

Energy Innovation Board Summary Note

20th May 2019

Attendees

(Only Senior Civil Servants named)

Board members & alternates: **Patrick Vallance**, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and Chair; **Neil Viner**, EPSRC Deputy Executive Chair and Chief Operating Officer; **Xavier Mamo**, EDF Energy R&D UK Centre Director; **Ian Meikle**, Innovate UK Director of Infrastructure Systems; **Martin Grant**, Atkins CEO; **John Loughhead**, BEIS Chief Scientific Advisor; **Damitha Adikaari**, Director, Science & Innovation for Climate & Energy, BEIS; **Ian Boyd**, DEFRA Chief Scientific Advisor; **Phil Blythe**, DfT Chief Scientific Advisor; **Julian Critchlow**, BEIS Director General Energy Transformation and Clean Growth; **Jonathan Brearley**, Ofgem Executive Director Systems and Networks; **Charlotte Watts**, DFID Chief Scientific Adviser; **Jo Coleman**, Shell UK Energy Transition Manager.

Observers: EIB Secretariat; GO-Science; HMT; DfT, Deputy Chief Scientific Advisor; DFID Senior Energy Innovation Advisor; **Ron Loveland**, Welsh Government; **Mark Taylor**, BEIS Energy Innovation Deputy Director; Vivid Economics; **Richard Rogers**, Northern Ireland Government.

Agenda

The chair bid farewell to Martin Grant and thanked him for his contribution as this will be his last Board meeting having completed his term. Martin first joined the Board in January 2017. The chair welcomed newly appointed independent external Board members Ian Simm (CEO, Impax Asset and Management Group, who is abroad for this meeting) and Jo Coleman (UK Energy Transition Manager, Shell), both recruited through the open recruitment process.

Update on Energy Innovation data and spend

The Board received an update on 2017/18 actual and 2018/19 estimated energy R&D spend based on the UK's annual International Energy Agency return. Nuclear and energy efficiency were highlighted as areas where spend had significantly increased. The Board noted however that the UK's spend is still below the OECD average. The EIB Secretariat was asked to compare the energy innovation spend with other sectors in the UK and to provide a breakdown of spend into the type of innovation, e.g. R&D and implementation, and to include details of ODA figures.

Spending Review priorities

Vivid Economics delivered a presentation on the Energy Innovation Needs Assessments (EINAs), the BEIS-commissioned research on priorities for future energy innovation investment, which DfT and InnovateUK had fed into. The Chair suggested that the Board should focus on which areas require implementation, research and development spend and to look at the industrial strategy opportunities as well as the export opportunities. The Board noted that the importance of cross-Whitehall coordination and, in advance of the Spending Review, establishing which departments should focus on each innovation area to avoid missing detail. The Board also had comments on the methodology used for the Energy Innovation Needs Assessments (EINA).

AOB

None.