

Defra Board – 16 September 2015

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

Board Members in attendance were:

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| • Clare Moriarty | Permanent Secretary |
| • Betsy Bassis | DG Chief Operating Officer |
| • Ian Boyd | Chief Scientific Adviser |
| • Nick Joicey | DG Strategy, International & Biosecurity |
| • Sonia Phippard | DG Policy Delivery |
| • Alastair Bridges | Finance Director |
| • Iain Ferguson | Lead Non- Executive Director |
| • Paul Rew | Non-Executive Board Member |
| • Catherine Doran | Non-Executive Board Member |

Apologies received from:

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| • Elizabeth Truss | Secretary of State |
| • George Eustice | Minister of State |
| • Rory Stewart | Parliamentary Under Secretary of State |
| • Lord Gardiner | Defra spokesman in the House of Lords |
| • Sir Tony Hawkhead | Non-Executive Board Member |

Also in attendance were:

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| • Eileen Mortby | Board Secretary |
| • Anil Pillai | Board Secretariat |
| • Meenakshi Westhead | Board Secretariat |
| • Elif Skinner | |

The meeting

Declarations of Interest and Minutes from the previous meeting

No declarations of interest were declared. The minutes from the previous meeting were cleared.

Report from sub-committees

- Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) – the Chair, Paul Rew reported that the ARC meetings in June and July had discussed Defra’s Annual Report and Accounts and Governance Statement.
- Nominations Committee – the Chair, Iain Ferguson reported that at the meeting in May the Committee had discussed the good work that Defra had undertaken on the Talent Review.

5 year Strategy and Single Departmental Plan

Nick Joicey, DG Strategy, International & Biosecurity, updated the Board on the emerging shape of the strategy and Single Departmental Plan.

Spending Review and Finance update

John Fitzpatrick, Deputy Director, Spending Review, provided an update on the Spending Review and next steps following submission to HMT.

Alastair Bridges, (Finance Director), updated the Board on the 2015/16 financial position.

Transformation Portfolio

Clare Moriarty (Permanent Secretary), and Tom Holton (Director, Defra Network One Business) updated the Board on the Transformation Portfolio.