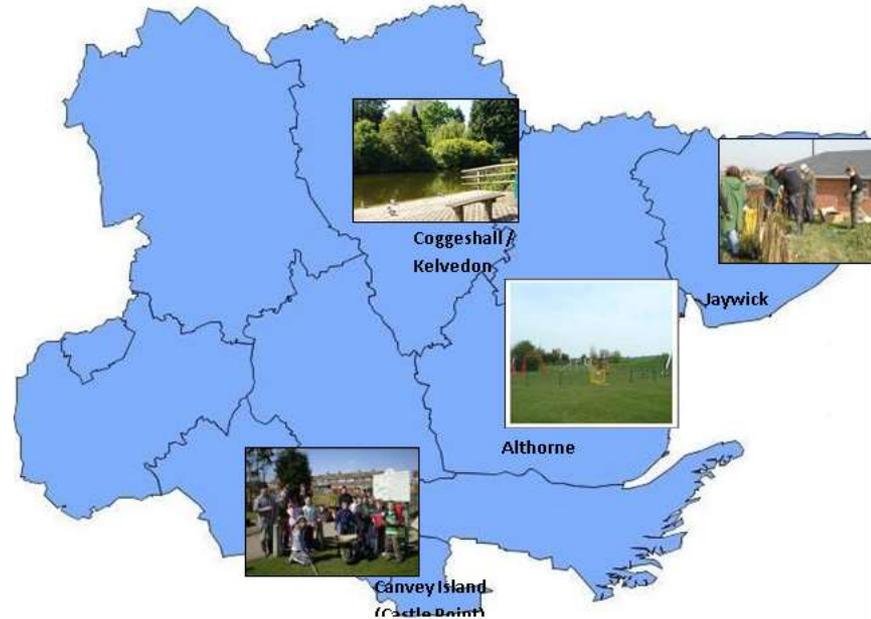


BREC

Building Resilience in Essex Communities



Jayne Rogers, Environment Project Officer

BREC Project

- Partnership: 25 Partners include representatives from 5 Communities
 - Althorne, Jaywick, Canvey Island, Kelvedon and Coggeshall
- Looking at Communities resilience to extreme weather events, such as:
 - Flooding/heavy rain
 - Drought
 - Extreme high and low temperatures



BREC Vision

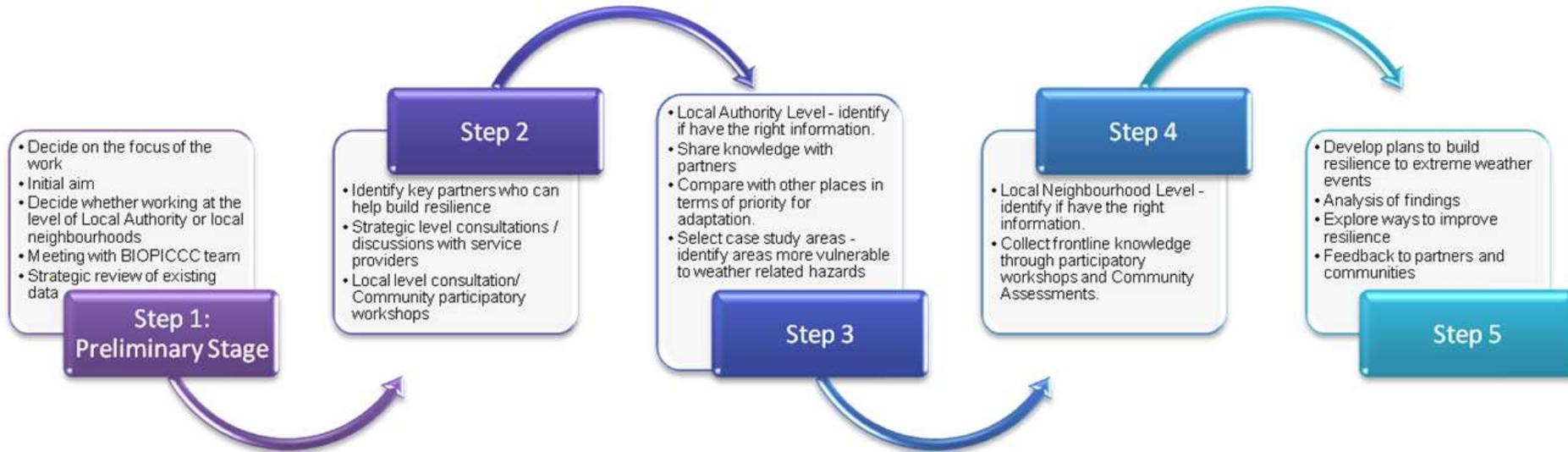
'To make Essex communities more resilient and sustainable places to live by working together in best utilisation of local resources, learning new skills and sharing experiences, information and knowledge between communities and both county and national programmes to improve residents quality of life.'

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Outcome 1 | <u>Resilience:</u> Communities are more resilient and better able to support themselves and their vulnerable people in the event of environmental crisis situations e.g. drought, flooding, heat wave, cold weather. |
| Outcome 2 | <u>Quality of Life:</u> Improve the quality of life of local residents including vulnerable people in the local community |
| Outcome 3 | <u>Sustainability:</u> Communities maximising the use of their social, financial and natural assets & resources to make their communities more sustainable. |
| Outcome 4 | <u>Efficiency:</u> Raise awareness of resources availability to drive, enhance resilience and increase sustainability within the local community. |



How BIOPICCC helped BREC

The main approach taken by BREC was through the modification of the process within the BIOPICCC Prototype Toolkit shown below:



Outcomes

- Community Emergency Plans being reviewed in line with learning from the partnership
- Community supplying 'Grab Bags' to those in high flood risk areas
- A strong partnership, bring their skills in to the communities
- Communities exploring other initiatives, with support from the partnership
- Community Garden
- Residents saving money on their energy bills
- Initiate a community knowledge swap
- Better understanding of the Communities risks and needs



Example of Activities identified:

- General First Aid training
- Medical equipment, i.e. defibrillators
- Rest centre grab bags
- Community Emergency Plans
- Energy efficiency training and energy drop in surgeries
- Energy audit and retrofit of community halls
- Communication plan signposting to services
- Community gardens/ grow your own/ Fresh and Fruity delivery service
- Dawn Patrol (School initiative)



Essex County Council

BREC's Future...

BREC II

- A practical outreach programme to empower vulnerable residents to make informed decisions about energy issues (tariffs, home energy efficiency) and build resilience to severe weather events

Our approach:

- Create a cross-sectoral partnership to address common issues
- Prioritise support to the most vulnerable and identify areas in need
- Promote integration between all related services to ensure a coherent and consistent approach/message and maximise resources
- Partner with organisations that already have a presence in the community i.e. Community agents



Key Message

Important to:

- Conducting community assessments
- Identify clear aim, vision and objectives
- Community involvement and ownership
- Work in collaboration with the community
- Working with the correct partners



Thank You

Contact Details:

Jayne Rogers

Environment Project Officer,

Essex County Council, E3 County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH

Telephone: 03330136729

Email: Jayne.rogers@essex.gov.uk