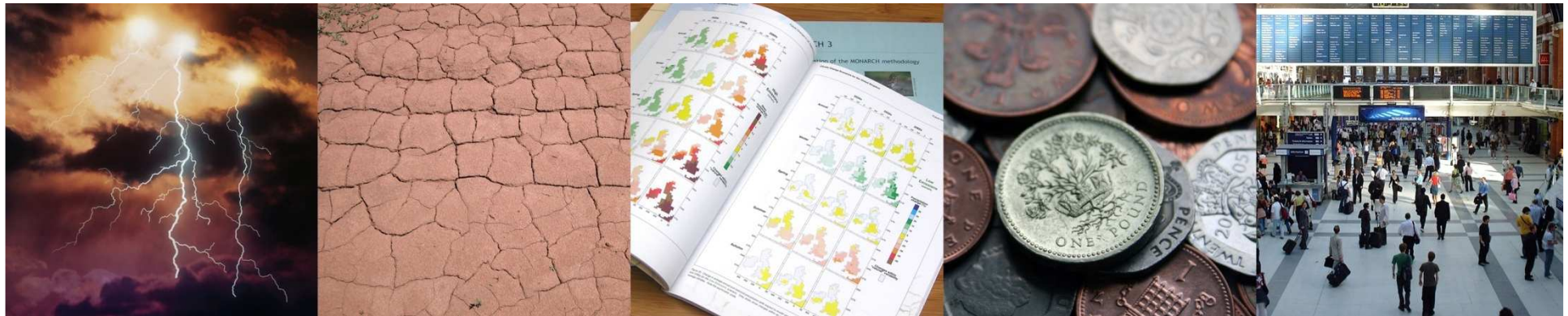


Self-assessment tool for NI188

LA Support Programme South West Region Weston-super-Mare March 2009



Self-assessment tool – workshop objectives

- a. provide feedback to Defra *et al*/ on utility of the self-assessment tool
- b. provide suggestions for further examples of evidence to support the criteria
- c. review progress of individual LAs/LSPs on Levels 0 and 1 making use of the self-assessment tool and highlighting particular successes and challenges.
- d. others?

Self-assessment tool – workshop objectives

- a. provide feedback to Defra *et al*/ on utility of the self-assessment tool
- b. provide suggestions for further examples of evidence to support the criteria
- c. review progress of individual LAs/LSPs on Levels 0 and 1 making use of the self-assessment tool and highlighting particular successes and challenges.
- d. others?

Criteria to be achieved for Level 0 of NI188

- a. the Authority has begun the process of assessing the potential threats and opportunities across its estate and services
- b. has identified and agreed the next steps to build on that assessment in a systematic and coordinated way.

Examples of Evidence

High-level stock-take of if/ how climate change impacts are considered within council policies, programmes and risk registers has started

Relevant documents have been located/listed/reviewed

Executive or senior management team aware of cross-council structure for work on adaptation

Other/Additional Evidence

Initial project plan in place and resources determined for the next stage

Other or Additional Evidence:

Criteria to be achieved for Level 1 of NI188

- a. Made **public commitment** to identify and manage climate related risk.
- b. Undertaken **local risk-based assessment** of significant vulnerabilities and opportunities to weather and climate, both now and in the future.
- c. Has a sound **understanding of significant vulnerabilities** and opportunities not yet addressed in existing strategies and actions..
- d. Has **communicated significant vulnerabilities** and opportunities to department / service heads and other local partners that have an influence over these.
- e. **Set out the next steps** in addressing significant vulnerabilities and opportunities.

Evidence of achievement of Level 1 of NI188

- a. **Signed Nottingham Declaration or equivalent local Declaration.**

Executive has formally made a commitment to identify and manage climate related risk and this has been published *Other or Additional Evidence*

- b. **Local risk based assessment completed**

Significant vulnerabilities and opportunities identified

Report to Executive or SMT on the findings of the risk-based assessment

Other or Additional Evidence.

