

MINUTES

All-Party Group on Climate Action

17 September 2025 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

[Recording](#)

Chair: Danny Donnelly MLA

Minutes: Nichola Hughes

Members in attendance: Danny Donnelly MLA (Chair), Cllr Bronagh Magee, Cllr Billy Webb, Cllr Robert Irvine.

Observers in attendance: Claire Cockerill, Johnny Stewart, Robert Walsh, Emer, Avril Harrison, Brian Rankin, Sara Lynch, Joseph Carter, Catherine Hunter, Nicola Carruthers, Daniella Raso, Rachael Hook, Peter Heaney, Ciarán McQuillan, Paul Doherty, Ian Montgomery, Joanne, Kirsty Pinkerton, David Rooney, Jessica Kee, Claire Duddy, Mura Quigly, Andy Frew, Barry Flynn, Karl McGowan, Michael Boyd, Gavin, Francesca Di Palo, Adrian Wardle, Paddy Robb, Kelly Devlin, Kellie Turtle, Clara Robinson, JM, Bronagh, Olivia Dath, Mark McAdoo, Ciaran Coleman, Victoria Magreehan, KG, Marie-Louise Gaile, Joanne Benison, Darryn Mallon, Jonathan Hayes, Claire Shortt

Apologies: Peter McReynolds, Harry Harvey MLA, Steve Aiken MLA, John Blair MLA, Cllr Vicky Moore

Total attendees: **50**

1	Meeting admin
1.1	Welcome
	Danny Donnelly (DD), Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
1.2	Apologies
	Apologies were recorded.
1.3	Minutes of Previous Meeting
	Minutes of the previous meeting on 20 June 2025 were adopted as a true record of the meeting (via follow-up email correspondence). Proposed by Steve Aiken MLA, seconded by John Blair MLA.
1.4	Chair's Business
	The Chair noted the following: - Draft Climate Action Plan for NI is currently out for consultation (closes 8 October) - Successful site visit of the APG on Climate Action on 27 June to the UPSURGE project, a demonstrator site in Lower Botanic testing a range of nature-

	based solutions (NBS) to mitigate air pollution and reduce the impact of climate change stressors. A short report was circulated on the event. As the meeting was not quorate with a sufficient number of MLAs the AGM will be carried out on a separate date with members only.
2	Northern Ireland's Draft Climate Action Plan 2023 – 2027
	DD introduced Claire Cockerill (CC), Director of Climate Action Delivery at DAERA who provided a presentation on Northern Ireland's Draft Climate Action Plan, which is currently out for consultation. Presentation – download here. A group Q&A followed – see recording. DD thanked CC for her excellent presentation and thanked the group for their questions. Action: DAERA to respond to Robert Walsh on blue green carbon query.
3	Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty
	Peter Heaney, Head of Region at Trócaire, provided a short briefing on the need for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and how both Government and Local Government can support it. He noted that Newry Mourne and Down District Council had recently passed a motion in support of an International Treaty and Belfast City Council are reviewing a similar motion currently. Peter shared his email address with the group, asking Members to contact him if they are interested in supporting the motion. See template Endorsement Motion.
4	Installation of individual gas boilers at sheltered housing
	DD brought to the group's attention a letter sent by a member of the public raising concerns about the Department for Communities' support for the installation of individual gas boilers with prepayment meters in social housing at Fitzroy Court in Belfast. The individual highlights concerns associated with the disruption caused by the installation and the increase in greenhouse gas emissions from individual boilers compared with communal heating systems, asking the Department to disavow this approach. Members were invited to note the issues raised in the letter circulated and consider if and how the APG may wish to respond. As there were no other elected members the decision was postponed to the next meeting. Andy Frew (AF) noted that communal heating schemes powered by heat pumps are compatible with individual metering and pay-as-you-go options. DD thanked AF for his input.
5	AOB
	DD noted the proposed meeting dates for 2026 and that a short AGM would be scheduled with members shortly. No further items of business.

6	Close
	DD thanked the speakers and observers for attending the meeting. Meeting closed at 12.44pm.