



## Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

**Date:** 12.07.2021

**Start time:** 14:00

**Venue:** Video Conference Meeting

**Present:** Marie Donnelly, Professor Gerry Boyle (Teagasc), Laura Burke (EPA), Professor John FitzGerald, Patricia King, Andrew Murphy, Julie Sinnamon, Professor Peter Thorne, William Walsh (SEAI).

**Observers:** Eoin Moran, Met Éireann; Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Sinéad O'Brien.

**Apologies:** Professor Alan Barrett (ESRI), Professor Ottmar Edenhofer, Prof. Morgan Bazilian.

**Secretariat:** George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Gemma O'Reilly, Seán O'Leary, Claire Camilleri, and Ciara Hilliard

**Presenters:** Prof. Yvonne Buckley, TCD; Johnny Fallon, Áine Roddy and Eimear Hurley, Carr Communications Ltd.

### 1. Opening of Meeting

#### 1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 18.06.2021

The minutes for the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June were accepted with a minor change.

#### 1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Council.

#### 1.3 Disclosure of Interests

No disclosures of interest.

## **2. Carbon Budgets**

The Council were updated on the progress of the Economic Analysis that has been presented to the Committee on Carbon Budgets, and that further work in this area is on-going.

Prof. Yvonne Buckley provided the Council with an update from the review commissioned for Council on the impacts of climate mitigation measures on biodiversity. The Council discussed key messages that were emerging from her work including the impacts and the potential co-benefits for climate and biodiversity when considering afforestation, spatial land and sea planning for renewable energy projects and the rewetting of bogs. The Council noted the importance of actions being context dependent to ensure the best possible outcomes for both climate and biodiversity.

The Council then discussed current status of the progress through the Dáil of the amendment to Climate legislation. It was agreed the carbon budgets could not be recommended before enactment of the Bill and subsequent publication of the regulations proposed in the Bill.

The Council agreed to extend the mandate of the Committee on Carbon Budgets until the publication of the Council's proposal on carbon budgets can take place, and to expand their mandate to consider finance, biodiversity and any elements of the forth coming regulation relevant to the Committee's mandate.

The Council agreed to invite a representative from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications to the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July to discuss the progress of the Bill and the proposed regulations and associated timelines.

The Council discussed the proposed structure of their advice to government on carbon budgets and agreed to further develop the messaging and content of its advice to ensure that the Council fulfils its mandate under the proposed amended legislation.

## **3. Communications Strategy of Carbon Budget Publication**

Johnny Fallon from Carr Communications discussed a proposed strategy for the publication of the Council's advice on carbon budgets. The Council discussed key messages and themes and the practicalities of publishing their advice. The Council reiterated the importance of this piece of work and ensuring that communicating the process and final advice on carbon budgets will be critical not just for key stakeholders, but also for the

general public. The Council will continue to work with Carr Communications in advance of publishing its advice.

#### **4. AOB**

The Council were provided with a short update on Secretariat resources, with confirmation of two additional posts that were requested in 2019 and two internship positions.

The Council discussed further meetings that may be required in September.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marie P. Donnelly". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

22.07.2021