- c. **Report to Executive or SMT on significant vulnerabilities or opportunities not yet addressed**

Other or Additional Evidence

- d. **Information about significant vulnerabilities and opportunities communicated to department / service heads, and other local partners that have an influence over these, by distributing written information and/or meetings or workshops *Other or Additional Evidence***

- e. **Report/programme plan on next steps agreed *Other or Additional Evidence***

Criteria to be achieved for Level 2 of NI188

- a. Undertaken a comprehensive risk based assessment of vulnerabilities to weather and climate, both now and in the future.
- b. Identified priority risks for council services.
- c. Identified the most effective adaptive responses.
- d. Started to incorporate adaptive responses into council strategies, plans, partnerships and operations.
- e. Begun implementing appropriate adaptive responses in some priority areas.
- f. Encouraged the LSP to identify major weather and climate vulnerabilities and opportunities that affect the delivery of the LSP's objectives.

Evidence of achievement of Level 2 of NI188

Comprehensive risk based assessment completed

Report to Executive or senior management team on the findings of a comprehensive risk-based assessment *Other Evidence*

**Executive or senior management team aware of priority risks for council services
*Other Evidence***

Documents and agreements in place approved by departmental directors which identify adaptive responses for the priority risks for their department's functions *Other Evidence*

Adaptive responses for priority risks have been incorporated into one or more departmental strategies, plans, partnerships and operations *Other Evidence*

Council or departmental performance management reports record implementation of some adaptive responses for priority risks *Other evidence*

**Encouraged LSP to identify major weather and climate vulnerabilities by: distributing written information to partners; and/or contributions at meetings; and/or holding workshops; and/or forming adaptation sub-group
*Other Evidence***

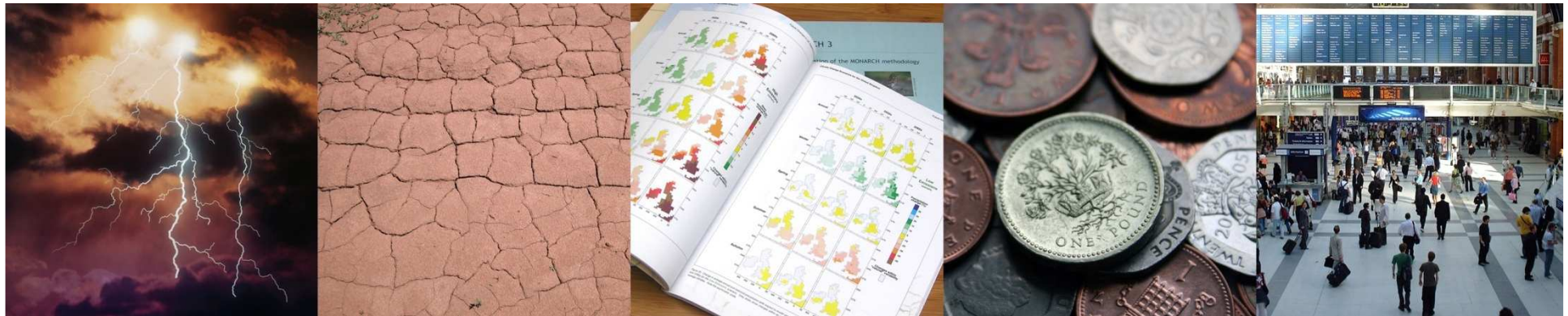
Self-assessment tool for NI188

LA Support Programme South West Region Weston-super-Mare March 2009



Comprehensive Risk Based Assessment of Weather and Climate related threats and opportunities

LA Support Programme South West Region Weston-super-Mare March 2009



Criteria to be achieved for Level 2 of NI188

- a. Undertaken a comprehensive risk based assessment of vulnerabilities to weather and climate, both now and in the future.
- b. Identified priority risks for council services.
- c. Identified the most effective adaptive responses.
- d. Started to incorporate adaptive responses into council strategies, plans, partnerships and operations.
- e. Begun implementing appropriate adaptive responses in some priority areas.
- f. Encouraged the LSP to identify major weather and climate vulnerabilities and opportunities that affect the delivery of the LSP's objectives.

At the heart of Level 2 of NI188

1. Comprehensive
2. Risk Based Assessment of
3. (significant) Vulnerabilities to
4. Changing Weather and Climate
5. Now and in the Future

Evidence suggested:

- Comprehensive risk based assessment completed
- Report to Executive or senior management team on the findings of a comprehensive risk-based assessment *or others*

1. Comprehensive

Recognising that this is the first iteration of NI188

We need to agree a limited, achievable, pragmatic, but still robust and worthwhile, definition of 'comprehensive'

cf 'a little bit pregnant' and 'a limited comprehensivity'

To include appropriate breadth and depth.

