

# **NERC Management Board (NMB) Meeting**

## **Summary of discussions**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Held via Zoom**

### **Members present:**

A Robinson (Chair), N Bird, V McMyn, S Waldron, I Williams, C Bault, K Shillinglaw, C Foster

**Apologies:** DJ Wingham

### **Other attendees:**

Shaun Caswell (for item 2), Paul Gemmill (for item 3) Thomas Haynes (for item 4), Corrina Urquhart and Jen Jennings (for item 5), Fiona Goff (for item 6) Jodie Mitchell (for item 7), Sarah Tranter (for item 8) Hannah Collins (for item 9), James Harper (for item 10) Johanna Barton (for item 11).

**Secretary:** Eleanor Oates.

## **Executive Chair Update**

Alison Robinson opened the meeting and welcomed members. She updated members on the Spending Review allocation, EU association, Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), National Lockdown and the ongoing support for PHD students and NERC's role in this.

## **Reforming Our Business**

The Board received an overview of a new project initiated to make UKRI's operations simpler and better for the benefit of their staff and all stakeholders. NMB were informed that RoB was focused initially on research funding processes as highlighted in the Government R&D Roadmap and was now contributing to the delivery of the UKRI corporate plan and beyond that the UKRI Operational Strategy and UKRI Vision and Mission.

## **BGS Evaluation Framework**

The Board reviewed and approved the BGS Evaluation Framework. NMB updated the BGS evaluation approach and methodology to state that NERC would gather independent evidence including stakeholder satisfaction to inform the evaluation and to assist the Panel test BGS submissions.

## **Rotators: Embedding excellence into NERC**

The Board reviewed the proposed NERC Catalysts and Agenda Setting Fellows programme and agreed to the new models being funded from NERC's Programme budget.

## **Impact & Outcomes Programme (6 monthly)**

The Board received an update on the six-monthly progress report and reviewed the updated Impact and Outcomes Programme.

### **Head Office Plan – Exception Report (qtrly)**

The Board received an update on the progress against the milestones identified in the Head Office Plan, following the quarterly review for the period from October to December 2020 inclusive.

### **NERC Safeguarding Update**

The Board received an update on the current NERC Centre arrangements regarding safeguarding and associated safeguarding incidents.

### **NERC COP26 plans**

The Board reviewed NERC's engagement offer for COP26 and provided feedback on the planned portfolio of activities. This would be reviewed again at May 2021 NMB.

### **UKRI and NERC Communications plan**

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposal, NMB agreed that NERC required a clear approach to brand differentiation to build NERC's profile, alongside UKRI aims.

### **Standing items**

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

### **Date of next meeting**

The next NERC Management Board meeting would be held on 27 March 2021.