

An end of year message to the private security industry

As 2020 draws to a close, I want to send a message on behalf of the whole of the SIA to the 367,000 licence holders and the businesses that employ them. The security industry has every reason to be proud of the way it has responded in this, the most extraordinary of years.

The coronavirus pandemic has had a major impact on you individually, as an industry, those businesses you work with and for, as well as the public you protect. You rose to those challenges and the uncertainties the pandemic and 2020 brought.

Security operatives went about their daily, and nightly, work with professionalism and determination. Some door supervisors from the closed pubs and nightclubs moved to supervising a nervous public in supermarket queues or stood guard at the new Nightingale hospitals. Others met unusual situations with exemplary courage. There are people across the UK this year who owe their lives and safety to quick-thinking licence-holders putting themselves in harm's way. We've been inviting the industry to tell us these stories, and sharing them more widely as SIA Heroes features, which you can [read here](#).

This year has demonstrated once again that security is not simply a business overhead, or a compliance activity. Dependable, well-trained, professional security is an essential part of a service to customers.

Whether you were involved in the extraordinary and stand out acts of bravery or support, or you were part of the quiet heroism of all the operatives who carried on going out to work to protect the public and premises when the pandemic has been at its worst; you and your roles have been highly valued by communities across the UK, as well as local and national businesses. We also remember those within the security sector that have been affected by COVID-19 themselves, including those who lost their lives.

2021 brings hope for the future and an acknowledgement that the shape and size of the sector and workforce has and will continue to change. The impact of the pandemic on some sectors particularly in the hospitality, the night-time economy, festivals, and events industries has been felt hard and it is likely that recovery will take some considerable time.

As the regulator, we have also had to adapt. We have prioritised keeping our core licensing services working smoothly and supporting the industry with changes where we were able, including the virtual training pilots. We are proud to work with an industry that has risen to the challenges of this year and has demonstrated its commitment to protecting the public. Whatever the future holds, we share a dedication to quality and the pursuit of best practice in the security industry. On behalf of everyone at the SIA, and with deep appreciation for your hard work this year, thank you all.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Further information:

- The Security Industry Authority is the organisation responsible for regulating the private security industry in the United Kingdom, reporting to the Home Secretary under the terms of the Private Security Industry Act 2001. Our main duties are: the compulsory licensing of individuals undertaking designated activities; and managing the voluntary Approved Contractor Scheme.
- For further information about the Security Industry Authority visit www.gov.uk/sia. The SIA is also on [Facebook](#) (Security Industry Authority) and [Twitter](#) (SIAuk).
-  Media enquiries only please contact: 0300 123 9869, media.enquiries@sia.gov.uk

John Taylor, Antony Jenkins and Tanya Castell appointed to the Prudential Regulation Committee

News story

John Taylor, Antony Jenkins and Tanya Castell have been appointed by The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, as external members of the Prudential Regulation Committee (PRC).



John Taylor will start on 14 January 2021 and Antony Jenkins will start on 5 April 2021 to fill the positions created by the departures of Sandra Boss and Mark Yallop in January 2020 and November 2020 respectively. Tanya Castell will start in her post on 1 September 2021, filling the vacancy created upon the end of David Belsham's appointment on 30 April 2021. All appointees will serve three-year terms.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rishi Sunak, said:

I am pleased to announce the appointments of John Taylor, Antony Jenkins and Tanya Castell to the Prudential Regulation Committee of the Bank of England. I wish them well in their new roles.

Governor of the Bank of England, Andrew Bailey, said:

I am pleased to welcome John, Antony and Tanya to the Prudential Regulation Committee. They bring with them a wealth of experience in banking and insurance and will make a valuable contribution to the work of the Committee. I look forward to working with them in the coming years.

Further information

- John Taylor has experience across insurance, pensions and wealth management. He has held various senior positions including at Standard Life, Lloyds Banking Group, and NEST, and most recently was President at the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries
- Antony Jenkins was previously Chief Executive of Barclays and is currently a member of the Board of Fannie Mae and Executive Chairman and founder of start-up 10x Future Technologies
- Tanya Castell is an experienced non-executive director having served on multiple boards and committees across a number of organisations, most recently at Handelsbanken, and has held a number of senior positions including at Lloyds Banking Group and UBS

About the Prudential Regulation Committee

The Prudential Regulation Authority supervises banks, insurers and major investment firms. The PRA's most important decisions are taken by the Prudential Regulation Committee, chaired by the Governor of the Bank of England. Five members are Bank staff, including the Governor and four Deputy Governors. The Prudential Regulation Committee has a majority of external members, including the Chief Executive of the Financial Conduct Authority and six others selected for their experience and expertise in financial services.

With these appointments, the list of PRC members from 1 September 2021 will be:

- Andrew Bailey (Governor)
- Sam Woods (Deputy Governor, Prudential Regulation & Chief Executive of the Prudential Regulation Authority)
- Sir Jon Cunliffe (Deputy Governor, Financial Stability)
- Dr Ben Broadbent (Deputy Governor, Monetary Policy)
- Sir Dave Ramsden (Deputy Governor, Markets and Banking)
- Nikhil Rathi (Chief Executive, Financial Conduct Authority)
- Julia Black (External member)

- Norval Bryson (External member)
- Tanya Castell (External member)
- Antony Jenkins (External member)
- Jill May (External member)
- John Taylor (External member)

Published 21 December 2020

Regulator opens statutory inquiry into Nottingham poverty relief charity after disqualifying former trustee

This follows the regulator's disqualification of a former trustee, Mr Huzaifah Khaled, who has admitted misappropriating charity funds. The probe has been escalated after other trustees failed to ensure that he no longer had control of the charity's bank account.

