

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Minutes

Wednesday 6 June 2018
Boardroom, London

Present

UK Statistics Authority

Sir David Norgrove (Chair)

Professor Sir Adrian Smith (Deputy Chair)

Mr Iain Bell

Professor Jonathan Haskel

Mr Ed Humpherson (as an observer)

Dr David Levy

Ms Nora Nanayakkara (by phone)

Mr John Pullinger

Also in attendance

Mr Jonathan Athow

Mr Owen Brace

Mr Robert Bumpstead

Mr Garnett Compton

Mr Joe Cuddeford

Ms Vanessa Holden

Apologies

Professor David Hand

Ms Sian Jones

Ms Heather Savory

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Professor Hand, Ms Jones and Ms Savory.

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1 It was reported that Professor Haskel had been appointed as a member of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee.

3. Minutes and matters arising from previous meetings

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 April 2018 were agreed.
- 3.2 Following an open competition, Professor Anne Trefethen and Professor Sir Ian Diamond had been appointed as non-executive directors of the Authority Board and would take up post on 7 June 2018.
- 3.3 The Chair noted that Mr Cuddeford would be moving to a new role at the Geospatial Commission and thanked him for his service to the UK Statistics Authority.

4. Introduction from the Authority Chair

- 4.1 The Chair noted that the census timetable required a White Paper to be published, and that this additional Board meeting had been scheduled to ensure that the Board had sufficient opportunity for a proper and thorough discussion of the work done to inform Census content.
- 4.2 It was reaffirmed that the Census should remain a standing item at each Board meeting.

5. Overview from the National Statistician

- 5.1 Mr Pullinger provided three points of context:
- i. The census was fundamental to the wider strategy for UK statistics.
 - ii. The UK Statistics Authority was responsible for conducting the census for England and Wales. There were also censuses for Scotland and Northern Ireland which were conducted by the respective devolved bodies. A group of chief statisticians was chaired by the National Statistician to ensure coordination of censuses.
 - iii. It was important to balance the need for continuity with previous censuses with the need to meet new information needs in a changing society.

6. 2021 Census

- 6.1 Mr Bell started a discussion which summarised a range of information relating to the topics for inclusion in the 2021 census, the research which had informed those topics, and the White Paper.
- 6.2 The Board discussed comprehensively all aspects of these issues. The discussion fell broadly into six parts: proposed new questions; proposed new response options; the role of administrative data; questions rejected or removed; the longer-term future of equality monitoring beyond the 2021 census; and matters of timetable and communication.
- 6.3 Mr Bell would reflect on the points raised in the discussion and return with a draft White Paper at a future meeting of the Authority Board.
- 6.4 The Board expressed thanks and appreciation to the census team for the work achieved to date.

7. Any other business

- 7.1 There was no other business. The Authority Board would meet next on 28 June 2018 at 9:15 in London.

UK STATISTICS AUTHORITY

Agenda

6 June 2018, 14:00 to 16:30

Boardroom, London

Join by phone: 03000 682500, access code: 7845672

Chair: Sir David Norgrove

Apologies: Professor David Hand and Ms Heather Savory

14:00 – 14:30: Non-Executive Session

1 14:30-14:35 5 mins	Minutes and matters arising from previous meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declarations of interest	Meeting of 26 April 2018
2 14:35-14:40 5 mins	Introduction from the Authority Chair	Discussion Sir David Norgrove
3 14:40-14:50 10 mins	Overview from the National Statistician	Oral report Mr John Pullinger
4 14:50-16:30 100 mins	2021 Census	Discussion Census Team
5	Any other business	

Next meeting: 28 June 2018, London, 09:15 to 14:00