

Integrating climate adaptation into planning and SEA: Existing guidance and resources available for the planning community

“Planning for climate change – guidance for local authorities”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
UK, April 2012	Planning and Climate Change Coalition	UK Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds a sound evidence base via SEA Takes a long term (30 year +) view Prioritises ecosystem-based adaptation
Comments:			
<p>This guide sets out broad principles to underpin the implementation of climate policy aims in planning at the local scale. It takes a community/neighbourhood –based approach to plan making, seeing mitigation and adaptation initiatives which are arrived at in a participatory manner as preferable over those which are simply determined from the centre. Key take-away points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation and mitigation must have equal priority and be effectively integrated. Climate policy initiatives typically require cross-border and/or cross-scale cooperation. Utilising SEA to assess and select among climate policy responses can address the need to build a sound evidence base for plan making. This evidence base should draw on information both across local authority jurisdictions and from within local communities. With respect to adaptation, local development plans should: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, prioritise and address in the short-term existing vulnerabilities. Set out how development will seek to decrease vulnerability to future climate change over a rolling 30-year time horizon. Ensure that any developments granted planning permission within areas carrying a significant risk of future climate vulnerability take adequate steps to ensure climate impact resilience. Prioritise ‘green’ (ecosystem-based) adaptation measures ahead of ‘grey’ (engineering) measures. The guide also sets out a number of principles with respect to mitigation, and its effective integration with adaptation, at the local authority level. <p>Available from: http://www.tcpa.org.uk/data/files/pccc_guidance_web.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
28	3.5	3.1, 3.2, 3.6	Planning principles; good practice; integration

“Commission Staff Working Document: Guidelines on developing adaptation strategies”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
European Union, 2013	EC	Member States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides the definitive guidance at EU level on the development of adaptation strategies Though high-level, sets the context (and procedural template) for local scale work
Comments:			
<p>This guide provides a framework for adaptation strategy development within EU Member States. Accordingly, any strategy developed using the step-wise approach it outlines is likely to be methodologically defensible and well placed to nest within adaptation initiatives at higher (regional/national/EU) scales of governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The steps outlined in this guide are robust and widely seen as best practice in Europe. Their description is often high level, but examples are provided throughout the text. The methodology outlined in this guide lends itself to integration with other, local scale guidance (such as that of ICLEI) in the development of an adaptation strategy. The guide often refers the reader to further detail available from Climate-ADAPT (the EEA adaptation portal), which though well constructed can at times provide incomplete or out of date material. <p>Available from: http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/what/docs/swd_2013_134_en.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
54	p.8 - p.32	Annexes	Adaptation strategy; stakeholder engagement;

"Assessing the Climate Change Fitness of Spatial Planning: A Guidance for Planners"			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
Switzerland, August 2011	Alpine Space Project CLISP	Spatial planners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitates retrospective review of plans Uses systematic flowcharts, evaluation criteria and checklists
Comments:			
<p>This guide sets out a detailed methodology for the assessment of the 'climate fitness' of existing planning policies and instruments, derived from that initially put forward by the UKCIP Adaptation Wizard. Although the authors have a particular interest and focus on the challenges of Alpine climate adaptation, the method is generalizable and offers useful insights and tools applicable in other contexts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guidance document is structured around a four-step method: a) preparation, b) plan assessment, c) development of enhancement options, and d) reporting and informing. This simple and well-structured method in turn relies on the utilisation of systematic cause and effect, 'climate change impact chains' describing the impacts of climate change on a number of sectors and thematic areas. The guide also provides extensive climate fitness assessment criteria and checklists for the appraisal of planning policies and instruments. <p>Available from: http://www.clisp.eu/content/sites/default/files/GuidanceForPlanners_E_20110817_0.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
38	p.5 - p.14	p.15 – p.26	Plan review; adaptation assessment; systems approach

"Climate Change Impacts and Spatial Planning Decision Support Guidance"			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
UK, June 2008	ESPACE Project	Spatial planners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides high-level risk assessment tools Adopts the adaptation pathways approach
Comments:			
<p>This guide describes how to undertake a high-level climate change risk assessment of the decisions involved in plan making. The approach is specifically tool-based and thus considered by the authors to be generalizable beyond the UK planning environment. The approach adopted is derived from the UKCIP adaptation decision-making framework, and offers four tools that map to the framework's key early stages (establishment of decision making criteria, risk assessment and option appraisal).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilises constraint mapping and subjectively determined tipping points (i.e. rise in sea level, decrease in rainfall) at which climate vulnerable receptors (i.e. coastal defences, fresh water reservoirs) within the system are considered to be at risk of no longer providing key services. Three screening tools (flowcharts with weighted impact outcomes) are provided for the high-level risk assessment of climate change on flooding, water resource use and environment/landscape. These are UK specific, but may be adapted to an Irish context by reference to Irish legislation and impact projection work. Appraisal of adaptation options is carried out using a decision pathways approach, which is closely aligned with current best practice (see EEA 2013). <p>Available from: http://www.espace-project.org/publications/Extension%20Outputs/EA/Espace%20Final_Guidance_Finalv5.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
30	Ch.3 – 5	Ch.2, Ch. 6	Risk assessment; decision support; screening; pathways

Integrating climate adaptation into planning and SEA: Existing guidance and resources available for the planning community

