

# Innovate UK

## **Meeting of the Innovate UK Council**

**Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### **Summary of meeting**

Innovate UK's Council met on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at the Urban Innovation Centre (part of Future Cities Catapult). The meeting was chaired by UKRI's Innovation Champion and SIM Sir Harpal Kumar.

The minutes of the previous meeting of Council (12.12.18) were agreed and outstanding actions reviewed.

### **Executive Chair Overview**

The Executive Chair's Report was reviewed. Council agreed that Innovate UK had achieved a good resolution on State Aid issues and congratulated the team in reaching a very good outcome. Two current performance reviews were discussed these focus on UKRI State Aid Compliance and business processes and controls across UKRI. Council were informed of a recent workshop with Coca-Cola which focussed on challenge areas where there is interest in collaborating. ONS classification of private sector organisations was also discussed.

### **Strategic Delivery Plan**

The near final draft of Innovate UK's Strategic Delivery Plan was reviewed with key messages and goals examined. Council agreed that ensuring flexibility in the strategic goals was important. It was agreed that thought leadership was an important part of Innovate UK's role as the UK's national innovation agency. The proposed case studies to be included in the document were reviewed.

### **Update on ISCF Wave 3**

Council welcomed an update of the challenge areas and noted that decisions on the Wave 3 challenges, available funding and delivery methods were yet to be finalised. Council encouraged greater international links for each challenge through DIT.

### **Transformation**

The process and primary drivers for reorganising the structure of Innovate UK as part of UKRI's transformation was discussed. It was explained that all Councils have been working to the same process and timetable with the aim of completing and moving to the new organisational structure by the end of March 2019. Council questioned the balance of activity within each of the directorates. It was explained that through reorganisation Innovate UK is striving to future-proof the organisation.

### **Commercialisation**

UKRI's Commercialisation workstream which supports the commercialisation of publicly funded early-stage research, including equipping people with the skills to commercialise research, research outputs and research assets was discussed. Council noted that this activity complements business-led innovation that does not directly involve the research base and support for fundamental research.

### **Presentation on the combined (Future Cities and Transport Systems) Catapult**

Terry Hill, Chairman of the Transport Systems Catapult and Sam Markey from the Future Cities Catapult, explained the strategy for the combined organisation which builds on the synergies of both Catapults.

### **Confederation of British Industry – working with Innovate UK**

Felicity Burch, Director of Innovation and Digital at the CBI attended the meeting, she explained CBI's work to promote the role that innovation plays in contributing to UK prosperity. She presented findings from CBI campaigns, including advice given to the Government to increase total investment in R&D.

### **Council feedback on papers**

Questions on the papers distributed were taken and forward agenda items discussed.

### **UKRI Recruitment of Council Members**

It was explained that UKRI Councils would be recruiting Council members. Council decided that Innovate UK should postpone recruitment until late summer.

### **Closed Session**

Innovate UK attendees left the room so that Council members could discuss topics amongst themselves.