



## Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES

**Date:** 25.04.2024

**Start time:** 11:00

**Venue:** MS Teams

**Online:** Marie Donnelly (Chair), Patricia King, Jillian Mahon, Dr. Cara Augustenborg, Julie Sinnamon, Eoin Moran (Met Éireann), Prof. Peter Thorne, Andrew Murphy, Prof. Frank O' Mara (Teagasc), Laura Burke (EPA) (from 11:15 to 15:05) Professor Yvonne Buckley (to 17:20), Professor Liam Delaney, Professor Edgar Morgenroth, Prof. Morgan Bazilian (17:00).

**Apologies:** William Walsh (SEAI observer).

**Other:** Lisa Johnson, Ecodiversity (14:05-16:05)

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

### 1. Opening of Meeting (11:00)

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

#### 1.1 Minutes for the Climate Change Advisory Council Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February 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

Prof. Yvonne Buckley declared that prior to being appointed to the Council, she applied for a study with the Council on the 'Assessment of biodiversity considerations in the carbon budgets process' which she was subsequently awarded following a procurement process.



This study will aim to be completed in July, and she will recuse herself from any discussions relating to this study.

## **2. Welcome to New Members (11.05)**

The Chair welcomed the three new members of the Climate Change Advisory Council Professor Yvonne Buckley, Professor Liam Delaney and Professor Edgar Morgenroth.

## **3. Adaptation Committee Update (11.08)**

The Secretariat briefed Council members on the outcomes of the Adaptation Committee meetings held on 7th March 2024 and presented the outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> March Adaptation Committee Indicators Workshop. Eoin Moran provided an update regarding work from the World Meteorological Association on the Global Early Warnings for All initiative.

## **4. Thematic Session – Sustainable Food Systems (11.19)**

The Council discussed the complexities of sustainable food systems. During this topic, they explored a range of challenges and opportunities for food production, processing, transport and distribution, packaging, market, information, health, access, consumption, waste, circular and bioeconomy. It noted that food systems are complex, with multiple stakeholders with intricate supply chains and decision points where policy interventions directed at specific issues risk cascading adverse, and unintended consequences.

The Council will continue to explore this issue in the future.

## **5. Documents for approval (12:37)**

It was agreed that the following reports subject to changes should be published on the Council website:

- Barriers to industrial heat decarbonisation in Ireland
- Review of deployment of long duration energy storage in Ireland
- Research on the assessment of specific barriers to district heating deployment in Ireland
- Research to assess specific measures for road freight emission abatement under the ASI framework



## **6. Annual Review - Electricity and Industry and Waste Sectoral Reviews (14:05)**

Council discussed the draft Electricity Sectoral Review and the Industry and Waste Sectoral Reviews and provided feedback and approved the Sectoral Reviews. The Secretariat will develop the summary documents and further circulate to Council.

## **7. Transport and Built Environment Preview (15.22)**

Council discussed the Sectoral Reviews for both the Transport and Built Environment sectors and provided feedback for the Secretariat to incorporate into drafting of the Sectoral Reviews.

## **8. Carbon Budgets Update (16:23)**

The Secretariat provided an update on the meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> of February, 22<sup>nd</sup> of March and 19<sup>th</sup> of April and previewed the upcoming topics for discussion at the next meetings scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> of May and 28<sup>th</sup> of June.

The Council will also request the National Transport Authority to carry out modelling services to support the development of the second programme of carbon budgets under the terms of the MoU with relevant Government Departments and Agencies.

Council approved the appointment of James Moran, Senior Lecturer in Ecology and Biology in the Department of Natural Resources & the Environment at Atlantic Technological University to the Carbon Budgets Working Group, with Eamon Haughey as his alternate member.

## **9. Pre-Budget Statement (16:35)**

The Secretariat briefed Council on the proposed pre-budget statement. It was discussed that the Council's pre-budget advice should be communicated to the Ministers directly. This will also help inform discussions at the National Economic Dialogue.

## **10. Communications Update (16:50)**

The Secretariat updated Council on the meeting of the Communications Subgroup on 9<sup>th</sup> of April where they updated the group on recent media training, communications plans for the Annual Review 2024 and the updating of the Council's Corporate Identity.

## **11. Work Programme Update (17:05)**



The Secretariat updated Council on the 2024 Work Programme and Council approved Revised Budget 1 with a minor change to investigate the need for additional funds from the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

## **12. Activities of the Council (17:25)**

The Council noted the report of Council activities.

## **13. AOB (17:28)**

- Secretariat gave an update on the July meeting. Council noted the venue change to the Radisson Blu, Stillorgan. (Note: Post meeting it was established that this meeting would be held over 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July).

**Next meeting:** It was noted that the next Council meeting would be on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 and would be held virtually on MS Teams.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie L. Donnelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

Signed on 13.06.2024