



Met Office Board

Summary

26 Oct 2010

- The minutes presented for 28th Sept 2010 were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. Highlighted actions were reviewed and closed.
- The Chief Executive, John Hirst, delivered his report to the Board.
- The Board discussed the PWSCG review, which would investigate options for the future of PWSCG, including potential funding models.
- JH informed the Board he had discussed the need and value of the PWSCG with Nick Baldwin (PWSCG Chair). It was commonly perceived as a sound idea, and a model of best practice which had been endorsed by The National Archives.
- JH informed the Board regarding progress with the new corporate plan. The Corporate Objectives had been agreed and workshops taking place to understand and elaborate on the deliverables and requirements which underpin them.
- Rob Varley reported that all the elements of Business Performance Measure (BPM) 1 were now green following effective management action. The final outcome would be, in part, weather dependent, but was currently positive.
- JH reported that he had made a speech to staff following the CSR and SDSR. He noted potentially useful hooks for the Met Office from the released documentation, including Climate Change, Natural Hazards, Science investment and Efficiencies. The closure of RAF stations, including Kinloss and 2 others as yet unconfirmed were discussed.
- JH talked to the Board about the new Met Office Application for Windows 7, due to be the only weather app on windows 7 mobile.
- The progress with the Civil Contingencies Aircraft was discussed, with the final tender process being completed.
- Nick Jobling summarised the financial report for the Board.
- NJ reported to the Board that the ROCE BPM was green, forecast to be above measure. Business profit BPM remains green, despite some reduction in commercial revenue.



- NJ reported that the Business Profit stretch BPM was amber but remained achievable if a number of significant opportunities are realised.
- NJ also delivered the H&S quarterly report. There were no incidents requiring formal reporting. NJ reported the addition of graphic stickers to the main doors following some incidents of visitors walking into them. The Board agreed with NJ that the increase in near miss reporting was a positive step.
- The Board were given a presentation on Met Office Reputation from the Head of Communications and the Head of the Public Weather Service. They covered aspects of how reputation is perceived, how the Met Office actively manage stakeholders, and how reputation is measured, both with the customers and with the Public.
- The Board heard about work such as the partnering with household brands such as Walkers crisps and also about the developing Ambassador scheme.
- It was noted that on the whole the coverage the Met Office receives has been shown to be essentially balanced by independent review.
- The Public Weather Service research, with public and emergency responders, was discussed, including the high level (80-90%) response from people who found the warnings very useful.
- The Board noted the Human Resources Update Report. JH informed the Board that the pay freeze would make rewarding those staff below target pay rates difficult.
- The Board discussed the Volcanic Ash Internal Review paper. The majority of the recommendations were noted to apply to the changing requirements, rather than the provision of the original Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre service.
- The next meeting was confirmed as 29th November.
- Awards for Excellence were confirmed to be on the 8th December.
- **Close of Meeting**