

# Net Zero Innovation Board

## SUMMARY MINUTES

5<sup>th</sup> July 2023

### Attendees

*(Only Senior Civil Servants named)*

**Board members & alternates:** **Angela McLean**, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and Chair; **Paul Monks**, DESNZ Chief Scientific Adviser; **Gideon Henderson**, Defra Chief Scientific Adviser; **Richard Prager**, DLUHC Chief Scientific Adviser; **Charlotte Watts**, FCDO Chief Scientific Adviser; **Sarah Sharples**, DfT Chief Scientific Adviser; **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; **Mike Biddle**, Innovate UK Programme Director for Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund; **Kedar Pandya**, EPSRC Executive Director, Cross-Council Programmes; **Peter Liss**, NERC interim Executive Chair; **Marzia Zafar**, Ofgem Deputy Director for Strategy & Innovation.

**Devolved Administrations:** **Ron Loveland**, Welsh Government.

**Others:** **Simon Whitfield**, Go-Science Deputy Director for Climate, Society and International; **Dan McGonigle**, Defra Head of Systems Thinking, Innovation, Futures and Net Zero Research; **Nadya Thorman**, No 10 Deputy Director for Energy, Net Zero and the Environment.

### Summary

#### Review of Terms of Reference and Forward Look

The Board approved changes to the Terms of Reference to reflect recent machinery of government changes and agreed on its priorities for the next 12 months. The Board was keen to work closely with the Innovation Delivery Board (a sub-group to the Net Zero Innovation Board).

#### NAO Review Findings and Recommendations

The Secretariat presented the recommendations from the NAO's review into "Support for innovation to deliver net zero". Three of the five recommendations were directed to the Net Zero Innovation Board and the Board accepted the proposed responses.

#### Natural Resources, Waste and F-gases Deep Dive

Defra presented a deep dive into natural resources, waste and F-gases. It was noted that this was a complex sector to mitigate and that the agriculture sector was likely to become one of the highest emitting sectors in the UK as other sectors decrease emissions. The Board discussed the trade-offs and links to other sectors and technologies and other environmental outcomes.

#### AOB

None.