



# Resilience to Extreme Weather

*Building business resilience to drought, flood, ice, snow and heat waves*

**Thursday 9 October 2014**



# Are you Climate Ready?

*Why business resilience is important to your company*



Jon Clubb

**Climate Change Coordinator**

Your Climate

In partnership with



# Who we work with



In partnership with




in the humber



Department of Energy & Climate Change





**“When impacted by a major incident such as a flood, 80% of businesses without an emergency continuity plan in place never fully recover.”**

**- ABI**

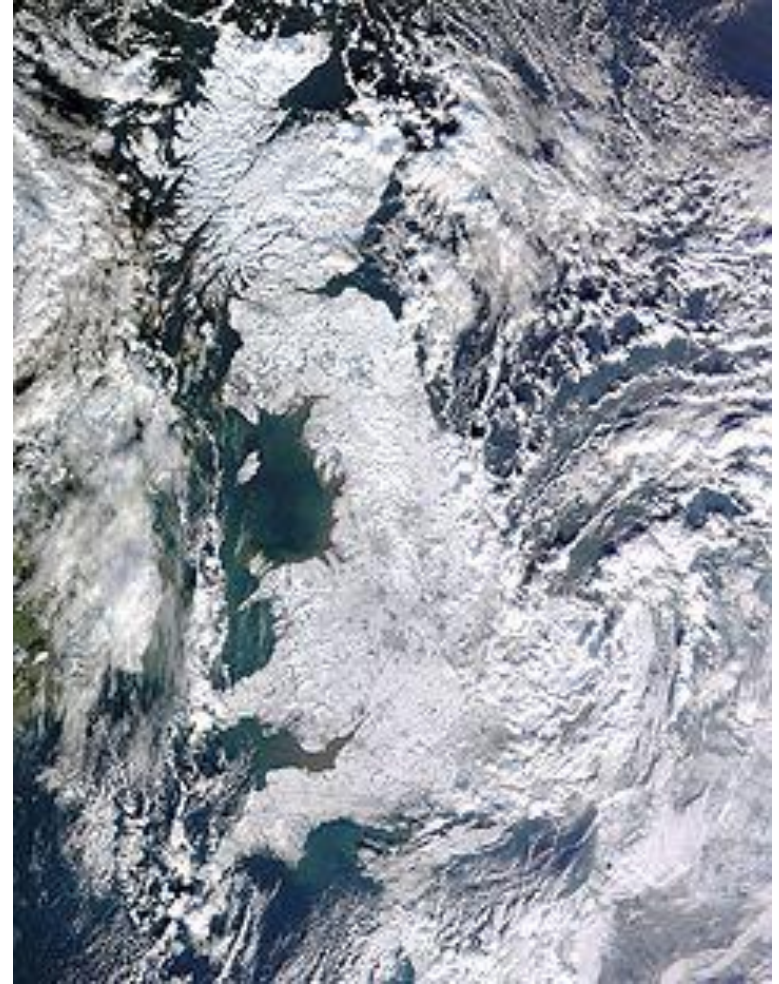
# Severe weather?

2000 – flooding	2008 – snow and ice
2001 – flooding	2009 – flooding
2003 – heatwave	2009 – snow and ice
2005 – flooding	2010 – floods, snow, ice
2006 – drought	2011 – drought, fire
2006 – heatwave	2012 – drought, floods
2007 – flooding	2013 – ice, flooding
2008 – flooding	2014 – flooding...