The charity's purpose is to relieve poverty among homeless people, by dispensing free food through centrally located vending machines.

The Commission opened a compliance case into Action Hunger in August 2018, after another of the charity's trustees submitted a serious incident report alerting the regulator to concern that money had been taken from the charity's bank account.

The regulator probed this matter and in a statement to the Commission, the former trustee, Mr Khaled, admitted misappropriating £49,671 of the charity's funds. As a result of this serious misconduct, on 4 May 2020, the Commission disqualified him from acting as a charity trustee or senior manager for a period of 10 years.

Investigators have since found that £50,324 was transferred out of the charity's bank account to a private company connected to at least one of the charity's current trustees. The Commission established that Mr Khaled and a former trustee were the individuals who had control of the charity's bank account and the transfer was apparently made without the consent of the current trustees. The Commission has concerns about how these funds may have been used.

The Commission therefore escalated its case to a full statutory inquiry on 10 November 2020 to further examine this matter. An inquiry gives the regulator access to the full range of its legal and enforcement powers. The inquiry will also look at wider concerns around the charity's financial management and the trustees' compliance with their legal obligations.

Amy Spiller, Head of Investigations at the Charity Commission, said:

Mr Khaled's conduct and clear abuse of his position at Action Hunger goes against everything we associate with charity, and it is right that he has been disqualified from serving as a trustee.

We are concerned that there may be wider issues in the administration of this charity. We will now examine these further through a full statutory inquiry and ensure, where necessary, action is taken to uphold public trust in charity.

The Commission may extend the scope of the inquiry if additional regulatory issues emerge.

It is the Commission's policy, after it has concluded an inquiry, to publish a report detailing what issues the inquiry looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what the outcomes were.

[Reports of previous inquiries are available on GOV.UK.](#)

Ends.

Notes to editors:

1. View the [charity's entry on the register of charities](#).
2. The Charity Commission is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales. Its purpose is to ensure charity can thrive and inspire trust so that people can improve lives and strengthen society.

21 December 2020: Joint Ministerial Statement on the JCPOA

Press release

A Joint Ministerial Statement on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) has been agreed, following a Ministerial Meeting on 21 December



1. A Ministerial Meeting of the E3/EU+2 (China, France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy) and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the participants of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), was held virtually on 21 December 2020. The meeting was chaired by the EU High Representative, Josep Borrell.
2. JCPOA participants re-emphasised their commitment to preserve the agreement and stressed their respective efforts in this regard. They discussed that full and effective implementation of the JCPOA by all remains crucial and discussed the need to address ongoing implementation challenges, including on nuclear non-proliferation and sanctions lifting commitments.
3. Ministers underscored the important role of the IAEA as the sole impartial and independent international organisation mandated by the UN Security Council to monitor and verify the implementation of the nuclear non-proliferation commitments under the JCPOA. They stressed the importance of continued good faith cooperation with the IAEA.
4. Ministers recalled that the JCPOA, as endorsed by UN Security Council resolution 2231 (2015), remains a key element of the global nuclear non-proliferation architecture and a significant achievement of multilateral diplomacy that contributes to regional and international security. Ministers reiterated their deep regret towards the US withdrawal from the agreement. They stressed that resolution 2231 remains fully in force.
5. Ministers agreed to continue dialogue to ensure full JCPOA implementation by all sides. Ministers acknowledged the prospect of a return of the US to the JCPOA and underlined their readiness to positively address this in a joint effort.

Independent review into Criminal Legal Aid to launch in January

Press release

The long-term sustainability of the criminal legal aid market will be the focus of an independent review, it was confirmed today (21 December).



- Review will take a look at the whole criminal legal aid market
- Diversity, funding, and efficiency of the sector will be considered
- Part of ongoing work to reform and improve the criminal legal aid system

Launching in January, the review will be led by former judge Sir Christopher Bellamy. It aims to ensure the legal aid sector can adapt to the changing criminal justice system, while continuing to provide high-quality advice and representation.

Ministers are determined to make sure the criminal justice system is fully equipped to deal with any increase in the number of cases, now and in the future.

The far-reaching review will look at the criminal legal aid market in its entirety, specifically it seeks to ensure that it:

- continues to provide high-quality legal advice and representation
- is provided through a diverse set of practitioners
- is appropriately funded
- is responsive to defendant needs both now and in the future
- contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System
- is transparent
- is resilient
- is delivered in a way that provides value for money to the taxpayer.

This is the latest step in the Criminal Legal Aid Review, which has already

led to up to [£51m per year](#) in new payments for the sector that was announced in the summer. It forms part of wider work to ensure criminal defence remains an enduringly attractive career for practitioners.

The Lord Chancellor, Robert Buckland QC MP, said:

Criminal defence lawyers play a crucial role in upholding the law, representing clients and protecting their right to a fair trial.

This independent review will be wide-ranging and ambitious, ensuring the criminal legal aid market remains effective and sustainable, while reflecting the diverse society it serves.

I am grateful to the sector for its continued cooperation and look forward to this important work commencing in earnest in the new year.

Chair of the Review, Sir Christopher Bellamy, said:

The criminal legal aid sector is a vital pillar of the justice system.

I look forward to engaging with all stakeholders on this review, which aims to give the criminal legal aid sector long-term sustainability.

The review will begin in January and report back later in the year. It will include input from a wide range of criminal defence practitioners who have been providing valuable data and insight for the Criminal Legal Aid Review.

Published 21 December 2020