



# Aberdeen Adapts Newsletter



APRIL 2017

## Developing Aberdeen Adapts

Climate change will deliver cross sector threats and opportunities that will affect businesses, organisations and communities across the city.

National experts Adaptation Scotland selected Aberdeen to support in the development of a partnership project, to establish a city wide approach to adapting to climate. The views and opinions of local stakeholders are being taken into account in the development of the project.

### What have we been doing?

A launch workshop in November was attended by 55 people from 28 organisations. The event gathered feedback on the climate challenges and opportunities that mattered most to local organisations, businesses and communities. As well as looking ahead to what a climate ready future looks like for Aberdeen.

In January, a series of themed workshops were held covering: society & economy, buildings and infrastructure and the natural environment. 54 people from 21 organisations shared information on actions already underway and planned to support an adapting Aberdeen. As well as views on what a well adapting society and economy would look like for Aberdeen.

A few months have passed since the stakeholder workshops in January but lots of work has still been taking place. Stakeholder views are being collated and developed and further activities taking place are outlined in this newsletter.

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to feed back into the Aberdeen Adapts process on 19 June when there will be a final workshop bringing people back together to comment on progress and take forward ideas.

### Interactive approach

*The University of Aberdeen led a workshop using interactive touch table technology at the Aberdeen Adapts, Natural Environment stakeholder workshop in January.*

*The technology helped participants with the visualisation process for a climate resilient city and with mapping current and planned adaptation activity in the city.*

### Date for your Diary

**Aberdeen Adapts**

**Stakeholder workshop**

- **19 June 2017**
- **Town & County Hall, Aberdeen**

## Climate Ready Places

PAS (Planning Aid for Scotland) and Adaptation Scotland have produced new easy to follow, interactive lesson plans and have been running 6 free climate ready workshops, in 3 schools in Aberdeen.

**The Climate Ready Place workshop is designed to help teach young people about the impacts of climate change on the places they live.**

The lesson plans are tailored for both primary (from P 4 upwards) and secondary levels and the resources provide pupils with an opportunity to consider their own place in the context of a changing climate. Each workshop session involves presentations and interactive activities aligned to the Curriculum for Excellence.

PAS will provide feedback from the workshop to help inform work on the Aberdeen Adapts project. This gives the chance for the views of young people to be considered in the development of this city wide climate project.

To find out more about the lesson plans visit: <http://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk/how-adapt/tools-and-resources/climate-ready-places-lesson-plans>



## Arts & climate science

Creative Carbon Scotland is working with Adaptation Scotland, RGU and the City Council in a project merging arts and climate science.

An Arts and Climate Change Mini-Festival hosted workshops run by four exciting artists from across Scotland, exploring in new and unexpected ways, how climate change will impact on Aberdeen's communities. The event took place on 22 April at the Middlefield Hub Café.

Evaluation of the workshops is taking place to assess the effectiveness of using the arts to increase understanding of climate change. Relevant information will feed into the development of Aberdeen Adapts.

To find out more visit <http://www.creativecarbonscotland.com/event/arts-climate-change-mini-festival-aberdeen/>

## Resilient Communities Fund

SSEN (Scottish and Southern Electricity Network) north of Scotland Resilient Communities Fund is now open for applications.

The £285,000 fund is available for non-profit making organisations, community groups and charities working in the SSEN distribution area. Applications up to £20,000 will be accepted until **15 June 2017**.

The Fund supports local projects that:

- Protect the welfare of vulnerable community members through enhancing their resilience and improving community participation and effectiveness.
- Enhance community facilities, services and communication specifically to support the local response in the event of a significant emergency event.

Find out more at:

<https://www.ssepd.co.uk/RCF/Scotland/>

## Community resilience

**A key aim of Aberdeen Adapts is working with communities to build understanding of local climate impacts and to develop local action.**

A changing climate will impact communities and could cause damage to homes, disrupt travel and key local services.

Communities have a wealth of local knowledge and experience in coping with weather impacts and can take many actions to prepare for and know what to do in case of an emergency and build resilience for the longer term.

A student from the University of Aberdeen is working with Aberdeen City Council on a work placement over the summer months. This work will explore opportunities for building community capacity to prepare for and respond to severe weather events and climate risks.

## Further information

To find out more about **Aberdeen Adapts** contact:

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or visit [www.adaptationscotland.org.uk](http://www.adaptationscotland.org.uk)