**'Britain facing one of the coldest winters in 100 years, experts predict'**

The Telegraph, 2 January 2010





**“Drought may last until Christmas”**

BBC News, 16 April 2012

# Transport infrastructure



Source: @MalcomWarne



Source: @yorkpress

September 2012



# East Coast surge



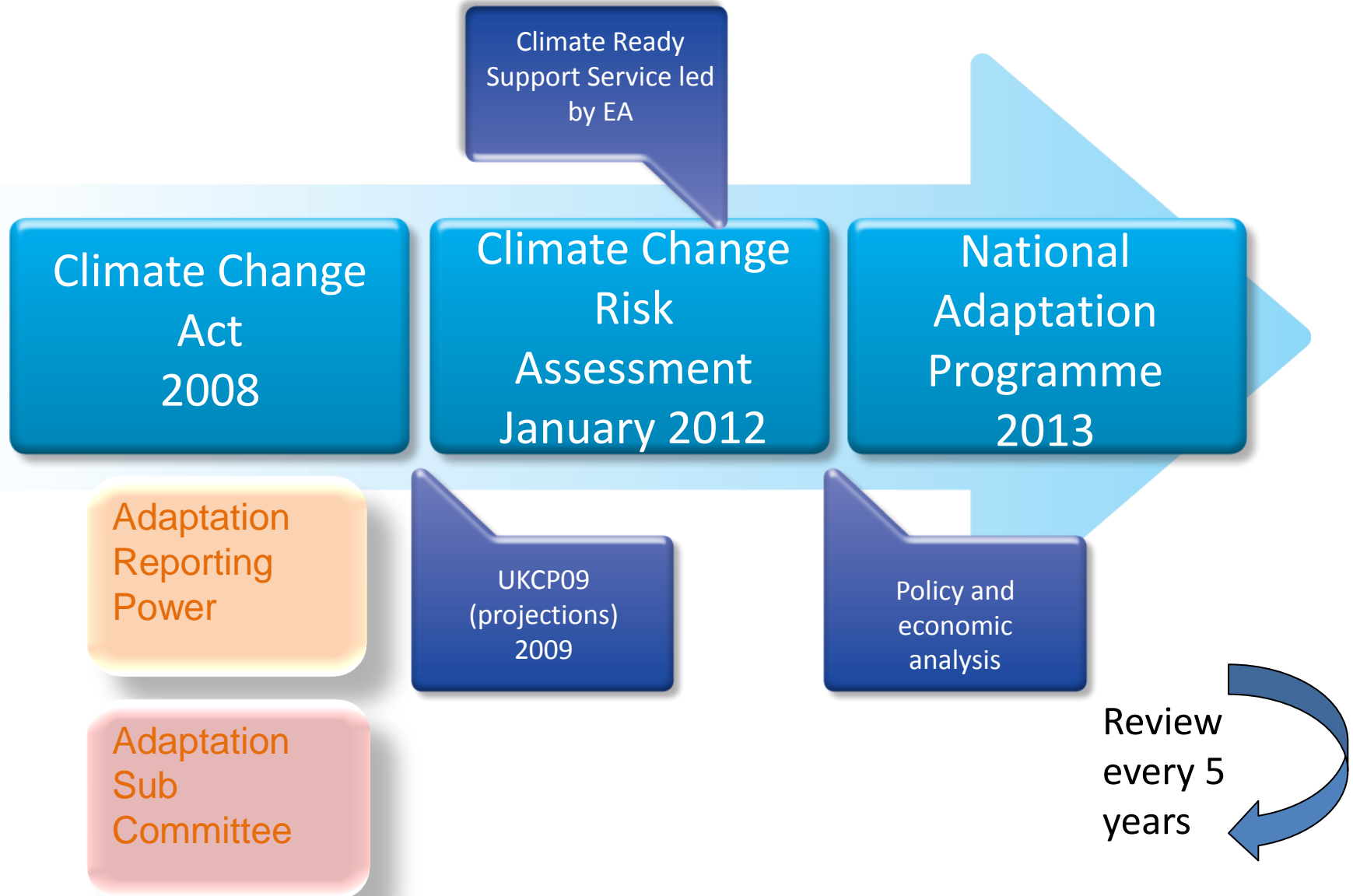
December 2013

# why do we need to adapt?

- Climate change likely to make severe weather events more frequent
- A solely low carbon economy will still be vulnerable to climate/weather risks
- Identify and manage the possible risks and opportunities is better than reacting to events
- Adapting may identify new opportunities



