

Using SPDs to address climate change

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www.pas.gov.uk

this presentation will cover

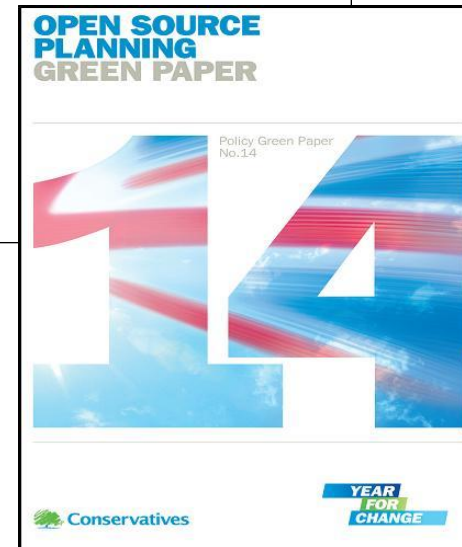
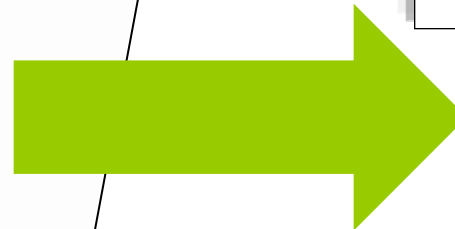
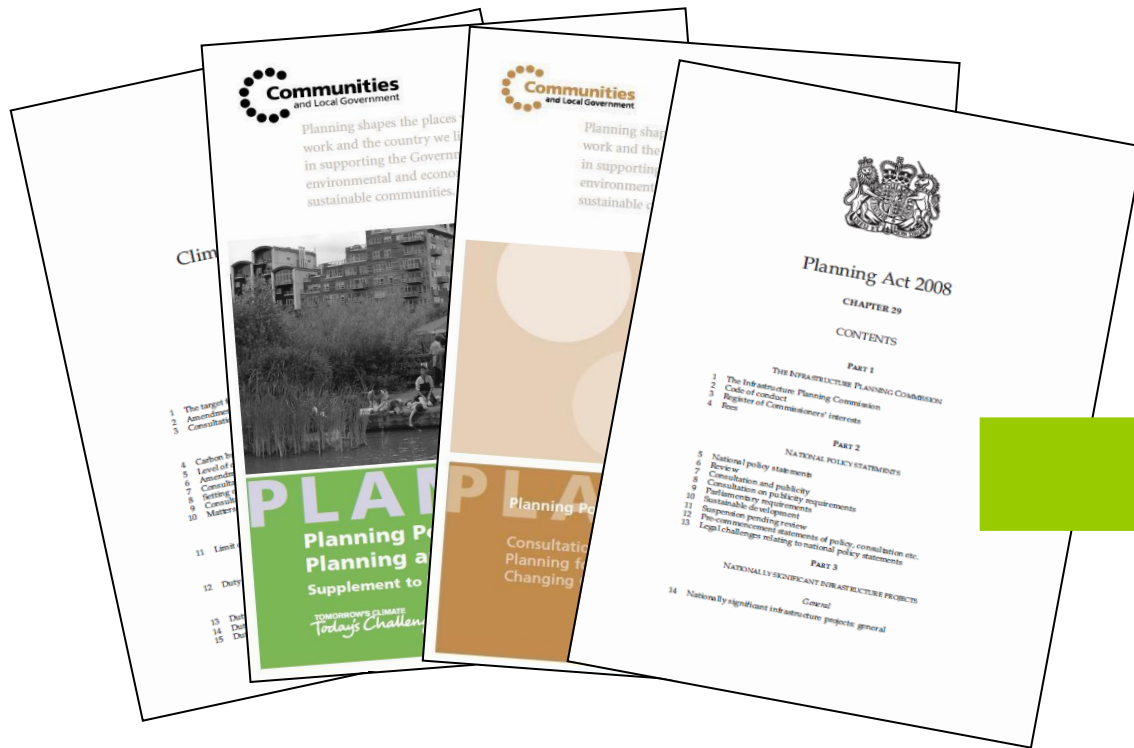
- changes in planning policy
 - sustainability and localism
 - supplementary planning documents – policy basis, benefits, and appeals
-

broader context

- coalition agreement encourages community-owned renewable energy
 - ability to export to the national grid – local spatial evidence to enable this will be required
 - planning for the impacts of climate change needs to be embedded in local development documents
 - sustainability in neighbourhood plans...?
-

changing policy environment

The Coalition:
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Why decentralisation?

