**MINUTES AND ACTIONS**

**TUESDAY 9 APRIL 2019**

**1.30pm – 4.00pm**

**Attendees**

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| --- | --- |
| Professor Phil Brown | Caitlin Davies |
| Lee Jones | Matthew Hicks |
| Mark John | Jacob Ellis |
| Marsha Ward | Tass Robinson |
| Rob Ashelford | Bethan Jones |
| Jess Beeken | Richard Jones |
| Professor Andy Westwood | Tegid Roberts |

**Actions**

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| **#** | **Action** | **Lead** | **Completion by** |
| 1 | Circulate key papers and slides. | Matt Hicks | Completed |
| 2 | Circulate link to the International Strategy online consultation form. | Matt Hicks | Completed |
| 3 | Panel to consider any recommendations/ actions which should be captured in the final report but not discussed to date. | All | 18 April to ensure these are factored into the final report |

**Minute**

1. **Chair’s update**
   1. Phil noted the range of engagement work undertaken following the last time the panel convened, including meetings with the Innovation Advisory Council for Wales and the Minister for International Relations and Welsh Language.
   2. The key priority now is on finalising recommendations and drawing together content for the final report.
2. **Feedback from ministerial discussions**
   1. Matt provided feedback from recent ministerial discussions which have taken place the key points of which were:
   * ensuring the review stays within scope and honours the original terms of reference;
   * that the final report pushes us forward and doesn't just define problems but comes forward with clear and practical solutions- it needs to be exciting;
   * It should reflect on the good work which is happening in Wales but highlight where work isn't to the pace and/ or scale required;
   * the review should be cautious about reiterating recommendations which have come forward through other reviews- Reid being the main example here but also the public sector digital transformation work produced by Lee Waters AM;
   * in terms of Wales 4.0 clarity is needed on what this is- if it is a campaign there needs to be an understanding of things that are already happening in this space; and,
   * actions on improving the quality of work should be linking with the Fair Work Commission.
   1. Matt also noted the consultation being undertaken by the Minister for International Relations and Welsh Language into a new international strategy for Wales. Panel members were asked to contribute via the online survey- Matt to circulate details.
3. **Forward Plan and Key Dates**
   1. The forward plan was discussed. The next panel meeting will be held on the 30 April and this will provide an opportunity to input to the drafting process. By 10 May a final document must be in place in order for design and translation work to be completed.
   2. In advance of publication- currently earmarked for the week commencing 17 June- there will be a period of communications and engagement work which panel will be approached to contribute to.
   3. The look of the final report was discussed. Although the desire is to make the report as interactive as possible- similar in style to the Atos Journey 2022 document- this is unlikely to be achievable in the current timeline and resources. Support is on standby to help with any necessary design work however final content is needed before any of this work can take place.
4. **Future Report structure and content**

**Overview of key recommendations**

* 1. A number of points were raised during the discussion on the slides presented by Phil including:
* the arms-length nature of any future organisational structures;
* whether Wales 4.0 sits comfortably with the long term narrative of the report;
* that the report should consider using different phrases and terminology to describe the future state and actions to be undertaken (i.e. moving away from phrases like ‘careers advice’);
* the question of job quality and the limitations of the labour market in reducing inequalities and how some form of flexicurity/ basic income model is a real prospect for Wales;
* the report may need to consider the powers devolved to Wales and what additional powers may be required and, crucially, how these could be put to use;
* plugging Wales in to UK Government policy and structures is important;
* be clear about saying what the delivery actions are- if we are talking about real-time economic policy we should say this and not fall for using current buzz words like ‘AI Labs’; and,
* rich datasets and open data will be critical tools to underpin the delivery of the report- although the question is whether these should be housed in government or through some other body or structure.

**Growth Clusters**

* 1. In terms of growth clusters, AI/ data, analytics and cyber were noted as central to these- there are opportunities from using data to inform activity within government and make predictive choices on what we do in the future. Additionally:
* the report should consider using some form of acronym for capturing data, analytics etc. as a single entity;
* agriculture and food production should be added to list, potentially as an ‘Advanced Production' cluster; and,
* accountability for delivery activities was discussed at length, including whether the Future Generations Commissioner could pick up some role in this area.

**Future Jobs Wales/ Job Redesign**

* 1. Actions on supporting job redesign at the firm level were discussed including:
* Wales may need to procure specialist support in this area in order to work with business around job redesign- the current system cannot provide the level of support required;
* consideration should be put to apportioning funding into specialist areas and freeing up the terms under which support is permissible to be spent;
* consider a lite version of an investor platform- e.g. creation of a CTO pool or other forms of fractional HR services;
* Government could provide free licences for Azure type training;
* the FSB’s work with the Valleys Taskforce activity may be helpful here;
* power and authority is needed to bring everything together; and,
* language is important in terms of presenting ideas and concepts.

4.4 Phil asked that panel consider any recommendations/ actions or commentary which should be included in the final report but may not have been drawn out through the meeting or during previous discussions.