

The Council for the Environment and Infrastructure

The Council operates independently and provides the Dutch government and parliament with solicited and unsolicited advice on policy affecting the sustainable development of the physical environment and infrastructure.

Council members



Jan Jaap de Graeff, Chair



Pallas Agterberg



Jeanet van Antwerpen



prof. Niels Koeman



Jantine Kriens



Emmy Meijers



Krijn Poppe



Karin Sluis



prof. Erik Verhoef



prof. André van der Zande

Junior Council members



Jeroen Niemans



prof. Hanna Tolsma



Yourai Mol



Joris van den Boom



The Council's advice relates to matters of:

- housing
- spatial planning
- environment
- climate policy
- water
- agriculture
- nature
- food (quality)
- traffic and transport
- spatial-economic development
- energy infrastructure
- external safety

The Council was established by law on 10 February 2012.

Secretariat Rli

The Council for the Environment and Infrastructure receives substantive and administrative support from the Rli Secretariat. Ron Hillebrand is the General Secretary of the Council and the Director of the Secretariat.

Through its integrated approach and strategic advice, the Council strives to provide greater depth and breadth to the political and social debate, and to the quality of decision-making processes.

Method of operation

Every year, the Council produces a work programme which is subject to the approval of the ministers of Infrastructure and Water Management, of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, of Agriculture, nature and Food Quality, and of the Interior and Kingdom Relations. Its advisory reports are produced in an open process which involves close collaboration with the

commissioning client and other stakeholders. The reports are published in the public domain and can be downloaded from www.rli.nl

The Council works closely alongside knowledge institutes and the national planning agencies, attaching particular importance to the analyses, prognoses and policy evaluations of the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL). While the national planning and assessment agencies are largely concerned with monitoring current trends and the immediate application of new knowledge to support government policy, the Council's focus is on issues which are likely

to play out in the medium to long term and which therefore call for informed public and parliamentary debate.

Council members

All members are appointed by Royal Decree for a term of four years on the basis of their broad expertise and experience. They are drawn from various backgrounds including public administration, the private sector and academia. The Council decided to appoint two junior members in order to incorporate the knowledge and experience of younger generations in its work.