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Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group Meeting

Minutes of the Wylfa Newydd Project Liaison Group held on Thursday 9 March 2017 in the Eleth and Eilian Rooms at the Wylfa Newydd site office.

Attendees (in alphabetical order by organisation):

Name	Organisation
Dennis Evans	Chair
Myrddin Owens	Amlwch Town Council
Peter Day	Anglesey Federation of Small Businesses
Don White	Anglesey Federation of Small Businesses
Phil Scott	Destination Anglesey Partnership
Gwenno Evans	Anglesey Young Farmers Federation
Gwilym Williams	Clough & Co
Trevor Howes	CNC - Stakeholder Liaison Officer/Nuclear New Build Single Point of Contact
Wyn Thomas	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai Director Resources & Development
Eric Torr	Cwmni Cemaes Cyf / Ynni Talybolion
Manon Francis	Isle of Anglesey County Council/Energy Island Programme
Tony Jones	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Ieuan Williams	Isle of Anglesey County Council Leader (Lligwy)
Richard Dew	Isle of Anglesey County Council Member for Llifon
John Griffith	Isle of Anglesey County Council Member for Talybolion
Kenneth P Hughes	Isle of Anglesey County Council Member for Talybolion
Elfed Jones	Llanbadrig Community Council
Ann Kennedy	Mayor of Holyhead Town Council
Medwyn Williams	Magnox Ltd
Geraint Hughes	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Anna M Jones	Tref Alaw Community Council
Dr Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Alwyn Rowlands	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau
Margaret Thomas	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau
Eurwyn Aled Hughes	Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern

Apologies:

Name	Organisation
Guto Bebb MP	Member of Parliament for Aberconwy
Jackie Blackwell	Ynys Môn - Citizen's Advice Bureau
Michelle Brown AM	Welsh Assembly Regional Member for North Wales
Maurice Core	NDA Site Representative Wylfa Power Station
Carys Edwards	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Janet Finch Saunders AM	Welsh Assembly Member for Aberconwy
Steve Graham	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Siân Gwenllïan AM	Welsh Assembly Member for Arfon

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Anthony Hughes	Llanbadrig Community Council
Alli Hunt	National Skills Academy for Nuclear
Llinos Medi Huws	Isle of Anglesey County Council Member for Talybolion
Rhun ap Iorwerth AM	Welsh Assembly Member for Ynys Môn
Dr Gwynne Jones	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Jean Jones	Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones
Stuart Law	Magnox Ltd
Gwynne Morris Jones	Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales / YDCW
Mel O'Hara	Member of the Public
Liz Saville Roberts MP	Member of Parliament for Dwyfor Meirionnydd
Mark Thornton	North Wales Community Health Council Chair - Ynys Mon Committee
Dylan Williams	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Keith Williams	Welsh Ambulance Services Trust
Rebecca Williams	Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
Hywel Williams MP	Member of Parliament for Arfon

If your name has been inadvertently missed from this list or recorded inaccurately, please contact Horizon on 0800 954 9516 or at wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com.

For general project information or to ask Horizon any questions, please contact the team on 0800 954 9516 or at wylfaenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com and visit www.horizonnuclearpower.com

You can access these minutes and all the presentations from the PLG meeting via www.wylfaplq.com

1. Welcome, minutes of the December 2016 meeting and matters arising - Dennis Evans, Chairman

- Dennis Evans (**DE**) welcomed everyone to the meeting at 5.30pm and introduced the individuals who would be giving presentations.
- There were no matters arising that were not already covered in the meeting's agenda to follow.
- The minutes were accepted as a true record of the 13 December 2016 meeting.

2. Introduction and Wylfa Newydd progress update - Sasha Davies, Head of Strategic Development Wales; Charlie Tasker, Head of Construction

- Sasha Davies (**SD**) welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.
 - **DE** was the only nominee for the Chair and was automatically appointed. He was thanked for continuing in the role.

