



NOTE FOR THE RECORD

PR09 SENIOR CO-ORDINATION GROUP MEETING

20 April 2007, 2pm-4pm

Ofwat, Centre City Tower, Birmingham

The group agreed the note of the previous meeting, which will be circulated to Water UK, individual water companies and placed on the Ofwat website.

Strategic Direction Statements

Ofwat issued MD223 on 5 April. Companies are developing their strategies and not all are expected to wait until December to submit their statements to Ofwat.

Defra strategy and Guidance

Defra is developing its policy in a range of issues and expects to publish the strategy refresh in summer 2007.

The Statement of Obligations will need to incorporate Defra colleagues' views before the approach is cleared with Ministers. Defra intends to publish in December 2007.

The Social and Environmental Guidance should be issued in time to influence draft business plans, covering a range of issues, to be established as Ministers engage in the process.

Updates

CCWater has engaged companies, DWI and EA to meet to discuss inputs to strategic direction statements and business plans. Natural England expressed an interest in the quadripartite meetings and will contact CCWater through its regional PR09 co-ordinators.

Following Water UK comments CCWater revised the timetable for the qualitative consumer research. The group agreed the revised timetable and a suggestion that Water UK should be invited to join the research steering group.

DWI has been meeting with companies on the drinking water quality programme. They intend to issue guidance to companies, in addition to the quadripartite process.

The first PR09 forum for Wales was well attended and constructive.

Ofwat updated the group on its proposed approach to the environment programme, covering cost benefit analysis in all areas and a strong cost challenge. The group will continue to look at all PR09 areas.

Informal workshops / consultations

Topics for discussion may include taking account of climate change, cost benefit analysis, revenue caps, business plan content and format, and efficiency targets and incentives. Workshops are likely to take place through the summer. Nominees for the climate change workshop were discussed and EA will circulate a paper for comment. The cost benefit analysis workshop will be discussed further at the senior co-ordinators group, ahead of the event itself.

Chief Executives group

The group agreed issues to be put to the next Chief Executives meeting on 4th May.

Ofwat

April 2007

Attendees:

Fiona Pethick – Chair -Ofwat

Rowena Tye - Ofwat

Jonathan Hodgkin– Ofwat

Lynne Currie – Ofwat

Deryck Hall – CCWater

Richard Wood – Defra

Paul Wright – Defra

Helena Busby – Defra

Judith Harris - Defra

John Fraser – Environment Agency

Joanne Sherwood – Environment Agency

John Curten – Environment Agency

Jane Morris – Environment Agency

Hilary Aldridge – Environment Agency

Alastair Burn – Natural England

Claire Pollard DWI

Apologies: Rob Cathcart – Natural England

Nicola Thomas – Welsh Assembly Government