- Lead Authority? associated District Councils? LSP partners? community? others?
- management units? number of impacts to be considered? in what detail? time commitment devoted to the task?
- systems of control?
- others?

2. Risk-based Assessment

Use a risk-based methodology to prioritise a long list of potential impacts

List may be created using the BACLIAT tool

Advice is to use the risk assessment method that is common to the LA/LSP

Cardiff City example available for the purposes of comparison and discussion

ALL risk assessment methods multiply 'likelihood' by 'magnitude'

For climate impacts that means:

- the likelihood of the occurrence of the 'impact' (not just the weather)
multiplied by
- the magnitude (severity) of the 'consequence' (on a specified 'receptor')

3a. (Significant)

The progressive experience of LA colleagues working on climate change will gradually make them appreciate what might be **significant**.

In the early days it will probably be helpful to assert:

- the strategic objectives of the authority (strategies, policies, mission)
- the importance of longer-term (rather than short-term) impacts
- consideration of impacts that will require further capacity building (rather than those that require immediate practical actions)

Other criteria for significance will be found in:

the BACLIAT headings:

Markets; Process; Logistics; People; Finance; Premises; Management.

the types of criteria that feature in risk assessment methodologies:

implications for services; achievement of key targets/objectives; reputation; H&S; failure to provide statutory duties/legal obligations; financial implications; implications for partnerships; implications for the community/environment; other stakeholders.

3b. Vulnerabilities

A definition of 'vulnerability' might include an understanding of 'adaptive capacity' as well as the physical 'exposure' and 'sensitivity' of a given 'receptor'.

So, we recommend instead, a more straightforward consideration of the 'threats' and 'opportunities' presented by the '**impacts**' of the weather and climate.

Examples might include:

- **Elderly people displaced from care homes due to flooding**
- **Existing (social) housing stock not adapted to future climate**
- **Changes in demand for tourism in the locality: seasonal change, global change, local change**
- **Vulnerability of infrastructure: transport and utilities**
- **Increased demand for outdoor green- and blue- space for recreation, shade and coolth**

3c. Impacts

'Impacts' are not the same as 'weather' and 'climate' which are mediated/modified by physical and other factors in order to create particular impacts.

But sometimes it is difficult to distinguish or capture 'impacts'. 'Impacts' are important though, as part of a risk-based assessment requires us to specify the likelihood of 'impact'.

Examples:

Weather: Higher (ambient) temperatures in South Devon

Impact: Higher internal temperatures in some buildings in some locations

Consequence: H&S hazards to occupants, closure of food process plant

Weather: Intense rainfall in North Wales

Impact: Flooding in some riparian locations alongside River Severn

Consequence: No cricket or horse-racing at Worcester

Weather: Higher average summer temperatures

Impact: Higher external temperatures in orchards

Consequence: Existing apple varieties will not be as productive

4. As a result of changing weather and climate

Distinguish between weather and climate

Climate = 30 year average so will impact upon crops, food and drinks preferences, space-heating requirements, leisure activities, sea level

Weather = typically a single measurable incident on a particular day, of which extreme weather events are likely to be the most significant

Identify **significant weather and climate variables** for your locality
(eg extrapolated from LCLIP
eg evidenced from headline messages from UKCIP02)

Identify **significant combinations of weather and climate** for your locality
(eg high temperatures and drought;
eg high tide/coastal invasion coinciding with estuarial fluvial flooding -

Identify **significant sequences of weather** for your locality
(eg extended period of drought followed by torrential rain)

5. Now and in the future

The impacts, the consequences and therefore the risks, of weather and climate are all dependent upon time. So, in considering future impacts it will be important to define the time period(s) under consideration:

Here are suggestions for three time-periods, but each authority/partnership will need to decide on, and make explicit, its own:

- **Near-term: now until 2015 (or related to electoral or planning cycle)**
- **Mid-term: 2015 until 2045 (around the 2030s) (or related to planning or policy cycle)**
- **Long-term: 2045 until 2075 (around the 2060s) (or related to planning or policy cycle)**

In selecting appropriate time periods for each authority take account of planning cycles, electoral cycles, as well as lead times for R&D, implementation, and shelf-life

Consider also, the socio-economic features that will change through time.

5. Changing weather and climate - now

Near-term: now until 2015 (or related to electoral or planning cycle)

Climate scenarios such UKCIP02 and UKCP09 make no claims to be of any use for the near-term.