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- Two nominations had been received for the position of Vice Chair therefore a postal vote would be carried out after the meeting and notice given of the successful appointee.
- **SD** gave an update on the past few months' progress. **SD** mentioned that the second Horizon 2017 apprenticeship round that was launched at the beginning of February had received a lot of interest with over 270 applications from across North Wales received; **SD** was confident of appointing up to 12 apprentices in collaboration with Grŵp Llandrillo Menai.
- **SD** reported that as part of the Horizon Education Programme, the team had recently visited local primary schools, with focus on key stage 2 and promoting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects.
- **SD** also reported Horizon had donated more than £100,000 to local organisations over the last 2 years via the Horizon Charitable Donations Fund. She said voluntary groups and organisations were welcome to apply to the scheme, which is available on the Horizon website.
- Charlie Tasker (**CT**) presented an update on site activities which included;
 - Nanner Road improvements – the road had been upgraded and was expected to be completed the following week. Richard Foxhall (**RF**) noted that local residents have commented on the high standard of the work on the road.
 - The second SPEN (Scottish Power Energy Network) circuit work, which would begin very shortly.
 - Further archaeological work is required as some areas had been identified for further work. This would take place in April/May 2017 depending on consent.
 - All of SP Manweb's overhead cables were being taken down to support construction, with new cables laid underground; these should be completed by the end of summer. **CT** explained the work being done here would also help to improve local connections, meaning fewer power cuts during periods of poor weather.
 - Work with Welsh Water would start this year on the Cemaes to Wylfa Head water pipes.
 - Ecological and maritime surveys were continuing. Some noise testing would be carried out at the end of March; this would involve field vibration / noise charges that would mimic the noise levels expected during work time. There were some future testing in the summer too. Prior notice would be given to the local community.
 - There were some outstanding removals of buildings to take place in the spring.
- **SD** mentioned that Wylfa Newydd was a 100 year plus project and it was important to get things right for the long term benefit of the business and the community, and although the

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project was not yet 100% guaranteed (until the Financial Investment Decision at the end of 2019) – this has always been Horizon’s approach.

- **SD** went on to state that significant work had already been carried out in key areas of the project including, developing a local supply chain, recruiting locally, developing local education skills in STEM subjects and protecting the Welsh language and culture. **SD** then mentioned that all these areas were part of the day-to-day work for Horizon, and intrinsic to the company’s values.
- **SD** then went on to present the six key questions about the Wylfa Newydd Project that we must all keep in mind, which were:
 1. What are we building?
 2. How much will it cost? The costs had been identified and one of Horizon’s challenges was to meet the UK Government’s expectations.
 3. How long will it take? 2025 had been set as an achievable target for reactor 1 to become operational.
 4. How will we build the organisation? This meant putting in place an effective structure to see Horizon through development, construction and into operation.
 5. Where will the money come from? Investors were being sought to help finance the development; this was on-going with good progress.
 6. How will Wylfa Newydd benefit the host community? Significant benefit from construction through to operation.
- The timeline for works and main construction were presented.
 - Pre Application Consultation stage three (PAC3) – May 2017
 - Development Consent Order (DCO) application – 2017
 - DCO granted - 2018
 - Final Investment Decision (FID) – end 2019
 - First nuclear construction planned to begin in 2020
 - Main construction 2020 – 2025
 - Commissioning was expected to begin in 2023
 - Commercial operation in 2025.

The organisation was confident of this timeline if successful with funding and securing consent to build.

- **SD** reported that Hitachi has already invested over £1.5 billion in the project development and two stages of pre-application consultation have been completed, along with ongoing development work of a supply chain framework, education and skills programme.

3. Planning and Consultation Update - Ifer Gwyn, Stakeholder Engagement Manager

- Ifer Gwyn (**IG**) presented the details of the consenting strategy. The main change since the PAC2 is that the Wales Act is now in place. This provides Horizon with the ability to submit

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our Wylfa Newydd project Development Consent Order (DCO) in to the UK Planning Inspectorate for Nationally Significant Projects (PINS). However, Town and Country Planning Applications (TCPAs) for the associated developments for preliminary site works/clearance and online A5025 road improvements, will still be submitted to the Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC). Horizon is also working closely with IACC on the Local Development Plan policy.