# legislative framework



# Weathering the Storm



- Effects of climate change
- Relevance to business
- Understand possible impacts
- How to take action
- Opportunities
- Further resources / tools

[www.yourclimate.org/pages/new-support-businesses](http://www.yourclimate.org/pages/new-support-businesses)

# Weathering the Storm



# Weathering the Storm

## Insurance



### Ask yourself:

- Are you covered for floods and storm events?
- Do you have business continuity insurance?

### Take action:

- Check insurance covers value of your business
- Catalogue your assets – photos, video

### More info:

- Contact The Association of British Insurers (ABI)
- [www.abi.org.uk](http://www.abi.org.uk)

# Weathering the Storm

## Premises



### Ask yourself:

- Are you in a flood risk area? What about if you move location?
- Could you operate from alternative premises if you had to?

### Take action:

- Check in the Environment Agency's flood maps (enter your postcode)
- Sign up to flood alerts (phone, text, email, fax)

### More info:

- [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31650.aspx](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31650.aspx)
- [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/register](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/app/olr/register)

# Weathering the Storm

People



Ask yourself:

- Are staff vulnerable to extreme temperatures (heat and cold)?
- How will temperature extremes effect productivity?

Take action:

- Identify vulnerable staff and know your legal obligations
- Encourage workers to wear suitable clothing appropriate to temperature

More info:

- NHS advice on heatwaves [www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Summerhealth](http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Summerhealth)
- Health & Safety Executive [www.hse.gov.uk/temperature](http://www.hse.gov.uk/temperature)



# Weathering the Storm - opportunities

## Markets

- New or modified products to respond to markets
- Advantages for early movers
- Maintenance, repairs, services
- Outdoor leisure

## Finance

- Good risk management leading to reduced premiums
- Clients and customers attracted to resilient business

## Logistics

- Competitive advantage to built in flexibility
- Procuring from and / or supplying local markets

## Premises

- Thermal comfort in Winter is less challenging
- Built Environment sector can develop expertise in climate related building services

## People

- Greater comfort and lower fuel bills in Winter
- Improve life-work balance through flexible working – maintain productivity

## Process

- Agriculture – longer growing season and new varieties
- New financial products to take account of climate change
- Construction – few delays from frost

# Business resilience 'health check'

- On-line tool
- Multiple choice
- 30 minutes
- Traffic light report
- Prioritised actions

A screenshot of the Business Resilience Healthcheck login page. The page has a black background. On the left, there are two white input fields for 'Username:' and 'Password:'. Below these are two yellow buttons: 'Register' and 'Login'. To the right of the input fields is a large orange banner with the text 'Business Resilience Healthcheck' in white. Above the banner is a small orange silhouette of a city skyline.

[www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk](http://www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk)

# Local resilience forums



## Humber Local Resilience Forum

**Your Plan "Bs"**

It's easier to predict the consequences of a disruption than the cause. The resources in the table below are usually the things that will be affected. Think about which of these resources are essential to delivering the critical activities you've just identified, and what your "Plan B" would be if they were unavailable in a disruption. There are some example contingency measures on the next few pages.

Resources	Which resource are essential to delivering your critical activities?	What is your plan B?
People		
Buildings and workspace		
Information and communications technology		
Plant and equipment		
Information, paperwork and records		
Services delivered to you by suppliers or other third party organisations		

[www.heps.gov.uk](http://www.heps.gov.uk)

# Case study – Rhodes Asbestos



## Context

- SME removal and disposal of asbestos
- Moved to new site
- Made pro-active changes to pre-empt potential flooding impacts

