

## Supervisory Board – 6 February 2013

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If you have any suggestions about issues you would like to see covered in the report, please contact the **Board Secretariat**.

### Members

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| • Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP | Secretary of State                         |
| • Richard Benyon MP       | Parliamentary Under Secretary (Commons)    |
| • David Heath MP          | Minister of State for Agriculture and Food |
| • Lord de Mauley          | Parliamentary Under Secretary (Lords)      |
| • Bronwyn Hill            | Permanent Secretary                        |
| • Peter Unwin             | DG Policy Delivery                         |
| • Katrina Williams        | DG Strategy, Evidence and Customers        |
| • Ian Trenholm            | DG Chief Operating Officer                 |
| • Ian Boyd                | Chief Scientific Adviser                   |
| • Tom Taylor              | Finance Director                           |
| • Iain Ferguson           | Lead Non-Executive Board Member            |
| • Paul Rew                | Non-Executive Board Member                 |
| • Sir Tony Hawkhead       | Non-Executive Board Member                 |
| • Catherine Doran         | Non-Executive Board Member                 |

### Other attendees

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Eileen Mortby      | Board Secretary   |
| • Anil Pillai        | Board Secretariat |
| • Meenakshi Westhead | Board Secretariat |

### The meeting

#### Declarations of Interest and Minutes from the previous meeting

The Board noted the declarations of interest from Paul Rew, Catherine Doran and Iain Ferguson.

The Board noted the amendments to the December minutes.

#### Report from sub-committees:

- Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) – the Chair, Paul Rew reported that the January ARC discussed the lessons that could be learned from the Ash Die back outbreak across Defra and its Arms Length Bodies.

#### CAP Delivery Negotiations – update

Ian Trenholm provided an update on the progress made on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Delivery programme. The Outline Business Case (OBC) has been agreed by the Cabinet Office and Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT).

## **Triennial Reviews - update**

Andrea Young, Director for Triennial Reviews provided an update on the Triennial Reviews of Natural England (NE) and the Environment Agency (EA). The review considered the opportunities for improvements in both service delivery and financials. Challenge meetings will be held to assess recommendations and outcomes expected in the Spring.

## **Staff Survey**

Jan Atkinson, Director for Human Resources updated the Board on the actions being taken to address the issues in the Staff Survey. The Action Plan address issues at local and Departmental level and focuses on three areas: Leadership and Managing change, Engaging Managers and Employee voice.

## **Animal Health and veterinary Agency (AHVLA) risk**

Chris Hadkiss, Chief Executive Office of AHVLA updated the Board on progress, in addressing AHVLA key risks, notably Health and Safety..

## **Management Information Reports**

### *Finance*

Tom Taylor reported that overall Defra is in a reasonable position and on course for an under spend of 1% at year end.

### *Strategic Risk*

The Board noted the mitigation plan in place to deal with the risk on Antimicrobial resistance.

### *Director Update Reports*

The Board noted the Director update reports.