



Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - MINUTES
Date: 06.11.2025
Start time: 09:30
Venue: MS Teams
Present: Prof. Peter Thorne (Chair); Mark Adamson; Prof. Robert Devoy; Helen Hoyle; David Joyce; Dr. Ina Kelly; Jillian Mahon; Roger Street, Sean McKeown; Prof. Conor Murphy.
Secretariat: George Hussey; Dr. Stephen Flood; Bryn Canniffe; Marta Carrasco; Ciara Hilliard;
Agenda Item 7: Lisa Johnson
Apologies: Keith Lambkin.

1. Opening of Meeting (09:30)

The Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present. Darragh O' Neill introduced himself as the new representative to the Committee from the Environmental Protection Agency. It was announced that Roger Street is stepping down from the Committee and the Chairperson thanked for his commitment and outstanding contribution to the Committee.

a. Minutes for the Adaptation Committee

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 11th September 2025 were approved.

b. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendments.

c. Disclosures of Interest

There were no disclosures of interest. Mark Adamson excused himself from agenda item 7.

2. Council Update (09.34)

The Chairperson provided an update on the main outcomes from the Climate Change Advisory Council meeting held on 25th September 2025.

3. Secretariat Update (09.40)

The Secretariat provided a verbal update of the main events that took place since the previous Adaptation Committee meeting. The main items covered were:

- Sectoral Adaptation Plans
- Update from the meeting of the National Adaptation Steering Committee meeting, which took place on 23rd September
- Climate Ireland Adaptation Network Working Groups on Climate Resilience
- Research updates
- Adaptation Committee workshop
- Adaptation finance collaboration with Central Bank of Ireland
- International Climate Councils Network Adaptation Working Group and COP30 Product
- Adaptation Futures Conference 2025

In the discussion, the Secretariat were requested to circulate a calendar invite to the Committee for the annual workshop that is to take place on potential pathways to climate resilience on 15th April 2026. The Secretariat was also requested to reach out to Daragh O'Neill to link the research team appointed for the infrastructure uncertainty with the lead researcher working on an EPA-funded project on infrastructure and climate resilience. The Secretariat was encouraged to continue collaboration with the Central Bank of Ireland.

4. Annual Review – Draft electricity resilience recommendations (9:55)

The Secretariat presented the initial draft resilience-related recommendations for the 2026 annual review on electricity. Specific comments were provided relating to the specificity of the recommendations, need for joined-up thinking in the roll out of community support hubs,

greater focus on the health impacts from power outages, community and household resilience and greater emphasis on cascading risks. The Secretariat was requested to circulate draft recommendations in advance of the meetings in future. It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate the draft recommendations for further comment.

5. Annual Review – Draft observations on our changing climate (10:12)

The Secretariat presented the draft observations for our changing climate. Specific comments were provided to better demonstrate the economic and health impacts from extreme weather events and the use of graphics in the report was encouraged. It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate the draft observations for further comment.

6. Review of the Adaptation Scorecard (10:25)

Lisa Johnson presented an update of progress in reviewing the Adaptation Scorecard. Specific comments and suggestions were provided to improve the effectiveness of the scorecard and to address constraints in its design and implementation. It was noted that Ms. Johnson would be in touch with several of the Committee members as part of the consultative process to review the scorecard.

7. Sectoral Adaptation Plans (11:15)

The Secretariat presented an overview of the draft joint letter from the Committee and Council expressing concerns with the Sectoral Adaptation Plans. Specific comments were provided on the tone and content of the letter. It was noted that the letter was open for written comment until 13 November and that the letter would be considered by the Council in its December meeting and that it may be possible for the Committee to view the letter again after the Council has made modifications.

8. Operationalising resilience in the Irish context (11:45)

Conor Murphy presented an overview of the EPA-funded research project on Operationalising resilience in the Irish context (ORICA). The Committee members discussed the main findings and its implications for achieving the climate resilience element of the national climate objective as well its usefulness for the 2026 Committee workshop on potential pathways to climate resilience. The Committee members thanked Mr. Murphy for the excellent research report.

9. Any Other Business, agreed outcomes and plans for next meeting (12:45)

a) Any Other Business

There was a discussion on the membership of the Committee. It was noted that the first term of the Chairperson and Jillian Mahon on the Council were coming to an end and that their membership of the Committee was dependent on their Council term being renewed. It was noted that Ina Kelly would continue to serve the Committee until her second term comes to an end in March 2027. It was noted that the expression of interest for new Council members would be published shortly.

b) Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting was scheduled for 29th January and is to be held on Microsoft Teams.

The meeting closed at 12:50.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. W." followed by a stylized surname.

Signed electronically on 06.11.2025