

# Net Zero Innovation Board

## SUMMARY MINUTES

12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Attendees

*(Only Senior Civil Servants named)*

**Board members & alternates:** **Angela McLean**, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and Chair; **Paul Monks**, DESNZ Chief Scientific Adviser; **Julia Sutcliffe**, DBT Chief Scientific Adviser; **Sarah Sharples**, DfT Chief Scientific Adviser; **Damitha Adikaari**, DESNZ Director for Science & Innovation for Climate & Energy; **Mike Biddle**, Innovate UK Programme Director for Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund; **Lucy Martin** (deputising for Kedar Pandya, EPSRC Executive Director, Cross-Council Programmes); **Philip Taylor**, University of Bristol Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise; **Beverley Gower-Jones**, Clean Growth Fund Managing Partner; **Kate Hamer**, NERC (deputising for Peter Liss, interim Executive Chair); Defra official (deputising for Gideon Henderson, Chief Scientific Adviser); DSIT official (deputising for Holly Yates, Director for Science, Research and Innovation, DESNZ); FCDO officials (deputising for Charlotte Watts, Chief Scientific Adviser).

**Devolved Administrations:** **Richard Rodgers**, Northern Ireland.

**Others:** **Jonathan Hoare**, DESNZ Deputy Director for Governance, Delivery, Systems and Biomass; **Fionnuala Costello**, DESNZ Deputy Director for Energy Innovation Delivery; **Soheila Amin-Hanjani**, DESNZ Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser; **Simon Whitfield**, Go-Science Deputy Director for Climate, Society and International.

### Summary

#### UKRI Net Zero Portfolio Overview

UKRI presented an overview of their current portfolio of research and innovation programmes aimed at achieving net zero in the UK by 2050, including through its 'Building a Green Future' theme. The Board welcomed the joined-up approach of the UKRI portfolio and continued engagement between UKRI and DESNZ on progress towards net zero.

#### Whole Systems Approach Deep Dive

DESNZ and UKRI presented on taking a whole systems approach to net zero research and innovation, emphasising the need for cross-government collaboration in this area. The Board recognised the importance of embedding whole systems thinking into all net zero research and innovation programmes, and of strong join-up between research and policymaking.

#### Industry and Low Carbon Hydrogen Supply Deep Dive

DESNZ presented a deep dive into low carbon hydrogen supply and industrial decarbonisation, covering the UK's approach to research and innovation programmes in this area. The Board welcomed the presentation and noted that government is funding a range of research and innovation programmes to address production, transportation and storage, and use of hydrogen.

**Technology Roadmap Recommendation**

DESNZ shared an update on the government's response to the Net Zero Review's recommendation for government to produce a technology roadmap for developing and deploying R&D and technologies critical for net zero. The Board noted progress and asked for an initial outline of the roadmap to be presented at the next meeting.

**AOB**

None.