Council Members present:  Sir Michael Sterling (Chair)
John Womersley (CEO)
Brian Bowsher
Marshall Davies
Julia Goodfellow
David Price
James Stirling
Ian Taylor
Richard Worswick

Dept Business, Innovation & Skill (BIS): Graeme Reid, Head of Research Funding

In Attendance, full meeting: Gordon Stewart, Executive Secretary & Executive Director Corporate Services
Tim Bestwick, Executive Director Business & Innovation
Grahame Blair, Executive Director Programmes
Sharon Cosgrove, Executive Director Strategy, Performance and Communications
Philippa Foster, Deputy Director Finance
Neil Phimister, Executive Director Finance
Andrew Taylor, Executive Director National Laboratories
Alison Davenport, Deputy Chair, Science Board
Gillian Carr, Secretary
Alexandra Evans, Council Meeting Coordinator

Item number 8: Charlotte Jamieson, CERN Liaison and Accelerator Manager

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was held at Polaris House, Swindon.
1.2 Apologies were received from Gillian Ball, Gerard Connell and Matt Griffin.

1.3 The Chair introduced Neil Phimister as the newly appointed Executive Director, Finance, and thanked Philippa Foster for all her help whilst she was Acting Executive Director, Finance.

1.4 The Chair informed Council that Graeme Reid was attending his last Council meeting before he leaves BIS to his new role as Professor of Science Research Policy at UCL. Graeme’s official last day at BIS is 4 April 2014. The Chair thanked Graeme for his many positive contributions to STFC over the years, in particular in relation to the recent Triennial Review and Spending Review.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

2.1 The Chair asked Council members to declare any conflicts of interest and reminded members to keep the Executive Secretary informed of any changes to their personal register of interests. No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. SPENDING REVIEW RESULT

3.1 The Chair invited Marshall Davies to comment on the 15/16 allocation as Chair of the Council sub-group. Marshall provided Council with a brief update, noting that the result was broadly helpful to STFC. He noted that the International Subscriptions and Facilities were sufficiently well funded to deliver our existing commitments.

4. CEO REPORT

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4.1 John further updated Council on the outcome of the Spending Review for 2015/16, and thanked Graeme Reid and the BIS Research Base for their support. John noted that science continues to be protected, with only the Intelligence Services, NHS and DFID receiving better settlements. It was announced in February 2014 that Science “ring fence” was intact with the Research Councils 2014/15 settlement remaining untouched at flat cash and Research Councils 2015/16 resource settlements ~1% higher than flat cash. It was noted that the Research Councils needed to be sensitive to our colleagues in HEI institutions as some reductions had been made in HEFCE funding.
4.2 John noted that whilst there had been a flat cash outcome overall for science, STFC has been provided with additional resource to cover the increased costs of International Subscriptions and UK Large Facilities. An increased Capital allocation also recognises that STFC is a capital intensive organisation. In addition, John advised that STFC may be in a position to secure some additional funding from the 'Newton Fund', with £75 million for ODA activities.

4.3 John noted that BIS had honoured the funding partitions and that this had been helpful in terms of the overall outcome. However, although there was good news for STFC in this Spending Review, John reminded council that this is the 5th year of flat cash resource funding for the Core Programme with the likelihood of a further reduction of the administration budget. Both of these would present significant challenges.

4.4 STFC's allocation for international subscriptions for 15/16 has increased over 2014/15 by 3.6% to £127.5 million. This provides STFC with the means to provide for all International Subscriptions at the current level plus sufficient funds to cover the ILL nuclear insurance in 2015/16.

4.5 UK Large Facilities allocation for 2015/16 increased by 12.29% over the settlement for 2014/15. This included £2 million that the Research Councils agreed to provide for the Lasers for Science Facility in the Research Complex at Harwell. John explained that the Executive were still confirming final figures but believed that in 2015/16 that Diamond could run for 200 days, ISIS 120 days, High Power Lasers and Lasers for Science (110 and 100 user weeks respectively) John confirmed that he would be informing the other Research Councils of the content of STFC's Delivery Plan. Despite this good news the Capital allocation for UK Large Facilities is still £6 million less than fully sustainable capital funding.

