



Met Office Board

Summary

January 26th 2010

- The minutes of previous meeting were agreed and one of the highlighted actions closed.
- The CE's report covered progress in achieving KPTs.
- The CE's report covered the KPI's, including a more detailed discussion regarding the breakdown of air miles by program.
- John Hirst informed the Board that the MP visits from Lord Drayson and Douglas Alexander had been delayed due to the snow, but it was planned to re-arrange.
- The Board heard about the Business of Operations services (having visited the demonstration radar before the meeting) and JH elaborated on the innovation in observations technology.
- Public Sector Information issues were discussed. The weather widget had been successfully released and that the iPhone App was due for release very shortly.
- The Board discussed the fact that this had been an exceptionally busy period for the Met Office with current severe weather, Climate Change issues, including Copenhagen and the hacking of the UEA data and e-mails, the extensive press coverage and all of this with the background of an upcoming election.
- Probability forecasting over all timescales was discussed and Operations Director informed the Board that in association with the PWSCG the Met Office was actively working on this, but clearly presentation and communication to the general public remained a challenge.
- Brian Hoskins summarised his report on the 14th Met Office Science Advisory Committee. A general theme throughout the meeting was that while the Met Office does not produce as many papers as an academic institution, they are of good quality, well cited and demonstrate an impressive pull through of research and development into an operational environment.
- The finance report looked at business profitability and the ROCE KPT, explaining the challenges faced to achieve an increase in commercial revenue compared with last year.



- Nick Jobling presented the quarterly Health and Safety review, which noted no major issues and no significant trends.
- The Board reviewed the Corporate Plan refresh document. Nick Jobling summarised the top level financials for the Corporate Plan update.
- The Met Office radar team gave a presentation on the proposed update to the Radar Network, highlighting some of the benefits to the new system, including higher resolution rainfall maps and wind profile maps in real time. The Board approved the plans- noting that this had been fully budgeted in the Corporate Plan.
- The Board noted the Corporate Risk report.
- The Chairman offered his congratulations to Keith Groves, Operations Director, who was retiring after 36 years. On behalf of the Board he thanked Keith for his valued and respected contribution to the Met Office over a period of time that had seen the forecast model over the UK reduce from a 100KM resolution to 1.5KM.
- The next meeting was conformed as being in Exeter on February 23th.
- **Close of Meeting**