

Notes

Cabinet Commission – Restoring the Wye
Monday 24 June 2024
9:30am – 11:30am Via MS Teams

Role	Name	Abbr.	Representing
Chair:	Cllr Elissa Swinglehurst	ES	Herefordshire Council
Commissioners	Cllr Jake Berriman	JB	Powys Council
	Cllr Catrin Maby	CM	Monmouthshire Council
	Cllr Jackie Fraser	JF	Forest of Dean
Attendees:	Mark Averill	MA	Herefordshire Council
	Ross Cook	RC	Herefordshire Council
	Liz Duberley	LD	Herefordshire Council
	Peter Morris	PM	Powys Council
	Frances O'Brien	FOB	Monmouthshire Council
	Liz Bickerton	LB	Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons)
	Helen Lucocq	HL	Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons)
	Matthew Perry	MP	Powys Council
	Henry Merricks-Murgatroyd	HMM	Herefordshire Council
	Molly Hucker	PW	Herefordshire Council

Item No	Item
1.	<p>Attendance / Apologies / Introductions</p> <p>Apologies noted: Ben Boswell (Herefordshire Council), Ross Cook (Herefordshire Council), Cllr Jackie Fraser (Forest of Dean), Matthew Perry (Powys Council).</p>
2.	<p>DEFRA River Action Plan</p> <p>It was agreed that a letter be sent to Welsh Government, UK Government, DEFRA, and NRW to recommit to the principles of the plan. It was also agreed that a meeting be sought at the earliest possible opportunity with Welsh Government and DEFRA.</p>

Item No	Item
3.	<p>Council's differing strategies to mitigation across England and Wales: Thresholds of significance, period of certainty</p> <p>It was agreed that significant differences with strategies to mitigation in relation to housing need to be addressed across England and Wales with both Welsh Government and UK Government. It was asked that any conversations that need to take place with both governments be escalated into the Cabinet Commission so that they can be taken forward.</p>
4.	<p>Update from SOG – Pausing of Poole Harbour Model</p> <p>The Commission discussed the possibility of commissioning a phosphate loss tool and whether it would be possible for other local authorities to use it too. The Commission agreed that they want to know why it matters and what it would cost with the prospect of a business case being put together to make the argument if it was felt necessary.</p>
5.	<p>Cabinet Commission Plan strategy document issued in 22/23</p> <p>It was agreed that the Cabinet Commission's purpose and role be recommitted with its Terms of Reference being taken away and any changes made and confirmed at the next meeting.</p>
6.	<p>Cabinet Commission Future Funding</p> <p>The Commission agreed that it did not want to cost the officers time and money if it means that they are duplicating work which they already doing. It was noted that there should not be a proliferation of plans and therefore everyone needs to put into the Catchment Partnership Plan and Nutrient Management Plan. It was understood that the funding from Welsh Government has been allocated for the Nutrient Management Board and the deficit that was not spent from last year's funding has been brought forward which is to be allocated to the development of the Welsh side of the Nutrient Management Plan.</p>
7.	<p>Welsh Plans and Projects – update</p> <p>It was agreed that as issues are worked on by separate local authorities, where potential solutions could benefit other areas, collaboration would be useful and supported by the Commission. The issue of upstream and downstream of wetlands was suggested as an opportunity of cross-border collaboration to benefit multiple areas.</p>
8.	<p>Nutrient Management Plan – Projects with Quantifiable Phosphate Reduction for inclusion</p> <p>It was noted that NE are undertaking a review of the NMP and progress on the PTP upgrades on the wetlands have been updated. It was asked that the issue of flow, especially for Powys at the top of the catchment, was cited as a critical contributing factor to the environmental pressures of the river was looked into further to deepen understanding.</p>
9.	<p>External Grant Funding Process</p> <p>It was raised that there is an opportunity to bring together any requests to bring together any requests for funding for any projects that are coming forward in order to better share knowledge around funding opportunities and begin to allocate strategically the projects that want to be prioritised.</p>

Item No	Item
10.	AOB It was asked that future dates of Cabinet Commission meetings can be scheduled.