



<b>Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting Minutes</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> April, 2016
<b>Start time:</b>	09:30
<b>Venue:</b>	Westin Hotel Westmoreland St Dublin 2
<b>Present:</b>	Prof. John Fitzgerald (JF)(Chair), Prof. Alan Barrett (AB), Laura Burke (LB), Prof. Peter Clinch (PC), Prof. Frank Convery (FC), Joseph Curtin (JC), Prof. Anna Davies (AD), Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer (OE), Prof. Alan Matthews (AM), William Walsh (WW),
<b>Apologies:</b>	Gerry Boyle (GB),
<b>Observer:</b>	Dr. Frank O'Mara, Teagasc
<b>Secretariat present:</b>	Dr. Frank McGovern (FMcG), Dr. Niall Farrell (NF), Dr. Roisin Moriarty (RM), Nichola Hughes (NH), Claire Camilleri (CC)
<b>Presenters:</b>	Stephen Treacy (EPA), Brian Quirke (EPA), Paul Duffy (EPA), Dr. Jonathan Durham (EPA)

## 1. Opening of Meeting

### 1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council 8 February 2016 Meeting

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 were adopted with no changes and signed by the Chair.

### 1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted without changes.

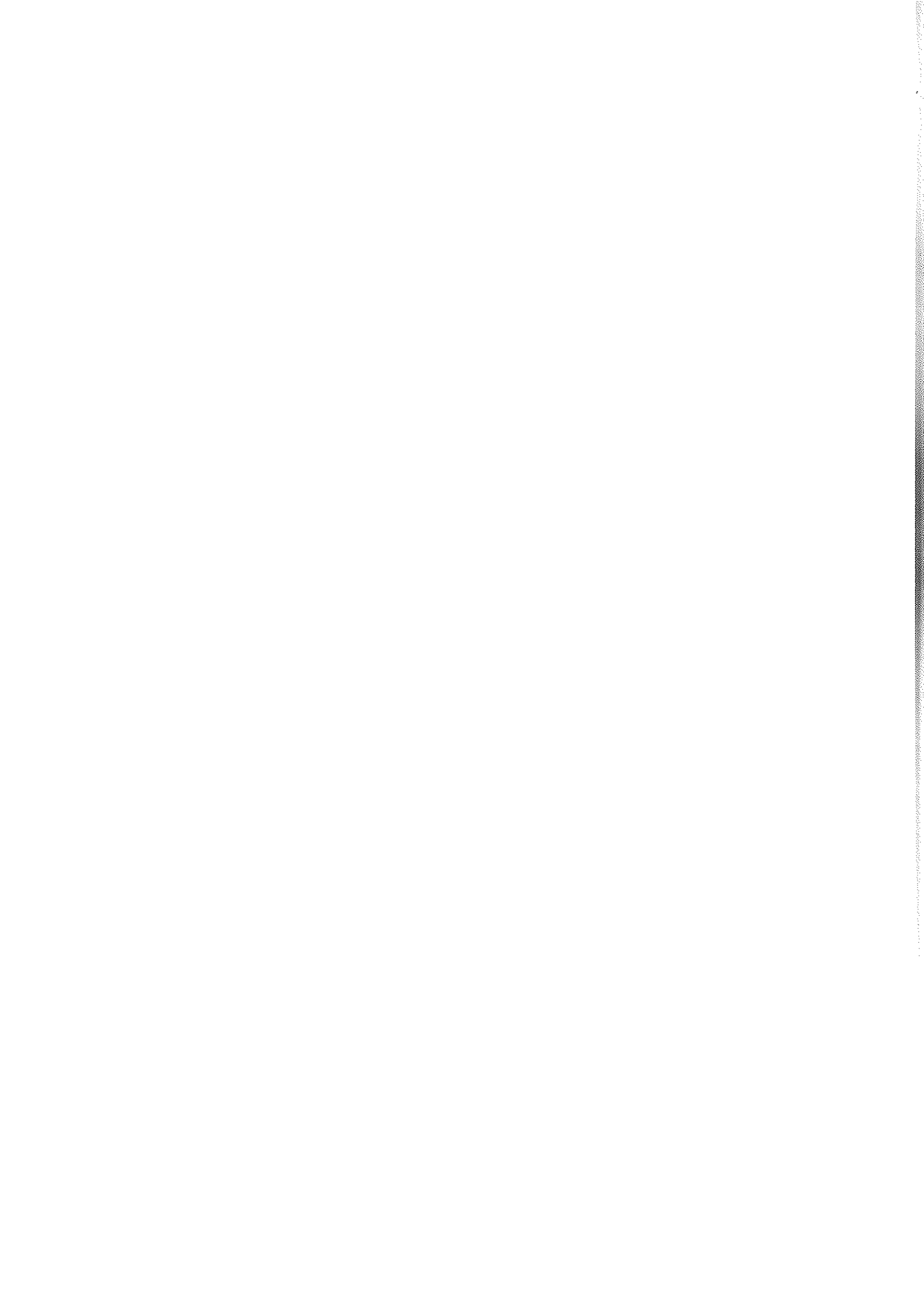
### 1.3 Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest for this meeting.

