



Met Office Board

Summary

22 July 2015

- The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2015 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- Rob Varley (Chief Executive) delivered his report to the Board and the Board noted a number of points, including some recent visits by VIPs, important developing strategic relationships with the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and the United States Air Force Weather Agency.
- The Board agreed to formally adopt the principles of a new structure within which to deliver services to industry following discussions on various options in May 2015.
- The Board discussed outcomes of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) and levels of future funding.
- The Board briefly discussed the future relationship with the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), as well as its needs for accommodation and high-performance computing.
- The Board congratulated Professor Dame Julia Slingo (Chief Scientist) on her recent International Meteorological Organisation award.
- The Board discussed the Business Performance Measures (BPMs) and corporate performance, including risks, and Nick Jobling (Chief Finance Officer) gave an overview of the finance report.
- Steve Noyes (Operations and Services Director) presented an overview of the 6-monthly Sustainability Report and the Board noted the numerous successes, despite challenging targets.
- Kay Eldergill (HR Director) gave an update on pay, and the Board discussed the issues, including the challenges resulting from government pay restraint.
- Julia Slingo informed the Board that a planned event following on from COP-21 in Paris was being postponed in order to focus effort on other issues and went on to present the draft Science Strategy.
- Julia Slingo gave an overview of risks to European science funding and the way it is allocated.
- Nick Jobling gave a summary of the Health and Safety report and the Board noted a number of ongoing items, including Display Screen Equipment (DSE) training, planned changes to make the workspace more flexible and risk mitigation activities.
- Wyn Williams (Chairman of the independent Public Weather Service Customer Group - PWSCG) presented the annual PWSCG report and the Board discussed its content and conclusions.
- Tom Shapland (Business Manager) gave a demonstration of some of the capabilities of the new Visual Cortex graphical visualisation system.
- Paul Davies (Chief Meteorologist) and Dave Britton (Principal Advisor to FCO and DFID) presented the Met Office's post-earthquake activities in support of Nepal, including a new global Natural Hazard trial service and global Disaster Risk Reduction activities.
- The Board formally approved the Met Office budget.
- Next meeting to be held on 30 September.