So that:

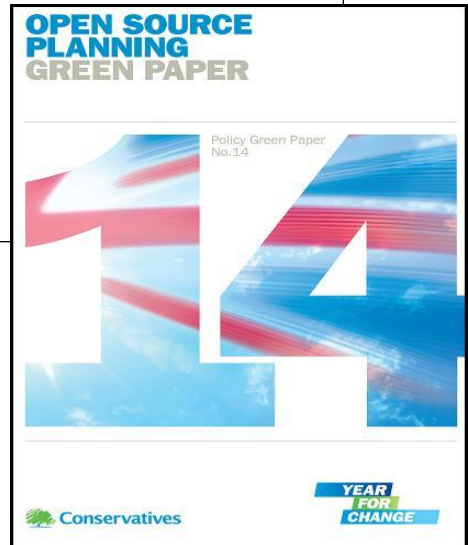
People and communities have greater control over the services in their locality

Diversity in local approaches releases innovation in public services – speed and resilience

Front line professionals respond to local preferences, with fewer constraints from the centre

People can hold local services and institutions to account more effectively than Whitehall

The Coalition:
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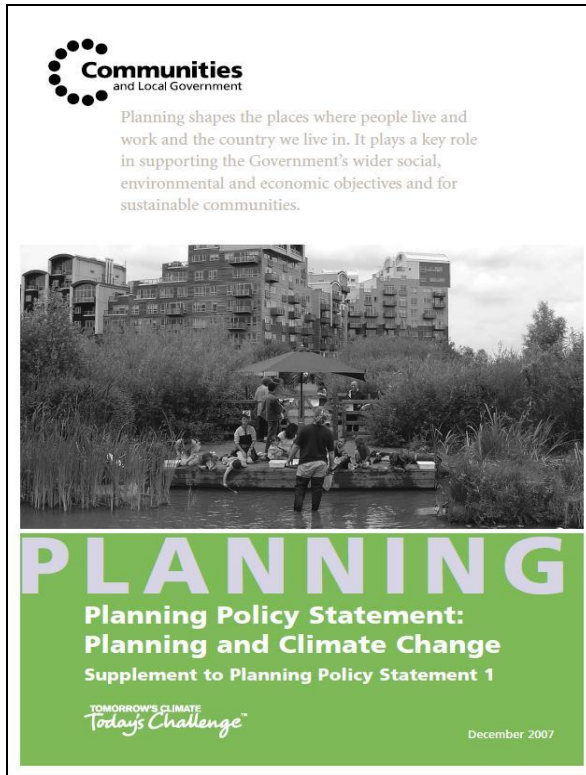
Planning at neighbourhood level

- The Government is giving neighbourhoods far more ability to determine the shape of the places in which people live through 'neighbourhood plans'.
 - Empower communities to **take control**
 - Neighbourhood not local planning authority led.
 - Light-touch process
 - Inspire innovation and creativity
 - Exploring ways of enabling small scale community development.
 - Permissive regime

quick overview...

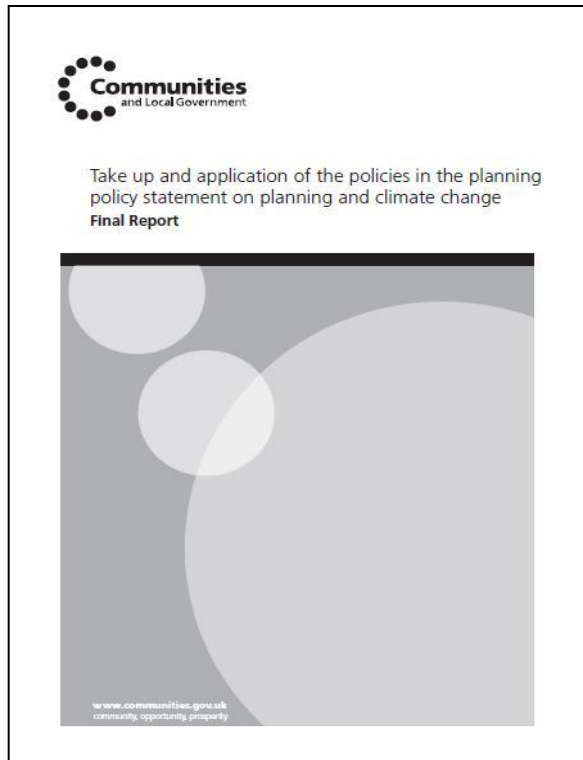
- This is early / new / evolving
 - There won't be “one correct way”
 - You **must** provide a strategic context
 - Neighbourhood planning is another tool, alongside TCPA
 - It is to **promote** development and change
 - It must allow people to feel the benefit
 - Councils lose some powers to say “no”
-

