# Chief Executive’s Report – March 2017 Board

## Meetings and Visits

Since the January Board Meeting, I have undertaken the following meetings and visits (not covered in the Chair’s report):

**Planning Inspectorate –** together with Gareth O’Shea, we met with Sarah Richards, the new Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate, and Tony Thickett, the Wales Director. It was an early opportunity to meet Sarah, and we agreed to arrange some joint training for staff in both organisations.

**Professional Membership -** I attended a CIWEM lunchtime seminar, led by Angela Gray, who is shortly to become the CIWEM National President. NRW pays for membership fees of staff to professional organisations, and we strongly support the professional development of our people.

**Exercise Wessex Storm –** I attended Exercise Wessex Storm on Salisbury Plain, which was a major exercise for the Welsh Guards Battle Group – a unique group of three of Wales’ regiments, together with a reserve unit. NRW works closely with the army in Wales, especially on MoD land which is also an SSSI, such as Castlemartin in Pembrokeshire. During the day, I spoke with Brigadier Alan Richmond OBE, who is the most senior commander in Wales, and we agreed to have a further conversation about army support for resilience.

**Ynyslas / Cors Fochno –** I spent a morning with the NNR ranger team at Borth, learning about the issues with the beach and the raised bog. A disabled-access walkway and viewing platform are currently under construction, with majestic views over the Dyfi estuary.

**Health –** I am again undertaking a series of meetings with health leaders in Wales, including the CE of Aneurin Bevan Health Board and the CE of NHS Wales.

**Mineral Products Association –** I attended the annual meeting and lunch of the MPA.

**DEFRA –** I met with the interim Chief Digital Officer to discuss Defra’s Digital Transformation Programme.

**Merthyr Mawr –** I visited the conservation monitoring team at Merthyr Mawr NNR.

**Wales Resilience Forum –** I attended the Wales Resilience Forum, chaired by the First Minister.

## Leadership Team

The Leadership Team change programme is almost complete, with two vacancies currently being advertised – the Head of Corporate Planning and Governance, and the Head of South East Wales Operations. Appointment to these two posts will complete the Leadership Team recruitment Process.

I was delighted to launch the ET/LT Development Programme in February. We have agreed to have a joint programme for ET and LT, so that we can develop our leadership skills together. The first session focussed on personal development through 360 feedback and Myers Briggs; the second module focussed on the leadership challenge of achieving our mission and purpose. The third session will be held in May.

**Emyr Roberts**

March 2017