

Sustainability in a changing built environment

SFHA Finance Conference November 2021

Alix Bedford, Risk Proposition Manager Zurich Municipal



Agenda



- 1. Introduction and overview
- 2. The meaning of Sustainability
- 3. Key areas for consideration and action
 - Development, renovating, retrofitting and repairing
 - Focus on Flood
 - Focus on Fire
- 4. How to respond
- 5. Q&A



https://www.zurich.co.uk/news-and-insight/its-time-to-rethink-what-sustainable-construction-really-means

Overview

ZURICH Municipal

Are we thinking holistically enough about sustainability?

40% of UK emissions come from households

7% increase in winter rainfall by the 2050s

Annual temperatures expected to rise by 1.1°C by the 2050s

80% of buildings in 2050 have already been built

Intensity of winter rainfall projected to increase by **25**%

7% decrease in summer rainfall by the 2050s

100,000 new affordable homes by 2032

Up to **54cm** sea level rise by the 2080s

Does meeting climate targets make buildings and developments sustainable?

The meaning of Sustainability



Understanding the link between sustainability and resilience

"Resilience: The ability of countries, communities and households to manage change by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of shocks or stresses without compromising their long term prospects" DFID, 2011

"Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." UN Sustainability Development Goals



BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION



MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk



CCC Adaptation Committee's report sets out the priority climate change risks and opportunities for the UK

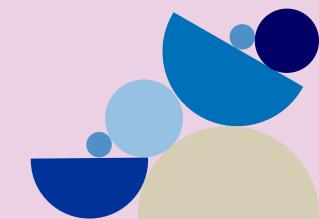
- UK's third Climate Change Risk Assessment was published on 16th June 2021
- www.ukclimaterisk.org hosts all of the outputs
 - Technical Report
 - National Summaries
 - Sector Briefings
 - Research & Supporting Analysis

"There is a strong focus, globally and in the UK on emissions reduction and achieving Net Zero...

But Net Zero alone is not enough. Reducing climate impacts requires both emissions reduction and adaptation. The UK will face significant further changes in climate to 2050 and beyond, even if the world is on a Paris-aligned emissions trajectory. By 2050 the heatwave summer of 2018 will be a typical summer, summer rainfall could fall by as much as 24% and winter rainfall increase by as much as 16%, changes that will impact our well-being, the natural environment and the economy."



https://www.ukclim aterisk.org/wpcontent/uploads/20 21/06/CCRA-Evidence-Report-Scotland-Summary-Final-1.pdf



Key areas for consideration and action

Development, renovating, retrofitting and repairing



- · Where we are developing,
- What we are developing
- How we are developing and
- Who we are developing for.

Residential development is a focus but principles apply to all buildings







ZURICH

Key areas for consideration and action

Flood risk in focus



Future flood modelling lacks consistency and clarity

Flood risk is increasingly unpredictable and the nature of it is changing rapidly

Published flood frequencies can sometimes be misleading, meaning occupants of properties do not understand their flood risk







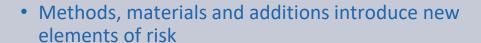
Flood resilience now and in the future

- Resilience measures must be demonstrably future-proofed
- Repairs and renovations postflood must aim to make assets resilient to future weather events
- Incorporating defences now will save costs and losses in the future

Key areas for consideration and action

Fire risk in focus





- Assurance is needed as to how the factory standards of off-site construction can be maintained during the on-site construction
- Firefighting tactics have evolved,
- Minimum standards in new buildings needed to increase resilience to fire
- Life safety and property protection





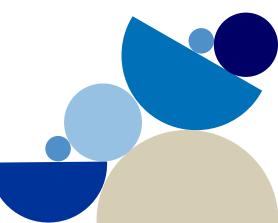


How to respond

Are you asking the right questions on sustainability?

- ✓ Are the identified needs of your people and communities driving your construction activity?
- ✓ Building regulations and standards are **minimum requirements**, **not benchmarks**, so do you comply with them, or do you try to go further to achieve greater environmental standards and building resilience?
- ✓ Do you factor in the **full building lifecycle**, including whether it would survive a loss event?
- ✓ Have you considered how a major loss could impact the most vulnerable members
 of your community?
- ✓ Do you **engage with your insurer at the design phase** of development to ensure the methods and materials chosen are responding to insurable risks?
- ✓ When considering the **energy efficiency of a building**, do you look at how the building will perform in optimal conditions or look at the reality of how it will be used/lived in?
- ✓ Do you take **a joined-up approach** to sustainable development, including considering how well connected a development is to other services, amenities and transport links?







Thank you for listening

Questions, comments and discussion

