

Charity Commission Chair welcomes new board members

Baroness Stowell MBE, Chair of the Charity Commission, has welcomed the appointment of Joanne Prowse and Imran Gulamhuseinwala to the regulator's Board.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport today announced the appointment of the new board members.

They replace Catherine Quinn and Laurie Benson whose terms of office came to an end on 13 November. The new members took up their positions the following day on 14 November.

Joanne brings a wealth of experience in regulation and is currently the Chief Executive of the Phone-paid Services Authority (PSA), the UK regulator for content, goods and services charged to a phone bill, which include donations to charity by text, music streaming, and in-app purchases.

Imran is a recognised technology executive, investor and entrepreneur. Currently the CEO and Chair of Open Banking Ltd, the government-sponsored initiative with the potential to revolutionise financial services by putting consumers in control of their data and payments, he also founded and Chairs his own FinTech startup to serve regular commuters.

Their combined experience brings specific knowledge and skills that will help the Commission deliver on its strategy and purpose.

Baroness Stowell said:

I am very pleased to welcome Jo and Imran to the Commission. They both bring the skills and expertise we need for the Commission to achieve our ambitious strategy and ensure that charities deliver even more benefit to society. Each will make a significant impact to the Commission's agenda for change, including all we are doing to improve and modernise our services which the public and trustees rely on, and I am delighted to have them on board. I would also like to thank Catherine and Laurie for their contribution to our strategic agenda whilst on the Board and for their commitment to increasing the Commission's effectiveness.

Joanne Prowse, Board member, said:

I am delighted to have joined the Commission's Board and look forward to helping the Charity Commission maximise the positive impact Charity makes to society and to ensuring we uphold the special status it holds in the hearts and minds of the public. I

hope all my experience of regulating mass-market digital services will help the Commission and charities to serve the public better.

Imran Gulamhuseinwala, Board member, said

I am hugely excited by the opportunities that lay ahead for the Commission. I have seen the progress that has already been made in introducing digital services but there is scope to do so much more. I hope to lend my experience of tech, big data and its potential for transformation of a sector to help the Commission make an even bigger impact and meet the expectations of the public and charities alike.