

National Infrastructure Commission for Wales

15 July 2020
 Via Zoom

Note

NICW	Nicola Britton, Office of the NICW
John Lloyd Jones, Chair	Adrian Davies, Office of the NICW
Tom Crick, Commissioner	John Howells, Director of Climate Change, Energy and Planning
Rob Irvine, Commissioner	
Eluned Parrott, Commissioner	
Rod Smith, Commissioner	Apologies
Chris Sutton, Commissioner	Stephen Gifford, Commissioner
Emma Thomas, Commissioner	Richard Feasey, Commissioner
Ceri Doyle, Commissioner	Tom Wharf, Commissioner
Helen Howells, Commissioner	

1. The Chair drew attention to a letter the Minister for Local Government and Housing had sent to local authorities about Planning and Post Covid 19 Recovery.
2. The Chair invited comment on a draft work plan for 2020-2021. During the discussion of the work plan the trend towards regional development/infrastructure planning was noted as an area the NICW want to engage the Welsh Government on. It was agreed a briefing note on current Welsh Government activity covering CJs (Local Govt Bill) and the shared prosperity fund would be requested.
3. Commissioners discussed practicalities related to production of their 2020 annual report.
4. Updates on activity related to the three key topics areas identified in the 2019 annual report were provided;
 - Digital Communications: Focus is on procuring additional analysis.
 - Transport:

- i. Commissioners noted the South East Wales Transport Commission would be shortly publishing its interim report. Also the Wales Transport Strategy (WTS) Consultation will be published in the autumn, with a meeting with the WTS team scheduled for September
 - ii. Commissioners although mindful of current situation (CV) felt they should continue to focus on mid to long term transport infrastructure.
- Energy: The complexity of the sector was noted. However the importance of a robust evidence base was seen as a priority. It was agreed additional resources would be necessary to complete work in this area.

5. The next meeting will be held in September

Action:

*Briefing note on regional working to be requested from Welsh Government:
Secretariat.*

NB July 2020.