



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 17th September 2020

Start time: 9:30am

Venue: Video Conference Meeting

Present: Professor John FitzGerald, Professor Gerry Boyle, Laura Burke, Professor Peter Clinch, Professor Frank Convery, Professor Anna Davies, Professor Alan Matthews, William Walsh.

Apologies: Professor Alan Barrett, Professor Ottmar Edenhofer, Dr Joseph Curtin.

Presenter: Kieran Mulvey, Just Transition Commissioner

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

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 03.09.2020

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 3rd September 2020 were signed electronically by the Chair.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Council.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interests to report.

1.4 Chair's Report of Activities

In September Prof. FitzGerald met with representatives from the British Embassy in regards to the challenges of climate change. He also met with ESB Networks' to discuss their Business Plan 2021-2015. Prof. FitzGerald also noted that the Commission for the Regulation of Utilities (CRU) had its first five-year Revenue Control out for consultation and it was closing soon. It was agreed that the Council would write to the CRU, advising that it would soon publish its Annual Review 2020 and that it hoped the CRU would take account of the recommendations within the report.

2. Just Transition Commissioner

Kieran Mulvey, Just Transition Commissioner, outlined the progress reports to date on just transition in the Midlands and the Just Transition Fund. He discussed the process of working with stakeholders in the region and that there will be upcoming recommendations to be made to Government.

3. National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP)

The Council acknowledged the publication of the National Energy and Climate Plan that was published in August, and that it will be revised to incorporate the policies and measures that are being developed to achieve a 7% annual average reduction in greenhouse gas emissions between 2021 and 2030.

4. Annual Review

The Council agreed the final text of the Annual Review 2020 and recommended its publication. The Council thanked the Secretariat for its work in compiling the Annual Review and throughout the editing process. The Council discussed the arrangements for submission of the report to the Minister, and the launch to take place on the 30th September 2020.

5. Internal Review

The Council were informed of the confirmed Independent Internal Review panel comprising Geraldine Tallon (Chair), Sharon Turner and Halldór Thorgeirsson. The Panel will shortly commence consultation interviews and gathering information. The Council will receive an update from the Panel at the November meeting, and it is hoped that the finalised report will be submitted to the Council by the end of the year.

6. Work Programme Update

The Council were updated on the progression of the Work Programme, and that on the 3rd September the EPA on behalf of the Climate Change Advisory Council were inviting research proposals on Carbon Budgeting, Mitigation and Adaptation. Applications will close on the 9th October 2020.

The work package regarding research on the assessment of mitigation and adaptation in the heat sector would be increased to make use of available funds.

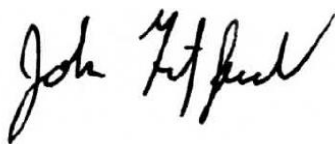
The Council were also informed that due to the impacts of COVID-19 it was unlikely to discharge its entire budget this year, with approximately €60,000 identified to be unused and notified as per the EPA budgeting revision cycle.

7. Council Administration

The Council were updated on the upcoming workshop to be held as part of the European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils Network (EEAC Network) Annual Conference in October that is being organised by National Economic and Social Council (NESC). The workshop on 'Advising on a Just Transition' is to take place on the 28th October from 09:00-10:30, with Prof. Anna Davies presenting and chairing the session on behalf of the Council.

8. Agreed Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB

The launch of the Annual Review will take place on the 30th September 2020. The next meeting of the Climate Change Advisory Council will take place on the 12th November 2020.



Signed 12.11.2020