4.6 The Core Programme allocation remains at flat cash and this area is therefore more challenging. John reminded Council that the Core Programme included PPAN grants, Campus facilities, the Hartree Centre, and other corporate departments. John noted that there was a need to develop a prioritised programme for all areas of Core Programme using the Programmatic Review and other inputs. The Capital allocation includes £14.2 million provision for core
programme, with a commitment of £4.1 million for Higgs Centre and £7 million Regional Growth Fund award.

4.7 The Programmatic Review will now be published on the web by 26 March 2014. The financial annexes will be redacted. There has been an email address set up for any community responses and input, and town meetings set up with the Astronomy, Nuclear, Particle and Neutron scattering communities in the 2nd week of April and also a town meeting organised by the IOP.

4.8 Looking forward, we now have agreement from BIS to buy 90% of the foreign exchange needed for 2015/16 and are confirming the UK Facilities 2015/16 programme.

4.9 John presented, and Council agreed to, a set of guiding principles that should be used in the development of a prioritised 2015/16 core programme.

4.10 STFC’s approach to this is driven by the fact that it has a single year’s allocation and a flat cash rollover. It is understood that Ministers expect there to be no dramatic changes as a result of the allocation outcome. John explained that the Executive is committed to seeking better outcomes under future spending reviews.

4.11 For PPD, UKATC and Grants there will be no shifts in the funding for 2015/16. STFC will use additional capital to boost support for projects as appropriate. We will move forward with urgent but non-controversial decisions, where this is consistent with flat-cash. STFC will avoid committing to new things in advance of knowing the 2016/17 allocations but also avoid precipitate withdrawals. Public Engagement and Fellowships would be held to flat cash.

4.12 In June 2013, BIS also announced a commitment to increase science capital funding from £500 million p.a. in 2014/15 to £1.1 billion p.a. through to 2020/21. BIS will be holding a formal consultation in April on capital priorities to 2021, with 2 main questions being asked; “What balance should we have between capital spend on 'small', regional investments relative to the large scale national/international projects?” and “What are the priorities for UK investment in large projects?” The consultation document contains many STFC examples of opportunities and new projects.
4.13 David Willetts recently visited Jodrell Bank where he announced £300 million new investment in big science projects. As part of this investment £119 million is for the Square Kilometre Array as it moves towards construction in 2017. This money is made up of £19 million (already committed over the next four years) to support the design of the SKA Project and £100 million as the UK’s 15% share of the construction cost of the first phase of the SKA. This comes with the expectation that it will secure the future headquarters of the SKA at Jodrell Bank. The European Spallation Source will have £165 million invested to secure a 10% UK share, and £25 million will be invested in the PLATO (PLAnetary Transits and Oscillations of stars), a space telescope mission which the European Space Agency has approved, with a planned launch date of around 2023.

4.14 John welcomed Neil Phimister as Executive Director, Finance. Council joined John in thanking Philippa Foster for her work as Acting Executive Director, Finance in the interim, during a challenging spending review period.

4.15 John informed Council that the Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg visited RAL for the Oxfordshire City Deal signing. Sir Bob Kerslake visited ISIS and held a City Deal forum, and STFC hosted a Telescopes for Schools event at the House of Commons.

4.16 TEXT HAS BEEN REACTED FROM THIS SECTION: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

4.17 John sadly informed Council of the passing of Professor Alick Ashmore CBE, who was the Director of Daresbury Laboratory from 1969 - 1981.

4.18 John updated Council on the €5.5 million ELI-NP Gamma Beams contract, placed by the international ELI laser facility.

4.19 RAL Space cameras imaged the solar storm that caused the Northern Lights to be seen in the UK in February 2014. RAL Space built/led cameras on NASA’s twin spacecraft STEREO mission and on NASA’s Solar Dynamic Observatory.

4.20 There have been early results from the Gaia project. This ESA mission has the goal of mapping over 1 billion stars in our galaxy to provide unique insights on its development.
4.21 ISIS TS2 Phase II is approaching the first neutrons on two of the suite of four instruments. The LARMOR instrument is expected to be released for initial scientific commissioning this month. ChipIR will take neutrons at the beginning of the next ISIS cycle in May 2014 and the new reflector trial build is in progress.

4.22 The ISIS – CNR Agreement has been signed. This agreement with Italy is one of ISIS’s longest standing international partnerships. The agreement is worth €15 million over six years and sees Italy contributing to ISIS operational costs and instrument developments.

