## Genomics England Limited - Board Meeting

## Minutes of Meeting held on 27 February 2018

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| Present: | Sir John Chisholm (JC) (Chair) |
|  | Prof Mark Caulfield (MC) |
|  | Prof Sir John Bell (JB) |
|  | Prof Ewan Birney (EB) |
|  | Prof Dame Sally Davies (SD) |
|  | Prof Dame Kay Davies (KD) |
|  | Sir Ron Kerr (RK) |
|  | Andy McKinlay (AM) |
|  | Prof Keith Stewart (KS) |
|  | Nick Maltby (NM) |
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| In attendance: | Mark Bale (MB) |
|  | Peter Counter (PC) |
|  | Graham Colbert (GC) |
|  | Joanne Hackett (JH) |
|  | Augusto Rendon (AR) |
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| Apologies: | Prof Sir Malcolm Grant (MG)  Prof Michael Parker (MP)  Jon Symonds (JS)  Prof Sue Hill |
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**17-18/097 – Apologies:** See above.

**17-18/098 – Chair’s Introduction:** JC welcomed the directors to the meeting and declared the meeting quorate.

**17-18/099 – Declarations of Conflicts of Interest:** JC reminded the Board that all conflicts needed to be declared.

**17-18/100 – Approval of the Minutes of the January Board Meeting and Actions Arising**

The minutes of the January Board Meeting were approved. NM was authorised sign the minutes as a true record of the meeting. The actions arising were as follows:

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| **ACTION** | **OWNER** | **STATUS** |
| GeL and NHSE to work together on a further draft of the paper to Ministers. | JC and MG | Final version in Board Pack. |
| Discuss Board comments on GeCIP set out in the Science Report at the next meeting. | All | Item on agenda. |
| Provide a further paper on the next stage of informatics for the February Board. | PC/NM | The plan for this will now follow later. |

**17-18/101– Executive Chair’s Report (JC):**

* We have reached 50k WGS. We now have 50k to do in 11 months to hit 100k. We are also working towards standing up the Genomic Medicine Service. There is a lot to do.
* JC has started working on our first Corporate Plan since 2014 (see Item 17-18/103).
* Our new CEO is yet to be announced. It is now likely to be next week. The likely start date is 1 June. JC is drawing up plans to help him settle in and meet the key stakeholders.

**17-18/102 –Update on submission to Ministers (JC)**

* JC noted that Board members have the final version. This reflected the NHSE contribution to the project but the principal recommendations remain those discussed at the January Board meeting**.**
* DH is considering its response**.**

**17-18/103 – Corporate Plan 2018 - 2023 (JC)**

* Lord O’Shaughnessy (LOS) has asked for the outline of a plan in April**.** The Plan needs to address LOS questions and set out a vision for the next 5 years.
* *Vision:* JC described the vision to the Board. There followed a discussion as to whether this was the right vision.
* *Other developments in genomics:* It was agreed that the plan needs to be framed in terms of what the world will look like in 5 years’ time. The 100KGP lead that the UK now enjoys cannot be assumed.
* *GeL focus:* JC commented that he had taken these items from the submission to Ministers. It was advised that they should be framed in terms of patient benefit.
* *Finances*: There followed a discussion of the funding needed to deliver this vision. If we don’t charge for commercial access then the gap grows.
* *Priorities:*
  + it was agreed that NHS transformation remains the key priority.
  + We need to maintain the principle that data stays in our data centre while doing what we need to do around federation. GeL is the first body to implement the reading library approach but others will need to follow.
* *Schedule*: JC outlined the stages towards the new plan. The consultation stage will be led by the new CEO. The final submission will be in September.

