

Just Transition Commission

Minutes of First Meeting

11 December 2024

**Department of Environment, Climate and Communications,
Tom Johnson House, Haddington Road, Dublin 4**

1. Attendees

Commission Members:

- Ali Sheridan Chair
- Conor Minogue
- Dr Diarmuid Torney
- Dr Evan Boyle
- Michelle Murphy
- Oisín Coghlan
- Ryan McKinney
- Suresh Kumar
- Tanya Ward
- Vanessa Kiely O'Connor

Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Representative:

- Brian Carroll, Assistant Secretary General

Secretariat:

- Frank Maughan - Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Greta Szabo - Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Michael Keegan - Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Rónán Stokes - Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications
- Conor Reynolds - Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications

Apologies:

- Seamus Boland

2. Welcome and introductions

Chair welcomed all attendees, and congratulated Commission members on their appointment. Chair emphasised that individual members of the Commission represent groups of people, and those not at the table must be given a voice through the members.

3. Presentations

Secretariat made presentations on Just Transition Policy, the Terms of Reference of the Commission and the Commission's internal Memorandum of Understanding between the Chair and Members.

Commission members who had also participated in the Just Transition Taskforce presented information on the background, workings and findings of the Taskforce.

4. Minister's Attendance

Minister Eamon Ryan visited the first meeting of the Commission and was welcomed to the meeting by Chair. Minister Ryan thanked all members for taking on the important work of the Commission and emphasised the need for the Commission to ensure justice is a cornerstone of Ireland's climate transition.

5. Commission Discussions

Secretariat presented main annual climate policy cycle milestones to the Commission and outlined the main points of the Commission's proposed work programme.

Members discussed the work programme and the practicality of setting out a three-year schedule at the outset of the Commission's work. It was agreed that the Commission should find the right balance between near and longer-term policy priorities. It was agreed that further discussion on the proposed work programme is required and that members would be invited to provide further feedback on the proposed work programme, in advance of the next Commission meeting.

The Commission's role in being the public voice of just transition was discussed, and that the Commission must have an effective communications strategy to work to broaden public knowledge of a just transition. Members also highlighted the need for a broad range of perspectives and voices to be available to the Commission in its work. It was agreed that Commission activities should have an appropriate geographical focus including the option for meetings of the Commission outside of Dublin.

6. Actions

Secretariat:

- Confirm arrangements for first meeting in 2025,
- Develop agenda with Chair for next meeting and organise guest speakers from the National Dialogue on Climate Action team.
- Update annual timeline document and prepare meeting materials, to be circulated at least five days in advance of the meeting

Commission

- Members to review Secondary MOU and draft work programme
- Members to consider locations for outside of Dublin locations over the course of 2025

ENDS