



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting – DRAFT MINUTES	
Date:	22 nd February 2017
Start time:	09:30
Venue:	The Economic and Social Research Institute, The Economic and Social Research Institute
Present:	Prof. John FitzGerald (Chair), Prof. Alan Matthews, Joseph Curtin, Laura Burke, Prof. Gerry Boyle, Prof. Anna Davies, Frank Convery, Jim Gannon, Prof. Alan Barrett, Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer, Prof. Peter Clinch.
Apologies:	NIL
Secretariat:	Dr. Frank McGovern, Dr. Róisín Moriarty, Gemma O'Reilly, Claire Camilleri
Presenters:	Des O'Leary, Frank Maughan, Ciaran Conroy, Daniel Fitzgerald, Mary Carrick, Department of Finance Dr. Brian Ó Gallachóir, James Glynn UCC Dr. Phillip O'Brien, EPA

1. Opening of Meeting

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 8th December 2016

The minutes of the Council meeting held on the 8th December 2016 were adopted and signed by the chair.

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was adopted without changes.

1.3 Disclosure of Interests

Alan Matthews declared that he is a member of An Taisce, and did not comment on actions arising from their letter.

1.4 Chair's Report of Activities

The Chair outlined his participation at a UCC Climate CoLab 2017 Seminar Series - providing a presentation called 'The Climate Change Advisory Council - ongoing work and recent findings.'

The Council also discussed recent correspondence received from An Taisce and the Irish Academy of Engineers.

2. Adaptation Committee Update

The Council received an update regarding the most recent Climate Change Advisory Council Adaptation Committee meeting held on the 25th January. The Council received draft responses to draft sectoral plans provided by both Transport and



Agriculture. The Council discussed the detail of the proposed responses and agreed on a few minor amendments. It was also agreed to send copies of this correspondence to the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment as the department responsible for delivering the National Adaptation Framework.

3. Energy Policy Modelling

Dr. Brian Ó Gallachóir presented the long term mitigation scenarios that the UCC Climate CoLab have developed through TIMES, PLEXOS and other sectoral energy demand simulation models. Dr. Ó Gallachóir presented a range of scenarios to the Council, and a discussion regarding possible pathways ensued. The Council thanked Dr Ó Gallachóir for his input.

4. Department of Finance

The delegation from the Department of Finance discussed a number of areas such as their role in assisting the Department of Communications, Climate Action and the Environment in the development of the NMP and taxation issues around specific initiatives such as Electric Vehicles and carbon tax. The tension between exchequer funding and changing behaviours through taxation mechanisms was also acknowledged. The Council acknowledged the very central role of the Department of Finance to progressing climate change initiatives and thanked them for their time. The Council agreed that it would be important for the Department of Public Expenditure and Report to present at the next meeting.

5. National Mitigation Plan – Briefing Paper and NMP update

The Council discussed the latest expected timeline of the draft NMP and highlighted their concern at the delay of its release from previous timelines provided, and the impact of these delays on the work of the Council in fulfilling their function in providing advice to the department. They acknowledged the release of a Briefing Note on the NMP on the 2nd February, and discussed the note in detail. The Council agreed that there were a number of issues that need to be addressed in the NMP, and decided that a letter to the Minister addressing both their concern at the delay of releasing a draft NMP and key issues that need to be addressed in a final NMP was to be written to the Minister.

6. Periodic Review Report

Prof. Alan Matthews provided a presentation discussing appropriate path(s) for agriculture to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, and posed a number of discussion points for the Council regarding the challenge to achieve carbon neutrality in the sector. The Council agreed that a paper on the topic should be included in the Periodic Review Report. Other topics to be included are assessing the impact of Ireland's historic and future greenhouse gases and behavioural change in addressing climate change. An outline of the PRR was discussed, and a more detailed draft will be presented at the next meeting.

7. National Planning Framework

The Council discussed the possibility of submitting a response to the consultation on the 'Ireland 2040 Our Plan: National Planning Framework.' The Council agreed that



the consultation document provided a comprehensive overview of the major topics, and that the document acknowledged climate change appropriately throughout the document. The Council agreed that a submission would be drafted. The Council also requested that that an invitation to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government be invited to present at the next meeting.

8. Council Administration

The Council were updated with the key statistics of the performance of the Climate Change Advisory Council website.

9. Agreed Outcomes, plans for next meeting and AOB

The Council agreed on the key items for the next meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. J. J.", is written on the page.

26/4/2017