**17-18/104 – Plan for consent for GMS (MC)**

* MC outlined the work that was to be carried out. We will revise the existing Protocol with an opt in to research. There followed a discussion as to the merits of opt out and opt in. **Action: MC to revert on opt in v opt out.**
* MC commented that we have met with the National Data Guardian who has signalled that both for direct care and research there needs to be consent. NM flagged that there are other bases for holding the data and these will also be considered.
* There followed a discussion of the right to withdraw consent/be forgotten. We are getting our own advice on this.
* **The Board approved the plan for consent.**

**17-18/105 – Roadmap for LSIS cancer strategy (MC)**

* MC outlined the strategy: this includes community consultation; locking in the major funders; taking the strategy to the National Genomic Board and doing what we can to avoid infrastructure within the GMCs disappearing.
* There followed a discussion of the roadmap. **Subject to the above points the roadmap was approved.**
* There followed a discussion as to where we are with cancer. **Action: MC and KS to talk further the state of WGS for cancer in the UK.**

**17-18/106 – GeL/NHS England Joint Performance Report on GMC Activity (GC):**

* The last date for submitting samples for 100KGP will be the end of October. There are therefore just 8 more months from an NHSE perspective.
* The GMCs will continue to exist in the GMS world but there will be fewer of them.
* We have a large build Build 38 back log, which the CIPs are unable to process. We have provided a Tiering browser but this is not a complete substitute for the CIPs.
* The Board was asked to note that it is likely we won’t have finished processing the 100KGP samples by the end of 18/19 financial year.
* We have absorbed some of DDD and are liaising with Matt Hurles regarding connecting to the DDD dataset.

**17-18/107 Pipeline Report and Dashboard (GC):**

* NM noted that the General Data Protection Regulation comes into force in late May and we will bring an update to the April Board on this.

**17-18/108 CIO Report (PC):**

* PC advised the Board that his responsibilities have changed and his primary focus will now be the GMS. Platforms and service desk will report to GC and research to JH.
* PC has visited all 7 hub bidders. This has helped improve GeL’s relationship with them.
* PC noted that bids for the GLH procurement have been pushed back a month and that contracting is only expected in June. We will not let this impact on what we are doing.
* We now have all the parties we need on potentially on board for NGIS work. The final piece of the jigsaw is the authentication/test partner we are procuring off the Lead Provider Framework (as discussed at the January Board – see item 17-18/083. We have now completed the tender process and Optum is the winner and it was our intention to appoint Optum, subject to shareholder consent. **The Board approved GeL proceeding with this appointment of Optum under the Lead Provider Framework should shareholder approval be obtained.**
* We are finalising our data centre strategy and will share the outcome of this with the Board/BIC when we have it. The Board asked to be assured that our strategy is scalable. **Action: Share Data Centre Strategy with the Board.**

**17-18/109 - Science, Ethics and GeCIP Report (MC):**

* **The Board approved the renewal of the members of the ARC for a further two years and the recruitment of further people.**
* MC asked the Board to approve formally the proposed UK-France funding, noting that it was linked to a Letter of Intent signed in the presence of Ministers at the UK-France summit and approved at the January Board meeting. **The funding application was approved by the Board.**
* There followed a discussion of how GeCIP was operating. **Action: KD, MC and EB to liaise and revert to the April Board on potential changes to GeCIP.**

**17-18/110 - Bioinformatics Report (AR):**

* CVA is now nearly ready for service.
* Many aspects of the pipeline are now automated, which has transformed the service. The Board congratulated AR on this.

**17-18/111 – Commercial Report (JH):**

* There was a data release into the research environment at the end of January. This release provides clinical data for 53,190 participants, and 31,384 genomes from 28,632 of these participants.
* Wave 3 GeCIP on boarding continues apace.
* The next Discovery Forum event takes place on Thursday 1 March. Nearly 110 people from 100 companies are registered to attend.

**17-18/112 - Communications Report (GC):** there was no discussion of the communications report.

**17-18/113 - Board Committees**: there was no discussion of Board Committees.

**17-18/114 - Any Other Business:** there was no other business**.**

**17-18/115 - Date, Time and Agenda for Next Meeting**

**IT WAS NOTED that the next Board meeting would be held on 12 April 2018 between 14.00 – 17.00 at Genomics England in Carthusian Street.**

**Close: The meeting closed at 1705**.

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Signed Dated