

## MINUTES

**Meeting: Commission Meeting**

**Date: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**Time: 1:00pm to 4:30pm**

**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)
Bridget Rosewell CBE	(Commissioner)
Julia Prescott	(Commissioner)
Professor Jim Hall	(Commissioner)
Kate Willard OBE	(Commissioner)
Nick Winser CBE	(Commissioner)

#### Secretariat:

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

#### External guests:

Beth Russell	(Second Permanent Secretary, HMT) (Item 4)
Jonny Medland	(Deputy Director, Infrastructure Digital and Culture, HMT) (Item 4)

## **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 All Commissioners were content with the minutes from the last meeting.

## **3 Declarations of Interest**

3.1 No declarations of interests were declared.

## **4 External speaker**

4.1 The Chair welcomed Beth Russell (BRu) to the meeting and introduced the Commission. JA set out the role of the NIC and highlighted the impact it has had since its formation.

4.2 The Chair opened up to other Commissioners to discuss with BRu the challenges that are being assessed for NIA2 ahead of its publication in the autumn of 2023.

4.3 BRu noted the value placed on the Commission's work and reflected on the importance of some of the policy areas being considered in NIA2.

## **5 Chair's update**

5.1 JA opened his update by listing stakeholder engagements since the previous meeting.

5.2 JA invited other Commissioners to update on their recent engagement. A brief discussion was held regarding discussions with stakeholders across sectors.

## **6 CEO's update**

6.1 The Chair invited the Chief Executive (JH) to update on key developments since the last meeting. JH updated on progress towards securing accommodation for a new office in Leeds.

6.2 JH listed stakeholder engagements since the previous meeting.

## **7 Interurban transport - interim update**

7.1 The Chair invited SD to introduce an interim update for the interurban project.

7.2 The Chair thanked SD for presenting and opened up to Commissioners who discussed the proposed approach and narrative for the interurban project.

## **8 Hydrogen – interim update**

8.1 The Chair invited TH to introduce the interim update for the hydrogen project.

8.2 The Chair thanked TH for presenting and opened up to Commissioners who discussed the analysis and proposed recommendation areas for the hydrogen project.

## **9 Diversity and inclusion**

9.1 The Chair invited Jen Coe (JC) to introduce the Commission's approach to diversity and inclusion for NIA2.

9.2 The Chair thanked JC for presenting and opened up to Commissioners who discussed the paper.

9.3 JA confirmed agreement with the proposed approach to distributional analysis and other plans to address equality, diversity and inclusion in NIA2 and beyond.

**10 AOB**

10.1 Kate Willard (KW) noted recent engagement with DHLUC; and Andy Green (AG) noted a recent engagement with IPA where he spoke on the Commission's digital twin recommendations at an event about Transforming Infrastructure Performance.

**End of Meeting**