### 1.4 Chairman's Report of Activities

The Chair provided an outline of activities undertaken since the previous meeting and previewed upcoming activities ahead of the next meeting. Key elements of the report included:

- The Chair met with the Royal Irish Academy Climate Change Committee and discussed the role of the Council.
- The Chair participated in a roundtable event with the IIEA discussing the Socio-Economics of the Energy Transition.



- The Chair will discuss 'Moving to a low carbon Irish Economy' at a research day event in NUI Galway on the 13<sup>th</sup> April.
- The Secretariat meeting with the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) is planned for the 7<sup>th</sup> April.
- The Chair, JC and FMcG will attend a meeting of Climate Change "Committees" to share best practice and challenges in their work and to discuss the implementation of the Paris Agreement. This is being hosted by the UK Climate Change Committee and its Finish equivalent in London on the 25 and 26<sup>th</sup> April.

## 2. National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Projections

### 2.1 Presentation - Greenhouse Gas Inventories & Projections

Stephen Treacy (EPA), Brian Quirke (EPA), Paul Duffy (EPA),

Representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency presented the most recent greenhouse gas inventory data and emissions projections to 2020 for Ireland. The presentation showed:

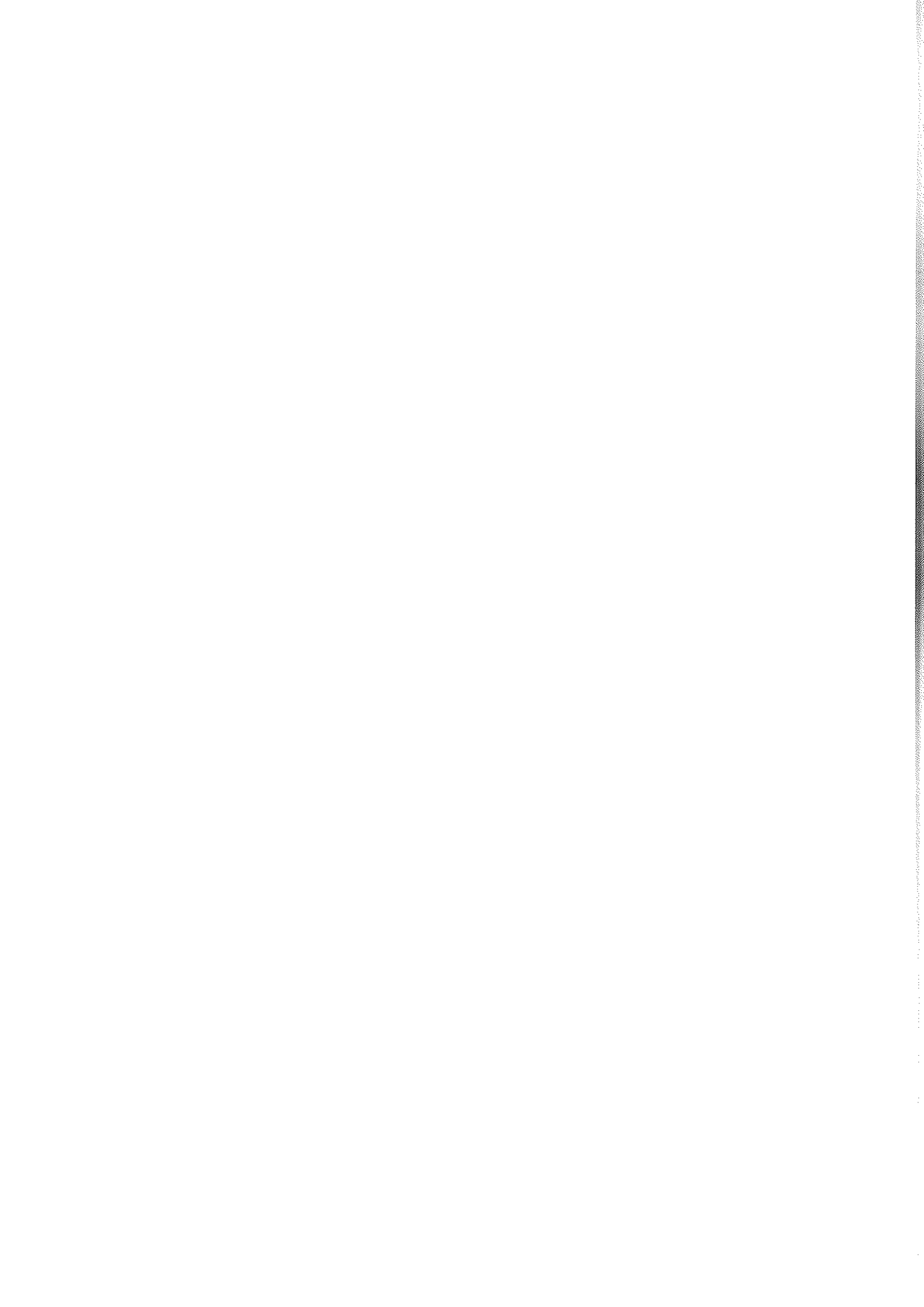
- That Ireland's GHG emissions peaked in 2001 and subsequently generally decreased
- Ireland has high per-capita aggregate GHG emissions relative to EU Member States (MS)
- That Ireland's per capita emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are among the average for EU MS
- Ireland is projected to not meet its EU 2020 targets, even under a best case scenario and is not on track to be a low carbon economy

