

Monitoring Outcomes of the Climate Change Adaptation Scrutiny Review – January 2012 update

Rec No	Scrutiny Recommendation	Cabinet Response - Agreed or Not and Date for Implementation	Action taken to date – January 2012	Future activity planned
1	<p>The Panel recommends that a more prominent role is given to the risk management of climate change adaptation and preparing for extreme weather. To reflect this, a Cabinet Member should be identified as being both responsible for the issue and accountable for the implementation of the Panel's recommendations.</p>	<p>Agreed in Principle, Date for implementation – 23 September 2010</p> <p>Emergency Planning, business continuity and strategic risk management for the council are based on comprehensive risk assessment; the Council will look closely into the local climate impact projections for the city and at whether this means widening the depth and reach of assessment to more service areas. Given the extensive potential impacts across a broad range of services and functions it makes sense for the Cabinet Member for Central Services to take on this responsibility.</p>	<p>The Cabinet Member for Environment & Sustainability has responsibility for this work</p> <p>Severe weather / climate change adaptation risks have been broadly integrated into the Strategic Risk 8, "Becoming a more Sustainable City" risk, which includes <i>Working with others to prepare the city for severe weather and other impacts of climate change locally.</i></p> <p>This was considered by Audit Committee in December 2011 and main comment was that opportunities can be more drawn out.</p>	<p>Monthly progress updates.</p> <p>Update Strategic Risk Register to incorporate opportunity.</p>
2	<p>The Panel welcomes the identification of resources to undertake a Local Climate Impact Profile (LCLIP). The Panel believes that resources also need to be identified to carry out an analysis of the implications of the UK Climate Projections data (UKCP09) for the city of Brighton & Hove.</p>	<p>Agreed in Principle – 31st January 2011</p> <p>It may be possible to undertake this work in partnership – for example, with East Sussex County Council – though the work could be achieved with the resources identified through LPSA funding as part of the Local Climate Impacts Profile work. External funds have been secured for an officer for six months, to develop this further, as one element of a wider programme of work, starting in October.</p>	<p>The LCLIP work has been completed, highlighting the measurable local impacts of severe weather events in the city over the past 10 years. As part of this process there was also a focus on business continuity and dialogue included questions about preparedness across services.</p> <p>Detailed findings are stored in a database, which will be a useful resource to draw on when further work is undertaken assessing the risks and opportunities of climate change.</p> <p>Work on the LCLIP was met with a mixed quality (and level) of response.</p> <p>A task and finish group is planned to progress the detailed recommendations arising from the LClip – one of these is to undertake further analysis of climate projections on a local level and a comprehensive risk and opportunity assessment for each service area – this work requires a resourced programme of work to be agreed.</p>	<p>Set up task and finish group to agree programme of work, aligned with the 'City Adapting well to Climate Change' outcome of the Climate Change Strategy (Rec 3 below).</p> <p>Undertake further risk and opportunity identification</p> <p>Undertake more detailed projections work against key risks and opportunities e.g. heatwave of 35 degrees+ (linked to rec 1 above)</p>

3	<p>The Panel welcomes the development of a revised Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP), which addresses both mitigation and adaptation in the city. The Adaptation Section of the Plan should be based on the work of this Scrutiny Panel. The Panel recommends that the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership monitors the progress of the outcomes of the CCAP.</p>	<p>Agreed – 31st December 2010</p> <p>Though the final decisions on this will rest with the City Sustainability and Strategic partnerships.</p>	<p>The city Climate Change Strategy (as it is now called) was completed and went online in December 2011. A City Adapting well to Climate Change is one of the five priority outcomes the strategy is designed to help the city achieve http://www.bandhsp.co.uk/climatechangestrategy/adapting-to-climate-change/index.htm and the scrutiny panel's recommendations do form the basis of this section.</p> <p>The chair of the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership is one of the strategy's two champions, alongside the leader of the council, and the Climate Change Strategy will be reviewed by the BHSP.</p>	<p>Progress reporting mechanisms to be established with BHSP (identified in strategy implementation plan).</p>
4	<p>The Panel recommends that the Climate Change Action Plan is monitored on a biennial basis (every 2 years), including an assessment of where we are and how well the city is adapting. This would include a report back to the Cabinet Member who is responsible for climate change adaptation (see recommendation 1).</p>	<p>Agreed – December 31st 2012</p>	<p>The monitoring and review section of the strategy is set out in the strategy accordingly.</p>	<p>Review and reporting dates to be set</p> <p>To be considered in the Task & Finish Group remit.</p>
5	<p>The Panel believes National Indicator 188 (NI188) is a worthwhile indicator, because it can effectively measure the progress of local areas in assessing and addressing the risks and opportunities of climate change. The Panel recommends continued use of the process outlined in NI188, even if the National Indicators and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are changed or scrapped, unless a better method of assessing progress replaces it.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that NI188 is placed within the LAA, if it continues post 2010/11. This would demonstrate the importance</p>	<p>Agreed in principle – 30th November 2010</p> <p>The council will need to see what changes to the use of national indicators are introduced by the Government, but we accept the principle that the climate change adaptation process in NI 188 is a good one to use in the meantime.</p>	<p>National Indicators were abolished by the Government which does not require reporting now on NI 188.</p> <p>'Planning to adapt to climate change' is included as an outcome in the City Performance Plan (under 'Enhancing the Environment and Living within Environmental Limits') and NI 188 proposed as the performance indicator for tracking progress. This is straightforward as it does not require data collection, but a relatively simple self assessment.</p> <p>The organisation remains at Level '0' and heading towards Level '1' on this framework.</p>	<p>Decision on NI 188 remaining in CPP for 2012/13</p> <p>Target to be set</p> <p>Self assessment responsibility to be agreed and carried out</p> <p>To be considered in the Task & Finish Group remit.</p>

