BESEECH
Building Economic and Social Information for Examining the Effects of Climate Change

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Context

A need identified for consistent, socio-economic information that could be used by individual BKCC projects

In particular:

- insights regarding the capacity of systems in the built environment to adapt to climate change
- qualitative development of scenario storylines and more detailed quantitative projections
- project-specific scenarios, focussing on attributes or case-study areas of individual projects

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Objectives

- Develop a framework for characterising the capacity and willingness of individuals and organisations to adapt to climate change
  - *in relation to the built environment*
- Enhance the UKCIP socio-economic scenarios (both qualitatively and quantitatively)
  - *generic and "project-specific" scenarios*
- Synthesise the socio-economic elements of four BKCC projects

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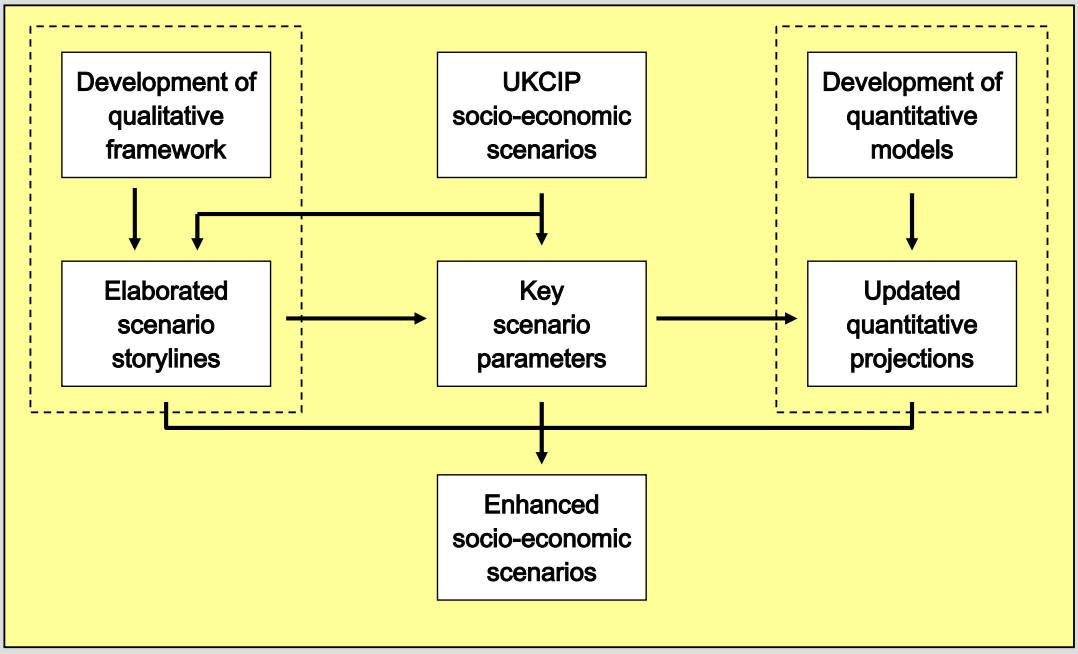
Generic scenario enhancement



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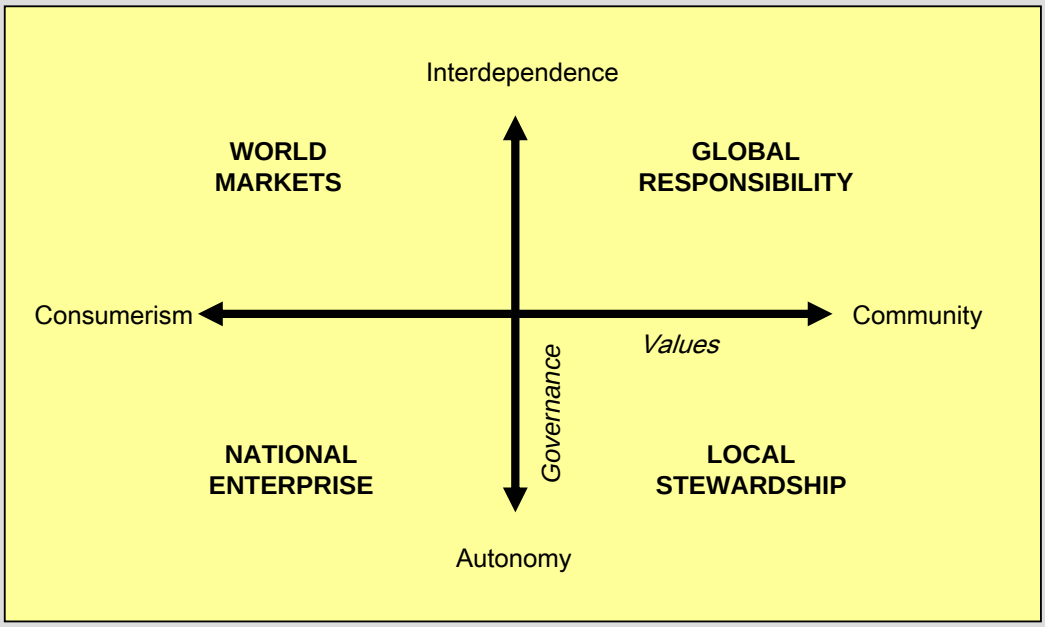
UKCIP socio-economic scenarios



