



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Climate Change (No. 2) Bill
Notice of Amendments tabled on
26 January 2022 for Consideration Stage

New Clause

After clause 10 insert -

‘Sectoral plans for transport

‘10D.—(1) The Department for Infrastructure must develop and publish Sectoral Plans for the Transport sector setting out how the sector will contribute to the achievement of the targets in sections 1, 2 and 3.

(2) Sectoral Plans for Transport must include policies and proposals for public and private transport.’

Mr Andrew Muir

Mr John Blair

Ms Kellie Armstrong

Clause 4, Page 2, Line 1

Leave out paragraphs (a) and (b) and insert -

‘specify—

(a) for a particular emissions target, only an earlier year than that for the time being specified,

(b) for a particular year, only a higher percentage than that for the time being specified.’

Ms Clare Bailey

Miss Rachel Woods

Clause 9, Page 4, Line 12

Leave out from ‘may’ to end of line 14 and insert ‘must not specify a reduction in the net Northern Ireland emissions account for a period which is greater than 25% of emissions for that period.’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

Subsection (3)(a) -

Leave out ‘environmentally and socially sustainable jobs’ and insert ‘jobs and growth of jobs that are climate resilient, environmentally and socially sustainable’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

Subsection (3)(d) -

Leave out ‘non-governmental organisations and representatives of the interests of business and industry’ and insert ‘and non-governmental organisations’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

Subsection (3)(h) -

Leave out subsection (3)(h) and insert—

- (h) reducing, with a view to eliminating poverty, inequality and social deprivation;
 - (i) ensuring that gender inequality is eliminated and advancing equality of opportunity between men and women;
 - (j) supporting the social and economic needs of people in rural areas;
 - (k) taking into account the future generations principle;
- (3A) In this section—
- (a) “climate resilient” means the ability of social, economic and environmental systems to adapt to the effects of climate change; and

- (b) “environmentally and socially sustainable”, when used in relation to jobs and job growth, means the creation and promotion of jobs in a way which conserves and improves natural resources, in accordance with the future generations principle;
- (c) The “future generations principle” means acting in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

(3B) The Department must establish a scheme known as the “Just Transition Fund for Agriculture” to provide financial assistance and advice to the agricultural sector to deliver its contribution under proposals and policies for the purposes of section 16.’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

Clause 20, Page 9, Line 31

Leave out line 31 and insert ‘*Public bodies: duties and reporting*’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

New Clause

After clause 20 insert -

‘Public Sector Climate Duty

20A.—(1) A public authority must, when carrying out its functions, act consistently with the targets at sections 1-3 of this act.

- (2) When acting consistently with the targets at sections 1 to 3, a public authority must—
 - (a) act consistently with the relevant report under ;
 - (b) act in a way that will deliver any NI adaptation plan produced under section 60 of the Climate Change Act 2008;
 - (c) act consistently with guidance published by the Climate Commissioner under subsection 28E (8).
 - (d) Within 12 months of a relevant climate action plan being published, make and publish a policy setting out how that public authority will act consistently with the targets of sections 1 to 3 of this Act and the relevant climate action plan.

(3) A public authority must produce biannual reports to the Climate Commissioner on compliance with the public sector climate duty.

(4) “Public authority” means any authority listed in Schedule 3 to the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016.

(5) “Relevant climate action plan” means the climate action plan as set out in section 16 of this Act and in effect at the time that a public authority exercises its functions.’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

New Clause

After clause 21 insert -

‘Public sector climate duty

21A.—(1) A public authority must, when carrying out its functions, act consistently with the targets at sections 1 to 3 of this Act.

(2) When acting consistently with the targets at sections 1 to 3, a public authority must—

- (a) act consistently with the relevant report under section 16;
- (b) act in a way that will deliver any NI adaptation plan produced under section 60 of the Climate Change Act 2008;
- (c) act consistently with guidance published for the purposes of this duty;
- (d) within 12 months of a relevant report under section 16 being published, make and publish a policy setting out how that public authority will act consistently with the targets of sections 1 to 3 of this Act and the relevant report.

(3) A public authority must produce biannual reports on compliance with the public sector climate duty.

