

Webinar 1: Questions and Answers

Below are all the questions submitted through the Q&A function and the chat function relevant to content of the talks and to iCASP: not all questions were answered and some questions were answered live during the webinar rather than as written answers through the Q&A function.

Q1. I recently had something of an argument via several newspapers with the shooting lobby about the effects on moorland of their land management, particularly burning. I used the EMBER study for some of the response. One key question that arose was what sort of mgt/land cover would be an effective/affordable/practical alternative to burning without increasing fire risk (ie fuel supply) while improving biodiversity and climate change resilience. Are there any existing studies to supply a credible answer?

Q2. We are just starting the Kirklees Climate Commission and it would be great to have a discussion on working on a district based impact assessment

Answer: Is great that the Kirklees Climate Commission is up and running. Here in the call are members of the Leeds Climate Commission. We have been working in the Resilience working group in finding ways to increase the resilience of the city. I have been developing a tool to assess climate vulnerabilities to make strategic adaptation decisions. The E.WSHAPE project will enable this tool with the aim of sharing this knowledge with other Councils.

Q3. In terms of GIS, are you sharing datasets as open source? If so where can we find them?

Answer: Any new data we add to SHAPE (web GIS) e.g. climate change projections, will be open source. However, SHAPE includes sensitive data (e.g. incidence of illness reported by GPs) which would not be accessed by everyone.

More generally - In principle all GIS data iCASP generates is Open Source. We don't have control over partners' data, but we encourage it.

Follow up Q: That's great, where would those wanting it, find those available datasets?

Answer: The SHAPE project has only just begun. It's largely focused on Leeds city region. There is no data yet (we've only just begun!). Some of the data we add will no doubt cover a larger area e.g. climate projections. Please get in touch as let us know what would be useful

Answer: The goal is to add data which resonates with interdisciplinary groups e.g. climate commissions - but with a focus on adaptation & air quality (rather than low carbon/ mitigation)

Answer: It would be great to discuss and see if we can help add to data with you. Kirklees is part of LCR. Adaptation for me is a critical part of the actions now. Happy to discuss.

Q4. Great question regarding grants for Property Level Flood Protection. A few years back I lived in a flood risk area, had flooding to within 25mm of threshold. Insurance company viewed that property had been flooded as water within curtilage and required Property Level Flood Protection to maintain insurance (pre Flood Re). However, grant application was rejected as the actual

property didn't flood. Would be good to see anyone at significant flood risks being able to access grants.

Q5. Uses of Social Media? (successes/disappointments)

Answer: The FFC have just started to trial a social sensing tool tailored to search for flood related tweets. Initially plan to help verification of our flood guidance and situational awareness – we will see

Q6. An additional problem I find is the short memory of flood risk

Q7 Businesses would happily take action but when the funding for resilience come 6 months after repairs have been done there is no incentive for more disruptive works

Q8. There is a APPG in Parliament on Bricks and water at the moment, which you may find useful to engage with

Answer: Thanks for the heads up

Answer: You're welcome - it might be finished but the report isn't out yet. I spoke at the roundtable happy to pass on details afterwards

Q9. Hi, GBI economic case. Can you give examples of the sorts of projects that are being considered or have been successful in the region?

Answer: Our cases included LCC OurSpaces programme; Kirklees DC A62 corridor; we looked also at Leeds flood alleviation scheme 2. So very varied (e.g. Our Spaces included nearly 50 specific business cases)

Q10. The APPG Bricks and Water Report are looking to establish a certification scheme / programme I believe which is why I was asked specifically to speak.

Q11. The economics of Covid 19 recovery will understandingly be high profile, yet surely everyone here will recognise the huge importance of CC too. It's probably too early to know how CC issues will be affected in comparison, but isn't it vital to stress the economic impact of CC in the short to medium term to keep it high enough on the agenda?

Q12. Re: WykeBeck. What is the Phase 1 proposing for proposed interventions?

Answer: Phase 1 is nearly complete and details of the engineering works and interventions can be found online across various places. In short it was across three sites and included a large retention area, improvements to existing green infrastructure, and deculverting and culvert.

Q13. Re SUIM, are effective funding mechanisms in place to address high flooding risk sources at a distance from projected development i.e. getting someone to pay for FRM at a potentially significant distance away and possibly in different authorities areas

Answer: Great question! I think the short answer is no. But I believe there are ways round this issue with the development of strategic business cases and resilience programmes (i.e. Andy Brown's GBI principles). A business case (or cases) could be developed which included a variety of sites with one main objective/goal. Bear in mind - contribution to inventions could be access to land, allowance to re-landscape farmland for instance, and would not necessarily be a monetary contribution. Crossing authority areas: I am unsure of the practical pitfalls, but in theory cross-council funding based on natural systems rather than institutional boundaries is the way to go in my opinion. It could follow a shared strategic case development plan as mentioned earlier. Happy to discuss more! Thanks for your input!

Useful resources provided through chat function

<https://www.susdrain.org/community/SuDSAwards2020shortlist> - some really nice examples of blue green infra here including two in our region

Here you can find the policy brief which talks about the grants, insurance problems, and ways to improve the flood protection of SMEs <https://www.cccep.ac.uk/publication/should-flood-re-be-extended-to-smes/>. Sign up here if you would like to find out more about the project: <https://forms.gle/L4VrefgPMTHaYsFn8>