





**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Overview & Scrutiny Commission

Title:	Overview and Scrutiny Commission Ad- hoc panel on Climate Change
Date:	1 February 2010
Time:	10.00am
Venue	Committee Room 3, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Mackerron (Chair) Janio Mitchell Wakefield-Jarrett
Contact:	Tom Hook Head of Overview & Scrutiny 20-1084/ Karen Amsden , Overview & Scrutiny karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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AGENDA

18.	PROCEDURAL BUSINESS	1 - 2
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The Panel will hear from:

Matthew Lipson, Assistant Scientist, Committee on Climate Change, Adaptation Sub-Committee

Gary Ferrand, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy, Brighton & Hove City Council

Angela Dymott, Assistant Director, Property and Design, Brighton & Hove City Council

Robin Humphries, Business Continuity Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council

The attached papers are as follows:

- a. Biographies of the witnesses
- b. Presentation from Gary Ferrand of the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
- c. Evidence statement from Thurstan Crockett
- d. Adaptation chapter from '**Climate Change Action Plan for Brighton & Hove**' (December 2006)
- e. 'How is the Council through its Property Services preparing for Climate Change and in particular adaptation' by Angela Dymott
- f. Briefing from Robin Humphries, Civil Contingencies Manager

22.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Karen Amsden, (01273 291084 – email Karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk) or email scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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Agenda Item 18

To consider the following Procedural Business:

A. Declaration of Substitutes

No substitutes are permitted on ad hoc scrutiny panels.

B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at a meeting of that Committee where –
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 - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
 - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
 - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:
 - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
 - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and
 - (c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:
 - (a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the

Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence;

- (b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee; or
- (c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

C. Declaration of Party Whip

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

D. Exclusion of Press and Public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION AD- HOC PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

4.00pm 11 JANUARY 2010

COMMITTEE ROOM 1, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor MacKerron (Chair)

Also in attendance: Councillor Janio, Mitchell and Wakefield-Jarrett

Also present: Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability and Environmental Policy, Tom Hook, Head of Overview and Scrutiny, Karen Amsden, Overview and Scrutiny

PART ONE

12. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

Party Whip: There had been no party whip.

13. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

14. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on 02.12.09 were agreed.

15. WITNESSES

a. Meyrick Gough, Water Planning Strategy Manager, Southern Water: made a presentation to the Panel on Climate Change and Southern Water (see attached paper or email Karen.amsden@brighton-hove.gov.uk for a copy). The aim of the presentation was to explain Southern Water (SW) perceived climate change and how the issue fed into their strategy. The company does not supply water to the whole of the South of England. They manage 10 Water Resource Zones in the South and tonight the focus was on the Sussex Brighton zone.

Their Water Resources Plan

<http://www.southernwater.co.uk/Environment/managingResources/publicConsultation.asp>

shows how SW proposes to secure water supplies for its customers during the next 25 years.

The final plan was published on October 1st 2009, following an extensive consultation process on the draft plan, which was first published in May 2008.

He emphasised that the water sources in the Brighton chalk block zone were all groundwater, unlike other zones which rely on sources such as reservoirs. Groundwater was a more robust water source.

Climate change had a fourfold impact on their water management:

- Reduces river flows and groundwater availability
- Increases the frequency of the hot dry summers, which in turn has an impact on demand
- Influences the future resource schemes (which they will be implementing over the next 25 years)
- The need to reduce their carbon footprint and future footprint. Otherwise it would be a wasted investment

Water was a heavy product and this had an impact on energy demanded to move it around and CO2 emissions

He explained that SW had used different international models to make different Global Climatic Models (GCM) predictions. They were currently studying UKCP09 predictions to update their forecasts. This international information was used to develop a regional picture and then predict what would happen in Brighton & Hove (B&H). The results of the modelling work indicated that the issue of groundwater supply was not as great, but there could be a stark reduction in surface water.

When assessing demand for water and how much water to put in the supply, SW looked at:

- Customer demand
- Leakage

Since privatization, leakage had been reduced through active leakage control. The per capita consumption had also decreased and the demand for water had also become steady.

In relation to their demand forecast, the major effect of climate change was hotter summers. The forecast showed a very small increase in per capita consumption between 2020 and 2050. Their primary concern in B&H would be demand for water in peak times. He explained that changes in consumption had been achieved by example changing the regulations on toilet flushes. The average toilet flush is now some 7 litres, as opposed to the 9 litres it used to be many years ago. This change has been brought about by the introduction of regulations that state that all new toilets should only flush a maximum of 6 litres of water. Other changes included the increased efficiency of white goods like washing machines and dishwashers and reduced water usage after bathroom refits, which people do every 10-15 years on average.

He explained that the graph which he had supplied on the 'supply demand balance' took account of climate change and population growth. The preferred strategy for Sussex Brighton included:

- Leakage reduction
- Universal metering
- Inter-zonal transfers (moving water out to supplement other zone supplies)

The forecast which achieved a 10-15% reduction in per capita consumption (compared to the industry average of 10%) were based on the trials in Isle of Wight and universal metering. These forecasts also showed that it would be possible to reach a point of exporting water from this region to Worthing. One of their key problems was to reconcile the demands of a hot summer with the resource availability in a drought.

Questions to Meyrick Gough

Gordon MacKerron (GMK): Thank you very much for the presentation and I think I will need to follow this up by sending you some further technical questions. There appears to be a lot of stability. However given the uncertainties in UKCP09, when modelling, is it valuable to think of the 'most likely' scenario? Is this a valuable way of thinking, and is the situation so steady that this is a valid model?

Meyrick Gough (MG): It is necessary to run with a model, but UKCP09 will come up with a breadth of possibilities. One is trying to factor in risks and climate change is one of those risks.

GMK: Is the stability due to the groundwater source?

MG: Yes, this is the reason for stability.

Gill Mitchell (GM): Will water metering reduce consumption? I understand it had a 93% coverage in the Isle of Wight and what was the impact on low income households?

MG: SW is talking to OFWAT about the social tariff and how they can help, as OFWAT approve charges on an annual basis. SW favours a 'soft landing approach' (SLA). The SLA means that over the first 18 months of metering, customers will be sent 3 bills. Each bill will set out how much they would normally be charged and how much the charge would be by use according to the meter. The customer will be charged the lesser amount, and if they have reduced their consumption they will receive a credit on their bill. This is intended to show them the effect of water metering. Alongside this, the customer will be offered water efficiency advice.

For households which are still struggling, then SW has put proposals to OFWAT based on the practices of Wessex Water who have done what is possible to help customers pay what they can.

There is also a big differentiation that must be made between those who can't pay and those who do not want to pay. This may lead to means testing.

GM: Do OFWAT negotiate with each individual water company or seek national agreements?

MG: OFWAT negotiate with each water company.

Vicky Wakefield-Jarrett (VWJ): Are the social tariffs for people who have been identified – in a similar way to categories for electricity charging?

MG: Yes.

VWJ: Then I am concerned that there would be a large group of people in this city who just miss out on qualifying for the social tariff. There is also the problem for private sector tenants, where the landlord has not carried out repairs but the tenant is blamed and/or landed with the bill.

MG: SW has come across this problem before and it is a consideration which has been included in the tariff scheme. The Customer Services team is looking at this issue now and I would be happy to provide extra information on this issue.

Tony Janio (TJ): If the majority of water is groundwater, then climate change will lead to raised sea and river levels. This in turn will reduce absorption and affect the groundwater level. Therefore there is not a lot that the council can do and you seem to be coping well. However, what about waste water? Once you get a certain volume, what will SW do?

MG: One looks at the sewer capacity and in this area there are reverse issues. It is all about the intensity of summer storms and preparing one's capacity to deal with this. The groundwater extraction rates are fixed by the Environment Agency. The company is given a fixed licence and can only extract up to this limit. This is not my area of expertise (see evidence from Barry Luck, Sewerage Strategy Manager, Southern Water on 09.09.09)

TJ: When dealing with certain areas in the South East, can you see whether there will be problems with reservoirs and droughts?

MG: There will still be hosepipe bans every 10 years. Other potential issues include:

- In a period of drought, the issue of ground water availability
- In wet periods, the level of demand will be lower
- What will be the impact of extreme drought?

SW use records which date back to 1890, to develop potential scenarios and then impose climate change scenarios on top also.

GMK: I would be interested to see a less averaged set of figures. I am interested in the export of water and the regional strategy, and whether this in theory means that we could export water to other areas. Given that we are a water stressed region, will B&H be put under pressure to export water to Worthing?

MG: Regionally based bodies have already been developed and the Water resources solutions we develop in the South East are influenced by the regional model results. The working group which looks at this is the Water Resource in the South East of England Management group. This working group is made up of OFWAT, EA, CCW, NE and water companies. The model seeks to find the optimal solution for the customers of the South East of England. As such there is the potential to include us providing water to Kent. When such a supply is made then there is a charge for this bulk supply.

GMK: The Panel would appreciate further information on your service, as you are such a valuable part of the process.

