



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - DRAFT MINUTES

Date: 18.06.2021

Start time: 13:00

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).

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

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

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

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 13.05.2021

The minutes for the meeting held on the 13th May were accepted with a minor change.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by the Council, with minor changes to the order of items taken.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Adaptation Committee Update

An update from the Secretariat on the Adaptation Committee held on the 22nd April was carried over from the previous Council meeting on the 13th May.

At the meeting on the 22nd April, the Committee discussed the EU Adaptation strategy, the Committee's work programme and funding of Committee workshops around household resilience and coastal adaptation. The Committee also discussed the Annual Review 2021 and agreed the consultation template for the review of resilience progress for the Annual Review 2021, which was approved at the Council meeting on the 13th May and has since been issued.

Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive of Sligo County Council and Chair of CCMA's Climate Action, Transport and Networks committee has retired leaving a vacancy for the interim term of the Adaptation Committee. The Council notes the valuable contribution of Mr Hayes to the Committee. The Secretariat have been contacted by the CCMA in regards to proposing a replacement for the vacancy. The Council agreed that the CCMA could suggest a replacement for the Council to consider for approval at the next Council meeting.

3. Annual Review 2021

The Secretariat updated the Council on updated timelines outlined in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021 in regards to the Annual Review, and that the text amends Section 12 of the Principal Act to 'conduct a review (in this section referred to as the 'annual review') by 30 October in each year of the progress made during the immediately preceding year.'

The Secretariat has secured additional resources to assist in the development of the Annual Review 2021, and a timeline of development of the Annual Review 2021 was outlined. The Council were also reminded that at the Council meeting of 15th April it was agreed 'that the Secretariat may approach ex-officio organisations to provide policy briefings on developments in emissions trends and climate policies within sectors to inform the review.'

The Council discussed the development of the Annual Review 2021, including the overlap with the development of the Carbon Budgeting advice and challenges this poses

in terms of resources. The Council discussed requirements for the Annual Review as set out under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and the approach required. The Council noted that they would receive a more developed draft at the meeting on the 22nd July and the input points required throughout the summer.

4. Council budget estimate 2022

The Council were provided an update on the annual budgetary cycle of the Council and a proposed budgetary estimate and rationale for Council and Secretariat operations for 2022.

The Council agreed to request a budget of €927,000 for 2022, which is an increase of 17% on the 2021 budget. The Council discussed the ongoing need to address the permanent staff resources of the Secretariat. The Council commended the Secretariat on the quality of the work they are producing given the circumstances.

5. Draft Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill

NOTE: THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE

[REDACTED]

6. Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications were unable to attend the Council meeting, and the engagement will be rescheduled.

7. Carbon Budgets

The Secretariat provided an update on the work of the Committee on Carbon Budgets since the previous Council meeting, including plans for upcoming sectoral engagement, including agriculture, transport, residential heating, enterprise/industry with finance and

power generation to be confirmed. Council members are invited to indicate if they wish to attend any of these engagements.

The Council were also informed of an expert meeting convened by the Secretariat on behalf of the Carbon Budget Committee on the science of national mitigation efforts, gases, and 1.5C degrees to be held on Tuesday 22nd June.

The Council were provided with a preliminary draft strawman of a letter of advice on Carbon Budgets. The Council were asked to provide guidance on the structure and the topics to be addressed. The Council discussed the challenging timelines of the development of this work and that an additional meeting of the Council is required in July. The Council agreed that the letter of advice should address the criteria as outlined in the legislation to ensure transparency of the alignment of the proposed carbon budgets with the enacted legislation.

The Council were informed that communication consultants have been engaged to work with the Council and Secretariat to assist with the publication and communication of its Carbon Budget advice.

8. Chair's Report of Council Activities

The Council were advised that on the 1st July, Prof Peter Thorne is providing oral evidence at the Northern Ireland Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Senate committee discussing the Climate Change Bill for Northern Ireland. The Council were also updated on a Secretariat meeting with the OECD on a possible package of work to assist the Council, and will provide a further update in the 22nd July meeting. The Council noted the report of activities.

9. AOB

The Council agreed that the next meeting is to be focused on the work of Carbon Budgets on the 12th July.



12.07.2021