



Met Office Board

Summary

27 January 2015

- The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2014 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- Rob Varley, Chief Executive, delivered his Report to the Board, including Corporate Performance, the latest forecast verification scores, finance report and human resources report. This included ongoing challenges resulting from government pay restraint and recruitment.
- The Board noted: a recent visit by the Met Office's owning Minister, Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP; achievement of a one-year extension to funding of the Met Office Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research; the announcement that the Met Office will become a delivery partner for the UK Government's Newton Fund; and the launch of the Public Weather Media Service for public service broadcasters.
- The Board also noted ongoing work to review Met Office commercial business activities.
- Rob delivered his 6-monthly report on Sustainability in the Met Office, and the Board noted the Met Office's success in winning the Platinum award as the most sustainable public sector organisation.
- Phil Evans, Government Services Director, gave an overview of the Met Office's work for, and engagement with, government.
- Dr Claire Craig from the Government Office for Science and Elizabeth Perelman from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), gave an overview of the Met Office General Review. This is being undertaken to help Government as a whole understand more clearly the Met Office purpose and structure, and the many ways it adds value in support of Government policy and the wider economy, both in the UK and internationally. This included a summary of the scope of the economic analysis by London Economics.
- Huw Davies, Chairman of the Met Office Science Advisory Committee (MOSAC), presented a report from the 19th MOSAC. The Board noted his comments on the impressive progress being made by the Science directorate and also his excellent leadership of the Committee.
- Bruce Truscott, Head of International, gave a summary of recent engagement activities with the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).
- Doug Johnson, Deputy Director of Applied Science, gave an overview of the Met Office Applied Science and Scientific Consultancy work.
- Wendy Barnes, Non-Executive Director, notified the Board of a new role as Non-Executive Director of Scottish Power Energy Networks. Michael Harrison, Non-Executive Director and representative of the Shareholder Executive within BIS, notified the Board of a new directorship of the BIS (Postal Services Act 2011) Company Limited and BIS (Postal Services Act 2011) B Company Limited.
- The next meeting to be held on 2 April.