

Kent County Council

Climate Change Adaptation Plan

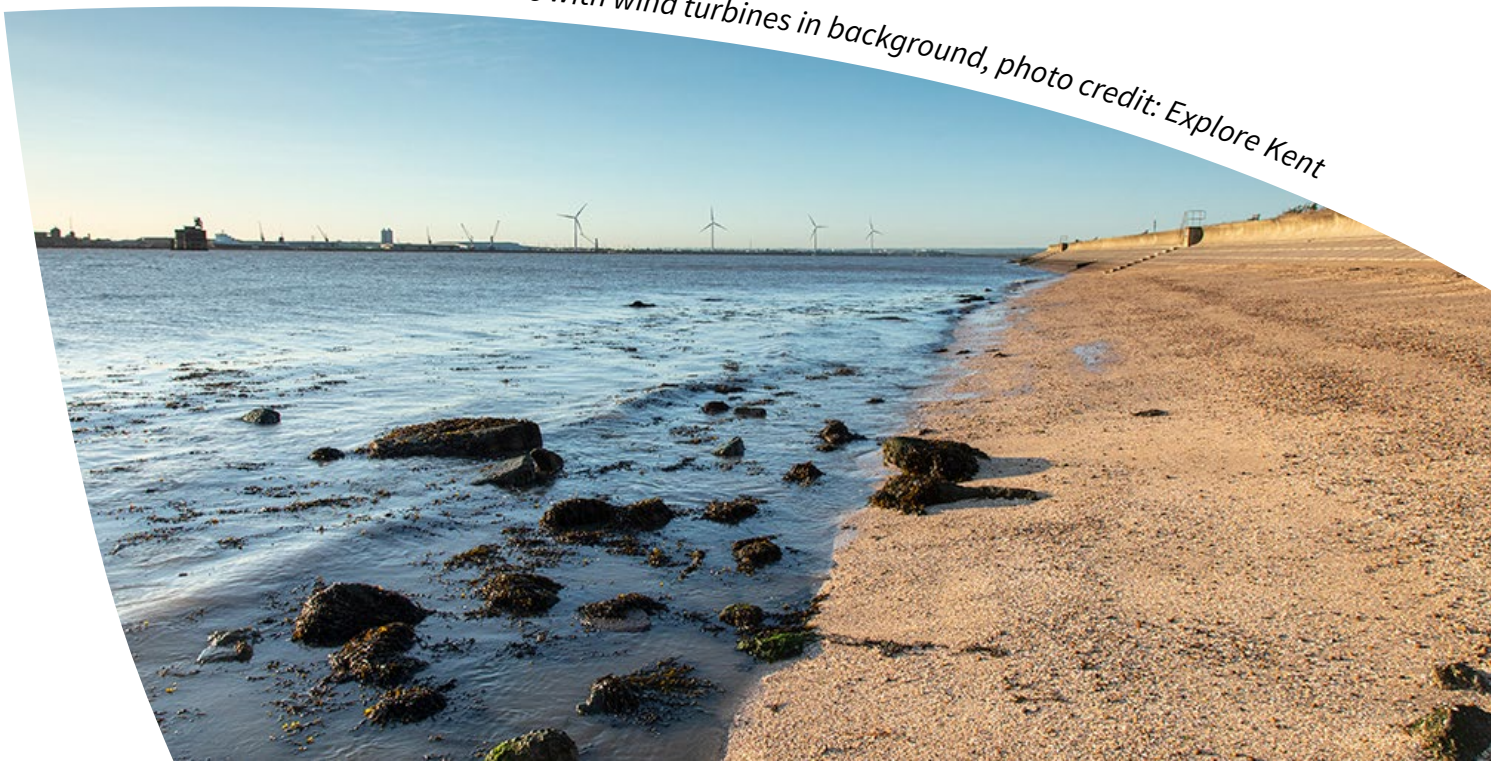
2025 - 2028



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Coastline with wind turbines in background, photo credit: Explore Kent



1. Introduction

Kent's climate is changing. We are already experiencing periods of excessive precipitation, exceptionally hot and cold weather, and prolonged spells without precipitation. Conditions are expected to shift further away from what Kent has previously enjoyed, towards an increasingly disruptive and challenging climate.

Changes in severe and average weather conditions are already affecting life in Kent and impacting the built environment, communities, economy, natural environment, and public services that shape the county. This means that action to adapt is needed to ensure that Kent is prepared for a different climate that will last throughout the rest of the 21st century. Climate change adaptation can help to limit the potential harm caused by changes to Kent's climate, as well as harness any of the potential opportunities¹, whilst also delivering other benefits across the county.

Kent County Council (KCC) is committed to working with partners, communities and other stakeholders to deliver a countywide response to adapting to the impacts of climate change.

KCC aspires to be an organisation that is climate resilient, that works effectively with others in different sectors to build collective resilience and fulfils its role as a community leader across Kent.

