



UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017



Evidence report: priorities for the next five years



The Adaptation Sub-Committee of the Committee on Climate Change



Statutory roles in the 2008 Climate Act:

- To provide independent, expert advice on the UK climate change risk assessment (advisory role)
- To report to Parliament on progress with implementation of the NAP (scrutiny role)



Prof Lord John Krebs (chair)

Ece Ozdemiroglu





Prof Jim Hall

Prof Dame Anne Johnson





Rosalyn Schofield





Aim of UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017



Based on an assessment of climate risks and opportunities, and current adaptation actions, what are the most urgent priorities for the next national adaptation programme and programmes for devolved administrations?

The UK CCRA 2017 Evidence Report



- 3 years
- c80 authors
- >2,000 pages
- 6,000 review comments
- 6 priority areas

UK CCRA 2017: Structure and lead contributors



Synthesis Report (50 pages + annexes)

- Key messages
- Risk groupings
- Chapter summaries
- Urgency scores

Authored by the ASC

National summaries (80-100 pages each)

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

Compiled by the ASC Secretariat

Evidence Report (8 chapters + annexes, ~2,000 pages)

- 1: Introduction (Kathryn Humphrey ASC Secretariat, James Murphy Met Office)
- 2: Approach and context (Rachel Warren UEA)
- 3: Natural environment and natural assets (lain Brown York)
- 4: Infrastructure (Richard Dawson Newcastle)
- 5: People and the built environment (Sari Kovats LSH&TM, Dan Osborn UCL)
- 6: Business and industry (Swenja Surminski LSE)
- 7: International dimensions (Neil Adger Exeter, Andy Challinor Leeds)
- 8: Cross-cutting issues (Roger Street UKCIP)

Supported by ~70 contributing authors and members of the ASC Secretariat

The most comprehensive assessment of risks and opportunities to date



	Direct effects	Indirect effects	Major effects & discontinuities
International: Other international areas of concern	Loss of small island states	Impact on global economy	Large scale global tipping points
UK (imported): Impacts in the UK from international effects	Disruption to trade routes and supply chains	Volatility of food and feedstock prices in the UK	Major shifts in global patterns of food production
UK (domestic): Impacts arising directly in the UK	Flood risks, water scarcity, etc Focus of CCRA1	Cross- sectoral, wider economic	High++ scenarios, major sea level rise Focus of CCRA2

Source: ASC (2016) UK CCRA 2017 – Chapter 2: Approach and context

Four NERC-funded research projects



Project A: Flood risk projections for all four UK nations

Project B: Updated projections of water availability for the UK

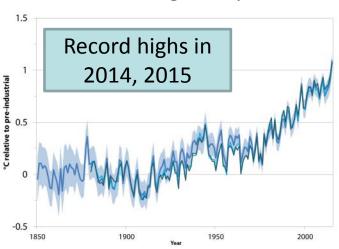
Project C: Climate change impacts on the UK's natural assets

