**Response to Hydrogen Homes Consultation Document**

**Q1: Do you agree with our minded-to decision on the projects to fund?**

Based on the evidence given, I am certainly inclined to agree with the minded-to decision. Cadent and NGN’s proposals, whilst still lacking in some areas, appear to have given a much clearer plan and route to delivering a successful village trial in 2025. While there is still lots of work to be done to make this a reality, at this initial stage, it certainly appears that Cadent and/or NGN are best placed to deliver a village trial at the required scale and diversity of end user.

SGN’s proposals are described as unsatisfactory in terms of sample size and security of supply in particular. It would be interesting to hear what SGN’s thoughts are on these comments? However, as the report mentions, they are responsible for delivering the H100 neighbourhood trial in 2023, an incredibly important piece of the puzzle. Perhaps this should be their main focus as the document suggests – they will of course play an active part in any hydrogen village trial as the success of these trials undoubtedly relies on collaboration across all GDNs.

**Q2: Do you have any views on the proposed project deliverables for Cadent and NGN, and whether further deliverables are required?**

For me, the four most important aspects of any hydrogen village trial are:

1. Ensuring GDN infrastructure is capable to support production and delivery of hydrogen.
2. Ensuring the safety of the end-user (domestic or commercial) has been thoroughly addressed.
3. Consumer and stakeholder engagement required as this will have massive impact on the success of any trial.
4. End use appliances need to be identified along with a method of procuring these and installing across any hydrogen village.

Looking at the proposed project deliverables, it is clear that all 4 aspects have been taken into consideration. Of course, there are many other deliverables which must be met to ensure a hydrogen village trial will be successful – training, sharing of findings, communication/marketing – and again, these all feature in the proposed project deliverables.

The inclusion of an independent review of the work done by GDNs is also a sensible inclusion given the critical importance of getting these projects right – the future of all GDNs is somewhat at stake here.

**Q3: Do you have any views on the proposed directions for the projects contained in Appendix 2-4?**

I have no thoughts on the content contained in Appendix 2-4. From the outside looking in, high level project deliverables appear to cover all necessary bases. Now is the time to get to work on delivering these projects.

My only question relates to the final decision on Cadent and NGN’s potential village trials – are both trials now likely to go ahead or will further decision be made to select just 1 trial to go ahead?