Defra Board Minutes: 2 May 2019

Board Members in Attendance were:

• Michael Gove	Secretary of State
• Thérèse Coffey	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
• David Rutley	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
• Tamara Finkelstein	Permanent Secretary
• Sonia Phippard	Director General, Marine, Natural Environment & Rural
• Sarah Homer	Director General, Chief Operating Officer
• David Kennedy	Director General, Food, Farming, & Biosecurity
• Shaun Gallagher	Director General, Strategy Delivery
• Emily Miles	Director EU Exit Domestic & Constitutional Affairs
• Andrew Pattison	Group Finance Director
• Henry Dimbleby	Lead Non-Executive Director
• Colin Day	Non-Executive Director
• Elizabeth Buchanan	Non-Executive Director
• Emma Howard Boyd	Non-Executive Ex-Officio
• Tony Juniper	Non-Executive Ex-Officio

Apologies were received from

• Lord Gardiner	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
• Lizzie Noel	Non-Executive Director
• Ben Goldsmith	Non-Executive Director

Also in attendance were

• Charlotte Spencer	Director of Strategy
• Secretary of State's Office	
• Permanent Secretary's Office	
• Board Secretariat	

Note of Defra Board Meeting, 2 May 2019

The Secretary of State welcomed new members to the Board. Tamara Finkelstein was attending as Interim Permanent Secretary for the first time. There were no new declarations of interest. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 March 2019 were agreed.

Updates from Non-Executive Directors

Non-Executive Directors gave updates on their activities since the last Board meeting.

EU Exit: Planning for the next phase and Priorities for Defra in 2019-2020

The Board discussed planning assumptions for the next 3-4 months following the extension of the Article 50 period to 31 October. The Board also discussed Defra's domestic priorities in 2019/20.

26th Conference of Parties Update

The Board discussed the UK's bid to host COP26.

The Council for Sustainable Business

Representatives from the Council for Sustainable Business joined the meeting to discuss how businesses could support implementation of the 25 Year Environment Plan.

Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.