(4) “Public authority” means any authority listed in schedule 3 to the Public Services Ombudsman Act (Northern Ireland) 2016.’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘PART 4A

FURTHER OVERSIGHT

Northern Ireland Climate Commissioner

28D.—(1) Within 24 months of this Act receiving Royal Assent, the Executive Office must establish an independent Northern Ireland Climate Commissioner to provide oversight of and reporting on the operations of this Act.’

Ms Clare Bailey
Miss Rachel Woods

New Clause

After clause 10 insert -

‘Land Use Strategy

Duty to produce a land use strategy

10K.—(1) The Department must, within three years from the date on which this Act receives Royal Assent, lay a land use strategy before the Assembly.

(2) The strategy must, in particular, set out—

- (a) the Department’s objectives in relation to sustainable land use;
- (b) their proposals and policies for meeting those objectives; and
- (c) the timescales over which those proposals and policies are expected to take effect.

(3) The objectives, proposals and policies referred to in subsection (2) must contribute to—

- (a) achievement of the Department’s targets under, clauses 1 to 3;
- (b) achievement of the Department’s objectives in relation to adaptation to climate change, including those set out in clause 27; and
- (c) sustainable development.

(4) Before laying the strategy before the Assembly, the Department must publish a draft strategy and consult with such bodies as they consider appropriate and also with the general public.

(5) The strategy must be accompanied by a report setting out—

- (a) the consultation process undertaken in order to comply with subsection (4); and
- (b) the ways in which views expressed during that process have been taken account of in finalising the strategy (or stating that no account has been taken of such views).

(6) The Department must, no later than—

- (a) 5 years after laying a strategy before the Assembly under subsection (1); and
- (b) the end of every subsequent period of 5 years,

lay a revised strategy before the Assembly; and subsections (2) to (5) apply to a revised strategy as they apply to a strategy laid under subsection (1).’

Mr John Blair

Mr Andrew Muir

Ms Kellie Armstrong

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘CHAPTER 2

OVERSIGHT: CLIMATE ACTION PLANS, OFFICE AND COMMISSIONER

Climate Action Plans

28E. The Department must lay before the Assembly a plan, known as a climate action plan within one year of the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent and each subsequent year to the target year set out in section 1.’

Mr Gerry Carroll

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘Climate Office and Climate Commissioner

28F.—(1) Within 2 years, the Department must bring forward regulations to establish a Climate Office and Climate Commissioner.

- (2) The functions of the Climate Office and Climate Commissioner will be to—
- (a) oversee the implementation of this Act,
 - (b) report on the targets in section 1 and any interim targets every 2 years.
 - (c) provide advice to departments in meeting their obligations under this Act.’

Mr Gerry Carroll

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘Climate Action Plan: Duty on Courts

28G.—(1) Where a court determines any question with respect to—

- (a) any action taken pursuant to a climate action plan; or
- (b) any policy made pursuant to a climate action plan; or
- (c) any failure in respect of (a) or (b) of this subsection, the overriding climate objective shall be the court’s paramount decision.

(2) In any proceedings in which any question under subsection (1) arises, the court shall have regard to the general principle that any delay in determining the question is likely to breach the overriding climate objective.

(3) In this section, “proceedings” means any proceedings, including but not limited to an application for judicial review, in which one or more of the following forms of relief is sought—

- (a) an injunction;
- (b) an order of certiorari;
- (c) an order of mandamus;
- (d) an order of prohibition;
- (e) a declaration.

(4) In any proceedings in which a court is required by this section to consider the overriding climate objective, that court may direct the Climate Commissioner to assist in such consideration by reporting to the court on such matters relating to the overriding climate objective as are required to be dealt with in the report.

(5) In considering any question under subsection (1), a court may, insofar as and in such a manner as it considers relevant, have regard to the following matters in respect of a climate action plan—

- (a) the result of the public consultation in relation to that climate action plan;
- (b) any statements made by a Northern Ireland minister (including junior minister) or officer of a Northern Ireland department to the Assembly in connection with that climate action plan;
- (c) any advices from the relevant body in relation to that climate action plan;
- (d) any reports in relation to that climate action plan;
- (e) any advices from the relevant body in relation to reports which relate to that climate action plan;
- (f) guidance published by the Climate Commissioner in relation to that climate action plan; and

(g) any policy published in relation to that climate action plan.