As part of this work, KCC must first focus on the assets that it manages, the services that it delivers, and the areas that it can influence across the county. That is what this plan seeks to deliver, with the overarching aim of the KCC Climate Change Adaptation Plan being:

“To ensure that KCC is resilient to the negative impacts and well-positioned to benefit from any opportunities that arise from Kent’s changing climate.”

Salt marsh at Riverside Country Park, photo credit: Explore Kent



¹ CCC. 2021. Technical report (CCRA3-IA). Glossary: <https://www.ukclimaterisk.org/publications/technical-report-ccra3-ia/glossary/#section-1-glossary-for-the-technical-report-of-the-third-uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-ccra3-ia>





2. Policy landscape

2.1 National context

The Climate Change Act was passed in 2008. It sets out what the government is required to do to limit the extent of climate change and its impacts. Part 4 of the Act outlines how the government needs to plan for the impact of climate change and what it will do to adapt. The government is committed to producing a national climate change risk assessment every five years, followed by a National Adaptation Programme (NAP), which outlines what action will be taken to address any identified risks during the risk assessment².

Part 2 of the Act outlines the role of the Climate Change Committee (CCC), an expert advisory group who undertake the national climate change risk assessment and review the implementation of the NAP³. The CCC has set out required outcomes for different sectors across the UK.

The communities sector, the most relevant to local government, requires that **‘good local authority adaptation planning’** occurs, enabled by **‘understanding and skills in managing climate risks in local authorities’**⁴.

2.2 KCC context

KCC’s Strategic Statement Reforming Kent 2025-2028⁵ outlines the intention for “a stronger focus on adapting to changes in our weather, stronger environmental stewardship, visible improvements and a focus on the resident.” Moreover, adapting to our changing climate is one of six goals in KCC’s Environment Plan. Adaptation of KCC assets and services also support KCC’s Energy Efficiency Plan in terms of operational savings, productivity and public value.

In year 2020, KCC published the Climate Change Risk and Impact Assessment for Kent and Medway (CCRIA). The CCRIA outlined some of the threats and opportunities that climate change presents to the area and provided recommendations for future action.

The four key recommendations from the CCRIA were:

- Undertake more in-depth research into localised and specific climate risks and impacts to build the evidence base, awareness and capacity to take action.
- Ensure projects, plans and processes have considered climate change and are resilient to climate risk in the long-term.
- Take action to reduce future financial costs.
- Invest in cross-sector co-benefits⁶.

² Climate Change Act 2008, Part 4: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/part/4>

³ Climate Change Act 2008, Part 2: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/part/2>

⁴ CCC. 2023. CCC Adaptation Monitoring Framework. Assessing the effectiveness of adaptation action across the UK: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/ccc-adaptation-monitoring-framework/?chapter=3-how-we-monitor-progress-on-preparing-for-climate-change#3-how-we-monitor-progress-on-preparing-for-climate-change>

⁵ KCC Draft Strategic Statement (Public Pack) Agenda Document for County Council, 06/11/2025 10:00 (Pages 19-42)

⁶ JBA Consulting. 2020. Climate Change Risk and Impact Assessment for Kent and Medway. Part 1: Methodology and Summary of Findings: https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/111381/CCRIA-for-Kent-and-Medway-part-one-methodology-and-summary-findings.pdf

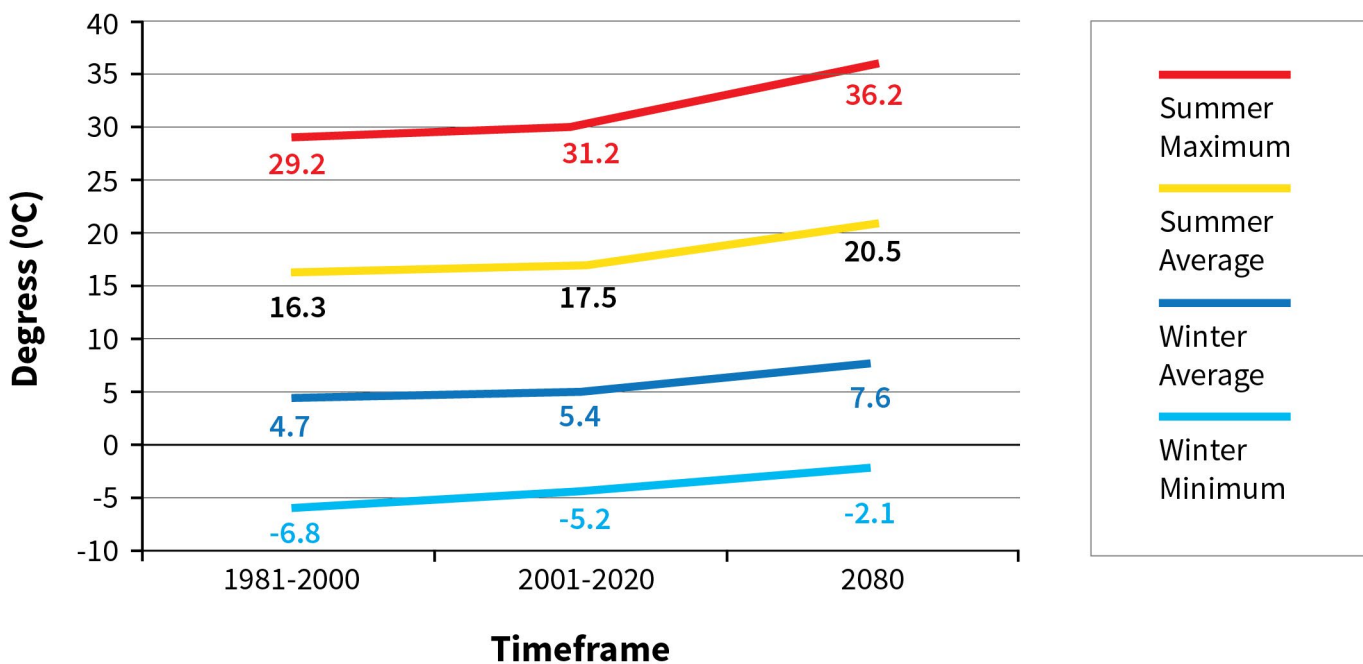
Waves along Sandwich coastlines, photo credit: Explore Kent



