



REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT BOARD

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JNCC SUPPORT CO. BOARD

REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Paper by Marcus Yeo

1. Since the last report to the company board, the Executive Management Board (EMB) has met twice: on 13 October and 10 November. Minutes of the meetings are available on request.
2. The main items discussed by EMB and other significant issues relating to the running of the company are summarised below. A corresponding report has been made to the Committee on relevant matters.
3. EMB has agreed that JNCC should put more effort into communicating with our main stakeholders. To facilitate this, various actions will be taken, including:
 - i. refocusing JNCC's corporate publications, and in particular replacing the current Annual Report with a minimal, low-cost publication that meets statutory requirements, complemented by a short annual review for circulation with *Nature News*;
 - ii. setting up an editorial board to identify key messages and advise on how they should be disseminated;
 - iii. identifying priority stakeholders for JNCC's marine work and improving mechanisms for managing these relationships.
4. EMB discussed the preliminary results of a review of the way in which support services are provided within JNCC. This has confirmed that there are no major efficiency savings left to make but there are some areas where it may be possible to improve effectiveness. EMB agreed that the priorities for further review were:
 - i. finance and procurement (to ensure it fully meets user needs within JNCC);
 - ii. Peterborough office accommodation (the lease on Monkstone House comes to an end in March 2011);
 - iii. IT support for mobile working, and
 - iv. planning and budgeting for HR purposes.
5. Defra ministers have approved a two-year pay remit for JNCC staff (covering August 2009 – July 2011). The trade unions are currently balloting their members on the pay offer. An update will be provided at the company board meeting.

6. Progress has been made in resolving the two funding issues noted in the EMB report to the September 2009 company board meeting:
 - i. Defra have confirmed that JNCC is eligible to receive funding from existing EU funding streams;
 - ii. from 2010/11, it seems likely that new Defra funding for work on Marine Protected Areas and marine surveillance will be incorporated within JNCC's grant in aid settlement.
7. EMB commented on the proposed the draft 2010/11 internal audit plan. This will now be discussed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
8. Interviews for a Director of Corporate Services will take place on 19 November.