REDACTED MINUTES OF THE 61st MEETING HELD AT
11:00 HRS ON 20th May 2014
AT WALTON ROOMS A & B, The Cockroft Institute

Council Members present: Sir Michael Sterling (Chair)
John Womersley (CEO) (morning session only)
Marshall Davies
Julia Goodfellow
Gill Ball
Ian Taylor
Richard Worswick
Gerard Connell

Apologies: Brian Bowsher
Martin Barstow
James Stirling
David Price

In Attendance, full meeting: Gordon Stewart, Executive Secretary & Executive
Director Corporate Services
John Davis, Audit and Assurance Services Group
Sharon Ellis (BIS)

In Attendance, full meeting,
except for closed session) Tim Bestwick, Executive Director Business &
Innovation
Grahame Blair, Executive Director Programmes
Sharon Cosgrove, Executive Director Strategy,
Performance and Communications
Neil Phimister, Executive Director Finance
Andrew Taylor, Executive Director National
Laboratories
Alison Davenport, Deputy Chair, Science Board
Janice Masone, Secretary
Alexandra Evans, Council Meeting Coordinator
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which was held at the Cockroft Institute, Daresbury

1.2 Apologies were received from Brian Bowsher, Martin Barstow, James Stirling and David Price

1.3 The Chair informed Council that John Womersley would be leaving at lunch time in order to attend a meeting with the Science Minister in London. The agenda had been organised so as to minimise any impact this might have on council business.

1.4 The Chair introduced Sharon Ellis who replaces Graeme Reid as representative from BIS. The Chair also introduced John Davis, Consultant Auditor from Audit and Assurance Services Group who would be attending this meeting as an observer.

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. CEO REPORT

TEXT HAS BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS SECTION: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

3.1 John Womersley provided an update on the outcome of the BIS Six Monthly Review which had taken place on 29 April in Swindon. The meeting had been positive; John noted that BIS had received an overview of STFC’s proposed review of the Diamond Light Source which will take place over the remainder of the current calendar year. Council noted the Diamond Review will be discussed separately at this meeting.

3.2 John Womersley noted that BIS, in conjunction with RCUK Executive Group, is conducting a “root and branch” review of the Large Facilities Steering Group. This review will focus on the funding mechanism between Research Councils for STFC’s large facilities including ISIS, CLF and Diamond Light Source. Sharon Cosgrove and her team will continue to work closely with both BIS and RCUK Executive Group throughout this process.
3.3 BIS advised STFC that the proposed Harwell Master Plan will require ministerial sign-off. Council noted there were two separate pieces of work underpinning the master plan; a Joint Venture partner business plan and a local planning exercise. Council noted that national scale Science Discovery Centre is part of the emerging thinking, STFC may be called upon for capital for this development but will not wish to be liable for any on-going running costs. The development of local enterprise zones will continue to attract political interest leading up to the election period.

3.4 BIS were interested in STFC's report on Equality and Diversity and had been pleased to note that success rates for female grant applicants were as high or higher than male applicants. However the number of applications from females was much lower, and it was felt this reflected the generally male profile of “big science” and physics.

3.5 Changes to BIS requirements for financial reporting during the current financial year were also noted. Research Councils, along with all BIS Partner Organisations should be prepared to provide robust forecasting for the outturn in Quarter 1 rather than the usual mid-year timescale. Sharon Ellis explained this measure had been put in place across all government departments because budgets for public sector administration were under close scrutiny by the Cabinet Office.

3.6 STFC and NPL have entered into a memorandum of understanding which will enable NPL to use ISIS facilities for graphene research. STFC is looking forward to contributing to developments in this exciting field.

3.7 STFC has been able to successfully maximise the impact from a recent news campaign for Cobalt, a CLF spin-out company which has developed a high tech airport scanner.

3.8 John Womersley provided Council with an update to the construction of the R103 and R104 buildings, projects which had utilised available capital and had been delivered on budget against challenging timescales.

3.9 .

3.10 John Womersley introduced the concept of the Daresbury Campus Master plan on which Council would receive a full overview during the lunch time session; John noted that the strategy for Daresbury continues to develop the scientific focus of the Daresbury Laboratory but also opens up opportunities through the campus for collaboration with industry and academic partners.
3.11 In answer to questions from Council John Womersley confirmed that Arup had conducted a survey which concluded that vibrations from additional building and road construction should not materially affect the SuperSTEM facility.