“Climate change adaptation by design: a guide for sustainable communities”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
UK, 2007	Shaw, R., Colley, M., and Connell, R. (TCPA)	Spatial planners, communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes urban design as adaptation. Focal scale is local Uses a community partnership approach.
Comments:			
<p>In recognition that the built environment has a design life of 40 – 100 years, the TCPA advocate adopting innovative, coordinated and future-oriented urban design as a key element of climate adaptation. Climate is seen as providing a key impetus for sustainable change in the modes and methods of urban planning and architectural design, with the integration of mitigation and adaptation objectives achievable principally also through planning/design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guide provides contextual information and case studies describing how/why climate policy objectives can and should be achieved via urban design. Specific sections of the guide are dedicated to the management of high temperatures, flood risks, water resources and ground conditions, with adaptive design solutions provided at building, neighbourhood and catchment scale. <p>Available from: http://www.tcpa.org.uk/pages/climate-change-adaptation-by-design.html</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
49	Ch. 3 - 5	Ch. 1 & Ch. 2	Urban design; urban planning; sustainability;

“Adaptation in Europe: Addressing risks and opportunities from climate change in the context of socio-economic developments”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
Europe, 2013	European Environment Agency	Policy makers at all governance levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive guidance supporting roll-out of the EU Adaptation Strategy Multiple entry points to the process Use in conjunction with Climate-ADAPT
Comments:			
<p>This report summarises current thinking on the planning and implementation of climate change adaptation in Europe. It is relatively concise yet comprehensive and can be taken as a definitive view of European thinking on adaptation up to the date of its publication. The report’s four key chapters each serve as points of entry to the adaptation process, selection dependent upon how far advanced adaptation is in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 1, Framing adaptation, describes the background of adaptation in Europe, providing an introduction to the projected impacts of climate change and outlining the policy and operational goals and objectives of adaptation. Chapter 2, Adaptation in practice, describes the work already underway in Europe to adapt to climate change, outlining a typology of ‘grey’, ‘green’ and ‘soft’ adaptive measures and offering guidance on (and case study examples of) their effective combination to achieve adaptation goals. Chapter 3, Policy context, describes the nested nature of policy setting on climate adaptation, from the EU level to regional, national, county and city administrations. The nature of the relationship between adaptation policy at higher levels and agenda setting at local level is illustrated, again via case studies. Chapter 4, Agenda-setting issues, describes issues and challenges which must be overcome in order to progress adaptation. <p>Available from: http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/adaptation-in-europe</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
132	Ch. 2	Ch. 1, 3, & 4	Adaptation policy; governance; strategy implementation

“Be aware, be prepared, take action: how to integrate climate change adaptation strategies into local government”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
England/Wales, 2008	Local Government Association	Local authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high level introduction to adaptation. • Outlines key impacts, adaptation options and information sources
Comments:			
<p>Despite reference to the institutional and legislative environment of the UK, this high level overview of adaptation impacts and adaptation options may be of use in illustrating the types of informational resources and adaptive responses required in order to integrate climate adaptation within local government policy and action.</p> <p>Available from: http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/lga_beaware_doc_2055302.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
15	p. 8 - 14	p. 4 - 7	Local government; adaptation strategies

“PROVIA Guidance on assessing vulnerability, impacts and adaptation (VIA)”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
UNEP, April 2012	Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation	Researchers, consultants, policy makers, sectoral planners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives a detailed break-down of the tasks required to adapt to climate change • Provides a number of in-depth tools and methodological walk-throughs on how to complete each task • Sequentially approaches adaptation, via prior assessment of climate change impacts and vulnerabilities
Comments:			
<p>The UNEP PROVIA initiative brings together the world's leading adaptation researchers. PROVIA's explicit brief is to provide a benchmark of adaptation knowledge against which adaptation processes can be judged, bringing rigour and comparability to the field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guide offers instruction on which entry point is appropriate for a given adaptation context • Chapter 2 describes the tasks required in order to complete each of four stages of an 'Adaptation Learning Cycle'. Decision trees and descriptions of why/when the task should be undertaken aid the reader in determining which task is the appropriate entry point for a given adaptation context. • Chapter 3 describes the methods and tools available to support the completion of each of the previous chapter's tasks. Overviews of each tool/method describe the assumptions behind it, questions it answers, its data requirements and its generic steps and outcomes, making the selection of which tool/method is appropriate to a given adaptation context relatively clear. • Chapter 4 and the Annex provide case studies and contextual information describing the current state of adaptation practice and policy evolution. <p>Available from: http://www.unep.org/provia/Portals/24128/PROVIA_Guidance.pdf</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
293	Ch. 2 & Ch. 3	Ch. 1 & Ch. 4	Impacts; vulnerability assessment; adaptation options; implementing adaptation; monitoring; evaluation

“Preparing for Climate Change: A Guidebook for Local, Regional, and State Governments”			
Country/Date:	Authorship:	Audience:	High level overview:
USA, September 2007	ICLEI	Local government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives a detailed break-down of the tasks required to adapt to climate change • Provides a step-by-step methodological walk-throughs of the adaptation process
Comments:			
<p>ICLEI have developed a thorough and coherent approach to climate adaptation in this guide that can serve as a sound stepping-off point for adaptation strategy development at local authority level in Ireland. Though now seven years old, the validity of this approach remains and a number of its key elements will inform how we will go about developing and subsequently implementing adaptation strategies here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though written in a very accessible style, the guide is exhaustive, taking in a number of scene-setting tasks that may or may not be desirable in an Irish context • The steps outlined in chapters 4, 8 and 10 are however ubiquitous elements of much adaptation guidance, and are concise and to the point. • As a whole, this guide is highly recommended and often cited as one of the most pragmatic and tractable guides available for local authority-level adaptation planning. <p>Available from: http://www.icleiusa.org/action-center/planning/adaptation-guidebook</p>			
Pages	Key section/s:	Scan:	Keywords:
186	Ch. 4, Ch. 8, Ch. 10	Ch. 5, Ch. 6,	Local government; adaptation planning; community participation; resilience enhancement