	<p>of this issue to the city. It would also provide a focus on the need to set, and meet, a challenging timetable for taking the city through the stages of the indicator as it pro-actively prepares to adapt to climate change.</p>			
6	<p>The Panel believes that the challenges of adaptation cannot be met by statutory agencies alone. The Panel recognises the importance of existing mechanisms such as Local Area Action Teams and the voluntary sector, to develop the capacity of communities to adapt to increasingly extreme weather in the city. A learning and development programme needs to be produced to assist these champions. This work could be linked to the Climate Connections project.</p>	<p>Agreed in principle – 31st March 2011</p> <p>Climate change adaptation should include a strong element of community engagement to ensure that local people and communities are able to respond and adapt to the issues – this would also strengthen volunteer and self help activity, all of which can provide low cost, more sustainable solutions. External funding is being explored to start this work.</p>	<p>The City Sustainability Partnership sponsored the initial stages of working through the framework for NI 188 and also strongly supports a community engagement approach.</p> <p>Although funding was explored from a specific source relevant to this area of work it was not pursued due to the low likelihood of success; and Climate Connections were not able to take this work on.</p> <p>The Environment Agency to is now the delivery body for its climate change adaptation programme in England which is aimed at helping key sectors build resilience to climate impacts and risks.</p> <p>This is an area of work that needs to be progressed further.</p> <p>Adaptation is a key area of focus in the city Big Lottery bids from the Food Partnership and a city climate change partners group for the Communities Living Sustainably Fund. (expressions of interest due 31/1/12)</p>	<p>Seek advice/input in developing Learning & Development programme from Environment Agency</p> <p>Identify projects, partners and specific funding source with good chance of success</p> <p>Develop project proposal and submit bid</p> <p>To be considered in the Task & Finish Group remit.</p>
7	<p>The Panel recommends that climate change resilience and business continuity needs to be a high level outcome which is built into the new Intelligent Commissioning Model.</p>	<p>Agreed in principle – January 31st 2011</p> <p>The Director of Place will be asked to consider this.</p>	<p>Adaptation planning has been incorporated as an outcome in the City Performance Plan, the Biosphere Reserve Bid and the City Climate Change Strategy.</p>	<p>Include in City Commissioning Plan and timetable</p>
8.	<p>The Panel recommends that an Adaptation Test¹ should be developed for publicly commissioned services. These services would be required to use</p>	<p>Agreed in principle – 1st June 2012</p> <p>It may make sense to adapt this test for use at strategic</p>	<p>Adaptation is being included in sustainability guidance and tools available for commissioners and report writers and this will be used to inform key considerations when developing commissioning scopes and designing services. (March 2012)</p>	<p>Introduce adaptation test into guidance for strategic commissioners.</p>

¹ An example of an Adaptation test and 10 indicative questions can be found in The Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution's report 'Adapting Institutions to Climate Change' (2010) http://www.rcep.org.uk/reports/28-adaptation/documents/adaptation_final_report.pdf

