

Met Office Board

Summary

24 Apr 2012

- The minutes presented for 27th Mar 2012 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- The actions were reviewed, with those highlighted agreed to be closed.
- The Chief Executive, John Hirst, delivered his report to the Board.
- Operations and Services Director, Rob Varley, reviewed the Business Performance Measures: All green at the year end, with the exception of the issues with the Probability of Precipitation measure and the fact that by year end 93% of the target for the global NWP index had been achieved. The Board noted that the target had been passed now- about 2-3 weeks late. Success with the UK NWP index was also discussed.
- The Chief Financial Officer, Nick Jobling, informed the Board that the financial measures had all been achieved and were now subject to audit.
- JH informed the Board that the PWSCG had signed off the PWS measures and milestones for the year and the recent PWSCG meeting had been very positive and supportive developments made over recent years.
- JH informed the Board of the good news that the Met Office had been announced as one of the top 100 strongest business-to-business brands in the UK and in the shortlist of the top 100 most Social Brands – the only civil service organisation on the list.
- JH informed the Board that the NASA sponsored 'hack' event, held at the Met Office over the weekend, had gone very well – with the Met Office being noted as at the forefront of open data.
- Other areas covered by JH were the successful delivery and billing of the supercomputer nodes within the requested FY; recent international meetings; recent high profile visits which had gone well; plans for Paul Nurse (president of Royal Society) to visit and the positive activity of the weather desk.
- NJ delivered the AP12 Finance Report and the Board noted the position was as expected with Operating profit at £9.2m (£0.2m up on budget); ROCE of 4.6% (0.2% up on budget) and Business Profit of £8.0m (exceeding target by £0.9m and above stretch target by £0.4m). The Board also noted there were no outstanding loans. The Board compared business profitability of £6.6m for previous year with the increase in performance this year.



- The Board noted the Health and Safety Quarterly Report.
- The routine staff movement figures paper was noted.
- The Board reviewed the Business Performance Measures for FY1213.
- It was noted that initial drafts of the Annual Report and Accounts were under review and would be circulated as appropriate in due course.
- The Board heard that an initial draft of framework document was being prepared and it was expected for it be on the agenda for the May Board.
- JH reviewed the issues and work around the PDG including the PDG Board in Exeter on 1st May; the expected 'Success Factors' paper; the preparation of a Ministerial Submission and the I.T. workstream's independent report.
- The Board were given an informational presentation on the developments of the Natural Hazard Partnership (NHP) and the Natural Hazard Centre (NHC). The Board noted that the NHP was a very successful partnership supported by the Civil Contingency Secretariat.
- The Board were given an informational presentation about the development of the Space Weather service as part of the Hazard Centre.
- The Board were given an informational presentation about the development of the Environmental Science to Service Partnership (ESSP). The presentation covered the aims, structure and governance along with the work completed during the pilot. JH informed the Board of broad plans he had to provide more resource internally now the go-ahead among the partners was there for a further phase.
- The Board visited the Hazard Centre and were shown more detail of some of the services being delivered, including the space weather forecast.
- The Board reviewed the updated Register of Interests and confirmed that all required changes had been made.
- The next meeting was confirmed as Exeter on May 29th. It was also confirmed that the July meeting would include an extended strategy session, starting on the 30th July.
- **Close of Meeting**