Project D: Development of high-end (High++) scenarios for UK climate impacts

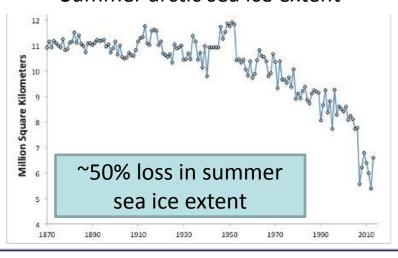
Indicators of climate change

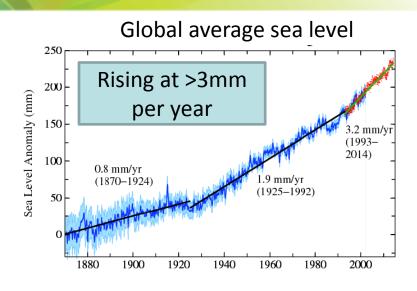


Global average temperature

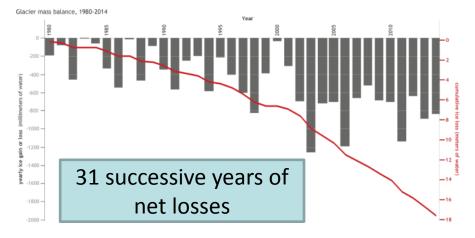


Summer arctic sea ice extent





Glacier mass



Lag in the Earth's climate system means further changes are inevitable

8.0



Mean over

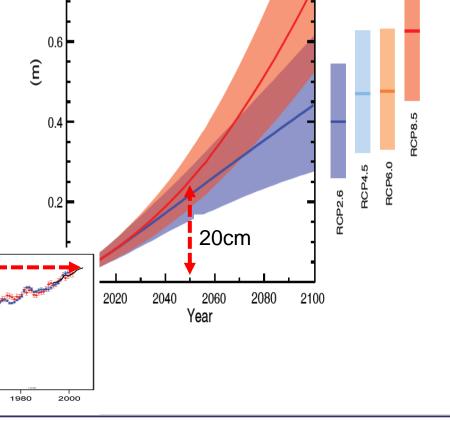
2081-2100

- Sea level rise during 20th century set to be repeated in the next 30-40 years
- Largely regardless of future greenhouse gas emissions
- Overall a meter of sea level rise by 2100 is plausible
- More depending on rate of Greenland and Antarctic ice sheet melt

sea-level deviation

(millimeters)

-200



1900

1880

20cm

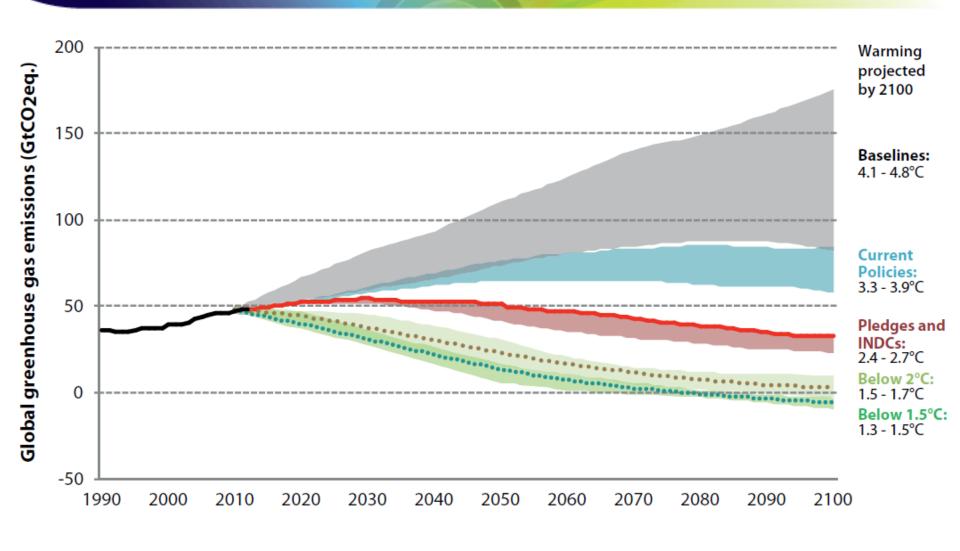
1920

1940

1960

Paris Agreement reduces the chance of 3-5°C warming but some risk remains





Risks, opportunities and priorities

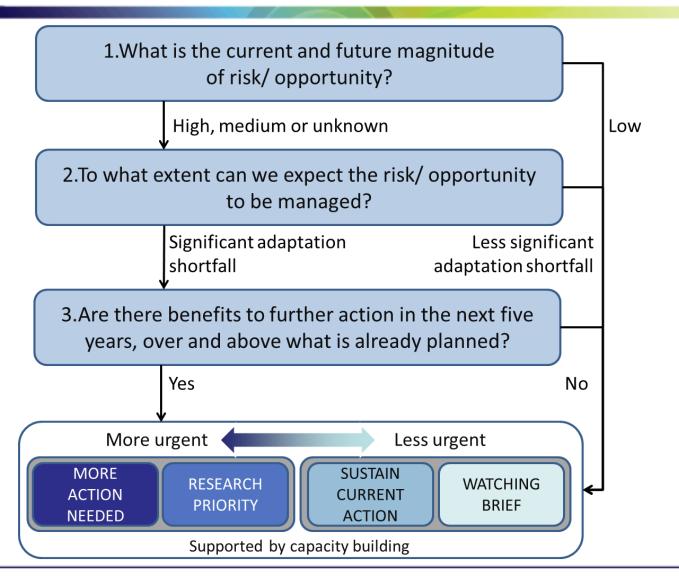


About 60 risks/opportunities identified

Distilled into six priority areas for urgent action

Identifying the most urgent risks/opportunities





Source: ASC (2016) UK CCRA 2017 – Chapter 2: Approach and context

Six priority areas



Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure (Ch3, Ch4 Ch5, Ch6) Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures (Ch5, Ch6) **MORE** Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, **ACTION** energy generation and industry (Ch3, Ch4, Ch5, Ch6) **NEEDED** Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity (Ch3) Risks to domestic and international food production and trade (Ch3, Ch6, Ch7) **RESEARCH** New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals (Ch3, Ch5, Ch7) **PRIORITY NOW** → FUTURE LOW **RISK MAGNITUDE:** MEDIUM HIGH

