

APPENDIX 2

Appendix 2: More information on NI188, planning to adapt to climate change

SUMMARY OF LCLIP ACTIVITY AGAINST STUDY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES SET

<u>1.2.1 Aims of Herefordshire Councils Local Climate Impacts Profile:</u>	
To raise awareness of the impacts of extreme weather events as well as climate change in the wider context	Further work with managers needed in order to get issue integrated into future planning. Document mentioned as part of Business Continuity seminar in January 2008.
To assess the impacts of such events on the authority both from an operational and financial point of view	Undertaken as part of LCLIP for a sample of 6 events
To highlight these impacts in relation to future climate change scenarios	Requires further work with managers and meteorological data
To provide information and data that will help to inform future response to significant weather events and to help form effective adaptation/response strategies to them	Done - will need updating when the new UKCIP scenarios are released.
<u>1.2.2 Objectives:</u>	
To produce a catalogue of all significant weather events that have affected Herefordshire from April 1998 to April 2008 (Appendix A)	Done. Need to identify service to keep this database up to date.
To establish with key council personnel how their area was affected and how we may respond better in the future (Section 3)	Done
To highlight the cost and impacts of such events (Section 3)	Done as far as data allowed
To compare the events that have affected the authority to UKCIP02 scenarios (until UKCIP08 is published)	Not yet undertaken.
To identify some meteorological thresholds for response to such events	Requires input from other services
To produce recommendations that can be acted on by the authority to form the basis for increasing the authority's performance in respect to National Indicator 188 from level 0 to level 1 (Section 7)	Recommendations collected from interviewees but not yet actioned. These now need to be prioritised and adopted by lead services.

The information below is from the national guidance on this indicator.

1. As set out in the technical definition, we are looking for year on year improvement for this indicator. How far an LAA progresses each year will largely be dependent on local circumstances, but we are expecting the levels to be agreed to reflect the requirements of the LAA. As a minimum we are expecting 1 level per year but depending on circumstances, this could mean achieving 2 levels within a year.

2. A key part of this indicator will be around leadership and innovation in adaptation.

Leadership

Local authorities play a key role as community leaders and we want to encourage leadership in adaptation. As part of this indicator this could involve activities such as:

- Leading the establishment of an MAA(s) on adaptation
- Setting up, chairing or participating in adaptation networks or groups on common issues including LSP partners and other relevant bodies
- Presenting at conferences, workshops and other events to share knowledge and experience
- Pooling and transferring skills
- Undertaking research on specific issues and sharing the findings
- Securing the engagement of the private sector e.g. local business associations
- Building skills capacity on adaptation within the local authority and partners
- Promoting adaptation beyond the locality e.g. regionally, through a Beacon Council type initiative etc
- Working with local communities to promote adaptation e.g. small businesses

Innovation

As adaptation is at an early stage, we want to encourage innovation in both assessment of climate risks and opportunities and in the measures that are taken to adapt. As part of the indicator this could involve activities such as:

- Commissioning or undertaking research or other projects to help inform the adaptation impacts in their area (linking with local universities, research organisations and consultancies)
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What does Level 0 look like ?

The baseline is about recognising and pulling together existing sources of risk assessment and adaptation related planning E.g. a community risk register, water resources plans, any existing coastal/flood risk management plans, climate change strategies, planning assessments, and identifying how and who will take the process forward.

At a basic level, this will be identifying a lead official, having discussions in the area as to how to approach 188 in partnership, and compiling a list of the documents that will support the risk assessment at the next stage.

Level 1: Public commitment and prioritised risk-based assessment:

What does Level 1 look like ?

The LAA has made a public commitment either through the Nottingham Declaration or an equivalent to managing the risks of climate change. Council leaders and senior management are aware of the commitment and the developing adaptation programme.

The aim at this stage will be to identify those vulnerabilities and opportunities that are significant to the LAA in order to prioritise its adaptation responses. This is likely to be some form of local climate impacts profile or an equivalent process.

The LA/LSP should be able to demonstrate that it has undertaken an impact assessment including both impacts covered by its existing risk management systems (e.g. flood risk plans, community risk registers etc) and the identification of new or emerging risks arising from projected climate changes.

We are aiming for adaptation to be embedded across all services although at this stage we are looking at prioritised assessment. Therefore, the LAA should be able to demonstrate that the vulnerabilities have been identified and these have been communicated to all relevant departmental/service heads.