(6) A court shall accord such weight as is appropriate to a report under subsection (4) of this section, having regard to—

(a) the independence of the Climate Commissioner; and

(b) the expertise of the Climate Commissioner in the matter or matters on which the Climate Commissioner is directed to provide a report under subsection (4).

(7) In this section, “court” means the High Court or the Court of Appeal.’

Mr Gerry Carroll

New Clause

After clause 35 insert -

‘Prohibition of petroleum and fossil fuel licensing

35C.The Department for the Economy must bring forward legislation to prohibit the granting of further licensing for petroleum and other fossil fuel companies.’

Mr Gerry Carroll

Clause 1, Page 1, Line 6

At end insert -

‘(1B) The Northern Ireland departments must ensure that the net Northern Ireland emissions account for carbon dioxide for the year 2045 is at least 100% lower than the baseline for carbon dioxide.’

Mr John Blair

Mr Andrew Muir

Mr Stewart Dickson

New Clause

After clause 10 insert -

‘Active Travel

10K. The Department for Infrastructure must develop sectoral plans for transport which sets a minimum spend on active travel from the overall transport budgets of 10%.’

Mr Andrew Muir

Mr John Blair

Mr Stewart Dickson

New Clause

After clause 16 insert -

‘Just transition adviser

16G.—(1) The Executive Office shall appoint a person, persons or body to provide advice and constructive challenge to Northern Ireland departments and public bodies in respect of duly applying the Just Transition Principles (see section 16B) across the plans, policies, services and budgets of departments and the Executive at large, on a whole of government basis which recognises that just transition to a low and zero carbon economy will entail whole of society inputs and impacts.

(2) In this section, references to a “just transition adviser/appraiser” are to any such body or person.

(3) The just transition adviser/appraiser shall

- (a) provide advice for the Executive in respect of the requirements for a whole of government commitment to ensure that the just transition principles are duly reflected in the plans, policies, delivery programmes and budgets of all public bodies in Northern Ireland as well as in the Programme for Government;
- (b) provide advice to the Department of Finance on a Just Transition Fund or Funds which might support sectors of the economy and sections of the community through some of the costs and challenges of moving towards and achieving carbon neutral targets;
- (c) provide advice and constructive challenge to departments and public bodies in respect of the serious and sustained commitments needed across government to achieve adherence to just transition principles;
- (d) report on how just transition principles are being supported in practice, appraising the qualitative contribution of public bodies and recognising both performance and pressures in respective sectors;
- (e) offer advice on cooperation and coordination with other administrations (including via the NSMC and BIC) to support fulfilment of a just transition;
- (f) to facilitate and inform the Assembly's scrutiny of just transition plans, funding and frameworks and oversight of strategic performance and progress, in particular by direct and ongoing engagement with an Assembly Committee designated to oversee progress across government in respect of a just transition as an essential dimension of delivering on the climate action targets and duties of this Act.

(4) The Executive Office may consult such persons as it considers appropriate on—

- (a) whether this role would best be assigned to a person, persons or a body;
- (b) how the adviser/appraiser should engage with respective departments and public bodies;
- (c) the status of a just transition adviser/appraiser (and, in the case of a body, its membership);
- (d) how the just transition adviser/appraiser might show particular consideration for views from the Equality Commission, Human Rights Commission and other commissions or commissioners in respect of particular rights, needs and interests;
- (e) the staff and resources that should be made available to such an office.

(5) The Executive Office must prepare a report on the consultation and—

- (a) lay the report before the Assembly, and
- (b) publish it in such manner as the Office considers appropriate, and
- (c) give particular consideration to the views of an Assembly Committee designated to oversee whole of government preparations and performance in respect of both a full response to the climate emergency and ensuring a just transition to a climate resilient and carbon neutral economy.

(6) The Executive Office must make the first appointment(s) under this section no later than 18 months after the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent.’