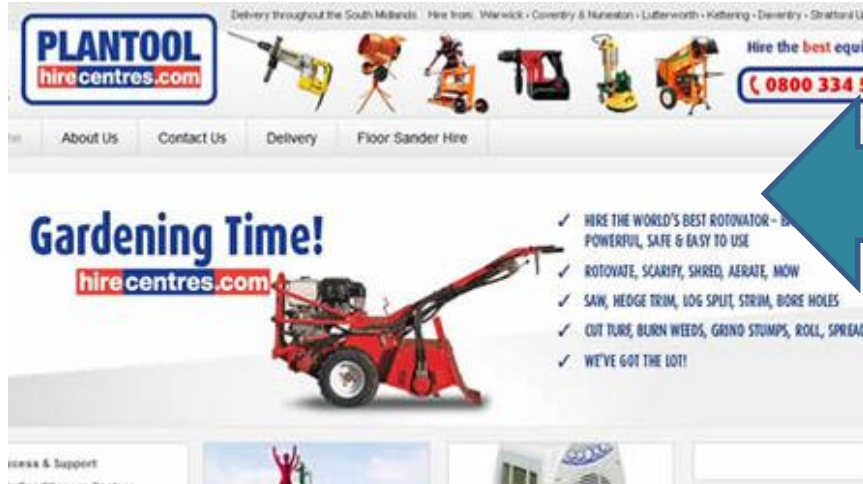
## How they adapted

- Sealed asbestos storage units
- Move units to position that would prevent their loss during a flood
- Signed up for flood alerts
- Local skip company removes storage units if river levels high

## Benefits

- ✓ Small scale low or no cost measures increase resilience
- ✓ Quick and easy to implement, does not require a consultant!

# Case study – Plantool Ltd



## Context

- Tool hire company in East Midlands
- Depot flooded to waist height in 2007
- Tools and equipment badly damaged
- Turnover fell by 70% overnight
- 2 years to recover to previous sales

## How they adapted

- Have company wide business continuity plan, including for severe weather
- Flood plan in place for depot
- Signed up to flood warnings from the Environment Agency
- Stock raised off the floor or locked up / secured

## Benefits

- ✓ Staff trained in what steps to take and to stay safe
- ✓ Business in a position to increase sales by helping others



# Further information

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01924 200262 (office)

07970 120827 (direct dial)