	<p>the test to demonstrate how they are planning to face the challenges of adaptation.</p> <p>This test could contain a set of questions, such as:</p> <p><i>'Have you identified the possible range of impacts of climate change on the activities and responsibilities of your institution or business, and their timescales?'</i>²</p> <p>The Panel believe it would also be useful to encourage other businesses in the city to use this test.</p>	<p>commissioning level only, and this will be explored, while ensuring that the reporting burden does not get passed down the chain to front-line service providers and their organisations. The test is not suitable for lower tiers, as for them it would be over-prescriptive and could over-burden service delivery units, especially small, local businesses competing for contracts.</p>		
9	<p>The Panel welcomes Planning proposals to ensure that developments can adapt to future climate changes. This will be achieved by implementing planning policies which require that new developments in the city must demonstrate that they can adapt to climate change through addressing such issues as flooding, overheating, rain events, storm surges and other climate related impacts. Any new planning documents will be fully informed by relevant studies about climate impacts now and in the future.</p>	<p>Agreed – 23rd September 2010</p>	<p>City Planning is signed up to this approach and this should be reflected in all planning policy documents and their application. The new City Plan is being written to take this work fully into account</p>	<p>Ensure adaptation planning is tackled sufficiently in City Plan</p>
10	<p>The Panel recommends that BHCC, and the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership, approach neighbouring local authorities and other bodies to identify areas of</p>	<p>Agreed – 31st October 2010</p> <p>Officers are involved in a Sussex Sustainability Network and there are also strong connections to build</p>	<p>Links exist with neighbouring authorities via the Sussex Sustainability Network where best practice is shared and discussed, as well as with Climate South East, a wider regional support and good practice-sharing network; but the</p>	<p>Formal approaches at Partnership and officer level to be made and working meetings</p>

² Ibid, page 111

	good practice, undertake a peer review and identify potential areas for cross working.	on in shoreline management, planning and other	resources allocated to adaptation work are very limited.	established, starting with the Environment Agency, East and West Sussex County Councils, building on initial approaches with other partners through the Public Service Board.
11	The Panel recognises that the universities and colleges in the city could be used as a valuable resource in building up knowledge about adaptation and engaging with the community. The Panel recommends that this be further explored.	Agreed – December 31 st 2010	The University of Sussex was involved in detail in the panel's work through external independent chairman Prof Gordon MacKerron from SPRU, but this has not yet been developed further. We also discussed the Joseph Rowntree bid with the University of Brighton CUPP manager and took their advice on the likelihood of success.	Make formal approaches through BHSP University reps for joint work on this, potentially linked to above item, through the task and finish group or the Climate Change Strategy.
12	The Panel welcomes the awarding of funds for BHCC to develop a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP). It recommends that the work on the SWMP is developed as a matter of urgency and used, where possible, to bid for funding in this vital area.	Agreed – September 23 rd 2010 We have made a start on the Surface Water Management Plan work and have made contact with the Environment Agency. Next steps include formation of a working group with the EA, adjacent local authorities, and Southern Water etc. The Plan will help inform the City's needs, so there may be potential to use it as the basis of a bidding document - though DEFRA and the agency have given no guarantees of any future funding streams for SWMP works. Brighton and Hove is one of 77 authorities receiving additional funding from DEFRA to support the development of surface water flood risk management plans and other early actions and our allocation is the second highest behind Birmingham. An allocation totalling £275,000 has been given to support the additional burden	The SWMP process is a partnership based approach to understand and resolve the complex causes of local surface water flooding, and to agree on the most cost effective way to manage and mitigate flood risk. This is a four phase process and includes: (1) Preparation, (2) risk assessment, (3) development of options and (4) action planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 (Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment) of the SWMP was completed to deadline and is now published on Environment Agency website. Link to the maps can be for here. Phase 2 (Detailed risk assessment) is underway and due to be completed in 2013. Timetable for completion of all 4 phases (phase 2-4 includes options and action plan) of the SWMP due to be completed by 2015. 	Highlight progress to E&S CM Programme Delivery Group

		necessary to develop a surface water management plan for Brighton and Hove and other surface water management risk actions. Payment will be made over two financial years with £180,310 allocated for 2009/2010 and £95,000 allocated for 2010/11. The funding will be included as part of the Area Based Grant (ABG) administered by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG).		
13	<p>The Panel believes that it is essential that sufficient resources are identified to be able to carry out the work recommended in this report.</p> <p>On completion of the work recommended by the Panel, if further resources are needed to address adaptation these should be reported in any further revisions of the Climate Change Action Plan or other relevant strategy documents.</p>	<p>Agreed in principle – September 30th 2011</p> <p>The resource implications need to be understood in more detail and integrated into the budgeting process. External funding sources are also being explored.</p>	No additional resources have been identified.	Task and Finish Group to Identify work programme deliverable with existing resources, together with gaps in resourcing; and explore alternative resourcing options.