5 SCIENCE BOARD PRESENTATION AND REPORT

5.1 Alison Davenport presented to Council a personal perspective of industrial engagement at Large Facilities. Alison’s research in the corrosion of metals has given her a good insight in working with industry and Large Facilities such as Diamond (through DISCo, the Diamond Industrial Science Committee), and international facilities. Alison will shortly step down as the Science Director of the Harwell Imaging Partnership. Tim Bestwick thanked Alison for her time in this role.

5.2 Alison presented the Science Board report from the review meeting of 27 and 28 February 2014. The Science Board understands the importance of gaining maximum recognition for impact which emerges at University level.

5.3 Alison reported that Tim Bestwick had given Science Board a presentation on the Economic Impact Advisory Board (EIAB). It was noted that Science Board were disappointed that EIAB had not met for 2 years. Science Board needs to be able to engage with an Advisory Body with significant external and independent expertise, especially from Industry, that could provide strategic advice on the economic impact of STFC’s scientific activities. SB did not agree that the SIL Board was constituted in a way that would allow it to fulfil this role.

5.4 The annual report from Science Board noted that the Programmatic Review recommended a £200k uplift to the Public Engagement programme if increased funding were available; however increased funding was unavailable so this was not possible in the current flat cash scenario.
5.5 Science Board thanked Robin Clegg, who is retiring, for his contribution to STFC’s excellent Public Engagement programme.

5.6 Science Board had received the annual report from the Education, Training and Careers Committee (ETCC). The Studentships algorithm is still under review. Science Board supports the re-introduction of postdoctoral fellowships to balance support across the different career stages, subject to funding constraints. Council briefly discussed other Council’s approaches to Centres for Doctoral Training centres (CDT). It was noted that the CDT model works well for some Councils and is a good environment to mix up disciplines. John noted that the consistent advice from STFC’s advisory panels was that the CDT approach would not map so well on to STFC’s science areas. John noted that for the next spending review STFC may however wish to consider developing some thematic, CDT like, themes to complement our current research studentships.

5.7 The potential for STFC to offer all 4 year studentships (rather than the current mix of 3 and 4-year) was raised. Alison noted that the ETCC would prefer a notional 4 year period, but acknowledged that in the current funding environment the focus was on seeking to maintain the number of studentships. David Price noted that uniformity of support was important to avoid an unequal environment for students with some on different studentship terms than others. John agreed to review further and come back to Council.

 ACTION: STFC to review studentship terms as part of ETCC review

5.8 Science Board noted that the ESFRI working group was initiating the review of neutron provision and a mechanism was requested to provide input to the review. It was agreed that there was no need for a full review of photon provision, and SB will form a small working group to review the current status.

5.9 It was agreed that Science Board should update the Science Roadmap, and will invite input from the advisory panels via the Advisory Panel Chairs.

5.10 The Advisory Panel Chairs will also be invited to provide input to the Capital Priorities consultation and the ESFRI review of neutron provision.
5.11 The proposal for Baryonic Acoustic Oscillations form Integrated Neutral Gas Observations (BINGO) is a proposal for a small scale radio telescope in South America. This project was not of the highest scientific priority and a full proposal to the Projects Peer Review Panel (PPRP) was not invited.

5.12 PPRP reported on the LHCb upgrade and proposed a minimum viable level of support that was endorsed by Science Board. A subgroup is to look across the board at all the LHC upgrade projects and GridPP and will feed back on the process and update Council at the next meeting.

5.13 The Multi-Object Optical and Near-infrared Spectrograph (MOONS) has been de-scoped on the recommendation of the PPRP. This will continue to ensure scientific leadership for the UK without compromising the project.

5.14 STFC has invested a total of £8.1 million in the cryogenic Neutron Electric Dipole Moment experiment nEDM at the ILL in France. Construction (2003-2009) cost £3.6 million and exploitation (2009 to end March 2014) has so far cost £4.5 million. The experiment has proved to be of greater difficulty than was first expected and the Collaboration were asked to seek additional partners but none were found. STFC commissioned an expert review panel which recommended a managed withdrawal; this decision was endorsed by Science Board December 2013. The managed withdrawal is now in progress.

6. CSD PROGRAMME UPDATE

6.1 Marshall Davies provided Council with an update on progress with the CSD Change Programme. This has been running since May 2013 and an update was provided at the January Council meeting. Council were reminded that the goal was to maximise the efficiency of CSD and to release more money for science.