3. Kent's changing climate

3.1 Climate projections

Climate projections are an estimation of what future climates may look like. They can be produced by combining weather data with future greenhouse gas emission scenarios, land use changes, and aerosols⁷. In 2018, the Met Office Hadley Centre published the most recent UK climate projections. As referenced in the Met Office's Local Authority Climate Service⁸, under the worst-case scenario Kent could experience:

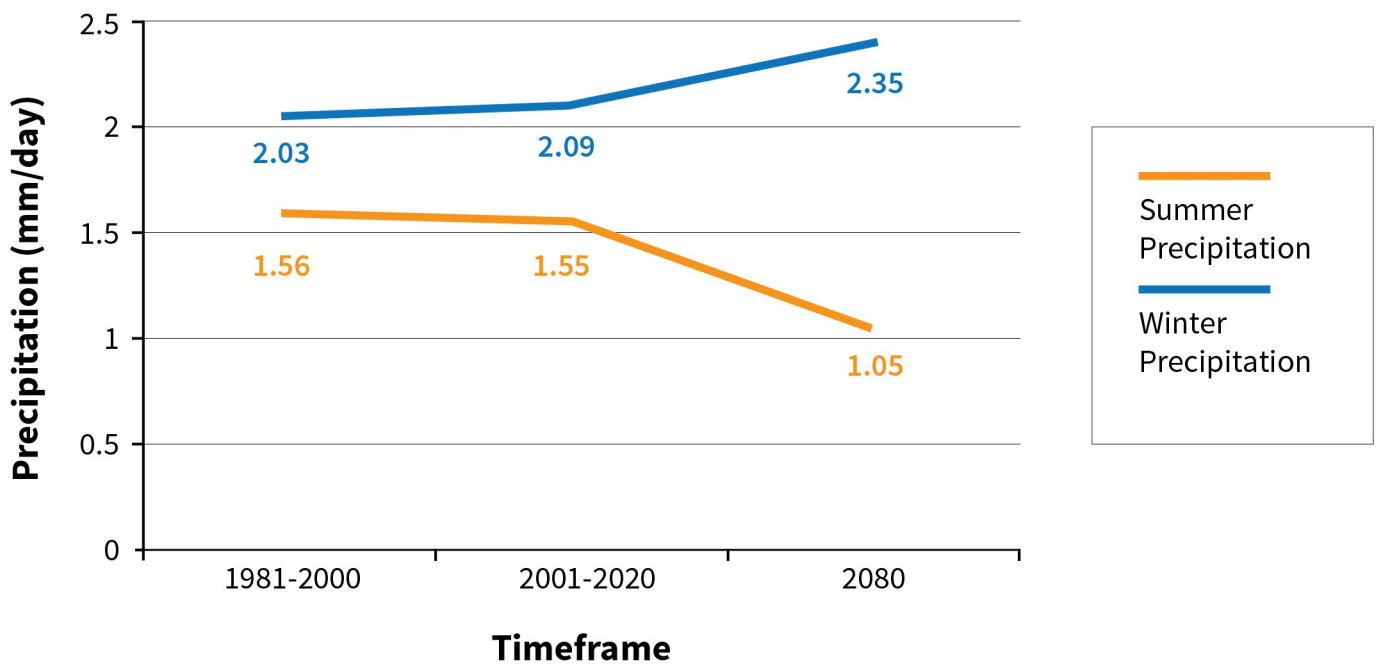


Temperature	Change (°c)
Summer Maximum	+7 (+6.2 - +8.2)
Summer Average	+4.2 (+3.7 - +5.0)
Winter Minimum	+4.7 (+3.5 - +6.1)
Winter Average	+2.9 (+2.1 - +3.5)
Annual Average	+3.4 (+3.0 - +4.0)

