

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

14 October 2021

10:00 – 12:00

Via Zoom

Meeting Note

Present

David Clubb, Chair

Tom Crick, Commissioner

Stephen Gifford, Commissioner

Helen Howells, Commissioner

Rob Irvine, Commissioner

Eluned Parrott, Commissioner

Nicola Britton, NICW Secretariat

Adrian Davies, NICW Secretariat

John Howells, Director of Climate Change, Energy and Planning, Welsh Government

For agenda item 2 only:

Rhys Wyn Jones, Head of RenewableUK Cymru

Hywel Lloyd, Active Building Centre and Institute of Welsh Affairs (IWA)

Apologies

Ceri Doyle, Commissioner

1. Welcome

1.1 The Chair welcomed commissioners to the meeting.

1.2 The Chair set out some thoughts on how commission meetings should be run and invited commissioners to send him their own thoughts.

Action: Commissioners to send thoughts on good practice for chairing meetings to the Chair.

2. Barriers to renewable energy

2.1 Rhys Wyn Jones briefly described opportunities for and barriers to renewable energy from a developer's perspective.

2.2 Hywel Lloyd provided an update to the IWA's Re-energising Wales report.

2.3 The Chair declared an interest in floating wind developments and asked that the matter not be discussed in detail.

2.4 The meeting discussed some of the opportunities and challenges for Wales in deploying renewable energy.

3. Governance and work programme

Conflicts of Interest

3.1 The Chair reiterated his involvement with Hiraeth Energy LLP, a company aiming to develop floating offshore wind projects.

Work Programme

3.2 The Chair propose that the commission should seek a budget in the order of £100k-£150k from the Welsh Government to produce a report on renewable energy in 2022. The Chair invited commissioners to send him their views on the budget needed for that work.

Action: Commissioners to send thoughts on budget requirements for 2022 to the Chair within a week.

3.3 The Chair invited comments and the meeting discussed governance and the commission's work programme.

3.4 The Chair intended to send a paper on governance and the work programme to the Deputy Minister the following week.

Communications

3.5 Commissioners agreed that the commission should develop an independent web site which should be used to put the work of the commission in public view.

3.6 Commissioners agreed that in years 2 and 3 of the next 3 year programme the commission should consult the public, especially young people, on need for infrastructure. The Chair offered to:

- take advice from the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission on its approach to public consultation;
- engage the office of the Future Generations Commissioners on the possibility of collaborating on a public consultation; and,
- provide feedback to commissioners.

Action: Chair to develop a proposal for a public consultation on infrastructure

4. Close