6.2 The Estates Full Business Case (FBC) has now been completed and the report of the independent review panel was considered by EB on 21 February. EB agreed that as the criteria set out in the FBC have not been met it would not implement a Total Facilities Management solution. A “Plan B” Estates Services Transformation Agenda (ESTA) will be developed as an in-house transformation to deliver the target savings of £0.5 million identified in the FBC.
6.3 The majority of the sub-projects for example, the ICT project, are now under way. The ICT project is being run as a joint National Laboratories/CSD project. Due to crucial “business as usual” activities a small number of sub-projects are delayed, meaning that the business cases for all sub-projects will not be completed until June.

6.4 The revised HR structure is now in place. The focus of the project is to deliver the HR strategy and look at the HR transactional activity. The strategy is due to be completed by the end of April with a number of projects underway looking at specific areas.

7 TR/BIS STRATEGIC REVIEWS
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7.1 Sharon Cosgrove was introduced by Marshall Davies to present this item on behalf of the Council sub-group. The Triennial Review Stage 1 report was formally agreed by Cabinet Office in October 2013. In November the draft Stage 2 report on governance was completed, with STFC rated “Green” in all areas except some relating to the role of its sponsor department rated “Amber/Green” due to concerns with cross-council performance management and ensuring value for money. Stage 1 and 2 reports have now been merged and signed off by David Willetts, and the report is now waiting sign-off by Frances Maud. Publication was originally intended to be December 2013 and was now scheduled for April 2014, but this is still not guaranteed.

7.2 The BIS Strategic Review focusses mainly on long term recommendations. John Dodds’ report made 19 recommendations and called for a series of fundamental reviews within each economic sub-system; the most significant ones for STFC are research, innovation and skills. There are on-going concerns about capacity to engage with such a plethora of reviews, but Sharon Cosgrove noted that the pace of delivery appeared to be slowing.

7.3 Council retired for lunch at 13:00. Council were joined for lunch by representatives from UK Space Agency, Dave Parker and Chris Castelli. Dave Parker gave a presentation on the UK Space Agency strategy, its projects supporting STFC and the Harwell space cluster.

8 WELCOME BACK AND OPENING COMMENT

8.1 The Chair welcomed everyone back to the afternoon’s proceedings and thanked Dave Parker and Chris Castelli for their presentation.
9 ESO-CERN PENSION FUND LIABILITIES

9.1 Charlotte Jamieson was introduced to present this item. The Chair noted that the paper raised matters of concern.

9.2 Although the Pension Fund is part of CERN’s budget, it has its own CEO and operating autonomy with its own governance board answerable to CERN council. The under-capitalisation of the Pension Fund is recognised as a serious issue by the management of both CERN and ESO, and the Member States. Steps were taken to address the underfunding in 2011 with supplemental contributions and reduced benefits, as described below; the 2013 Actuarial Review offered the first opportunity to measure the impact of these. Charlotte noted that the Actuarial review was limited in that it was not able to review the Fund’s investment plans. Charlotte noted that the Austrian delegation to CERN had tabled a resolution challenging the investment strategy and mortality rate assumptions used by the pension fund. The review indicated that the measures taken may be insufficient.

9.3 The rules of the Fund state that the employer organisations will guarantee the payment of benefits, however there is no specific requirements that it must be fully funded at all times, which is in-line with the practice of other Swiss public pension funds. The Pension Fund accounts have been prepared using International Public Sector accounting Standards (IPSAS) since 2009. It is thought that by 2040 the Fund would be back up to 100% with the biggest impacts on this being mortality and investment levels.

9.4 A balanced package of measures to restore the Fund was identified in 2011 and put in place at that time;
- An annual special provision from the CERN budget for the benefits of the Pension Fund of 60 million CHF
- A similar provision from ESO of 1.3 million CHF
- An increase in the total contribution rate and modification of the annual pension adjustment rate implemented in 2011
- A change to the pension package for members recruited after 1 April 2012

9.5 The Pension Fund’s Chief Executive Officer gave an update to the CERN Finance Committee in December 2013. The figures for the year to the end of October showed an investment return of 5.9% (over 200
million CHF) meaning that the fund should exceed the Council’s target of 5% return on investment for the year.

9.6 It was noted that the Fund has 3,000 contributors and 3,000 beneficiaries. There was some discussion on what approval had been followed by CERN for it to borrow money from the fund for LHC construction in the past.

