



Climate Change Advisory Council

Date of meeting:	24.09.2026
Agenda item:	1
Title of paper:	1.1 Draft Climate Change Advisory Council Minutes. 02.07.2026
Purpose:	Minutes from the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 02.07.2026
Length:	5 pages
Recommendation:	For the Climate Change Advisory Council to adopt the minutes of the last meeting.



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting

Date: 02.07.2026

Start time: 11:00

Venue: MS Teams

Attendees: Alex White (Chair), Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Prof. Edgar Morgenroth, Dr. Eimear Cotter (EPA), Prof. Frank O'Mara (From 14:20) (Teagasc), Prof. Peter Thorne, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann) (until 15:30 and from 15:45)

Apologies: Prof. Morgan Bazilian, Prof. Yvonne Buckley, Prof. Liam Delaney, Jillian Mahon

Agenda Item 4: Lisa Johnson from Ecodiversity joined for this item.

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Meabh Gallagher, Eleanor Mathews, Jodie Colgan, Ben Macfarlane, Dylan O' Flynn, Bryn Canniffe, Marta Carrasco, Ciara Hilliard, Annasjla Haer (Intern)

1. Opening of Meeting (11:00)

The Chair welcomed Council members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 28th May 2026.

The minutes were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with minor amendments to running order.

Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest.

The Chair noted that his term as Director General of IIEA ended on 30th June 2026.



2. Adaptation Committee Update (11:05)

Chair of the Adaptation Committee Prof. Peter Thorne, briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held online on 18th of June 2026

Meeting details included:

- a. Update on collaboration with the Central Bank to develop a building resilience rating scoping document.
- b. Update on status of Sectoral Adaptation Plans for Built Environment and Planning
- c. Presentation of annual review recommendations for biodiversity, adaptation and transport for comments and inputs.

It was noted that the Council-commissioned research reports 'Managing Coastal Risks in Ireland: Towards strategies that integrate planned coastal relocations' and 'Integrating climate change risks and uncertainty in infrastructure development to ensure a climate resilient Ireland' had been published in June 2026.

3. International Update (11:15) (Agenda Item 8)

The Secretariat updated Council on international activities.

The Chair and Secretariat updated the meeting on their attendance at London Climate Action Week from 22nd June 2026 and the ICCN activities that they participated in as part of that week.

Council also discussed attendance at COP 31 in Turkey in November 2026 and Secretariat outlined plans for attendance.

4. University College Cork Modelling and Analysis (Agenda Item 5)

Hannah Daly and Fionn Rogan from University College Cork presented on the energy demand reduction and scale of technological change that can have the most impact in terms of emissions reductions during the second carbon budget period in the Built Environment and Industry sectors.

5. Annual Review 2026 (12:25 to 13:00 and from 13:55 to 15:30) (Agenda Item 4)

The Secretariat reviewed the Annual Review 2026 publications process to date and the schedule for the rest of the year.



The Secretariat presented a second draft set of the Industry and Waste Sectoral Review for discussion. Council noted that a Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available following the meeting.

The Secretariat also presented the first draft of the Adaptation Review for 2026 for discussion. It was noted that the document would be made available to Council for comment after the meeting and following final review by the Adaptation Committee, a second draft would be circulated for approval by silence procedure.

A first draft of the Cross Sectoral Recommendations were presented for discussion.

The Secretariat also presented a second draft set of Biodiversity Recommendations for 2026. Council noted that an amended Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available to Council following the meeting. It was also noted that the Adaptation Committee would have the opportunity to review the first draft of the Biodiversity Sectoral Review before it is brought to Council at the next meeting.

The Secretariat presented a first draft of the AFOLU Sectoral Review for discussion by Council. Council noted that the document would be updated to reflect the provisional inventory data for 2025 once published by EPA.

The Secretariat outlined the timelines and process for approving the next two drafts of the AFOLU review. Council agreed that the final version of the document would be approved for publication by silence procedure.

The Secretariat presented a further draft of the Built Environment Sectoral Review chapter. It was agreed that a further draft, incorporating Council comments, would be circulated after the meeting for approval by silence procedure.

6. Activities of the Council (15:50) (Agenda Item 9)

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

7. Update on Operation Liaison Group under EPA/CCAC MOU (15:45) (Agenda Item 10)

Council noted that the biannual EPA/CCAC MOU meeting took place on 13th of May 2026.



8. National Economic Dialogue and Budget Letter (Agenda Item 3) (16:05)

The Chair and Edgar Morgenroth updated the meeting on their attendance at the National Economic Dialogue meeting held in Dublin Castle on the 15th of June 2026.

Council approved the Budget Letter subject to change and agreed that the Chair would finalise the letter for submission to Government.

9. Budget Update (Agenda Item 7) (16:10)

The Secretariat updated the Council on expenditure and proposed the process for the second budget revision.

Council noted expenditure to date and approved the proposed approach to Revised Budget 2, subject to Chair's discretion to make minor amendments as appropriate.

10. AOB and next meeting and close (Agenda Item 11) (15:45)

The Secretariat informed Council that thematic sessions scheduled for September and October 2026 meetings would be postponed to early 2027 in order to ensure they can reflect fully on EU Developments in the area of Adaptation (expected in Oct 2026) and Mitigation (expected late in 2026).

The Secretariat informed the Council of potential areas for collaboration with the Irish Green Buildings Council and advised that a more detailed proposal would be brought to an upcoming meeting of the Council for further discussion.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Council was scheduled for 24th September and would be held virtually on MS Teams.

Signed on 24.09.2026

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.