Mark Prior, Head of Sustainable Transport, Brighton and Hove City Council: explained that he managed a very wide range of transport related services, including the development of a local transport strategy. He was also responsible for highways management which was most closely concerned by climate change. This service included:

- Highway drainage
- Street lighting
- Car parking
- Parking enforcement

The key issue for highways maintenance was the drainage of flood water. He was also the lead officer for flooding and co-ordinated the Council's response to the flooding in Patcham and cliff falls above Asda in the Marina in 2000.

The key policy area he was currently working on that related to climate change was the new Local Transport Plan (LTP) in conjunction with DEFRA and GOSE. This included making smarter transport choices and sustainable transport e.g. electric cars.

Questions to Mark Prior

VWJ: At the last Panel meeting we were presented with various models of potential flooding in Brighton & Hove. This included a shocking map of both London Road and Lewes Road and one of the Marina. What plans do you have to move transport round the city if there were such floods?

MP: In 2000 the historic nature of the infrastructure meant that after the rainfall, the drainage did not work. There was insufficient capacity to deal with flooding through the current highway drainage. The recent funding awarded for the Surface Water Management Plan could be used to look at this issue.

VWJ: If flooding was to go through those roads, are there logistics/plans e.g. to divert traffic from that area?

MP: There is the capacity to divert for an emergency, but both the Lewes Road and London Road are so important that this action could only be done on a short term basis. This issue requires longer term planning.

GM: You have significant experience due to your involvement in:

- Cliff falls
- Sea defence
- Flooding

What can BHCC do through its highway renewals programme to mitigate surface water run off? In particular ice across the pavement, which shows how much water is going from the

roads into drains. With the new Flood and Water Management Bill, can we build this into our strategy and planning?

MP: The new Bill will give local authorities increased powers regarding flooding. Different types of authorities own different aspects of water management:

- *Water on highways – the responsibility of BHCC*
- *Water into drains – a waste water issue*
- *Water from aquifers – Southern Water and the Environment Agency*
- *Water from roofs*

Because there are different roles and powers for each of these different organisations regarding water, the Bill intends to increase the power of local authorities.

Martin Randall (MR): There are a range of bodies who want to receive water and pass it on. This means that there is a fundamental role for planning e.g. assessing where water lands, including roofs. Therefore some of the responsibility for mitigation rests with the planning system e.g:

- *The design of new buildings*
- *Adapting existing stock – including how to lose concrete gardens*

TJ: The purpose of the Panel is to consider the National Indicators. It is hard to plan for snow, in the same way as the flooding in 2000. I am concerned about how this can be paid for. Is there any indication that central government will be funding these changes?

MP: The funding for the new Plan of £275,000 will be very useful. The Surface Water Management Plan will define the shape and the extent of B&H's problem. It will result in a costed out action plan e.g. for dealing with the problems with the Downs. This can be used to build a business case for requesting grants.

MR: It is more cost effective to put resources into planning for new developments, than putting things right e.g. the London Road.

GMK: What is the timescale of the Plan?

MP: There is an 18 month/2 year window for the funding and it has not yet been received by the Council.

GMK: At what pace is this issue being addressed and how constrained are you by lack of resources?

MP: There will be a clearer idea, once the Bill has received Royal assent. The Plan will be used to clarify and develop major projects. We have engaged framework consultants, but will try and do as much work in-house as possible. We aim to use part of the funds to implement the key measures.

GM: How will you react to climate change generally? E.g. melting tarmac in hot summers. What adverse effect does heat have on the infrastructure? With the Scrutiny into the snow, how will this affect policy and operation in the future?

MP: Climate change will feature in long term transport planning, such as dealing with the extremes of weather. For example at 100°, we still get problems with tarmac softening and heatwaves also lead to ground movement, which can cause increasing potholes. These effects can also happen with frost penetration.

The Council's response to the recent snow and ice is to be the subject of a Scrutiny. At present the Council plans for a certain number of treatments per winter based on 5 to 10 years of actions (drawing on historic knowledge, past weather conditions and information from East Sussex). This planning has been developed over a number of years to cope with a certain winter period e.g. allowing for 30 grittings and 2 snow periods. But due to the recent cold weather, the Council has already exceeded its 30 grittings. If climate change means that we need more resources to deal with this kind of weather, this will involve:

- More salt
- Increased numbers of grittings

Martin Eade, Coast Protection Engineer, Brighton and Hove City Council: told the Panel that the Council could apply to DEFRA (through the Environment Agency) for capital funding towards coast protection schemes but that such funding was not generally available for works to the cliffs.

DEFRA are taking a closer interest in coastal erosion and the Environment Agency intend publishing coastal erosion risk maps based on studies they have carried out combined with information held locally.

Coastal studies carried out by local authorities can be grant aided by DEFRA and follow DEFRA guidance in the way they are prepared. They examine the coast now and 100 years ahead and can identify any necessary works to coastal defences. When the study is agreed by DEFRA/Environment Agency, an application for grant aid to implement such works can then be made.

The latest climate change projections were crucial in planning, especially:

- Sea level rises
- Increased storminess

Questions to Martin Eade

GMK: What is the success rate of applying for grant aid?

ME: It is a tortuous process and the review cycle for studies is generally five years. The Council is trying to begin a review into coastal defence west of the Marina and is 18 months into the application process and it is still not finished. However, they are confident of success in the end. We have never had an application refused, only delayed.

GMK: There is a concern about the A259 in relation to the cliff protection issue. Is this a key concern?

ME: It is a critical issue, since there was a series of significant collapses in 2001 that resulted in two stabilisation exercises. A research group has been set up (which has been going for four years, but has been hampered by a lack of resources) to consider safety around the cliffs and when it would be necessary to move the A259. It should be remembered that the cliffs have been collapsing for millennia and will continue to do so, we just need to know the rate.

GM: It was fascinating to find out how coastal planning was carried out, which has led to several policies for each section of B&H. This then leads to the needs of the whole city being balanced with the needs of particular areas. I understood the University of Brighton was carrying out research into the impacts of not having the A259, but I am not sure if it includes the social and economic impacts e.g. on Woodingdean. This issue had not yet been factored into planning e.g. in the Core Strategy.

ME: The coast defences east of the Marina have been reconstructed over the last 20 years with grant aid from DEFRA. . Part of the original funding application process involved justifying this on an economic basis to DEFRA., This was done by calculating the cost of putting the A259 somewhere else and comparing the cost of the theoretical new route with the cost of defending the coast.. The choice was made to defend the coast.

GM: Bits of the cliff have been bolted, but not all – is it possible to stabilise all of the cliff?

ME: The cliffs are a Site of Special Scientific Interest and any course of action would have to be agreed with Natural England. To stabilize the whole of the cliff line would probably entail a public enquiry assuming the cost of such a project could be met by the Council.

GMK: Where are the boundaries drawn? Will climate change accelerate the changes to these boundaries?

ME: The weather is worsening the damage and the increasing intensity of weather is likely to have an impact on the cliffs.

GMK: In relation to fragmentation, can you draw on any research from other sources e.g. universities?

ME: We have been drawing on work from:

- *Hong Kong*
- *Isle of Wight and others*

Although geology occurs everywhere there is a limited amount of research which we can use to assist us, which is why we are undertaking our own research.

VWJ: Given that this will also affect areas such as Worthing and Newhaven, do we have a good working relationship with neighbouring local authorities?

ME: The Council is a member of a Coastal Group which stretches from Selsey to the Thames Estuary. They take a strategic approach to the issues e.g. by looking at the consequences of local schemes on adjacent areas.

TJ: Given that the Panel is considering what BHCC should be doing in relation to climate change, are there any areas which are not going well or could be done better?

ME: Until fairly recently the councils worked directly with DEFRA, who are now using the Environment Agency to carry out their regional engineering role. The Agency is struggling to get to grips with this new role.

Thurstan Crockett (TC): I gave evidence on the potential economic impact of not pinning the cliffs. Some work was done on the effects of closing the A259 and the entrance to the Marina. The University work, which is underfunded, is on what would be the impact. What forms should any intervention take?

ME: Most of my work on the research project consists of trying to find funding e.g. from INTERREG. NERC and others. There is a need to know facts to answer questions, such as when we will have to identify a new route for the A259.

GMK: The information you provided about the west, seems to show that this does not present such a challenge, although there are issues such as augmenting the beaches/groynes. What are the potential costs and risks of taking such actions?

ME: One can always defend the coast in engineering terms if you have sufficient money. But we must remember that B&H is a resort and amenity and so we have to preserve the attractiveness of the coast as well. In probability we will always be able to justify defending B&H to DEFRA on economic grounds, but BHCC may have to find the additional cost of preserving the attractiveness of the coast line.

GMK: Out of the beach and cliff issues, which one is the most important?

ME: Both are equally important, although the cliff work is more pressing at present.

GM: When are the coastal erosion maps going to be published?

ME: After the election.

