

## MINUTES

**Meeting: Commission Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**

**Time: 1:00pm to 4:40pm**

**Location: NIC Boardroom, Finlaison House, London and Video Conference**

### Attendance of the meeting

#### Commission Members:

Sir John Armitt (Chair)	(Chair)
Prof Sir Tim Besley CBE	(Commissioner)
Neale Coleman CBE	(Commissioner)
Andy Green CBE	(Commissioner)
Julia Prescott	(Commissioner)
Prof Jim Hall	(Commissioner)
Kate Willard OBE	(Commissioner)
Nick Winsor CBE	(Commissioner)

#### Secretariat:

James Heath	(Chief Executive)	
James Richardson	(Chief Economist)	
Mark Ardron	(Chief Operating Officer)	
Jen Coe	(Joint Director of Policy)	
Margaret Read	(Joint Director of Policy)	
	(Head of Communications)	
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 6)
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 7)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)	(Item 8)
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 8)
	(Policy Adviser)	(Item 9)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)	(Item 9)

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1. Sir John Armitt (JA) opened the meeting. Apologies were received from Sadie Morgan.

#### 2. Minutes and matters arising

2.1. The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

#### 3. Declarations of Interest

3.1. JA has joined the government's Energy Efficiency Taskforce.

- 3.2. Jim Hall (JH) has taken up a new role as Chair of the Use Cases Steering Committee for the National Grid ESO virtual energy system programme.

#### **4. Chair Update**

- 4.1. JA updated on his activities since the last meeting, which were limited due to a period of annual leave.
- 4.2. JA invited other Commissioners to update on their recent engagement. Kate Willard (KW) attended the first meeting of the Chairs of pan-regional partnerships.

#### **5. Chief Executive's update**

- 5.1. The Chair invited the Chief Executive (JHe) to update on key developments since the last meeting.
- 5.2. JHe noted that the planning study terms of reference had been published.
- 5.3. JHe noted the Machinery of Government changes announced by the Prime Minister in February. This change creates new departments for energy security and net zero, business and trade, and science, innovation and technology.

#### **6. Infrastructure Progress Review – Executive Summary**

- 6.1. The Chair invited NW to update on the Infrastructure Progress Review (IPR) executive summary.
- 6.2. Following Commissioner feedback at the previous meeting, the ten actions for the year ahead have been revised and the full executive summary has been drafted.
- 6.3. Commissioners provided feedback on the executive summary and agreed with the plan for sign off.

#### **7. Interurban transport – interim advice note**

- 7.1. The Chair invited GM and CW to present on the interurban transport interim advice note. The advice is intended to influence the third Road Investment Strategy (RIS3) which is currently being developed.
- 7.2. Commissioners provided feedback on the interim advice note and supporting analysis.
- 7.3. Commissioners agreed with the proposed format of the advice and the process for sign off.

#### **8. Infrastructure planning project – update and initial areas for recommendation**

- 8.1. The Chair invited JC and EB to present on the infrastructure planning project. The main areas of focus of the planning study are how reforms to the planning system could speed up overall delivery of projects to achieve net zero goals and secure climate resilience.
- 8.2. The Commission discussed proposed areas for recommendations and provided feedback.

#### **9. Waste and the circular economy: interim update**

- 9.1. The Chair invited ZS and JP to present on the waste and circular economy interim update. The Commission noted the progress made on the waste and circular economy project to date, including the shape of emerging recommendations.

9.2. The Commission discussed the draft recommendations and provided feedback.

9.3. The Commission noted the next steps for the project, including an investment roundtable planned for April.

**AOB**

- No AOB

**End of Meeting**