

## **Met Office Board**

### **Summary**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2025**

**Held virtually and in person Exeter HQ, Met Office**

- Simon Thompson was welcomed as the new Chair of the Met Office Board. The meeting was confirmed as quorate.
- Minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were approved as a true record of the meeting.
- Penny Endersby (Chief Executive) presented her report to the Board, noting:
  - Updates on the new supercomputer's User Acceptance Testing (UAT) and operational performance
  - The importance of effective communication during storm warnings
  - Support from Ministers for Met Office initiatives
- Stephen Belcher (Chief of Science and Technology) gave a verbal update on the Met Office Science Advisory Committee (MOSAC).
- Adam Jackson (DSIT representative) provided an update emphasising the government's focus on growth and technology. The Met Office's involvement in various initiatives, including AI opportunities, was noted. Discussions also covered Research and Development funding trends and international collaborations, particularly with the EU and US.
- Nick Jobling (Chief Financial Officer) introduced the finance report, highlighting that the AP10 forecast was currently being finalized and noting that there was currently a push for increased revenue.
- Tammy Lillie (Chief People Officer) presented the people report, highlighting the positive advances in talent management and workforce planning. The Met Office Academic Partnership (MOAP) has played a crucial role in maintaining close ties with universities and facilitating ongoing work with students and placements.
- Tabitha Aldrich-Smith (Associate Director of Communications and Engagement) presented the highlights of the annual Civil Service People Survey, noting that significant progress has been made over the past 12 months. Additionally, the 'Year of the Line Manager' initiative has proven to be a success.
- Charles Ewen (Chief Data and Information Officer) presented a report on the progress of data exploitation at the Met Office. He noted the successes of the adopted model and highlighted that the delivery had resulted in the opening of datasets and targeted communications.
- Simon Vosper (Director of Science) presented a report on the Next Generation Modelling Systems (NGMS) programme. He noted that it was a strategic priority, alongside the Supercomputer and data-related programmes. The aim of NGMS was to reformulate and redesign the complete weather and climate modelling capability and systems, including oceans and the environment, to continue improving Met Office products and services.
- Simon Brown (Operations Director) presented an update on the Autumn seasonal weather report, noting the engagement with the government regarding Storm Bert and Darragh. The autumn season had been characterised by wet and windy conditions.
- Lynn Mawdsley (Non-Executive Director and Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) Chair) provided a verbal report on the meeting the previous day. ARAC had met with Internal Audit to address the new Global Internal Audit Standards; any actions required would be brought to subsequent meetings. A National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) cyber assessment update will be presented to the Board in June.
- The Board approved the review of the Met Office Board and Remuneration Committee Terms of Reference.