Martin Randall, Assistant Director – City Planner and Paula Goncalves, Senior Planning Officer: began by emphasising that the key purpose of planning is to encourage sustainable development. Such planning roles include:

- Sustainable patterns of land use
- Promoting bio-diversity by adaptation and mitigation

Work on the Core Strategy was progressing, and it was now ready for submission. The report they submitted to the Panel highlighted the key areas of the Core Strategy, such as planning

for growth in Flood Risk Zones (FRZ). This is because it was not possible to accommodate all developments without using FRZs, such as the Marina.

The Sustainable Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 08 was moving forward to supplement the Core Strategy. It was an excellent framework for delivering sustainable design such as water neutrality and reducing the Urban Heat Island Effect. The Core Strategy aimed to reduce our vulnerability, including taking into account adaptation considerations such as sustainable transport.

Mitigation and adaptation overlap in a planning context and our report in the agenda's papers gave examples of how to include both in the planning process and cited particular developments. It was felt to be important to monitor outcomes and more research was needed in this area.

Questions to Martin Randall and Paula Goncalves

TJ: Thank you very much for the report, but it would also be useful to see the big picture and know if we are doing enough e.g. about the Urban Heat Island Effect and the absorption of increased water levels. Are there enough planning tools to deal with such issues?

MR: Planning alone is not the answer, we have to work closely with partners such as Southern Water - as well as other teams in the Council such as Highways. At the micro level we will not know, unless we monitor closely. Our planning mirrors the process used by Southern Water as outlined by Meyrick. It would be very useful to be able to draw on research into the specific effects of climate change on B&H, rather than regional figures alone.

TJ: Are we carrying out monitoring to see if we are having an effect?

MR: We are monitoring each policy in the Core Strategy to check issues such as:

- *Are we using this policy?*
- *Will it achieve anything? – and Paula is working with a Sustainability Checklist.*

The next logical step is to find out what difference our policies have made. However this can be different for each scheme, for example the Jubilee Library is being monitored on a long term basis to check issues such as heat circulation.

Paula Goncalves (PG): A whole section of the Core Strategy is devoted to monitoring. The Sustainability Checklist has led to the accumulation of fifteen months of information. This has shown that new buildings are performing satisfactorily, but conversions less so. The need to focus on conversions has in turn informed the Core Strategy.

TJ: Will the data you are gathering inform future changes to the Core Strategy?

MR: Absolutely, it is not intended just to wait until we develop another new policy. We have a duty to use this information as we go along. The Local Development Framework is an evolving framework and there is a responsibility to continuously update and expand it, so it represents a library of planning documents.

GMK: One of the difficulties of climate change adaptation is the uncertainty of what form it will take. Does the Sustainability Checklist take into account adaptation?

PG: The contents and questions relate to climate change adaptation, but do not include the wording specifically.

GMK requested a copy of this checklist. Information about the checklist can be accessed at <http://brighton-hove.sustainabilitychecklist.co.uk/>. Paula Goncalves has offered to arrange a session, or make individual appointments, to run the checklist pass any Panel members interested in seeing how it works. Especially considering access to the planner section is restricted to council officers working in Development Control and Planning Policy

TJ: All the information you are gathering sounds as though it will help us, for example in meeting NI188.

MR: This joined up working has included input into the Sustainability team. The checklist:

- *Provides monitoring information*
- *Is an easy tool for the development industry*

It was started with SEEDA and was intended as an exemplar which other authorities have started to use. The checklist provides a practical guide for developers and covers areas such as:

- *Water features*
- *Reflective surfaces*

GM: With the right policy lead and decision making, it seems to be easy to bring this into new developments. However, the struggle seems to be with retro-adaptation. Government funding has been pledged, but can there be a local lever? E.g. when considering a planning application for a new roof, to use this process to request other actions?

MR: We are not there yet, and this may need a specific adaptation Supplementary Planning Document. For example, we can tell people who come to us with applications that when we are determining it, we can use the planning system to lever finance from developers to improve the existing building stock and help to supplement existing programmes such as those designed to alleviate fuel poverty. It is important to promote best practice and the council has been active for example in the Eco Homes open day programme.

PG: The Core Strategy has a framework to inch towards and this addresses conversions.

VWJ: I am please to see that there is an overlap between adaptation and mitigation, for example with heating. Hotter summers could lead to an increased demand for air conditioning, so planning for not having it would be good.

1) Are there any plans to refresh the sustainable SPD or a timetable to improve the Eco Homes code level?

2) Is there any scope for an SPD on adaptation, for example the increased possibility of fires?

3) In relation to schools, with a new primary school planned, issues will need to be addressed such as classroom temperatures and air flow levels. Such a development would need to be a prime example of excellence

MR: One Brighton is a fantastic example of a residential development. With the Library, it was planning for one large space, but One Brighton had to satisfy the needs of 70+ apartments, along with a community area and a business space.

Regarding your question 2) An SPD on adaptation is a realistic prospect, but may be in the broader context of sustainable design. Examples of adaptation include such planning decisions as the Amex building, which is excellent on adaptation- though only a BREEAM 'very good'.

3) *The Building Schools for the Future programme (BSF)*
<http://www.partnershipsforschools.org.uk/about/aboutbsf.jsp>

places sustainability at the top of its agenda. There are a number of school additions which have promoted high standards and the involvement of our architects.

GMK: There is a potential conflict between the need to develop and the flood risk zones. How does the Council approach this trade off?

MR: When looking at areas such as Shoreham Harbour or the Marina, this relates to two key areas:

- *Looking at which different areas in those zones that have a lower risk of flooding*
- *Where best to situate the social, economic and physical infrastructure*

GMK: Given the need to make this kind of trade off when 2/3rds of Shoreham is in Adur, how closely do we work with this authority?

MR: We have a close working relationship and plan together on a joint basis. If there can be any benefit that comes from being a flood risk area, it is that at a technical level we can contain it and predict future risk more easily than if it was a river valley in Gloucestershire, for example. There is a sense of containment in such areas, such as the large scale proposals for the Marina plan for a 1:200 year storm event.

TJ: Is our monitoring and putting so many requirements regarding issues such as climate change, stifling the development of the city?

MR: It is easy to add another requirement and this is a tendency in Planning. We need to be clear that we do not over-burden the development industry particularly in the present economic circumstances. We must ensure when asking for contributions from developers, that we are clear on our priorities. Climate change cannot be other than the highest priority, which means perhaps we do not need to ask for contributions for other aspects.

GMK: Planning is one of the key adaptation areas. You have done significant work to include adaptation, has this required extra resources or can you embed it in your every day business?

MR: We have had to develop greater expertise and needed extra training. It has also meant the need to work closely with other colleagues such as Martin Eade and Mark Prior. We could do with extra money and accept that we are not all experts in this field, and draw upon the knowledge of Thurstan Crockett's team and Paula Goncalves. We need these resources to continue and may need to draw on other resources to meet new issues. It is right that Planning delivers on sustainability issues.

GM: This meeting has considered buildings, but not public open spaces, but I would like to come back to this issue and ask Martin Randall some further questions.

Mark Prior then confirmed that he would be happy to respond to further questions from the Panel.

GMK: I agree with Martin Randall that monitoring will be in issue to look at in the future and will become more important. Thank you all very much for attending the meeting.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 18.00

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

Matthew Lipson

Matthew Lipson works in the secretariat supporting the work of the Committee on Climate Change Adaptation. The committee was set up by the 2008 Climate Change Act. It has the tasks of scrutinising the Government's assessment of climate change risks, assessing the preparedness of the UK to face these risks and raising awareness of the importance of adapting in order to reduce potential impacts and exploit opportunities

Gary Ferrand

Joined Devon Fire & Rescue Service in 1988 as a firefighter. Served 12 years progressing to Station Officer with a range of different operational roles. Moved to Somerset Fire & Rescue Service in 2000 as an Assistant Divisional Officer and advanced to Area Commander for Somerset. This role involved leading the service delivery directorate – emergency response, fire prevention delivery and fire protection delivery.

In 2005 graduated at the University of Exeter with a Master's Degree in Management and Professional Development.

In April 2007 Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Services combined and became the Head of Community Safety, this involved a strategically leading all aspects of fire prevention and fire protection.

Joined East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service in June 2009 in the role of Assistant Chief Fire Officer and now leads on issues surrounding Climate Change and has recently introduced the Climate Change Strategy into the Service. Now working closely with partners, Elected Members and staff to support the implementation of the strategy.

Currently studying on the Executive Leadership Programme with Warwick Business School and will conclude that programme at the end of March 2010.

Thurstan Crockett

Thurstan is Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy at Brighton & Hove City Council, managing a Sustainability Team within the council's central Policy Unit. He leads the city's work on sustainable development, tackling climate change and developing a low carbon Brighton & Hove. He works closely with the Council's leadership, senior management team and the City Sustainability Partnership.

He won the national 2007 Global to Local Foundation Award for the local authority officer doing most to place Climate Change at the heart of a council's culture, policies and practices. His work helped the city win recognition recently by independent sustainable development charity Forum for the Future as "the most sustainable city in Britain" – though it has slipped to third place and he is far from complacent about its challenges.

