

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF THE  
ISLE OF MAN OFFICE OF FAIR TRADING HELD ON 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 2.00 PM  
IN THE BOARDROOM, THIE SLIEAU WHALLIAN, ST JOHNS**

|                     | <b>TO PUBLISH</b>   | <b>ACTION</b> |
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| <b>PRESENT</b>      | Mr J C Wannenburg MHK, Chairman<br>Mr S G Peters, MHK, Vice-Chairman<br>Mr M J Bathgate, Member<br>Mr L Wong, Member  | -             |
| <b>SUPPORTED BY</b> | Mr J R Peet, Head of OFT<br>Mr N R Taylor, Secretary to the Board   | -             |
| <b>APOLOGIES</b>    | Dr M Maska, Member<br>Mr I Mansell, Director of OFT   |               |
| <b>2022/09/01</b>   | <b>CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS</b><br><br>Members and officers considered agenda items in which they had interests or may have been conflicted. None were identified.  | -             |
| <b>2022/09/02</b>   | <b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY AND 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022</b><br><br>The Minutes of the meeting of 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 and 25 <sup>th</sup> August were reviewed, agreed and signed as true records of proceedings.  | -             |
| <b>2022/09/03</b>   | <b>MATTERS ARISING</b><br><br>The Board Actions Update and Agenda Planner dated 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2022 was noted.<br><br><u>FSOS ADJUDICATOR PANEL</u><br><br>The Head of OFT gave an update on deputising a Senior Adjudicator.   | -             |
| <b>2022/09/04</b>   | <b>FEES AND CHARGES</b><br><br>Fees had been adjusted as had been agreed at the previous meeting and an instruction had been issued to the Attorney General's Chambers to prepare the necessary Order. This would revert to the Board for approval. It was aimed to effect the new rates from January 2023. | -             |

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| 2022/09/05 | <p><b>ESTATE AGENTS TRIBUNAL</b></p> <p>An officer meeting was to be held with the Appointments Commission in regard to appointments to the Estate Agents Tribunal.</p>  | -          |
| 2022/09/06 | <p><b>FAIR TRADING (EXCLUSION OF COURSE OF CONDUCT) (ELECTRICITY TARIFFS) ORDER 2022</b></p> <p>The paper dated 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 was discussed. As the Council of Ministers had wished to consider the matter on 29<sup>th</sup> September, The Head of OFT had already submitted views (which had been circulated to Members by email). Submitted comments raised concerns about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public perception that Government was helping the MUA, i.e. another part of Government, to keep its prices down, but not the gas and oil suppliers.</li> <li>• The very remote possibility of electricity prices going down during the duration of the Order.</li> </ul> | -          |
| 2022/09/07 | <p><b>ADVOCATES DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL</b></p> <p>The recruitment panel consisting 3 Lay Members delegated to select a new nominee to the ADT had met on the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup> September and made a selection. It was agreed to confirm the nominee, for a limited term of 5 years.</p>  | <b>NRT</b> |
| 2022/09/08 | <p><b>STAFFING AND SUCCESSION PLANNING</b></p> <p>The advertised post of Enforcement Officer had closed and was being shortlisted. The field of applicants had been good.</p> <p>The Chairman was to discuss the Board proposed structure for the OFT with the Chief Minister in more detail.</p> <p>There was concern over increasing financial hardship due to rising gas bills and consumer crisis. A 'signposting' document for easy reference to help was to be prepared.</p>   | <b>JRP</b> |
| 2022/09/09 | <p><b>REGULATORY REVIEW AND OFT/DEFA SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT AND DELEGATIONS</b></p> <p>The Board was scheduled to meet with the DEFA CEO and DCEO ON 14th October 2022. Due to the short window available for the meeting, it was likely that this would be re-arranged.</p>  | <b>NRT</b> |

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| <p><b>2022/09/10</b></p> | <p><b>ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p><u>OCCUPANCY DEPOSIT WORKING GROUP – DRAFT LANDLORD REGISTRATION (PRIVATE HOUSING) POLICY PRINCIPLES DOCUMENT</u></p> <p>The Department of Infrastructure had prepared a draft principles document. Section 3.19 referred to the OFT having responsibility for regulation of the scheme. This had not been agreed and the Board agreed that this could not be accommodated without resources. An update would be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>DEBT STATISTICS</u></p> <p>It was agreed to publish a summary of this information on the OFT website following its usual noting by the Board and paper to Council of Ministers.</p> <p><u>ISLE OF MAN ENERGY (FORMERLY MANX GAS) BILLS</u></p> <p>There had been complaints received about customers receiving bills after direct debit had already been taken. An officer meeting with the Communications and Utilities Regulatory Authority and CEO of Isle of Man Energy was to be held. The Chairman offered to take up the matter if needed.</p> <p><u>ESTATE AGENTS ACT 1975</u><br/>(Last Minute to which refers 2022/08/03)</p> <p>The Senior Trading Standards Officer was preparing a paper on a new bill for the next meeting. The Head of OFT had undertaken a preliminary review of the Jersey report which was looking to require qualifications and introduce a redress scheme.</p> <p><u>NEW CREDIT PROVIDER</u><br/>(Last Minute to which refers 2022/08/03)</p> <p>The Head of OFT was to check whether the lender was properly registered with the OFT.</p> <p><u>NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>Mr Bathgate gave his apologies for the October Board meeting.</p> | <p><b>JRP</b></p> <p><b>JRP</b></p> <p>-</p> <p><b>DO</b></p> <p><b>JRP</b></p> <p>-</p> |
| <p><b>2022/09/11</b></p> | <p>The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.</p> <p>Signed _____ J C Wannenburg MHK _____</p> <p>Dated _____ 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022 _____</p> <p>Chairman</p>   |  |