Mr Patsy McGlone

New Clause

After clause 16 insert -

‘Co-ordination

16H.—(1) In deciding its proposals and policies for the purposes of section 16, each Northern Ireland department must—

- (a) have regard to the desirability of co-ordinating those proposals and policies corresponding to corresponding proposals and policies in other parts of the United Kingdom, in the Republic of Ireland or elsewhere;
- (b) engage constructively through the processes, relevant formats or related bodies of the North-South Ministerial Council, the British-Irish Council and other opportunities for structured cooperation in connection with meeting challenges from the climate emergency;
- (c) consult such persons as it considers appropriate (including, where appropriate, any public body responsible in any other jurisdiction for providing advice or making recommendations in connection with adaptation to, or the mitigation of the effects of, the climate change emergency).

(2) In deciding its proposals and policies—

- (a) for the purposes of section 16;
- (b) in pursuit of wider and longer-term Executive/Programme for Government commitments on climate action;
- (c) to contribute to Northern Ireland's adherence to international targets and obligations to respond to the climate change emergency;
- (d) to advance such priorities and purposes through the North-South Ministerial Council, British-Irish Council and other arrangements for structured cooperation on climate action, each Northern Ireland department must also consult with the body established, or person appointed, under section 28F(1) in regard to—
 - (i) such policies and proposals, and
 - (ii) the level of funding and other resources to be committed to their attainment for the purposes of section 16.’

Mr Patsy McGlone

New Clause

After clause 16 insert -

‘Just transition principle

16I.—(1) In deciding its proposals and policies—

- (a) for the purposes of section 16;
- (b) in pursuit of wider and longer-term Executive/Programme for Government commitments on climate action;
- (c) to contribute to Northern Ireland's adherence to international targets and obligations to respond to the climate change emergency;

- (d) to advance such priorities and purposes through the North-South Ministerial Council, British-Irish Council and other arrangements for structured cooperation on climate action, each Northern Ireland department must have regard to—
- (i) the just transition principle (see subsection (2)) and
 - (ii) the desirability of using and supporting nature-based projects (see subsection (3)), whether alone or with other types of action.

(2) The just transition principle is the importance, in taking action to reduce Northern Ireland emissions and increase Northern Ireland removals, of doing so in a manner which, so far as possible, achieves the objectives of—

- (a) supporting environmentally and socially sustainable jobs,
- (b) in particular, supporting the agriculture sector and other sectors of the economy in Northern Ireland that are likely to be most affected by action to reduce those emissions and increase those removals,
- (c) supporting low-carbon investment and infrastructure,
- (d) developing and maintaining consensus through engagement with (among others) workers, trade unions, communities, non-governmental organisations and representatives of the interests of business and industry,
- (e) creating decent, fair and high-value work in a way which does not negatively affect the current workforce,
- (f) contributing to a resource-efficient and sustainable economy,
- (g) supporting persons who are most affected by climate change, particularly those who may have done the least to cause it or may be the least equipped to adapt to its effects, and
- (h) reducing poverty and inequality, including by avoiding their exacerbation as a result of transitional adjustments which are not accompanied by duly targeted measures of social support and mitigation.

(3) “Nature-based projects” are projects to protect, restore or sustainably manage ecosystems in order to promote both human well-being and biodiversity or provide other environmental, social and economic benefits.

(4) The duty under subsection (1) is in addition to, and does not limit, the duty under section 25 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006 (sustainable development).

(5) Each report under section 16 must explain how the proposals and policies set out in the report take account of the just transition principle.

(6) Each report under section 16 must include an assessment by the Department of the effect of the proposals and policies set out in the report on small businesses.

(7) In subsection (6), “small business” means a business that employs fewer than 50 persons.

(8) The Department may by regulations amend subsection (2) or (7).

(9) Regulations that amend subsection (8) may define a small business by reference to such matters (or combination of matters) as the Department considers appropriate (including, in particular, the number of its employees, its turnover and its balance sheet).’

Mr Patsy McGlone

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘Climate Adviser

28H.—(1) The Department shall appoint a climate action adviser to exercise functions that relate to the making of policy and taking of action across government and by public bodies in relation to meeting the challenges of the climate change emergency.

