



Met Office Board

Summary

28 January 2016

- Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2015 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- Rob Varley (Chief Executive) delivered his report and the Board noted a number of points, including the latest performance against Business Performance Measures (BPMs); difficult trading conditions in the Oil & Gas and Renewables sectors; a recent visit by the Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney; other international relations activities; an IT Industry award for Big Data projects; release of a new mobile app.
- Nick Jobling (Chief Financial Officer) gave an update on progress towards delivery of the new High Performance Computing (HPC) facility.
- The Board discussed corporate risks, including cyber security.
- The Board noted the findings of the BBC Trust's report into the Radio 4 programme 'What's the Point of... the Met Office', including its removal from BBC iPlayer and publication of the report of the Trust's findings.
- Professor Dame Julia Slingo (Chief Scientist) gave an overview of the independent Met Office Science Advisory Committee (MOSAC) and Science Review Group (SRG) meetings in November, and an update on future Met Office Hadley Centre Climate Programme (HCCP) funding following the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR).
- The Board discussed progress in government departmental spending settlements following the CSR, and potential impacts on Met Office contracts.
- Julia Slingo gave a summary of the Met Office's involvement in the Paris COP21 climate summit.
- Nick Jobling gave an overview of the financial report.
- Charles Ewen (Chief Information Officer and Director of IT) presented the latest on the technology aspects of the developing Transformation and Efficiency (T&E) programme and the Board noted points on IT strategy, methodologies, architecture principles, culture, behaviours and resourcing.
- Steve Noyes (Director of Operations and Services) followed this with an update on the T&E programme, including a description of the Target Operating Model.
- The Board discussed the T&E programme, including challenges, benefit analysis, risks and next steps.
- Arwel Griffiths (Director of Business Development) presented the Met Office Business Group plan in the context of T&E and the Board discussed and endorsed the plan.
- Steve Noyes gave an update following recent winter flooding events, including the weather situation, National Severe Weather Warnings and the government's National Flood Resilience Review.
- Kay Eldergill (HR Director) gave an update on staff pay and the annual pay remit.
- Kirstine Dale (Head of Climate Programmes & Services for Government) summarised the business case to expand the Met Office's BIS Newton Fund delivery partner and fund manager activities, and the Board approved the negotiation of an expansion to the Met Office's Newton Fund Delivery Partner role.
- Next meeting to be held on 1 April 2016.