3.12

3.13 John Womersley outlined current issues around the new ESRF Protocol and Russia’s accession which is at risk of delay due to the EU stance in relation to Russia. Russian membership is necessary to reduce the UK contribution to 10.5%, if the new protocol remains unsigned past Dec 2014, the UK would be expected to pay 14% from 1 Jan 2015 which is beyond the level provided in the CSR settlement for 2015/16. Council noted and endorsed the FCO advice to remain neutral and continue to welcome Russia as a member of the ESRF.

3.14 STFC, acting as an agent for the UK government, continued to work with the representatives from the Swedish Government to develop the ESS agreement. Negotiations and agreements will be done by official correspondence, construction is expected to begin during the late summer and a legal commitment is expected to be in place by the end of 2014.

3.15 Council noted that an ISIS Lifetime impact study is being undertaken by Technopolis

3.16 John Womersley highlighted that whilst the UK could not join the European XFEL facility in 2008, STFC is supporting UK FEL users in Hamburg. John noted that Science Board had advised a trajectory toward full membership of the XFEL alongside a longer term plan to develop and build a UK FEL for the rapidly growing UK FEL Community.

3.17 John Womersley provided an update on the CERN Pensions issue which had been discussed at the March Council Meeting. John recently met with Lord Balfe, a member of the Governing Board of the CERN Pension Fund. Lord Balfe advised that necessary longer term savings could perhaps be achieved through administrative efficiencies in the operation of the pension fund. Marshall Davies confirmed that STFC Audit Committee will be considering this issue at their next meeting. John Womersley confirmed that the UKCC will meet and agree a UK line prior to the CERN Council meeting in June where the CERN Pension fund is a major item on the agenda.

3.18 Transfer of UKIRT ownership to the University of Hawaii (UH) has been subject to a short delay because of internal issues at UH but it is
expected this will soon be resolved. A formal proposal for JCMT is expected shortly.

3.19 John Womersley informed Council that whilst STFC is an efficient and well-functioning organisation he intended to conduct a light-touch structural review to address some specific issues highlighted by staff including between the commissioning and delivery parts of the organisation and around ownership of strategy. Council will be kept informed of progress.

3.20 In answer to questions from Council members John Womersley confirmed that the RAL Space bid for NASA related work which Council had been asked to approve had not been successful, however RAL Space will contribute to this work indirectly.

3.21 .

3.22 John Womersley welcomed this advice and emphasised that the proposed takeover of Astra-Zeneca had placed the UK science research base on the national agenda, illustrating the important contribution it made to the health of the UK economy. Important international companies such as IBM and Unilever have chosen to do business in the UK because of access to STFC’s outstanding science facilities. STFC will continue to publicise the positive impact of these relationships on scientific research in the UK and also for the wider UK economy in terms of job creation and investment opportunities.

3.23 The first meeting of the ESFRI working group to produce a European neutron strategy had taken place. The work plan had been discussed.

3.24 The funding profiles for the UK contribution to XFEL physical sciences beam line are being worked on ahead of a formal grand announcement. The FEL community intend to propose a UK FEL in their independent submission to the BIS capital consultation exercise.

3.25 Following the change of ownership of UK SBS from the Councils to BIS an agreement has been reached on moving the administration of peer-review back to the Councils. A project to take this forward is underway.

3.26 The ratification of Brazil’s accession to ESO has been approved by three of the Brazilian government committees before going to the Senate for full approval.

4. SCIENCE BOARD PRESENTATION AND REPORT
4.1 Alison Davenport presented to Council an overview of the BICEP2 Project. BICEP2 is a hot topic in the science community. BICEP2 operated at the South Pole between 2010-12 and may have seen evidence of inflation, the presumed very rapid expansion of the universe that took place immediately after the big bang. However, the interpretation of the data is controversial; a full set of data from the Planck space mission is expected in October which is hoped will give indication of whether the BICEP signal is in fact due to primordial gravity waves as claimed, or whether it is merely an artefact of galactic dust.

4.2 Alison Davenport presented the Science Board report from the review meeting of 24th and 25th April 2014. Science Board discussed a number of items in the Programmatic Review implementation plan, including options to strengthen the programme through use of capital in 15/16.

4.3 Science Board recognised that protecting studentships is STFC’s highest priority. However, Science Board recommended the reinstatement of a postdoctoral fellowship scheme be revisited once the longer term budget was known post the latest CSR round.

