



Climate Change Advisory Council

Date of meeting:	02.07.2026
Agenda item:	1
Title of paper:	1.1 Draft Climate Change Advisory Council Minutes. 28.05.2026
Purpose:	Minutes from the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 28.05.2026
Length:	5 pages
Recommendation:	For the Climate Change Advisory Council to adopt the minutes of the last meeting.



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 28.05.26

Start time: 10:00

Venue: MS Teams

Attendees: Alex White (Chair), Jillian Mahon (from 11:10), Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Prof. Edgar Morgenroth, Dr. Eimear Cotter (EPA) (from 14:00), Prof. Yvonne Buckley (except from 12:00-13:00), Prof. Liam Delaney, Prof. Frank O'Mara (From 10:00 – 13:00) (Teagasc), Prof. Peter Thorne (except from 13:45 to 14:15), Eoin Moran (Met Éireann) from 12:00-13:00, Margie McCarthy, SEAI Observer

Apologies: Prof. Morgan Bazilian

Agenda Item 6: Lisa Johnson from Ecodiversity joined for this item.

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Meabh Gallagher, Claire Camilleri, Eleanor Mathews, Jodie Colgan, Ben Macfarlane, Dylan O' Flynn, Bryn Canniffe, Marta Carrasco, Ciara Hilliard

1. Opening of Meeting (10:00)

The Chair welcomed Council members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 22nd and 23rd April 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.



2. Adaptation Committee Update (10:10)

Chair of the Adaptation Committee Prof. Peter Thorne, briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held on 7th and 8th of May 2026 in Tralee, Co. Kerry and on the field trips to the Dingle Energy Hub and the Maharees.

Meeting details included:

- a. Progress in the development of a business case for the recruitment of a Climate Resilience fellow.
- b. Report back on the work of the Adaptation Action Assessment working group.
- c. Progress in collaboration with the Central Bank to develop a building resilience rating scoping document.
- d. Update on an engagement held on 13th April with officials from DHLGH on the scoping document for a Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built Environment and Planning
- e. Presentation of annual review recommendations for biodiversity, adaptation and transport for comments and inputs.
- f. Summary of the Resilience Workshop, which took place on 15th April on potential pathways to climate resilience.
- g. The next meeting of the Adaptation Committee would be held online on 18th of June.

Council discussed the issue of the insurance flood protection gap and it was noted that a flood insurance gap working group was being established by Government. It was suggested for the Committee and Council to engage with this group in future.

It was agreed there would be an open call for expressions of interest for the new Adaptation Committee with at least three Council members (to include Chair of Council and Chair of Adaptation Committee) to assess the applications and propose new membership to Council at an upcoming meeting.

Council approved the Potential Pathways to Climate Resilience Workshop Report for publication on the website. Council also noted the roundtables report and update from the Adaptation Committee meeting held on 7-8th May.

3. Documents for Approval (10:25)



The Secretariat presented the draft report on Integrating Climate Change Risks and Uncertainty in Infrastructure Development to Ensure a Climate Resilient Ireland.

Council discussed the report at length and approved it for publication on the Council website. Possibilities for further reflections on the implications outlined in the report were also discussed.

4. Budget 2027 Letter (10:50)

The Secretariat presented a draft letter for transmission to Government in respect of Budget 2027. Council discussed the letter in detail and proposed changes. It was agreed that a further draft of the letter would be circulated after the meeting to be agreed by silence procedure. It was also noted that Council would be represented at the National Economic Dialogue scheduled for the 15th of June 2026 in Dublin Castle.

5. Carbon Budgets Update and Topical Issues (11:10)

The Secretariat updated the Council on Carbon Budgets and presented a draft letter to Government in respect of the Critical Infrastructure Bill.

Council discussed the draft letter and agreed that a further draft of the letter would be circulated immediately after the meeting to be agreed by silence procedure.

6. Annual Review 2026 (11:50 – 13:00 and 13:45 – 15:05)

The Secretariat presented a Draft Transport Sectoral Review chapter. Council approved the publication of the document subject to minor edits and inclusion of the EPA projections.

The Secretariat also presented a second draft set of Agriculture and Land Use Recommendations for 2026. Council noted that an amended Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available to Council following the meeting.

A first draft of possible Built Environment recommendations for 2026 were presented and discussed. It was agreed that a Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available to Council following the meeting.



A first draft of possible Industry and Waste recommendations for 2026 were presented and discussed. It was agreed that a Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available to Council following the meeting.

A first draft of possible Biodiversity recommendations for 2026 were presented and discussed. It was agreed that a Recommendations Ranking tool would be made available to Council following the meeting.

7. Communications Update (15:05)

Chair of the Communications Subgroup, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, updated Council on the subgroup meeting of the 18th of May 2026.

8. Governance (15:20)

Budget Revision 1 was presented and approved.

The estimates proposal for 2027 was presented and approved.

The Secretariat outlined proposals for an approach to developing a new Council Strategy to cover the period 2027-2031, including proposed timelines and procurement process

Council approved the proposed approach.

9. International Update (15:40)

The Secretariat updated Council on upcoming international activities.

The Secretariat updated the meeting on planned attendance at London Climate Action Week from 22nd June 2026 and the ICCN activities that they will be participating in as part of this week.

EEAC will host the annual assembly in Berlin in October. The Secretariat and the Chair will likely attend.

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



10. Council Activities (15:50)

The Council noted the report of Council activities and noted minor additions that were required.

11. Next meeting and close (15:50)

It was noted that the next Council meeting would be held on MS Teams on the 2nd of July 2026.

Signed 02.07.2026

Alex White