Figure 1: Projected temperature changes in Kent under scenario RCP8.5

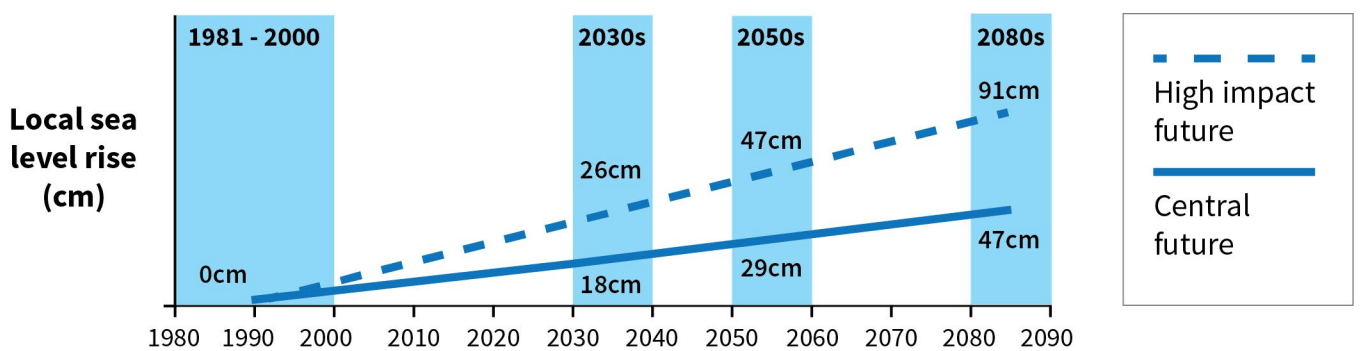
⁷ IPCC. 2021: Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Glossary: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGIII_Annex-I.pdf

⁸ The Met Office. 2024. Local Climate Adaptation Service. Version 1.0. Available at: <https://climatedataportal.metoffice.gov.uk/pages/lacs>



Precipitation	Change (%)
Summer rate	-33 (-46 to -22)
Winter rate	+16 (+4 to +27)
Regional hourly extreme (20mm/h) events per year	+207 ⁹

Figure 2: Projected precipitation changes in Kent under scenario RCP8.5



Sea Level Rise	Change (cm)
Local level	47 - 91

Figure 3: Projected sea level change under scenarios RCP4.5 and RCP8.5.

⁹ Kendon, E.J., et al. 2023. Variability conceals emerging trend in 100yr projections of UK local hourly rainfall extremes. Nat Communications 14 (1133).



Eroded cliffs at Pegwell Bay, photo credit: Explore Kent

3.2 Potential impacts

Changes to average temperatures, precipitation, and sea levels will increase the variability of weather that Kent experiences.

This is likely to lead to both positive and negative impacts that will increase in frequency and intensity over time. Some of the climate hazards that are likely to occur in Kent include:

- Landslips and soil erosion.
- Coastal, fluvial, groundwater, and surface water flooding.
- Heatwaves.
- Wildfires.
- Drought.
- Storm events.

Climate hazards cause climate impacts, which are felt by businesses, communities, ecosystems, and organisations. In recent years, the following impacts have occurred in Kent:

- Over 6,000 homes were left without power due to Storm Ciarán in 2023¹⁰.
- Midges carrying bluetongue disease infected livestock in 2023 and 2024¹¹.
- The Road of Remembrance, Folkestone was closed throughout the entirety of 2024 due to a landslip¹².
- 172 excess deaths were recorded during heat periods of Summer 2022¹³.
- Kent Fire and Rescue Service responded to 399 grass fires in July 2022¹⁴.
- Bewl Water's reservoir levels dropped to 42% in October 2022¹⁵.

Whilst the negative impacts of climate change outweigh any potential benefits, there are still positive outcomes that could arise from Kent's future climate. Examples of these include:

- Longer growing seasons.
- Reduced winter mortality.
- New tourism and commercial opportunities.
- Reduced winter energy consumption.

3.3. Reducing the impact

Identifying the risk that climate change poses, and implementing ways to proactively manage the risk, can help to limit potential damage and disruption before impacts occur. Climate risk is typically broken down into three aspects: the climate hazard, the level of exposure to the hazard, and the ability to cope with the hazard.

Climate Risk = Climate Hazard x Exposure x Vulnerability

This means that whilst there is very little that can be done to reduce the extent of a climate hazard when it occurs, it is possible to reduce exposure and vulnerability to a point where climate risks are less impactful.

¹⁰ BBC News. 2023. Kent: Delays at Port of Dover as Storm Ciarán lashes county: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-67287143>

¹¹ BBC News. 2024. Bluetongue: South East livestock farmers warned over virus risk: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/clynr9r5v1vo>

¹² Folkestone & Hythe District Council. 2024. Folkestone landslips 2024: <https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/parks-beaches-open-spaces/folkestone-landslips-2024#:~:text=The%20number%20taking%20place%20during%20February%20and%20March,makes%20it%20prone%20to%20erosion%20and%20being%20unstable>

¹³ ONS. 2022. Excess mortality during heat-periods, England and Wales: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/excessmortalityduringheatperiodsenglandandwales>

¹⁴ BBC News. 2022. UK wildfires: Firefighters on tackling flames moving faster than you can run: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-62485130>

