

Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting – DRAFT MINUTES

Date:	19 th October 2017
Start time:	09:30
Venue:	McCumiskey House, Environmental Protection Agency, Clonskeagh, Dublin 14
Present:	Prof. John FitzGerald (Chair), Laura Burke, Prof. Peter Clinch, Joseph Curtin, Prof. Anna Davies, Jim Gannon, Prof. Alan Matthews
Apologies:	Prof. Alan Barrett, Prof. Gerry Boyle, Prof. Frank Convery, Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer,
Secretariat:	Rory Kelleher, Dr. Róisín Moriarty, Gemma O'Reilly, Phillip O'Brien, Claire Camilleri, Dr. Jonathan Derham.
Presenters:	Martin Finucane, Frank Maughan and Anne-Marie Clancy, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment; Dr. Maria Martin, Senior Inspector, EPA

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 24th April 2017

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 6th September 2017 were adopted and signed by the chair.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted with a slight amendment to the title of agenda item 5.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

Prof. Peter Clinch declared his application for a grant from the SEAI under the Better Energy Homes Scheme.

Joe Curtin is working on research funded by NTR Foundation and Friends of the Earth, which is relevant to discussion of the ongoing renewable energy support scheme consultation.

1.4 Chair's Report of Activities

The Chair outlined his recent meetings with DG CLIMA and the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. He also noted the contribution of Council members Laura Burke and Joseph Curtin who presented at the first weekend (30 September - 1 October 2017) of the Citizens' Assembly session on 'How the State can make Ireland a leader in tackling climate change,' and of Prof. Anna Davies who is a member of the Expert Advisory Group. The Chair also noted thanks

on behalf of the Council for the contribution of Dr. Frank McGovern as manager of the Council's Secretariat.

2. Budget 2018

The Council discussed the recent budget announcements in terms of climate change, and agreed to write to the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, copying in the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment in regards to a number of areas of concern.

3. Adaptation Committee Update

The Council were provided with an update from the Adaptation Committee meeting on the 27th September where recommendations regarding the draft National Adaptation Framework and the draft Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Electricity and Gas Networks were made for the Council to consider. The Council agreed with the recommendations, and will provide feedback on the draft plans. The Council also acknowledged the impact of recent weather events, in particular hurricane Ophelia, and the interconnectedness of key infrastructure.

4. Draft National Adaptation Framework

The Council discussed the recommendation from the Adaptation Committee in regards to responding to the draft National Adaptation Framework. The Council agreed on the key points to provide feedback on the draft National Adaptation Framework.

5. Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan

Representatives from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment presented the national requirements under the proposed EU Governance of the Energy Union regulation which incorporates the development of an Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan. A short discussion followed, and the Council thanked the representatives for their time.

6. Renewable Electricity Support Scheme Consultation

The Council discussed the final public consultation on the development and design of a new Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) for Ireland. The Council identified the issue of microgeneration as needing to be addressed, and recommended feedback be given by the Council on the consultation.

7. National Planning Framework

The Council welcomed the publication of the draft National Planning Framework that was published on the 26th September. The Council agreed on the key recommendations to be provided regarding the draft National Planning Framework.

8. ETS Update

Dr. Maria Martin from the EPA provided the Council with an update on the ongoing European Emissions Trading Scheme negotiations. A short discussion followed, and the Council thanked Dr. Martin for her time.

9. Annual Review 2017


The Council discussed the latest draft of the Annual Review 2017, with a view to publishing the document later this year. The Council agreed on the structure for the Annual Review going forward and made a number of recommendations to be incorporated into the final report.

10. December Council Meeting

The Council discussed the upcoming meeting of the Council on the 13th December, where it is envisaged that the ongoing work programme of the Council will be discussed. The Council requested that an international counterpart be invited to present to the Council on their experience so far, and to contribute to the discussions. The structure of the meeting was also agreed.

11. Council Administration

The Council took the decision not to print hardcopies of Council-produced reports going forward. Reports will continue to be made available online.

 13/12/2017