Climate Ready

Scotland



Land use and planning

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Planning and development decisions are often long term investments that will only be cost-effective if climate proofed. The impacts of climate change, including increased flood risk, are being taken into account as part of an ongoing review of Scotland's planning system which will increase the role of sustainability and adaptation.

Action is underway to develop and implement adaptation planning. In rural communities the Scottish Rural Development Programme and local partnership projects are supporting land management practices and creating habitats that can help reduce the risk of impacts such as flooding.

Adaptation partnership initiatives, strategies and plans are underway in the Glasgow City Region, Edinburgh and Aberdeen and are bringing organisations and communities together to increase understanding of climate impacts and identify actions that will ensure that Scotland's major urban centres are climate ready.

Green and blue infrastructure is at the heart of Scotland's adaptation response helping to improve surface water management and the health of the natural and historic environment. It also helps connecting people and places, and encourages walking, cycling and enjoyment of the natural environment.



Flood risk management planning

How we plan for and manage our flood risk has far reaching consequences for Scotland's communities. Scotland's first ever Flood Risk Management Strategies and Local Flood Risk Management Plans cover all of Scotland and have been developed to reduce the devastating and costly impact of flooding.

The strategies take account of the potential implications of climate change on rainfall and sea levels, and focus resources where the risk of flooding and benefits of investment are greatest. The plans take this information and provide details on how and when actions will be delivered locally.

What we have achieved

- 14 new flood warning schemes have been prioritised for delivery by 2021, three of those are now live
- Local authority Flood Risk Management Plans covering all of Scotland, based on the strategies

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National Coastal Change Assessment

Rising sea level and increased impact of storms are set to affect Scotland's coastline, its people and assets.

The National Coastal Change Assessment (NCCA) will map the position of the soft shoreline since 1890 and evaluate its erodibility. Areas of recent erosion are projected forward to 2050, to provide indicative figures of the natural and built assets at risk.

Scotland's coastal assets are concentrated on the soft coast which is dynamic and at greater risk from climate change.

What we will achieve

- A publicly available evidence base with 18 summary reports and web based maps
- A reliable overview for agencies and local authorities of the risk posed by erosion of our coastline.
- Support for a proactive, evidence-based and planled approach to future coastal change

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North Glasgow Integrated Water Management System

The North Glasgow Integrated Water Management System will provide surface water drainage and flood storage through dynamically managing the water level in the canal. Multi-functional green-blue fingers will extend from the canal into Water Management Areas (WMAs) to regenerate areas for mixed tenure housing, education facilities and business space. In addition, these fingers will provide biodiversity corridors, and access routes to the canal for people who live in the communities along the canal.

What we have achieved

- Surface water management for ca. 100ha
- 42,750m3 of storm water storage
- Reducing flood risk to nationally important transport infrastructure
- Diverting rainwater from combined sewage network reducing overspill risk and improving biodiversity
- Urban cooling

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Edinburgh Adapts

The Edinburgh Adapts Action Plan runs from 2016-2020 and contains over 100 committed adaptation actions. The Vision looks even further; setting out the project partners' adaptation aims for 2025 and 2050.

The documents have been developed by 50 partner organisations representing all sectors across the city. This supports them in working collaboratively to overcome climate challenges.

The project aims to protect and enhance Edinburgh's wildlife and green spaces, providing nature-based solutions to climate-related problems. It raises awareness of adaptation challenges facing the city's UNESCO World Heritage site, and works with local communities.

What we have achieved

- Adaptation is being mainstreamed across policy areas from the open space strategy to the management of the World Heritage Site
- New evidence on topics such as coastal change is being widely shared, debated and acted upon
- Researchers and policy makers are collaborating and innovating, exploring new adaptation solutions and pushing the boundaries of research and practice

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Aberdeen Adapts

The City of Aberdeen is taking a strong, proactive approach to adaptation by involving young people, businesses, communities and organisations in shaping the city's first climate adaptation strategy.

'Aberdeen adapts' is being developed through schools workshops, an arts festival, business engagement, student projects and sector specific workshops, and engaging people across the city.

The resulting strategy will reflect this wide range of views and help increase understanding of the adaptation challenges and opportunities facing Aberdeen.

What we have achieved

- Developing creative and inclusive ways of helping people to understand climate impacts and have a say in how the city should adapt.
- The approach will help build momentum and support for leadership and action.

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