

Terms of Reference for CCC Advisory Group – Health and climate mitigation

Objective

The Health Advisory Group (AG) is a group of independent external experts, acting in their personal capacities, whose role will be to provide evidence as to which measures in the UK that affect both greenhouse gas emissions and health should be included in the CCC's scenarios and provide evidence on the health co-benefits (or costs) of these. This work will inform the CCC's 2020 advice to the Government on the sixth carbon budget (the legal limit on allowed greenhouse gas emissions for 2033-37), which will set out the CCC's recommended path to meeting the UK's recently legislated 2050 Net Zero target, and feed in to the Chair's summary report.

AG membership

The [6/7] AG members are drawn primarily from the academic community, in support of the CCC's intention for the group to be independent (and perceived as independent). The AG Chair is Professor Sir Michael Marmot from UCL.

The range of expertise represented by the AG is across a range of health impacts of climate mitigation measures, including diet, exercise, air quality and buildings, as well as members who take a more cross-cutting view. This range of expertise has been selected to complement the expertise of the CCC, and to reflect the fact that many of the issues to be considered reflect wider challenges across society.

Terms

- a) The AG has been formed for a temporary period to assist the CCC in its preparation of the 2020 advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget, due to be published in September 2020.
- b) The CCC and AG members understand that AG members are participating in a personal capacity and will not be acting as representatives of any other organisations for which they work or are associated with.
- c) The AG is independent of the CCC and is expected to offer challenge and critical review to the CCC's work.
- d) The AG is an advisory and not a decision-making body.
- e) The Chair's summary report will be an opportunity to record where there is consensus within the AG or divergent perspectives. This report will be published on the CCC's website and AG members will have the chance to comment on a draft of this report before publication.
- f) The 2020 advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget will be the work of the CCC and not the AG. It is possible the approach employed and conclusions drawn by the CCC will diverge from the opinions of some AG members or from the Chair's report.
- g) AG membership is unpaid (with the exception of the Chair – see below). However reasonable UK travel expenses can be reimbursed (see below).

- h) AG members will not report on AG discussions to the media or third parties, disclose confidential information related to the AG without prior written consent from the Chair and the information provider, or publicly attribute comments or sections of the Chair's report to individual AG members.

Scope

1. Provide general commentary and advice on what the health evidence means for the measures that should be included in CCC pathways towards achieving net-zero emissions in the UK by 2050).
2. Provide advice on sources of evidence the CCC should draw on with regard to the health co-benefits (or costs) and health equity implications of measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ideally in a UK context.
3. Provide evidence and ideas on how policies to deliver jointly on health benefits and climate mitigation can be designed in a way that will prove effective and publicly acceptable.
4. Provide critical review and advice on emerging CCC scenarios in relevant respects.

The role of the Chair

- engage with the CCC in advance of each meeting to agree the approach and objective
- lead / facilitate discussions at each AG meeting
- ensure a wide range of views is explored at AG meetings, drawing on the expertise of all members
- present the group's findings to the Committee
- produce a Chair's summary report following the final AG meeting, ready for publication by September 2020

We would expect to pay the Chair for 3-5 days' work to produce a short summary report synthesising the AG's discussions, to be published alongside the CCC report, which should broadly cover:

- The measures that should be built into the CCC's scenarios for emissions reduction that are fully or substantially justified on health grounds.
- Where possible, a quantification of the health co-benefits of these measures
- A discussion of how policy could deliver the benefits both to health and climate mitigation in an effective and publicly acceptance way

Meetings

There are 3 AG meetings scheduled to take place between January and March 2020. Each meeting will last between 2-3 hours and take place at the CCC's offices in London:

1. Late January, ideally the 27th
2. Late February
3. Late March

The CCC hopes that AG members will attend meetings in person wherever possible. When absolutely necessary, arrangements for joining by conference call can be made by prior arrangement.

Anticipated inputs from AG members

- Attend the 3 AG meetings
- Review of limited number of briefing notes / key documents before meetings
- Advice, comments, constructive challenge and new contacts
- Contribute to Chair's summary report, potentially supplementing with short pieces of written input
- Provide feedback on the first draft of the report

Additional potential inputs to be agreed on a case-by-case basis:

- Additional informal discussion with the CCC regarding key issues relevant to expertise
- Review of specific sections of the CCC's Zero carbon economy report

AG outputs

Chair's summary report. This will capture the AG's discussions and inputs to the CCC's Sixth Carbon Budget advice, recording areas of agreement and divergence (both within the AG and between the AG and the CCC). The CCC intends for this report to be published on its website with the Sixth Carbon Budget advice.

CCC inputs

- Agenda and specification of key questions / issues for AG consideration
- Production and circulation of pre-reading materials
- Minutes and follow up actions
- Venue and refreshments
- Meeting organisation

Expenses

Reasonable UK based travel expenses will be covered by the CCC (standard class train and tube).

Conflicts of Interest

Members will disclose any potential / perceived Conflicts of Interest to the rest of the AG during meetings (where these Conflicts are directly related to an agenda item or substantial point of discussion).