9.8 There was a general feeling among Council members that the model had to change, for example the pension age, increases in contributions and the provisions for spouses.

9.9 Council requested background papers. Council sought clarification on where legal liability lay for any shortfall. Graeme Reid noted that a BIS representative attends CERN Council meetings with STFC. He confirmed that BIS have been fully engaged in the debate on the pension fund issues, and were fully aware. It was agreed that the Audit Committee should review the positions further.

9.10 Council asked for previous legal advice provided to CERN to be clarified

Action: Charlotte Jamieson

10 FINANCE UPDATE

10.1 Philippa Foster presented the paper to Council. Philippa reported that the 2013/14 STFC allocation from BIS is £392.7 million, including £13.4 million for Administration and £133.3 million of Capital. The budgets also reflect an additional £5 million capital from BIS for modular buildings at the Harwell campus and the £3 million capital for the resource swap agreed with NERC.

10.2 There have been no formal adjustments to the internal departmental budgets since the January Council meeting however as reported at the last Council the EB have taken mitigating action to ensure that STFC outturns within 1% of its Resource and Capital Allocations for 2013/14.

10.3 A significant issue to emerge in February was the notification that DLS had obtained charitable status. As a consequence STFC’s share of the resulting local authority rate rebate is £4.8 million. Due to the lateness in the Financial Year in which the rebate was received and
after discussion with BIS, the position is that this will be reported as an underspend.

10.4 Without the DLS rebate the forecast indicates that STFC would have achieved close to break-even on both resources and capital overall. The overall resource forecast is now for an underspend of £5.1 million.

10.5 Council were notified of the reduction in the Administration allocation for 14/15.

**2013-14 Resource Forecast**

10.6 There has been a £1.4 million overspend in Internationals due to the reversal of the of the £5 million switch in 2012-13 offset by reduced 2014 budgets and expected savings on exchange rates for International Subscriptions of £3.6 million.

10.7 £5.2 million net underspend on Facilities due to the rates repayment and other variances on DLS, offset partially by additional spend approved for CLF.

10.8 £1.1 million underspend in Core Programme being the net effect of various programme level underspends and re-profiling that have emerged.

10.9 £0.3 million underspend on Administration, including the £0.2 million headroom created at the start of the year.

**2013-14 Capital Forecast**

10.10 £2 million underspend on Internationals is anticipated, this being the balance of the reversal of the £5 million switch offset by the £3 million for resource swap with NERC.

10.11 £2 million overspend in Core, as anticipated and effectively funded by the underspend in Internationals.

**Spend to date**

10.12 Net near-cash expenditure to 28 February has been £370.6 million or 96% of the forecast outturn although there could still be factors that
could impact on the achievement of the forecast such as exchange rate movements, slipped grant start dates and late deliveries.

10.13 Capital expenditure to 28 February has been £94 million or 70% of the forecast outturn, this position is close to what was expected at this time of the year (within 3%). The capital plan indicated that expenditure would accelerate in the lead up to the end of year.

10.14 Areas to be aware of aside from International Subscriptions and grants are; DLS (£7.4 million), Scientific Computing (£4.9 million), ISIS (£6.4 million) and Business and Innovations (£10.4 million) left to spend.

2014-15 Budget

10.15 The 2014-15 budget was approved at the January Council. There have been a number of subsequent updates to the internal budgets:

- The DLS charitable status has reduced 14-15 operating costs by £1.1 million. Additionally DLS further reviewed its 14-15 requirements and reduced it by a further £2 million, a total reduction of £3.1 million from DLS initial requirement. This has enabled STFC to fully fund ISIS and CLF in accordance with the Delivery Plan requirements and has created £1.7 million of headroom.
- The transfers from Programme Department to the National Laboratory Departments have been finalised. On resource the budgetary impact was neutral and on capital an additional £384k was allocated which is manageable within the capital envelope.
- STFC have received confirmation of the Higgs Centre funding, £10.7 million in total with £2.9 million in 14-15.

10.16 The final 2014-15 BIS Allocation Letter confirming firm allocations has only just been received.

10.17 The timetable for the delivery of the 2013-14 Annual Report and Accounts is reduced by 2 weeks from the previous year. Work is underway on the Annual Report and Accounts with the interim accounts and interim audit concluding without any material issues being raised.

