

NERC Management Board (NMB) Meeting

Summary of discussions

14 February 2019

58 Victoria Embankment, London

Members present:

Professor DJ Wingham, Mr PJ Fox, Mr R Gledhill, Mr P Hayden, Dr P Heads, Ms A Robinson,

Apologies: None.

Other attendees: Mrs F Goff (Head of Evidence, item 2), Mr I Stanton (Head of Sustainability, item 3), Ms C Snelling (Deputy Head of Sustainability, item 3), Mr N Cooper (NERC Risk Business Partner, item 6), Mr S Caswell (NERC Finance Business Partner, item 7), Ms C Colman (UKRI Corporate Finance, item 7).

Secretary: Mrs SJ Morrell.

Executive Chair Update

Professor Wingham opened the meeting and welcomed members.

He provided updates on the following:

- Transformation, and
- Facility for Airborne Atmospheric Measurements ([FAAM](#))

Evidence and Evaluation Programmes

NMB was provided with a six monthly progress report and the updated Evidence and Evaluation programmes. The Board made some suggestions on the content of the report and agreed the programmes.

Corporate Responsibility

- **Corporate Responsibility Dashboard update**

The Board discussed the paper and requested that the Responsibility Framework be updated and presented to NMB at its March meeting.

- **Animals in Research**

The Board requested some further information be included in the paper and the updated version be submitted to its March meeting.

- **Safeguarding in Research**

NMB was informed that a UKRI draft safeguarding policies for UK based operations and international operations are due for consultation in April 2019. It was noted that an internal UKRI safeguarding assurance audit had been completed and the results were awaited. It was agreed that an updated paper should be brought to NMB in May 2019.

- **Carbon Trust recertification**

A brief was given to NMB on the outcomes of the recent Carbon Trust Recertification, which was valid until March 2020. A dedicated team had been set up in HO, which was building upon the UKRI wide database. It was agreed that the certification with the Carbon Trust should be reviewed in 2 years.

EU Exit: 'No deal scenario'

The Board was informed that BEIS and central UKRI teams were working closely together on preparations for EU Exit on 29 March 2019, and NERC is engaged in this planning. Substantial work was underway, particularly for a 'no deal' scenario, primarily to prepare for impacts on UK access to Horizon 2020 funding but also for impacts on research centre operations.

Head Office Plan – quarterly exception report

An update was given to NMB on the progress against the milestones identified in the Head Office plan for Quarter 3. The Board reviewed the exceptions and suggested some further changes.

Matters arising from UKRI meetings

The Board was provided with updates from recent meetings.

Standing items

NMB also noted a couple of standing items including the monthly finance update, the risk register review and the rolling programme of business.

Date of next meeting

The next NERC Management Board meeting will be held on 19 March 2019.