

Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 11th June 2020

Start time: 9:30am

Venue: Video Conference Meeting

Present: Professor John FitzGerald, Professor Alan Barrett, Professor Gerry Boyle, Laura Burke, Professor Frank Convery, Dr Joseph Curtin, Professor Anna Davies, Professor Alan Matthews, William Walsh.

Apologies: Professor Ottmar Edenhofer, Professor Peter Clinch.

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

Presentations: Robert Deegan, Principal Officer, Energy Efficiency and Affordability Division, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment; Jim Scheer, Head of Data and Insights, SEAI.

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 21.05.2020

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 21st May 2020 were signed electronically by the Chair.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Council.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

Prof. John FitzGerald notified the Council that he has been approached by the Northern Ireland Department of Economy to sit on a board to discuss energy.

1.4 Chair's Report of Activities

The Chair reported that he spoke with Kim McClenaghan who is the Energy, Climate Change & Sustainability Partner of PwC report on more to do on climate change. The Chair also spoke with Muireann Lynch from the ESRI on her current work on electricity.

2. Retrofit Taskforce

Robert Deegan, Principal Officer, Energy Efficiency and Affordability Division from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment discussed the work to date of the Retrofit Taskforce which will drive the government's plans to retrofit 500,000 homes under the Climate Action Plan. He outlined the scale of the project, and that this transformational project requires a holistic approach that has health, energy and economic benefits including the design principles for the project. A report is due later in the year.

3. SEAI

Jim Scheer, Head of Data and Insights, SEAI discussed ongoing and planned research and analysis on the reducing emissions in the built environment via retrofits and decarbonising heat. He also discussed progress and projections, heat modelling project and the importance of prioritising and pursuing beneficial projects immediately.

4. Transport

An update on the Transport study was provided to assist with the development of the special chapter on transport in the Annual Review 2020. The Council discussed the findings and thanked the authors for their work in developing the paper. Once finalised, the paper will then be published on the Council website.

5. Annual Review 2020

An updated draft of Part A was presented for further discussion and direction. The Council discussed the key messages for the Annual Review, and discussed a paper on agriculture bought to the Council by Alan Matthews and Frank Convery to help inform considerations on the topic for the Annual Review. It was agreed that another short meeting would be held in July to help advance the Annual Review.

6. Council Administration

An updated Council Work Programme was discussed and approved by the Council for the remainder of the year.

7. Agreed Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB

The Council were informed that the Annual Transition Statement was presented to the Dáil Éireann on the 10th June, and that the consultation on the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change is open until 20 August 2020.

John Hoffert

23.07.2020