



Supporting Local Adaptation: Examples from the UK and Canada

Wednesday, 05th December 2018



Local Governments in the UK

- Responsible for a significant number of risks and adaptation actions – flood management, civil contingencies and planning
- Statutory requirements for local planning authorities to include policies in their local plan designed to contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
- Include local government functions, freedoms and flexibilities as well as responsibilities and governance.
- UK government engages on adaptation with councils, including the availability of tools and guidance, via different forums, or groups
 - Local Adaptation Advisory Panel, the Core Cities group and the Local Government Association
 - Reflect in development of the National Adaptation Programme



Local Governments in the UK



Challenges:

- Resources squeezed due to pressures on local budgets
- Resilience projects – focus on flood risk management, and tend to address immediate issues
- Relative priority of climate change in the land-use planning system
 - Land-use planning and building controls are crucial in shaping local action to prepare for climate change

UK cities pressing ahead with action on climate change

- Ensure urban centres can manage climate change impacts – ensure our cities are healthier and more sustainable places to live.
- Flood risk management, sustainable transport, water efficiency, green infrastructure, energy efficiency and use of low-carbon energy.
- The Committee on Climate Change (Adaptation Sub-Committee) – define expected long-term climate change outcomes for cities





Recognising and Building on Networks

Schemes such as Core cities, 100 Resilient Cities, UK100, London Environment Strategy and Leeds Climate Commission – examples of those who are pushing the envelope.

Recognising / awarding action by local governments

- Derry City and Strabane District Council (DCSDC) won an Environmental Sustainability Award at the NI Local Government Awards.
- Recognised the council's innovative approach to climate change adaptation – developing the first local authority adaptation plan in Northern Ireland.

Information on adaptation in the context of local authorities is available from others:

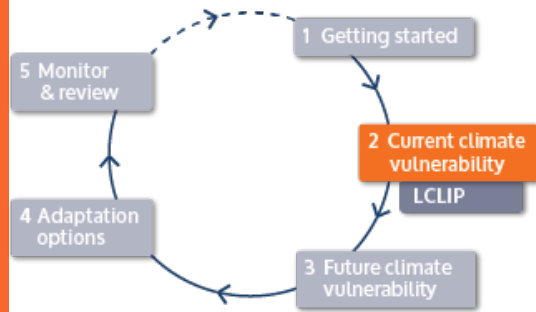
- ICLEI – Adaptation Database and Planning Tool
- RESIN – Climate Resilient Cities and Infrastructure
 - Practical and applicable tools to support cities in designing and implementing climate adaptation strategies for their local contexts



Local Climate Impacts Profile

Simple tool originally designed specifically for use by municipalities and local authorities

- Describes the impacts of recent weather events and identifies the relationships between these events and service delivery.
- Establishes the extent of damaging impacts on service delivery, staff resources, finances and reputation.
- Using this information, the local authority identifies vulnerable areas and is able to plan how to tackle them.



Current vulnerability can be a powerful catalyst to further awareness and action on preparing for climate change

<https://www.ukcip.org.uk/wizard/current-climate-vulnerability/lclip/>



LONDON
climate change
PARTNERSHIP

Vision: London will become the most climate-resilient city in the world. London's people, infrastructure and systems are adapting dynamically to its changing climate, and its economy is reaping the rewards of being a world leader in this field.

London Climate Change Partnership

- Centre of expertise on climate change adaptation and resilience to extreme weather in London (2002)

Mission : bring together and coordinate public, private and community sector organisations to prepare London for extreme weather today and climate change in the future by:

- Collecting and sharing high quality information about expected climate change, its impacts and examples of suitable actions to adopt, including where appropriate commissioning research
- Raising awareness and equipping people with the information they need to adapt
- Driving forward adaptation in London through member organisations, leading by example, and acting as sector champions.
- Informing policy with local evidence
- Monitoring how prepared London is for climate change

<http://climatelondon.org/lccp/>



Climate Ready Clyde – Scotland

- A 3 year, initiative to support Glasgow City Region to meet the challenges of changing rainfall, and rising temperatures and seas.
- Aims to build a shared understanding across public, private and voluntary sector of climate risks and opportunities, and collaborate to implement actions and share responsibility.

