



**The Commissioner for
Public Appointments**

Rt Hon Peter Riddell CBE
Commissioner for Public Appointments
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Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC MP

Lord Chancellor & Secretary of
State for Justice
Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
Westminster
London
SW1H 9AJ

Dear Robert,

Thank you for your letter consulting me on a 12-month extension to Jodie Blackstock's appointment to the Criminal Procedure Committee (CRPC), under section 3.6 of the Governance Code, from 1 September 2020. I note that Ms Blackstock's appointment was made without competition in 2016 after consultation with me as per Section 3.3.

I am content with this extension, recognising that the unprecedented circumstances towards the end of her initial direct appointment have made it difficult for you to have run a competition for a substantive successor this year. I note Ms Blackstock has received a satisfactory performance appraisal.

I accept your explanation that you have only consulted me on this extension now, and would encourage you to use virtual methods of recruitment - which have been successfully implemented across public appointments for some months now - to find Ms Blackstock's successor as soon as possible. I am unlikely to be content with further extensions to this term.

As is my usual practice with all direct appointments and extensions to direct appointments, this extension will be published on my website in the interests of transparency under Para 3.3.

All best wishes,

Peter Riddell
Commissioner for Public Appointments