

WRITTEN MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Office for Judicial Complaints – Annual Report 2009 – 2010

Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

With the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice, I will today publish the fourth Annual Report of the Office for Judicial Complaints (OJC). The OJC provides support to the Lord Chief Justice and myself in our joint responsibility for the system of judicial complaints and discipline.

I welcome the publication of this report which provides details of the work undertaken by the OJC over the last year and the complaints dealt with.

The past year has seen significant change within the OJC with the appointment of Sheridan Greenland OBE as the new Head of the Office for Judicial Complaints in August 2009. I am pleased to see that, under new leadership, the OJC continues to build upon the firm foundation set down during the previous three years.

I note the progress which has been made in identifying efficiency and performance improvements through a 'LEAN' review process and look forward to further improvements as the same principles are applied more widely throughout the OJC. I am similarly pleased to record the successful launch of the OJC's online complaint service, providing greater accessibility and access to the OJC's services to members of the public.

Copies of the report are available in the libraries of both Houses, the Vote Office and the Printed Paper Office. Copies of the Report are also available on the Internet at <http://www.judicialcomplaints.gov.uk/publications.htm>.