

## **Summary of the NERC Management Board Meeting, 19 September 2017**

The eleventh meeting of the NERC Management Board (NMB) took place on Tuesday 19 September 2017 at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.

Attendees were:

- Duncan Wingham, NERC Chief Executive (Chair)
- Tim Wheeler, NERC Director, Research and Innovation
- 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
- Claire Turner, NERC Director, Finance (by teleconference)
- Lyndsey Jones, NMB Secretary

Topical issues discussed were:

### **Head Office Plan – Quarterly exception report**

1. NMB received a progress report for Quarter 1, which showed a large proportion of activities were on track. Detail was provided on the delayed items and the reasons and mitigations that were underway to resolve them.
2. The Board agreed this was a valuable tool in flagging areas that required further attention before they became a concern.

### **Edinburgh Showcase proposal**

3. NMB was given an overview of the showcase and its aim to build awareness and provide Scottish policymakers and the public with a taste of how environmental science is relevant to their lives.
4. In addition to the showcase, there would be a reception in Holyrood on 7 November to provide further opportunity to celebrate the contribution environmental science makes to Scottish policy and promote the forthcoming public activity.

### **Data Service Commissioning**

5. The Board were provided with an update on the NERC data service commissioning activity and aims to realise a greater benefit. It was advised that the plan to launch on 31 March 2018 was on track.

### **EU staff and student data quarterly report**

6. NMB reviewed data for the past three years to assess any impact of Brexit on the number of EU students and staff. It was noted there were no significant changes but that the situation would continue to be monitored.

### **UKRI Senior Strategy Group and Design and Delivery Board**

7. The Board were provided with updates from recent meetings

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

8. NMB received an update on Governance, Responsibility and Ownership (GRO) position. It was noted that the submission to the Minister was imminent.
9. It was reported that interviews for the Chair of BGS would commence the following week and that proposed new governance arrangements would then be considered with the Chair for presentation to Council in December.

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

- Chief Executive's update: issues covered were updates on the delivery plan, and recruitment for Council.
- 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 October NMB meeting.
- There were no Communications issues raised during the meeting.

The next NMB meeting will be on Tuesday 24 October at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.