MEETING: RSSB Board Meeting

DATE: 04 July 2013

SUBJECT: CIRAS Strategy

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1 Purpose

1.1 This paper introduces the draft CIRAS Strategy for 2014 to 2019 and seeks the RSSB board's input. The paper is to be supported by a short presentation.

2 Background

2.1 CIRAS undertook an independent business review at the end of 2012 to help identify where improvements were needed and development opportunities. The CIRAS 2013/14 business plan addresses the review’s findings and includes enabling work for the new CIRAS Strategy.

2.2 At the beginning of 2013 a working group of CIRAS Committee members started developing the Strategy for 2014 to 19 which will form one component of the RSSB Strategic Business Plan (SBP) for CP5. The Strategy is cross referenced in the draft SBP that is currently out for consultation.

3 The Strategy

3.1 At the centre of our Strategy is our unique offering – a robust, reputable and trusted service that enables staff to raise, and have resolved, safety concerns in a way that ensures personal confidentiality.

3.2 Everyone – companies, the regulator and trades unions - works to encourage staff to raise safety concerns directly with their employers. Direct reporting is by far the most effective way to ensure rapid action on safety concerns, but depends crucially on the extent of trust between staff and their managers as well as the availability and awareness of local reporting systems. During CP5 we expect that all employers will strive to continue improving their safety culture including raising the level of trust between workforce and management and improving their own reporting systems. It is however unrealistic to expect that the need for a complementary, confidential reporting system will disappear. We believe it particularly important that staff working for contractors, sub-contractors and suppliers understand how to access CIRAS.
3.3 The draft Strategy in full is available to view from Nicola Holman at nicola.holman@ciras.org.uk. However to summarise, it is built on 5 key strategic objectives. These are:

- to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of our confidential reporting system;
- to provide value for money and to develop greater transparency of funding;
- to work with other parts of RSSB, our subscribers and other stakeholders to add value by making best use of CIRAS data to improve health and safety knowledge and performance;
- to improve awareness of, and support for, CIRAS and its services by effective marketing and stakeholder management; and
- to extend, where it is of benefit to subscribers and consistent with the objectives of the scheme, the scope of CIRAS operations and products and to seek out options for further development.

4 Next steps

4.1 A supporting Business Plan to translate the Strategy into action will be developed for CP5 and kept under regular review.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The board is asked to:

- **NOTE** the contents of this paper and the supporting presentation
- **INPUT** to the Strategy before it is finalised