



Met Office Board

Summary

April 27th 2010

- Robert Napier welcomed Paul Rew to his first Met Office Board meeting.
- The minutes of meeting held on 30 March 2010 were agreed to be an accurate record. Highlighted actions were reviewed and closed.
- John Hirst discussed the positive outcome of the Key Performance Targets. The Board noted the outcome and the fact that final figures would be subject to final verification an audit.
- As the Icelandic Volcano had been the main focus of attention recently, and the BBC bid was pressing, it was agreed to prioritise the agenda.
- Rob Varley presented to the Board details of events since the eruption of the Icelandic Volcano. The role of the Met Office as the London VAAC (Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre) was defined and acknowledged that while always a part of the Met Office remit, had become very high profile now.
- RV explained the CAA decision, in consultation with relevant parties including engine manufacturers, to review the 'zero-tolerance' approach, which had allowed for the provision of 'no-fly' zones and regions where the airlines could fly at their own risk and subject to more stringent engine examinations. The on-going work and next steps were also discussed.
- JH detailed some of the feedback received, including a letter of approval from CE of NATS, the appreciation from the National Met Services involved and the letter from ECMWF confirming the view that the Met Office Model was 'state of art' and had provided consistent and accurate forecasts.
- RN and JH acknowledged the significant dedication and effort from all involved and the Board passed their thanks for the hard work and congratulations to all involved.
- The Board were given an informative presentation on the Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurement.
- The Board noted the presentation and appreciated its timely nature. The Board agreed this latest incident had highlighted the need to have an airborne capability in the UK for civil contingency use.



- JH concluded his Chief Executive report informing the Board of the formal agreement from the Environment Agency for the Flood Forecasting centre to move to Exeter.
- Nick Jobling delivered the AP12 finance report, noting there would be an AP13 report following more detailed analysis of year end figures or any NAO identified errors for correction. Currently there were no significant changes expected.
- NJ noted that the ROCE target of 3.2% had been achieved. Business profit target of £5.3M had been achieved through effective cost management to offset some reduction from forecast commercial revenue.
- The Board discussed and noted the Health and Safety report.
- JH presented a summary of the financial positions for the BBC contact bid to the Board, including the range of potential bid prices. The Board noted and endorsed the options.
- The next meeting was noted to start at 11am on 1st June in Exeter, the change of location to Exeter was noted for 29th June meeting and the July meeting was confirmed as the away-days at Taunton.
- **Close of Meeting**