

Welcome to the October 2019 UKRN Newsletter

Since the last Newsletter, UKRN has been busy publishing a number of infrastructure focused reports, including our annual Cost of Capital report and a report into Infrastructure Data Sharing. We also held our fourth joint seminar on infrastructure regulation with the Long Term Infrastructure Investors Association (LTIIA) and a joint event with the Whitehall and Industry Group (WIG) on harnessing data for consumer outcomes. In this edition of our newsletter, we preview our upcoming event: *Driving Fair Outcomes for Vulnerable Consumers Across UK Markets*.

Recent Events...

UKRN-LTIIA Fourth Joint Seminar on Infrastructure Regulation, 10 September

UKRN and the Long-Term Infrastructure Investors Association (LTIIA) held the [fourth seminar on UK infrastructure regulation](#) on 10 September 2019. The half-day event, hosted by Pinsent Masons, brought together delegates representing UK regulators, infrastructure investors, government departments, consumer groups, industry bodies and other stakeholders.



The seminar focused on how best to balance the needs of investors, consumers

and regulators and address future challenges facing UK infrastructure investment.

Recent Publications...

[UKRN 2019 Cost of Capital report](#)

Published September 2019.

This report provides a summary of the most recent cost of capital decisions and analysis by our members, providing an easily accessible reference document for stakeholders interested in the sectors.

It also sets out where regulators share a common approach, and where approaches diverge to reflect differences between sectors, regulatory timings and structures.

[UKRN report into Infrastructure Data Sharing](#)

Published September 2019.

The National Infrastructure Commission's *Data for the Public Good* report charged ORR, Ofcom, Ofwat and Ofgem, with the UKRN, to identify and address barriers to infrastructure data sharing.

This report responds to that recommendation, drawing on workshops and discussions with regulators and regulated companies to set out current activity and what could be done to encourage more data sharing.

We will continue to work on these issues and recommendations with members.



Recent Events...

UKRN / WIG event on Harnessing Consumer Data, 18 September

UKRN and the Whitehall and Industry Group (WIG) once again joined forces for an event exploring the power of [consumer data to improve consumer outcomes](#).

Chaired by Simon Ancona of WIG, we were joined by four speakers addressing the opportunities and challenges from different perspectives:

Tim Jarvis, BEIS,
Louise Beardmore, United Utilities,
Catherine Miller, Doteveryone,
Simon McDougall, ICO.

Discussion focused on the opportunities in making data work for the benefit of consumers, the limits of consumers' understanding and awareness of data collected about them, and the central importance of establishing and maintaining trust and being clear about the purpose for which data will be used.



UKRN would like to thank WIG, the speakers and participants for making the event a success.

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Upcoming Event...

25 November: Driving fair outcomes for vulnerable consumers across UK markets

with

Kelly Tolhurst MP (BEIS)
Chris Fitch (The University of Bristol's
Personal Finance Research Centre)
Christine Foster (The Alan Turing Institute)



The conference is intended to be a visible and positive event signalling ongoing commitment and drive to make a difference for vulnerable consumers across public, private and non-profit sectors.

The agenda focuses on how research has been and can be used to understand the consumer journey and improve outcomes for consumers in vulnerable circumstances, as well as identifying further areas for collaboration to improve the experiences and outcomes of vulnerable consumers.

To attend the event, please register [here](#).