

Introductory NIRAB 3 Meeting

Tuesday 21st September 2021, 15:00 – 17:00. Virtual meeting on MS Teams

Chair: Francis Livens

Attendees: Kirsty Armer, Gordon Bryan, Gregg Butler, Alun Ellis, Kirsty Gogan, Martin Goodfellow, Malcolm Joyce, Edoardo Patelli, Amanda Quadling, John Stairmand

BEIS: Damitha Adikaari, Matthew Billson, Si Dilks, Ian Johnson

NIRO: Clare Bayley, Dan Mathers, Neil Smart

Apologies: Alyson Armett, Maggie Brown, Mike Lewis, Fiona Rayment

1. Welcome from Professor Francis Livens, Chair of NIRAB

The Chair welcomed the new members to the meeting. He is keen to ensure that NIRAB get going quickly in development of the work programme over the next few weeks / months.

2. Introduction from Damitha Adikaari, Director of SICE, BEIS

Damitha thanked the new Members and Chair for putting themselves forward for NIRAB. The work of NIRAB is taken seriously in BEIS and Government and the advice of previous NIRABs has been key in formulating policy.

The BEIS view of the NIRAB work programme was discussed, and this will evolve over the coming months.

3. Introduction to NIRO – Dan Mathers, NIRO Executive Director

NIRO is an independent, arm's-length body of the National Nuclear Laboratory. It consists of secondees from across the nuclear sector, a mix of experienced nuclear professionals and early career.

NIRO provides independent strategic and technical advice to Government that will de-risk investment, inform policy, and enable maximum value for money for the UK taxpayer.

NIRO facilitate links between NIRAB and BEIS and provides secretariat support to NIRAB.

NIRO's work programme and priorities are established in consultation with BEIS.

4. Work programme

NIRAB had an open discussion session to gather ideas from Members of what should be in the NIRAB work programme. Ideas discussed will be taken considered in more detail at the next meeting of the Board.



5. Terms of Reference

A draft document on NIRAB Terms of Reference was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. The Board are broadly content with this document.

6. Ways of Working

Covid restrictions may remain in place in the short term. The Board agree that meetings should be in person where possible to facilitate engagement, discussion and innovative thinking, with hybrid option to join virtually.

As the work programme evolves, working groups of members will be assembled as the need arises.

Ways of working will be included as an agenda item for the next NIRAB meeting.

7. Conflicts of Interest / Register of Interests

All members are requested to provide brief detail of any conflicts of interests that may arise, to be kept on a register of interests to be reviewed annually.

8. Closed Committee Session

The Board agreed that there is no requirement to have a closed committee session as routine, however retain the option to have a closed session by exception.

9. AOB

a. November meeting

As discussed above, a hybrid meeting will be arranged for November. Topics for the agenda include: Ways of Working and finalising the Work Programme.