- The third stage of pre-application consultation (PAC3) will start towards the end of May and will cover which elements of the Wylfa Newydd proposals have changed since PAC2 in autumn 2016. The next PLG will focus on PAC3, a date during the last week of May to be arranged.
- **IG** explained the project has gone through a phase of optimisation which allowed Horizon to take account of the consultation outcomes from PAC2, for example, considering the environmental impacts of Wylfa Newydd, on site building layouts and temporary workers accommodation. The proposals also have to appeal to investors on a global level and reflect the best way to minimise the impact on local communities.
- **IG** explained the Power Station layout had also been optimised and now sat across a reduced site footprint; that is better for the local residents of Tregele but also the wider environment as there is less concrete required during construction.
- **CT** presented the construction schedule with the expected staffing levels throughout the construction period. At its peak, during fuel loading between 2023 and 2025, approximately 9,000 workers are estimated to be needed on site. **CT** explained that figure is slightly lower than what had been discussed previously.
- Details of temporary worker accommodation were presented. A number of detailed comments had been received on this during the consultation period PAC2 and discussions were continuing on Land and Lakes accommodation. The initial option agreement for Rhosgoch had been signed, with work still to do. On-site accommodation was also planned, with a capacity of approximately 500 initially outlined in PAC2. However, following consultation responses and the need to deliver an affordable project, this was expected to rise to over 2,500. Details were still being worked through.
- An initial mock-up design of the site accommodation was shown, which would be built according to eventual worker number needs and modular to allow flexibility in terms of numbers. The exact design and final location had not yet been decided and proposals will be included in PAC3.
- **SD** explained the Horizon's commitment to the host community of Anglesey and in particular to north Anglesey. The social licence to operate was not taken for granted and close working

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with the local community would continue to ensure we are a good neighbour and foster ongoing community support.

- **SD** emphasised that protecting and safeguarding the Welsh language and culture was a key commitment and we hope young people will return to Anglesey to work as part of Wylfa Newydd, creating wider opportunities in the local area.
- **SD** said Horizon will be one of the key sponsors of the National Eisteddfod in Bodedern this summer and would also be an active partner, in the Science and Technology pavilion.
- **SD** gave details on the next steps of the Project, which include closing remaining decisions by the end of March/April, especially internal decisions and optimisation as presented by **IG**. PAC3 would then follow, with the information to be prepared for the local communities. Design information for the DCO would be completed later in 2017.
- **DE** opened the floor to questions on the presentations, which he mentioned would be on the PLG website in due course. He reiterated some of the key points presented asking for questions on each section in turn.

Questions and comments:

- **DE** said that Horizon's CEO had challenged the Wylfa Newydd team to deliver the project, which would be changing as it moved forward.
- Wyn Thomas (**WT**) asked whether the PowerPoint presentation would be made available on the PLG website. CT said yes it would (*note – this would normally not happen until the minutes are approved for publication i.e. after the next PLG meeting, at which point some of it will be out of date and perhaps confused with PAC3 documentation, eg TWA*).
- **DE** stated that: PLG members had been under impression that the IACC were a strong influence from a consenting point of view, going down the DCO route instead is a major change to that approach,
 - **IG** said that the decision making is with the UK Government, and the council's support was required for the project to move forward successfully, as a key statutory consultee. The community benefits package is guided by the IACC. This is a significant change; it's important to have collaboration with the IACC and there's mutual respect. **IG** stated that the process now meant legally Horizon could discuss, with the IACC, the community benefits package with less potential conflicts of interest; this was previously difficult when IACC were the decision maker.
- Phil Scott (**PS**) asked for an explanation in layman's terms of the difference between a TCPA and DCO, who has the decision? He also asked whether this would be explained in PAC3.

