

Terms of Reference for the UK CCUS Council

Objectives

The purpose of the CCUS Council is to review progress and support the Government's ambition to deploy CCUS from the mid-2020s and at scale during the 2030s. This is essential to the UK achieving its world leading commitment to net zero by 2050.

The Council will be the primary forum for BEIS Ministerial engagement with representatives from the CCUS sector, increasing industry confidence in the rollout of the CCUS programme. The Council and any working groups will engage with existing industry and Government led groups where the remit includes CCUS or has implications for the development of CCUS, so ensuring alignment with the Net Zero Strategy.

The priority areas for the CCUS Council are:

1. Business models –advise on the development of sustainable, market based, commercial frameworks for CCUS;
2. Deployment pathway – advise on the approach, including policies and institutional arrangements, that support deployment in regional industrial clusters and the economy generally;
3. Supply chains – support the development of innovative, efficient, competitive and sufficiently resourced CCUS supply chains including in the UK, driving growth, enhancing productivity, skills and employment and seizing the commercial opportunities both domestically and abroad;
4. Public engagement – guide in delivering comprehensive information to the public so that informed judgements can be made by the public on the role of CCUS in the Net Zero Strategy;
5. Diversity and inclusion –encourage individuals from all backgrounds to feel supported to achieve environmental goals and realise opportunities in delivering Net Zero.

Interaction

Given the implications for the power, and industrial sectors, the use of heat and the production of hydrogen, the CCUS Council will adopt a system wide approach. The council will have an oversight of the work of other relevant Government-Industry Councils and will look to build appropriate links between councils.

Within the context of wider net zero ambitions and the work of other relevant Government-Industry Councils focused on the same ambition, the CCUS Council will seek to benefit from shared aims whilst focussing on deploying CCUS at scale in the UK.

Working groups

The council will oversee a range of workstreams in support of its objectives and priority areas. Some of these priority areas will be delivered by working groups, membership of which may come from the organisations represented on the council and/or more widely according to need.

Current working groups:

- Supply chain working group: Identify the opportunities for, as well as the potential skills/capability gaps within, the CCUS supply chain from the anticipated domestic deployment of CCUS out to 2050, including prioritising those areas where the UK has the opportunity to support deployment by developing the capability to meet those skills/ capability gaps.
- Early Careers Professional Forum (ECPF): The aim of the Early Career Professionals Forum is to provide a platform for professionals in the early stages of their careers in the CCUS sector, to provide alternative views on key strategic issues facing CCUS deployment, tackle issues and drive forward work to create a more diverse CCUS workforce and help empower and inspire future generations.

The views of the Early Career Professionals Forum will also feed into UK CCUS policy development alongside the views of the CCUS Council.

Membership

Members are drawn from key stakeholder groups across the CCUS sector and serve on a voluntary basis.

Collectively, the council will have knowledge of how the energy system needs to be transformed; of the application of CCUS within that transformation; of policy and regulatory arrangements necessary for successful deployment; understanding of public attitudes towards CCUS and of the wider public view of how CCUS is best deployed to achieve net zero.

The council will also support a key element of the North Sea Transition Deal through actively engaging with industry partners in developing CCUS and allowing key stakeholders to benefit from the opportunity for local places to build back greener.

Membership will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Attention will be paid to; stakeholder representation; and diversity of thought and background when determining the membership.

Council members have the right to delegate attendance to those of a sufficient level of seniority from their respective organisations by exception. This will need to be agreed with the Council Secretariat.

Responsibilities

CCUS Council members are expected to:

- Attend and contribute to meetings, advising on how to address key strategic issues;
- Provide insight, input and expertise on key topics and outputs;
- Ensure that all Council members are informed of significant developments in the CCUS sector, identifying trends and opportunities;
- Use their influence to advocate, champion and provide thought leadership for the CCUS Council's work.

Process

The CCUS Council will meet quarterly and will be co-chaired by the Minister of State for Business, Energy and Clean Growth and James Smith, former Chair of Carbon Trust.

The Council will continue running for its fourth year as part of a programme to progress CCUS in the UK, including alongside the established CCUS Expert Groups and the Hydrogen Advisory Council. Working groups have been established to progress specific actions agreed by the CCUS Council.

The council will be supported by officials from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, who will provide the secretariat function.

Handling

Discussions within the Council will be treated as official sensitive although a formal record of each council meeting will be made publicly available on the CCUS webpage available [here](#).