The presenters identified that the economic recovery is clearly evident in emissions from transport and certain industrial sectors which highlights the challenge of decoupling emissions from economic growth. The Council requested further details on Ireland's per capita carbon dioxide emission relative to other and similar EU Member States and to report back on the issue. The Council also discussed the lack of research on emissions in the building sector. The Council thanked the presenters for their presentation.

**Action:** Secretariat to provide information on a breakdown of per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Ireland and for other similar EU countries.

## 3. Climate Change Advisory Council Reports and Analytical Framework

An overview of the Council reports was provided by the Secretariat including the legislative requirements to produce annual and periodic reports and the differences between them including the distinction made between the first and subsequent periodic reports. It was highlighted that the Council is scheduled to produce three reports in the 2016/2017 period with the first of these, the "First Council Report" being produced in Q4 of 2016. The timelines for these





and linked development of the first National Mitigation Plan and the National Adaptation Framework were considered as well as other government reports and the importance of these outputs to the wider national discussion. It was requested that the Department of Environment should be invited to clarify the modalities of the Council's advisory role on sectoral mitigation measures and provide an update on the National Mitigation Plan at the next meeting. The key inputs to the reports and particular GHG Inventory and Projections data were also discussed. Options to list, assess and review policy measures were discussed in the context of the work of the Council and how they could be presented in the Council reports.

The Council discussed the possibility of having a seminar on agriculture to better explore climate change issues in the agriculture sector.

**Action:** Secretariat to prepare a listing of current sectoral mitigation policies and measures and options for the Council to assess these.

**Action:** Secretariat to arrange a seminar on agriculture.

**Action:** Secretariat to communicate with the Department of Environment on aspects of work of the Council and provision of an update on the National Mitigation Plan at the next meeting.

