

# Net Zero Innovation Board

## SUMMARY MINUTES

28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Attendees

*(Only Senior Civil Servants named)*

**Board members & alternates:** **Patrick Vallance**, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and Chair; **Paul Monks**, BEIS Chief Scientific Adviser; **Gideon Henderson**, DEFRA Chief Scientific Adviser; **Sarah Sharples**, DfT Chief Scientific Adviser; **Charlotte Watts**, FCDO Chief Scientific Adviser; **Alan Penn**, DLUHC Chief Scientific Adviser; **Damitha Adikaari**, BEIS Director for Science & Innovation for Climate & Energy ; **Ian Meikle**, Innovate UK Director Clean Growth and Infrastructure; **Mike Biddle**, Innovate UK Director for Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund; **Neil Viner**, EPSRC (deputising for Lynn Gladden, Executive Chair); **Marzia Zafar**, Ofgem (deputising for Akshay Kaul, Director for Network Price Controls); **Ian Simm**, Impax Asset Management Group Chief Executive; **Philip Taylor**, University of Bristol Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise; **Beverley Gower-Jones**, Clean Growth Fund Managing Partner.

**Devolved Administrations:** **Ron Loveland**, Welsh Government; **Richard Rodgers**, Northern Ireland.

**Others:** **Simon Whitfield**, GO-Science Deputy Director for Climate, Society and International; **David Woolnough**, FCDO Deputy Director Research, Tech & Innovation; **Lucy Martin**, EPSRC Deputy Director for Cross Council Programmes; **Stephen Belcher**, Met Office Chief Scientific Adviser.

### Summary

#### **Delivery Plan and NAO Update**

The Secretariat gave an update on the Delivery Plan which was approaching its final phase of drafting. The Board welcomed the progress on the draft and agreed to provide further comments in writing. The Secretariat also outlined on-going work on the NAO review of government's "Support for innovation to deliver Net Zero", which was drawing on the Board's work.

#### **Power Deep Dive**

BEIS, UKRI and Ofgem presented the power sector deep dive. Overall, the UK had made significant progress towards decarbonising power, but as electrification of other sectors accelerated, continued investment was needed. Alongside this, the importance of coordinating the energy system's development with policy and regulation was also highlighted.

#### **Ayrton Fund Update**

FCDO and BEIS presented an update on the Ayrton Fund Year 1 Progress Report and highlighted that the majority of emissions in the future will come from developing countries and growth markets. Overall, the Board noted the progress on delivering the Ayrton Fund against a context of overall reduced Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding.

#### **R&I Event Proposal**

UKRI asked Innovate UK KTN to consider an event aimed at creating a net zero R&I community of practice. The Board welcomed the initiative but suggested a more targeted proposal be considered.

#### **A.O.B**

None.