



News from Operations Board – 29 January 2010

As a regular item on the OB agenda I provide feedback to members on what has happened at recent EB and Council meetings. As you will have read in the recent report from EB, the focus in both of these meetings towards the end of last year, was very much on the science prioritisation exercise. At this meeting OB discussed the programme announcement and how the whole process had been handled and reviewed the programme implementation plan.

With this part of the process now complete or underway, EB had started to consider how we would make the savings we need to make in 2010/11. OB had an initial discussion about how to make these savings.

OB members discussed the work that EB had carried out to brief our Chairman, Mike Sterling on the Drayson Review of STFC's structure to ensure that our preferred outcome has been communicated.

We also discussed how the project to create a new space agency was progressing.

OB spent some time discussing the agenda for the Senior Staff Conference on 24 and 25 February, which involves all Band H and G staff from across STFC and were invited to input their ideas in order to help make it a useful event for all involved.

OB regularly reviews the latest situation on the campuses and were invited to feed any ideas or thoughts into the EB workshop on campus strategy that was due to be held on 26 February.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on the SSC Oracle appraisal system and agreed that there was a little way to go before they would feel confident to use this but asked that the working group look into making any refinements required by the end of this month and asked to test the system before agreeing to use it in the next review at the end of March.

We reviewed the action plan for the Investors in People award and agreed to try to work towards 'silver' status at our next review. There would be a lot of work but it was important to strive towards this as part of our continuous improvement process.

Finally OB agreed new STFC classifications for personal sensitive information, approved the draft business continuity plan and noted the quarterly SHE report.

Richard Wade

