



Met Office Board

Summary

November 30th 2009

- The minutes of previous meeting were agreed and highlighted actions closed.
- The CE's report covered positive progress in achieving KPTs
- John Hirst informed the Board about the MP visits that month, including Ed Miliband, Dan Norris, Time Yeo, Colin Challen and Jo Swinson. He also discussed the success of the Scottish Parliamentary dinner.
- The Board heard about other important visitors in the previous weeks with both the United States National Weather Service and the Chinese Met Administration spending two days at the Met Office.
- John Hirst reported to the Board that the Met Office Hadley Centre is the number one in geosciences research centre in the world, as reported in the Times Higher Educational Supplement.
- The Lawton Report, commissioned by DECC and Defra on the Met Office Hadley Centre, was discussed. Of particular interest were the strengths that the Met Office Hadley Centre benefited from, with weather and climate being housed under one roof.
- John Hirst informed the Board that the Met Office were doing a routine refresh of their Corporate Plan and that it was his intention to bring a working copy to the Board for review in January.
- The loss of data from University of East Anglia Climate Research Unit was discussed.
- The finance report looked in depth at the ROCE KPT, with a view to planning to achieve the five year plan. Nick Jobling informed the Board that the updated Corporate Plan would also include updated financials.
- The Board discussed the future plans for supercomputing, weighing options including consideration of benefits, value-for-money and affordability. It was agreed that further discussion would be required.
- John Hirst provided an update on the ongoing work with the Operational Efficiency Programme and the Smarter Government Paper. The Board noted publication was expected in the run up to the Pre-Budget Report.



- The Board noted an information paper on the formation of the EUMENTNET Economic Interest Group (EIG) and the advantages it would bring.
- The Board noted an update report for the Audit Committee.
- Julia Slings informed the Board of the Met Office plans for the forthcoming CoP in Copenhagen. This included the Met Office hosting two side events and also contributing to other events, including Julia Slings speaking at a WMO side event.
- Terence Jagger confirmed that changes proposed to the frequency and attendance of the Met Office Owners Council meeting had been accepted and would be formally confirmed in due course.
- The Board discussed the process of Board Appraisal, including the annual survey which would take place in the new year.
- The next meeting was conformed as being in Exeter on January 26th.
- **Close of Meeting**