(2) In this section “climate adviser” shall be such person, persons or body designated to—

- (a) provide advice or make recommendations to public bodies in connection with adaptation to, and mitigation of the effects of, climate change in Northern Ireland;
- (b) reflect international obligations, targets and good practice standards in respect of the duty across the whole of government to address and arrest climate change;
- (c) report on—
 - (i) the operation of this Act,
 - (ii) the exercise of functions under it, and
 - (iii) the outcome of the exercise (or the failure to exercise) such functions

by the Department, other Northern Ireland departments and public bodies, taking account of the contribution and performance by respective sectors to adaptation to and mitigation of climate change.

(3) The first such appointment shall be made no later than one year after the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent, following consultations, in line with subsections (4) and (5) with such persons as the Department considers appropriate.

(4) The consultation must also include consultation as to—

- (a) how a climate adviser should, in the exercise of its functions, co-operate with other public bodies that exercise functions that relate to climate change or the environment;
- (b) the status of a climate adviser (and, in the case of a body, its membership);
- (c) the staff and resources that should be made available to a climate adviser.

(5) The consultation must also include consultation as to whether—

- (a) an office for any of the staff of the Committee on Climate Change should be located in Northern Ireland;
- (b) what functions of the Committee should be exercised by any staff based at such an office.

(6) The Department must prepare a report on the consultation and—

- (a) lay the report before the Assembly,
- (b) publish it in such manner as the Department considers appropriate, and
- (c) in particular, invite the views of an Assembly Committee designated to oversee and review whole of government policy planning and performance of duties in respect of climate change (and Just Transition Principles).’

Mr Patsy McGlone

Clause 1, Page 1, Line 6

Leave out ‘82%’ and insert ‘100%’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 1 insert -

‘Emissions targets for 2030 and 2040

1A.—(1) The Department must set targets for the years 2030 and 2040 that are in line with the overall target for the year 2050.

(2) Proposed targets for the years 2030 and 2040 must be laid before the Assembly within 24 months of this Act receiving Royal Assent and be approved by draft affirmative resolution.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 7, Page 3, Line 19

At end insert -

‘(d) carbon capture use and storage technology.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 11, Page 5, Line 6

At end insert -

‘(1A) The Department must—

- (a) carry out a public consultation lasting at least 16 weeks on proposed carbon budgets,
- (b) consult with the Climate Change Commissioner (as outlined in section 28A), the other Departments and the Just Transition Commission (as outlined in section 16B) and lay the proposals with the Assembly.

(1B) Proposed carbon budgets must be approved by the Assembly by draft affirmative resolution.

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 11, Page 5, Line 6

At end insert -

(1C) When seeking advice on setting the carbon budget, or on other environmental issues, the Department is to give due regard to the expertise and advice of any of the following bodies—

- (a) The United Kingdom Committee on Climate Change;
- (b) The Republic of Ireland Climate Advisory Council
- (c) The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.’

Mr Philip McGuigan

New Clause

After clause 13 insert -

‘Setting of carbon budgets: social, environmental and economic factors

13A.—(1) In this Act, when setting targets the Department must take account of—

- (a) the objective of not exceeding a fair and safe emissions budget,
- (b) European and international law and policy relating to climate change (including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and protocols to that Convention),
- (c) scientific knowledge about climate change,
- (d) technology relevant to climate change,
- (e) economic circumstances, in particular the likely impact of the target on—
 - (i) the economy,
 - (ii) the competitiveness of particular sectors of the economy,
 - (iii) small and medium-sized enterprises,
 - (iv) jobs and employment opportunities,
- (f) fiscal circumstances, in particular the likely impact of the target on taxation, public spending and public borrowing,
- (g) social circumstances, in particular the likely impact of the target on those living in poorer or deprived communities,
- (h) the likely impact of the target on public health,
- (i) the likely impact of the target on those living in remote rural communities and island communities,
- (j) energy policy, in particular the likely impact of the target on energy supplies, the renewable energy sector and the carbon and energy intensity of the economy,
- (k) environmental considerations and, in particular, the likely impact of the target on biodiversity,
- (l) the likely impact of the target on the achievement of sustainable development, including the achievement of the United Nations sustainable development goals,
- (m) current international carbon reporting practice,
- (n) the special economic and social role of agriculture, including with regard to the distinct characteristics of biogenic methane,
- (o) the risk of substantial and unreasonable carbon leakage,

(2) In this section, “carbon leakage” means the transfer, due to climate policies, of production to other countries with less restrictive policies with regard to greenhouse gas emissions.’

