



WLGA • CLILC

Planning and Climate Change

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Overview

- WAG priorities
- Climate Change policy
- Climate Change MIPPS
- SD and Planning
- Key questions



WAG Priorities

- New Minister – Three key areas
 - Affordable Housing – Target 6,500 houses – implications?
 - Access – ROWIPs, coastal path, access statements (design)
 - Climate Change



Impacts

For Wales, the main impacts by 2080 will be:

A longer growing season - Milder wetter winters - Drier hotter summers -
Increases in extremes of heat, and decreases in extremes of cold - Warmer
seas and sea level rise of up to 100cm - More extreme events (droughts, heat
waves, flooding) - More frequent and more violent storms/gales

These predictions suggest major environmental risks for Wales, which include:

- Increased flood risk to our rivers and coasts
- Land erosion
- Inadequate drainage and sewerage systems
- Drier soils and subsidence
- Significant habitat and species changes
- Water quality issues in rivers and lakes
- Greater incidence of drought and problems with water supply;
- Lower air quality
- Acidification in our seas



Impacts

Economic and social impacts will also be significant, for example:

- Higher incidence of mortality from storm events, heat waves, skin cancer
- Reduced energy demand in winter, but increased demand in summer.
- An increased prevalence of insect and water borne disease.
- Vulnerability of transport, waste and energy infrastructure
- Increases in demand for depleted water supplies
- Increased costs for irrigation and the crops it supports
- Increased costs for insurance and decreased property values
- Increased risk of forest and heathland fires
- Changed agricultural practices for food and biomass crops
- A changed Welsh landscape Growth in tourism due to warmer weather;
- Renewable energy generation infrastructure (wind, tidal and solar)



Climate Change Policy

- Science taken as 'read' - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says climate change is "unequivocal" and may bring "abrupt and irreversible" impacts.
- Carbon reduction target – 3% targets
- Zero carbon by 2011 - Devolution of Building Regulations
- Climate Change Bill – statutory targets
- Climate Change Commission



Climate Change Policy

- TAN 8 – targets revised upwards (2010)
- Microgeneration consultation (action plan)
- Statutory design statements - pilots
- WAG “Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy for Wales
- Proposal for a Government Legislative Competence Order relating to Environmental Protection and Waste Management



Changing Climate Changing Places

WLGA joint project – CCW, EA and UKCIP

- develop more integrated strategic planning for adaptation and mitigation at a local level including for individual service areas
- achieve a greater understanding of likely impacts and level of risk
- share data and information to inform decision-making
- use specialist local and scientific knowledge to inform policy and practice
- ‘climate proof’ strategy and practice for key issues like flood risk and water resource management, spatial planning and consider how service areas like education and social services will need to respond to the changing climate and the new challenges this will bring
- ensure communities become aware of the adaptation agenda and their role in mitigation
- identify knowledge gaps and research needs to inform future climate change adaptation
- develop understanding among decision makers, policy officers and members of climate change adaptation and its impacts on strategy and service delivery.



Climate Change MIPPs

- Toolbox of planning interventions
- Take immediate effect on emerging LDP's
- Amend PPW throughout
- Sets out case for action
- Links closely to SD commitment



Climate Change MIPPs

- Key issues for LDP's – considerations for new development/land uses - Strengthen the need to consider sustainability and climate change in new build (including renewable energy generation technologies and low carbon building).
- Key issues for the design of buildings - Require local planning authorities to include climate change mitigation and adaptation in their LDP.



SD and Planning

- Joint project EA, CCW, WAG, POSW and WLGA.
- Review 'SD' policy across WAG and distil out the land use implications of that – what can be done through planning.
- Themes include;
 - Sustainable energy, water, resources, economy
 - biodiversity, health and well being, place making
 - supporting communities, sustainable transport
- Implementation;
 - DC checklist
 - Monitoring



Conclusions

- Planning must respond coherently to this agenda as part of the corporate response
- Spatial Plan refresh – implications/material considerations
- Local Government will be asked to deliver more in this area



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