Summary of the NERC Management Board Meeting, 30 November 2017

The thirteenth meeting of the NERC Management Board (NMB) took place on Thursday 30 November 2017 at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.

Attendees were:

- Duncan Wingham, NERC Chief Executive (Chair)
- Paul Fox, NERC Chief Operating Officer
- 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
- Sue Morrell, NMB Secretary

Topical issues discussed were:

Spin out company from NOC
1. NMB considered the request from NOC to set up a spin out company. The Board suggested some further actions for NOC to undertake.

Evidence and Evaluation Programmes
2. This was the second time NMB had received updates on these programmes and noted further updates would be presented on a six monthly basis going forward. The Board suggested some further areas to include for the next update.

3. The Board noted that all evaluations had either been completed or were underway.

Appraisal Review
4. The Board were informed that a review of the appraisal system had taken place and the findings were discussed.

5. The recommendations set out in the paper were agreed.

Update on studentship subject classification
6. NMB received the outcome of an analysis to understand the distribution of studentships in terms of subject classification within the NERC remit across the DTP mechanism.

7. NMB advised that the analysis be provided as background information to the DTP2 call planned for January 2018.

National Capability Services & Facilities: strategic approach
8. The Board were advised that this would be presented at the December Council meeting.

9. The NMB reviewed the slides and suggested some amendments to be made before the presentation to Council.
UKRI Senior Strategy Group and Design and Delivery Board

10. The Board were provided with updates from recent meetings.

Governance, Responsibility and Ownership (GRO) update

11. NMB received an update on Governance, Responsibility and Ownership (GRO) position. It was noted that papers would be presented to the December Council meeting on the BGS new governance agreement and an update on the CEH and NOC positions.

12. Standing items discussed were:

- Chief Executive’s update: issues covered were updates on the National Facility for Scientific Diving and the NOC Customs Warehouse.
- 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 December NMB meeting.
- There were no Communications issues raised during the meeting.

The next NMB meeting will be on Tuesday 19 December at MRC, 1 Kemble Street, London.