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- **IG** referred to information available on the Welsh Government website that explains the relationship between developers and the Government. He also confirmed that this would be explained in PAC3 documentation.
- **DE** commented on the significance of the site footprint reduction; increasing the distance from the main road and villages which was welcomed. More details of this would be available in PAC3.
- Myrddin Owens (**MO**) asked whether the Amlwch A/B temporary workers' accommodation was going ahead.
 - **SD** confirmed that this option will be removed from the temporary worker's accommodation proposals.
- Ann Kennedy (**AK**), Mayor of Holyhead stated that she had no personal or pecuniary interest in Land and Lakes, but it had always been looked on as a key development for Holyhead with regard to tourism. There remained concern from the Town Council as to whether it would be part of the Wylfa Newydd development. She asked for clarification on whether this development would go ahead.
 - **CT** stated that discussions with Land and Lakes were on-going and its financial viability was being considered. Travelling for workers was a key driver in assessing the costs and commercial viability of this.
 - **SD** added that Horizon were not part of the Land and Lakes proposal for the Penrhos holiday village, which has already been given planning consent. However in terms of temporary worker accommodation, the economic viability of the location is a key consideration factor. However, Holyhead would continue to have a key role to play in the project both in terms of other associated developments being based there as well as employment opportunities for the people of Holyhead.
- **DE** commented that he had not envisaged the increased onsite staff accommodation.
- Tom Conway (**TC**) said that he hadn't attended PAC2 events, but wasn't aware whether there had been any accommodation proposed for site.
 - **IG** stated that 500 spaces for workers had been identified in PAC2, but current plans were going through a screening process that would see that figure increase, potentially significantly
- **TC** said that this was the first he'd heard of any on-site temporary worker accommodation, and stressed that the sewage facility locally was not adequate, and that this matter should be given a great deal of consideration. DE reminded the members that TWA for 500 workers was proposed in PAC2.
 - **CT** said that they'd already been in contact with Welsh Water and confirmed that new pipes and increased capacity would be built and funded by Horizon. A new treatment plant would have to be built for the plant which may be a legacy left for

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the community. Proposals would be published in PAC3 material and will therefore be consulted on.

- **PS** stated that what was presented showed fundamental changes to temporary worker accommodation, and asked for clarification on whether the new proposals would be included in PAC3 and how it would be consented.
 - **IG** confirmed that proposals would be included in PAC3 for consultation.
 - **SD** confirmed that the temporary workers' accommodation would form an integral part of the DCO planning application as laid out in the DCO.
- **WT** asked for details on the total potential figure of construction workers potentially expected in Rhosgoch and Land and Lakes.
 - **CT** stated 1/3 of workers were expected to be living within 90 minutes travel to work area, 1/3 in existing accommodation in the area and the other 1/3 in accommodation onsite and possibly Rhosgoch; exactly how much capacity on each site was still being considered. More robust figures would be included in PAC3. Work was underway with existing accommodation providers and new ones to house those seeking accommodation on the island.
 - **SD** added that the existing housing stock available would be on an accommodation portal which will assist with accommodation provision.
- **AK** asked for an explanation of how travel allowances worked.
 - **CT** explained that those within the 90 minutes travel to work area would, as a rule, be paying their own travelling costs. There would be a radius allowance for some but not to those who had been provided accommodation. It would not be possible for an individual to be paid both allowances.
- Don White (**DW**) asked for clarification on temporary workers accommodation in Amlwch.
 - **SD** confirmed that this was not going ahead; however there would be some permanent housing built on the Madyn Farm proposals.
- Medwyn Williams (**MW**) commented that PAC3 would commence in two months, and asked when the PAC2 feedback report would be published.
 - **IG** stated that the responses to PAC2 were still being considered, acknowledging the tight schedule. The comments were being used to make immediate changes to PAC3 and there was an obligation to publish how consultation comments were acted upon as part of the DCO.

4. Horizon's Site Licence Application – Andy Bevan, Nuclear Site Licensing Manager

- Andy Bevan (**AB**) presented a background on the site licensing process that's required to carry out the work at Wylfa Newydd and operate the facility in the future. The structure of the site licence application was presented, built around a suite of 11 documents that

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described the organisation's capabilities. The application would be available on Horizon Nuclear Power's website in the coming weeks.

