

MINUTES

Meeting: Commission Meeting (Public Version)

Date: Wednesday 27th July 2022

Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

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

Attendance of the meeting

Commission Members:

Sir John Armitt	(Chair)
Professor Sir Tim Besley	(Commissioner)
Neale Coleman CBE	(Commissioner)
Andy Green CBE	(Commissioner)
Professor Jim Hall	(Commissioner)
Julia Prescott	(Commissioner)
Professor Sadie Morgan	(Commissioner)
Bridget Rosewell CBE	(Commissioner)
Kate Willard OBE	(Commissioner)
Nick Winser CBE	(Commissioner)

Secretariat:

James Heath	(Chief Executive)	
James Richardson	(Chief Economist)	
Hannah Brown	(Joint Director of Policy)	
Mark Ardron	(Chief Operating Officer)	
	(Secretary & Head of Private Office)	
	(Head of Communications)	
Iain Coucher	(Chair, OFWAT)	(Item 7)
David Black	(Chief Executive, OFWAT)	(Item 7)
	(Senior Economic Advisor)	(Item 6)
	(Impact Measurement Analyst)	(Item 9)

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Sir John Armitt (JA) opened the meeting of the Commission welcoming all in attendance.

2 Minutes and matters arising

2.1 The minutes and action log of 22nd June 2022 Commission meeting was reviewed and approved by all those in attendance.

3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 Nick Winser (NW) advised Commissioners that he had been appointed as Electricity Networks Commissioner for the Department of Business Energy & Industrial Strategy at the start of July 2022.

3.2 No further declarations of interests were declared.

4 Chair's Update

4.1 JA his update by presenting the stakeholder engagements since the previous meeting that Commissioners noted.

4.2 JA provided the Commissioners with his reflection on the recent Commission regional visits noting the positive support for the Commission's work and insightful discussions to support the development of the second National Infrastructure Assessment (NIA2).

5 Chief Executive's update

5.1 James Heath (JH) presented his stakeholder engagements since the previous meeting that Commissioners noted.

5.2 JH presented the NIA2 programme report which was noted by the Commissioners.

6 Assessing Natural Capital in NIA2

6.1 JA welcomed SEA who gave an overview of the paper that asked Commissioners to review the scope of a tool being developed for NIA2 to provide analysis on environmental areas covering potential interactions between infrastructure recommendations and the government's legal target to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and implementing net biodiversity gain.

6.2 Commissioners reviewed the scope and agreed further work should take place to develop the analytical tool.

7 External Speaker – OFWAT – Iain Coucher, Chair and David Black, Chief Executive

7.1 JA welcomed Iain Coucher (IC) and David Black (DB) to the meeting. DB provided an update on OFWAT's role as the water regulator and key issues.

7.2 JA thanked both IC and DB for attending and agreed with Commissioners on the importance of continued collaboration across both organisations.

8 Assessing Distributional Impacts in NIA2

8.1 JA welcomed IMA who presented a paper to the Commissioners which focused on assessing the distributional impacts of NIA2 recommendations. IMA ran through the current distributional picture across the water, energy, transport and digital sectors.

8.2 JA thanked Commissioners and IMA for a detailed discussion and agreeing the scope of the work.

Action: Paper to return at a future meeting

9 AOB

9.1 No other business was discussed.

9.2 JA thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

End of Meeting