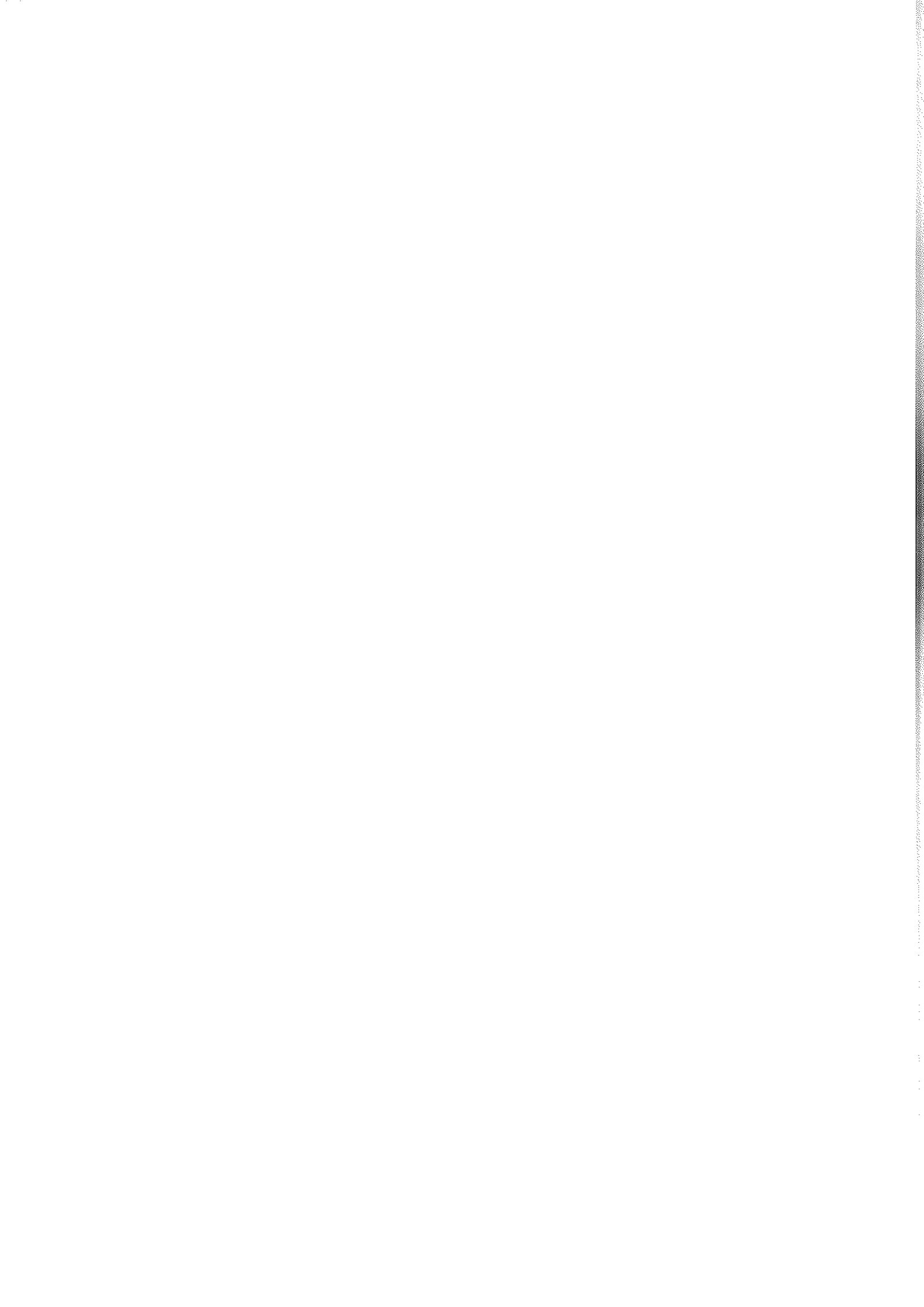
### 3.1 The First Council Report

A draft outline of the First Council Report based on Council member's submissions was presented at the meeting. The Council discussed the data set inputs to be included in the first report to be published later this year. It was concluded that this will be a short report circa 20 pages in length. It will outline the composition and role of the Council, the approach being taken to its work and provide initial Council perspectives on the state of play of Ireland's response to the challenges of climate change including a brief scientific context for actions, meeting 2020 emissions targets, the 2050 policy goals and adaptation issues. A draft of the first Council Report will be presented at the July meeting.

**Action:** Present draft of First Council Report to Council at meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

### 3.2 Periodic Review

The first periodic review is due in July 2017. A draft outline of the first Periodic Report was presented to Council. It was outlined how the report would address the legislative requirements, the aim to build on the First Council Report and utilise availability of new national GHG emissions and projections





data. The issue of how to time its publication in the context of the 1<sup>st</sup> NMP was raised. A final decision on this was deferred. The outline provided was adopted as a basis for initiation of work on the 1<sup>st</sup> Periodic Report Updates on progress will be provided at future Council meetings.

