

# RACING INTEGRITY ESTABLISHMENT BOARD

MARCH 2021



## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Easter break.

This month the Board and the project team have been responding to the RIB commencement date change, rephrasing and reforecasting budgets and the project programme. We also advertised the RIB Chief Executive position extensively in New Zealand and Australia and reviewed 50 applications with the executive search agent. The shortlisting process is now underway for this critical appointment.

## RIB APPOINTMENTS

We understand the Minister is currently considering board member nominations and is consulting with colleagues as required by the Appointment and Honours Cabinet Committee process.

## RIB BUDGET CONSULTATION

The Board reviewed the new 13-month budget (1 July 2021 - 31 July 2022) at its meeting last week and approved it for consultation with TAB NZ and the codes/Racing New Zealand. The budget consultation paper includes the Establishment Board view of the draft business plan objectives, strategic initiatives and proposed performance measures for the RIB for its first year, to assist budget discussions.

## RIB REGULATIONS

Stakeholder consultation has concluded on the proposed RIB Regulations and we understand the policy paper proposing the Regulations is now going through the Cabinet approval process.



## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Code liaison meetings at the operational level commenced this month and will continue fortnightly.

The project team will visit Auckland in April to meet with project stakeholders including the racing laboratory and Trackside technical staff.

The Associations representing jockeys, drivers and trainers have been added to the circulation list for this newsletter to ensure broader dissemination of transition information as we get closer to 1 July.

## WEBSITE AND BUSINESS SYSTEMS

Following a formal procurement process, Mercury IT Limited has been approved as the preferred provider to develop and support the RIB website and desktop environment. We are establishing new business systems from a minimum base so this workstream is time and resource intensive .

## CONTRACTS

Due diligence work has been done on the various significant contracts which will need to be transitioned from the RIU to the RIB. These include the racing laboratory contract, Trackside arrangements for raceday filming services and information sharing agreements with racing betting organisations. Discussions are underway so that the necessary agreements can be reached and documentation put in place to ensure maintenance of the current service.

## ORGANISATIONAL POLICIES

This month the project team scoped the work programme for the development of the RIB's organisational policies. A number of policies already exist within the RIU and JCA and there must be an RIB equivalent of these in final draft form for consideration by the new board on 1 July. Additional government-standard policies will also be prepared for the new board to consider and implement if agreed.