¹⁵ Bewl Water. 2022. Recovery for Bewl Water reservoir levels: <https://www.bewlwater.co.uk/recovery-for-bewl-water-reservoir-levels/>

3.4. Considerations for KCC

The most recent UK Climate Change Risk Assessment identified 61 cross-sectoral risks and opportunities¹⁶. Some of these physical risks are applicable to KCC and emphasise areas of consideration for this plan. These include risks to:

- Health and wellbeing.
- Building fabric and other structures.
- IT assets.
- Highway and public rights of way assets.
- Natural capital and landscapes (tree stock, grass verges, etc.).
- Utilities (gas, electricity, water, permitted/licenced wastewater systems).
- Social care provision.
- Educational service provision.
- External service provision and supply chains.

Physical risks are linked to financial and reputational risks. Increased expenditure to repair damage to assets, maintain safe working environments, cover rising insurance premiums, provide new or additional services to residents who through their vulnerability are disproportionately affected, and reduced service user and resident satisfaction are all possible if physical climate risks are left unmanaged.



¹⁶ CCC. 2021. Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk. Advice to Government for the UK's third Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA3):<https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Independent-Assessment-of-UK-Climate-Risk-Advice-to-Govt-for-CCRA3-CCC.pdf>

4. Responding to Kent's changing climate

4.1 Seizing the opportunity of adapting

Through effective climate change adaptation, Kent could become a healthier, safer, more sustainable and prosperous place to live. There is an opportunity to make beneficial change across the county through co-benefits and added value, which can help KCC and partners to not only increase resilience to the impacts of climate change, but also make progress towards achieving other strategic objectives and priorities, all while benefitting Kent's residents.

An example of this is how implementing nature-based solutions to reduce heat stress, such as installing green walls on buildings or targeted tree planting in urban areas, can deliver the following benefits:

- Creation of new habitats for wildlife.
- Absorption of carbon dioxide.
- Improvements in surface water management.
- Improvements in air quality.
- Creation of more attractive spaces and amenities.

Adapting to some of the negative impacts of climate change can deliver economic benefits, such as productivity gains from reduced weather-induced disruption and cost savings from less expenditure on healthcare.

Similarly, harnessing opportunities arising from a changing climate could lead to reduced expenditure on treating winter illnesses in the health sector, new commercial opportunities for the agricultural and tourism sectors, and less expenditure on gas and electricity to power domestic and non-domestic buildings during colder months. These economic benefits can act as a potential stimulant of economic growth in Kent, assuming that savings are reinvested into Kent's economy and productivity gains lead to greater consumption or investment.

However, adapting to climate change will present a financial cost to KCC, as adjustments to service delivery and asset management are needed to mitigate additional service demands and pressures driven by climate change. KCC services are impacted by climate change to varying degrees of extent, but those that are responsible for vulnerable residents and assets are most likely to experience increasing budgetary pressures, due to the combined effect of climatic, demographic, and societal changes.

Walkers at Samphire Hoe, photo credit: Explore Kent





A green toad, photo credit: Jim Higham

Without adapting, it is likely that over time these budgetary pressures would exceed the cost associated with adapting to climate change. The incidence of costs and benefits can mean that expenditure on adaptation measures may

not directly benefit those that make the initial investment. However, when considered in totality, there is evidence to suggest that certain climate change adaptation interventions deliver positive benefit-to-cost ratios, as shown in Figure 4:

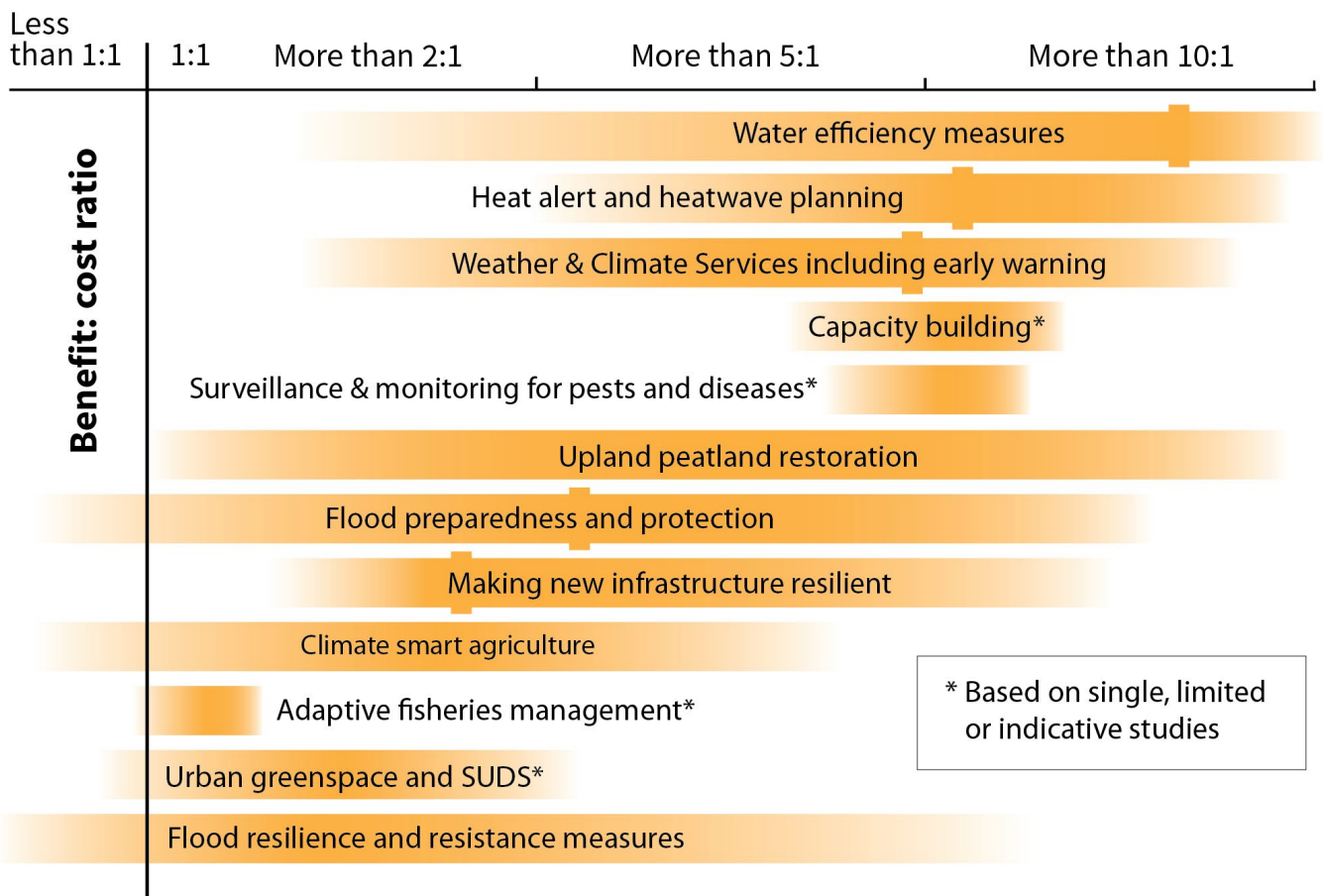


Figure 4 - Benefit-cost ratios of adaptation measures included in the UK Government’s Third Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA3).

That is why it is vital that KCC explores opportunities to adapt to climate change and considers not just the cost of action, but also the value of any potential benefits that may arise to both KCC and partners across the county.

4.2 Action to date

Since publishing the Kent & Medway CCRIA, KCC has taken numerous steps to address climate impacts.

KCC has led and participated in match-funded EU Interreg projects that have sought to increase resilience to climate change within Kent. Reduced heat stress, increased resilience to flood risk and improved water resource use have all been achieved through nature-based and technical solutions, such as urban tree planting and the creation of a rainwater harvesting calculator.

KCC has delivered projects to reduce flood risk in areas where Kent residents have experienced flooding, such as those at Catts Place in Paddock Wood, St Katherine's School in Snodland, and George V Park in Margate.

KCC has also coordinated water audit visits, in collaboration with Thames Water and South East Water, to increase water efficiency across its estate, schools, and non-KCC schools, within Thames Water & South East Water supply areas.

Adapting to our changing climate is identified as an priority in KCC's Strategic Statement Reforming Kent 2025-2028. KCC has also factored the potential impact of climate change into corporate strategy and processes. KCC's former Strategic Statement Framing Kent's Future (2022-2026) includes 'ensuring that Kent is well placed to adapt to climate change' within the third key priority 'Environmental Step Change'¹⁷. In 2022, climate change was identified and listed as a risk on KCC's Corporate Risk Register for the first time. In 2024, KCC's Environment Plan listed adapting to climate change as one of six areas of environmental work that the council delivers.



¹⁷ KCC. 2022. Framing Kent's Future – Our Council Strategy 2022-2026: https://www.kent.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/136431/Framing-Kents-Future-strategy-document.pdf

4.3 What next?

KCC has done some great work through pilots and individual projects to increase resilience to climate change and embed climate change into corporate processes. The next step is to upscale activity across the council so that adapting to climate change becomes part of KCC's business-as-usual activity.

This will involve capacity building through training and upskilling staff and the provision of support and guidance across the organisation, so that services feel empowered to plan for climate change and act upon climate risks and opportunities. Services will be supported in this by officers who have a strong knowledge and understanding of climate adaptation, who will be able to help to guide services through the process of applying climate change to service delivery.

To achieve this change in approach, the following objectives have been selected, based on recommendations provided by the **Climate Change Committee and the Climate Change Risk and Impact Assessment for Kent and Medway**, as described in **Section 2**.

Objective 1:

Raise awareness of the risks and opportunities of climate change across KCC.

Objective 2:

Integrate climate change adaptation into KCC's decision-making and service delivery.

Objective 3:

Explore opportunities to act upon climate risks and impacts affecting services.

Objective 4:

Encourage climate change adaptation through KCC activity across Kent.