**Action:** An initial draft of the Periodic Report will at the latest be provided for the planned December meeting.

### 3.3 Analytical Framework

The Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 8.02.2016 agreed that a Framework for Analysis was required to assist the Council in its work. A draft Analytical Framework was presented to the Council for consideration. The Council discussed the proposed format with a few suggested changes. It was agreed that a summary of the Analytical Framework would be included in the First Report.

**Action:** Analytical Framework to be updated and provided at the next meeting.

## 4. EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS)

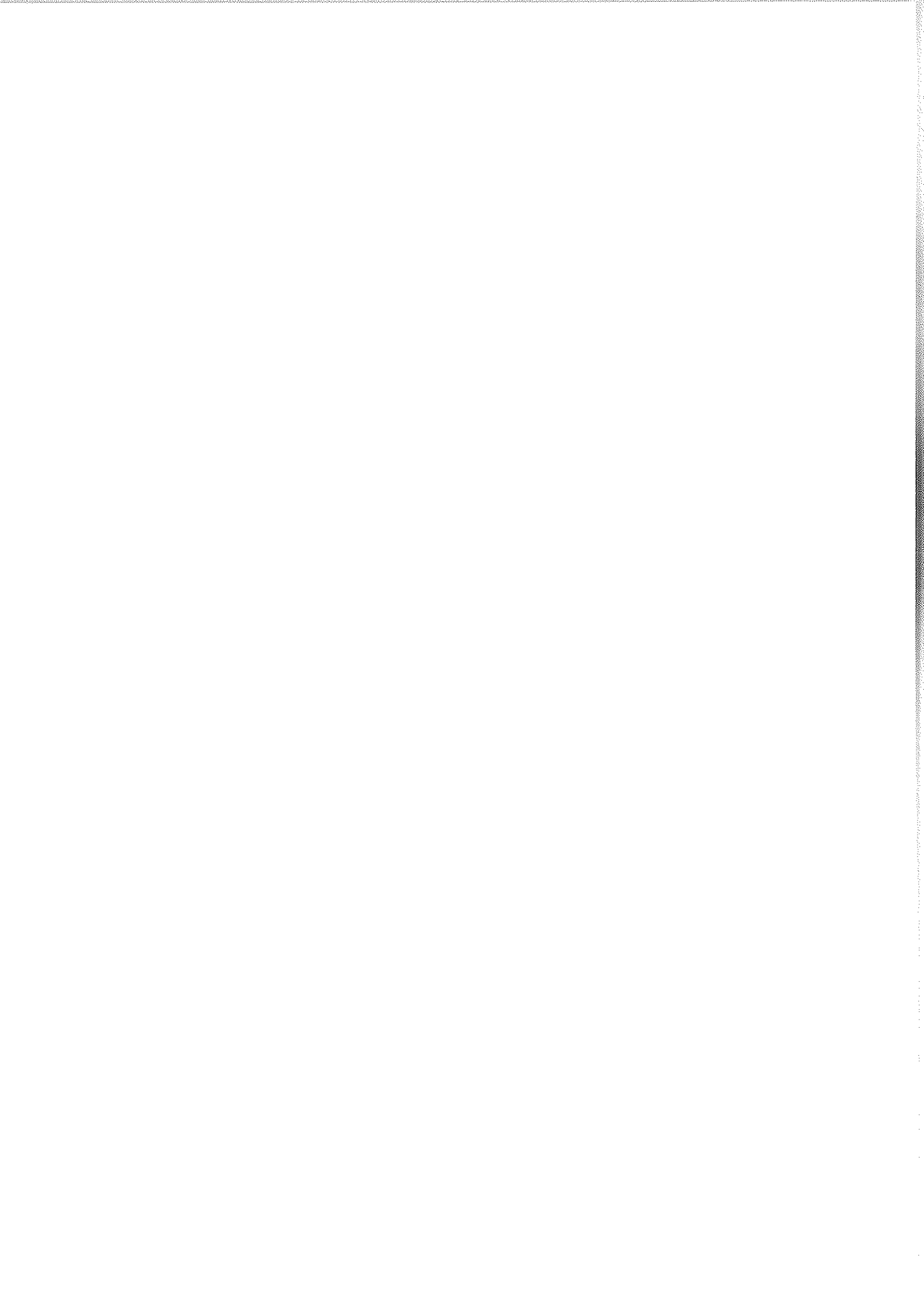
An information paper was presented to the Council on the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. The Council discussed the importance of carbon pricing and the challenges that the Scheme is facing. OE provided an update on developments at a European level and possible solutions were discussed with the Council that could be employed to ensure the effectiveness of the Scheme. The Council recommended that a statement be prepared for the next meeting on the need to strengthen the operation of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme.

