



An Chomhairle Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Shóisialta  
National Economic & Social Council

**Minutes of the 445<sup>th</sup> NESCS Council Meeting (in person), 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 @ 10am**  
**Room 308, The Department of the Taoiseach, Government Buildings, Dublin 2**

**Attendance:** Liz Canavan, Gerard Brady, Hubert Fitzpatrick, Ian Talbot, Seán Healy, Nat O'Connor, Brid O'Brien, Joe Cunningham, Patricia King, Kevin Callinan, Jerry Mac Evilly, Karen Ciesielski, Damian McDonald, Graham Doyle, David Hegarty (DBEI), Matt McGann (DoF), Bernie McNally, Dave Dillon (DSP), Mark Griffin, Seamus Coffey, Niamh Moore-Cherry, Diarmuid Torney, Chris Van Egeraat, Colin Scott, and Jenny Connors (DPER).

**Secretariat:** Larry O'Connell, Helen Johnston, Cathal FitzGerald, Damian Thomas, AnneMarie McGauran, Niamh Garvey, Jeanne Moore and Edna Jordan. Namrata Bhandari, Casey O'Connor, Sharon Casey, and Sonya Conway (Interns).

**Apologies:** John Callinan, John Enright, TJ Flanagan, Caroline Whyte, John Hogan (Matt McGann attending), Orleigh Quinn (David Hegarty attending), John McKeon (Dave Dillon attending), David Maloney (Jenny Connors attending).

- 1. Minutes of the Meeting March 2022.** These were agreed.
- 2. Work Programme: Overview:** An update on the 2021-2022 work programme including projects completed and work underway or planned was provided. The purpose was to inform discussion by the new Council of its work programme for 2022-2023, which will be developed by the Secretariat and agreed later in 2022.
- 3. Housing: Draft Council Report:** The Council welcomed the paper on '*Delivering Social and Affordable Housing.*' The discussion highlighted the need for a greater focus on the private rental sector, including build-to-rent and HAP. In addition, the discussion noted a number of specific issues in relation to estimations of demand and contextualisation of trends; local authorities and commissioning; compulsory sales orders; economic and regulatory impact assessment; skills development and the adoption of modern methods; wider impacts of the housing crisis; uncertain and unstable borrowing and financing environment; climate and energy objectives; retrofitting and energy poverty; and remote working and the impact on housing supply in rural areas.
- 4. Economy, Resilience and Vulnerability:** In response to a draft paper '*Economy, Resilience and Vulnerability*' a number of issues were raised, including: the need for a more strategic and longer-term strategy that integrates economic, social and environmental issues; climate and biodiversity crises, just transition and investment, 'good jobs' both new and existing; implementation of existing health and social care strategies; demographic change; funding public services; role of effective and inclusive social dialogue; inflation crisis, external imported 'costs;' reducing reliance on fossil fuel; targeted interventions'; competitiveness issues; dynamics of the labour market; public banking and community wealth building; and, Government action to date
- 5. AOB:** The Council noted the recent passing of Noel Cahill's wife Marie and offered their sincerest condolences to Noel and his family.

**The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**