Defra Board Minutes: 11 July 2019

Board Members in attendance were

- Michael Gove    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
- Andrew Pattison  Group Finance Director
- Henry Dimbleby  Lead Non-Executive Director
- Elizabeth Buchanan  Non-Executive Director
- Lizzie Noel     Non-Executive Director
- Emma Howard Boyd Non-Executive Ex-Officio
- Tony Juniper    Non-Executive Ex-Officio

Apologies were received from

- Thérèse Coffey  Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
- Lord Gardiner  Parliamentary Under Secretary of state
- Robert Goodwill  Minister of state
- Colin Day      Non-Executive Director
- Ben Goldsmith  Non-Executive Director
- Emily Miles    Director EU Exit Domestic & Constitutional Affairs

Also in attendance were

- Secretary of State’s Office
- Permanent Secretary’s Office
- Board Secretariat

Note of Defra Board Meeting, 2 May 2019

There were no new declarations of interest from Board members. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 May 2019 were agreed. The Board noted that a new Prime Minister would be appointed in the week of 22 July.

Updates from non-executive directors

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

Performance and Finance update

The Board discussed the 2018/19 Q4 Finance, Performance and Risk report introduced by Andrew Pattison, Group Finance Director.
Future Farming and Environmental Land Management (ELM)

The Board received an update on the Future Farming programme from David Kennedy, Director General of Food, Farming, & Biosecurity.

Net Zero Emissions and COP26 update

The Board discussed the challenges of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 and received an update on the UK’s COP26 bid from Sonia Phippard, Director General for Marine, Natural Environment and Rural.

Any Other Business

No other matters were raised.