New non-executive director appointed to UKSA

News story

Professor John Aston has been appointed as non-executive board member of the UK Statistics Authority.



Professor John Aston has been appointed as a non-executive board member of the UK Statistics Authority for a period of three years beginning on 1 July 2021.

Professor Aston is Harding Professor of Statistics in Public Life at the University of Cambridge, where he leads research into the use of quantitative evidence in public policy making, works with those in public life to ensure the best methods are used, and aims to improve the use of statistics and other quantitative evidence in public policy debates. He was awarded a knighthood in the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours for services to statistics and public policymaking.

Until recently he was also the Chief Scientific Adviser to the Home Office, and formerly was a board member and trustee of the Alan Turing Institute.

Professor Aston specialises in applied statistics, with particular interests in official and public policy statistics, statistical neuroimaging, and statistical linguistics. He has previously spent time working in the United States and Taiwan.

Professor Aston has been appointed under the provisions of the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, for a period of three years, from 1 July 2021 until 30 June 2024.

Published 24 June 2021

Weekly national flu and COVID-19 surveillance reports published

National influenza and COVID-19 report, monitoring coronavirus (COVID-19) activity, seasonal flu and other seasonal respiratory illnesses.

Research: COVID-19 vaccine surveillance reports

Data on the real-world effectiveness and impact of the COVID-19 vaccines.

PM extends the appointment of the Chair for the Senior Salaries Review Body

Press release

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has extended the appointment of Dr Martin Read as the Chair of the Senior Salaries Review Body.



The Prime Minister has extended the appointment of Dr Martin Read CBE, as the Chair of the Senior Salaries Review Body (SSRB), with immediate effect.

The Senior Salaries Review Body provides independent advice to the Prime

Minister and senior ministers on the pay of many of the nation's top public servants. The appointment is for a period of eleven months.

Martin Read is Chairman of Wincanton plc and the UK Government's Senior Salaries Review Body.

Martin is a former chairman of Laird plc, the Remuneration Consultants Group and of the two government owned companies which manage contracts and payments under the electricity market reform programme (the Low Carbon Contracts Company and the Electricity Settlements Company). He was chief executive of international IT services company Logica from 1993 to 2007 and has served as a non-executive director on the boards of Lloyd's, Invensys, Aegis Group, British Airways, Siemens Holdings, Boots, ASDA and the UK Government Efficiency and Reform Board. Martin was chairman of the Remuneration Committees at Invensys, British Airways and Boots and has been a senior adviser to private equity firms Candover and Actis and to Indian technology companies HCL and Zensar. He led UK government reviews on back office operations and IT across the public sector (2008 to 2009) and management information (2012).

Appointed: January 2015 (reappointed in May 2018) Term ends: May 2022

Published 24 June 2021

Research: Emergency department: weekly bulletins for 2021

The number of people going to emergency departments each day, with results published every week under the syndromic surveillance system.