

Séminaire vendredi le 6 mai 2016 11:00 / Seminar Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 11:00h

## **Summary :**

Rob Varley, the Chief Executive of the Met Office in the UK, will be giving a presentation on **‘Turning Science into Action’**. Rob will talk about how science, observations, computing and NWP have evolved over the past 30 years. He’ll also describe how the traditional role of the forecaster is evolving into one of an operational meteorologist as some services are automated and we move towards expert advice and impact-based services.

## **Biographical notes :**

Rob has served on the Met Office Executive since 2007, first as Government Services Director and then Operations and Services Director. Before joining the Executive, he worked in a variety of roles; starting as a weather forecaster, then spending 10 years at the Met Office College overseeing the training and development of forecasters. Rob then moved on to project manage the procurement and construction of the Met Office's headquarters at Exeter. This proved to be one of the biggest IT moves ever attempted in Europe, complicated by the operational nature of the Met Office and essential need to keep services running seamlessly throughout the process. Following the move to Exeter in 2003, he worked mainly with the Met Office’s public sector customers, helping the UK to manage the risks and exploit the opportunities associated with our changing weather and climate, and was instrumental in setting up the UK’s Public Weather Service.

Rob is a Fellow and Chartered Meteorologist of the Royal Meteorological Society, and was Vice President of the Society, 2013–2014. He is also a Chartered Director of the Institute of Directors and was named UK Public/Third Sector Director of the Year in 2012.

Rob and his wife live in rural Devon and have three grown-up children and two grandchildren. In his free time Rob enjoys exploring the wild moors, mountains and coasts of Britain in all seasons - whatever the weather!