

NERC Management Board (NMB) Meeting

Summary of discussions

**21 May 2019 MRC,
London**

Members present:

Professor DJ Wingham, Ms C Bault, Mr PJ Fox, Mr R Gledhill, Dr S Hodgson, Ms A Robinson.

Apologies: Mr P Hayden Dr P Heads.

Other attendees: Mr B Dark (Health & Safety Advisor, item 3), Mr N Cooper (NERC Risk Business Partner, item 5), Mr S Caswell (NERC Finance Business Partner, item 6).

Secretary: Mrs SJ Morrell.

Executive Chair Update

Professor Wingham opened the meeting and welcomed members.

He provided updates on the following:

- Spending Review
- Strategy
- [GRO](#)

[Open Capital Call](#)

NMB was presented with details of the proposed open strategic capital priorities call. It is perceived that there is demand in the community for capital funding and that this call will support all eligible Research Organisations, including NERC Research Centres.

The Board made some comments on the proposal and agreed an allocation of up to £3 million for investment in the call.

NERC Annual Report on Health and Safety

This was the first annual Health and Safety report presented to NMB since the formation of UKRI. The Board noted the highlights raised and discussed them, and agreed the report.

Transformation

The Board was informed that the UKRI Transformation Director had been appointed.

It was also advised that a Board was to be set up for grant process reform, which would be chaired by Professor Wingham, to obtain a uniform agreement across the research councils on the transaction activity and process.

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 22 July 2019.