



Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 17.12.2020

Start time: 10:00

Venue: Video conference

Present: Prof. John FitzGerald, Chair; Mark Adamson, OPW; Prof. Gerry Boyle, Teagasc; Laura Burke, EPA; Prof. Robert Devoy, UCC; Keith Lambkin, Met Éireann; Dr Conor Murphy, Maynooth University; Roger Street, Oxford University.

Apologies: Dr Ina Kelly, HSE; William Walsh, SEAI; Dr. Margaret Desmond.

Secretariat: Seán O'Leary, Phillip O'Brien, Gemma O'Reilly, Claire Camilleri.

Presentations: Chris Stark, Chief Executive, UK Climate Change Committee; Kathryn Brown, Head of Adaptation, Climate Change Committee; Dr. Kate Lonsdale, UK Climate Resilience Programme Champions; Prof. Patrick Goodman, TU Dublin; Prof. John Wenger, University College Cork.

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting

08.10.2020

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 8th October 2020 were agreed with a minor change 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 Chair attended the Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action on 28th October in regards to the pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft Climate Action (Amendment) Bill and indicated that Council would be providing written comments. Following the Council meeting on the 12th November, a letter and appendix was subsequently sent on the 18th November and included a call for adaptation to be adequately recognised. The Council also discussed the EU Climate Plan. The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications also attended the meeting to discuss the future of the Council. The Council also met with the Internal Review panel. The Chair has spoken with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications regarding the term of office for the Council and Adaptation Committee and are awaiting further developments.

The Committee discussed that their term is due to finish with the term of Council on 17th January 2021, and discussed the importance of continuity to ensure progress continues to be made in the area of adaptation. The Chair will continue to keep Committee members updated on the issue.

3. Review of Work and Work Programme 2021

The Committee discussed a paper reviewing their work since its establishment and provided feedback on a suggested work programme for 2021 subject to new Adaptation Committee and Council arrangements. The Committee suggested some workshops that may be required to further explore adaptation issues, linking with the Climate Ireland Platform, the next iteration of the National Adaptation Framework and exploring the budgetary allocation around adaptation. Other topics of investigation will be incorporated into the review

document and will be agreed by the Committee via email to then be submitted to Council and provided to the next term of the Committee.

4. Engagement with the UKCCC

Chris Stark, Chief Executive of the UK Committee on Climate Change (UKCCC) and Kathryn Brown, Head of Adaptation discussed the UK Climate Change Committee's Adaptation Committee, their approach to advice on climate change risks and opportunities, and how they are measuring progress. They also discussed the challenges of 'mainstreaming' adaptation in the UK. A discussion followed on some of the learnings from the Committee and the potential for future collaborations between the UK and Ireland's Adaptation Committees.

5. Engagement with UK Climate Resilience Champions

Dr Kate Lonsdale from the UK Climate Resilience Programme Champions presented on the development of the programme, key themes and progress to date. The UK Climate Resilience programme aims to draw together fragmented climate research and expertise to deliver robust, multi- and inter-disciplinary research into climate risks and adaptation solutions. The UK Climate Resilience Programme is jointly led by UK Research and Innovation and the Met Office. Dr Lonsdale discussed areas of research investigation and how they are supporting the work of the UK climate resilience research community, and how they are evaluating the work to ensure continuous improvement.

6. Health and Climate Change

Prof. Patrick Goodman from TU Dublin and the European Academies' Science Advisory Council's Working Group on Climate Change and Health discussed the key recommendations from the EASAC 'The imperative of climate action to protect human health in Europe' report and the implications for Ireland.

Prof. John Wenger, UCC, presented on the air quality and health co-benefits of climate action. The Committee discussed black carbon emissions and impacts in Ireland, solid fuel burning, and other issues in regards to particulate matters and health consequences.

7. Agreed Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB

The Committee noted the Canadian Institute for Climate Choices 'Tip of the Iceberg Report'. The Secretariat will follow up with a revised review and outlook document of the Adaptation Committee for approval which will then be recommended to the Council. The Committee will

be kept up to date on the developments of the next term of the Council and Adaptation Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maire P. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'D'.

22.04.2021