- The application had been subject to critical examination which was a rigorous process. A meeting had been held with ONR as part of this process and it was considered a complete application.
- In terms of the ONR licensing and permission process, **AB** explained that this is a five step process with the application being made on 31 March 2017 (with documents available to the public April 3) and the licence is expected to be granted in October 2018 following ONR's examination process.
- The key themes of the ONR assessment were explained, these are the assessment of suitability of the company, suitability of the site i.e. land agreements in place, and suitability of the design.
- **AB** stated that the development would be compliant with all 36 licence conditions before a site licence was granted, which covered design, construction, operation and decommissioning.
- Details of websites with further reading were presented.

Questions and comments:

- **DE** asked if the licence was a step-by-step procedure.
 - **AB** explained that the licence would give initial permission with further consents required as the project moved forward.
- **DE** asked whether the four representatives from Exelon – Horizon's Operational Partner embedded in Horizon would have anything to do with the site licence.
 - **AB** confirmed that the Exelon staff would be offering advice and working with the operations team on strategies and arrangements.
 - **SD** elaborated on this adding that Exelon staff had been embedded in the organisation as part of the Operations team under Greg Evans as Director.
- **MO** noted that Horizon had reported their commitment to supporting the Welsh language, however the Site Licence Application presentation slides had been in English only.
 - **SD** confirmed that all slides should be and will be bilingual for all future meetings.
- G.O. Jones (**GOJ**) asked whether the Site Licence Application was for the full life cycle of the power station?
 - **CT** confirmed that the licence was for the full life cycle of the plant i.e. the same as the current Magnox site.

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- Eric Torr (**ET**) asked whether the design of the reactor had been approved?
 - **CT** said it was in its fourth stage of development and is expected to be approved later this year.

5. Menter Newydd update – Lowri Joyce, Hitachi Nuclear Energy Europe Ltd.

- Lowri Joyce (**LJ**) explained the programme and team structure.
- Details of the 2016 financial year activities were presented. Menter Newydd are under contract to Horizon during the three year Early Contractor Engagement (ECE) phase.
- The focus going forward was on pre-final investment decision requirements and to prepare for an EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) proposal for Horizon NP later in the year.
- **LJ** presented an overview of the key issues to consider, which included supporting the Horizon supply chain charter, sharing further details on supply chain opportunities, skills and training, and developing a framework to deliver the construction workforce.
- The consultation led by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and the Environmental Agency (EA) had now closed having held several well-attended events in Anglesey and Thornbury; feedback would be available on Environment Agency website in due course.
- **LJ** explained that during the Generic Design Assessment (GDA), comments could be made on the UK ABWR design in Welsh or English via the website and a response would be given in a timely manner
- **LJ** offered to give a more technical presentation on the UK ABWR at a future meeting. **DE** welcomed this, as the more familiar members of the PLG were with project, the less daunting it may become.

Questions and comments:

- Iwan Williams (**IW**), NRW, commented that there would be an opportunity to comment on the assessment of the Wylfa Newydd site and the wider environmental impact. **LJ** added that an explanation could be given on the changes made in future presentations.

5. AOB

- Gavin Crook (**GC**), from National Grid presented information on the North Wales Connection project following the close of consultation. Approximately 1,800 responses had been received, which were aiding the design and ensuring that it was fit for purpose.

