

Independent advice to government on building a low-carbon economy and preparing for climate change

Minutes of CCC Meeting, 26/09/2019

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

Conflicts of interest

Committee members were reminded of the need to declare any conflicts of interest. There was a brief update from Lord Deben, who declared that he has purchased 200 acres of land.

1. Reflection on recent announcements

The chief executive provided an update on various development over the summer, including the announcement on the COP26 venue, policy announcements, the climate strikes, offshore wind auction prices and the UN Climate Summit.

The Committee emphasised the need for further policy progress urgently, especially on land use. There was discussion of how the Committee can positively influence COP26.

2. Advice in 2020 on the sixth carbon budget

The secretariat provided context for the advice on the sixth carbon budget, and sought views from the Committee on a range of aspects of the advice including priorities, scope, key stakeholders and timing.

The Committee provided feedback, and gave a strong steer that the advice must be as policy-relevant as possible to guide action over the next decade.

The Committee requested that the secretariat return with more detailed proposals for the advice in subsequent meetings.

3. International context and COP26

The secretariat recapped the work presented in the Net Zero advice on international action and summarised the international context relating to COP26 at the end of 2020.

The Committee agreed the need for its advice on the sixth carbon budget to be framed by the need for the UK to lead by example. Where possible the UK should be making ambitious commitments and leveraging action of other early movers.

4. Land use and agriculture policy report

The secretariat provided an update on the land use and agriculture policy work, including the consultancy projects and the expert advisory group. They also presented a proposed report outline and analysis on agricultural productivity and the climate impact of methane.

The Committee provided feedback on the report outline and discussed priorities for the work and what they would like to hear about at future meetings.