

CLIMATE READY COMMUNITIES

Case Study: Climate Ready Lambhill



Communities across Scotland are impacted by changes in climate. Through three workshops the local community around Lambhill Stables in Glasgow have looked at their climate risks and generated ideas for how they can become climate ready.

Scotland's changing climate

We are already seeing evidence of Scotland's climate changing. Over the last few decades our climate has warmed, sea-levels have risen, rainfall patterns have changed and we have been impacted by extreme weather events. These changes are projected to continue in the decades ahead. The UK Climate Projections 2009 data suggests that, for Scotland:

- the average climate will become warmer throughout the year;
- rainfall is likely to become more seasonal with a typical summer becoming drier, and a typical autumn and winter becoming wetter; and
- sea levels will rise.

We can also expect to see:

- increase in summer heat waves, extreme temperatures and drought;
- increased frequency and intensity of extreme precipitation events; and
- reduced occurrence of frost and snowfall.

Source: ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk

Adaptation Scotland
supporting climate change resilience

We built on the community spirit at Lambhill Stables – an active community in the North of Glasgow. The aim was to find out how – by working together – we can create local communities that are more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Working on these issues also touches on the broader agenda of greenspace and place-making.

This project is the first in Scotland to specifically engage an urban community on adaptation. The process was designed to fit in with and support dialogue around wider community regeneration and could be replicated with other similar urban communities.

About Lambhill

Lambhill is on the edge of the City of Glasgow. To the north and north west of Lambhill is a large area of

greenspace made up of Possil Marsh Local Nature Reserve, the Forth and Clyde Canal and a cluster of historic cemeteries. Further north again is open farmland and the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site. Traditionally the community was connected to the mining industry. Today the area is largely residential, with some local employment in shops and a small industrial estate. Today, more than a third of residents live in income deprivation, 97% live within 500 meters of derelict or vacant land, and single parent households make up 51% of all households with dependent children. But this is a strong and close-knit community that has coped under very challenging circumstances.

Lambhill Stables is a focus for environmental and social action. The Stables are located on the northern edge of Lambhill next to the canal. An ideal



Collaboration with Lambhill Stables was undertaken as part of Adaptation Scotland's community engagement activities. Involving communities in adaptation is essential to create fair and equitable outcomes for all.



What we found out

We identified actions the community and the wider partnership can take now and in the near future. This included:

- raising awareness locally, for example a community climate change fair to raise awareness of the issues and of the potential impacts on life in Lambhill;
- a 'Story box' to collect and share local climate stories from local people;
- taking local action, for example local garden management and 'hands-on' training to allow people to identify ways of reducing runoff from their homes and gardens, grow your own courses, developing new community greenspaces throughout Lambhill; and
- engaging with partners, for example: Scottish Natural Heritage and Scottish Wildlife Trust over climate resilience plans for Possil Marsh, Historic Environment Scotland over climate resilience plans for the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site, Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership to find out how Lambhill can fit into this wider water management agenda.

location for maximising the benefits of local greenspace. The complex was originally built circa 1811 for the horses that pulled the barges through the Forth and Clyde Canal. Today's community development organisation and registered charity with staff and volunteers was established using a sustainable social enterprise model.

Our approach

During November/ December 2014 we held three workshops with the community to:

- identify the things that local people particularly value in their community (Workshop 1);
- explore what the changes we see in our climate may mean for the Lambhill area, including a walk-about to look at local climate risks (Workshop 2); and
- generate ideas and plan actions for what the community can do, alone and with others, to make Lambhill a better place to live and better prepared for changes in the climate. (Workshop 3)

The community identified a number of aspects of their local environment that they value including, natural heritage, the canal, views, local history and the stables.

They would like to see more people walking the trails, children's activities and for greater maintenance in the area, including transforming derelict buildings and spaces and more people involved in community activities.

Those taking part in the workshops created a long list of local impacts of a changing climate. Being adjacent to Possil Marsh and with a major road into the city centre which experiences flooding, Lambhill is already vulnerable to flooding and travel disruption in bad weather. This could get worse as the climate changes.

Workshop participants also identified the impact of climate change on health and well-being from the performance of an already poor housing stock, and the risks to the historic sites in the area. However, warmer drier weather could also mean more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy the many historic sites, and it could have positive impacts on opportunities to have local growing projects.

What next?

If taken forward, the identified actions will make Lambhill a more attractive place to live, work or visit, and more resilient to climate change. This gives a range of actions to start working on or planning for. Community groups and institutions are engaged in projects that are well placed to do this.

Adaptation support

Adapting to climate change takes time and Adaptation Scotland are here to provide support and advice with all your adaptation queries and projects. Get in touch to discuss how we can help you with your climate change adaptation work.

www.adaptationscotland.org.uk

**Adaptation
Scotland**
supporting climate change resilience

Contact Adaptation Scotland

Email: adaptationscotland@sniffer.org.uk
Telephone: 0131 651 4674

@AdaptationScot