

## **SCTS Board – Vacancy – Non-Executive Board Member and Chair of the SCTS Audit and Risk Committee**

Could you contribute to setting the strategic direction of the Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service (SCTS) during a period of major reform to the Scottish justice system?

The Lord President is seeking to appoint a new member to the SCTS Board who is **not** a judicial office holder or a practicing advocate or solicitor. Applications are invited from people who have the enthusiasm, skills and experience at a senior level to make a significant contribution to the delivery of justice in Scotland.

In addition to membership of the SCTS Board, the successful applicant will chair the SCTS Audit Committee, which supports the Board in discharging its responsibilities in relation to issues of risk, control and governance by reviewing and challenging the comprehensiveness, reliability and integrity of assurances provided to them by the SCTS Chief Executive (Accountable Officer).

### **Background**

The SCTS provides support to Scotland's judiciary and to its courts, devolved tribunals and the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) to enable the efficient and effective operation of the justice system. The purpose of the SCTS is **supporting justice**. Over the past 18 months the SCTS have seen unprecedented change caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the pandemic the SCTS has had to innovate and develop new digital solutions to maintain essential business – protecting public safety, ensuring that individuals can assert their rights and preserving support to the vulnerable.

Whilst the majority of the SCTS efforts have been focused on responding to and recovering from the pandemic, SCTS continues to play a leading role in introducing major reforms to the justice system in Scotland. The need for effective leadership and reform is essential as we seek to recover and build a stronger, fairer and more resilient justice system.

The Board of the SCTS is led by the Lord President, Scotland's most senior judge. It has a collective responsibility for setting the strategic direction of the SCTS and ensuring its good governance. The purpose of the SCTS is "Supporting Justice" – this is achieved by working with other justice organisations, the Scottish Government and the broader public to maintain high quality services and improve the way we work through reform.

### **SCTS Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)**

The Audit and Risk Committee was established to support the SCTS Board in its responsibilities in relation to issues of risk, control, governance and best value by reviewing and challenging the comprehensiveness, reliability and integrity of assurances provided to them by the SCTS Chief Executive (Accountable Officer). In regard to risk management the SCTS Board has the responsibility for setting the overall risk framework. The ARC provides more specific scrutiny of the arrangements for strategic risk management. The Committee also provides advice and support to the Accountable Officer in his responsibility for maintaining a sound internal control regime.

Further details about the SCTS Audit and Risk Committee, including its terms of reference and minutes of previous meetings, can be found on [here](#).

The Scottish Government's guidance on the principles and best practice for the organisation of Audit and Assurance committees can be found [here](#).

### **Criteria for Appointment**

You should be an excellent communicator with the skills to influence the strategic direction of the SCTS and be effective in building relationships with the organisation's staff. In addition you will have significant professional experience overseeing one or more of statutory audit, internal audit, or organisational risk management of relatively complex, customer focused organisations, having worked at a senior level in a public sector, commercial or voluntary organisation and will demonstrate the ability to work effectively as a Board member and to lead and contribute to the work of the Audit Committee of a public sector organisation. You will be expected to commit approximately 10 days per annum to the work of the Board. Membership attracts remuneration of £335 per day.

The Lord President is committed to principles of appointment on merit through an open, fair and impartial process and would welcome applications from all those with relevant experience, irrespective of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, disability or belief. More information on this vacancy, including details on how to apply, candidate information document and the application form can be found on the [SCTS website](#). The closing date for applications is midnight on **20 March 2022**.