Web - **www.yourclimate.org**

Twitter - **@your\_climate**

# Explaining terminology

## **mitigation**

reducing greenhouse gas emissions to a safe and stable level

## **adaptation**

respond to the predicted impacts of unavoidable climate change

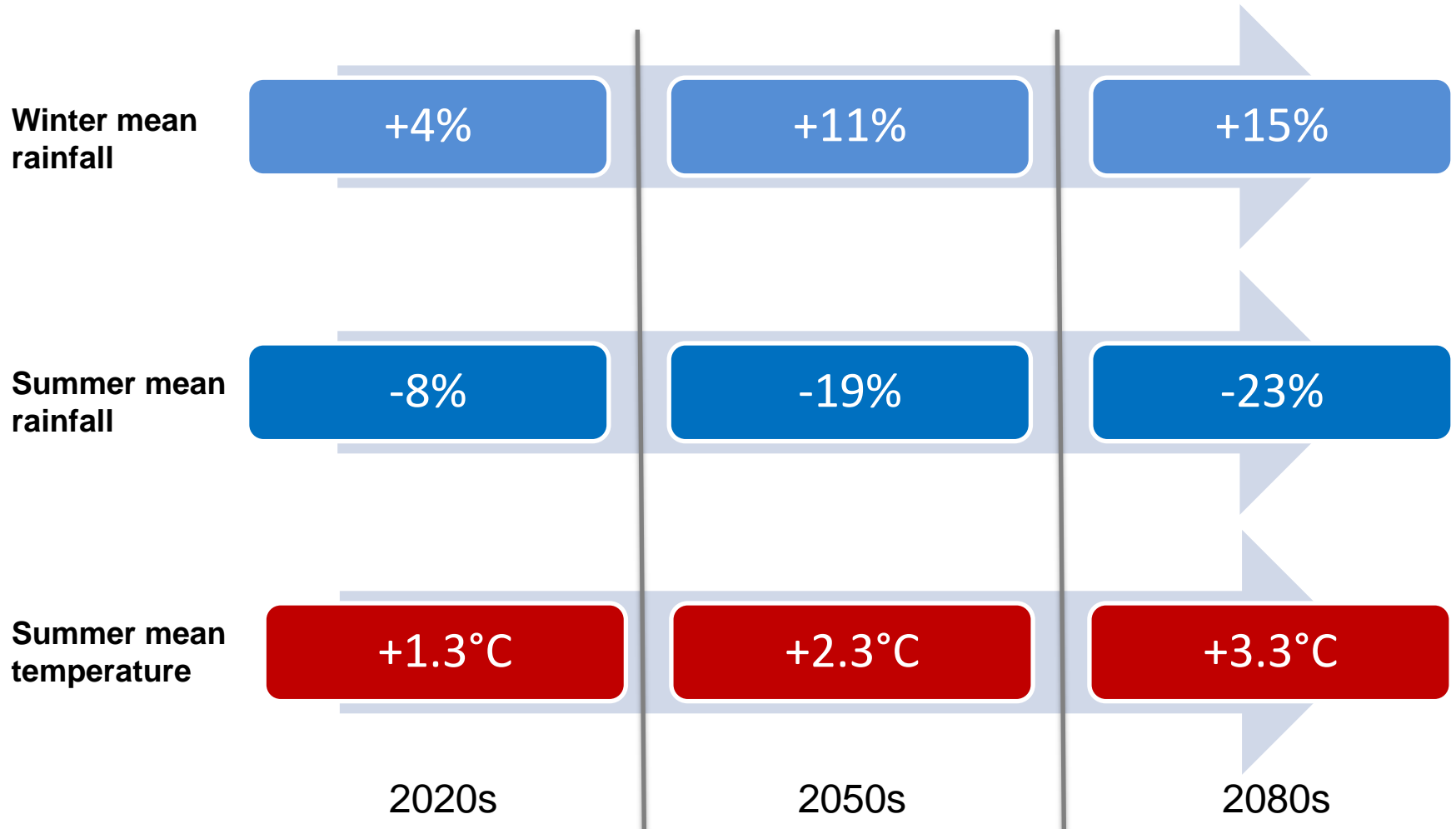
# Evidence

- UK Climate Projections - UKCP09
- Regional Adaptation Study
- UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 'CCRA'
- Regional and local assessments





# UKCP09 Climate Projections



# Workshop B

## Business Resilience Health Check

[www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk](http://www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk)

Teresa James – NE Lincolnshire Council  
Jon Clubb – Your Climate



# Exercise 1

**How has your organisation been affected by extremes in weather?**



# A resilient business..

- ✓ Resist threats rather than react to them
- ✓ Constantly identifies weaknesses and improves on them
- ✓ Competitive edge by mitigating problems whilst others suffer
- ✓ Staff are constantly driven to anticipate problems and innovate



# Business resilience 'health check'

- On-line tool
- Multiple choice
- 30-60 minutes
- Traffic light report
- Prioritised actions

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[www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk](http://www.businessresiliencehealthcheck.co.uk)

# Explanation of Categories

Questions are divided throughout the survey across 7 different categories detailed below;

## **A. Premises**

Flood risk, business inventories, maintenance, post-disaster liability, data back-up

## **B. Operations**

Business continuity plans, emergency contacts, effects of temperature

## **C. Financial**

Capital purchases, land and asset values

## **D. Insurance**

Business interruption cover, video inventories, policy excesses, landlord's insurance

## **E. Markets**

Impact of weather on sales, customer dependence, business opportunities

## **F. Staff**

Attendance, temperature and illness, flexible working, legal requirements, risks to employees

## **G. Logistics**

Severe weather driving policy, deliveries, supply chains

If you are not confident that you can answer all of the questions in these categories, please undertake this healthcheck with colleagues.

