

NI Water Ltd
("the Company")

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board")
on Thursday 26th October 2023 @ 11.00 am
IOC Conference Room, Westland House

Present:

Peter McNaney	Chair
Paddy Larkin	Non Executive Director
Marie-Therese McGivern	Non Executive Director
Belinda Oldfield	Non Executive Director
Maurice Bullick	Non Executive Director
Sara Venning	Chief Executive
Ronan Larkin	Finance, Regulation and Commercial Director
Stephanie McCullagh	Director of Customer and Operations

In attendance:

Mark Ellesmere	General Counsel & Company Secretary
Rose Kelly	Director of People & Learning
Alistair Jinks	Director of Business Services
Gary Curran	Director of Engineering and Sustainability
Tzvetelina Bogoina	Director of Infrastructure Delivery

Apologies: Len O'Hagan, NIW Chairman

There were no Conflicts of Interest declared at the beginning of the meeting.

1. Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting

- The draft minutes of the meeting on 26th September 2023 were approved.
- One action remained ongoing.

2.1 Health and Safety Report

- There were 2 NI Water RIDDOR reportable incidents and one contractor RIDDOR reportable incident in period, the details of which were noted. It was confirmed that, in addition to established mitigating actions in relation to such incidents a collaboration group was being established with key contractors and service providers in order to seek to reduce the number and extent of such incidents going forward. Progress continues in relation to the Health and Safety action plan.

2.2 Attendance and Wellbeing Quarterly Update

- Year to date attendance remains above target at the end of Q2.
- The Company was awarded "Most Impact for Health and Wellbeing at Work" at the CIPDNI awards earlier in the month.

3. Main Board Report

Significant Matters in Month

The CEO provided an update on the following matters.

- **Annual Integrated Report and Accounts 22/23** – these were laid in Stormont on 18th September 2023 and publicly released in early October.
- **Water Senior Stakeholders Group** – a verbal update was provided on the recent meeting of the WSSG to include a suggestion that the Utility Regulator facilitate a process to establish revised outputs under the PC21 FD linked to the current funding situation – a further update in this matter would be provided at the next meeting.
- **Living With Water Programme** – the SRO for the LWWP is conducting a review of the costs of the project on behalf of the Permanent Secretary, DfI – Senior Managers from the Company have provided input to the review.
- **PAP Letter** – a verbal update was provided in relation to the current position and recent engagement between external advisors to the Company and to DfI.
- **NI Water Live** – the most recent event provided colleagues with information in relation to blue/green algae at Lough Neagh. Recent media coverage in relation to the UK water industry and an overview of the Company's approach to waste water discharges to include storm overflows and mitigation measures.
- **Stakeholder Engagement** – the CEO and Director of Engineering and Sustainability met with the all party group on infrastructure.
- **22/23 Budget** – a discussion ensued in relation to the current position including costs pressures as a result of the recent PSNI holiday pay claim and the McCloud Sergeant pensions cases. Correspondence on behalf of the Board to the UR was discussed and agreed in the context of the Directors' Certificate under the Company's Licence.

People

- **Pay Remit 22/23** – a brief verbal update was provided on the current position in relation to engagement with NIPSA.
- **Business Leader of the Year** – the CEO was recently awarded Business Leader of the Year at the Belfast Business Awards – Members congratulated the CEO on this achievement.

Customer

- Core targets on track for delivery except for Leakage which remains challenging.

Compliance

- Drinking water quality remains on track against annual target, the pollution incidents target in relation to wastewater compliance has been exceeded.

Finance

- Subject to 2 minor corrections within the finance section of the report, financial targets remain on track for delivery will stop the road drainage charge has been paid by DfI and customer income remains stable.

Governance

- No matters arising from this part of the report.

4. Engagement Strategy Update

- Members welcomed the video presentation circulated in advance of the meeting and noted extensive engagement activity in period with particular reference to water quality and the blue/green algae at Lough Neagh. A number of campaigns were also highlighted including the 100th anniversary event at Silent Valley.

5. ACE2 Update

- The Director of Business Services provided the quarterly update on the ACE2 transformation programme that remains on track for delivery at this point.

6. Approvals

6.i IF029 Software System Engineers Framework

- Approved based upon the information provided within the paper.

6.ii Westland Campus Upgrades Phase 1 (KR733 Contract 112)

- Approved based upon the information provided within the paper.

6.iii. Escalation Policy

- Approved based upon the information provided within the paper.

7. Mid-Year Assurance Statement

- The Mid-Year Assurance Statement 23/24 was noted by the Board. Going forward it was suggested that further consideration be given to the later and impact of supply chain volatility on the relevant areas within the statement.

8. Half Yearly Shareholder Meeting – Strategic Agenda Items

- The briefing paper was noted and key messages for the meeting were discussed including current live topics.

9. Forward Look

- The forward look was noted.

10. Any Other Business

- The General Counsel and Company Secretary confirmed that Marie-Therese McGivern had agreed to Chair the Nomination and Remuneration Committee going forward.