

Minutes of CCC Meeting, 11/10/2019

Present were John Deben, Keith Bell, Nick Chater, Piers Forster (remotely), 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. Sixth carbon budget: cross-cutting issues

The secretariat presented on potential timelines for the sixth carbon budget advice and on a range of cross-cutting issues that are relevant to it, including interaction with the HM Treasury review of how to allocate the costs of Net Zero, the roles of different actors and places (e.g. cities and regions).

The Committee highlighted the importance of 2020 in UK and global climate action, and decided that publication in September would be preferable, given the value of providing advice to the Government well in advance of COP26, while giving the team enough time to do the work.

There was discussion of the Treasury review, during which the Committee emphasised its importance and that key challenge is how the required changes, near-term and long-term, can be funded in a way that distributes costs fairly. It should be a key input to next year's spending review and budget, as well as setting the longer-term direction for policy.

The Committee agreed to write to the Government to set out the Committee's expectations of the Treasury review and announce our intended publication date for the sixth carbon budget advice.

2. Sixth carbon budget: sectoral considerations

The secretariat presented on analytical priorities for the sixth carbon budget advice across buildings, power generation and hydrogen production. The Committee emphasised the need for the advice to be as policy-relevant as possible, especially for the next 10-15 years.

The Committee were concerned by the potential hiatus on low-carbon heating funding following the end of the Renewable Heat Incentive in spring 2021.

3. Land use and agriculture policy report

The secretariat presented work by consultants on the economic impacts of land use measures, considering the value to society across a range of benefits (recreation, air

quality, flood-risk alleviation, health benefits and biodiversity) and considering their potential funding requirement. The secretariat also presented on recent trends in UK diets. The Committee the committee had extensive discussion of the results and the need for its advice to reflect the evidence while being presented in an effective way that helps policy design. There will be a further discussion of policy at the November meeting.

4. Scottish progress report

The secretariat presented on recent developments on emissions, the Climate Change Bill and climate policy in Scotland, together with proposed key messages for the annual Scottish progress report.

The Committee discussed the key messages, emphasising the major challenge of meeting the target recently agreed by the Scottish Parliament for a 75% reduction in Scottish emissions by 2030. The Committee agreed to publish the report in mid-November.