using SPDs?



‘...local requirements for decentralised energy supply to new development or for sustainable buildings should be set out in a DPD, **not a supplementary planning document**, so as to ensure examination by an independent Inspector.’ (paragraph 33)

reality for authorities



‘local authorities have commented that ... **an SPD presents a better option than the alternative, which is to proceed in a ‘policy vacuum’** until such a time as a sound DPD can be prepared and adopted...’ (page 22)

CLG plan making manual

‘Supplementary planning documents are not required to have a specific link to or ‘hang off’ a development plan document policy, but they must be consistent with national planning policy and the relevant regional plan.’

The CLG plan making manual is hosted on the PAS website.

benefits of SPD

- more detail than core strategy policies
 - flexible enough to account for policy changes
 - give guidance to developers/applicants
 - help DC/DM implement strategic policies
 - provide basis for internal training
 - make the case for sustainability
-

good practice examples...

- give guidance and further information on policies set in the core strategy or a DPD
 - use Code/BREEAM standards
 - provide useful evidence and maps
 - explain the relationship with building regs.
 - show the cross-cutting nature of climate change across policy areas (e.g. planning and health)
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Code/BREEAM

- provides national consistency
 - Code/BREEAM assessors reduce DC/DM officer burden with technical calculations (energy generation, carbon emission reduction)
 - SPD can be flexible by making upcoming changes clear
-

mitigation in SPDs

- energy hierarchy
 - renewable energy opportunities in the area (and constraints)
 - carbon fund / community energy fund
 - local carbon reduction and renewable energy targets
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Ashford's SPD

- makes link with core strategy vision
 - explains how development can reduce CO2 emissions in line with their core strategy policy CS10
 - provides link to sustainable energy feasibility study
 - explains the Ashford Carbon Fund
-

Ashford LDF 2007 - 2014

			(CS3) Town Centre & (CS4) Brownfield Urban Sites	(CS5) Urban Extensions & (CS4) Greenfield Urban Sites	(CS6) Tenterden, the Villages	Existing and refurbishment
(A)		Residential	Code Level 3	Code Level 4	Code Level 2	EcoHomes 'Very Good'
	BREEAM	Overall level	Very Good	Excellent	Good	Very Good
		Energy Credits	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
		Water Credits	Maximum	Maximum	Excellent	Excellent
		Material Credits	Excellent	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good
(B)	Minimum Carbon Dioxide Reduction					
			20%	30%	10%	10%