4.4 Science Board considered the Newton Fund which amounting to £75m per annum (beginning from 2014-15) to be spent in partnership with emerging economies in the Far East, Africa, the Pacific Rim and South and Central American nations. It is expected that UK funds will be matched by funds in partner countries. The Newton Fund governing board is chaired by David Willetts. RCUK submitted a bid in April 2014 and early feedback has been received regarding potential allocations. Science Board made a number of suggestions for engagement which will be collated and provided to the STFC Executive.

4.5 Science Board continued to encourage Advisory Panels to engage with their communities and provide feedback on any emerging strategic issues. Advisory Panel chairs will be invited to attend Science Board on annual basis and will be called upon during the year to provide input on specific issues.

4.6 Alison Davenport noted that Science Board intend to provide independent input to the BIS Capital Consultation exercise and that some of the Advisory Panels may do the same. Science Board will work with the STFC Executive to ensure the submissions are complimentary.

4.7 Science Board’s input to the Capital Consultation will include support for the Newton Fund, Centres for Doctoral Training and technology such as CLARA and facilities upgrades which underpin the longer term
aim of building a UK FEL.

4.8 The development of a photon strategy was also discussed and Science Board agreed that a sub-group should be formed to consider the strategy in more detail.

4.9 Science Board discussed a strategic review of GridPP and a report from the sub-group which had been convened to make detailed recommendations on the tensioning of the LHC detector upgrades. Science Board endorsed the “with capital” scenario which is flat cash including £4m per annum capital as the minimum that would allow continued participation in all three LHC detector upgrades at a viable and internationally leading level.

4.10 In the event of the capital not being available Science Board accepted the sub-group’s recommendation to prioritise the ATLAS upgrade over the CMS upgrade.

4.11 Science Board discussed a number of items in the Programmatic Review implementation plan, including options to strengthen the programme through the use of capital in 15/16. The Programmatic Review implementation plan and STFC’s response will be discussed in detail at this Council Meeting.

4.12 Science Board has developed a proposed work programme of strategic reviews for Photons, Energy, Accelerators and e-infrastructure. Science Board is currently discussing implementation with Executive Board.

5. STFC RESPONSE TO THE PROGRAMMATIC REVIEW

5.1 John Womersley reminded Council that the latest Programmatic Review was undertaken by STFC’s Science Board between 2012 and 2013. The review sought to assess the quality of STFC’s programmes in terms of science, operational effectiveness and impact and make recommendations to inform STFC’s future strategic and financial planning.

5.2 STFC’s budget allocation for 2015-16 has been determined by BIS and STFC could now confirm its position with regard to the recommendations contained in the Programmatic Review.

5.3 John Womersley informed Council that STFC’s response as recommended by the Executive is in agreement with the majority of the recommendations put forward in the review. The Executive felt the review provided a helpful framework for balancing scientific priorities
for the medium term (up to 10 years) and will be used to assist in guiding investment in the future.

5.4 John Womersley noted that in a small minority of cases it has been necessary for the STFC Executive to propose a different position to that espoused in the Programmatic Review. John Womersley referred Council to Annex A which contains STFC’s detailed response to the recommendations, specifically to recommendations R33-R36 concerning Campus Centres.

5.5 Council noted John Womersley’s explanation that STFC’s 2011-2015 Delivery Plan sets out that “some centres will be self-funding whilst others demonstrate that clear benefits for core activities will receive core funding”. The contribution of the Centres to UK economic growth is the most significant determining factor in their operation, not financial sustainability.

5.6 STFC’s 2011-2015 Delivery Plan also makes a firm commitment to “Develop a programme to create Campus Centres of Expertise to stimulate partnership and innovation output using a new £20m start-up fund.” Council has already considered this issue in July and November 2013, and in line with those discussions Executive Board propose that it be inappropriate to transfer funds out of the Campus Centres to the PPAN programme.

5.7 Council endorsed the Executive’s position in respect of the proposal to transfer of funds from Campus Centres to the PPAN programme but noted the strength of feeling from Science Board with regard to STFC’s response to Recommendations R1 and R2 and agreed that it was important to ensure that centres were subject to proper scrutiny in any proposed forward programme reviews.

5.8 Council approved the STFC response to the recommendations of Science Board’s Programmatic Review 2013 in principle, pending one minor change to the wording of the response to recommendation R2 which should be redrafted to read: STFC has already taken this approach forward in exercises such as the recent International Review of ISIS and is in the process of identifying a rigorous forward programme of such reviews.

