

## Defra Board Minutes: 20 January 2022

Board Members in attendance were

George Eustice	Secretary of State
Victoria Prentis	Minister of State
Rebecca Pow	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Lord Benyon	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Tamara Finkelstein	Permanent Secretary
Sarah Homer	Director General and Chief Operating Officer
David Hill	Director General, Environment, Rural and Marine
David Kennedy	Director General, Future Farming and Biosecurity
Lucy Smith	Director General, Strategy and Change
Heather Smith	Group Finance Director
Henry Dimbleby	Lead Non-Executive Director
Colin Day	Non-Executive Director
Elizabeth Buchanan	Non-Executive Director
Lizzie Noel	Non-Executive Director
Ben Goldsmith	Non-Executive Director
Emma Howard Boyd	Non-Executive Ex-Officio
Tony Juniper	Non-Executive Ex-Officio

Apologies were received from

Lord Goldsmith	Minister of State
Jo Churchill	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

Also in attendance were

- Secretary of State's Office
- Permanent Secretary's Office
- Minister Prentis' Office
- Minister Pow's Office
- Board Secretariat

### **Note of Defra Board Meeting**

Emma Howard Boyd declared that she had been appointed as a non-executive Board member of the investment company Liontrust. No further declarations of interest were made<sup>1</sup>. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 November 2021 were agreed.

### **Secretary of State's Update**

The Secretary of State provided the Board with an update on his recent work on Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery schemes.

### **Green Finance Programme**

Lord Benyon updated the Board on the work done by Defra to develop a new private sector market.

### **Water Environment**

Minister Pow provided an update to the Board on the new measures to support the water environment.

### **Permanent Secretary's Report**

The Board received an update from the Permanent Secretary on the work ongoing across the department.

### **Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) Report**

The NEDs provided an update to the Board on the work they had been doing across the department.

### **Defra Performance Update**

The Board received an update on the progress on business planning from Lucy Smith, Director General, Strategy and Change.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ben Goldsmith reported to us [in June] that he had a financial interest in Nattergal, from November 2021, that he was unaware of at the time. He formally declared this interest in June 2022.