

# Defra Board minutes: 19 July 2022

Board members in attendance were:

George Eustice	Secretary of State
Victoria Prentis	Minister of State
Steve Double	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Lord Benyon	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Lord Goldsmith	Minister of State
Tamara Finkelstein	Permanent Secretary
Sarah Homer	Director General, Chief Operating Officer
Andrew Cartner	Interim Group Finance Director
Henry Dimbleby	Lead 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:

Lucy Smith	Director General, Strategy and Change
Ben Goldsmith	Non-Executive Director
Colin Day	Non-Executive Director
Elizabeth Buchanan	Non-Executive Director

Also in attendance were:

- Secretary of State's Private Secretary
- Lord Benyon's Private Secretary
- Minister Prentis' Private Secretary

- Minister Double's Private Secretary
- Board Secretariat

### **Note of Defra Board meeting**

There were no new declarations of interest from board members. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24 May 2022 were agreed.

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

The Secretary of State provided the board with an update on departmental priorities and the changing political context.

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

The board considered an update from the Permanent Secretary on the ongoing work across the department.

### **Defra Performance Update: Outcome Delivery Plan, Portfolio, Strategic Risks, Finance and Health and Safety**

The board discussed a series of updates covering Defra's performance against the Outcome Delivery Plan metrics; the department's programme portfolio; the principal risk register and strategic risks; health and safety; and the current financial position.

### **Climate Change Adaptation**

The board reviewed an update on the department's climate adaptation work and the development of the third National Adaptation Programme.

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

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