

Department for Education Board Meeting

15 June 2023, 13:00 – 15:00

Member Attendees

Rt Hon Gillian Keegan
Baroness Barran

Richard Pennycook
Peter Bazalgette
Stuart McMinnies
Jack Boyer
Jane Cunliffe
Alison Ismail
Tony Foot

Title

Secretary of State for Education (Chair)
Minister for the School System and Student
Finance
Lead Non-Executive Board Member
Non-Executive Board Member
Non-Executive Board Member
Non-Executive Board Member
Chief Operating Officer
Acting Interim Director General, Families
Director General, Strategy

Presenters

Jonathan Furay
Leanna Green
Ruth Harding

Amy Finch
Alison Ismail
Charlie Lang

Stephen Wan
Jack Thomlinson
Jane Belfourd

Anthony Knowles

Title

Head of Risk and Governance
Director, Central Operations
Acting Deputy Director, Major Projects and Risk
and Deputy Head of Profession
Head of Delivery (Schools and Families)
Director, SEND and Alternative Provision
Deputy Director, SEND and Alternative
Provision
Deputy Director, Skills Strategy
Deputy Director, FE Reform
Deputy Director, Employer Engagement,
Apprenticeship Directorate
Head of Employer Insights

Other Attendees

Julia Kinniburgh
Juliet Chua
John Edwards

Emily Roche
Laura Hoskins
Anna Haynes
Patrick Allen
Mike Ashley

Title

Director General, Skills
Director General, Schools
Director General, Regions (deputising for the
Permanent Secretary)
Director, Strategy and Delivery
Board Secretary
Board Secretariat Officer
Boardroom Apprentice
Non-executive Board Member, Cabinet Office

Apologies

Toby Peyton-Jones
Graham Archer

Title

Non-executive Board Member
Interim Director General, Families

1. INTRODUCTION, MINUTES, AND ACTION TRACKER

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members and attendees to the meeting. The Board welcomed Juliet Chua to her first Board meeting as Director General of Schools. The Chair also welcomed Mike Ashley to observe this meeting to form part of his Board Effectiveness Evaluation.
- 1.2 There were no new or changed conflicts of interest and the minutes and action tracker of the previous meeting were approved.

2. RISK APPETITE STATEMENT

- 2.1 The Board reviewed the draft departmental Risk Appetite Statement, which is set out by the Department and owned by the Board. It is periodically reviewed.
- 2.2 The Board encouraged the sharing of the Statement with relevant internal and external stakeholders.
- 2.3 The Board discussed the importance of good communications that would allow staff in the Department to use the Statement as part of their business as usual.

3. DEPARTMENTAL PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 The Board received an update on the Department's performance and data across the desired outcomes of departmental programmes and the Secretary of State's missions.
- 3.2 Board members discussed the impact of COVID-19 on school attendance and the delivery plans for the Childcare Reforms.

4. DELIVERY DEEP DIVE: SEND REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The Board was invited to comment on the delivery plans for the implementation of the SEND reforms, noting lessons learned from previous rounds of reform and the potential impacts of the reform on its stakeholders.
- 4.2 The Board advocated for a joined up cross-government approach to deliver the reforms.

5. DELIVERING A WORLD LEADING SKILLS SYSTEM

5.1 The Board received an update on the Department's skills reform implementation work and plans.

5.2 The Board highlighted the importance of involving employers to foster a skills system that was responsive to a changing labour market.

6. EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT: SKILLS

6.1 The Board received an update on the preparation for the Skills for Growth Conference, which took place on the 22nd June 2023.

6.2 The Board also discussed further ways in which the Department could foster employer engagement with skills following the conference.

7. AOB

7.1 No other business was raised.

7.2 The meeting closed at 15:10