

## Summary of the NERC Management Board Meeting, 17 January 2017

The fourth meeting of the NERC Management Board (NMB) took place on Tuesday 17 January 2017 at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.

Attendees were:

- Duncan Wingham, NERC, Chief Executive (Chair)
- Paul Fox, NERC, Chief Operating Officer
- Liz Fellman, NERC, Associate Director National Capability and Capital
- Richard Gledhill, NERC, Non-Executive Director
- Paul Hayden, NERC, Non-Executive Director
- Phil Heads, NERC, Associate Director, Strategy and Evidence
- Alison Robinson, NERC Director, Corporate Affairs
- Lyndsey Jones, NMB Secretary

Topical issues discussed were:

### **NERC Audit Plan**

1. NMB was provided with an update on the changes discussed at the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) meeting. The Board noted the planning difficulties that existed due to the unknowns around the impacts of UKRI. NMB reviewed the draft plan and raised some issues to enable a revised version to be taken to next ARAC.

### **Governance, Responsibility and Ownership (GRO) update**

2. NMB received an update on the current Governance, Responsibility and Ownership (GRO) position. The Board considered progress and risks, and was satisfied that the process was on track in respect of both CEH and NOC.

### **Centre Assurance Board (CAB) report**

3. NMB was provided with an update on the outcomes of the CAB meetings held throughout December. The issues were summarised. The Board was content with the report. Further information on the CABs is available on the [NERC website](#).

### **Management response to the [Services and Facilities](#) and [Data Centres Evaluations](#)**

4. NMB considered the management response to some of the generic recommendations captured in the report. The Board suggested some amendments to provide clarity.
5. The Board was content that the value for money aspect was being considered and with the proposal for establishing a small team to develop the assessment criteria ahead of the commissioning process.
6. NMB also suggested that due to the 5 year cycle for the commissioning process, it would be useful to build in the answers to the evaluation into the commissioning process to provide clarity in 5 years' time.

### **Council retreat and March Council meeting agenda**

7. NMB was advised of the purpose of the Council retreat, participants invited, likely topics and plans for the day.
8. The Board said the Council agenda was very heavy and subsequently agreed for some items to be postponed to the next meeting and others shortened.

### **Reputational Management**

9. The Board was informed of the rigorous process of development for the BBC Horizon filming of the Halley VI move. BEIS and other relevant stakeholder are aware of the details of that initiative. NMB was content with the steps that had been taken to ensure an effective means of engaging the public with the Halley VI story.
10. The Board was also informed that BGS were planning projects in the Arctic.

### **Edinburgh Showcase proposal**

11. NMB noted the proposal for a showcase in Edinburgh planned for January 2018. The vision and purpose was shared with the Board and it was confirmed the showcase would be aimed at both policymakers and the general public. It also suggested exploring potential dates in November 2017.

### **FAAM replacement**

12. NMB was advised that the future capital requirements of FAAM would be considered in the next CSR round and that a proposal dealing with the other issues would be submitted to NMB in due course.

### **13. Standing items discussed were:**

- Chief Executive's update: issues covered were the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund and Halley.
- Monthly finance update, including capital: NMB noted the figures presented.
- Risk register review: NMB reviewed the top risks and identified updates.
- Actions update and forward planner: Members noted progress against actions and identified issues for the February NMB meeting.
- There were no Communications issues raised during the meeting.

The next NMB meeting will be on Tuesday 21 February at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.