

Financial services regulatory framework to be refreshed

Following a call for evidence that ended late last year, HM Treasury have now published a [response and forward plan](#) for the regulation of financial services in the UK. This is interesting because it specifically considers how coordination amongst a range of regulators should be improved, stating that ‘the division of responsibilities between several regulatory bodies risks creating challenges for regulated firms’. It cites burdensome costs among the difficulties experienced by firms in the financial services market, as well as duplication and inconsistency of regulatory obligations.

Although of course the comparison is not exact, it is useful to understand the thinking behind regulatory structures in other sectors, especially where the challenges are some we might recognise in legal services. This government response could well give some indication of the priorities and issues for consideration if reform of the legal services sector is pursued in the next five years.

Appointments, departures and awards

Cafcass: Sally Cheshire CBE appointed as Interim Chair *until 30 June 2020 while a recruitment campaign is carried out to fill the position on a permanent basis. Sally Cheshire has been a member of Cafcass since May 2018, and was appointed as Deputy Chair in February 2019. She is also Chair of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), and of Health Education England (North). Sally was a Board Member of the regional adoption agency ‘Adoption Counts’, and an independent member of adoption panels in the North West. She previously worked for Deloitte for some years.*