Action: STFC

5.9 Subject to this change, Council approved publication of STFC’s response to the Programmatic Review.

5.10 Council thanked the STFC Executive and Science Board for the diligence and hard work that had gone into producing the
6. ESTABLISHING A 2015-16 PROGRAMME

6.1 John Womersley invited Neil Phimister to report on progress for the 2015-16 programme.

6.2 Neil Phimister noted STFC’s final allocation from BIS for 2015-16 which was published on 1st May. STFC had received £400m for Resource and £129.1m for Capital across International Subscriptions, Facilities and Core Programmes.

6.3 At its March meeting Council had agreed a set of guiding principles based on the approach that STFC should seek to maintain existing levels of support and avoid committing to new things or precipitating withdrawals in advance of knowing 2016-17 allocations.

6.4 The STFC Executive is building a 2015-16 programme based on the approach and principles agreed at Council, taking into account the Programmatic Review recommendations and providing assurance to Council and BIS that it can deliver the programme set out in STFC’s draft Delivery Plan.

6.5 Neil Phimister explained that in view of the need to realise greater efficiencies within the budget the STFC Executive has agreed to hold a budget day in June when Directors will be asked to present their capital and resource requirements for the coming year. Based on the outcome of this exercise, the Executive will bring a set of recommendations to Council at the July meeting.

6.6 Council noted BIS had not yet announced Administration Budgets for 2015-16 and it will be the subject of a separate exercise. Council recognised that whilst the Executive is taking steps to minimise the impact of any proposed cuts, further reductions will present considerable challenges to administrative functions, particularly in peer review. Council asked the Chair to raise this issue at the forthcoming Research Council Chairs Meeting.

**Action: Michael Sterling COMPLETED**

6.7 Council discussed the proposed financial processes for allocating the capital and resource programme for UK Large facilities and endorsed Neil Phimister’s proposal to prepare a plan to create a transparent Facility Funding Model which meets the transparency requirements of STFC’s key stakeholders. Neil Phimister will provide an update on
progress as part of the Finance Report at the July meeting.

**Action: Neil Phimister**

6.8 Since the March Council meeting, the Executive has bought forward 90% of the estimated Swiss Franc (CHF) and Euro (EUR) requirements for payments in 2015-16 in mitigation of the exchange rate translation risk for International Subscriptions. This provides STFC with greater planning certainty and ensures continued participation in CERN, ESO ILL and ESRF as set out in the draft Delivery Plan.

6.9 Council approved the programme for International Subscriptions and for Large Facilities in 2015-16.

**7. COUNCIL SUB GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE**

7.1 A review of Council Sub-Groups had been conducted, with input from the STFC Executive. Council approved the structure in principle at the March meeting. Terms of reference for the new advisory groups have now been drafted and are presented at this meeting for approval.

7.2 Council discussed the Terms of Reference for both the Skills & Engagement Advisory Board (SEAB) and the Innovation Advisory Board (IAB) and requested that they be amended to explicitly state interactions with Council, Science Board and each other.

7.3 Council requested that Gordon Stewart draft a proposal for recruitment and remuneration of membership of both SEAB and IAB and bring it to the July meeting. The Chair noted that Council should agree the membership of the Boards.

**Action: Gordon Stewart**

7.4 Subject to the proposed amendments, Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Skills & Engagement Advisory Board (SEAB), and nominated and approved Julia Goodfellow to serve as chair.

7.5 Subject to the proposed amendments, Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Innovations Advisory Board and nominated and approved Richard Worswick to serve as chair.

7.6 Council endorsed the Executive’s recommendation to review the membership of both SEAB and IAB in 12 months.
8. **DIAMOND LIGHT SOURCE REVIEW**

TEXT HAS BEEN REDACTED FROM THIS SECTION: OFFICIAL SENSITIVE

8.1 One of the recommendations from the Triennial Review is that STFC should undertake a review of the operation and governance of the Diamond Light Source. The review will take into account the principles embedded into the Cabinet Office guidance on Triennial Reviews and reviews of Public Sector Research. Council agreed to have oversight of the governance process and recommendations put forward to BIS.

8.2 Council noted that Diamond is moving from a building and development phase into an operational phase and agreed this change of focus presented an opportune moment to conduct such a review. STFC will lead the oversight committee for the review though membership had not yet been finalised.

