NATIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMISSION

MINUTES

Meeting: Commission Meeting
Date: 27 January 2022
Time: 1.00pm
Place: Finlaison House and video conference

Attendees

Commission Members:

Sir John Armitt	(Chair)	
Professor Sir Tim Besley	(Commissioner)	
Neale Coleman CBE	(Commissioner)	(Items 6-11)
Professor David Fisk CB	(Commissioner)	
Andy Green CBE	(Commissioner)	
Sadie Morgan OBE	(Commissioner)	(Items 6-11)
Julia Prescot	(Commissioner)	
Bridget Rosewell CBE	(Commissioner)	

Secretariat:

James Heath	(Chief Executive)	
James Richardson	(Chief Economist)	
Giles Stevens	(Director of Policy)	
Jen Coe	(Director of Policy)	
Mark Ardron	(Chief Operating Officer)	
	(Head of Private Office)	
	(Head of Communications)	
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 7)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)	(Item 8)
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 8)
	(Policy Adviser)	(Item 8)
	(Senior Technical Adviser)	(Item 8)
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 9)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)	(Item 9)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)	(Item 10)
	(Assistant Director)	(Item 11)

External guests:

Paul Maddinson	(Director of National Resilience and Strategy, National Cyber Security Centre) (Item 6)

1. Apologies and Welcome

1.1 Apologies were received from Neale Coleman and Sadie Morgan for the first 30 minutes of the meeting.

2 Minutes and matters arising

2.1 No comments were made on the minutes of the last meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 Tim Besley noted he had accepted a position on the Levelling Up Advisory Council.

4 Chair's update

4.1 The Chair updated on his activities since the last meeting including the Commission's expert panel on Net Zero, which took place on the morning before this meeting.

5 CEO's update

5.1 The Chair invited the Chief Executive (JH) to update on key developments since the last meeting. JH noted that the appointment panel had submitted the list of appointable new Commissioner candidates to HMT ministers for decision.

5.2 JH noted that the Levelling Up white paper was expected shortly and that it would consider the question of devolution.

5.3 JH noted stakeholder meetings in Leeds on 19 January with the Chair of the UK Infrastructure Bank, the Chief Executive of Leeds City Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

6 National Cyber Security Centre

6.1 The Chair invited Paul Maddinson (PM) to introduce the National Cyber Security Centre's infrastructure priorities. PM said that the latest National Cyber Security Strategy aimed to address ongoing challenges with the UK's cyber resilience. Points of focus included working with government departments and regulators to incentivise companies to increase their cyber resilience and exploring how to achieve the benefits of digital twins while minimising the security risks they present. PM opened to questions from Commissioners.

7 Annual Monitoring Report

7.1 The Chair invited NW to introduce plans for the Annual Monitoring Report 2022. NW said the plan was to publish the report on 16th March and present Commissioners with a draft executive summary next month. NW asked Commissioners for thoughts on the proposed narrative and the 10 priorities for action.

> **DECISION: Commissioners approved the proposed approach to AMR 2022.**

8 Surface Water Flooding

8.1 The Chair invited Julia Prescot (JP) and Sadie Morgan (SM) to introduce the SWF project. Both Commissioners reflected that lots of actors were involved in addressing surface water flooding, presenting a coordination challenge. Additionally, it would be important to ascertain the causes of surface water flooding in different areas and the appropriate balance of above and below the ground interventions to address the risks in a cost effective manner.

8.2 The Chair invited JaH to set out the proposed scope of the study. Commissioners were asked to agree the problem definition and scope of the project.

DECISION: Commissioners approved the scope.

9 Interurban Transport

9.1 The Chair invited Bridget Rosewell (BR) to introduce the interurban transport project. BR said the project aimed to address travel between urban areas by road and rail. Commissioners were asked to approve the scope and for views on whether the project should focus more on strategic principles or on geographic recommendations.

DECISION: Commissioners agreed to review the final scope at the next meeting.

10 Electricity Generation

10.1 The Chair invited LS to introduce the project on electricity generation. LS said that the project would focus on ensuring security of supply either by shifting demand or deploying supply flexibly. He said the project would consider how much flexible capacity would be needed and the technologies to achieve it including flexible generation, battery technology, and demand-side responses. Commissioners were asked to approve the proposed scope.

DECISION: Commissioners approved the proposed scope.

11 AOB

11.1 No items of AOB were recorded.