



## Ofwat Board

Meeting held on Thursday 23 May 2013

### Members in attendance

**Chairman:**  
Jonson Cox

**Chief Executive:**  
Regina Finn

**Non-Executive Directors:**  
Penny Boys  
Robin Paynter Bryant  
Wendy Barnes  
Catherine Waddams

**Executive Directors:**  
Sonia Brown  
Keith Mason

### In attendance:

Robert Beasley	(Director of Corporate Affairs) – items 1–7
Huw Brooker	(Director of Legal Services and Board Secretary) – all items
Dan Mason	(Assistant Board Secretary) – minutes
Stuart Crawford	(Senior Director of Corporate Services and Programme Management) – all items
Louise Bickley	(Head of Publications and Digital Media) – item 3
Dylan Spedding	(Content Editor) – item 3
Nicci Russell	(Director of Parliamentary and Public Affairs) – item 4
David Black	(Director of Economics) – item 8
Kalpesh Brahmhatt	(Director of Casework) – item 8

### Apologies:

Martin Lawrence  
Chris Burchell

## **1. Declarations of interest**

- 1.1 Wendy Barnes informed the Board that she had been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the Met Office and had accepted an offer to become a Non-Executive Director of BMT Group Ltd. The Board noted that there were no inherent conflicts of interest, and any future possible conflicts of interest would be addressed in the usual way.

## **2. Minutes and actions arising**

- 2.1 The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2013. The minutes would be published on the Ofwat website.

## **3. Annual report and accounts 2012-13**

- 3.1 The Executive presented to Board the proposed process for preparing the annual report and accounts for 2012-13, along with draft text to be included within the annual report.
- 3.2 The Board provided general drafting comments on the draft annual report. The Board also noted that the accounts were due to be considered by the Audit Committee at its next meeting and the Committee would, in turn, make its recommendation on the accounts to the June Board.
- 3.3 Subject to the comments provided, the Board agreed the proposed process for sign off of the annual report.

## **4. Government's Water Bill**

- 4.1 The Executive provided Board with an update on the Government's Water Bill.
- 4.2 The Board welcomed the update. Board would be kept up to date on progress over the coming months.

## **5. Quarter 4 performance summary and risk report**

- 5.1 The Executive presented to the Board the quarter four performance summary and risk report. The Executive highlighted the decision to withdraw the relevant determination in the Shotton case and make a fresh determination in due course.

5.2 The Board noted the importance of the Executive ensuring that internal and external costs associated with delivery of the price review, including the appointment of a delivery partner, were closely managed. The Board asked the Executive to provide monthly reports on all relevant costs.

## **6. CEO report**

6.1 The Board received an update on key issues. These included:

- the recent bid for Severn Trent Water; and
- an application from Dŵr Cymru (Welsh Water) to vary the initial determination in the Shotton case.

## **7. Any other business**

7.1 None.

## **8. Fairfields Competition Act 1998 investigation**

8.1 Jonson Cox left the room for this item and played no part in this discussion.

8.2 The Executive presented and discussed with Board some key aspects of the analysis in the case, including the further work carried out since Board last discussed the case in March. The Executive also set out the proposed next steps associated with the case.

8.3 The Board provided comments and supported the proposed approach to progressing the case. The Board also discussed options around the long-term decision making process if the Chief Executive were unavailable.

**Dan Mason**  
**23 May 2013**