

Priorities for the future of infrastructure in Wales 8th March 2017

CONDITIONS FOR USE OF TRANSCRIPTS:

This document is intended to provide a timely reference for interested parties who are unable to attend the event to which it refers. Some portions are based on transcripts of proceedings and others consist of text submitted by speakers or authors, and are clearly marked as such. As such, apart from where it is indicated that the text was supplied by the speaker, it has not been possible for the transcript to be checked by speakers and so this portion of the document does not represent a formal record of proceedings. Despite best endeavours by Westminster Forum Projects and its suppliers to ensure accuracy, text based on transcription may contain errors which could alter the intended meaning of any portion of the reported content. Anyone who intends to publicly use or refer to any text based on the transcript should make clear that speakers have not had the opportunity for any corrections, or check first with the speaker in question. If in doubt, please contact the forum first.

Contents

About this Publication	3
<u>Agenda</u>	4
Session Chair's opening remarks Russell George AM, Chair, Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee (transcript)	6
Policy priorities for the future of infrastructure in Wales	
Ken Skates AM, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure, Welsh Government (transcript)	8
Questions and comments from the floor (transcript)	12
Progress on the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan: current state of Wales' infrastructure and future challenges	
Bridget Rosewell, Commissioner, National Infrastructure Commission (transcript)	16
Questions and comments from the floor (transcript)	19
What infrastructure does Wales need to create 'Vibrant and Viable Places'?	
Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters, Director of Policy and Deputy Chief Executive, Community Housing Cymru (transcript)	22
The foundations for an innovative, sustainable and growing economy: key priorities for Wales' infrastructure	
Edward Hunt, Director, Next Generation Access for Wales and West of England, BT Group (transcript)	25
Mike Pedley, Head of Energy, Welsh Water (transcript)	27
Professor John Hughes, Chairman, M-SParc and Vice-Chancellor, Bangor University (transcript)	29
Colin Brew, Chief Executive Officer, North Wales Chamber of Commerce (transcript)	31
Rhodri-Gwynn Jones, Chair, Constructing Excellence in Wales (transcript)	33
Questions and comments from the floor with Clarissa Corbisiero-Peters, Director of Policy and Deputy Chief Executive	
Community Housing Cymru (transcript)	35
Session Chair's closing remarks	
Russell George AM, Chair, Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee (transcript)	42
Opening remarks and funding infrastructure and regeneration in a post-EU economy	
Jill Evans MEP, Member, Welsh Government European Advisory Group (transcript)	43
Supporting the development of infrastructure through the planning system	
Tony Thickett, Director of Wales, Planning Inspectorate (transcript)	44
Questions and comments from the floor (transcript)	47
Getting infrastructure projects off the ground: the new planning system, skills and attracting investment	
Roger Tanner, Spokesperson on Transport, Cardiff Civic Society (transcript)	50
Tim London, Principal Associate, Eversheds Sutherland (transcript)	52
Richard Selby, Director, Pro Steel Engineering (transcript)	55
Kate Jones, Senior Associate, Pinsent Masons (transcript)	56
Questions and comments from the floor (transcript)	58
Session Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks	
Jill Evans MEP, Member, Welsh Government European Advisory Group (transcript)	63
Peter van Gelder, Director, Policy Forum for Wales (transcript)	64
List of Delegates Registered for Seminar	65
Contributor Biographies	73

Please be advised that speakers' PowerPoint presentations are included within the transcript itself, just beneath the relevant speaker's text. Please note that not all speakers are able to grant permission for us to include their slides.

About this Publication

This publication reflects proceedings at the Policy Forum for Wales Keynote Seminar: Priorities for the future of infrastructure in Wales held on 8th March 2017. The views expressed in the articles are those of the named authors, not those of the Forum or the sponsors, apart from their own articles.

Although Policy Forum for Wales is grateful to all sponsors for the funding on which we depend, participation in events and publications is never conditional on being a sponsor. As well as funding ongoing operations, sponsorship enables the Forum to distribute complimentary copies of publications, and offer complimentary tickets for events, to Government ministers, parliamentarians and officials most involved in policy.

This publication is copyright. Its copying, in whole or in part, is not permitted without the prior written consent of the publishers. However, extracts of the text may be reproduced for academic or review purposes, subject to the conditions of use outlined in the previous page, providing they are accurate, are not used in a misleading context and the author, their organisation and the Policy Forum for Wales are acknowledged. We would also appreciate being informed.

Policy Forum for Wales

UK Headquarters 4 Bracknell Beeches Old Bracknell Lane West Bracknell Berkshire RG12 7BW

T: 01344 864796 F: 01344 420121 publications@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk

Directors

Peter van Gelder Chris Whitehouse