

Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 13th December 2018

Start time: 10:00

Venue: McCumiskey House, Richview, Clonskeagh Road, Dublin14.

Present: Mark Adamson, OPW; Laura Burke, EPA; Prof. Prof. John FitzGerald, Chair; Ciarán Hayes, CCMA; Dr Ina Kelly, HSE; Dr Conor Murphy, Maynooth University; Eoin Moran, Met Éireann.

Secretariat: Dr Róisín Moriarty, Phillip O'Brien, Dr Tadhg O'Mahony, Caroline Donnellan, Harriet Walsh, Dr Margaret Desmond (video link).

Presenters: Dr Jane O'Keefe

1. Opening of Meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting 24.10.2018

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 24th of October 2018 were amended and signed by the Chair.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted with the agreement to discuss National Energy and Climate Plan at a future meeting.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

No disclosures.

1.4 Chair's Report of Activities

The Chair and the Council met with the Taoiseach, Minister Ross, Minister Creed, Minister Murphy and Minister Naughten, prior to his resignation. The Chair also met with the new Minister for Communications, Climate Change and the Environment, Minister Richard Bruton. The Chair discussed his meeting with the Irish Wind Energy Association about

renewable energy. Prof FitzGerald also met with DG CLIMA to discuss the climate and energy challenges facing Ireland.

2. Briefing on Budget 2019

The Committee considered Budget 2019 and provisions for implementation of adaptation measures and noted the effectiveness of the “traffic light” approach for communicating progress at a high level.

3. Consideration of Climate Change Impacts on Ports and Trade

The Committee invited Dr Jane O’Keefe, Marine College, Cork to discuss her work on the ports and potential impact of climate change.

The Committee expressed concern that the potential for disruption to operations at ports is overlooked. There appear to be gaps in knowledge on the impact of disruption to the wider economy of interruption of supply lines.

4. Procedure and Template for Assessment of Sector Adaptation Plans

The Committee considered the approach to providing recommendations to Council as part of consultation processes related to development of Sector Adaptation Plans.

The Committee adopted the procedures and criteria for assessment, allowing flexibility to sectors to consider for themselves the appropriate range of potential climate change scenarios.

The Committee asked that the Secretariat communicate with DCCAIE to confirm that there has been contact from 4 of the 7 lead departments.

The Committee recommended that the Council circulate the agreed assessment criteria to Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, lead departments and Climate Action Regional Offices.

5. Outline of Annual Review 2019

The Committee expressed concern that adaptation does not appear to attract the same level of engagement and priority within climate policy development and wider public discourse. The Committee would like to see greater prominence and integration of adaptation into the chapters of the Annual Review 2019 which address Transition.

A suggestion made was to maintain the current separate adaptation chapter for the Annual Review 2019 but to expand discussion on the priority of adaptation, in the wider context of climate action, in Chapter 1.

6. Future Work Programme

The Committee asked the Secretariat to consider adaptation indicators for inclusion in the Transition Indicators Table 5.1 in the Annual Review. The challenge of limited appropriate data sets was noted.

The Adaptation Committee hope to invite presentations from the Climate Action Regional Offices to provide an update on their activities.

The Committee noted policy coherency around mitigation and adaptation in general is a concern, and may be a topic for research.



