



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

**Date:** 12.12.2020

**Start time:** 10:00

**Venue:** Environmental Protection Agency, McCumiskey House, Richview, Dublin 14

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

**Apologies:** Prof. Gerry Boyle, Teagasc; Dr Ina Kelly, HSE; William Walsh, SEAI.

**Secretariat:** Seán O'Leary, Harriet Walsh, Claire Camilleri, Dr Tadhg O'Mahony, Dr Sabrina Dekker.

**Presenters:** Ken Cleary, James Reddy and Laura Kevany, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform; Dr. Stephen Flood, MaREI UCC; Paul McGowan, Karen Trant, Brid O'Donovan, Commission for the Regulation of Utilities; Conor Quinlan, EPA.

## **1. Opening of Meeting**

### **1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee Meeting 23.10.2019**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 were agreed and signed 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 Secretariat provided a verbal update from the Council meeting on 28.11.2019, and the proposed work programme for the Council in 2020. The Adaptation Committee were also presented with the proposed new structure for the Annual Review.

## **3. Engagement with Department of Public Expenditure and Reform**

The Committee met with officials from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. The Committee and the officials discussed the role of DPER in recent sectoral adaptation planning. Other issues raised included the prioritisation of adaptation actions and investment, the role of the public spending code in adaptation, quantifying the cost of extreme events, coastal issues, societal resilience and responsibility for climate preparedness, and cross sectoral coherence and governance. The cost of extreme events was also discussed, and the Committee raised the requirement for an assessment of the investment needs of adaptation for Ireland.

## **4. Engagement with 'Policy Coherence in Adaptation Studies: Selecting and Using Indicators of Climate Resilience' research project (MaREI)**

The Committee met with Dr. Stephen Flood (MaREI) who leads this research project. The objective of this project (due to be completed in Summer 2020) is to identify, select and apply a set of climate resilience indicators for Ireland based on current international practice and tested through stakeholder engagement. International examples were also discussed, while emphasising the need for local indicators tailored to specific conditions. The importance of adaptation indicators has been discussed in recent Council Annual Reviews.

## **5. Engagement with Commission for the Regulation of Utilities**

The Commission for the Regulation of Utilities were invited to present to the Adaptation Committee to follow up on their presentation to the Council in September 2019. The Committee discussed the CRU's statutory functions in electricity and gas and in water and how they relate to adaptation and climate change. The CRU's role in security of supply, interdependencies, how regulators and utilities consider future climate scenarios and their role in sectoral adaptation planning was also discussed.

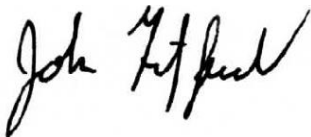
## **6. Presentation on common framework for climate change projections**

The Adaptation Committee heard from Conor Quinlan (EPA) regarding work on developing a common framework for climate change projections, scenarios and assessment methods with particular focus on the water/catchments sector. This considered issues around data availability and linking it with user needs.

## **7. Agreed Outcomes and AOB**

The Committee thanked Harriet Walsh and Dr Tadhg O'Mahony for their work with the Secretariat.

The next meeting of the Adaptation Committee will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020.



02.04.2020