

Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Climate Commission
October meeting – Mon 14 October 2024, 1-3pm
Hybrid, New County Hall (Truro) and online via Teams



Attending

Commission Chair

Justin Olosunde (via Teams)

Commissioners

Ali Wills (via Teams)

Corina Barsa (via Teams)

Kit Williams (via Teams)

Alison Colclough (via Teams)

Cheryl Marriott

Sarah Lee

Andrea Gilbert (via Teams)

Dave Harland

Tim Jones

Anna Battersby

Fergus Chan (via Teams)

Connie Chilcott (via Teams)

Isabella Hawkes (via Teams)

Provisional Commissioners

Phil Green (via Teams)

Secretariat/Support

Peter Lefort (minutes) – University of Exeter

Nick Hayden – Cornwall Council

Mark Holmes – Cornwall Council

Invited Guests

Jayne Kirkham MP

Apologies

Lisa Telfer Brunton

Robert Uhlig

Phil Mason – Cornwall Council

Jo Banks – Cornwall Council

Agenda items

1.00-1.05 Welcome from Chair (Justin)
Phil welcomed as a new Commissioner

1.05-1.30 Welcome to Jayne Kirkham (Dave)
MP for Truro & Falmouth and MP link to the Cornwall Leadership Board

Comments made:

- Regular meetings are taking place between the new MPs, and with 40 Bills in the King's Speech they are being kept very busy. They are committed to a strong focus on environment and climate, including flood resilience, ELMs, etc.
- Cornwall's MPs share appreciation in anticipation of the Commission's support being given when needed, its responses so far have been challenging and incisive.
- Warm Homes Plan – insulating 6 million homes – need to push through quickly
- Acknowledgement of Cornwall Council's response to the Household Decarbonisation consultation, having listened to feedback and changed its stance.
- There is potential for an increased oversight role for the Commission, which would require resourcing, to be discussed at an upcoming meeting with Cornwall Council officer.
- It is very timely that the Commission is here, after the Climate Emergency Declaration there has been a need for an independent scrutiny body

- How does the Commission join up the responsibilities and accountabilities of the Leadership Board, supporting them to ensure that we have climate and environment plans that are holistic?
- Cornwall's MPs will have regular discussions with Council (Cabinet and Chief Officers) as well as conversations with LNP, Voluntary Sector, etc. Key role for the Climate Commission to hold the climate focus.

ACTION – Peter to continue to share responses with 6 MPs – via Jayne's office

1.30-2.00 Cornwall Council update (Mark)
Local Area Energy Plan

Update on status and next steps:

- LAEP taking a Whole System Approach: electricity, heat, and transport, with 3 aspects:
 - Future Energy Systems – what does the future need to look like?
 - Net Zero Pathway – built on potential scenarios
 - Action Plan – targets and interim measures
- 7 Stage process, currently in Stage 6 – Actions, Priorities and Decisions
- Updated baseline of CloS current energy demand across sectors has been undertaken
- Series of engagement activities undertaken (survey, roadshow, workshops etc.)
- Various exploratory scenarios have been developed, resulting in the creation of a Best Outlook Scenario leading to Net Zero Pathway
- Current trajectory (inc. national policy) suggests 2045 as most likely year to reach Net Zero
- There are 3 levels of action:
 - Locally lead,
 - Strategic investment opportunities,
 - Requiring national policy and funding
- Next steps – public consultation on draft in Dec/Jan, endorsement at Cabinet March 2025, adoption by Leadership Board Spring/Summer 2025 (after local elections)
- Further work involves informing refresh Council's Carbon Neutral Action Plan, Local Plan, Regional Energy System Plan (RESP) in 2026
- Significant emphasis on behaviour change, requiring deeper evidence base.

Mark offered to keep the Commission updated, including a more detailed session if useful
General agreement that this would be useful

Cornwall Council Officers departed the meeting

2.00-2.15 Discussion (Dave)

2.15-2.30 Working Group proposal (Peter)
Skills Working Group

Proposal shared:

- Agreement on 4 types of Working Group
- Addition: 'or be co-opted' added to option 3
- Addition: 'and/or reciprocally' added to option 4

ACTION – Peter to develop model and invite proposals for groups

2.30-2.40 Policy Engagement proposal (Peter)

No decision made

Need for skills matrix and potential areas of specialism

2.40-2.50 Potential behaviour change briefing (Anna)

Opportunity to invite Prof Lorraine Whitmarsh to brief the Commission

Strong understanding of what Cornish residents think about climate, and has extensive experience working with Cornwall Council

General agreement – tight brief required, 30 minute slot at future meeting

ACTION – Anna to contact Prof Whitmarsh and share clear brief

2.50-3.00 AoB and next steps (Dave)

- Website – currently being built, updates soon
- Secretariat support – potential to recruit an intern/entry-level role
- Kit – Maritime event in November, invites on their way
- Sarah – Potential to set up engagement series around Local Plan Review (share more details with Peter)
- Future meetings – invitations pending

ACTION – Peter to share update on website

ACTION – Kit to share invite to Maritime event

ACTION – Sarah to share details of engagement series with Peter for circulation