



Citizens' Assembly of Scotland: Scotland's Climate Assembly Stewarding Group Meeting Minutes 12th Meeting: 1st February 2021

Attendees

Laura Moodie	Scottish Green Party
Andrew McCornick	National Farmers Union, Scotland
Ruth Harvey	Convener
Sally Thomas	SFTA
Nick Bland	Research team, Scottish Government
Kaela Scott	Involve
Juliet Swann	Involve
John Dickie	Child Poverty Action Group
Stephen Elstub	Research team, Newcastle University
Kelly McBride	The Democratic Society
Jane Suiter	Dublin City University
Tim Hughes	Involve
Jenny Marr	Scottish Parliament
Kirsten Leggatt	2050 Climate Group
Finlay Carson	Scottish Conservative Party
Nadine Andrews	Research team, Scottish Government
Iain Docherty	University of Stirling
Oliver Escobar	University of Edinburgh
Jess Pepper	Climate Café / Stop Climate Chaos
Doreen Grove (arrived late)	Scottish Government, Open Government
Iain Stewart	University of Plymouth
Susie Townend	Secretariat
Jamie Gregory	Secretariat
Julie Steel	Secretariat
Anna Santucci	Secretariat
Isabelle Rayner	Secretariat
Jessamyn Briers	Secretariat
Ruth Mattock	Secretariat
Eleanor McGhie	Secretariat
Georgina Belk	Secretariat

1. Introduction

Susie welcomed all to the 12th Stewarding Group meeting and thanked everyone for their involvement and support so far.

2. Research reflections from Weekend 3

Nadine and Nick gave a summary of research findings from survey and observational notes. Research team noted that reporting of dominant Members in groups had increased. Stewarding Group and Secretariat agreed that this was something to keep an eye on for future weekends. For Weekend 4, research team will compare results from the survey findings to determine if all Members who are reporting these group dynamics are in the same group. Design team noted that they have been working with facilitators to manage this and will revisit the topic throughout following Weekends.



Stewarding Group were concerned about the response rate of survey (63 respondents), as respondents are not a reflection of the Assembly as a whole, and asked what was being done to improve this. Secretariat and Research team agreed with these concerns, however highlighted that a limitation of the research was that the survey is not integrated into the Assembly. Stewarding Group suggested building time into the Assembly for Members to fill out the survey. They also noted that this shouldn't decrease deliberation time. Suggestions included building this time in at the end of the day, especially for the final Weekend.

The Stewarding Group also suggested finding Members from the Citizens' Assembly of Scotland to advocate for research. Doreen to help identify willing Members.

Susie reflected that as a learning point from Scotland's Climate Assembly, other Assemblies could make the research survey compulsory.

3. Reflections from previous Assemblies

Susie introduced Stephen Elstob, who has been researching Citizens' Assembly of Scotland and Climate Assembly UK. Stephen shared some of the initial, as yet unpublished, findings of this research where it was felt to be relevant to the ongoing design of Scotland's Climate Assembly. These included:

- Impact of the Assembly dividing into streams
- Format and length of the final report
- The relationship between media coverage and wider public awareness of an Assembly.

All present were grateful for this insight, and the Secretariat and Design team will consider this information in the development of remaining weekends.

4. Media outreach

The Secretariat has now identified 6 Members who would like to be involved with media outreach, in the form of interviews, blogs or quotes, and interviews are now taking place with evidence leads.

The Secretariat has been approached with 3 proposals: PictureZero, BBC and Westminster Parliament COP26 proposal.

PictureZero

(Video: [BBC - A Healthier Planet: How We Travel](#))

PictureZero created content for Climate Assembly UK for BBC and have written to the Secretariat to produce something similar for the pre-COP period. Stewarding Group were happy to go ahead with the proposal.

BBC

The BBC have written to the Secretariat proposing to show some of the Assembly's recommendations for a programme on 28th March. Susie wanted to check with the Stewarding Group their thoughts about the BBC discussing the recommendations prior to the report going to parliament and will send a follow up email with political reps in the Stewarding Group, and will report back in the weekly Friday email.



COP proposal

The Secretariat has been approached by the lead from Climate Assembly UK from UK parliament about putting in a proposal for both blue and green zone and COP26. The proposal would be a collaboration between Climate Assembly UK, SCA and the Washington and Danish citizen assemblies. Stewarding Group were content for SCA to take part.

5. Weekends 5, 6 & 7

The Design team outlined the plans for remaining weekends, which are still evolving. In Weekend 5, Members will stay in their stream and discuss the decision making process. Design team suggested multiple methods by which recommendations can be decided and agreed on by Members. It was agreed that these various options, with pros and cons, will be given to Assembly Members for them to choose.

Concerns were raised about recommendations which do not get significant support from Members, and if these will still be included in final report. Kaela agreed that they would be included and labelled as 'minority support' as they had undergone scrutiny by Assembly Members.

Stewarding Group also agreed that there should not be a cap on amount of recommendations in the report, but agreed that this would also be put to Members for discussion.

6. Evidence for remaining Weekends

Secretariat explained that the Assembly would not be hearing much new evidence. They will be provided with any additional evidence they have requested, have an update about the Climate Change Plan and evidence about costs. Stewarding Group were keen to ensure that deliberation and recommendations were not limited by costs, and Secretariat agreed to send bullet points from the cost presentation through to Stewarding Group for approval.

7. Close

Susie thanked all for participation in the Stewarding Group.