**Action:** Prepare a draft Council statement on the EU Emissions Trading Scheme for the next meeting.

## 5. Options for consideration of adaptation issues

An overview document on adaptation issues was presented to the Council for discussion, along with the recommendation that a Council Committee on Adaptation be established, with a first meeting to possibly take place in May/June period and to then report back to the Council after its first meeting. The following Council members agreed to participate on the committee:

- William Walsh, SEAI
- Gerry Boyle, Teagasc
- Laura Burke







- John Fitzgerald (Chair)

An open invitation will remain for other Council members to attend, and agenda plans will be circulated.

It was considered that external experts could also be asked to join the Committee. The unique role and insights of the European Environment Agency on pan-European adaptation actions was also noted.

**Action:** Set up a meeting in May/June of the Adaptation Committee.

**Action:** Identify suitable external experts who could be asked to join the Adaptation Committee.

## **6. Review of Climate Change Advisory Council practices, procedures and modes of operation**

### **6.1 Code of Business Conduct Climate Change Advisory Council**

A draft of the Code of Business Conduct for the Climate Change Advisory Council was presented. Feedback was provided on the Code of Business Conduct, these were adopted with amendments agreed at the meeting.

**Action:** Revised Code of Business Conduct to be provided to the Council Members.

### **6.2 Guidelines for Climate Change Advisory Council Meetings**

A draft of the Guidelines for Climate Change Advisory Council Meetings was presented. The Guidelines were adopted.

### **6.3 Climate Change Advisory Council Budget 2016**

Jonathan Derham (EPA).

The 2016 budget to support the Climate Change Advisory Council was presented. The Council identified the significant amount of work that is required to complete the reports as identified in the legislation, and the shortcomings in data and research in specific areas. The Council discussed how best to utilise the budget to support the work of the Council. The Council then requested that the Secretariat review areas of research and identify information/ modelling gaps and to present this at the next meeting for discussion. It was also suggested that this piece of work should incorporate ideas to be tabled for TRAM. The budget was adopted by the Council.

**Action:** The Secretariat to identify any information/modelling gaps in relation to the upcoming reports and outline options that may address these.

### **6.4 Website Plan**





The draft structure of the Climate Change Advisory Council website was presented. The Council adopted the draft structure. It was noted that the website development options would be identified in consultation with EPA Communications Team on hosting/ governance aspects.

**Action:** Develop draft Climate Change Advisory Council website.

## 6.5 Climate Change Advisory Council Logo

The Council were presented with four logo options that had been developed to represent the Council and its work. It was agreed that Option 1 that was presented was to be adopted as the new logo.

## 7. Key Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB

- Secretariat to provide information on a breakdown of per capita CO2 emissions in Ireland and for other similar EU countries.
- Secretariat to prepare a listing of current sectoral mitigation policies and measures and options for the Council to assess these.
- Secretariat to arrange a seminar on agriculture.
- Secretariat to communicate with the Department of Environment on aspects of work of the Council and provision of an update on the National Mitigation Plan at the next meeting.
- Present draft of First Council Report to Council at meeting on 20th July 2016.
- An initial draft of the Periodic Report will at the latest be provided for the planned December meeting.
- Analytical Framework to be updated and provided at the next meeting.
- Prepare a draft Council statement on the EU Emissions Trading Scheme for the next meeting.
- Set up a meeting in June of the Adaptation Committee.
- Identify suitable external experts who could be asked to join the Adaptation Committee.
- Revised Code of Business Conduct to be provided to the Council Members.
- The Secretariat to identify any information/modelling gaps in relation to the upcoming reports and outline options that may address these.
- Develop draft Climate Change Advisory Council website.

The next meeting of the Climate Change Advisory Council will be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John F. Kelly".

2/6/2016

