

Adaptation Reporting Power

Supplementary Guidance for Reporting Authorities

Checklist

This checklist summarises the information and steps outlined in our supplementary guidance for the Adaptation Reporting Power.

Flood risk

Step 1: Initial assessment – current flood risk

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- Consult our flood maps for an indication of the current risk from rivers or the sea.
- Consult our data and maps for areas susceptible to flooding from surface water.
- Examine evidence of past flood events using our Historic Flood Map.

Step 2: Screening assessment – future flood risk

Consult appropriate high level plans and assessments for an indication of future flood risk, existing levels of protection and agreed management policies:

- a. Catchment Flood Management Plans
- b. Shoreline Management Plans
- c. Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (England) or Strategic Flood Consequence Assessments (Wales).

Step 3: Detailed assessment – current and future flood risk

- Where appropriate, conduct detailed site-specific flood risk assessments. We may be able to provide flood modelling information.
- Use Government guidance for climate change allowances and consider the latest climate change projections (UKCP09).
- Sites regulated under the Environmental Permitting Regulations and COMAH may need to be carry out a Flood Risk Assessment.

Step 4: Identify options to manage flood risk

- Consider developing a contingency plan to manage the uncertainty in climate projections and to prepare for extremes.
- Use our guidance on preparing a flood plan.
- Sign up for our 'Flood warnings for infrastructure' service.
- Sign up for forecasting products from the Flood Forecasting Centre.

Step 5: Appropriate options for environmental impacts and benefits

See section at the end of this checklist.

Coastal change

Step 1: Initial assessment – current coastal risk

- Consult our **flood maps** for an indication of the current risk of flooding at the coast from rivers or the sea

Step 2: Screening assessment – future coastal risk

- Use our coastal erosion mapping tool (when available) to determine if and when erosion is likely to affect assets or activities.
- Consult our 'Receptors vulnerable to coastal erosion' research to see if assets are vulnerable to erosion.
- Consider future coastal erosion and flooding risks (and cross-reference the findings from initial assessments of coastal risk) by consulting Shoreline Management Plans.

Step 3: Detailed assessment – coastal change risk

- Contact us to acquire site-specific flood modelling information.
- Consider whether it is appropriate to extend analysis of future flood or coastal erosion risk by using UKCP09, including the *high plus plus* scenario.

Step 4: Identify options to manage coastal change risk

- Consider developing a contingency plan to manage the uncertainty in climate projections and to prepare for extremes.
- Consult the following for potential adaptation options:
 - Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs)
 - Coastal Handbook
 - Foresight report on flood and coastal defence.

Step 5: Appraise options for environmental impacts and benefits

- *See section at end of this checklist.*

Water availability

Steps 1 & 2: Assessing current and future risks from water shortages

Water companies

- Consult our study of future river flows.
- Use Water UK's adaptation planning tool to help assess climate change risk.
- Consult UKWIR's initial assessment of the significance of UKCP09 for water company resources planning.
- Consult the revised assessment of future river flows using UKCP09 data (available summer 2010).

Abstractors

- Consult the local Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS) for an indication of water availability in an area.
- Consult Annex G of the River Basin Management Plan for an area to identify existing pressures and risks in the water environment.
- Review historical data for information on past droughts.
- Consult our study of future river flows.

Business customers

- Use "waterwise" guide to establish water usage
- Determine any vulnerability to water companies' drought plans or future restrictions on water supply.

Step 3: Detailed assessments – the current supplementary guidance presents information and advice on more detailed assessments.

Step 4: Identify options to manage risks from water shortages

Water companies and abstractors

- Consult our water resources strategies and associated action plans for a range of actions to make water supplies more resilient to climate change.
- Carry out research / work in partnership with other stakeholders or reporting authorities.

Business customers

- Identify ways of saving water using:
 - our "waterwise" guide
 - our publication *Conserving water in buildings*
 - Envirowise and Flexible Support for Business information and support
- See our guide on reusing and recycling water.

Step 5: Appraise options for environmental impacts and benefits

- See section at end of this checklist.

Step 5: Appraise options for environmental impacts and benefits

- To avoid damaging the natural environment consult:
 - Local River Basin Management Plans – annex G and annex A.
 - Our drought plans – to identify water-dependent conservation sites.
 - Verify whether adaptation plans are likely to have an impact on designated ecological or conservation areas, or Water Framework Directive objectives.
 - For new development, see our guidance on environmental assessment.

- Consider how to deliver multiple benefits - refer to our case studies.

- Ensure that adaptation options will not increase flood risk elsewhere.

- Refer to the Treasury's Green Book Supplementary Guidance. This guidance can help organisations:
 - avoid constraining the ability of others to adapt
 - promote flexibility
 - ensure an equitable and fair outcome
 - increase understanding through monitoring and evaluation.