Southwark's SPD

- explains and promotes use of energy hierarchy
 - shows how the energy hierarchy is applied to a development
 - explains locally feasible renewable and decentralised energy technologies
 - gives guidance for which developments will need to connect to existing CHP schemes
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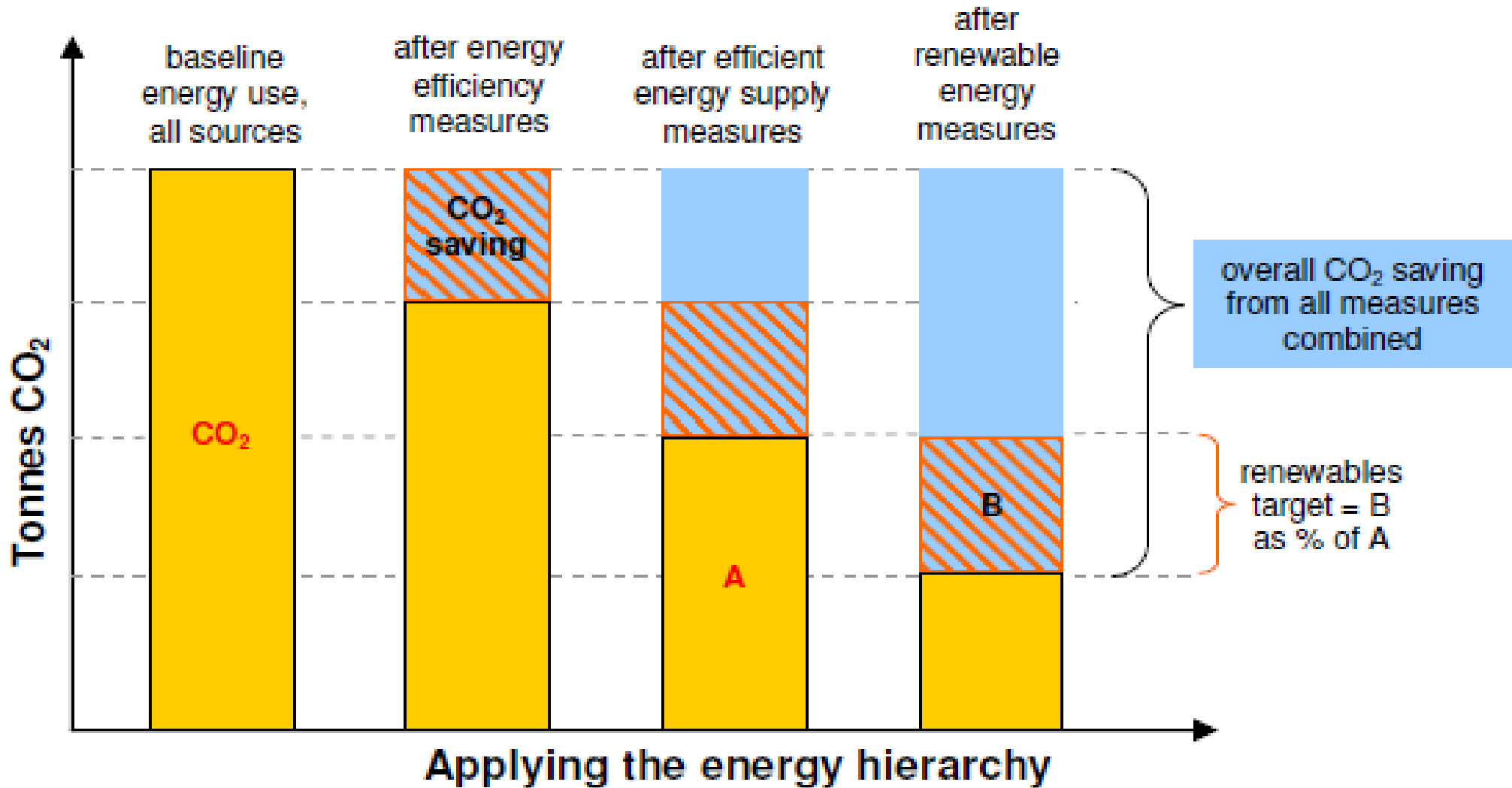


Table in Southwark's Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

Chorley's SPD

- Section on low carbon energy sources:
“The climate in the North West is suitable for Solar Water Heating systems as year-round sun is not required. Modern systems will make a significant contribution to water heating requirements, providing 50 – 60% of annual domestic hot water requirements and can also be used to provide space heating.”
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adaptation in SPDs

Sustainability SPDs address local adaptation issues and link to evidence on:

- flooding and sustainable drainage
 - urban heat island effect
 - hotter/drier summers
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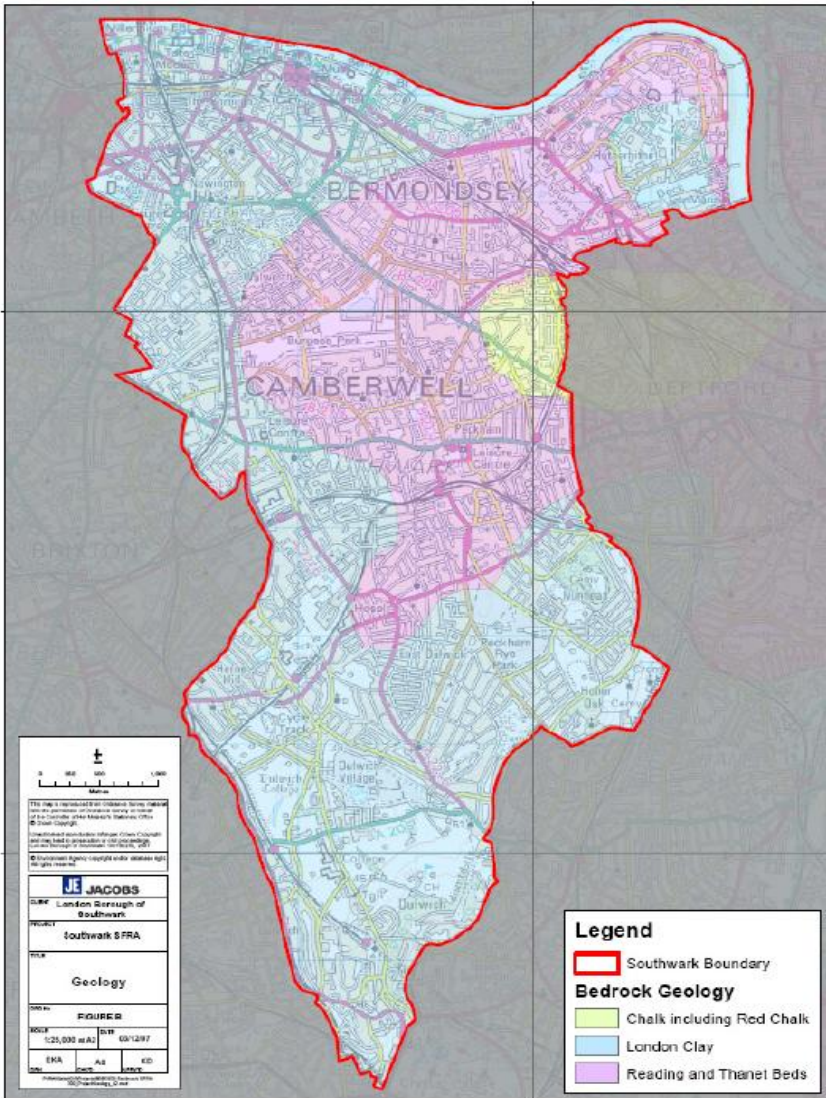
urban heat island effect



‘Trees can assist in the cooling of the city in periods of hot weather...’
(Plymouth SPD p.55)

flooding

Figure 2 – Soils in Southwark



‘Drainage techniques...will not be effective in parts of the borough...’

(Southwark SD&C SPD, p.20)

