



Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

Date: 29th July 2021

Start time: 09:00

Venue: Video Conference Meeting

Present: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Professor Robert Devoy, Dr. Ina Kelly, Paddy Mahon, Professor Conor Murphy, Roger Street

Secretariat: Claire Camilleri, Ciara Hilliard, George Hussey, Ben McDermott, Phillip O'Brien, Seán O'Leary, Gemma O'Reilly

Apologies: Laura Burke, Keith Lambkin, William Walsh, Mark Adamson

1. Opening of Meeting

The Chair welcomed the ratification by Council of Paddy Mahon's membership of the Adaptation Committee for its interim term. The imminent departures of Ben McDermott, who is nearing the end of his Student Summer Placement, and Claire Camilleri, Managing Administrator for the Secretariat who is due to begin maternity leave, were also noted. Ciara Hilliard, covering the maternity leave period, was welcomed by the Chair.

1.1 Minutes for the Adaptation Committee Meeting 25.06.2021

The minutes for the meeting held on the 25th June 2021 were adopted.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Committee.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Council Update

The Chair and the Secretariat provided a verbal update from the Council meetings of 12.07.2021 and 22.07.2021.

At the first meeting (12.07.2021), which focused on carbon budgets, an update by Prof. Yvonne Buckley on the review commissioned for Council on the impacts of climate mitigation measures on biodiversity was provided.

At the second meeting (22.07.2021), Council ratified Paddy Mahon's membership of the Committee for its interim period. The Council also discussed the latest Government amendments to the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. Brian Carroll, Assistant Secretary General, Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications joined the meeting and discussed the amendment regarding the development of regulations and the work that the government will need to undertake to develop these regulations. He indicated that the Minister would be seeking the advice of the Council on these regulations. The Council agreed it would work on this over the subsequent weeks and that the Committee on Carbon Budgets would continue to develop its advice to Council over the summer. It was noted that Council need to comply with the regulations to be developed by government in order to finalise its recommendation on the carbon budgets. The Fit for 55 package was also discussed.

Drafting of the Annual Review 2021 would continue, noting the timelines that have been set in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021. The Council's work programme was also discussed.

3. Annual Review

A revised draft of Chapter 3 of the Annual Review 2021, entitled 'Progress Towards a Climate-Resilient Ireland', was discussed. The version of the text discussed at the meeting incorporated the results of the adaptation scorecard process and revisions to the previous draft in light of Committee member feedback.

The importance of adaptation in the health sector was discussed, as was the importance of 'joined-up' thinking and integration across sectors as a means of tackling problems that might otherwise be overlooked. Monitoring was discussed, as was considering adaptation through a wellbeing lens.

Following these points, the Committee agreed upon changes to the draft chapter.

Committee members were invited to submit any additional comments and observations by Friday 13th August. Following this a revised draft will be issued to Council for their consideration ahead of their September meeting.

4. Work Programme

The Secretariat presented a verbal update on the Committee's work programme and the proposed small-scale research studies and the development of a coastal workshop, with the dates of 15th or 16th September to be finalised. The three small scale studies (household adaptation, decision making under uncertainty and nature-based adaptation) are to be progressed and completed before the end of the year.

5. Agreed Outcomes and Plans for the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Adaptation Committee will be scheduled for late November 2021.