So, LAs/LSPs will need to explore other sources to identify weather for this time period.

Identify significant current weather variables (eg evidenced from LCLIP)

Consider recent trends in local weather variables.

Explore 5-year forecasts and sources other than UKCIP02 and UKCP09

Five-year and decadal variability of UK climate will be reported from Met Office. Taking account of known patterns from El Nino, NAO, etc

Relate weather data on near-term explicitly to the need for emergency responses as it is unlikely that any full adaptation can be achieved in short-term.

5. Changing weather & climate - in the future 1

Mid-term: 2015 until 2045 (around the 2030s) (or related to planning or policy cycle)

This period has been suggested for two main reasons which are related to the available data on weather projections (UKCIP02 and UKCP09):

- **it contains the period for which projections are independent of GHG emissions**
- **it coincides with a 30-year dataset from UKCP09**

But don't be over influenced by the time periods for weather data. Do take account of the local considerations, particularly of planning and policy cycles, lead times for R&D, implementation, and shelf-life infrastructure.

Consider also, socio-economic features that will change during this time period.

5. Changing weather & climate - in the future 2

Long-term: 2045 until 2075 (around the 2060s) (or related to planning or policy cycle)

This period has been suggested for two main reasons which are related to the available data on weather projections (UKCIP02 and UKCP09):

- **it coincides with a 30-year dataset from UKCP09**
- **it contains a period for which projections are dependent on GHG emissions**
- **it also takes us beyond the conventional life-spans of members, and typical planning horizons for policies, but for which important decisions may be required.**

It may not be important to take this time frame too seriously in the first round but it will be useful to encourage both officers and members to recognise that this longer time frame exists and is real in terms of climate impacts.

Consider also, socio-economic features that will change before and during this time period.

Implementation of: Comprehensive risk-based assessment

Recognise that each Local Authority/LSP has different organisational structures, risk management and performance management frameworks

You are invited to explore and bring forward alternative suggestions on how to manage the assessment process, which should be customised to suit each local regime.

The suggestions should consider practical arrangements for:

- generating a list of significant impacts,
- creating a prioritised list of impacts through risk-based assessment,
- developing considered adaptation responses

In terms of:

- appropriate management units
- appropriate detail for consideration
- timetable for reporting and progress monitoring
- appropriate level of management and reporting

Identify potential impacts for each Directorate

Undertake a BACLIAT exercise/workshop with a single Directorate (DMT)

Workshop should include reps of all business units/departments

May need a preparatory briefing session

Tend towards long-term rather than short-term impacts

Criteria for inclusion based upon the 'objectives' of LA, LSP, Directorate

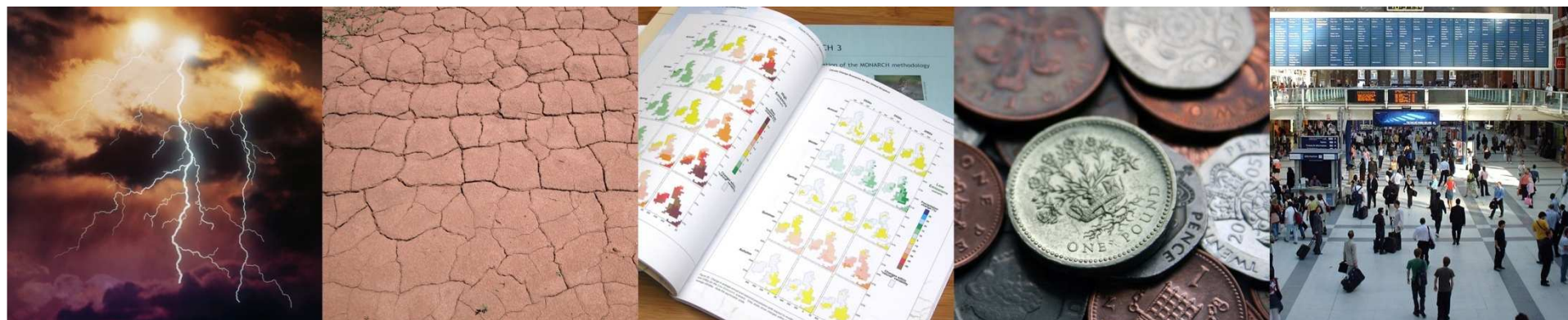
Include 'opportunities' as well as 'threats'

Possibly yields around 40 significant impacts

Thank you for listening

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