In a varied career, his previous role was as the council's Economic Development Manager where he worked to balance regeneration and support for creative industries with programmes to help homeless and other disadvantaged people into work. This included a renewed focus on opportunities in the construction industry, as well as on working to establish support for social enterprises.

Before this, he was Regeneration Manager at East Midlands Development Agency, overseeing regeneration programmes for the City of Lincoln and for Lincolnshire market

towns. He has also worked as Development Manager for a county tourism association, and as a programme manager for a £2 million EU Community Initiative.

Thurstan's early career was as a journalist and he worked on newspapers, in radio and in public relations before branching off into the voluntary environmental sector for The Wildlife Trusts and then Shell's environmental community relations programme.

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

Responding to Climate Change



**EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

East Sussex
Fire & Rescue Service

Facing the Challenge

“Climate has changed over the last century and is likely to continue to change throughout the 21st century”

“Climate scenarios show that increase in frequency of hot summers..... increased winter rainfall and higher sea levels”

**EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

Effects of Climate Change on Fire and Rescue Services in the UK - CLG Dec 2006



Facing the Challenge

Fire and Rescue Services must act to reduce the impact of its activities on the Environment.

Regardless of any action we take, our organisations and services **will** be impacted by climate change in at least 5 key areas over the next 50 years;

- **High Summer Temperatures**
- **Floods**
- **Drought**
- **Storms**
- **Social Impact - Migration**

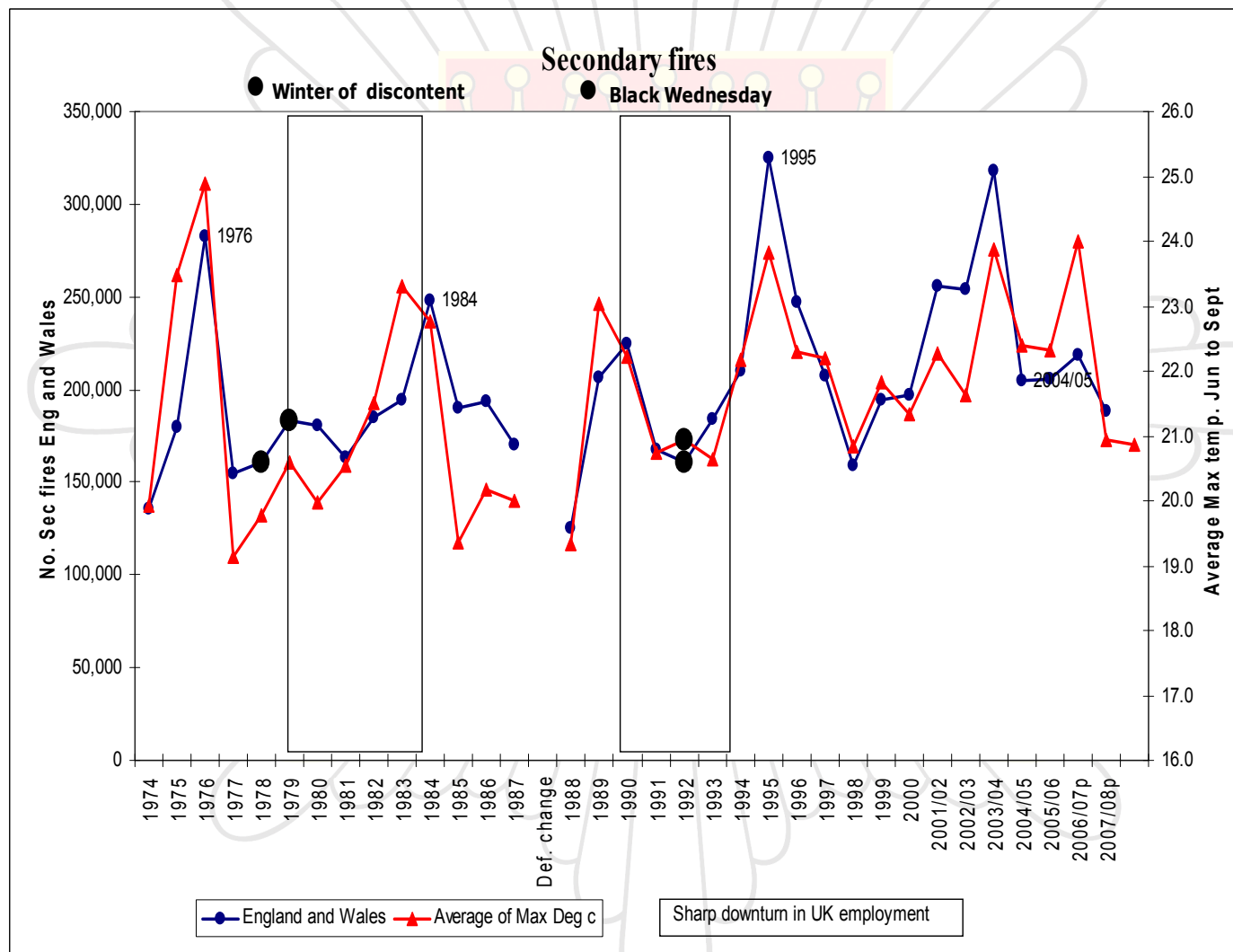


EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Facing the Challenge: Flooding



Facing the Challenge: Higher Temperatures





Fire and Rescue Service

“Safeguarding the environment and heritage (both built and natural)” is part of what government expects of the Fire and Rescue Service.

National Framework 2006-08

“Achieving safer and more sustainable communities.”

ESFRS Vision Statement



What we are doing

- Traditionally the role of the Fire and Rescue Service has been to save life and property.
- This role continues but we must now more proactively protect the environment and measure the contribution we make.
- Community fire safety measures within the Fire and Rescue services can be shown to be reducing the CO₂ yields.
- Estate management – fuel efficiency & insulation
- Fleet management – latest technology
- Environmentally efficient fire fighting media eg 1:7 foam



What we are doing

Adaptation
NI 188

Mitigation
NI186

FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE





What we are doing

Mitigation by taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions released by fire service activity.

Adaptation by taking action to minimise the effect of unavoidable global warming on how we deliver our services in the future.

FACT SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

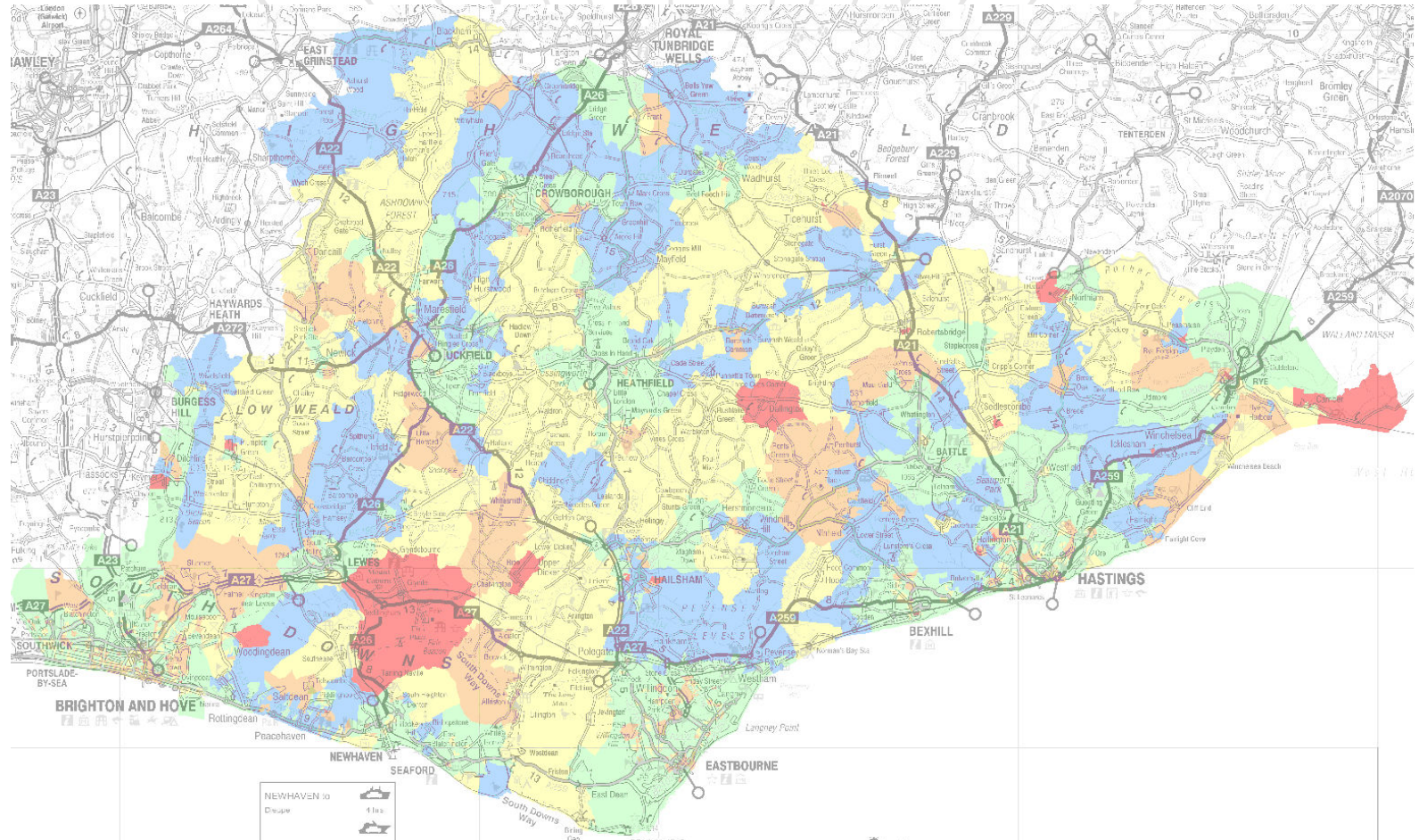
Adaptation by Emergency Planning

**Analyzing the Risk
from
Flooding Events**

**EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**



Response Areas



The past is not a reliable indicator for the future



Where and what is the risk?