8.3 

**Action:** Michael Sterling An invitation letter will be drafted by the office

8.4 Council endorsed the proposed approach for the Diamond review noting that the STFC Executive will hold further discussions with BIS, the Diamond Board and Management team along with other key stakeholders with a view to starting the review as soon as possible.

8.5 It is anticipated that the review will be concluded within the 2014 calendar year and Council will be provided with regular updates.

8.6 Council retired for lunch at 13:30. Council were joined by key members of the Daresbury Joint Venture Board including Susan Smith, John Downes, David Parr, Jim Clarke and Mark Stapleton.

9. **WELCOME BACK AND OPENING COMMENT**

9.1 The Chair welcomed everyone back for the afternoon's proceedings and thanked the Joint Venture Board for their interesting and informative presentation on the Daresbury Campus Master Plan.

9.2 Council were reminded that John Womersley had to leave during the lunch time session to attend a meeting in London with the Science Minister.

10. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
10.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2014 had been circulated. Council agreed the minutes of the last meeting as a true record of that meeting. The Chair signed the minutes.

10.2 Council approved the redacted minutes for publication on the STFC website

11. MATTERS ARISING

25 March 2014

11.1 Minute 5.7 - STFC to review studentship terms as part of ETCC Review: This is underway and the outcome will be reported to Council

11.2 Minute 9.10 - Council asked for previous legal advice provided to CERN to be clarified. Marshall Davies has been provided with this information and will review on behalf of Council. Action closed

11.3 Minute 14.4 - Council requested Terms of Reference for SEAB and IAB. These had been discussed and approved at this meeting. Action Closed

27 November 2012

11.4 Council noted the action to add ESA Telecommunications Building to a future agenda remained in progress and asked that it be added to an agenda in the near future

12. STFC DELIVERY PLAN 2015-16

12.1 Sharon Cosgrove presented this item, explaining that Delivery Plans, together with an associated “scorecard” for monitoring purposes, represent key components of the performance management system utilised by BIS. Following the publication of the 2015-16 Delivery Plan, STFC will work with BIS to develop an appropriate scorecard and progress reports will be presented to Council as part of the STFC performance monitoring regime.

12.2 Council noted that STFC’s budget allocation had been formally announced on 1 May. When compared with the budget for the current year the settlement provided an uplift of more than 12% overall for STFC. Council agreed this was a very welcome outcome in the circumstances of a challenging UK fiscal position. However, it was also noted that challenges remain and it will be vital to secure a position settlement in the next Spending Review expected to take place in
2015.

12.3 BIS propose publication of the Research Council Delivery Plans during the first week of June. Council are asked to consider the final draft of the STFC Delivery plan, noting that the format of the document is tightly prescribed by BIS.

12.4 Marshall Davies confirmed that the Council Sub-Group had reviewed the draft STFC Delivery Plan noting that whilst it was ambitious and demanding it was achievable and the sub group recommended Council approve the document.

12.5 Council thanked the sub-group for this recommendation and discussed the content of the draft STFC Delivery Plan. Council advised ensuring the document emphasised the importance of Open Access for Research to BIS and STFC’s excellent track record of delivering big projects within budget and agreed timescales.

12.6 Council recognised that achieving STFC’s share of Research Council targets will be challenging, though achievable, and advised the Executive to be mindful of the impact any reduction in FEC has on universities.

12.7 Council approved in principle the STFC Delivery Plan for 2015-16.

13. CSD Programme Update

13.1 Marshall Davies provided Council with an update from the CSD Programme Board which had met on 19 May.

13.2 The joint ICT project is progressing well with Business Plans due in June for the sub-projects. Council noted the savings target is £0.5m pa.

13.3 The HR project is now in the implementation phase and the Programme Board has asked for a re-baselining of benefits compared to the Outline Business Case. Once this is signed off the Programme Board will focus on benefits realisation for the HR Project.

13.4 Finance has signed off on the ESTA financial model, commenting on its thoroughness. The ESTA plan is based on the agreed criteria that the alternative to TFM should be a “low cost in house transformation” and STFC will not seek to use any BIS restructuring funds during 15/16 for this purpose.
13.5 Gordon Stewart explained that there had been good progress on the plan for ESTA. The Project Team are looking at bundling existing contracts to prepare for the Crown Commercial Services Framework launch expected in 2015.

14. **FINANCE UPDATE**

14.1 Council noted that the draft STFC Report and Accounts is due to be signed off at the Audit Committee meeting on 24th June and emphasised how well the organisation had delivered against its objectives despite challenging flat cash allocations.