4.4 Funding

KCC's Climate Change Adaptation Plan has been developed by base funded staff from the Environment and Circular Economy Division, and at no additional cost to the council. Staff time will be the main resource required to deliver the objectives and actions that are set out in this plan and will be undertaken by base funded staff from all services involved. The objectives and actions are predominantly focused on capacity building through upskilling and knowledge transfer, as well as practical support and adaptive planning. This is why no additional expenditure is anticipated in the short term.

The plan will help to identify the risks and implications of climate change on KCC and the services that it delivers. The understanding gained from this process can be used to determine the appropriate service adaptation and mitigation in future spending reviews. Changing approaches to how activities are undertaken could lead to a spend-to-avoid approach, which could then present the opportunity to invest further in climate change adaptation measures. This will be entirely dependent on the development of robust business cases, which is what this plan seeks to facilitate, and where match funding, or in-kind funding, may be required, it will be assessed on a project-by-project basis.

Financing options underpinned by KCC's emerging green finance strategy will provide an alternative route to funding for adaptive measures. This will be crucial in funding climate change adaptation interventions moving forward, as current budgets are highly unlikely to be able to fund the measures that are needed to meet the scale of the challenge that climate change poses to KCC, unless there are significant changes to how local government is funded.

5. Implementation and monitoring progress

This plan will be assessed against the progress made on each action and corresponding key outcome listed in the action plan. Progress made on each action will be considered and reviewed by the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on an annual basis.

To facilitate this process, annual reviews and workplans will be developed. The first of these annual workplans will be developed once this plan has been adopted and they will be published in May 2026, just after the start of the 2026/27 financial year. These documents will define the specific yearly activity that will be undertaken for each action. Milestones will be revised after each review to inform the workplan for the following year.

The KCC Environment Board will oversee the implementation of the plan and monitor its progress. The Environment Board will receive mid-year updates on advancements made over the first and second halves of each annual workplan. This will aid risk and issue management processes and allow for escalation, if required.

The criteria for reviewing the progress of each action are set out in Table 1. This follows a similar methodology used by the Climate Change Committee to evaluate progress on implementation of the National Adaptation Plan.

Scoring criteria for delivery and implementation	
Score	Criteria
Completed	Actions have been completed or are being maintained at a high level.
Ongoing	Actions are progressing but are yet to be completed.
Incomplete	Actions are not progressing or were not completed within the agreed timeframe.
Unable to evaluate	Work streams yet to commence.

Table 1



Mother with her children at Leybourne Lakes Country Park, photo credit: Explore Kent

6. Action plan 2025 - 2028

Although the focus of this climate change adaptation plan is on KCC, the council understands that it cannot achieve its aim of adapting to climate change by working in isolation. That is why the work required to deliver on the objectives set out earlier in this Plan will require collaboration from across the organisation, alongside partners, and throughout Kent’s wider community. To start this process, KCC will aim to deliver on the following actions:

Objective 1: Raise awareness of the risks and opportunities of climate change across KCC

Action	Definition
Assess the risks and impacts of climate change across all services.	To better understand the risk that climate change poses to KCC, climate change officers will work with officers across all services to undertake service-level climate risk assessments.
Responsible Division:	All divisions.
Key Outcomes:	Quantity of climate risk registers for each KCC service completed.
Action	Definition
Brief services on the impact of climate change.	Climate change officers will provide briefings and presentations to services that seek support in developing their understanding of climate change and how it impacts their work.
Responsible Division:	Environment and Circular Economy.
Key Outcomes:	Quantity of briefings and presentations delivered.
Action	Definition
Discuss climate change adaptation at relevant environmental, leadership, and member groups.	Climate change adaptation will be discussed at environmental groups for KCC staff and members, such as: Environment Boards, Environmental Champions Network, and Kent Environment Strategy Cross-Party Members Group.
Responsible Division:	Environment and Circular Economy.
Key Outcomes:	Quantity of agendas of relevant internal environmental, leadership, and member groups, with climate change adaptation featured.

Objective 2: Integrate climate change adaptation into KCC's decision-making and service delivery

Action

Create action plans to address risks identified during risk assessments.

Definition

As part of the risk assessment process, controls and actions will be established that mitigate identified risks. Controls and actions will provide the basis for service-level action plans, which services will write and outline what they need to do to adapt to climate change moving forward.

Responsible Division:

All divisions.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of service-level action plans created.

Action

Embed climate change adaptation into decision-making activity.

Definition

KCC has numerous environmental commitments, including climate change adaptation. Climate change adaptation will be considered in future KCC decisions through the use of an assessment and guidance tool.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of future key decisions with climate change adaptation considered.

Action

Embed justified and proportionate contractual requirements for climate adaptation into commissioning and procurement frameworks.

Definition

KCC contracts with a range of organisations from different sectors to deliver services on behalf of the council. Contractual requirements for climate adaptation will be embedded within commissioning and procurement processes to ensure that suppliers build climate resilience into the services they deliver

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy, Commercial and Procurement

Key Outcomes:

Justified and proportionate contractual requirements and supporting guidance for procurement and commissioning staff. Quantity of awarded contracts with climate risk considered.

