



Met Office Board

Summary

26 Oct 2011

- The minutes presented for 27th Sept 2011 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- Nick Jobling, Chief Financial Officer, reported some financial analysis in response to outstanding actions and the highlighted actions were agreed to be closed.
- John Hirst, Chief Executive, delivered his report to the Board.
- The Board discussed recent media coverage and were very supportive of the stance taken by the Met Office in the Times Op Ed article. JH informed the Board this piece had received wide appreciation and coverage, including being sent around by Civil Contingencies Secretariat to contingency planners, local authorities etc.
- JH informed the Board of the good progress being made in social media with twitter community growing.
- JH updated the Board on the Hazard Centre and the Environmental Science to Service Partnership progress, including the fact that a working group meeting was taking place at Clerkenwell Road that day, to progress the proof of concept and take the idea of a workshop forward.
- Julia Slingso, Chief Scientist reviewed the science behind a recent paper on the influence of UV on weather patterns, co-authored with Professors from Imperial College and Oxford University, which had been published in Nature.
- The Board noted the headline figures for the Employee Attitude Survey.
- The Board noted the progress with the Civil Contingencies Aircraft and specifically requested that their appreciation was passed to the team for all the dedication, patience and hard work shown.
- The Science and Technology Select Committee Enquiry was discussed in detail.
- Rob Varley, Director of Operations and Services, reviewed the forecast accuracy BPMs.



- JH shared the Corporate Plan 'infographic' with the Board who were very enthusiastic about the approach to communicate the Corporate Plan.
- JS reported several recent events and visits, including the Welsh Office Chief Scientist; Professor Iain Gordon (CE of Scotland's new research institute); success with HPC access through PRACE; positive recognition from the SRG (Science Review Group) with acknowledgement of how stretched but good value for money the Met Office Hadley Centre was and the work of the Met Office with the Peninsula Medical School and Wellcome Trust.
- The Board reviewed the work and progress on the Public Data Corporation.
- NJ delivered the Finance Report, which the Board noted.
- NJ delivered the Health and Safety Report. The Board noted the report and discussed a near miss event.
- NJ summarised the Supercomputing update paper and the Board noted it
- Paul Rew, Chair of the Audit Committee, summarised the Audit Committee Report to the Board.
- JH gave the Board an informative presentation on the strands of International work, strategy and areas of influence.
- The Board noted that the new Head of the Met Office Hadley Centre was due to start early in the New Year.
- The Chairman informed the Board that the annual Governance Review would be carried out shortly.
- It was confirmed that the next Met Office Board meeting would be in Exeter.
- **Close of Meeting**