Clause 15, Page 6, Line 24

At end insert -

‘(c) the Climate Commissioner.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 16, Page 6, Line 37

At end insert -

‘(2A) When developing policies each Department must ensure they are consistent with the targets set out in the carbon budget.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 16, Page 6, Line 38

Before ‘Each Northern’ insert ‘Having consulted with the relevant sector-specific advisory groups,’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

After clause 16(1), paragraph (a) insert the following—

(aa) When developing policies and proposals departments must recognise that the island of Ireland is a single biogeographic unit.

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

Subsection (3)(h)—

After ‘reducing’ insert ‘with a view to eradicating’.

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

An amendment to the amendment inserting a new clause entitled ‘Requirements for proposals and policies under section 16’, tabled by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs on 24 January 2022

After subsection (8) insert the following—

(8A) Subject to Assembly approval by draft affirmative resolution.

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 16 insert -

‘Just Transition Commission

16J.—(1) The Department must establish a Just Transition Commission to—

- (a) oversee the implementation of the Just Transition elements of this Act, and
- (b) provide advice to departments on how to ensure their proposals, strategies, plans and policies comply with Just Transition principles.

(2) The Commission will comprise of representatives from, but not limited to, the agricultural sector, the fisheries sector, academia, trade unions, youth groups, civic society and environmental groups.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 16 insert -

‘Just Transition Fund for Agriculture

16K.—(1) The Department must bring forward regulations to establish a fund, known as the “Just Transition Fund for Agriculture” to support farmers in making changes to reach the target set out in section 1 and to adapt and mitigate climate change and support research, innovation and knowledge transfer.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘CHAPTER 2

OVERSIGHT: CLIMATE OFFICE AND CLIMATE COMMISSIONER

Climate Office and Climate Commissioner

28I.—(1) Within 2 years, the Department must bring forward regulations to establish a Climate Office and Climate Commissioner.

(2) The functions of the Climate Office and Climate Commissioner will be to—

- (a) oversee the implementation of this Act,
- (b) to report on the targets in section 1 and any interim targets every 5 years,
- (c) to provide advice to departments in meeting its obligations under this Act.

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 28 insert -

‘CHAPTER 2

OVERSIGHT

Climate action plan

28J.—(1) The Department must lay before the Assembly and publish a plan, known as the climate action plan, within 3 years from the day on which this Act receives Royal Assent.

(2) Before laying each plan before the Assembly, the Department must carry out a public consultation on the draft climate action plan, including consultation with sector-specific advisory groups, lasting at least 16 weeks.

(3) Subsequent plans must be published within 5 years from the date on which the previous plan was laid before the Assembly.

(4) The climate action plan must set out how interim targets and the overall target of net zero will be achieved by the year 2050.

(5) Climate action plans must be climate resilient and support an environmentally sustainable economy.

(6) The plans must include annual targets on—

- (a) greenhouse gas emissions, and
- (b) air quality.

(7) “climate resilient” means the ability to minimise, mitigate or remedy the effects of climate change.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 29, Page 13, Line 3

At end insert -

‘(d) Departments should, as far as reasonably practicable, align such plans, policies and strategies to those of the Republic of Ireland.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

Clause 31, Page 14, Line 3

At end insert -

‘(d) The views of the Climate Commissioner and the Just Transition Commission.’

*Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer*

New Clause

After clause 38 insert -

‘Definitions

39B. In this Act ‘sector’ or ‘sectors’ refers to one or all of the following—

- (a) energy production and supply (including for residential, public and district heating and cooling purposes);
- (b) transport (including shipping and aviation);
- (c) infrastructure (including infrastructure for electric vehicular transport);
- (d) business and industrial processes;
- (e) residential and public (in relation to buildings in these sectors);
- (f) waste management;
- (g) land use and land-use change, including forestry;
- (h) agriculture; and
- (i) the provision of financial assistance to any person in connection with—
 - (i) the promotion of economic development in Northern Ireland or any part of Northern Ireland; and

(ii) the provision of infrastructure, goods or services in Northern Ireland or any part of Northern Ireland.’

Mr Philip McGuigan
Dr Caoimhe Archibald
Mr Declan McAleer