

Minutes of CCC Meeting, 07/06/2019

Present were John Deben, Keith Bell, Nick Chater, Piers Forster, Rebecca Heaton, Paul Johnson, Corinne Le Quéré, Chris Stark.

Conflicts of interest

Committee members were reminded of the need to declare any conflicts of interest.

1. Progress report – report structure and key analysis

The Committee had extensive and detailed discussion of the Government's decision to carry forward 88 MtCO₂e of outperformance from the second carbon budget to the third, against the recommendation of the Committee in January 2019. The Committee was clear that this should not lead to any reduction in effort to reduce emissions.

The secretariat presented the proposed outline for the progress report, and led discussion of key tables in the report on what actions should have been taken over the preceding year, what is required over the next year and progress against quantitative indicators.

The Committee suggested that the progress report chapters be reordered so that they are presented in order of emissions, with the highest-emitting sector first.

2. Aviation and Net Zero

The secretariat presented on potential content for a follow-up letter on aviation following the Net Zero advice.

The Committee the committee had a detailed discussion of how aviation can reach net-zero emissions, through a range of ways of reducing emissions and offsetting remaining emissions using verified additional greenhouse gas removal technologies. The constraints on deployment of greenhouse gas removal technologies means it makes sense to pursue other avenues to reduce aviation emissions rather than allowing unfettered growth in demand and emissions.

There was discussion of whether and how domestic and international policy to reduce aviation emissions can be complementary and that there is a difference between including aviation in emissions targets and the pursuit of unilateral rather than multilateral policies to reduce those emissions.

3. UK emissions trading

The secretariat presented on the Government request to the Committee for advice on a UK emissions trading system (ETS), separate from but linked to the consultation the Government has issued.

The Committee agreed to provide advice to the Government in summer 2019, in the form of a letter covering the future level of the UK ETS cap, and design principles (e.g. whether such a system should stand alone or be linked to the EU ETS).

4. **The sixth carbon budget**

The secretariat led a discussion on early thinking relating to the advice due in 2020 on the level of the sixth carbon budget.

The Committee were keen to address certain areas (e.g. the role of the demand side, co-benefits) that have been less prominent in past advice, and to make the advice as policy-relevant as possible. There was discussion of how the scope might be kept manageable, and which aspects might be addressed separately in other reports.

The Committee agreed to come back to these issues after the summer.