisation with responsibility for the Statements of New Regulation.

3. Methodological issues

The Committee discussed a number of individual regulatory proposals which had raised interesting methodological questions. The summary of the conclusions that had been reached on each were agreed by the Committee and would be added to the case log by the secretariat.

4. Accountability for regulator impacts

Members reflected on different scenarios whereby a case may be brought to them by business representatives. It was agreed that it would be important to produce guidance which sets out clearly what actions must be taken by the claimants prior to approaching the Committee. The Committee asked the secretariat to produce a draft of the guidance by the January Committee meeting.

5. Communication with ministers

The Committee identified a number of issues which it agreed it would be useful to bring to the attention of the Rt. Hon. Michael Fallon (Minister of State for Business and Energy) and the Rt. Hon. Oliver Letwin (Minister for Government policy). In particular, the letter from the chairman would highlight the Committee's expectation of being involved in the new challenger business programme, its preference for the Government's OITO balance to be updated more regularly, and some feedback on the 'fast-track'

scrutiny system which has now been in place for over a year for 'low-cost' and deregulatory measures.