Source: ASC (2016) UK CCRA 2017 - Synthesis Report

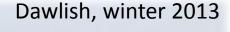
Risks from flooding and coastal change



HIGH MAGNITUDE

HIGH CONFIDENCE

MORE ACTION NEEDED



New sheltered housing development, built 2012



Risks from high temperatures



HIGH MAGNITUDE

HIGH CONFIDENCE

MORE ACTION NEEDED



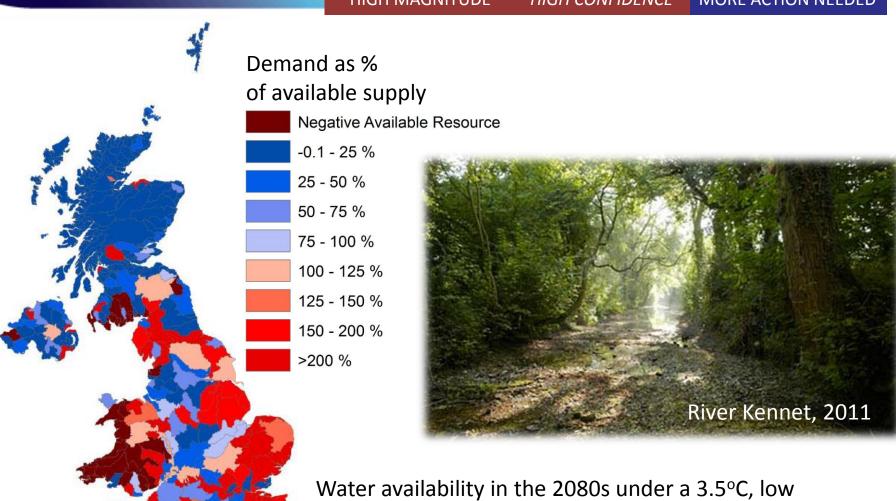
Risk of shortages in water supply



HIGH MAGNITUDE

HIGH CONFIDENCE

MORE ACTION NEEDED



Water availability in the 2080s under a 3.5°C, low population growth and high adaptation scenario

Risks to natural capital



HIGH MAGNITUDE

MEDIUMCONFIDENCE

MORE ACTION NEEDED

Agricultural land classification in England and Wales Grade 1 Grade 2 Grade 3a Grade 3b Grade 4 Grade 5 Non Agricultural Baseline (1961-91) 2050s (high emissions scenario)