Pitt Review – December 2007

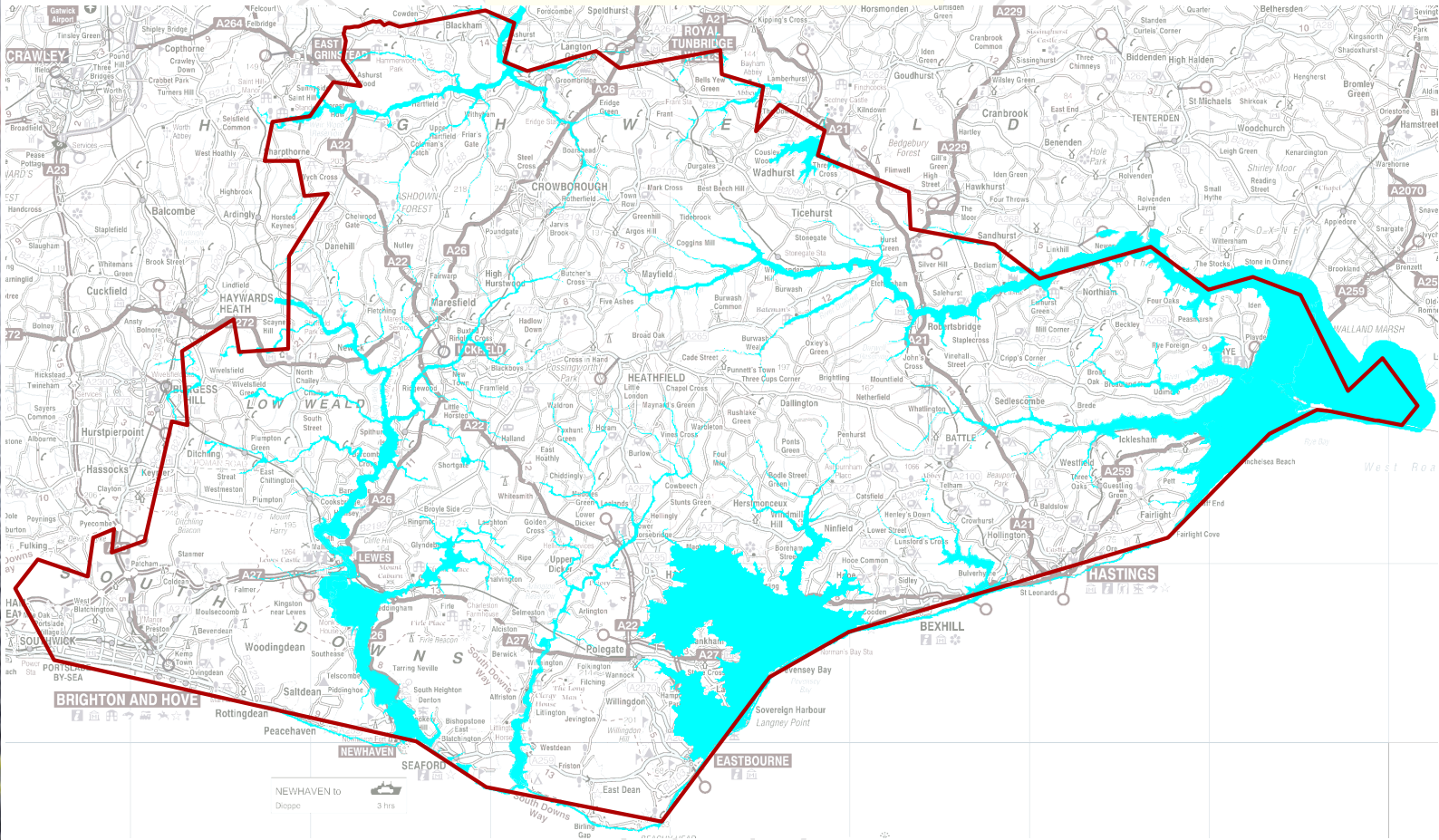
Urgent Recommendations #4: “The Review recommends that all Local Resilience Forums urgently review their current local arrangements for flood rescue to consider whether they are adequate in light of the summer’s events and their local community risk registers.”

Urgent Recommendations #8: “The Review recommends that the guidance currently under preparation by Cabinet Office to provide local responders with advice on the definition and identification of vulnerable people and on planning to support them in an emergency should be issued urgently.”

Urgent Recommendations #10: “The Review recommends that Category 1 responders should be urgently provided with a detailed assessment of critical infrastructure in their areas to enable them to assess its vulnerability to flooding.”



Major Flood Areas



ESFRS Flooding Model

Premises in floodzone	Total Premises in ESFRS area	% Premises in floodzone
30,645	364,624	8.4%

63k people





Other Buildings within Flood Risk Area (Zone 2)

FSEC Code	Occupancy Type	In Flood Zone	In Total	% within flood zone
A	Hospital	0	30	0%
B	Care Home	29	555	5%
C	HMO	678	3,079	22%
E	Hostel	6	16	38%
F	Hotel	152	380	40%
H	Other sleeping accomodation	9	66	14%
J	Further education	46	175	26%
K	Public building	44	207	21%
L	Licensed premise	277	1,439	19%
M	School	51	357	14%
N	Shop	2,015	8,667	23%
P	Other premises open to the public	314	2,049	15%
R	Factory or warehouse	758	1,349	56%
S	Office	544	3,343	16%
T	Other workplace	1,589	4,929	32%
Grand Total		6,512	26,641	24%

Where are the chemical storage sites?

Where are the heritage risks and listed buildings?

How do we identify Critical Infrastructure

Flooding – Wider Impact

Anyone else at risk?

Infrastructure adversely affected, leading to:

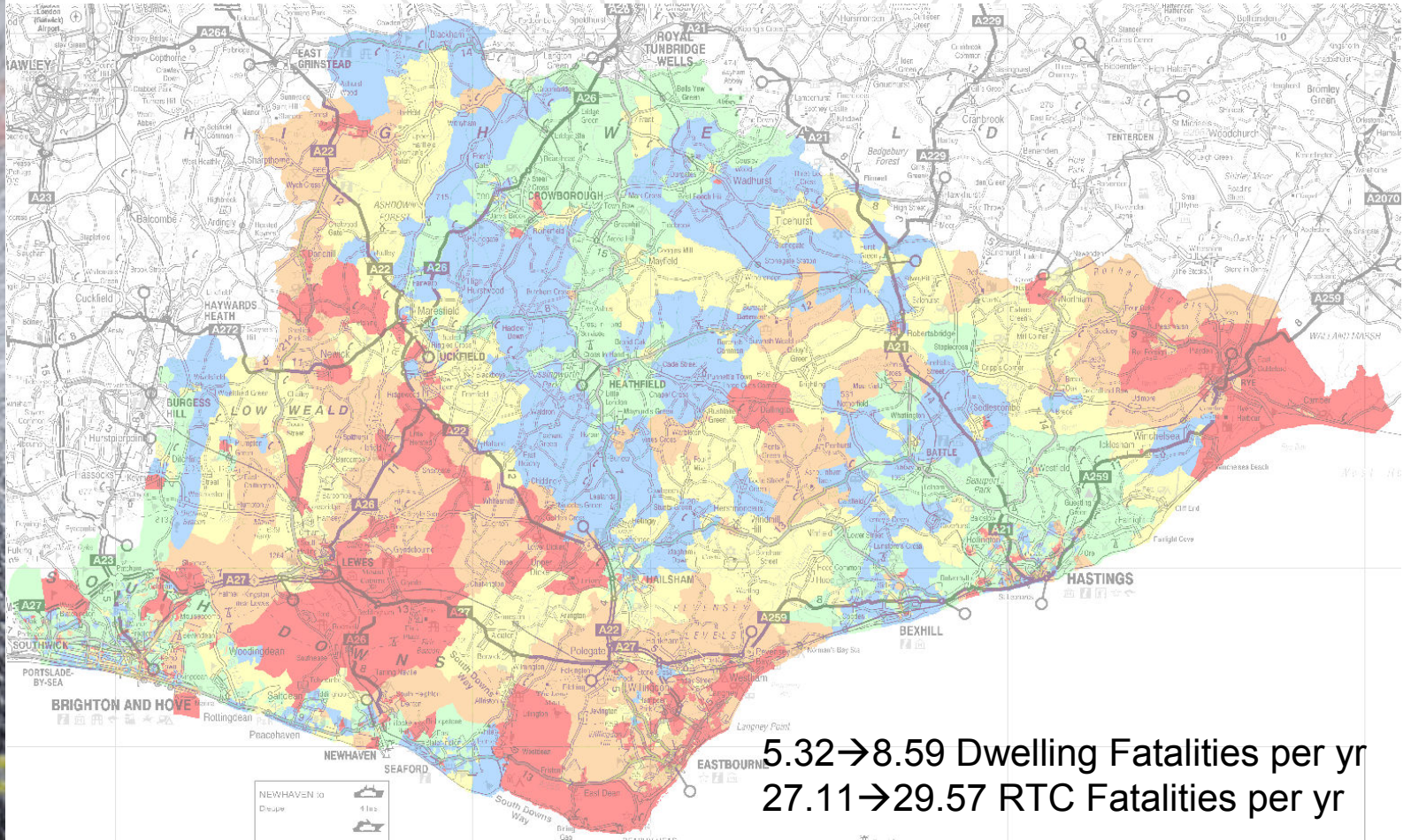
- Drastically increased response times
- Some areas become unreachable “islands”

