



JNCC Support Co 37th Meeting Minutes Confirmed

Date: 9 June 2022

Time: 11.35

Venue: Holiday Inn, 132 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, EH12 6UA

Present

Professor Melanie Austen
Independent Member

Mr Charles Banner
Independent Member

Lord David Blencathra
Natural England

Professor Colin Galbraith
Independent Member

Dr Gemma Harper
JNCC

Dr Hilary Kirkpatrick
Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside

Professor Tom Meagher
Independent Member

Professor Steve Ormerod
Natural Resources Wales

Ms Aoife Martin
NatureScot

Professor Michael Winter
Natural England

Apologies

Sir David Henshaw
Natural Resources Wales

Ms Cath Denholm
Scottish Natural Heritage

Professor Julian Orford
Council for Nature Conservation and the
Countryside

In attendance

Mr David Collins
JNCC Company Secretary

Mrs Tracey Quince
JNCC

1 Chairman's opening remarks

- 1.1. Professor Galbraith welcomed everyone to the thirty-seventh meeting of the JNCC Support Company Board of Directors.

2 Declaration of interests

- 2.1 No relevant additional interests were declared.

3 Amendments to the minutes of the June 2021 Board meeting (BD 22 01)

- 3.1 The minutes of the June 2021 Board meeting were confirmed.

4 JNCC Annual Report and Accounts for the 2021/22 (BD 22 02)

- 4.1 Mr Collins introduced the item, informing members that the Annual Report & Accounts (ARA) as presented had been reviewed by ARAC in detail and had been given a clean bill of health from the National Audit Office. Mr Collins noted that changes in audit standards year on year presented increasing challenges and thanked the Finance & Planning Team for their hard work and efforts in preparation for and during the audit to allow for completion to schedule of a set of clean accounts of high quality.
- 4.2 Mr Collins highlighted the reserve levels shown in the balance account had increased by just over £1m this year and now stood at a total of just under £3m. While the current level of reserves provided an opportunity for JNCC Support Co. to make investments in the coming year to replace some corporate systems, it was noted that JNCC's ambition was to move towards a sustainable business model whereby planned income was matched more evenly to planned expenditure over a 3-5 year cycle.
- 4.3 Mr Collins informed members that some minor adjustments to the ARA were still to be made, this included, checking for typos and the addition of two lines to the Remuneration Report for Mr Reader and Ms Balmer. Once this was complete, NAO will complete a final review of the document.
- 4.4 In discussion, members made the following comments: -
 - i. There was a typo on page 22, with the word 'as' repeated in the sixth line of the penultimate paragraph.
 - ii. JNCC should be referenced as singular rather than plural throughout the document.

- iii. The ARA represented a well put together set of accounts and the Board congratulated Mr Collins and the Finance & Planning Team for all their hard work and efforts.

4.5 The Board:

- i. **approved and adopted** the JNCC Annual Reports and Accounts (ARA) for the year ending 31 March 2022. The Board delegated sign off of the ARA to Dr Harper;
- ii. **authorised** the Company Secretary to lodge the accounts with Companies House;
- iii. **authorised** the Chief Executive to arrange for the accounts to be laid before the Houses of Parliament and the Scottish Parliament; and
- iv. **authorised** the Chief Executive to sign the letter of representation for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Action point(s)
AP01 Mr Collins to make the changes to the ARA detailed in para 4.3 and 4.4 (i and ii).