



NOTE FOR THE RECORD

PR09 SENIOR CO-ORDINATORS GROUP MEETING 12 December 2006, 2pm-4pm Defra, 55 Whitehall, London, Room G07

This was the first meeting of the senior co-ordinators of the organisations involved in the 2009 price setting process. The organisations attending the Co-ordination team meetings will mirror those at the Chief Executive's Group. Natural England is to be asked whether it wishes to attend that Group, and will continue to attend the co-ordination group.

Amendments to the draft terms of reference were put forward and the final terms will be made public. The focus of the Group will be the exchange of information and the co-ordination of timetables. It was hoped that communication could primarily be undertaken by email, but the Group is likely to meet more frequently than the Chief Executives' Group. Other groups may be formed for specific pieces of joint work.

Conclusions and key message from these meetings will be noted and made publicly available. They will be circulated to the individual water companies and to Water UK.

Communications with consumers, companies and other key stakeholders throughout the process would be important. Ofwat would be arranging a number of workshops where PR09 issues would be discussed, starting with its Forward Programme workshop on 17 January 2007. Ofwat invited suggestions for other workshops.

The Group discussed the framework for decision making at the price review, focussing on the decisions to be made, who would make them and what information they would need from other organisations. Issues discussed included high level strategy, statutory obligations, discretionary schemes, long term business plans and consumer research. It was agreed that decisions are needed quickly on: timetables, the customer consultation programme, methodologies, the change protocol and the use (or not) of scenarios in draft business plans. The attending organisations will co-ordinate their current timetables and colleagues will advise Ofwat which issues need industry workshop consultations in the upcoming months.

Ofwat and CCWater are taking forward the discussion on the consumer consultation programme.

The next meeting will take place in Birmingham before the next Chief Executive's meeting, which will be on 22 February 2007.

**Ofwat
December 2006**

Attendees:

Fiona Pethick – Chair -Ofwat
Lynne Currie – Ofwat
Kevin Ridout – Ofwat
Melinda Acutt – Ofwat
Deryck Hall – CCWater

Richard Wood – Defra
Paul Wright – Defra
Helena Busby - Defra
Judith Harris - Defra

John Fraser – Environment Agency
Joanne Sherwood – Environment
Agency
Hilary Aldridge – Environment Agency
Clare Dinnis - Environment Agency

Nicola Thomas – Welsh Assembly
Government
Milo Purcell – Drinking Water
Inspectorate
Claire Pollard – Drinking Water
Inspectorate
Alastair Burn – Natural England

Copies go to:

Rowena Tye – Ofwat
Paul Crockett – Environment Agency
Andrea Burton – Environment Agency