Also, some Fire Stations flooded what are our plans
For new stations in the future : PPS 25?

FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

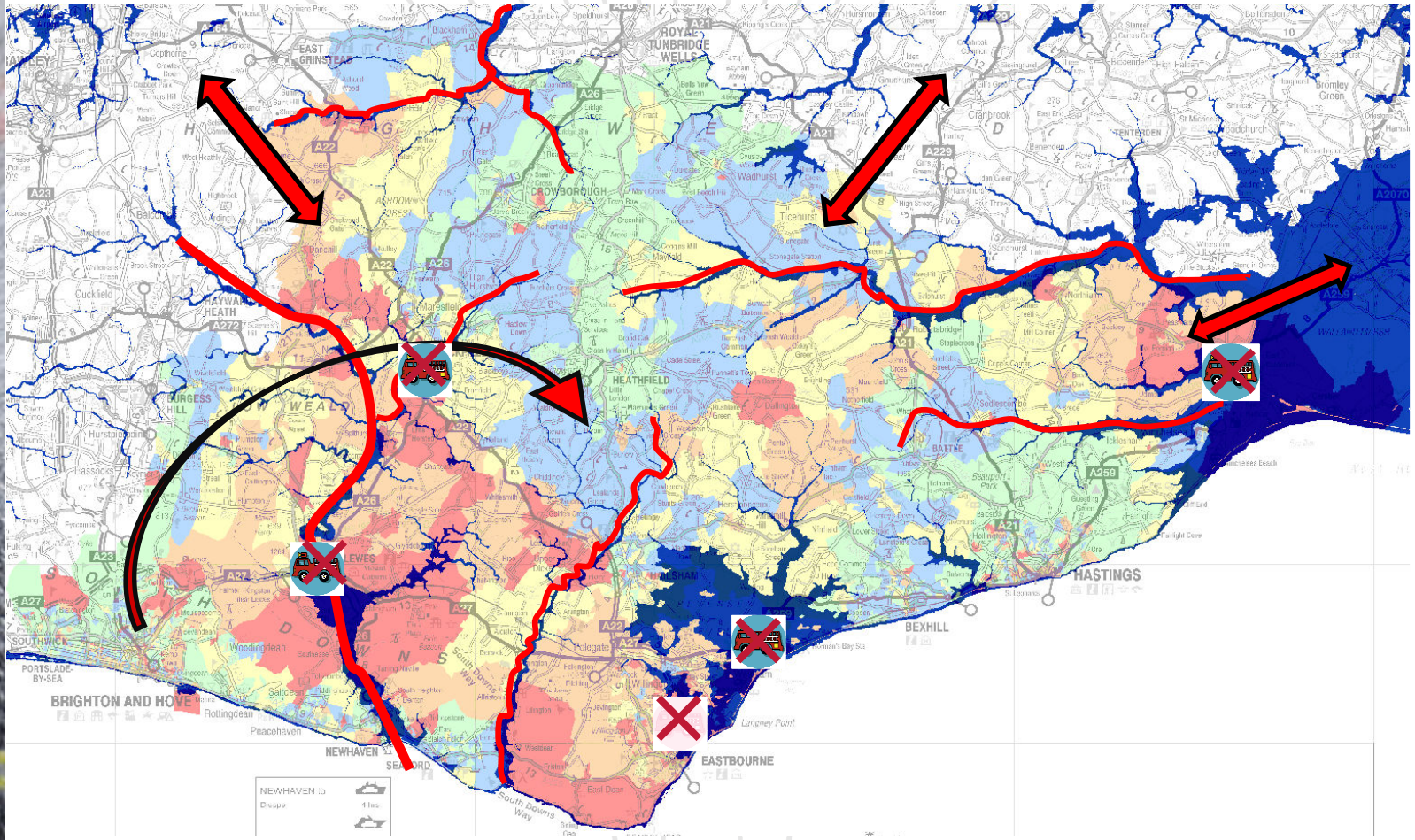


ESFRS Flood Model



That's an increase of 5.7 fatalities per yr!

Emergency Planning Considerations



Summary

The process has allowed us to:

- Quantify the risk (what, who & how much)
- Highlight consequential risks and vulnerabilities
- Identify further areas of analysis
 - Key / core stations
 - Location of resources / kit
 - Cross-border / regional response resilience



EAST NISSEY
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Summary

And so the results of Climate Change are not only embedded in the Integrated Risk Management Planning processes for East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, we are now better prepared to contribute to the delivery plans as part of the Local Area Agreement.

EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE





East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

Response to Climate Change

Questions?

**EAST SUSSEX
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

Agenda Item 21c

Climate Change Adaptation Scrutiny Panel Evidence Statement – Thurstan Crockett, Head of Sustainability & Environmental Policy

Background

I have been in my current role at Brighton & Hove City Council since November 2004. In 2005 the council signed the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change and at the same time held a city-wide Sustainability Conference on climate change. A key element of the Declaration committed the council to “preparing a plan with our local communities to address the causes and effects of climate change and to secure maximum benefit for our communities”. The conference provided a groundswell of ideas for the plan.

The Climate Change Action Plan, produce in 2006, contained a hundred actions and kick-started a wide range of projects and programmes. While very successful in many ways, it also had weaker elements, including its Adaptation section – referred to by Chris West from the UK Climate Impacts Programme in his evidence to this panel. The section covered Water, Maintaining quality of green spaces; Local development and building design; and Public Health (including Emergency Planning). This action plan is currently being reviewed and should be revised by July.

Nonetheless, the original plan began to focus the authority more on adaptation; but the focus was not reflected in the views of the c.100 city stakeholders in 2007, when only two felt adaptation should be a priority in any city climate change strategy. One of those was the late Prof John Chesshire. As the energetic chairman of the Local Government Association’s Climate Change Commission, John said in the foreword to its influential report at that time:

“We believe that tackling climate change through effective application of...mitigation and adaptation will be a key long term priority for local government....

(which) is uniquely placed to tackle climate change, with a democratic mandate for action, close proximity to citizens, and a strategic role leading other public, private and voluntary sector partners.... (But) few have systematically built carbon reduction and resilience to climate change into their organisational DNA”.

With the strongest focus still firmly on mitigation measures then, this was still true by August 2009 when the government looked at the self assessment results for National Indicator 188 Planning to Adapt to Climate Change. Of 149 Local Strategic Partnerships, 76 – or 51% - said they were still at Performance Level 0 in a scale of 0-4. I.e. the Authority

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

Some of our services are clearly ahead of this position, as you have been hearing from officer evidence. For others, the Level 0 assessment is reflected in the Corporate Risk Register for the council. The section on climate change adaptation / resilience from the current, 2nd Draft Sustainable Community Strategy for Brighton & Hove, summarises the overall current position locally:

Living with Climate Change Locally

Issues of concern

Climate change is with us here and now and will get significantly worse before (if) it gets better due to the greenhouse gas emissions already in the atmosphere and their delayed impact.

The UK Climate Impacts Programme - which leads UK scientific consensus on impacts – says the South East of England will continue to be most affected in the UK.

UKCP 09 projections show changes modelled by 2020 may well include:

- Average temperature increases of 1-1.5 degrees c.
- 5-15% less rainfall, especially in summer months, increasing the likelihood of drought.
- More extreme weather events such as very hot days, drought, storm surges, and heavy rainfall – increasing the likelihood of flooding.

