

## **Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES**

**Date:** 30.05.2019

**Start time:** 11:00

**Venue:** Environmental Protection Agency, McCumiskey House, Richview, Dublin 14

**Present:** Prof. John FitzGerald, Chair; Mark Adamson, OPW; Laura Burke, EPA; Clarán Hayes, CCMA; Dr Conor Murphy, Maynooth University; Keith Lambkin, Met Éireann; Dr. Siobhán Kavanagh, Teagasc; Robert Devoy, UCC. Dr Ina Kelly, HSE.

**Apologies:** Roger Street.

**Secretariat:** Dr Margaret Desmond, Caroline Donnellan, Sean O'Leary, Dr Tadhg O'Mahony.

### **1. Opening of Meeting**

#### **1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting 28.02.19**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were signed by the Chair.

#### **1.2 Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting was adopted. Requests from Committee members to discuss coastal resilience and also engagement with local authorities were addressed during agenda items 3 and 4.

#### **1.3 Disclosure of Interests**

No disclosures to report.

### **2. Council Update**

The Committee was updated on the outcomes of the last Climate Change Advisory Council meeting, including progress on a seminar on decarbonising the transport sector. The invitation to the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) to attend the Council's September Council meeting was also discussed and it was agreed that it may be appropriate to invite CRU to meet with the adaptation committee following this.

### **3. Annual Review 2019**

The Secretariat introduced the draft Annual Review chapter discussing adaptation and progress towards a climate resilient Ireland. The draft had been revised and updated following earlier feedback and inputs from the Committee. Committee members gave their comments and feedback on the draft chapter and suggested other key messages and topics which should be considered, including the need to ensure that the resilience of coastal areas is addressed and considered in policy making given their importance.

The Committee may also meet researchers from a recently begun research project on 'Policy Coherence in Adaptation Studies: Selecting and Using Indicators of Climate Resilience' given the importance of developing and implementing adaptation indicators.

The Committee also discussed experts in climate change and health and in climate change adaptation and indicators who might be invited to meet them to assist with its work in the future.

The Committee's comments on the Annual Review will be incorporated into the final draft for consideration by the Council.

### **4. Sectoral and Local Authority Adaptation Plans**

Officials from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine presented an overview of their work on a sectoral adaptation plan addressing the seafood, agriculture and forestry sectors.

The Committee engaged with the Department officials on the development of adaptation plans for these sectors, including on the assessment of climate vulnerabilities and the impact of extreme weather events for the sectors along with the requirements for informing farmers and other stakeholders and how actions are prioritised.

Officials from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government and Irish Water presented their work on water quality and water services infrastructure sectoral adaptation plans.

The Committee engaged with the Department and Irish Water officials on the development of adaptation plans for these sectors including how actions are to be prioritised and incorporated into Irish Water's planning and at local level.

Officials from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht gave an overview of the draft built and archaeological heritage sectoral adaptation plan.

The Committee engaged with the Department officials on the development of adaptation plans for this sector including on prioritising actions, the potential interaction with changing land use practices and the role of communities and citizens.

The Committee agreed that further advice would be provided to the three Departments following further consideration of their draft sectoral adaptation plans.


The four outstanding sectors will be provided with advice once their draft sectoral adaptation plans are provided for review. This may require an additional meeting of the Committee by video conference in September.

With regards to Local Authority adaptation planning it was agreed that a sample of local authorities/Climate Action Regional Offices should be invited to meet the Committee to discuss their adaptation strategies once finalised.

The Committee agreed that following the finalisation of adaptation plans it would review the statutory adaptation planning process by the end of the year.

#### **4. Agreed Outcomes and AOB**

The Committee discussed the forthcoming All of Government Plan.

 27/10/19

