

## MINUTES

**Meeting: Commission Meeting**

**Date: 20 March 2024**

**Time: 13:00pm**

**Place: 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Windsor House and Microsoft Teams Meeting**

### Attendees

#### Commission Members:

Sir John Armit	(Chair)
Julia Prescott	(Deputy Chair)
Kate Willard OBE	(Commissioner)
Professor Jim Hall Freng	(Commissioner)
Nick Winser CBE	(Commissioner)
Dr Michèle Dix CBE	(Commissioner)
Professor Sir Tim Besley	(Commissioner)
Andy Green CBE	(Commissioner)
Neale Coleman CBE	(Commissioner)

#### Secretariat:

James Heath	(Chief Executive)
Hannah Brown	(Director of Policy)
Jonny Saks	(Chief Economist)
Mark Ardron	(Chief Operating Officer)
	(Head of Communications)
	(Head of Governance)
	(Assistant Director)
	(Senior Policy Adviser)
	(Assistant Director)

#### Other attendees:

Paula Walsh	Arup, Chair of UK, India, Middle East and Africa Region
Dr Juliano Denicol	Chair of Megaproject Delivery Centre, UCL

### 1. Apologies and Welcome

1.1 Apologies were received from Sadie Morgan.

### 2 Minutes and actions

2.1 The minutes of the 21 February meeting were approved as an accurate record.

### 3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 Michèle Dix declared that she has accepted an invitation to join an Institution of Civil Engineers' Steering Group for a time-bound project exploring lessons from the cancellation of the northern leg of High Speed 2.

3.2 There were no other declarations of interest.

#### **4 Chair's update**

4.1 The Chair provided an update on activity since the last meeting including a meeting with the Infrastructure Forum and attending ICE's State of the Nation launch to discuss NIA2.

4.2 Commissioners provided an update on their recent activity.

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

5.1 The Chair invited JH to provide an update on recent activity including a meeting with the Infrastructure Projects Authority on the infrastructure costs project.

5.2 JH provided an update on the Boston Consulting Group and NIC joint event held on 13th March to help inform the project.

#### **6 Infrastructure Progress Review 2024 update**

6.1 The Chair invited EB and ZS to provide an update on progress with the Infrastructure Progress Review 2024 (IPR24), including options for the report's structure.

6.2 The proposed structure for IPR24 is to set out the priorities against each NIA2 theme.

6.3 Commissioners discussed the paper and provided feedback.

#### **7 Rail priorities in the North and Midlands: interim update**

7.1 The Chair invited GMc to provide an update on the emerging conclusions from the work on rail priorities in the North and Midlands. The work is due to report as part of the IPR24.

7.2 Commissioners provided feedback on the paper.

#### **8 External panel – How to deliver infrastructure quicker and cheaper: global examples of best practice**

8.1 The Chair welcomed Paula Walsh (PW), Chair of Arup UK, India, Middle East, and Africa and Dr Juliano Denicol (JD), Chair of Megaproject Delivery Centre, UCL.

8.2 JD and PW were invited to reflect on their experience of working in the UK and internationally on the delivery of infrastructure projects and how the UK compares to other countries when managing costs.

8.3 The Commission discussed the key themes and issues.

8.4 The Chair thanked PW and JD for the useful discussion.

## **9 AOB**

9.1 No AOB was raised.