Action

Explore implementing enhanced proactive maintenance and continuing improvement in Kent's Highways Asset Management Plan.

Definition

Increased degradation of road surfaces is likely to occur as a result of changes in precipitation patterns due to climate change. Preservation works to seal road surfaces are extremely cost-effective treatments and on average extend the life of a road by about 8-10 years. By increasing preservation works KCC undertakes, the decline in the condition of our network can be slowed whilst maintaining the resilience of our highway network.

Responsible Division:

Highways and Transport

Key Outcomes:

Percentage change in Highways maintenance budget invested in preservation over renewal.

Objective 3: Explore opportunities to act upon climate risks and impacts that affect KCC services.

Action

Participate in adaptation-related projects funded by external partners.

Definition

Opportunities to participate in adaptation-related projects will arise throughout the life cycle of this plan. Services will seek to explore externally funded opportunities that can help to build climate resilience within their area of work, as and when they become available.

Responsible Division:

All divisions.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of adaptation-related projects that are participated in across the council.

Action

Create pilots or projects that build climate resilience.

Definition

Certain KCC services may already be aware of and experiencing climate change impacts. Resource availability permitting, services will look to create project work that addresses climate risks that are affecting service delivery and asset management, in order to improve resilience to climate change.

Responsible Division:

All divisions.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of new climate change adaptation project work created from within the council.



Objective 4: Encourage climate change adaptation through KCC activity across Kent

Action

Promote climate change adaptation policies in planning.

Definition

The planning system plays an important role in shaping what Kent looks like moving forward. By making recommendations on what will be included in future planning, KCC can steer activity towards including more considerations for climate change.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy, Growth and Communities.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of corporate responses to local plans, housing applications, other developments, and countywide guidance, featuring climate change adaptation.

Action

Deliver climate change adaptation benefits through nature recovery activities.

Definition

KCC is responsible for coordinating local nature recovery across Kent. Adapting to climate change is not the primary reason for restoring nature, but it is one of many co-benefits that arises from doing so. By delivering on activities to restore nature through partnership work, KCC can help upscale climate resilience in Kent.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of nature recovery activities with climate change adaptation benefits overseen.

Action

Input into regional flood risk and water management activities.

Definition

KCC works with the local water supply companies and the regional water resources alliance (WRSE) and national charities to promote water efficiency and water savings. KCC will encourage more ambitious targets to save water and use it more efficiently.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of responses to non-KCC strategy and creation of KCC strategy.

Action

Support Southern Water's Clean Rivers and Seas Plan.

Definition

Southern Water established the Clean Rivers and Seas Task Force to reduce storm overflow releases. KCC will work with Southern Water to retrofit sections of Kent's highway network with SuDS to reduce combined sewage overflows and surface water flooding.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy, Highways and Transport.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of planned implementation of Pathfinder Projects on KCC assets.

Action

Continue to produce messaging on public health risks associated with climate impacts.

Definition

KCC is responsible for helping to improve the general health of everyone in Kent. Climate change is one of many wider determinants of health. KCC produces messaging for residents on how climate hazards, such as extreme heat or cold, can affect their health. KCC will continue delivering this messaging to ensure that residents are aware of what they can do during periods of climatic extremes.

Responsible Division:

Public Health.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of climate-related public health messaging campaigns delivered.

Action

Create relevant guidance for how Kent's businesses and third sector organisations can adapt to climate change.

Definition

The Kent & Medway Economic Framework (KMEF) is the Kent & Medway Economic Partnership main strategy, and it recognises the economic impact of climate change within its SWOT analysis. KCC will seek to provide guidance and information to businesses, where required, to help them adapt to climate change.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy, Growth and Communities.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of guidance documents provided to Kent's businesses, quantity of interactions with businesses.

Action

Support schools with including climate risk management into climate action plans.

Definition

As part of the Department for Education's strategy for sustainability and climate change, schools across Kent are expected to produce their own climate action plans. To ensure that schools are including climate adaptation in their plans, KCC will provide school sustainability leads with guidance on how to undertake risk assessment and examples of actions to mitigate risks.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of guidance sessions given and interactions with school sustainability leads.



Kent coastal white cliffs, photo credit Explore Kent

Action

Engage a wider stakeholder network across Kent for future countywide planning.

Definition

If KCC is to deliver a countywide climate change adaptation plan with partners in the future, it must first establish who needs to be a part of that process and what is required of them. KCC will start engaging stakeholders before prospective strategy planning begins.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of stakeholders engaged.
Mapping and engagement completed.

Action

Update KCC's website to provide residents with relevant climate change adaptation information.

Definition

KCC is in a position to provide effective, reliable, online resources that provides households with insights with what they can do to adapt to Kent's changing climate.

Responsible Division:

Environment and Circular Economy.

Key Outcomes:

Quantity of relevant, up-to-date resources made accessible to residents.



Kent clear water chalk stream, photo credit: Explore Kent

Kent County Council

Climate Change Adaptation Plan

2025 - 2028

