

### Climate Change Committee Meeting

**Present:** Lord Deben (Chair), Baroness Brown (Chair Adaptation), Keith Bell, Michael Davies, Piers Forster, Corinne Le Quéré, Nathalie Seddon, Swenja Surminski

**Virtual:** Ben Caldecott, Richard Dawson

**Apologies:** Paul Johnson

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 08:30-12:00

**Held:** Cardiff

Climate Change Committee

1 Victoria Street,  
Westminster, London,  
SW1H 0ET

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1. Joint Committee: Intro to session, minutes of the previous meetings and conflicts of interest

Keith Bell raised a conflict of interest: his chair at the University of Strathclyde is sponsored by Scottish Power.

2. Adaptation Committee: NI Progress Report

The secretariat presented updates on the Northern Ireland Adaptation Progress Report to the committee. The Committee provided comments on the key messages, scoring and summary.

3. Joint Committee: Update on Wales workplans

The secretariat presented an update on the Welsh progress reports on mitigation and adaptation. On the mitigation report, they covered the preliminary analysis comparing emissions reductions to the those required by the legislated First Carbon Budget for Wales, and presented initial policy analysis for the different sectors and the key indicators of progress. The Committee requested that the report reflect progress before the First Carbon Budget period, particularly in the waste sector, that there is praise for the introduction of a 'Net Zero test' for road-building projects.

The Committee discussed the implications of its 2020 recommendation that there be no net increase in overall airport capacity. As there are various proposals to increase capacity but no mechanism for a corresponding reduction in capacity of airports elsewhere, there was discussion as to whether expansion plans can credibly proceed.

On the adaptation report, Suzannah presented the details of the commission, proposed approach, overall adaptation governance structures in Wales and some key focus areas.

4. Guest Speaker: Jane Davidson

Jane Davidson, Chair of the Net Zero 2035 Challenge Group, spoke to the committee about the work of her group and the impact of Net Zero on Welsh society and industry sectors.

5. Guest Speaker: Julie James MS

Julie James MS, Welsh Minister for Climate spoke to the secretariat about the challenges they are facing in achieving Net Zero in Wales, speaking across sectors such as energy, land-use, and nature.

#### 6. Joint Committee: Business Report

The secretariat presented an update on the Business Report which covers both mitigation and adaptation. The committee agreed with the broad scope of the report, intended to include an assessment of business action alongside an assessment of the policy environment within which business operates. The committee requested a balanced approach between mitigation and adaptation as far as possible – subject to availability of evidence and agreed to draw on existing external assessments of corporate climate actions. The committee also recommended setting out the theory of change in a way that resonates with business practices.

#### 7. End of Session.