

Climate Change Committee Meeting

Present: Lord Deben, Corinne Le Quéré, Keith Bell, Michael Davies, Piers Forster, and Pete Betts (as an adviser).

Member interests: www.theccc.org.uk/about/transparency

Date: 11th February 2022, 09:30 – 15:00

Held: Virtual meeting on Zoom

Climate Change Committee

1 Victoria Street,
Westminster, London,
SW1H 0ET

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Committee members were reminded of the need to declare any conflicts of interest. No new interests were declared.

No comments were received on the draft minutes circulated for approval. Committee members were asked to share any comments by email.

1. Reflections on Climate Conversation event in Birmingham

The Committee discussed the outcomes of the first Climate Conversation visit which took place in Birmingham on 3rd February. The Committee expressed its thanks to Birmingham City Council for hosting the first event.

2. Oil and gas letter

The Secretariat provided an update on the planned CCC letter to the Government in response to BEIS's Climate Compatibility Checkpoint consultation, including the proposed communications and engagement plan for publication. The Committee expressed its further views on the content and presentation of the letter and requested a small number of changes to the near-final draft. The Committee agreed to publish the letter on 24 Feb and supported the proposed communications plan.

3. Short discussion ahead of the Defra external session

The secretariat introduced the session with Defra by presenting a short update of the CCC assessment of UK government policy development to support the Net Zero transition in agriculture and land use.

4. Discussion on Defra's Net Zero Strategy and policy with David Hill and David Kennedy

David Hill (Director-General Environment Rural and Marine) and David Kennedy (Director General for Food, Farming and Biosecurity) presented Defra's contribution to the Net Zero Strategy followed by a discussion with the Committee.

5. Progress Report Plans update

The Secretariat presented plans for the 2022 Progress Report to Parliament and requested sign-off on the outlines for the two documents: the progress report and

an accompanying “monitoring framework and indicators” document as well as a webpage with the recommendations. The reports will include a refresh of indicators for the main sectors, as well as emissions progress, recommendations (and scores for progress against previous recommendations), analysis on gaps in policy, identification of main risks and highlighting pivotal outcomes. The committee were supportive of the overall structure. They provided feedback on the tone of the report, highlighting the importance of bringing out the key conclusions from the detail. They wanted to focus pivotal outcomes to a coherent date in the next 5-8 years and emphasise the need to move at pace. The outlines of the two reports were approved.

The Committee requested that, following the report, the secretariat prepare letters to each Secretary of State to highlight the recommendations for their department.

6. People engagement theme

The secretariat presented to the Committee a progress update on the ongoing public engagement work. This included presenting a Public Engagement Framework that had been developed and presenting a proposed report structure and content for approval. The Committee approved the approach taken by the team including (1) approval of the public engagement framework that was presented, with some suggested updates, and (2) approval of the report structure including exemplifying how the framework applies in three policy areas.