



Meeting Record – Monday, 17 February 2025

Meeting No: 60

Time: 10:00am–1:00pm

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Item 2: Meeting with Minister

2.1 Council and Minister introduction and discussion

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Minister Orr advised she had four priorities relating to climate change: the new *Climate Change Strategy*; emissions offsets and responses to climate change; a just transition, particularly around the urban environment; and establishing the Office of the ACT Landscape Architect.

The Chair noted that there is a strong commonality with the ACT Climate Change Council's (Council) work, including natural environment (controlled burning, biodiversity, waterway, etc.), the intent of the next *Climate Change Strategy*, emissions reduction, a stronger climate adaptation profile, and identifying equity issues.

Out of scope

The Council requested clarification on the timeframe for developing the new *Climate Change Strategy* (Strategy), with the Minister advising that she wants a well-researched and informed Strategy which addresses a range of known issues and big challenges. This will take time to thoroughly analyse and develop potential solutions.

The Council advised that focus areas for the new strategy could include health and wellbeing, bringing the community along, rapid densification, active travel, greenspace planning, and intergenerational and cultural equity. Minister Orr welcomed further feedback from the Council to inform the process.

Out of scope

Minister Orr also welcomed advice and potential immediate actions on Scope 3 emissions, noting the challenges. Dr Bannister advised that it should be included in the new *Climate Change Strategy* and could be viewed within the context of procurement and development applications.

Actions

Out of scope

- *Action 2.2:* The Council to provide high level advice to the Minister on priority areas for inclusion in the new *Climate Change Strategy*, including Scope 3 emissions.

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Item 5: Council Business

5.1 Ministerial follow-up discussion

The Chair noted the positive discussion with the Minister, the primary focus areas of interest for the new *Climate Change Strategy*, and the establishment of the Office of the ACT Landscape Architect. It was further noted that the Council will also continue with relevant existing items in the forward work plan to 30 June 2025.

Ms de Hosson advised that the Minister wants to take the required time to develop an informed and relevant Strategy, so developing written advice identifying key areas for inclusion in the Strategy would be helpful to inform long-term process and framing. The Council agreed to provide advice to the Minister in April 2025, following a deep dive at the 3 April 2025 Council meeting.

Dr Hunter and Associate Professor Lal agreed to coordinate development of the Council's *Climate Change Strategy* advice, with the assistance of a SharePoint document to allow the Council to directly input the key priorities by 7 March 2025 for collation.

Out of scope

5.2 Council Workplan

The Council agreed the workplan to 30 June 2025 will focus on:

- Providing advice to the Minister on the new *Climate Change Strategy* and the establishment of the Office of the ACT Landscape Architect.

Out of scope

ii. Climate Change Strategy

Ms Goonrey advised the Council that there is an attachment in the Minister's *Annual Climate Change Report* that covers progress on each action in the *2019–25 Climate Change Strategy*. This may assist the Council in evaluating the validity of the actions contained in the current Strategy and inform advice for the new version.

Out of scope

Out of scope

Actions

- *Action 5.1:* Secretariat to circulate a shared document for Council members to add key priorities for the new *Climate Change Strategy*, by 7 March 2025, to inform a paper to be led by Dr Hunter and Associate Professor Lal. The draft paper will be circulated to the Council by 24 March 2025, one week prior to the 3 April 2025 meeting.

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