

## Policy Forum for Wales Keynote Seminar: Next steps for Welsh infrastructure

Timing: Morning, Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013

Venue: Bardd Suite, Cardiff Marriott Hotel, Mill Lane, Cardiff CF10 1EZ



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Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Nick Ramsay AM**, Shadow Minister for Business, Enterprise & Technology, Welsh Conservatives
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Focusing on growth: the role of infrastructure development in Wales**  
**Rt Hon David Jones MP**, Secretary of State for Wales  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.15 **City Regions and Enterprise zones**  
*What would be the impact of moving planning decisions away from local authorities and into the proposed regional planning authorities, and how does this relate to plans to develop City Regions? What specific infrastructure projects are needed to support the development of effective City Regions and Enterprise Zones? How should the need to improve infrastructure be balanced with concerns around environmental impact?*  
**Dr Elizabeth Haywood**, Chair, City Regions Task and Finish Group and Partner, Haywood Hain  
**Askar Sheibani**, Vice-Chair, Deeside Enterprise Zone Board and Group President and Chief Executive Officer, Comtek Network Systems (UK)  
**Gareth Clubb**, Director, Friends of the Earth Cymru  
**Eifion Bowen**, Head of Planning, Carmarthenshire County Council  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 - 10.45 **The next steps for infrastructure policy**  
**Jane Hutt AM**, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House, Welsh Government  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chairman's closing remarks**  
**Nick Ramsay AM**, Shadow Minister for Business, Enterprise & Technology, Welsh Conservatives
- 10.50 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Eluned Parrott AM**, Shadow Minister for Business, Enterprise, Transport and Europe, Welsh Liberal Democrats
- 11.20 - 12.05 **Priorities for Welsh infrastructure**  
*Perspectives on the priorities for Welsh infrastructure and the plans outlined in the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan (WIIP). How successful has the Welsh Government been so far in meeting their targets set out in the 2012 WIIP? What lessons can be learned from the pilot rollout of super-fast broadband to help maximise the benefits to business and the local community? What are the transport priorities in improving connectivity in Wales - including electrification of the railways, roads, ports and airports? Should control of energy policy for projects producing up to 100MW be devolved from Westminster, and what impact would this have on investment in the renewable industry and projects such as the Severn Barrage?*  
**Mike Bagshaw**, Commercial Director, Arriva Trains Wales  
**Dr David Clubb**, Director, RenewableUK Cymru  
**Darren James**, Managing Director, Infrastructure, Costain  
**Ann Beynon**, Director, Wales, BT Group  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.05 - 12.55 **Funding infrastructure projects and encouraging inward investment**  
*How can businesses, Governments and agencies work more effectively together in coordinating approaches for inward investment, and in sharing best practice? What would be the ideal borrowing levels to be devolved to the Welsh Government to finance much needed infrastructure, and what conditions should be attached by the UK Government? To what extent should the Welsh Government utilise alternative finance models such as PFI and PPP, and how can value for money be ensured? How might local Government pension funds be utilised to fund infrastructure, and what steps could be put in place to encourage private funds to invest? How can more EU funding be attracted into Wales, and what steps should the Welsh Government take to ensure that funding is effectively directed at infrastructure projects in Wales? What steps can be taken in the development of the "Welsh Brand" as an attractive place for investment? How can universities and R&D-focused businesses in Wales work together in achieving successful bids for research funding from UK Research Councils?*  
**Professor Colin Riordan**, President and Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University and Chair, UK Higher Education International Unit (UKHEIU)  
**Gronw Percy**, Assistant Director, PwC  
**Mark Barry**, Consultant, M&G Barry Consulting and Author, *A Metro for Wales' Capital City Region*  
**Louise Minford**, Representative for Wales, Infrastructure UK, HM Treasury  
**Graham Morgan**, Director, South Wales Chamber of Commerce  
**Sasha Davies**, Strategic Director (Economy & Place), Conwy County Borough Council and European Adviser, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA)  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks**  
**Eluned Parrott AM**, Shadow Minister for Business, Enterprise, Transport and Europe, Welsh Liberal Democrats  
**Jonny Roberts**, Senior Producer, Policy Forum for Wales