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Qualitative framework

Adaptive capacity

- The potential or ability of a system to adapt to the effects and impacts of climate change, and take advantage of new opportunities that arise
- A key determinant of the vulnerability of a system – together with exposure
- Origins in hazard and risk, resource management and sustainable development research

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Adaptive capacity

Determinants

- Governance
- Technology
- Human capital
- Equity
- Critical institutions
- Economic resources and structure

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World Markets

- Minimal government intervention on environmental issues
- Reliance on autonomous, market-driven adaptations
- Rapid innovation, driven by market priorities
- Little appreciation of climate change causes or impacts
- Substantial increase in inequality and social exclusion
- Reduced role for planning system – state activity minimized and public participation reduced
- Insurance widely available, except in vulnerable areas
- High growth and rapid structural change

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National Enterprise

- Laissez-faire attitude towards environmental issues
- Luke-warm commitment to climate change and adaptation options
- Relatively low rate of innovation
- Little concern for environmental issues but some general understanding of climate change
- Slight growth in inequality and social exclusion
- Planning seen as important state activity
- Insurance is widely available, but take-up uneven
- Below average growth – considerable regional variation

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Global Responsibility

- Commitment to climate change and adaptation policies reasonably high – but secondary to other priorities
- High rate of innovation, focussing on eco-efficiency
- Reasonably good understanding of climate change causes and impacts
- Slight reduction in inequality and social exclusion
- Planning system is strengthen and expanded
- Broad uptake of insurance and substantial state welfare provision
- Average growth – balancing commercial, social and environmental objectives

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Local Stewardship

- Commitment to climate change and adaptation policies is high – focusing on risks
- Low rate of innovation, focussing on small-scale environmental technologies and eco-efficiency
- Good understanding of climate change causes and impacts, and of behavioural adaptation options
- Improved equality, social inclusion and participation
- Planning devolved to the regional / local level
- Declining role for insurance as alternative risk-sharing mechanisms developed
- Low economic growth – but spread more evenly

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Scenario projections to 2061

- Population
  - *age (5 year bands)*
  - *sex*
  - *region (NUTS1)*
- Households
  - *type*
  - *region (NUTS1)*
- Gross Value Added (GVA)
  - *economic sector*
  - *region (NUTS1)*

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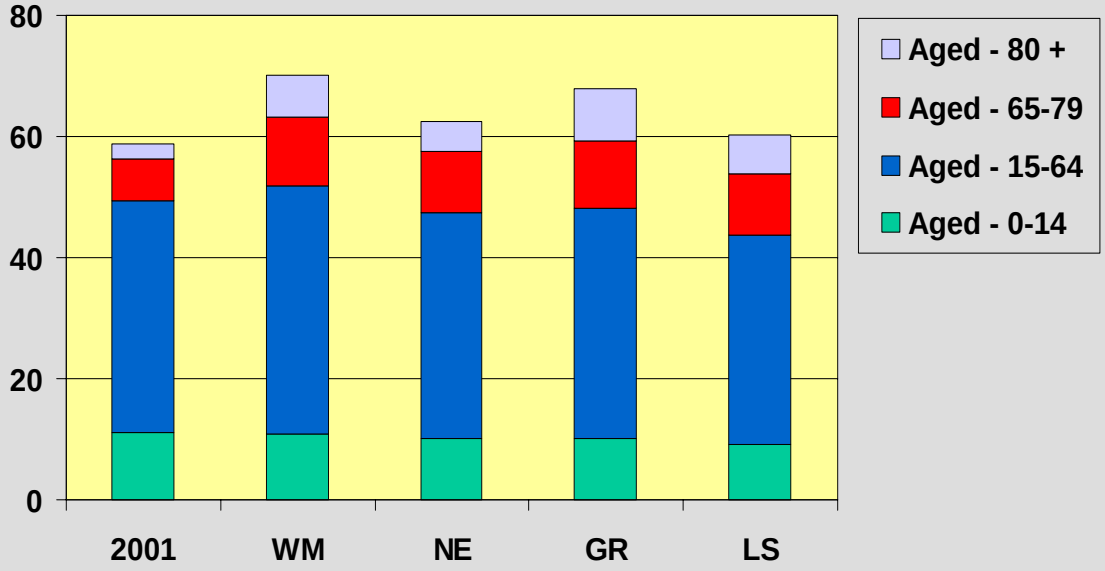
Population by age - 2061