Holme post, nr. Peterborough

Risks to food

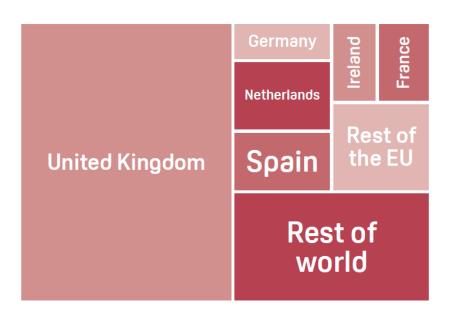


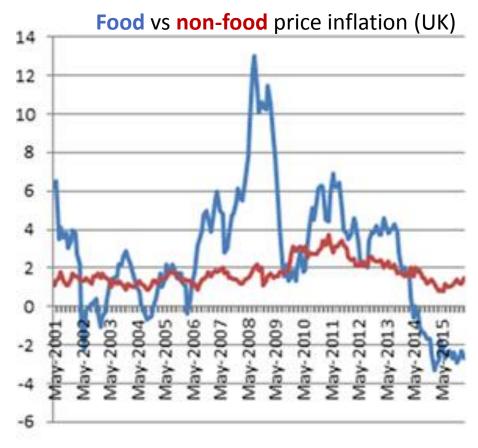
HIGH MAGNITUDE

MEDIUMCONFIDENCE

MORE ACTION NEEDED

Origins of food consumed in the UK, 2013





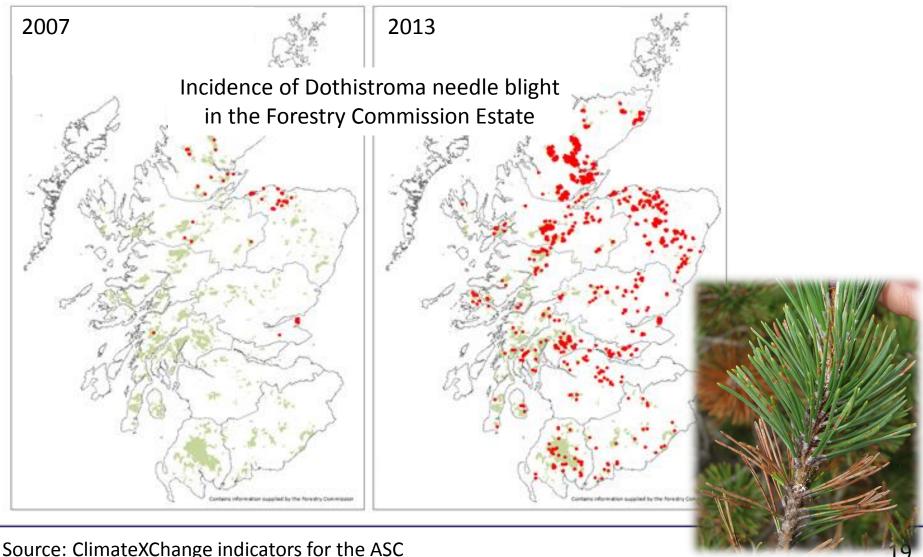
Risk from pests and diseases



HIGH MAGNITUDE

LOW CONFIDENCE

RESEARCH PRIORITY



Source: ClimateXChange indicators for the ASC

Are there any opportunities?



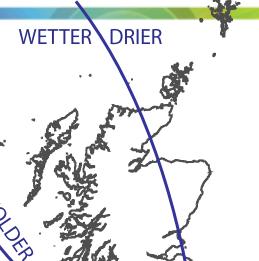




Risks in different parts of the UK







NETTER

DRIER





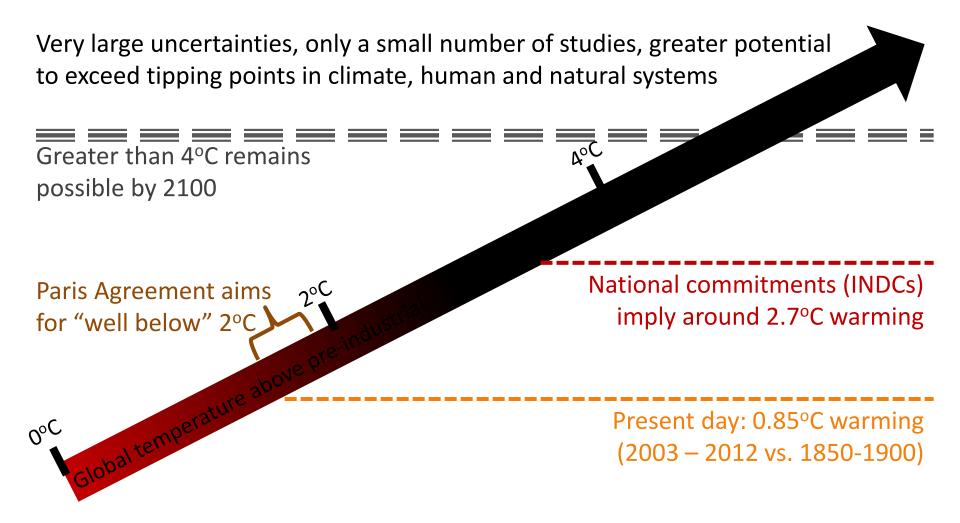
CLIMATIC ZONES FOR
TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL
(CURRENT CLIMATE)





Uncertainties in the magnitude of future warming and therefore risks





Next steps



- CCRA2 research conference:
 - joint with Government and the research councils (November)
- CCRA presented to Parliament:
 - by the Government (January 2017)
- Updated adaptation programmes:
 - UK (England): summer 2018
 - Scotland, Northern Ireland: 2019
 - Wales: as part of Wellbeing Act
- Next ASC statutory progress reports:
 - Scotland: September 2016
 - UK (England): June 2017