14.2 Neil Phimister presented the 2013-14 Outturn for resource and capital, noting the under spend from the £5m late rebate from Diamond and fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. This under spend had no impact on programme delivery.

14.3 Council noted that in 2014/15 STFC will expect to make a further £500k of administrative savings, part of which will fund a new senior level RCUK executive post.

14.4 Council commended the accuracy of the accounting and thanked Philippa Foster, Neil Phimister and the Finance team for their hard work in producing the reports.

15. **OPERATING PLAN AND DELIVERY PLAN SCORECARD**

15.1 Sharon Cosgrove presented the Operating Plan Quarter 4 progress report and year end progress report, noting these were standard reports with the Scorecard looking at the first three years of the current CSR period and the Operating Plan focusing on 2013/14.

15.2 Council noted that STFC had submitted its year-end report on the Delivery Plan Scorecard to BIS in April, the report shows targets which were incomplete at the end of 2012/13 plus targets due in 2013/14. BIS feedback indicates they are confident STFC has plans in place to address any slippage in meeting these targets.

15.3 Council asked to see a revised report at the September meeting with additional columns detailing whether a target was critical in-year or in the longer term and also to record and/or measure the impact of delaying or missing a target deadline.
Action: Sharon Cosgrove

16. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

16.1 Marshall Davies reported that the next Audit Committee meeting will be held on 24 June 2014. It is expected that the STFC Annual Report and Accounts will be signed off at the meeting.

17. QUARTERLY SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT REPORT, Q3 2013/14

17.1 Council were pleased to note the lowest recorded number of major/SoPS injuries during 2013/14. This downward trend was borne out in the RIDDOR injuries for the same period.

17.2 Council noted that there had been a slight increase in the number of reported minor injuries which may be a reflection of greater awareness among staff, contractors and campus tenants of what constitutes a reportable injury.

17.3 The increase in learning opportunities (formerly known as near-misses) is in line for the target set in the 2013/14 H&S Objectives.

17.4 Council commended the Quarter 4 SHE Report and asked the team to ensure the upward trend continued into the future.

18. COUNCIL BUSINESS

18.1 Council approved the meeting schedule for 2015 and asked the office to explore the possibility of holding a working dinner in conjunction with the Edinburgh meeting.

18.2 Council approved Gordon Stewart's request to update the Council Skills Audit last undertaken in 2011. Council members are invited to provide comment to Gordon Stewart indicating which skills are critical to Council and then mark themselves against those criteria in order to perform a gap analysis at the July meeting. This gap analysis will be used to inform the recruitment exercise for Council members which will be undertaken in Autumn 2014.

Action: Gordon Stewart; ALL

19. AOB

19.1 Council endorsed the proposed membership of Science Board which had been approved by the Executive Board. In discussion, Council
commented that they would have hoped to see a more diverse field of candidates and agreed this issue would be worth exploring in more detail at a future meeting.

19.2 The Chair invited Sharon Ellis to provide an update from BIS. Sharon Ellis reported that an announcement on the Turing Centre will be made in July. The Turing Centre is a joint venture between industry and universities similar to the Crick Institute and had undergone normal OJEU process.

19.3 Council agreed that the BIS update will be a regular item on future agendas

19.4 Gordon Stewart reminded Council that they are welcome to suggest agenda items for future meetings

19.5 At 15:30 the Open Session ended. The STFC Executive left the meeting

19.6 The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd July at Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

20. CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

20.1 Gill Ball reminded Council that it had to agree that STFC’s overall performance for the previous financial year has been satisfactory before Remco could consider payment of bonuses for senior staff. Gill recommended that Council should give its approval and Council endorsed her recommendation.

20.2 The Chair updated members on the recruitment exercise for the next Director General of CERN. Sharon Ellis confirmed that Professor Womersley’s name had been forwarded as the sole UK nomination for the post and confirmed that this was not confidential. The Chair noted that although the outcome of the recruitment process would be known by the end of 2014, the appointment would not be effective until January 2016. During 2015 the successful candidate would be likely to spent increasing time at CERN. Professor’s Womersley’s current term as Chief Executive of STFC ends in November 2015.

20.3 Council agreed to hold an event in January 2015 for invited stakeholders in order to give members the opportunity to receive direct feedback on the effectiveness of Council. This would likely be held in London and attended by Council members.

Action: Gordon Stewart