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- The connection development involved balancing many different factors and technical challenges, especially with the tunnel under the Menai Strait as well as environmental sensitivities regarding AONBs and tourism across all of Anglesey.
- **GC** acknowledged many points had been received about twin parallel lines and how these would affect the landscape and understood the views presented but stated there is another operating nuclear connection Sizewell B that has the same type of parallel connection made by overhead lines so this would not be unprecedented.
- National Grid is still looking into siting these lines, taking into account strategic feedback from stakeholders on undergrounding the whole route and specific feedback from landowners on locations and accesses. Feedback has been provided to all the statutory consultees and the community councils who responded to the consultation. All the feedback will be written up into the consultation report.
- **GC** explained there was a high emphasis on cost throughout the planning process but in terms of what National Grid is presenting, it was a balance of how much investment was put in and the duty to be efficient and economic in the approach. GC noted National Grid is regulated and is required to meet a range of obligations.
- The next steps prior to submission were presented to PLG members. This included working on assessing feedback and responding to statutory comments. The key points were:
 - During the spring and summer, some additional work and consultation would be carried out in the west Gwynedd area.
 - In autumn 2017, National Grid would be lining up as close as possible to Horizon with regard to planning procedures and National Grid's own DCO application to UK Government.
 - DCO approval was expected by 2019 and National Grid was confident to be able to provide a connection for the power station as expected.
 - **GC** added that the tunnel under the Menai Strait was the most significant construction aspect of the project expected to be the first site activity.

Questions and comments:

- **WT** commented that the connection's construction period, 2020 – 2024, would be parallel to the peak period for Wylfa workers, and asked where National Grid's workers would be accommodated.
 - **GC** stated that National Grid is not as far advanced in planning workforces as Horizon but that National Grid estimates only hundreds rather than thousands of workers will be needed. GC advised they would require a highly specialised team for the tunnel's construction as few are able to deliver it globally. Line gangs –

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responsible for the overhead line - are generally formed of groups of 10-20, therefore very manageable.

- Cllr. John Griffith (**JG**) stated that IACC supported underground cabling across the whole island, and that National Grid's response has been muted to this. IACC is opposed to twin lines across the island, which **JG** believed would have an impact on tourism and local amenities; he went on to ask whether National Grid accepted that twin lines would have this impact.
 - **GC** stated that National Grid was carefully considering the different aspects of the development and acknowledged the request for underground cables for the whole of the connection. He said National Grid would look at the impact of the parallel lines, although this did not mean commitment to full underground cables, while trying to carefully balance any potential impacts against statutory duties and policies.
- **TC** asked what the increased value in payments for underground connections for the whole of Anglesey would amount to.
 - **GC** confirmed that a higher sum was paid for underground cabling than for over land cabling, with the exact amounts depending on the current land, its use and other factors. This could be of financial benefit to landowners.
 - **GC** also confirmed there was no mechanism for the cooling of underground cables, they would be insulated and heat was taken away in the ground. They do not sterilise the land and could still be used for agriculture.
- **DW** asked if consideration had been given to sub-sea cabling.
 - **GC** responded that this had been investigated thoroughly in the strategic options assessments; unfortunately the technology was not currently available for the HVDC sub-sea cabling for the capacity required to connect Horizon, even if it was it would be a world first application for a nuclear power station on the edge of a network; much research was still needed in this field. Development in research in this area is still underway and National Grid had investigated how this could be applied to Wylfa Newydd, however, challenges in this timeframe would put the project at risk and could put National Grid's ability to connect Wylfa Newydd on time at risk.
- **DE** referred to John Idris Jones' concerns at the last meeting regarding the reliability of maintaining two parallel lines and concerns about the impact of terrorism or extreme weather on them. A response to the concerns had been received by letter from National Grid and Horizon, and the Chair read the letter out to those present which highlighted that National Grid took resilience of the line very seriously and took into account loss of connection due to a major incident, having a number of safeguards in place – including regular scenario planning. **DE** noted that the letter made clear that all network types require some above ground structures and that underground technology could also be open to attack or extreme events and also had safeguards in place. National Grid followed all relevant guidelines, in that lines were robust and capable of dealing with any events, be they deliberate or not. **DE** stated that the letter would be kept on file for future reference if required.

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- **PS** stated that it was critical that stakeholders were available to attend tourism mitigation workshops. He asked Horizon whether it would be possible to get meetings scheduled earlier in order to get good representation from Welsh Government and other stakeholders.
 - **IG** responded that the calendar of engagements was fully mapped out and conveyed to all stakeholders.

6. Close

- **DE** thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 19.40.