Innovation Advisory Council for Wales

21st September 2018, Lifescience Hub, Minutes

Present: David Notley (DN) (co-chair)

Rhys Thomas (RT)
David Notley (DN)
Andy Middleton (AM)
Kirsten Bound (KBo)
Ian Brotherston (IB)
Jon Wood (JW)

Apologies: Sue Bale (SB)

Steve Smith (SS) Helen Swygart (HS) Dave Wilkes (DW) Robin Williams (RW) Kellie Beirne (KB)

Secretariat: Alastair Davies (AD)

Philippa Costello (PC)

Guest Speakers: David Rosser (DR) (WG)

Agenda item		Action
1	Welcome	
	DN welcomed council members to the 16th IACW meeting.	
	The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed. PC to send reminder to Phil Allen to forward details of the WFG online tool to Council once it has been completed.	PC
	The minutes were agreed and approved.	
	DN announced Robin Williams has now retired from Council. DN thanked RW for his valued time, effort and input over the last 4 years.	
	Council members present were asked to indicate any direct or indirect conflicts of interest in the proposed agenda items. No new interests were recorded.	
2	WG Chief Regional Officer, South East	
	DR explained that EAP signalled a new approach to economic development. One element of EAP is the introduction of a regional approach, moving away from the current sectors approach. As such, 3 Chief Regional Officers have been appointed to cover South East Wales, Mid and West Wales and	

	North Wales. DR explained that his area of South East includes the same 10 local authorities that make up the Cardiff City Deal.	
	The new regional way of working will be a place based approach and will focus on how to improve the economy in all parts of Wales rather than just in sectors in Wales.	
3	Future of IACW	
	The session concentrated on setting the agenda of IACW going forward.	
	KB and DN to write to Ken Skates, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport to request a meeting to update him on IACW and its purpose and to discuss how innovation and IACW can help him deliver EAP.	KB and DN
	Input had been requested from Council over the Summer to update the current Terms of Reference. These now reflect what IACW will do going forward. The ToR were agreed and approved.	
	The role, purpose and remit of the Council, its validity and relevance were discussed and centred on what the IACW can do collectively and the role it can play. These include:	
	 An evidence based advocacy of innovation role; Futures, foresight and horizon scanning work; A thought leadership role which will encompass collaborating with other organisations eg IUK and Nesta, to develop relevant studies and the commissioning of surveys and reports; Help WG to turn aspirations of EAP with regards to innovation into deliverable actions, providing an Influencing and advising role; DN and KB to provide evidence at Assembly Committee inquiry meetings. 	
	PC to send Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee report on Industry 4.0 to IACW. Furthermore, send details of the EIS Committee review into Research and Innovation in Wales and the Call for Evidence Review of Digital Innovation to Council so that a formal response from IACW can be submitted.	PC
	Membership of the Council was discussed. Current members felt the Council was lacking representation from a number of crucial areas, eg SMEs, industry, HE, geographical representation, foresight expertise. Due to the loss of some members recently as a result of retirement etc, it was agreed that new members should be recruited to join IACW. DN and KB to produce list of potential names to join Council for discussion at the next IACW meeting.	DN and KB
	It was agreed that within the next 6-12 months, IACW should focus on the following activities:	
	Broaden IACW membership;Commission short pieces of research/study/survey;	

4	AOB The next IACW meeting is scheduled for 30 th November 2018, venue to be confirmed.	
	 Respond to WG consultations in particular the EIS committee on research and innovation; Consult and liaise with the various Assembly committees specifically where innovation features; Consult with WG and Cabinet Secretary on role and purpose of IACW and offer opportunity to discuss how innovation and IACW can help him deliver EAP. It was noted that outputs and metrics are missing from EAP. It was agreed that the Innovation Department should produce a list of 15-20 outcomes and metrics they would expect to see to indicate the success of EAP in the innovation space. This list will be tabled to feature on the agenda for consideration and review at the next IACW meeting in November. 	AD