



## **Met Office Board**

### **Summary**

**28 Feb 2011**

- The Chairman, Robert Napier, welcomed David Williams, Director of Financial Management, to the Met Office Board as the MoD Representative.
- The minutes presented for 25th Jan 2011 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. The Summary of the meeting was approved and highlighted actions were reviewed and closed.
- Rob Varley, Director of Operations and Services, reported the progress being made regarding PWS measures and the work with the PWSCG and a more detailed discussion was agreed to be scheduled for a later meeting.
- The Chief Executive, John Hirst, delivered his report to the Board.
- RV informed the Board that there was high confidence of achieving the Business Performance Measure regarding Forecast Accuracy, although one element was expected to be close.
- Carbon Emissions were discussed and Nick Jobling explained that thanks to several ground breaking initiatives the performance measure relating to the supercomputer emissions would be achieved and that there was a reasonable chance of also reducing the CO<sup>2</sup> emissions in absolute terms.
- JH informed the Board of developments and the current situation with regard to the ongoing Met Office Asset Review and proposed Public Data Corporation (PDC), including recent Chief Executive Working Group meetings with ShEx regarding the PDC.
- JH informed the Board that the Technology and Strategy Board had designated funding to create new centres of excellence – Technology and Innovation Centres – and that the Met Office was investigating the details.
- The Board discussed funding for future years and noted that the outline budget would be presented at the next meeting.
- RV updated the Board on the good progress made in transforming across to the new contract service with the BBC, including the recently instated joint strategic forum – “Weather Board”.
- The Health business was discussed briefly and the Board noted a fuller presentation would be made at the next meeting.



- JH reported on recent successful visits from Chris Huhne MP (DECC), Lord Henley (Defra's Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State) and the members of Environmental Audit Select Committee and also informed the Board of several upcoming visits or meetings.
- Nick Jobling, CFO, delivered the finance report, informing the Board that the Met Office expected to reach the key financial business performance Measures.
- The Board noted that the latest draft of the Corporate Plan as presented was a working plan and would be subject to some change. The Board confirmed they approved the core objectives.
- The intention to align the objectives with the Business Performance Measures more directly in the future was discussed. The Board noted this work was started, but was more advanced in some areas than others, as such in the interim the BPMs proposed for FY1112 would be broadly similar to those used currently.
- JH informed the Board that he was planning a strategic meeting with the Exec. The main purpose would be to examine the Corporate Plan and analyse if it will allow the Met Office to reach its aim of being recognised as the best Weather and Climate service in the World.
- Head of Seasonal and Decadal forecasting gave an informative presentation on the developments of Seasonal forecasting.
- The Board were given a presentation on Data and Content. The external pressures were discussed and the definition of the difference between raw data and the products or content which Met Office produce was explained.
- The Partnership Scheme, introduced to ensure appropriate levels of support for data usage, was discussed.
- The next meeting was confirmed as 10:30 on 29th March in Clerkenwell Rd, London.
- The Board then took the opportunity to visit the FAAM aircraft while it was stationed at Exeter Airport, working on a Stratocumulus Project.
- **Close of Meeting**