National Audit Office

Board Agenda 21 July 2026 – 10:30-13:00 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road London SW1W 9SP Blue Mezz 1			

1	**Welcome / regular Items**	• Chair's welcome
		• Apologies for absence
		• Declarations of interest
		• Approval of June minutes
		• Matters arising:
		  ○ Publications of the 2025-26 Annual Report & Accounts and the D&I Annual Report on 30 June 2026.
		  ○ Motion in Parliament took place on 2 July 2026 to appoint Michael Jary CBE as NAO Chair from 10 January 2027
		• Action log
			10:30-10:40
			
			(10 mins)

2	**C&AG update / horizon scanning**	• C&AG update • Horizon scanning	**10:40-11:00** (20 mins)
3	**Strategic discussion**	• Responding to the creation of the Local Audit Office	**11:00-11:30** (30 mins)
	Break		**11:30-11:35** (5 mins)
4	**Approval**	• 2025-26 Transparency Report	**11:35-11:45** (10 mins)
5	**Substantial operational matters**	• AI and data strategies (including short demo on use of Co-pilot in VFM) • Performance and Risk reports	**11:45-12:25** (30 mins) (10 mins)
6	**Assurance from Committees / matters to discuss / approve by exception**	• Approval of the Constitutional and Public Law tender business case • Six monthly up-date on contracts awarded & tender pipeline • Update from the Audit Quality Board including minutes of meeting held on 8 July 2026 • Update from Future Foundation workshop meeting held on 23 June 2026 • Verbal update on Chair and NED transition	**12:25-12:35** (10 mins)

		• To note the outline agenda for the Board strategy day on 25 September 2026	
7	**Any other business / conclusion**	• AoB • Feed-back on the meeting • Date of the next meeting: strategy day 25 September 2026	**12:35-12:40** (5 mins)

Board Members		
Dame Fiona Reynolds	FR	Chair
Gaenor Bagley	GB	Non-Executive Member
Alistair Conner	AC	Non-Executive Member
Sir Martin Donnelly	MD	Non-Executive Member
Hetan Shah	HS	Non-Executive Member
Gareth Davies	GD	Comptroller & Auditor General
Catherine Hope-MacLellan	CHM	Chief People Officer
Rebecca Sheeran	RS	Chief Operating Officer
Laura Lucking / Verity Prime	LL/VP	Executive Director Infrastructure (job-share)
Attendees		
Abdool Kara	AK	Executive Director Local Services
Kate Mathers	KM	Executive Director of Financial Audit
Max Tse	MT	Executive Director Value for Money Service Line
Steven Corbishley	SC	Director Audit Risk & Compliance (item 4)
Lucy Gibling	LG	Senior Audit Manager (item 4)
Susan Ronaldson	SR	Director Change (item 5.1)
Freddie Wong	FW	Senior Analyst (item 4)
Helene Morpeth	HM	Head of Governance & Risk
Observer		
Michael Jary CBE	MJ	Incoming Chair