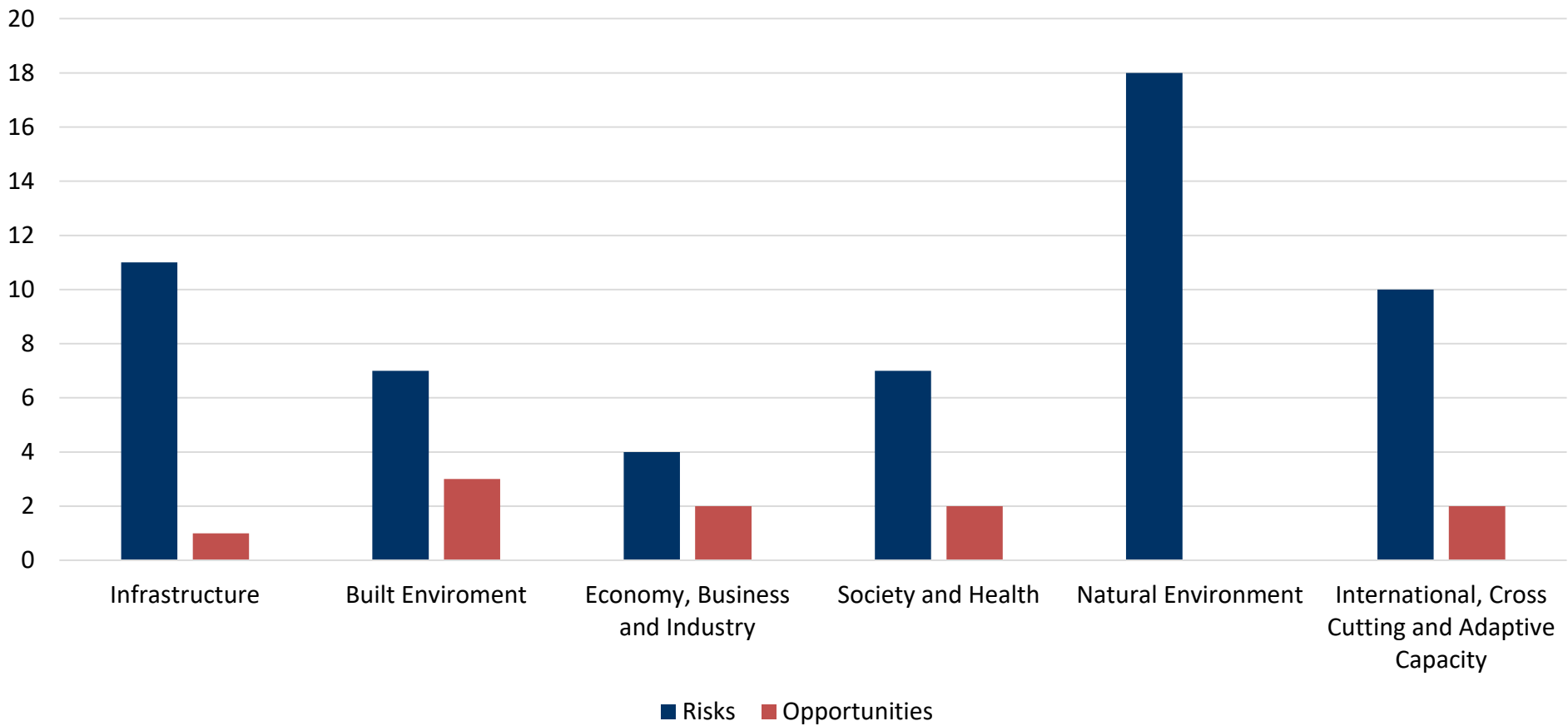
- Two key drivers

- s44 Climate change (Scotland) Act – individual public bodies duty to adapt to climate change (covers majority of partners)
- Climate Change Act 2008 – Adaptation reporting power, covering infrastructure providers



