

ASC Committee Meeting- Minutes

Date: Thursday 22nd September 2016 | 09:30 – 14:00 | CCC, 7 Holbein Place

Present: John Krebs (Chair), Ece Ozdemiroglu, Rosalyn Schofield, Graham Wynne, Anne Johnson, Jim Hall.

1. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The minutes from the 14th July meeting were agreed.

The Committee welcomed the progress in developing the protocol for collaborating with the Natural Capital Committee. The intention is to have a simple protocol, including regular catch-ups. Ece Ozdemiroglu will be the ASC focal point and will provide regular, short reports of these catch-ups during ASC meetings.

The Committee discussed and it is concerned about the delay of the publications of the 25 years Environment and Food & Farming plans. It commented on the importance of these reports, especially in light of the UK leaving the European Union.

Lord Krebs provided a summary of the CCRA launch in Northern Ireland. The feedback from the attendees was extremely positive. The Committee would support further such events and will continue to engage with the Northern Ireland Executive and DAERA.

The Committee discussed the National Flood Resilience Review. The Committee reiterated the comments that they expressed in the [press release](#).

The Secretariat informed the Committee that Defra has confirmed the funding for 2016/17 and 2017/18, and that the department is making progress in producing the CCRA Government report.

The Committee welcomed the confirmation of the new Environment Agency chair.

2. Workplan for the 2017 Progress Report

The Committee discussed different options for the structure of the 2017 Statutory Report. It considered 1. keeping the same structure of the previous report, 2. adopting the structure of the CCRA Evidence Report and 3. a structure based on the six urgent areas identified by the CCRA. Given the positive feedback received on the Evidence Report, and the relative similarity with the structure of the previous report, the Committee decided to adopt such structure. The report will however still feature a chapter on local government.

For each of the chapters, the Committee discussed adopting a structure based on the three assessment questions (1. Is there a plan? 2. Is action being taken? 3. Is progress being made in managing vulnerability?). This was the structure adopted for the Scotland report. It was

decided to wait for the feedback received on the Scotland report to decide whether to follow the same structure. It was also agreed that the chapters should include an update on the Government response to the recommendations provided in the 2015 Statutory Report.

The rest of the session was dedicated to discussing the themes, priorities and data requirements to populate each of the chapters. The Committee identified some gaps for which more research might be needed, including information on the implementation and effectiveness of adaptation measures within spatial planning, the capability of the emergency response system, public awareness of climate change, and the size of the market for adaptation goods and services. These will inform the research plan and the chapter plans that will be developed in October. It was agreed to have a series of expert round tables, including with architects, developers, representatives from Local Resilience Fora, Environment Agency and Defra flood experts, and the Natural Capital Committee.

3. ARP Round 2: Assessment of adaptation reporting

Defra has requested the ASC to review the second round of reports produced under the Climate Change Act adaptation reporting power. The Secretariat has worked with Defra to define the method to deliver this review. The method includes an assessment of how the ARP reports have contributed to the ASC's role in producing the CCRA Evidence Report, and in reporting to Parliament on progress by the National Adaptation Programme, to understand the value of the ARP process beyond helping the reporting organisations themselves.

The Committee commented on the questions and agreed on the timeline, with the first draft report to be produced in January. The final deliverable due at the end of March 2017 may take the form of a technical report with a covering letter from the committee.

4. SCCAP Report: final plans for launch

The Secretariat presented the feedback from the briefing sessions held with Scottish Government in advance of launching the ASC's independent assessment of the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme. These sessions provided Scottish Government with an overview of the main outcomes and conclusions of the ASC analysis, ahead of the launch. The sessions were well attended with attendees readily accepting the method used for the analysis and engaging constructively with the results.

The Committee and the Secretariat discussed the final plans and logistics for presenting and communicating the SCCAP assessment to the Scottish Parliament.

The ASC's next meeting will be on Thursday 27th October 2016.