Latest sea level rise predictions for this century from the world's leading climate scientists suggest 1.1 or 1.2 metres is now probable due to polar ice melting rates, rather than the half a metre previously predicted. More frequent storms and sea surges make this an increasing issue for the city and its sea defences.

The summer heat wave of 2003 was responsible for tens of thousands of heat-related deaths across Europe, but by 2020 an average summer locally may well be as hot as this. High temperatures and still weather can also lead to a build up in air pollution, mainly from vehicles and this poses health risks to the very young, old and, asthmatics.

The south east of England is in “water stress”, receiving only 690mm of rainfall per year compared to a national average of 897mm per year. Brighton & Hove has one of the highest domestic water consumption rates in the UK. The pressures on water resources are set to increase through additional demands from population growth and new housing. Greater water efficiency,

especially within existing housing stock, is essential for the sustainable management of water resources and the health of the environment.

Flooding through torrential rainfall had a serious impact on Sussex in 2000 and continues to be a major area of concern. Fears about flood and drought are not incompatible, as one feature of climate change is disruption to usual weather cycles, with more frequent extreme periods of one or other. So we need a better and sophisticated shared understanding across the city of the risks (and some opportunities) of climate change to our infrastructure and economy, our communities and our wildlife and habitats.

What has happened over the last three years

Responding to climate change is a key consideration in preparing the Core Strategy (A key document within the Local Development Framework).

Serious flooding in England in the summer of 2007 has significantly raised the profile of this issue right across local government and emergency planning.

The Sussex Resilience Forum actively monitors climate change impact risks such as flooding and heat wave and manages the Community Risk Register for the whole of Sussex. In 2007/8 it organised a Sussex-wide conference in Brighton on flooding.

A city Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was produced in March 2008 in line with national policy on development and flood risk. This should be regularly reviewed to ensure it contains the latest data, planning policy and legislation.

A major incident emergency planning exercise was held in winter 2008/9 to test planning – in this case for a tidal wave hitting the coast.

Southern Water has invested £15 million over three years in replacing 35 miles of old Victorian water mains across the city with modern piping and the leakage rate is relatively low.

Following chalk cliff falls above the Marina; the University of Brighton has developed a cliff monitoring project and with the Coastal Engineer is developing trans-national project plans with similar areas on the French coast.

The City Council's Sustainability Conference in 2006 on Water Shortage: the "Here and Now" Climate Change Issue, explored the key water resource issues and the drafting of a Water Action Plan.

A tourism stakeholders' seminar for the sector's Brighton & Hove businesses explored the threats and opportunities posed by climate change and the issue is addressed in the city's revised Tourism Strategy.

Planning has introduced sustainable building standards which require minimum levels of water performance in new development.

Current position

The government has developed new national indicators on preparedness/planning for flooding impacts and for climate change, under the Comprehensive Area Assessment. The performance of Local authorities and their partners will be measured on these. Other areas like Kent and East Sussex are ahead of us on this and we can learn from them.

The indicator on Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management focuses on local authority progress in delivering agreed actions in existing Catchment Flood Management Plans (CFMP) and Second Generation Shoreline Management Plans (SMP2).

The proportion of households with water meters in Brighton & Hove is relatively low and there are plans to change this rapidly. To all intents and purposes, non-household customers are all metered already.

Planning permission has been granted for a wastewater treatment works at Peacehaven.

Introduced sustainable building standards through Planning which require minimum levels of water performance in new development through the Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM.

Compulsory water metering is to be introduced - Southern Water's draft water resource management plan outlines plans to achieve water metering of 90% of all households by 2015.

What we plan to do

Complete a council scrutiny inquiry into the city's preparedness and planning for climate change to identify any areas of weakness and actions required.

Develop a Local climate Impacts Profile to determine the impact on key services of recent major weather incidents. Use these with the UKCP 09 projections to develop a detailed risk assessment and mitigation programme.

Seek through the planning system to deliver development adaptable to climate change; mitigating against urban heat island effect through green & bio diverse developments; delivering the highest standards in water efficiency and exploring feasibility of rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling; providing sustainable drainage systems; and maximising passive heating and cooling.

Include an Adapting to Climate Change section in the city's revised Climate Change Action Plan, drawing on the recommendations of the scrutiny inquiry and following the nationally agreed process.

Continue to work with Southern Water to ensure appropriate wastewater treatment

Develop a joint project on chalk cliff erosion with the University of Le Havre and the local council.

Incorporate policies in the new core Strategy which address climate change adaptation and climate-proof design such as greening of buildings and rainfall attenuation to mitigate against flooding.

Adopt the Core Strategy incorporating requirements for climate-proofing in design and more urban biodiversity & tree-planting by developers to counter the “heat island” effect.

Adaptation

Our climate is already changing and whatever we do to mitigate future effects of climate change by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, we are locked into a system where our emissions 30 years ago are affecting our climate today. Therefore, using scenarios for the future, we need to begin planning on how we can adapt to the changes in climate that have been predicted.

The Nottingham Declaration commits us to working “with key providers, including the health community, businesses and development organisations, to assess the potential effects of climate change on our communities, and to identify ways in which we can adapt”.

Water

Water supply will be erratic due to our changing climate, so whilst we need to reduce our demand of the finite resource, especially as droughts are likely to become more common, we also need to make sure we are prepared for the times of the year when excess water may cause problems.

Maintaining quality of green spaces

Climate change will have an impact on our natural environment that we can begin to prepare for now e.g. in our plans for the type of vegetation we plant.

Local development and building design

The Local Development Framework, a new way of delivering planning, is adaptable to changes to ensure that our latest knowledge on climate change can be incorporated into documents in the plan.

Public health

The Department for Health identifies a number of climate-related health issues which this action plan begins to address. This is an area where work with our partners in the health trusts will be crucial.

No.	Action	SMART Target	Lead Team	Partners	Resource
Water					
A1	Reduce water use in council buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor water usage patterns in council buildings to control / prevent excessive leakages - 5% reduction in water wastage by December 2006 Formalise water audit and recommendations by April 2006 Implement appropriate water saving measures by December 2006 	Property & Design Housing & City Support	All directorates Team Q (Council's energy consultant)	Unknown - pending investigation. No identified resources. Actions need to be prioritised and potential funding streams identified for possible bids / grants etc.
A2	Encourage public to have more environmentally friendly gardens, reducing need for watering, and reduce use on allotments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek approval from 'In Bloom' committee for a new category in competition for an environmentally friendly garden Switch to self watering hanging baskets from 2006 Stock drought resistant plants, appropriately labelled at Stanmer Nursery from April 2006 Install a demonstration bed at Stanmer demonstrating drought tolerant plants by July 2006 	City Parks	In Bloom committee	TBC
A3	Improve water supply and retention to trees in order to reduce impacts of warmer summers and droughts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review planting method and early maintenance of trees by 2006/07 planting season Small scale trials commenced 2005 - Arboriculture/Highway liaison to continue in 2006 to appraise alternative materials to tarmac around trees. 	City Parks	Highways	TBC

A4	Research and set baseline water consumption data for a typical building, against which to measure new build, or develop a calculation methodology	By 2008 - On publication of Sustainable Building Design SPD	Planning Strategy and Projects		To be resourced within existing budgets
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A5	Complete Planning Advice note on grey water recycling, Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, rain water recycling and water conservation	By 2008 - On publication of Sustainable Building Design SPD	Planning Strategy and Projects		To be resourced within existing budgets
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Emergency Planning

A6	Monitoring and evaluation of bouts of severe weather are undertaken by the Meteorological Office who notify local authorities and others when there is the likelihood of the event occurring. The City Emergency Planning Team activate local plans both for emergency response and business continuity on receipt of these warnings. These plans are reviewed and updated as required, and follow guidance given by Central Government. For longer term problems plans, are in place to set up command structures and operations to mitigate and minimise the impact of severe weather on the city, this is done in conjunction with other partner organisations.	Review and adapt plans by Dec 2006	Public Safety - Civil Contingencies Team		From within current budgets
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Open Spaces		Review work hours of manual staff and availability of resources and equipment for winter work programmes by April 2006, and review every 4 years thereafter.	City Parks	Assess implications once review and changes in growing season are known
A7	Adapt maintenance programmes for parks and open spaces to changes in the growth patterns of plants			
A8	Identify impacts of higher temperatures on species selection for tree planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop large scale planting of beech on Downland sites, as of 2005 Identify changes to species selection policy by December 2006 	City Parks	To be resourced within existing budgets
A9	Develop systems to deal with the increased threat to plants of pests, pathogens and diseases.	Create incident response & monitoring system by end of 2007	City Parks	To be resourced within existing budgets
A10	Give advice to farmers on changes in farming practice to prevent flooding.	Ensure that this issue is covered in the Downlands Initiative by June 2006	City Parks	To be resourced within existing budgets
A11	Plan for impacts of climate change on species and habitat conservation and migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arboriculture section and Ecologist to be consulted on all significant 50 plus tree planting schemes to advise on site and species selection from January 2006 Incorporate for south to north slope migration of plants in Downland conservation / restoration plans and Downland Initiative by June 2006 	City Parks	To be resourced within existing budgets
			Friends Groups Countrywide Agency English Nature Smiths Gore (councils farmland property manager) Farm Forum	