11 OPERATING PLAN 2014/15

11.1 Sharon Cosgrove presented the STFC Operating Plan for 2014/15. The Operating Plan sets out STFC’s programme for the year to deliver on
the commitments made in our Delivery Plan and Scorecard. This approach was introduced 3 years ago to improve transparency by clarifying the relationship between the Delivery Plan and STFC’s annual plans. The 2014/15 Operating Plan provides a measure of assurance that all the commitments in STFC’s Delivery Plan can be met this year.

11.3 Council congratulated STFC on a very comprehensive document.

12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

12.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2014 had been circulated. Council agreed the minutes of the last meeting as a true record of that meeting. The Chair signed the minutes.

12.2 Council approved the redacted minutes for publication on the STFC website.

13 ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

16 July 2013

13.2 Minute 15.5 ELT Review report to let those who weren’t present know outcome of Council’s consideration of the report. Publish and then review – closed

26 March 2013

22 January 2013
13.4 STFC to take immediate action with regard to the LFFM and the impact on STFC’s core Budget. Action closed. This has been addressed satisfactorily in terms of the budget for 2015/16. We are feeding into a root-and-branch review of LFFM being conducted by BIS

27 November 2012
13.4 Add ESA Telecommunication building to a future agenda. Action ongoing.

14 REVIEW OF COUNCIL SUBGROUPS

14.1 Gordon Stewart presented the Review of the Subgroups to Council. Council had historically been supported by 5 subcommittees and advisory boards, being Audit, Remuneration Committee (RemCo), Science Board, the Economic Impact Advisory Board (EIAB) and the Education, Communication and Outreach Committee (ECOAB).

14.2 The following new structure was proposed. RemCo, Audit and Science Board would be retained; A new Innovation Advisory Board (IAB) would replace EIAB, reporting to Council. IAB should be given responsibility for the oversight and periodic review of STFC’s Innovation strategy and programmes, including oversight of STFC’s Campus JV programme and strategy. IAB would be supported by the Business and Innovations Directorate.

14.3 A Skills & Engagement Advisory Board (SEAB) would be established with responsibility for the oversight of STFC’s skills strategy and for public engagement. The recommendation that SEAB should oversee the work of ETCC and APSIS was proposed. Gordon proposed a 12 month review to see if further integration of these subcommittees into SEAB would be beneficial. SEAB would be supported by the Programme Directorate.

14.3 Science Board requested the need to make sure they keep good engagement with these committees. Science Board were also concerned how IAB would work and manage the engagement with Science Board.

14.4 Council agreed in principle with the new proposal. Council debated whether SEAB should be chaired by a council member and requested terms of reference for both boards to be developed.

Action: Grahame Blair and Tim Bestwick

15 AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

15.1 Audit Committee last met 14 January 2014, where a presentation was provided on CICT’s governance of Cyber Security issues, which highlighted the complex and demanding landscape, with high user
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expectations of a flexible, available and open ICT environment. It was noted and the Audit Committee were reassured that STFC’s networks are rated as a business impact level 2.

15.2 DLS gave a presentation to Audit Committee with clear and encouraging commitment to work with STFC to maximise the joint benefits.

15.3 The DLS AASG Audit Report response has been delayed for three months. Diamond’s initial response to the recommendations was now being revisited after discussion with the new Diamond CEO.

15.4 UKSBS 2nd quarterly dashboard report has been issued showing that the ratings for several UKSBS audit reports as weak. The NAO shared these problems with the other Research Councils. Further meetings will take place to discuss and address these issues.

16 QUARTERLY SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT, Q3 2013/14
TEXT HAS BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS SECTION: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

16.1 There are no specific issues to report. STFC safety performance continues in line with year-end expectations.

16.2 It was reported that an Environment Agency Inspector had indicated that he wished to review STFC’s permit limits for aqueous and gaseous radioactive disposals. Through re-negotiation of these limits and working with ISIS the Inspector is happy with the progress.

17 AOB

17.1 James Stirling presented a brief paper to Council, noting that a new Deputy Chair of Science Board was required. Three candidates were interviewed, and it was reported that all three were extremely capable and performed well. On balance Dan Tovey was considered the most suitable candidate by the appointment committee; this recommendation was agreed by EB. Council endorsed this appointment.

17.2 TEXT HAS BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS SECTION: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

18 MEETING CLOSE
18.1 The meeting closed at 16:00 hrs. The next meeting will be held on 20 May 2014 at Daresbury Laboratory.