

## Met Office Board

### Summary

25<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Held virtually and in person Exeter HQ, Met Office

- Hunada Nouss had been appointed Chair for the meeting. She welcomed attendees and confirmed the meeting was quorate. Kelly Prince was welcomed to her first Board meeting as Associate Director for the CEO and Board Secretary. Apologies from Rob Woodward (Chair) and Adam Jackson (DSIT representative) were noted.
- Minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and also the additional meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June were approved as true records of the meetings.
- Penny Endersby (Chief Executive) presented her report to the Board, noting:
  - Positive steps in the progress of the Supercomputer
  - The IMPROVER post-processing system had gone live with positive feedback
  - An insights team consisting of staff from within the organisation had been formed to assist with the Met Office strategy refresh
  - The Insolvency Service staff would arrive in September to take up residence within Met Office HQ.
- Lindsey Jamieson (DSIT representative) reported on the current unknown time frame of the spending review, the Secretary of State's three objectives with the new government and also outlined that DSIT were also seen as being important for national security.
- Nick Jobling (Chief Financial Officer) introduced the finance report. It contained the first reforecast for the full year showing both reduced revenue and costs. The full year position was impacted by the situation with the MTG satellite and assumed an October go live. The headcount position was explained in more detail.
- Charles Ewen (Chief Data & Information Officer) introduced the Supercomputer update. He confirmed that the Systems Integration and Testing (SIAT) had started on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The hope is that User Acceptance Testing (UAT) will take place before Christmas. The team have continued to engage with DSIT and other stakeholders and internal work on the contract had proved to be beneficial.
- Simon Brown (Services Director) introduced the Health and Safety update. Jennifer Mulgrew Smith, the new Head of Health and Safety, had started and was undertaking a full review of the current H&S position. She provided feedback on her initial findings and the next steps.
- Chris Walsh (Head of Warnings and Guidance) reported on the spring seasonal weather update. Spring had been wetter than anticipated with significant rainfall in Mar/Apr and May. May was the warmest recorded since 1884. Discussions focused on the accuracy of the seasonal forecasts. The National Severe Weather Warning Service metrics were currently on track and it was noted that more people were getting interested and involved in the reporting which was improving Met Office reach.
- Penny Endersby presented the Strategy away day report stating that it was the start of the strategy development process. It had included a retrospective view of the strategy over the last five years. The Board considered if facilitation was needed for these days and who would be best to undertake it.
- Susan Ward-Rice (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Specialist Partner) presented the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) review and annual report. The key achievements were noted by the Board and the proposed equality objectives for 2024-28 were approved. Key areas discussed were: work undertaken over the last five years, early careers pathways and workplace passports. The EDI report would be made available to all staff.
- Tammy Lillie (Chief People Officer) presented the People report and the following updates were given: Strategic workforce planning, talent management covering critical posts, succession planning and partnerships. 46 apprentices had joined in the last year.

- Richard Bevan (Chief Technology Officer) presented an update on the Environmental Data Exploitation and Tools and Systems business cases. The Board noted the proposed approach to enable environmental data exploitation, the challenges and how they need to be addressed. The tools and systems business case was also discussed and lessons learned reviewed.