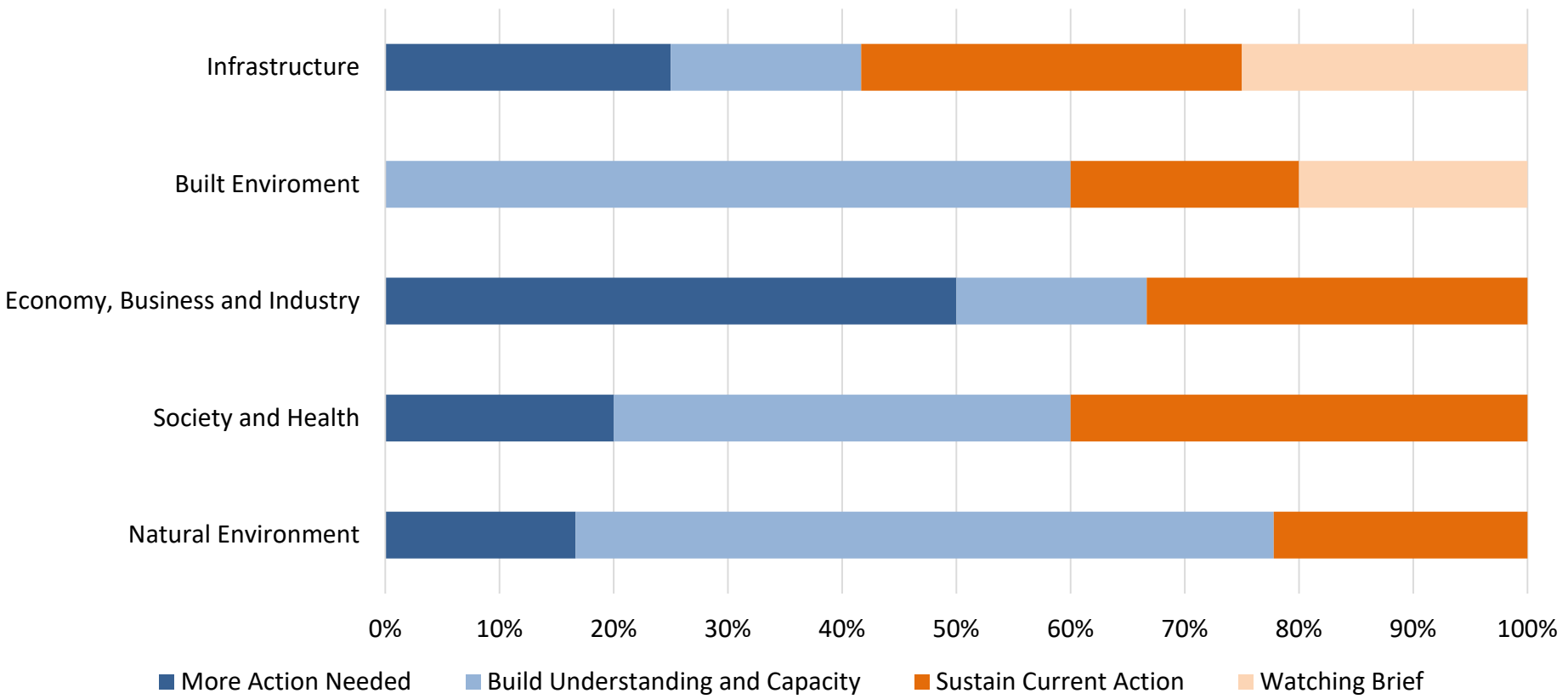


Climate change risks and opportunities for Glasgow City Region by theme





Climate Risk and Opportunity scores by category





Information on adaptation in the context of local authorities

A continuing focus for adaptation:

Mayors Adapt – Covenant of Mayors

- Template aims to assist signatories in presenting and structuring their adaptation strategy and action plan as well as tracking their implementation progress (e.g. Are you on the right track? What needs readjusting?).

ISO 14092 – look for this in late 2019

- Requirements and guidance on adaptation planning for local governments and communities

RESIN – interdisciplinary, practice-based research project investigating climate resilience in European cities

- Approach based on co-creation and knowledge brokerage between cities and researchers
- Develop an innovative, holistic approach that takes into account all of the core elements of the urban system
- Tools and resources to support and inform adaptation

https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/IMG/pdf/Mayors-Adapt_Reporting_Guidelines.pdf

<http://www.resin-cities.eu/home/our-aim/>



Edinburgh Adapts

- A joint initiative between Adaptation Scotland and the Edinburgh Sustainable Development Partnership (ESDP).
- Spring 2015, Adaptation Scotland supported the ESDP in co-developing a framework to support Edinburgh's adaptation journey.
- Started by setting up a Task Group of ESDP members to help design a set of engagement activities
 - Series of five stakeholder workshops and additional one-to-one meetings, engaging over fifty stakeholders from businesses, public agencies and community organisations
- First Adaptation Action Plan and Vision (December 2016).
- Progress on plan and further adaptation engagement is now directed by a dedicated Steering Group, with members drawn from across key city organisations.