(million)



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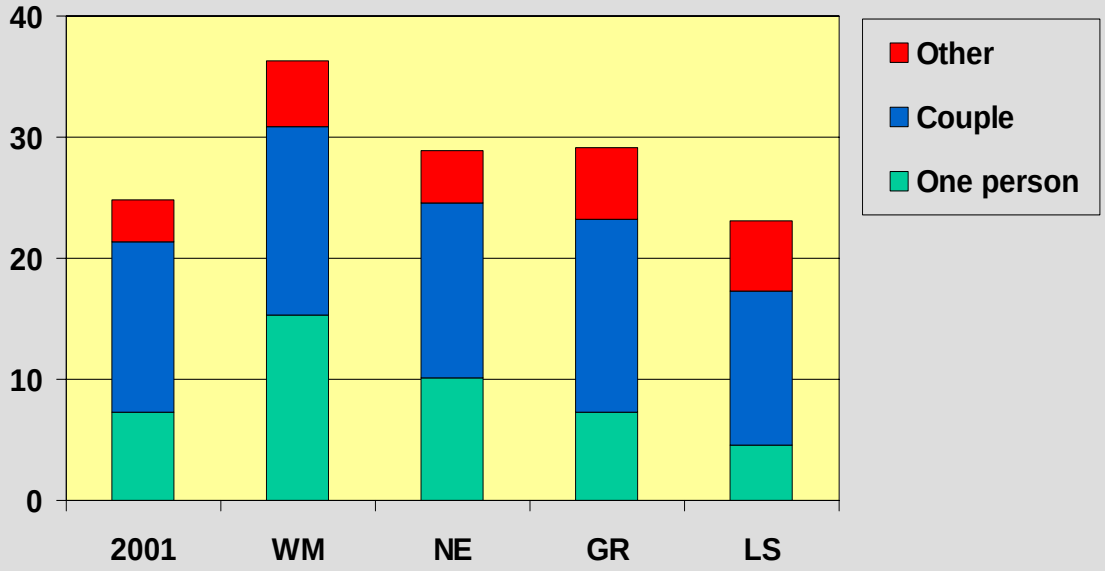
Households by type - 2061

(million)



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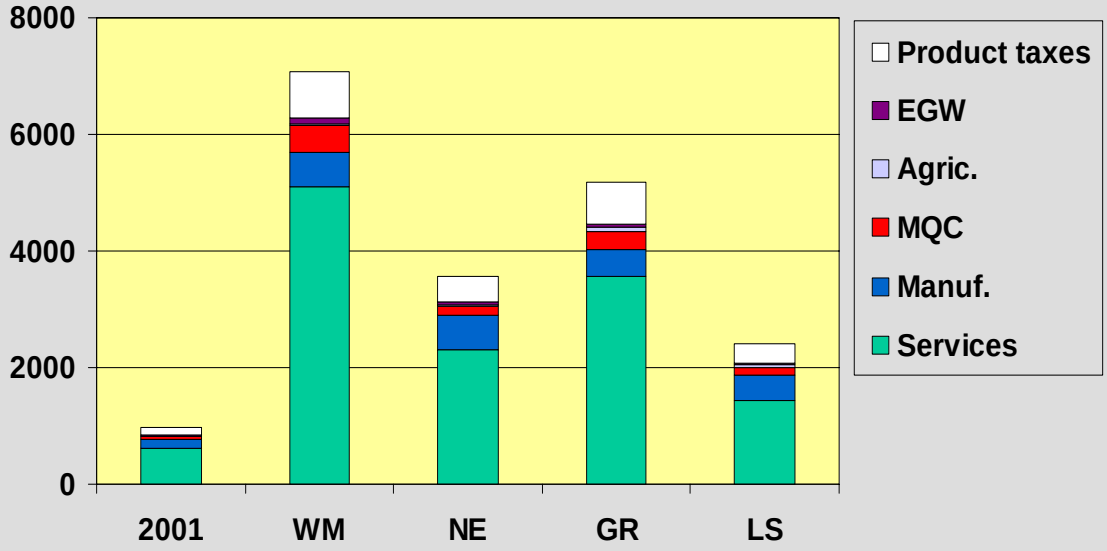
GDP / GVA by sector - 2061

(£2001 billion)



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