## Genomics England Limited - Board Meeting

## Minutes of Meeting held on 16 March 2017 at

## QMUL, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6BQ

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| Present: | Sir John Chisholm (Chair) (JC) |
|  | Prof Sir John Bell (JB) |
|  | Andrew Baigent (AB) |
|  | Prof Mark Caulfield (MC) |
|  | Prof Dame Kay Davies (KD) |
|  | Prof Michael Parker (MP) |
|  | Jon Symonds (JS) (phone) |
|  | Nick Maltby (NM) |
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| In attendance: | Peter Counter (PC) |
|  | Augusto Rendon (AR) |
|  | Graham Colbert (GC) |
|  | Simon Partridge (SP) |
|  | Sue Hill (SH) |
|  | Mark Bale (MB) |
|  | James Fisher (JF) |
|  |  |
| Apologies: | Dame Sally Davies (SD) |
|  | Prof Ewan Birney (EB) |
|  | Sir Malcolm Grant (MG) |
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**16-17/094 – Apologies:** See above.

**16-17/095 – Chair’s Introduction:** JC welcomed directors to the meeting and declared the meeting quorate.

**16-17/096 – Declarations of Conflicts of Interest:** JC reminded the Board that all conflicts needed to be declared.

**16-17/097 – Approval of the Minutes of the January Board Meeting and Actions Arising**

The minutes of the January Board Meeting were approved. The Company Secretary was authorised sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The status of Actions Arising was as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTION** | **OWNER** | **STATUS** |
| GC to provide more detailed objectives to the Board. | GC | GC to update with end of Q1 review. |
| AR to produce a plan to catch up on reporting for discussion at the March Board. This needs to look at both GeL resources and GMC resources. | AR | See update in Operations Report. |
| SP to report in detail on potential direct engagements to March Board. | SP | To be covered in GENE report. |

**16-17/098 – Executive Chair’s Report (JC):**

* JC took the Board through his Chair’s Report. This included our progress against the 100K target and the viability of obtaining samples from other cohorts.
* It was noted that a key element of current plans is a 4 week turnaround for cancer samples.
* There was a discussion about the plan to catch up on clinical reporting. It would not be acceptable for this to wait to the end of 2017 given how long we have waited already. **Action: AR to provide a detailed report to the May Board on dealing with the reporting back log.**

**16-17/099 – Confidential item**

* [Redacted]

**16-17/100 – Genomics England Future Plans (JC/SH)**

* SH took the meeting through her future slide in the NHS England paper included with the Board Pack.
* SH expects volume in 18/19 to be modest in terms of WGS before ramping up in subsequent years.
* There followed a discussion by Board members of the implications of this vision.
* It was agreed that we also need to think about how we create a research industry.
* There followed a discussion as to how the sequencing partnership might work.
* **JC confirmed that the Board had broadly agreed the shape of future commissioning and provision.**

**16-17/101 – [Confidential item]**

* [Redacted]

**16-17/102 – Budget 17/18 (GC)**

* GC took the Board through the Draft Business Plan 2017/2021.
* GC drew the Board’s attention in particular to the following:
  + Where the cost of interpretation would sit;
  + The various make versus buy decisions;
  + The workforce assumptions;
  + The plans for the bioinformatics team beyond the 100KGP;
  + The accommodation position.
* **The Board agreed the draft noting there was significant further work to do.**

**16-17/103 – NHS England Report on GMC Activity (SH)**

* Rare disease is going well and the GMCs are on track to deliver 60k rare disease samples by September 2018. GMCs are recruiting to 180 disease categories.
* Cancer is not where we would like it to be:
  + We are doing another deep dive aimed at coming up with some simple actions;
  + NHS England has put an extra £2m into the GMCs;
  + The FF pathway remains a challenge for GMCs;
  + We are working towards having 6 accelerator sites;
  + The imminent cancer reports should help motivate recruitment.
* NHSE is carrying out strategic transition planning to deliver the future.
* There followed a discussion of the position around cancer.

**16-17/104 Pipeline Report and Dashboard (GC):**

* While we are on track to hit the Q1 target with Illumina we are still falling behind on cancer.
* There remains an issue with data processing. We are looking to move to a steady flow of interpretation reports in September 17.

**16-17/105 CIO Report (PC):**

* We are working towards having v1 of our system by mid-year. We will then carry out further refinements.
* We are looking at how to procure compute. We may need to buy equipment rather than IaaS to give us what we need.
* The other big piece of work we need to sort out is the research embassy.

**16-17/106 Science, Ethics and GeCIP Report (MC):**

* We have agreed an IP Rider in relation to the GeCIP Rules and the IP Policy the effect of which has been to receive agreement from Cambridge, KCL and Oxford. We are now hoping to get agreement from UCL and Imperial before moving to sign up the institutions en masse.
* We will mobilise 3 small GeCIP domains in April.

**16-17/107 Bioinformatics Report (AR):**

* The platform we are building is modular. We will slot in the various clinical interpretation providers as necessary**.**
* We will launch the interpretation portal shortly which will enable GMCs to understand which of their cases we have interpreted.
* We have made a lot of progress with defining gene panels and this is no longer a bottleneck.
* We are preparing the next two batches of interpretation and now have done 85% of the pilot families. The cancer reports will now be issued at the end of March.
* There followed a discussion around eliminating the backlog.
* NHSE has commissioned a separate piece of work is going on around ISO accreditation of the pipeline and will share when complete.

**16-17/108 Genomic Enterprises (SP):**

* SP asked the Board for a steer on the 3 main commercial strands going forward, namely (1) the use of the GeL industrialised sequencing “supply chain” for commercial users; (2) support for clinical activity; and (3) the discovery agenda. With regard to the latter SP envisages setting up a forum to explore, which would not be a committee of the Board. A requirement for membership of the forum would be an appetite to explore direct engagement with GeL. It was noted that there was an implied commitment from GeL to work on the areas of interest signalled by the forum and this was accepted.
* **The Board signalled that it was happy to support this agenda.**
* There followed a discussion of items arising from SP’s report.

1**6-17/109 Communications Report (GC):**

* There was an update on the successful visit to Paris to engage with the French Genomes Project.

**16-17/110 Board Committees**:

* See Board Pack.
* Nominations Committee: JC updated the Board of the recent meeting of the Nomination Committee. The Board noted the update. **The Board agreed to the adoption of the draft Terms of Reference and the addition of further members.**

**16-17/111 Any Other Business:** There was no other business.

**16-17/112** **Date, Time and Agenda for Next Meeting**

**IT WAS NOTED that the next Board meeting would be held on 16 May 2017 between 14.00 – 17.00 at Genomics England in Charterhouse Square.**

**Close: The meeting closed at 16.45**.

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Signed Dated