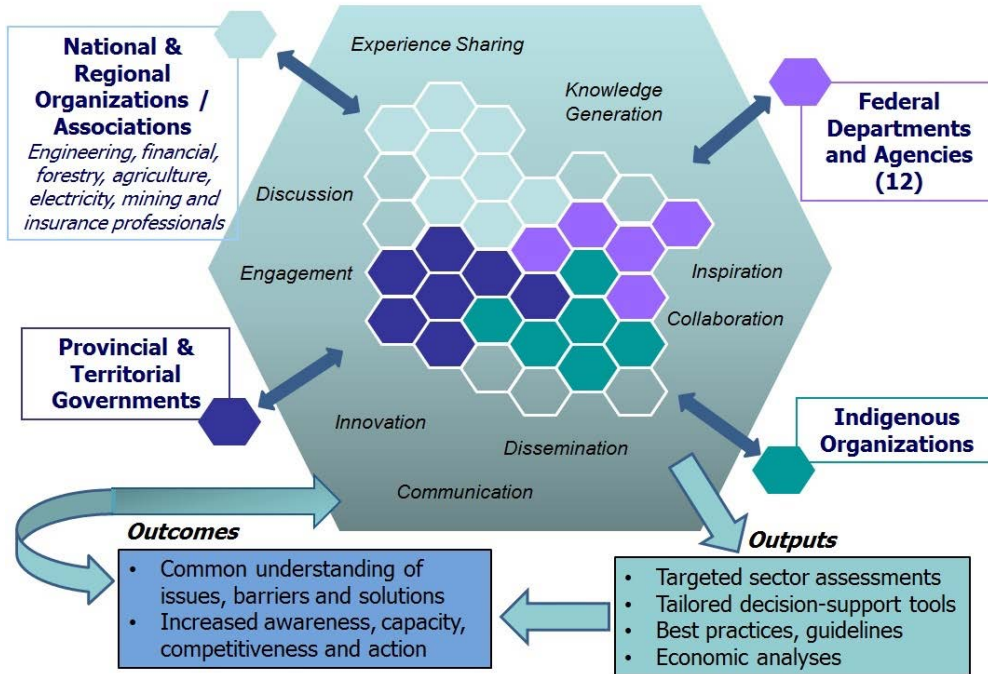
<https://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/how-adapt/case-studies/developing-city-wide-adaptation-vision-and-action-plan>

[https://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/application/files/5514/7940/1819/Edinburgh Adapts Adaptation Action Plan Final For Web.pdf](https://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/application/files/5514/7940/1819/Edinburgh_Adapts_Adaptation_Action_Plan_Final_For_Web.pdf)



Canada – National Adaptation Platform

Canada's Climate Change Adaptation Platform



- Established in 2012 bring together key groups to collaborate on CCA priorities.
- Aims to create an enabling environment for adaptation, where decision-makers in regions and industry are equipped

with the tools and information they need to adapt to a changing climate

- Plenary (the governing body), a series of subject-matter specific Working Groups and a Secretariat



Working Group on Enhancing uptake and use of resources

<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/environment/impacts-adaptation/adaptation-platform/17176#tab-m>

Making Strides on Community Adaptation: Using existing resources to move from planning to action on climate change

The climate-resilience Express Action Kit – Kick starting adaptation in smaller Alberta Municipalities



UKCIP



Making Strides on Community Adaptation: Using existing resources to move from planning to action

<http://www.icleicanada.org/component/k2/item/244-making-strides-on-community-adaptation>

Seven recommendations and case study examples of accessible strategies designed to address common constraints to implementing adaptation actions:

- Use an integrated implementation approach
- Start with simple solutions
- Seek out win-win actions, those with multiple benefits
- Multi-institutional and with multiple stakeholders
- Set out monitoring and measuring plans early
- Mainstream financial aspects of implementation
- Integrate into existing frameworks and operations..



Climate-resilience Express Action Kit

Remove barriers to adaptation and thereby kick-start action by smaller municipalities

<http://www.mccac.ca/resources/climate-resilience-express>

- A flexible, workshop-based approach and accompanying resources to help communities answer the following questions:
- Why do we need to plan now for the impacts of climate change on our community?
- How is the climate and natural environment in our region projected to change in the future?
- How will these changes impact our local economy, critical infrastructure and services, property, and the health and lifestyles of residents?
- How can our community prepare for these changes and ensure important impacts are managed in an effective and timely manner?