

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES CROSS PARTY  
GROUP ON CROSS BORDER ISSUES  
HELD AT TY HYWEL, ON 17 JANUARY 2017**

**Present:**

AMs:

Russell George  
David Rowlands  
Nick Ramsay  
Mark Reckless  
Mark Isherwood  
Darren Millar  
Janet Finch-Saunders  
Dai Lloyd (represented by Darren Price)

Other attendees (as signed on the attendance sheet):

Dilwyn Roberts	North Wales EAB
Robin Millar-Stott	Transport for the North
Angus Eickhoff	SARPA
Mark Youngman	Great Western Railway
John Pockett	CPT/GWR
Nigel Brinn	Powys County Council
Robin Smith	Rail Freight Group
Philip Price	Herefordshire Council
Jeremy Callard	Herefordshire Council
Katie Wilby	Flintshire County Council
Lewis Brencher	Arriva Trains Wales
Ceri Stephens	Mid Wales Manufacturing Group
Elgan Morgan	Mid & South Wales Chamber of Commerce
Elwyn Davies	Powys FSB
Alex Williams	Office of Russell George AM

In attendance:

Simon Jones Director of Transport & ICT Infrastructure WG  
Rhodri Griffiths, Deputy Director, Transport Policy, Planning & Partnerships WG

**Welcome and introduction:**

RG welcomed those present and outlined the purpose of the CPG and, in particular, this meeting, the first formal meeting of the group, which would focus on transport. Those present introduced themselves.

**Elections:**

Russell George was formally proposed as chair by Mark Isherwood and seconded by Mark Reckless  
John Pockett was formally proposed as secretary by Russell George and seconded by Janet Finch-Saunders.

**Presentation:**

Simon Jones and Rhodri Griffiths, WG  
The presentation slides were subsequently made available to attendees by Russell George's office.

**Discussion:**

A wide ranging round-table discussion, involving most attendees, followed the presentation. This covered a number of transport related cross border issues, including, but not exclusively:

Aberystwyth-Birmingham Airport rail links;  
Problems dealing with several bodies in England (Highways Agency a quoted example);  
N E Wales Metro and links with N W Wales;  
Transport difficulties along A465 and around Hereford;  
Difficulties when dealing with two governments over cross border transport issues;  
Seven Bridge/Crossing tolls issues on the wider Monmouthshire/Gloucestershire etc region;  
Links/dialogue with Transport for the North and NW England generally;  
Powys cross border road links – approx. 35 of which 50% are Highways England roads, 50% Local Authority roads;  
AMs present encouraged attendees to contact them when cross border issues arise.

from which the action point below emerged:

The potential for a separate, stand-alone CPG on transport to be explored by Russell George and John Pockett.

Russell George thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 2000.

**Next meeting:**

The next meeting of the CPG on Cross Border Issues will concentrate on health and will be held in Ty Hywel, after Plenary on 22 March 2017, the exact room will be confirmed.