

# Innovation Advisory Council for Wales

15<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Virtual Meeting

## Minutes

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Present: David Notley (DN) (co-chair)  
Claire Durkin (CD) (co-chair)  
Andy Middleton (AM)  
Kevin Morgan (KM)  
Jon Wood (JW)  
Carol Bell (CB)  
Rhys Thomas (RT)  
Rob Ashelford (RA)  
Karen Cherrett (KC)  
Rony Seamons (RS)  
Julie Booth (JB)  
Ian Brotherston (IB)  
Ieuan Wyn Jones (IWJ)

Secretariat: Philippa Costello (PC)  
Abi Phillips (AP)

Guest Speakers: Glyn Jones (WG)  
Sally Meecham (Centre for Digital Public Services)

Agenda item		Action
1	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>DN welcomed council members to the 25th IACW meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and approved.</p> <p>DN informed Council that Steve Smith has resigned from IACW. DN thanked SS for his commitment and dedication to Council over the last 6 years.</p> <p>DN welcomed IWJ to his first Council meeting.</p> <p>DN queried the possibility of holding an IACW meeting at M-SPARC in North Wales once face to face meetings are permitted again.</p> <p>DN highlighted there are now only 2 live actions on the action log. Please could all members send any suggestions for possible new members in the private, health and energy sectors to DN, CD and PC. The second live action relates to the Industrial Network in Taiwan – RS to reconnect with the Network, linking in DN and CD.</p> <p>Council members present were asked to indicate any direct or indirect conflicts of interest in the proposed agenda items. No new interests were recorded.</p>	<p><b>IACW</b></p> <p><b>RS</b></p>

<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>Data Nation Accelerator</b></p> <p>CD reported progress on the Data Nation Accelerator. The business development case is being developed in conjunction with WG and has support of the Ministers. There have been a series of consultative focus grouped themes (health, for instance, and public sector services). CD had recently co-chaired one of the outreach session alongside Phil Brown. The sessions were valuable in reaching and communicating. But the team would now seek to reach a broader base and engage at increasingly senior levels more fully. CD invited IACW members to propose people and organisations to target for future outreach activity.</p> <p>AM highlighted the importance of sustainability and net zero for the DNA. He was invited to offer a paper on this for Phil Brown and the development team.</p> <p>CB commented that DBW are producing a strategy on Net Zero for Wales. CB to present paper on the strategy at a future meeting.</p>	<p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>CB</b></p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Centre for Digital Public Services</b></p> <p>Glyn Jones, Chief Digital Officer at Welsh Government highlighted the new digital strategy that is being developed. The strategy will set out how WG will use digital, data and technology to improve the lives of people in Wales, which will include providing modern and efficient public services and stimulate innovation in the economy.</p> <p>There are 6 strands in the strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• digital services</li> <li>• digital economy</li> <li>• digital skills</li> <li>• digital inclusion</li> <li>• digital connectivity</li> <li>• data and collaboration</li> </ul> <p>A series of blogs are being published on each strand to share WG's thoughts and to obtain feedback and comments about each strand which will help shape the final strategy.</p> <p>Please send any comments and thoughts on the strategy to PC. GJ asked Council for help in promoting the strategy.</p> <p>Sally Meecham introduced the Centre for Digital Public Services which aims to enable a digital transformation of public services in Wales by bringing together Welsh public service professionals and digital transformation experts to provide guidance, training, standards, collaborative networking and hands-on practical help.</p> <p>PC to issue slides to Council.</p>	<p><b>IACW</b></p> <p><b>PC</b></p>

<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Craf Cymru</b></p> <p>RA provided an update on the Arloesiadur evaluation which was carried out by Nesta on the relevance, effectiveness, impacts and outputs of Arloesiadur. Many positives were highlighted including the concept and idea to develop a platform that uses novel data and analytics to measure innovation. This has attracted the attention of an international audience. The less positive issues include the type of data that was used and the data visualisations which were deemed too complex. Stakeholder engagement and user research were noted as areas that should be improved.</p> <p>The lessons learnt should be fed into any further development work on Craf Cymru which needs Ministerial buy in. It was agreed that any further work on Craf Cymru should now form part of the work that is being developed on the new Innovation Strategy rather than a stand alone piece of work.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Innovation Strategy</b></p> <p>CD updated Council on the work WG have commissioned IACW to produce, which will feed into a wider piece of work in the near future on innovation policy and strategy in Wales.</p> <p>There are 2 elements that form the basis of the work, with KM and RS involved in both. KM and Cardiff University are leading on conducting a deep dive on the innovation scene in Wales looking at business innovation, the research and innovation system in academia, and public service innovation. RS and Amplyfi are using their knowledge and expertise to survey and analyse innovation actions in Wales and globally. Combining their expertise, the teams will assess best practise here and from other countries and will look to identify how innovation is supported in other nations.</p> <p>CD and DN have established a steering group of IACW members. Any members of IACW are welcome; let CD know.</p>	<p><b>IACW</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>DN to report back on the North Wales Economic Ambition Board at the next meeting.</p> <p>The date for the next virtual IACW meeting is scheduled for 6-8 weeks. PC to issue date.</p>	<p><b>DN</b></p> <p><b>PC</b></p>