



Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting

Date: 26.09.2024

Start time: 11:00

Venue: MS Teams

Online: Marie Donnelly (Chair), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Prof. Peter Thorne, Andrew Murphy (from 11:52), Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc), Professor Yvonne Buckley, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann); Professor Edgar Morgenroth; Eimear Cotter (EPA Observer in place of Laura Burke from 13:45), Professor Liam Delaney; William Walsh (SEAI observer)

Apologies: Laura Burke (EPA), Prof. Morgan Bazilian,

Other: Prof. Julie Byrne, UCD (joined for agenda item 4), Lisa Johnson, Ecodiversity (joined for agenda items 6, 7 & 8)

Secretariat: George Hussey, Phillip O'Brien, Gina Kelly, Meabh Gallagher, Stephen Flood, Eleanor Mathews, Bryn Canniffe, Kieran Craven, Katherine Dooley, Ciara Hilliard, Jodie Colgan, Claire Camilleri

1. Opening of Meeting (11:00)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 18th July 2024

The minutes were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes



No matters arising from the minutes

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

Disclosure of Interests

There were no disclosures of interests.

2. Adaptation Committee (11:10)

The Secretariat briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meeting held on the 12th September 2024 in Cork.

As part of the September Adaptation Committee in-person meeting representatives from Cork City Council took the Committee members on a site visit to the Morrison's Island flood relief project in Cork city as well as the Docklands Regeneration Project.

The Adaptation Committee has identified further opportunities to be involved in issues with the Council to provide their expertise, and the Council and Secretariat will engage with the Committee further on this.

The workplan for 2025 was discussed along with workshop plans for 2025 in late March or April.

An update was provided on plans for 2025 Sectoral Adaptation Plans. The Secretariat has discussed plans with the sectors and will continue to advance this work. It was noted that DHLGH were tasked with five of the Sectoral Adaptation Plans, and that it may be useful to proactively engage on this.

3. Documents for approval (11:31)

Council discussed and approved a working paper that provided an assessment of biodiversity considerations in the carbon budgets process.

Council also discussed and approved specifications for UCC Modelling and Analysis Services to be provided under the existing framework agreement.

Council approved the minor amendments to the Updated Memorandum of Understanding between EPA and the Climate Change Advisory Council. Once noted by the EPA Board the amended MoU would be published by the Council.



4. Sustainable Finance: A Review of Mitigation and Adaptation Finance Options in Ireland (11:53)

Prof. Julie Byrne presented her small scale study titled Sustainable Finance: A Review of Mitigation and Adaptation Finance Options in Ireland. Further to discussion, it was agreed that Prof. Byrne's paper would be presented to Council for final approval at a future Council meeting incorporating comments from Council.

5. Carbon Budgets Update (12:48)

An update was provided on Carbon Budgets Working Group meetings on 25th July and 29th August. Council also noted the progress on the draft Carbon Budgets Working Group Outputs Report. Council further discussed the scientific analysis for the Carbon Budget proposal (CB3 and provisional CB4) for later in the year, including the communications plans around the publication of the proposal.

The scenarios for macroeconomic outlook were discussed. Specific scenarios were selected for macroeconomic analysis.

Council approved the proposed Communications Plan for Carbon Budgets. It was agreed that early drafts of the Carbon Budgets Summary for All and Letter to the Minister would be circulated to Council for comment ahead of next meeting.

6. Annual Review – Cross Sectoral Review (15:30)

The Council discussed and approved the Cross Sectoral Review for publication with minor amendments.

7. Annual Review – Biodiversity Review (15:35)

The Council discussed and approved the Biodiversity Review for publication with minor amendments.



8. Annual Review – Summary for All (15:45)

The Council discussed and approved the Summary for All for publication with minor amendments. Council also agreed to place the CCAC AR2023 Key Recommendations and Commentary and the Supplementary AR2024 Indicators tables on the Council's website.

9. Communications Update (15:55)

Chair of the Communications Subgroup, Dr Cara Augustenborg, updated Council on the meeting of the 3rd of September which was mainly focussed on the Annual Review publications and supporting events and a discussion of Carbon Budget communications. Communication supports such as the development of video content for website and social media and other communication assets were also discussed. The Subgroup also approved the approach to the publication of Working Papers which will be implemented for all subsequent working papers to be published. It was also agreed at the Subgroup that the Council would take a stand at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in January 2025. Further to discussion on the Council's presence at the Young Scientist Exhibition, the Council approved a budgetary spend on appropriate prizes for the event.

10. Work Programme 2024 Update (16:10)

The Secretariat provided an update on expenditure to date.

It was noted that the Council will not attend COP29 in Baku due to the prioritisation of the carbon budgets proposal and logistical challenges. Prof. Peter Thorne advised that he will be attending and may be able to represent the Council's if there are no clashes with his other appointments.

Council also noted that potential thematic sessions and research projects for 2025 would be presented at the October Council meeting.

11. Activities of the Council (16:30)

The Council noted the report of Council activities.



12. AOB and next meeting (16:35)

The Council were provided with a list of indicative dates for meetings and events for the Council in 2025.

It was noted that the next Council meeting would be on the 24th of October 2024 and would be held in person.

The Council also congratulated Secretariat members Kieran Craven and Katherine Dooley on their promotions and wished them well in their future career moves.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie E. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Signed on 24.10.2024