

Terms of Reference – APG on Climate Action

Group name	All Party Group on Climate Action	
Chair	Rachel Woods (MLA)	Green Party
Vice-Chair	John Blair (MLA)	Alliance Party
Members	Pat Catney (MLA)	Social Democratic and Labour Party
	Steve Aiken OBE (MLA)	Ulster Unionist Party
	John Stewart (MLA)	Ulster Unionist Party
	Jim Wells (MLA)	Democratic Unionist Party
	Caoimhe Archibald (MLA)	Sinn Féin
	Andrew Muir (MLA)	Alliance Party
	Gerry Carroll (MLA)	People Before Profit Alliance
	Clare Bailey (MLA)	Green Party
	Phillip McGuigan (MLA)	Sinn Féin
	Kellie Armstrong (MLA)	Alliance Party
	Cllr Billy Webb (Antrim and Newtownabbey)	Alliance Party
	Cllr Roisin Lynch (Antrim and Newtownabbey)	Social Democratic and Labour Party
	Cllr Kathryn McNickle (Ards and North Down)	Green Party NI
	Cllr Eddie Thompson (Ards and North Down)	Democratic Unionist Party
	Cllr Siobhan Currie (Fermanagh and Omagh)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Robert Irvine (Fermanagh and Omagh)	Ulster Unionist Party
	Cllr Martin Gregg (Lisburn and Castlereagh)	Alliance Party
	Alderman Michael Henderson (Lisburn and Castlereagh)	Ulster Unionist Party
	Cllr William Clarke (Newry, Mourne and Down)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Terry Andrews (Newry, Mourne and Down)	Social Democratic and Labour Party
	Cllr Christopher Jackson (Derry City and Strabane District Council)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Maeve O'Neill (Derry City and Strabane District Council)	People Before Profit Alliance
	Cllr Brian Smyth (Belfast City Council)	Green Party NI
	Cllr Greg McKeen (Mid and East Antrim Borough Council)	Democratic Unionist Party
	Alderman Gordon Kennedy (Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council)	UUP
	Cllr Paul Greenfield (Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council)	DUP
	Cllr Peter McReynolds (Belfast City Council)	Alliance Party
	Cllr Anne Forde (Mid Ulster District Council)	Democratic Unionist Party
	Cllr Donal McPeake (Mid Ulster District Council)	Sinn Féin
Secretary	Nichola Hughes (Sustainable Northern Ireland)	

Terms of Reference

Purpose - the Group will provide a forum for discussion between politicians, NGOs, business leaders and academics, to drive progress on climate action and sustainable development in Northern Ireland.

Mission - to influence policymaking and put climate action and sustainability at the centre of political decision making in Northern Ireland.

Function - to consider the potential implications of climate change for Northern Ireland and make recommendations to government on interventions to help Northern Ireland transition to a low-carbon, climate resilient economy.

Specific functions include:

Democratic Scrutiny: of central and local government input on climate action and sustainable development, and to influence regional policy approaches on these and related issues.

Monitoring: the progress of central and local government on climate change and sustainable development approaches, including the role of arms-length bodies.

Oversight: of coordination between local and central government and their partners on delivery of key climate and sustainability issues impacting on citizens, and over which councils and government can influence.

Awareness: to ensure a shared understanding of key climate and sustainability issues and opportunities across all political parties, through the provision of independent information and best practice.

Lobbying: for improvements in policy and for resources to deliver this agenda.

Membership

Membership of the Group will be cross party and include representatives from the NI Assembly (at least 10 MLAs and parties from all three designations) as well as elected members from local councils.

Frequency of meetings

The All Party Group will meet monthly, usually on the last Friday of the month, with an Annual General Meeting once per year. The meetings are usually virtual, with the occasional meeting being held in person at Stormont.

External Groups

The Group will have a working relationship with other related All Party Groups, relevant boards, relevant council and departmental working groups and representative bodies, as well as energy and environmental organisations in the region.

	<p>All members of the group will have speaking rights.</p> <p>Public observers may attend.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There will be some ongoing support costs in relation to the Group, which will be covered through existing public body subscriptions to Sustainable Northern Ireland.</p>
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Key Issues' list

Climate Change and Sustainable Development	Lead
Climate Change and Sustainable Development	DAERA
Energy	Department for the Economy
Energy Regulation	Utility Regulator
Transport	Department for Infrastructure
Strategic & Regional Planning	Department for Infrastructure
Natural environment (soil/water/air quality, biodiversity)	DAERA
Agriculture	DAERA
Resource management (waste)	DEARA
Building Regulations & Energy Performance	Department of Finance
Green Finance (Green New Deal)	Department of Finance
Public Sector Procurement	Department of Finance
Domestic Energy Efficiency (Fuel Poverty)	Department for Communities
Community Development	Department for Communities
Local Planning	Local Government
Climate & Sustainability Learning	Department of Education