

# Innovation Advisory Council for Wales

6<sup>th</sup> December 2021, Virtual Meeting

## Minutes

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Present: David Notley (DN) (co-chair)  
Karen Cherrett (KC) (co-chair)  
Anna Nicholl (AN)  
Carol Cell (CB)  
Ian Brotherston (IB)  
Ieuan Wyn Jones (IWJ)  
James Lewis (JL)  
Kevin Morgan (KM)  
Michael Benfield (MB)  
Nadine Payne (NP)  
Nick Cook (NC)  
Rob Deaves (RD)  
Sion Charles (SC)  
Siwan Rees (SR)  
Stephanie Moran (SM)  
Rhys Thomas (RT)  
James Yu (JY)

Apologies: Yuhua Li (YL)

Secretariat: Abi Phillips (AP)  
Philippa Davies (PD)  
Owen Jenner (OJ)

Agenda item		Action
1	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>KC welcomed members to IACW and outlined the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and approved. IWJ noted that he had been unable to source a representative from UKSPA to sit on the external stakeholder group due to a change in staff.</p> <p>KC reminded members that profiles, Terms of Reference and all minutes are available on the IACW webpage.</p> <p>Council members present were asked to indicate any direct or indirect conflicts of interest in the proposed agenda items. No new interests were recorded.</p>	
2	<p><b>Innovation Strategy Update</b></p> <p>AP presented an update on the logic model and innovation strategy. The Logic Model is available on the IACW webpage and is open for feedback.</p>	

	<p>AP stated that 2 stakeholder engagement events are scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> December and January 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss the logic model and strategy.</p> <p>AP confirmed that work and engagement has started on the healthier chapter of the strategy and is being taken forward by health colleagues in WG and colleagues from the Health Board. Work on the Prosperous chapter will begin shortly.</p> <p>AP mentioned that we will be running a short tender exercise for a support package to help facilitate and co-ordinate stakeholder events to help us reach as many stakeholders, networks and groups as possible.</p> <p>AP confirmed the next external stakeholder engagement group is scheduled on 13<sup>th</sup> December where engagement on the healthier chapter will be taking place.</p> <p>PD to circulate external stakeholder engagement group details to IACW.</p> <p>KM queried whether WG is engaging with all 4 regions of Wales.</p> <p>NC suggested the strategy was an opportunity to link with younger people and get them engaged in innovation.</p> <p>MB queried whether the distinction is being made between innovation and inspiration.</p>	<p><b>PD</b></p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Welcome from the Minister for Economy</b></p> <p>KC welcomed the Minister for Economy to the meeting.</p> <p>The Minister welcomed the new and existing members to Council and spoke about the challenges of leaving the EU and post European funding, and how to make sure Wales gets its fair share. The Minister sees IACW having a role in this, using the group's expertise. The Minister spoke about the new cross-government innovation strategy, which will be crucial for the future of Wales, in terms of both the public and private realms.</p> <p>The Minister received a number of questions from Council members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are you allowing scope for innovation or new ideas in politics and governments? Aligned to that is the need to allow space for experimentation, at the local and regional level;</li> <li>• Could the Minister provide an update on the state of play between Wales and Whitehall given an increasing amount of R&amp;D and innovation resource is residing in London, Swindon and Brussels. What discussions are taking place regarding future innovation resource?</li> <li>• Will the strategy contain some KPI's and targets for shifting the productivity dial?</li> <li>• What would differentiate innovation in Wales from the other UK regions?</li> </ul>	

	The Minister welcomed a further meeting with IACW in the future.	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Working Groups</b></p> <p>KC introduced the 4 working group themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovation Leadership - What is required to deliver innovation leadership e.g. encompassing culture / skills / risk / connectivity of organisations / promoting collaboration and partnerships etc;</li> <li>• Data and digitisation - How do we use information and digital assets? From open source, information sharing, public sector and business support platforms to incentives for acceleration of knowledge into impact across sectors;</li> <li>• Future outcomes and attributes of success - How do we measure innovation for a meaningful future impact – looking at innovation impact measures that go beyond the usual suspects of jobs retained, %age growth etc. How would we describe Wales as an innovation nation;</li> <li>• Innovation for Sustainability - Linked to the need for effective measurement and setting out what innovation is needed for sustainable futures across all areas of the economy.</li> </ul> <p>Members were appointed to one of the working groups based on the preferences submitted prior to the meeting. Members of each group were tasked with appointing a lead for each group and to identify terms of reference and determine a work plan of activities the group can contribute to over the coming 12 months.</p> <p>The groups, their members and the nominated chair underlined are as follows:</p> <p>Innovation Leadership KM; RT; SC; CB</p> <p>Data and Digitisation NP; YL; <u>JY</u>; JL</p> <p>Future Outcomes <u>IB</u>; NC; SM; MB</p> <p>Innovation for Sustainability RD; AN; <u>SR</u>; IWJ</p> <p>KC asked each group to report back by 31<sup>st</sup> January with the terms of reference and draft work plan.</p> <p>KC stated that the leads from each group will meet the IACW Co-Chairs after February half term to discuss the identified terms of reference and initial thoughts. PD to issue date.</p>	<p><b>IB, SR, JY</b></p> <p><b>PD</b></p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>Date of the next meeting is 7 March 2022.</p>	

