



Citizens' Assembly of Scotland: Scotland's Climate Assembly Stewarding Group Meeting Minutes Eighth Meeting – 21 October 2020

Attendees

Andrew McCornick	National Farmers Union, Scotland
Anna Birney	School of System Change
Anna Santucci	Secretariat
Claudia Beamish MSP	Scottish Labour Party
Doreen Grove	Scottish Government, Open Government
Dr Jane Suiter	Dublin City University
Dr Oliver Escobar	University of Edinburgh
Gina Belk	Secretariat
Iain Stewart	Director of the Sustainable Earth Institute, University of Plymouth
Jess Pepper	Climate Café/Stop Climate Chaos Scotland
Justin Kenrick	Extinction Rebellion
Kaela Scott	Involve
Kate Dyer	Extinction Rebellion
Laura Moodie	Scottish Green Party
Mel Stevens	
Mike Robinson	Scottish Royal Geographical Society
Professor Paul de Leeuw	Robert Gordon University
Susie Townend (Chair)	Secretariat
Tim Hughes	Involve
Juliet Swan	
Kirsten Leggatt	2050 Climate Group
Liam Fowley MSYP	Scottish Youth Parliament
Josh Littlejohn	Social Bite
Ruth Harvey	Iona Community
Jamie Gregory	Secretariat

Apologies

Dr Audrey MacDougall	Scottish Government, Social Research
Professor Iain Docherty	University of Stirling

1. Welcome and Introductions

Susie welcomed everyone to the meeting, mentioning that Anna Birney could only attend for the beginning of the meeting and therefore the session would start with her presentation. Susie also stated that the newly appointed Conveners would be joining briefly part way through session to introduce themselves.

2. Systems Change Approach - Four Pathways, Three portals

Anna Birney outlined how systems change thinking can be incorporated throughout the Assembly using the iceberg model. Anna explained that Weeke nds One and Two would be



an introduction to systems change thinking using historical examples and systems mapping activities. Over the course of Weekends Three and Four, assembly members will explore four different scenario pathways across three streams. They will be able to discuss different interventions that are compatible with the different scenario pathways and also the trade-off between different interventions.

In the following discussion, Kaela confirmed that the assembly members would be randomly stratified to each stream and that facilitators would encourage members to look at all levels (across the iceberg). The Stewarding Group raised concerns over the amount of material that will be covered. Jamie responded stating that the Secretariat had recently purchased TalentLMS, an online platform that would be used to share additional material to aid the learning journey. The Secretariat also shared that two climate psychologists have been approached to create material and provide additional support for any Members with eco-anxiety.

4. Conveners

Susie introduced the Assembly's newly appointed Conveners, Josh Littlejohn and Ruth Harvey. Josh Littlejohn is the founder of Social Bite, a social enterprise that is dedicated to helping end homelessness in Scotland. Ruth Harvey is Leader of the Iona Community, a group of people from different walks of life and different traditions within Christianity. Susie reminded everyone that the appointments had not yet been made public and requested the Stewarding Group do not share the news yet. Both Josh and Ruth expressed their excitement at joining the Assembly and their willingness to empower assembly members.

5. Research

Susie informed the Stewarding Group that Nick Bland's research team were moving forward and were hoping to secure consent from the assembly members soon. Susie expressed concern over presenting the members with too much work before the first weekend and asked for advice on when to introduce a baseline survey. The Stewarding Group suggested that the survey should be rich but preferably short (around 5 minutes) and should be issued a few days before the first weekend (with a deadline 24 hours before the first session).

Susie mentioned that Ragne Low, another researcher, is looking at how in general citizens' assemblies effect policies and would like to interview members from the Stewarding Group. If any Stewarding Group member would not like their details shared with Ragne please let Anna Santucci know. Also, Ragne will likely be observing a Stewarding Group meeting in the future.

6. Observers Program

The Assembly will be running an observers program, where viewers will have access to the evidence sessions and the option to chat to speakers on a Sunday evening Zoom call. Susie emphasised that no observers will have direct access to assembly members. Each Stewarding Group member will be offered five tickets to share with their organisation. The Secretariat will also invite other stakeholders and interest groups. Additionally, the public can ask to join the program via a sign-up sheet on the website.

7. Weekend One Design



Kaela shared a draft of the Assembly design, highlighting that once the content details have been finalised by the Evidence Group it will be further populated. The Stewarding Group questioned the quality and evenness of skills across the facilitation team. Kaela informed them a dedicated trained team had been assembled. She also noted that scribes would not be used for the first two meetings, but may be later. Additionally, Kaela stressed that in later sessions there would be more opportunity for members to share across their groups in plenary sessions. The Stewarding Group requested the opportunity to scrutinize the voting process at a later meeting.

8. AOB

Susie thanked those who had already begun promoting the Assembly and the Dialogue online.

Susie closed the meeting and wished Kaela and Iain the best of luck for the first weekend.