

Defra Board Minutes: 14 September 2016

Board Members in attendance were:

- Andrea Leadsom Secretary of State (SoS)
- George Eustice Minister of State
- Thérèse Coffey Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- Lord Gardiner Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- Clare Moriarty Permanent Secretary
- Betsy Bassis Director General, Chief Operating Officer
- Steve Holliday Lead Non-Executive Director
- Paul Rew Non-Executive Board Member
- Peter Bonfield Non-Executive Board Member
- Catherine Doran Non-Executive Board Member
- Andrew Sells Ex-Officio member
- Emma Howard Boyd Ex- Officio member

Apologies received from:

- Mark McLaughlin Chief Finance Officer

Also in attendance were:

- Eileen Mortby Board Secretary
- Meenakshi Westhead Board Secretariat
- Martin Woolhead Private Secretary to SoS

Declarations of interest and minutes from the previous meeting

There were no new declarations of interest. Minutes from the July meeting were cleared.

The meeting

The Secretary of State updated the Board on the approach being taken to EU exit across Government.

The Board agreed to the proposal that the Executive Committee should become a sub-committee of the Board.

Emily Miles, Group Director Strategy, updated the Board on the progress being made on the Defra group EU Exit programme. The Board noted the interdependencies of the programme with work across Whitehall departments, in particular the new Department for Exiting the European Union and the Department for International Trade.

Alison Pritchard, Director of Transformational Change, updated the Board on the content of the Transformation portfolio and milestones. The Board noted that the programme was focussing on customers so as to improve their experience with the department. The board noted that the EU Exit and Transformation Programmes are mutually dependent on each other and are working closely together.