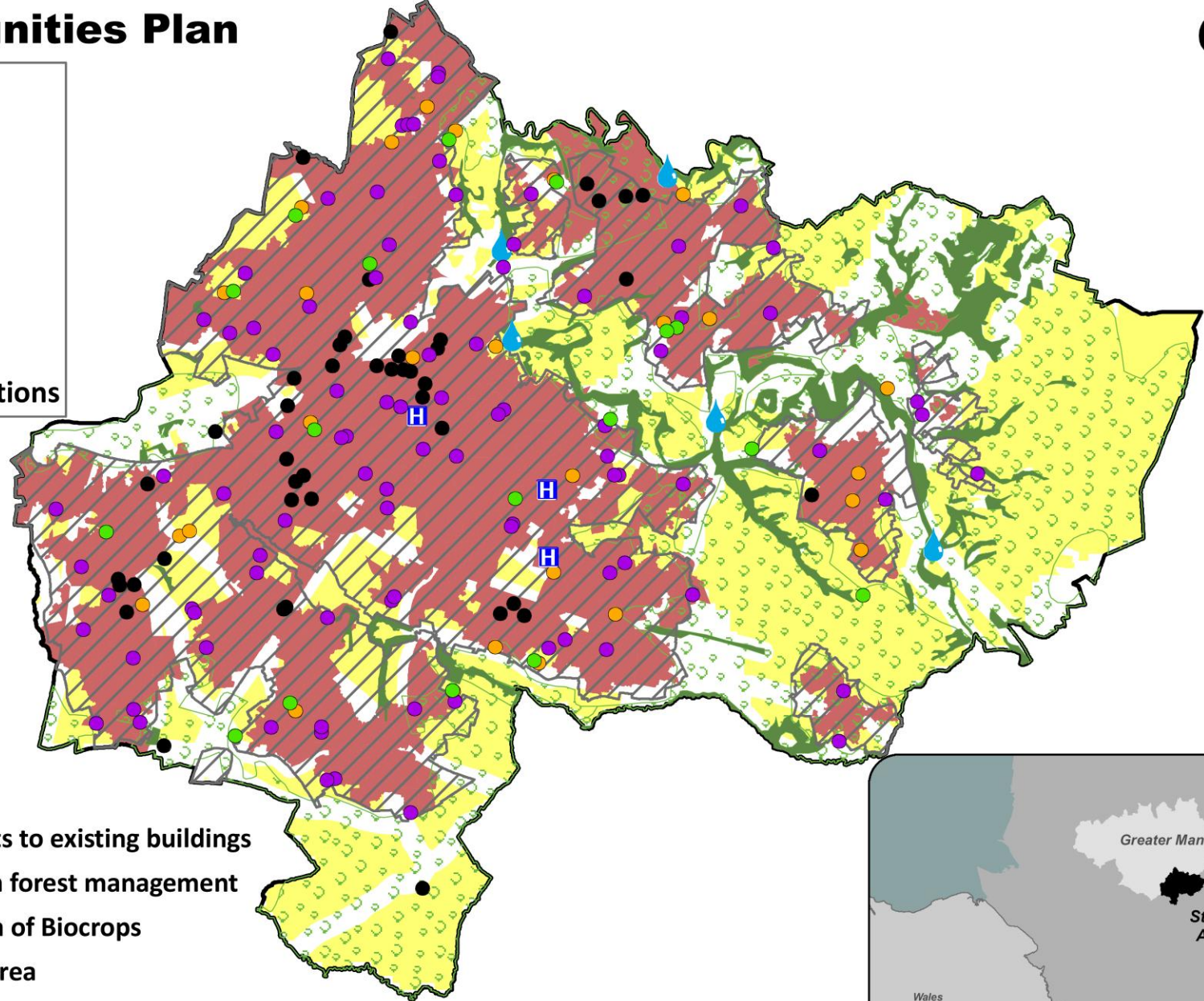
Making connections: Stockport's SPD

- makes explicit links to health, climate change and planning
 - entire section on healthy sustainable design
 - links to further resources and evidence (e.g. AGMA green roofs study)
 - gives locally specific information related to renewable energy (e.g. small scale wind in the greenbelt)
-

Energy Opportunities Plan



- Legend**
- Primary Schools
 - Secondary Schools
 - Ⓜ Hospital
 - Recreation Centre
 - Major Employers
 - 💧 Potential Hydro Locations



- ▨ Potential for improvements to existing buildings
- Potential for Biomass from forest management
- ▨ Potential areas for growth of Biocrops
- Potential district heating area
- Potential areas for installation of medium to large scale wind energy
- Stockport boundary



Data Source: Ordnance Survey / AECOM/ Stockport District Council / BERR / Natural England

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Inspectors have:

- dismissed appeals for proposals that did not meet requirements outlined in sustainability SPDs at Three Rivers and Chelmsford
 - added conditions to appeal decisions to uphold sustainability requirements at Brighton and Hove.
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SPDs – key messages

- give local evidence in SPDs
 - provide examples of solutions and opportunities (especially those best suited to your area)
 - provide clarity and consistency through the use of national standards
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Wigan's advice on SPDs

- Work with other services, e.g. highways, cycling, sustainability, to sort out what you will be requiring from developers.
 - Consider tackling air quality and climate change together in one SPD – this allows for policies and measures which provide mutual benefits, balancing and deciding on impacts where there is conflict.
 - If seeking contributions have a clear methodology and a costed implementation plan.
 - Be mindful of different planning scenarios when drafting the SPD and the impact this may have on requirements from developers.
 - When negotiating requirements you will need to be mindful of the burden placed on development and issues of viability.
 - Consider taking a regional or wider approach to adopting policies and required measures.
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links and resources

- PAS case studies discussed in the presentation are on our website at: www.pas.gov.uk/climatechange
 - Compare renewables www.idea.gov.uk/environment
 - ESCC Community of Practice
www.idea.gov.uk/environment
 - LG Regulation planning guide (Wigan and more)
<http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/upload/25527.pdf>
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Questions or feedback?





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