Minutes of DfT Executive Committee

Date: Tuesday 6 October 2009
Time: 0900-1000
Venue: Room 5/13, Great Minster House

Attendees:
Robert Devereux (Chair)
Mike Mitchell
Bronwyn Hill
Richard Hatfield
Clare Moriarty
Christopher Muttukumaru
Ian Woodman (Item 1)
Richard Parkes (MCA) (Item 1)
Nick Joyce (Item 1)
xxxx (Secretariat)

Apologies:
Steve Gooding

**Item 1: Search and Rescue Helicopters – Full Business Case** EC(09)58

1. Ian Woodman introduced the paper, which invited ExCo to support an attached joint DfT Full/MOD Main Gate business case for Search and Rescue Helicopters. Ian explained that the MOD Investment Approvals Board would be considering the business case on 8 October.

2. The proposed PFI project would cover the existing four DfT-funded bases, operated by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, and the eight MOD-funded ones, operated by the RAF and Royal Navy. From DfT’s point of view it would replace a service contract expiring in June 2012.

3. The Outline Business Case had been approved in December 2005. A substantial increase to the cost of the project, caused to a large extent by changes to the exchange rate, had caused the project to be re-examined by ExCo in April 2009. Since then, savings had been achieved which, along with a slight improvement to the value of sterling, had brought the cost down to within 3% of the cost envelope agreed at the Outline Business Case stage.

4. ExCo discussed in detail various aspects of the project and the costs involved. At the end of the discussion it decided that it was content with the proposal, subject to clarification of affordability issues which, it agreed, would be circulated in correspondence.

5. In agreeing to the proposal ExCo made it clear that, were the MCA share of the cost of the project to rise by more than 10%, the project would have to be re-examined by ExCo.

The names of non-SCS staff have been redacted in accordance with DfT’s publication policy.
Any Other Business

6. ExCo agreed to the date of the October 2010 Board meeting being brought forward from 29 to 22 October to avoid clashing with the school half term.

Board Secretariat
9 October 2009