



Met Office Board

Summary

June 01st 2010

- The minutes of meeting held on 27 April 2010 were agreed to be an accurate record. Highlighted actions were reviewed and closed.
- Rob Varley discussed the start to the year for the forecasting accuracy KPTs, noting that it was too early to examine any trends.
- John Hirst delivered his report, concentrating on the Volcanic Ash issues. JH informed the Board that the information within his report had been developed and presented as a paper to involved and interested parties. This paper highlighted the option in relation to additional airborne resource.
- There was a lengthy discussion regarding the various operational and other issues arising from the Met Office's role as a VAAC and the extensive work that had been done during this period.
- JH reported that European National Met Services had shown appreciation for the service and communication co-ordination from the Met Office. This had been particularly evident during his attendance at EUMETNET General Assembly.
- The Board offered their thanks and appreciation to all concerned for the work so far done and support for the future.
- Moving on to other issues, JH informed the Board of an issue with ECMWF regarding the publication of some data sets on public websites. This had highlighted the issue of data policy, not just within the Met Office, but with all our levels of collaborative work as well. JH informed the Board that future processes would allow for better management of customers than on this occasion.
- JH highlighted the sensible joint decision from CAA and Met Office to delay the contract renewal negotiations as the focus was on the volcanic ash.
- The Board were informed that Paul Leinster from the EA was visiting on 2nd June and then RN and JH were meeting with the EA Chairman on 4th June. The future plans for the Flood Forecasting Centre would be discussed.
- It was noted the pay remit had been accepted with an 81% positive vote.



- Nick Jobling delivered the finance report, informed the Board that in the year to date there were only very minor differences to budget. It was also noted that the commercial performance had begun well and was on track.
- NJ summarised changes in the Annual Report and Accounts draft since the version issued to the Audit Committee and in the Met Office Board packs. The Board noted the changes and approved the Annual Report and Accounts once these changes were enacted.
- The Board gave their congratulations to NJ and his team and thanked them for a job well done.
- The Board noted the summary of a Governance review and discussed some of the highlighted comments.
- The refreshed Terms Of Reference for the Met Office Board, the Exec Board and their associated sub-committees were discussed. The TORs were approved, once a few suggested changes were made.
- The Board discussed the change of government and some of the impacts for the Met Office.
- Issues surrounding funding were discussed, including the need to find a more sustainable funding model for the core underpinning national infrastructure, for both weather and climate. It was noted that the climate funding was more pressing at this time, and being discussed by a cross-government group.
- The Head of Communications gave the Board an informative presentation on the Communications Strategy for the coming year.
- The Audit committee report was noted, with many items having already been discussed.
- The next meeting was noted to be in Exeter at 1030am on 29th June and the July meeting was confirmed as the strategy and planning event in Taunton.
- **Close of Meeting**