

Meeting of the City of London Law Society Competition Law Committee held at 2:00pm on 16 March 2023 in person and via videoconference

Minutes

Committee members were joined by three guest speakers from the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA): (i) Marcus Bokkerink (CMA Chair); (ii) Sarah Cardell (CMA Chief Executive); and (iii) John McInnes (CMA Senior Legal Director for Policy and International). The meeting included discussion about:

- The CMA's strategic priorities and new thematic and outcomes-based approach (as reflected in its new annual plan), and related move away from a formalistic tools-based approach.
- The CMA's increased digital and consumer focused work and the imminent Digital Markets, Competition and Consumer Bill, including likely timing for the Bill and how the CMA is preparing for the proposed new digital regulatory regime and competition and consumer reforms.
- The draft sustainability guidance that the CMA recently published for consultation, including the global thought-leadership role the CMA has developed regarding the approach to sustainability issues under competition law, and the CMA's more general evolving approach to engaging with stakeholders on key issues (e.g. greater use of workshops).
- The CMA's international role in the post-Brexit environment, including how the CMA is engaging with authorities in other jurisdictions and differences in this regard between antitrust and merger control work.
- The UK merger control regime and how this is working in practice, including areas where the regime is thought to be working well and aspects of the regime that Committee members consider could be improved.
- The CMA's market studies and market investigations work, including recent examples and benefits of such work.

Attending:

Nicole Kar	Chair, Linklaters LLP
Ian Giles	Vice Chair, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP
Antonio Bavasso	Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Robert Bell	Memery Crystal
Tom Clare	Linklaters LLP
Angus Coulter	Hogan Lovells LLP
Mark Daniels	Norton Rose Fulbright LLP
Jenine Hulsmann	Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
Mark Jephcott	Simmons & Simmons LLP
Mark Jones	Jones Day
Nelson Jung	Clifford Chance LLP
Dorothy Livingston	Herbert Smith Freehills LLP
Dominic Long	Allen & Overy LLP
Becket McGrath	Euclid Law Ltd
Samantha Mobley	Baker & McKenzie
Nigel Parr	Ashurst LLP
Paula Riedel	Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Isabel Taylor	Slaughter and May
Kevin Hart	CLLS
Marcus Bokkerink	CMA
Sarah Cardell	CMA
John McInnes	CMA