BIOPICCC: Built Infrastructure for Older People’s Care in Conditions of Climate Change

A partnership between:

the BIOPICCC Team, Durham and Herriot-Watt Universities;

EPSRC-ARCC from the UKRC LWEC programme;

Central and Local Government and Local Communities in England
Some key features of the BIOPICCC project

Research to make infrastructure for older people’s care more resilient extreme weather:

- combine information on built, institutional and social infrastructures making up systems of care for older people;
- preparedness planning joining up environmental, social and engineering perspectives

Outputs included: BIOPICCC online toolkit to help partners at local level frame strategies for preparedness for extreme weather.

- Referred to in national guidance issued in the National Adaptation Programme 2013 and by the NHS SDU;
- used at local level by local authorities developing resilience strategies for extreme weather

Developing the toolkit as a ‘living resource’ – we are now working to update it and make it more useful to partners.
Positive impacts
• Making the case and raising awareness.
• Participatory mapping methodology.
• Partner identification and engagement.
• Local adaptability and community resilience.

Barriers to achieving greater impact
• ‘Austerity’ and competing priorities.
• Capacity.
• Measuring impact locally (lack of measures/capacity to).
• Format and language of the toolkit.
Built Infrastructure for Older People's Care in Conditions of Climate Change (BIOPICCC): Toolkit

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http://www.dur.ac.uk/geography/research/researchprojects/biopiccc/
BIOPICCC toolkit

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Local impact

• Toolkit used independently by a number of local authorities for climate change adaptation and resilience planning.

• Feedback includes:
  – BIOPICCC work provided added impetus enabling us to bring more people into the picture
  – The whole idea of running a climate change adaptation workshop came from the toolkit...a really good practical idea
  – Levels of understanding have improved...an eye-opener for people to think from end-users perspectives and help them to understand how to respond.
  – Communities found it really useful to identify risks and share what services they wanted
  – The toolkit provides really good evidence to present to commissioners about what the community wants and why, their expectations, and how to deliver this.
BIOPICCC toolkit: Deciding aims

- Are you especially interested in making local health and social care services for older people more resilient to extreme weather events at present and to future climate change?
- Do you want to work at the local authority and/or neighbourhood level? Or both?
- What do you hope to gain from using the toolkit?
- Do you have in mind a particular issue relating to the resilience of health and social care systems for older people that is important for your neighbourhood?
BIOPICCC toolkit: Identifying key partners

- Scope of study? What level/s of the local system is relevant to your aims?

Key questions:
- Which stakeholders should be included in view of your aims?
- Are there other stakeholders, not on the list, that you need to include?
- How is it best to contact these stakeholders and is it possible to bring them together for joint resilience planning?
- What work is currently ongoing?
BIOPICCC toolkit: Local authority planning

- Useful resources (e.g., hazard maps, SHAPE, population projections etc.)
- Example activity schedule
  https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/geography/BIOPICCC/Toolkit/biopiccc_toolkit_appendix_3a.pdf
- Key parts of health and social care system
- How might extreme weather affect these?
- How do elements of the system connect and depend on each other?
- Determine sites for more detailed assessment.
BIOPICCC toolkit: Neighbourhood planning

- Local knowledge is essential to build resilient communities.
  - Capacity across localities is variable
- Neighbourhood ‘organogram’ a useful template.
- In BIOPICCC the focus is on older people, therefore, consider: health and social care needs, those that are ‘(un)/known’ to service providers, isolation, socio-economic status, ethnicity etc.
- Survey/interview for views and/or workshops
• An adaptable tool
  – The *process* of adapting it has potential benefits for resilience planning
  – Includes a range of methods and approaches that can be adapted to local needs and priorities
  – Local ownership and capacity(ies) are key
• An approach based on combining different *types* of knowledge (technical, professional, and civic).
Next steps

• Scope to bid for further funding to refresh the *toolkit*.
• Making it as accessible, useful, and used by local practitioners and policy makers will be a key aim.
• So,...:
  – Is there demand for a refresh; and
  – Where should we focus our attention?