	By 2007	Planning Strategy and Projects	Quality of life & Open Spaces	To be resourced within existing budgets
A12	Consult on a green infrastructure network in Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy and incorporation of identifiable sites in the Allocations Development Plan Document			
Local Development and Building Design				
	Consult on options for living	By 2008	Planning Strategy and Projects	To be resourced within existing budgets
A13	roofs and walls in the LDF which are compatible with encouraging SUDS and renewable energy	- In Nature Conservation SPD and Sustainable Building Design SPD		
	Future proof the LDF, taking into account climate change including actions to support passive cooling in buildings, SUDS and permeable surfaces, subsidence, flooding, landscaping and cliff erosion	By 2008	Planning Strategy and Projects	To be resourced within existing budgets
A14				
	Revise coastal zone policy through the LDF to take into account the revised shoreline management plan	By 2007	Planning Strategy and Projects	To be resourced within existing budgets
A15				
Public health				
	Continue with risk based priority inspection programme of businesses to meet the threat from a projected increase in food poisoning	Complete risk based priority inspection programme of 2857 businesses by March 2006	Environmental Health and Licensing	To be resourced within existing budgets
A16				

A17	<p>Monitor air pollution and raise awareness about changes in health risks resulting from climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Action Plan to be completed by March 2006 • Work with Hove Park and Dorothy Stringer schools to bring air quality into the school curriculum in 2006 • Sussex Air Quality Steering Group (SUSSEXair) to develop information for vulnerable people on air quality issues which will be exacerbated by climate change, by Sept 2006 • SUSSEXair launched airALERT service for asthma sufferers in July 2006. 	<p>Environmental Health and Licensing</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport Sussex Air Quality Steering Group</p>	<p>To be resourced within existing budgets Funding to be secured</p>
A18	<p>Plant trees to provide shaded areas and run a small scale trial of palm trees on the seafront</p>	<p>An initial trial planting of palms at the exposed coastal fringe is scheduled for 2006</p>	<p>City Parks</p>	<p>Countryside Service</p>	<p>TBC – conditional on availability of funds to plant and maintain new trees and results of seafront trial</p>
A19	<p>Review of planning policies in the LDF to ensure shade on the seafront can be positively promoted, as a health measure</p>	<p>By 2007</p>	<p>Planning Strategy and Projects</p>		<p>To be resourced within existing budgets</p>

Agenda Item 21e

Brighton & Hove City Council Scrutiny Panel on Climate Change Adaptation

Date : 1ST February

Subject : How is the Council through its Property Services preparing for Climate Change and in particular adaptation.

Report : Assistant Director, Property & Design

Our Climate is already changing and whatever we do to mitigate future effects of climate change by reducing our greenhouse gas emissions our emissions 30 years ago are affecting our climate. Along with increased temperatures and changes to weather patterns the UK will have to endure the issue of rising sea levels.

Rising to the challenge

To deal with the risks and understand the opportunities, the Council is :

- raising awareness of the potential impact of climate change so that all of us can begin to think about how we need to respond;
- prioritising decisions that have long-term effects, for example, investment in water, energy and communications infrastructure that will have a long life span;
- taking action early where the benefits clearly outweigh the costs. Some changes which can be made within the space of one or two years – such as supporting agriculture or providing shade in playgrounds need not be done now.

What are we doing to adapt to a changing climate

Buildings

Buildings will need to withstand more frequent extreme weather events from gale force wind and excessive rain to extreme heat. Buildings are designed to manage and reduce energy demands in winter for heating and summer for cooling. Air conditioning exacerbates climate change, unless powered by renewable sources. Designing new buildings or refurbishing old ones to make them climate resilient is more cost-effective than making changes later.

Property promotes sustainable designs for refurbishments and new build extensions.

For example sustainable designs for the Primary Capital Programme incorporate ground source heat pumps for space heating, photovoltaic and solar panels on the roof to heat hot water, rainwater harvesting, passive ventilation and sedum roofs. Projects containing these features - Longhill School, PeterGladwin, Balfour and Davigdor infants extensions.

Accommodation Strategy

Rationalisation of office accommodation through the promotion of new ways of working and technological solutions will enable a more flexible mobile work force and the reduction of our office buildings. This will enable sustainable staff travel plans and enable home working in times of adverse weather conditions like the recent weeks of snow. We can also lead by example in terms of water reduction and energy savings in our buildings and similar.

Communities

Ensure a fair deal for communities and in particular the vulnerable, by helping people now, as well as in the future;

For example, older people and children are more vulnerable to heatwaves, so heatwave plans include easy to follow advice that people can use to keep cool in their residents, have maintenance regimes in place with support advice for building managers and carers. Residential Homes ,Childrens Centres – Roundabout Children Centre.

Major Construction Sites

Adaptation Plans need to be produced in areas that will focus on the activities likely to be significantly affected by climate change and which will therefore require action such as major construction projects. Areas could also work on their plans for reducing greenhouse gases and will need to develop their adaptation plans alongside these. Property plays a leadership role in influencing strategic disposals and developments of sites through partnership working. Jubilee Library, Falmer Academy, New Brighton Centre.

Agriculture and the Natural Environment

Our agricultural estate has been reviewed to secure more sustainable management of the Downland surrounding our City. The Council's Downland Initiative strategy aims to "reconnect the people of Brighton & Hove to a more diverse Downland with better education, improved access and a better sense of connection to the land." We are working with our farmers to protect our natural environment and to support biodiversity and allow people to enjoy our countryside. For example improved access, set aside - enhanced habitats, grassland areas, high level entry schemes replacing Environmental Sensitive Areas.

Flooding

Advice to farmers on changes in farming practices to prevent flooding. Changes to farmers Agricultural Act Tenancies – eg Bevendean Farm to reflect the areas vulnerable to flooding and ensure that crop rotation and set aside regimes are in place. Ploughing advice and restrictions are in place and monitored.

City's Water Supply Protection

We are working in partnership with the Environment Agency, Southern Water and the South Down Joint Committee to protect the City's water supply.

Brighton & Hove City Council

Climate Change Scrutiny Panel

Monday 1 February 2010.

**Contribution from Robin Humphries, Civil Contingencies Manager,
Brighton & Hove City Council.**

My Role

The newly created post of Civil Contingencies Manager encompasses two roles, formerly known as Emergency Planning and Business Continuity.

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 places a statutory duty upon councils to plan and prepare for 'emergencies' that may affect their area. The term 'emergencies' is defined in the act, which deviates from the traditional meaning of the word.

The act encourages co-operation, partnership approaches, and joint working to ensure maximum use is made of available resources before, during, and after an 'emergency'.

The role of the Civil Contingencies Team is to ensure that all these 'encouragements' are in place for the city.

To do this we need to look outside our boundaries;

- A significant incident affecting Gatwick Airport
- Flooding in East or West Sussex
- Evacuation of parts of London
- Any other incident;

may all impact upon our city.

The Sussex Resilience Forum

To achieve this, the act sets up 'Local Resilience Forums' based on policing areas. The Sussex Resilience Forum meets on a regular basis, meeting at Chief Officer/Chief Executive level brings together all Category 1 and 2 Responders in East and West Sussex and Brighton & Hove (Category 1 and 2 Responders are defined in the act).

Below this are a series of working groups tasked with specific actions targeted at the type of incident defined as a high risk.

We are represented on all the groups where the threat is considered significant to this City, they include:

- Pandemic Influenza
- Fuel shortages
- Coastal pollution
- Severe Weather

Severe Weather Group

This committee will be concerned with the Severe Weather work-stream so I will explain this in more detail.

The group is chaired by the Environment Agency and includes representatives from all the Emergency Services, the Met Office, and Local Authorities, and Health.

Primarily focused on the response to severe weather events, rather than climate change, the group plans the county-wide response to extremes of:

- Heat
- Cold
- Rain
- Snow
- Wind
- Fog
- Drought
- Flooding

To give an example, the planning for heat would not only include a short spell of temperatures up to 35c, but also where rail lines would buckle, road surfaces melt, increased admission to hospitals with respiratory problems etc.

Prevention is not a real option; however for all of these events there is considerable scope to mitigate the impact. Good communications, warning and informing and having robust response plans are vital.

Local arrangements

Having identified the resources required to achieve this mitigation the next task is to ensure that this council has in place the processes and equipment to deliver our part of the response.

This is achieved in two ways:

- Internally through our Emergency Response Team (MIST) where key managers meet on a regular basis to exercise the plans and discuss options and roles

and

- Externally through our local Brighton & Hove Resilience Group which brings together local responders and key players in the City with Emergency Planning, Business Continuity or Safety responsibilities.

For climate change we review the levels of 'extreme' making internal and external recommendations where appropriate.

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