



Met Office Board

Summary

20-21 July 2016

- Minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2016 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- The Board discussed the outcome of the EU referendum and noted key issues, including concerns amongst staff who were EU nationals, relationships with EU institutions and risks to future funding.
- Rob Varley (Chief Executive) delivered his report and the Board noted a number of points, including signed multi-year agreements for the Public Weather Service (PWS) and Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC); a number of international Memoranda of Understanding (with Tanzania, Ethiopia and Canada); and performance of the Met Office Business Group.
- Nick Jobling (Chief Financial Officer) gave an overview of the finance report.
- Rob Varley summarised the 6-monthly sustainability report and the Board noted a number of points, including strong performance in the Met Office's sustainability key performance indicators (KPIs).
- The Board noted sustained improvements in the Public Weather Service (PWS) forecast verification scores.
- The Board discussed the Met Office Hadley Centre Climate Programme (HCCP) and noted options being considered for ensuring sustainable funding for this critical national climate capability.
- The Board discussed the future ECMWF accommodation following the recent ECMWF Council meeting.
- The Board discussed the corporate risks and risk register.
- The Board discussed the latest situation on staff pay and a voluntary exit scheme.
- Nick Jobling presented, and the Board discussed, the Corporate Plan financial proposition.
- The Board discussed the Transformation and Efficiency (T&E) programme plan, including governance, deliverables, timeline & milestones, monitoring progress and measuring the benefits/success.
- The Board agreed that the T&E programme was essential to delivering efficiency savings required by the financial plan, as well as transforming the organisation to make it fit for the challenges of the 2020s.
- The Board agreed that appropriate assurances should be developed in order for it to provide effective governance of the T&E programme.
- Arwel Griffiths (Business Group Director) presented the Business Group Technology Platform business case, and the Board discussed and approved the business case.
- Julia Slingo gave an overview of work in support of the National Flood Resilience Review (NFRR) and the Board noted the work done towards identifying a possible new methodology for determining flood risk in the UK.
- Nick Jobling presented the 6-monthly health and safety report and the Board noted that there had been no significant incidents.
- Derrick Ryall (Head of the PWS) and Mel Harrowsmith (Head of Civil Contingencies) presented the Met Office's civil contingencies and National Severe Weather Warnings (NSWWS) services.



- The Board noted the importance of Met Office services to the emergency responder community, as well as the socioeconomic impacts of significant and severe weather.
- The Board noted the effectiveness of the joined-up approach being taken between the NSWWS and joint Environment Agency Flood Forecasting Centre on flood guidance for the UK.
- Dave Underwood (Deputy Director of High Performance Computing) presented the HPC benefits realisation project and the Board noted the landmark investment in HPC for the UK government and Met Office.
- Dave Underwood described the capability enabled by the new HPC, including enabling an additional £2b of socioeconomic benefits for the UK.
- The Board toured the Met Office Informatics Lab, new HPC Hall, National Meteorological Library & Archive, and Broadcast Studio in order to inspect some of the Met Office's existing and developing facilities and capability.
- The Board noted the content of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) meeting minutes and Annual Report.
- The Board noted an ongoing Non-Executive Director recruitment process.
- The Board discussed options to reduce Board-related costs and agreed some savings measures.
- The Board noted an announcement by Julia Slingo (Chief Scientist) that she planned to retire in December.
- Next meeting to be held on 27 September 2016.