Net Zero Innovation Board

SUMMARY MINUTES

24 February 2025

Attendees

(Only Senior Civil Servants named)

Board members & alternates: Damitha Adikaari, DESNZ Director for Science & Innovation for Climate & Energy; Mike Biddle, Innovate UK Programme Director for Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund; Beverley Gower-Jones, Clean Growth Fund Managing Partner; Louise Heathwaite, NERC, UKRI Executive Chair; Gideon Henderson, Defra Chief Scientific Adviser; Jason Lowe, Met Office (deputising for Stephen Belcher, Chief Scientific Adviser); Kathryn Magnay, EPSRC (deputising for Kedar Pandya, Executive Director for Cross-Council Programmes); Angela McLean, Government Chief Scientific Adviser and NZIB Chair; Paul Monks, DESNZ Chief Scientific Adviser and NZIB Deputy Chair; Richard Prager, MHCLG Chief Scientific Adviser; Sarah Sharples, DfT Chief Scientific Adviser; Julia Sutcliffe, DBT Chief Scientific Adviser; Ian Simm, Impax Asset Management Group Chief Executive; Phil Taylor, University of Bath Vice-Chancellor; FCDO official (deputising for Charlotte Watts, Chief Scientific Adviser); Ofgem official (deputising for Marzia Zafar, Deputy Director for Strategy & Innovation).

Devolved Administrations: Northern Ireland Government official (deputising for Richard Rodgers, Head of Energy); Scottish Government official (deputising for Ed Sherriff, Deputy Director for Energy).

Others: Soheila Amin-Hanjani, DESNZ Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser; Neil Bush, DESNZ Head of Clean Energy Superpower Mission Team; Rhona Glazer-Munck, DBT Deputy Director for Futures and Green Strategy Unit; Kate Hamer, NERC Director of Strategy & Analysis; Ted Hayden, GO-Science Director; Adam Jackson, DSIT Director for International Research and Innovation; Carol Jenkins, DESNZ Deputy Director for Net Zero Innovation Policy; Simon Whitfield, Go-Science Deputy Director for Climate, Society and International.

Summary

Update on the government's missions

The Board received an update on the Clean Energy Superpower Mission, Economic Growth Mission and associated Industrial Strategy.

Building a Clean Energy Superpower Mission Research & Innovation Portfolio

The Board heard updates on preparations for the Spending Review and discussed the proposed R&D priorities to support the Clean Energy Superpower Mission. Departments provided updates on their plans for research & innovation programmes to support both the Clean Power 2030 pillar and the Accelerating to Net Zero pillar of the Clean Energy Superpower Mission, including the prioritisation processes for directing funding in these areas.