



Benefits of adaptation pathways

Presentation 1, slide 6

Offer alternatives

Cost effective

Long-term planning

Collaboration

Environmental benefits

- Develop options for future long-term responses to climate change – avoid inadequate adaptation
- Improve quality of decision-making and avoid decision paralysis
- Highlight and identify factors which remain uncertain
- Allow decisions to be made according to agreed level of risk

- Can provide opportunities to unlock new and innovative funding mechanisms
- Clear timescales can enable alignment of capital investment and collaboration with transport/ utilities
- Can improve economic efficiency when compared to single pathways (one study showed up to 10% Net Present Value cost efficiency)

- Enable options to be implemented at the right time to achieve resilience – when climate change impacts are better understood
- Deal with uncertainty over long-term planning horizons
- Lead to improved data, modelling and monitoring of climate change impacts
- Influence long-term strategic spatial planning and resilient place-making

- Provide an effective way of securing buy-in and commitment from stakeholders – clear options, choices and risks empowers others
- Enable active collaboration with local communities and partners – developing options requires input from many different groups

- Can be applied to a range of climate risk management decisions e.g. urban heat, water resources – often delivering wider environmental benefits
- Integrated, long-term thinking enables greater early consideration of wider benefits and environmental enhancements

Sources

Environment Agency, 2021 Literature review on an adaptive approach to flooding and coastal erosion risk management [FRS19221](#)
 Reeder, Tim and Nicola Ranger. "How do you adapt in an uncertain world? Lessons from the Thames Estuary 2100 project." World Resources Report, Washington DC. Available online at <http://www.worldresourcesreport.org>

