



Making Cities Resilient: City – to – City Learning Report

Purpose of the Exchange

Learn about flood mitigation in England. See problems and solutions in a city that also has several different problems with flooding.

Hazards Addressed

Flood mitigation

Hosts

Jon Knight, Environment Agency, York
Steve Wragg, Hull City Council,
Colin Atkinson, Environment Agency, York

Contacts

Chris Wilding, Environment Agency, Bristol
HFA focal point: Stephen Barnes, Cabinet Office, London

Guests

Anders Pålsson (report author), Kristianstad Municipality
Bert Andersson, Karlstad Municipality

Place

UK: London, Hull and York

Itinerary

8-11 November 2011 Kristianstad and Karlstad, Sweden to London, York and Hull in England.

Date	Location	Topics <i>What did you see or talk about?</i>	Speakers
8 November 2011	From Sweden to Copenhagen airport, to London city airport and our hotel in London.	We (Bert and Anders) met first at Copenhagen airport and then with our host Jon Knight at the Hotel. Then we had several hours to get to know each other and prepare for the next days.	Jon Knight Bert Andersson Anders Pålsson

9 November 2011	London	<p>We took a taxi to The Thames barrier and had a guided tour by our host there Andy Batchelor with some time for discussion as we had a ppt presented for us.</p> <p>Short walk in London to look at the areas west of the barrier and then of to Kings Cross station.</p>	<p>Andy Batchelor</p> <p>Jon Knight</p>
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Bert, Andy and Anders at the Thames barrier.

9 November 2011	Train from London to Hull and our Hotel.	Bert and Anders talked about the day and the impressive function of the Thames barrier.	Bert and Anders.
10 November 2011	We visited Hull City Hall and then we had a long walk to important places for flood protection.	<p>We saw a thorough presentation (ppt) about the way Hull is protected against flooding. I (Anders) showed a brief ppt about Kristianstad and our flood protection.</p> <p>Then we looked at different technical solutions around the city.</p>	<p>Jon Knight</p> <p>Steve Wragg</p> <p>Anders Pålsson</p>



Bert, Steve and Anders at the Hull Barrier.

11 November
2011

Anders took the train to York and Bert took a flight to Sweden (he had a longer way home)

I met up with my host in York, Colin Atkinson and we spent the day visiting different sites for flood protection and the Environment Agency's incident room, which co-ordinates response and recovery actions during flooding.

Colin Atkinson
Anders Pålsson



Colin with their very instructive pictures for visitors.



At the Environment Agency incident room in York.

11 November 2011	Anders travelled by train to Manchester, flight to Copenhagen and then a train home.	Thinking a lot about how impressing the work in England is compared with the overall situation in Sweden.	
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Financing

The Swedish National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction reimbursed Kristianstad and Karlstad for all costs associated with the exchange. Support time from the secretariat of the national platform to the municipalities in planning the trip is estimated at 10 hours spread out over one month.

In the UK the Environment Agency and Hull City Council covered the costs of the visit for its own staff.

Results (new information acquired, expected follow-up)

We had good discussions comparing our countries and cities and shared a lot of ideas.

We saw a lot of good examples in the presentations and guided tours.

We made contacts that are already followed up by mail and maybe there will be more exchange between our cities.

Suggestions for future city-to –city exchanges

The host city for any similar exchange should discuss how they implement each of the 10 essential of the Making Cities Resilient campaign.

There must be a good balance between presentations (ppt:s), guided tours and time for discussion. You must also be able to reschedule if there is other interesting options. In York I (Anders) was given the opportunity to see the Environment Agency's incident room and that was one of the most valuable visits in my trip (though there was short of time).

Comment from Chris Wilding, The Environment Agency noted with interest that their Swedish colleagues do not experience problems engaging the Swedish public on flood risk issues, with widespread use of household flood resilience measures. This is markedly different to the situation in England and Wales where it appears to be harder to engage the public. We would be interested in exploring the reasons for this further.



A copy of the website for "Making Cities Resilient"