



## Climate South East December 2011 News Update

### **UK Climate Change Risk Assessment and the new adaptation delivery**

**landscape** Climate South East held a roundtable discussion in London on November 10 with about 25 key stakeholders from across sectors. Defra presented initial findings from the UK CCRA, and the Environment Agency came along to talk about its new enhanced adaptation delivery role. Attendees also heard about three projects that demonstrate how weather resilience can be incorporated into decision-making. A discussion about how to promote adaptive responses in the new post-regional, post- NI 188 landscape provided a basis for the development of Climate SE's updated strategy and work plans. Presentations and papers from the day are available [on our website](#).

**Climate UK to support delivery of national adaptation program** From October 2011, the Environment Agency took on a [new role](#) as the delivery body for the Government's climate change adaptation programme in England. As part of this, the Environment Agency and Climate UK have developed a partnership agreement to ensure that local partners can access support to help them take action to improve resilience. Climate UK is the recently established umbrella group for the nine English Climate Change Partnerships, including Climate South East, and also includes representation from the devolved administrations. The Environment Agency's new programme aims to 'increase resilience in key sectors to climate risks,' and work plans are being developed for seven key themes or sectors: Critical Infrastructure, Built Environment, Business & Services, Natural Environment, Forestry & Agriculture, Health & Well-Being, and Local Government. Read more at <http://www.climateuk.net/>

**ClimactRegions Fourth Newsletter** ClimactRegions is an EU-funded project that aims to strengthen regional capacity to develop and implement policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Kent County Council is a lead partner. Find the fourth project newsletter [here](#).

**Student support for community projects** Kent County Council is currently investigating how to help link community groups with local students looking for work experience or volunteering and placement opportunities to carry out coursework projects. To understand the interests of community groups in the project, KCC would be grateful for responses to a [short questionnaire](#). This should take only two or three minutes to complete. Please circulate to your community contacts; responses are needed **by December 16**.

**Kent teen launches plastic bag campaign** Amber Bytheway, age 16, asks for your support in a campaign to ban the plastic bag. Inspired to action by her concern over environmental pollution and the bags' detrimental effects on marine life, Amber set up an online petition to government. "I think it is really sad what is happening to our planet so I have decided that I would try and do something about it. It is for a better future for me, my friends, our children and grandchildren. We have to change our ways now,



because our planet cannot sustain our way of living. One thing we can do right now is get rid of plastic bags." [Sign Amber's petition](#). [Watch her video](#). Read [this](#).

**Communities Living Sustainably: call for proposals** The Big Lottery Fund has just launched £10m in grants for up to 10 pilot community sustainability projects across England. Partnership projects will enable communities to live more sustainably and to address economic, social, and environmental/ climate vulnerability. Find more information and guidance notes for expressions of interest [here](#).

**London publishes adaptation strategy** *Managing risks and increasing resilience* is the new London adaptation strategy, launched on October 26. It "details the Mayor's strategic approach to managing the climate risks we face now and in the future in order to maintain London as one of the best big cities in the world." Read it [here](#).

**Foresight report: International Dimensions of Climate Change** This Foresight project investigated how the UK is likely to be affected by global climate change in the next 30 years and beyond. It looks at foreign policy and security, finance and business, infrastructure, resources and commodities, and health, and demonstrates opportunities for the UK to build on its strengths in global governance, business, professional leadership, trade, and values and behavior. Read the report [here](#).

**Cabinet Office guide to infrastructure resilience** *Keeping the Country Running: Natural Hazards and Infrastructure* was published by the Cabinet Office in October. It presents good practice and advice to enable and encourage infrastructure owners, regulators, emergency responders, and Government to work together to continuously improve the resilience of the UK's critical infrastructure to disruption from natural hazards. Find it [here](#).