

FCO Board, 29 February 2008

SUMMARY

The Board took a careful look at the end of year **financial numbers**. They remain concerned at the amount of spend still happening towards the end of the year and will consider ways to improve budget profiling and spend across the year.

The Board reviewed the draft FCO/IPS Joint Outline Business Justification Case, which sets out the vision for the **integration of the home and overseas passport operations**. They agreed it was strategically right that there should be a single UK passport issuing business managed by IPS. While discussions within IPS were ongoing, the Board agreed Consular Directorate would continue with the re-defined Passports NG programme to allow the FCO to keep the capacity to offer a passport service abroad post 2010, with the aim of transferring responsibility for full validity passports to IPS.

The Board welcomed the progress in the **Future Firecrest programme**. They agreed the importance attached to meeting key milestones for deployment at home and abroad and discussed options for accelerated rollout.

The Board discussed the **Home Estates Strategy**, which outlines options to improve the potential capacity of King Charles Street. The Board welcomed the orientation of the proposed re-development of the COMCEN courtyard and will consider options further.

FCO Board, 4 April 2008

SUMMARY

The Board reviewed the February **Key Performance Report**, which shows a forecast a year-end underspend. Finance Directorate have been asked to conduct a full review and to consider ways to improve financial management. The Board agreed to continue to press ahead with the delivery of the existing **CSR Efficiency Programme**, without calling for additional efficiencies at this stage.

The Board congratulated the **Future Firecrest Programme** for their success in the early stages of roll out of F3G desktops in the UK and the positive feedback received from staff. They emphasised the importance that **all staff** undertake F3G Vista and Office training before they receive their new PC and iRecords training in the week after they get F3G. They agreed that the Programme should work on the basis that an accelerated deployment schedule will be adopted.

The Board received an update on the **Change Programme** and agreed the key focus over the next 12 months should be delivering the benefits of change.