



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

**Date:** 08.10.2020

**Start time:** 10:00

**Venue:** Video conference

**Present:** Prof. John FitzGerald, Chair; Prof. Robert Devoy, UCC; Ciarán Hayes, CCMA; Keith Lambkin, Met Éireann; Dr Conor Murphy, Maynooth University; Roger Street, Oxford University; William Walsh, SEAI; Prof. Gerry Boyle, Teagasc; Mark Adamson, OPW.

**Apologies:** Laura Burke, EPA; Dr Ina Kelly, HSE; Alan Dunney, Eastern and Midlands CARO.

**Secretariat:** Dr. Margaret Desmond, Seán O'Leary, Phillip O'Brien, Gemma O'Reilly, Claire Camilleri, Claire Lombard

**Presentations:** Justina Corcoran, Principal Officer in the Climate Adaptation and Citizen Engagement Division, Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment; Liam Dromney, Regional Coordinator for the Atlantic Seaboard South; David Mellett, Regional Coordinator for the Atlantic Seaboard North and David Dodd, Regional Coordinator for the Dublin Metropolitan.

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

### **1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting 23.07.2020**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 were agreed and signed electronically by the Chair.

### **1.2 Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting was adopted.

### **1.3 Disclosure of Interests**

No disclosures to report.

## **2. Council Update**

The Adaptation Committee heard about the recent meetings on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> September and the 17<sup>th</sup> September, including presentations from the EPA on emissions projections and in September hearing from Kieran Mulvey, Just Transition Commissioner. The Committee were also updated on the independent internal review of the Council, and that preliminary findings are to be presented to Council at the next Council meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. The Committee were also updated on the publication of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2020. The Committee discussed the importance of a dedicated budget for Adaptation, to signal a pathway for dedicated adaptation measures.

## **3. Engagement with the Climate Adaptation Division, DECC**

Justina Corcoran, Principal Officer in the Aarhus, Climate Adaptation and Citizen Engagement division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications discussed developments in adaptation policy at European, sectoral, national and local level with the Committee. This included a discussion of the recommendations of the Council's 2020 Annual Review relevant to adaptation, how adaptation actions and expenditure is prioritised, its role in climate policy nationally and reporting and monitoring. The need for a vision for climate resilience and the leadership role of the Department in mainstreaming adaptation was also discussed.

#### **4. Local Authority Climate Action and Engagement with the Climate Action Regional Offices**

Ciarán Hayes presented an update on relevant local authority initiatives and the sector's strategy for implementing the Local Government Climate Action Charter.

CARO representatives Liam Dromey, Regional Coordinator for the Atlantic Seaboard South, David Mellett Regional Coordinator for the Atlantic Seaboard North and David Dodd Regional Coordinator for the Dublin Metropolitan updated the Committee on their activity. The Committee also heard challenges faced by the CARO's and future opportunities in the area.

#### **5. Work Programme 2021**

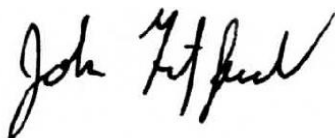
The Committee had a preliminary discussion on topics for 2021, however noted that there will be a new structure and possibly a new Committee in place. It was agreed that a summary highlighting the work of Committee to date, with an outlook to potential future items would be developed to assist an incoming Committee.

#### **6. Agreed Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB**

An update on National Coastal Change Management Strategy Steering Group was provided by Mark Adamson.

Ciarán Hayes announced that he was retiring from his position as Chief Executive of Sligo County Council and Chair of the CCMA committee on Climate Change and therefore would no longer be able to serve on the Adaptation Committee. The Chair and the Committee thanked him for his contributions and assistance with the work of the Committee and wished him well in his retirement.

The next meeting of the Adaptation Committee will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> December.



17.12.2020