Next

# Exercise 2 (20 mins)

## Case study – identifying the impacts

*Company: Abacus Web Design*

What does business resilience mean to Abacus?  
What could they do to improve their resilience?



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# Explanation of Colours

*Upon completion of the Survey you will receive a PDF report broken down via colour codes, an explanation of the colour codes is detailed below;*



## **Maintain Status**

Your current procedures show evidence of resilient practice. You should aim to maintain the current action/procedure.

## **To Check**

You should check the steps currently being taken by your business and redo the checklist once this information has been identified.

## **Take Action**

Action is needed. Your current actions/procedures are endangering your business resilience. Follow the advice given in the report and implement the changes required to your business.

## **Priority Action**

Priority action is required. If you do not make immediate changes to your current actions/procedures, your business is at risk.

[Start the Survey](#)

# A2

Do your premises suffer from high internal temperatures from direct sunlight or on hot days?

Yes

No

[Next question](#)

[Save for Later](#)

# D3

Do you review your business insurance each year to accommodate growth, capital expenditure and sales peaks?

- Yes
- No

Next question

Save for Later

## A26

**Q:** If you are liable to flooding, have you purchased any flood defence products?

**A:** Not Applicable

**COMMENT:** *There are a wide range of flood defence products available to defend your premises from flood damage. Preventing water access and sealing common points of entry can help minimise the damage to your premises and help the business become operational again more rapidly after a flood.*

**ACTION:** *Visit the 'Blue Pages' for BSI endorsed flood products. This list is maintained by the National Flood Forum and contains a list of available products. [www.bluepages.org.uk](http://www.bluepages.org.uk) Further flooding advice is available from the Environment Agency [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/32354.aspx](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/32354.aspx)*

## B1

**Q:** Do you have a business continuity plan?

**A:** No

**COMMENT:** *A business continuity plan is essential to reduce the risk of a major business interruption significantly affecting the short and long term viability of the business. It has been estimated by AXA Insurance that 80 per cent of businesses without such plans following a major disruption will never fully recover or may even go out of business. Having a business continuity plan potentially could reduce insurance premiums if the business is insured for interruption insurance and can also be a good sales mechanism when bidding to a potential customer, differentiating the business from competitors. A large business can reduce their own supply chain risk, if they require all suppliers to have plans in place.*

**ACTION:** *Firms looking to build their resilience to risks such as market forces, skills shortages and severe weather events like snow and flooding can take part in training, which leads to a qualification. For more information on this please email [jennifer.atkinson@climatenortheast.com](mailto:jennifer.atkinson@climatenortheast.com)*

## B4

**Q:** Have you trained the applicable staff to familiarise themselves with their role in an emergency?

**A:** No

**COMMENT:** *It is essential staff identified to contribute in the event of an emergency or major business interruptions are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities and trained where applicable.*

**ACTION:** *Ensure that all staff with allocated tasks to perform in the event of an emergency are trained so that they are familiar with their roles and responsibilities.*

## B8

**Q:** Do you hold a list of important contacts such as insurance, landlord details, suppliers, customers and other key stakeholders?

**A:** Yes

**COMMENT:** *It is important to include all key contact details of the main stakeholders the business will need to contact after a major business interruption, and that this list is in a safe place that is easily accessible.*

**ACTION:** *Make sure that all key contact details for main stakeholders are included in your business continuity plan or compile a list and have paper copies displayed (for example, on a notice board).*

# Help with completing the BRHC

- ✓ 1 hour free 1:1 'consultancy' support to complete the BRHC
- ✓ Accredited practitioners in using the BRHC, local to you
- ✓ Indicate your interest on the feedback form





EAST RIDING  
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL



# Further information

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