

Minutes of a Board Meeting of Strategic Investment Board Limited

Held at 9.00 am on Tuesday 12 January 2021 by videoconference

Present: Gerry McGinn (GMcG)(Chair)
Duncan McCausland (DMcC)
Danny McSorley (DMcS)
Brett Hannam (BH)
Marie Therese McGivern (MTM)
Kathryn Thomson (KT)

In attendance: Gregor Hamilton (GH)

Declarations of Interest and Board Terms of Reference

1. The previously stated declarations of interest were confirmed.
2. The board Terms of Reference were noted. Board members confirmed they had read the board papers.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

3. The minutes of the November 2020 board meeting were approved (subject to (i) minor clarification to Item 25 and (ii) Board Effectiveness having been discussed at November meeting it could be deleted from the actions list). It was noted that all actions from the meeting had been completed, with exception of recording of Board training (deferred to March 21).

Chairman's and Directors' Business

4. GMcG noted that 20 and 21 May had been set as dates for next Staff Conference (whether virtual or in person depending on circumstances).
5. GMcG noted that the board would be meeting Mark Browne later, and listed a number of topics which he proposed to raise at the meeting (including the appointment of a new Chair and thereafter other Non-executive Directors). He explained that he would then write to Mark

Browne to record any actions arising from that meeting. GMcG asked the board if they had any other subjects they wished to raise at the meeting and it was agreed that it would be useful to seek some clarification as to how TEO perceived the roles of TEO and SIB in the implementation of recommendations of the NIAO and PAC Reports on Delivery of Major Capital Projects and the NIAO report on Capacity and Capability of NICS.

6. DMcC notified the board that the Audit and Risk Committee would meet at 9.00am in advance of the next board meeting, and that the Remuneration and Personnel Committee would meet after the board.

Chief Executive's Report, ISNI Report

7. The CE's Report was taken as read. BH noted that a ministerial decision was expected imminently to commence a new procurement process for the Strule Shared Education Campus. DMcS welcomed this development.

8. BH noted that the meeting referred to in the CE's Report with the DoF Permanent Secretary had now taken place.

9. GMcG noted the reference in the report to an exchange between the Chair of the PAC and the DoF Permanent Secretary regarding the role of SIB. BH said that there was still some communication required to make SIB's role within the public sector understood. There was a general discussion of the function carried out by SIB in filling the skills gap within NICS (and the wider public sector) and agreement that, in the absence of a major change in the NICS approach to recruitment of specialists, this role was likely to continue, and should perhaps be more explicitly recognized. This was something which might be discussed with Mark Browne.

10. BH updated the board on developments with the proposed High Street Support Scheme. He noted that whatever form the final proposal took it would require very careful consideration as to the costs and risks attached, and whether it was the most effective mechanism to deliver the intended outcomes.

11. DMcC noted with concern the continuing delay in obtaining the necessary DoF approval to the leadership allowance for Group Leaders.

12. In the light of Judith Brown's recent retirement, DMcC asked that the board formally record their appreciation of assistance and support provided by her to SIB over a number of years. GMcG explained that he had written to Judith to express the board's thanks.

13. DMCCasked that the analysis of the staff survey on home working be submitted to the Remuneration and Personnel Committee for consideration.

14. In response to a query from GMcG, BH gave a brief summary of proceedings at the first meeting of the restructured Procurement Board.

15. The board considered the position on the red/amber projects on the Major Projects list.

Financial Report

16. BH explained that in current circumstances there was a risk that some anticipated AMU expenditure on site investigations and surveys could not be completed within the current FY, although in such an event there might be other measures which could be considered to mitigate any underspend. GMcG noted that this was an area which the board would keep under review, and it would be considered at Audit and Risk Committee, although the extraordinary current circumstances were beyond SIB's control.

AOB

17. DMcS noted for the record that he had completed his Audit Committee training.

Actions

Actions from previous meetings

Reference	Action	Responsible	Expected Completion
1/20/3	Record training by board members in personal logs	Board members	Deferred to March 2021

Actions from January 2021 Meeting

Reference	Action	Responsible	Expected Completion
1/21/1	Minutes of November 2020 to be adjusted (Item 3 above)	CEO/GH	January 2021
1/21/2	Analysis of staff survey response to be considered by Remuneration and Personnel Committee	CEO/Remuneration & Personnel Committee	February 2021
1/21/3	Review spending against budget	Audit Committee	February 2021/ongoing