

# Highland Council

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*The Highland Community*

# Drivers

Councils Programme:

*“Produce and implement a climate change strategy for the Highlands which will reduce our impact on the environment and adapt our services to cope with the impact of climate change.”*

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# Drivers

Scotland's Climate Change Declaration:

*“Encourage and work with others in our local community to take action to adapt to the impact of climate change, to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action”.*

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# Drivers:

Single Outcome Agreement: National Outcomes:

- 11.3 Improved quality of life through community led action and more people feeling connected to their communities.
- 14.3 Adapt services to deal with the impact of global warming and extreme weather events (considering both threats and opportunities) and particularly regarding impacts of flooding at community level

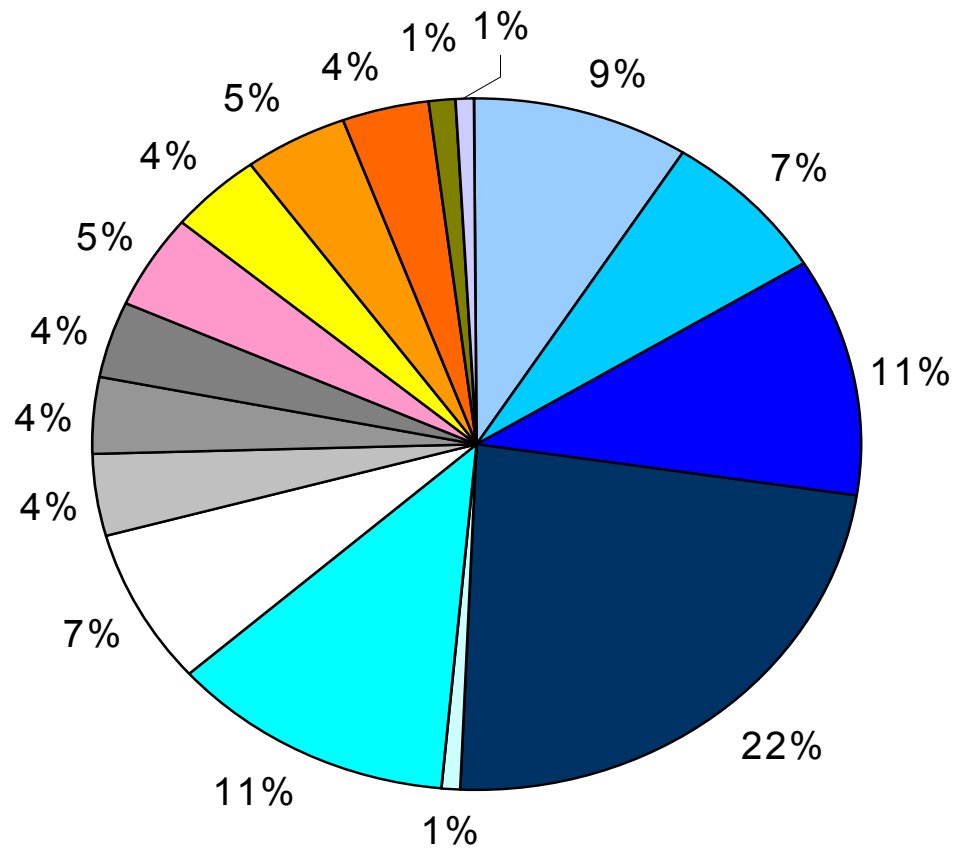
# Media Trawl

- Keywords – create a list.
  - Heat, heat wave, heat-wave, hot weather....
  - Search events, eg. Forest fire/accident.
- Archives – although website may say available as far back as 2002 it may not be updated.
- Quality of data – local may not be best.
  - Scotsman, Guardian, BBC

# Interviews

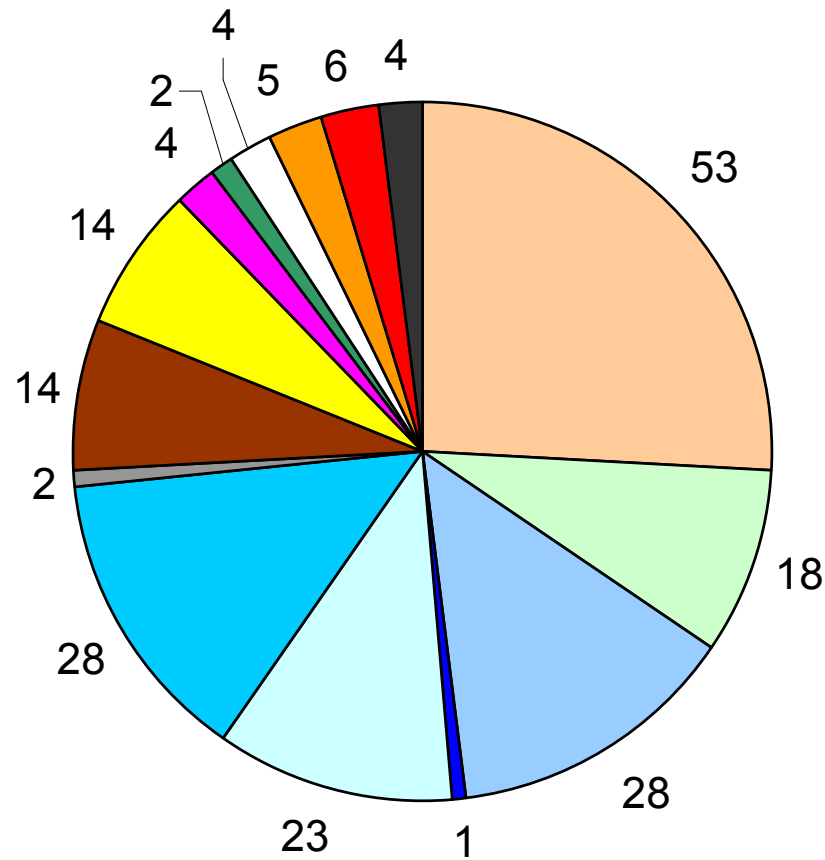
- Internal Staff difficult to reach and lack buy-in.
- Do your research – know the individuals area of expertise and time with Council.
- Use their knowledge to expand upon the impacts highlighted by press.
- Recommended that interview take place before media trawl could be helpful.

## Types of Severe Weather Events 2001 - 2008 (percentage of 110 events)



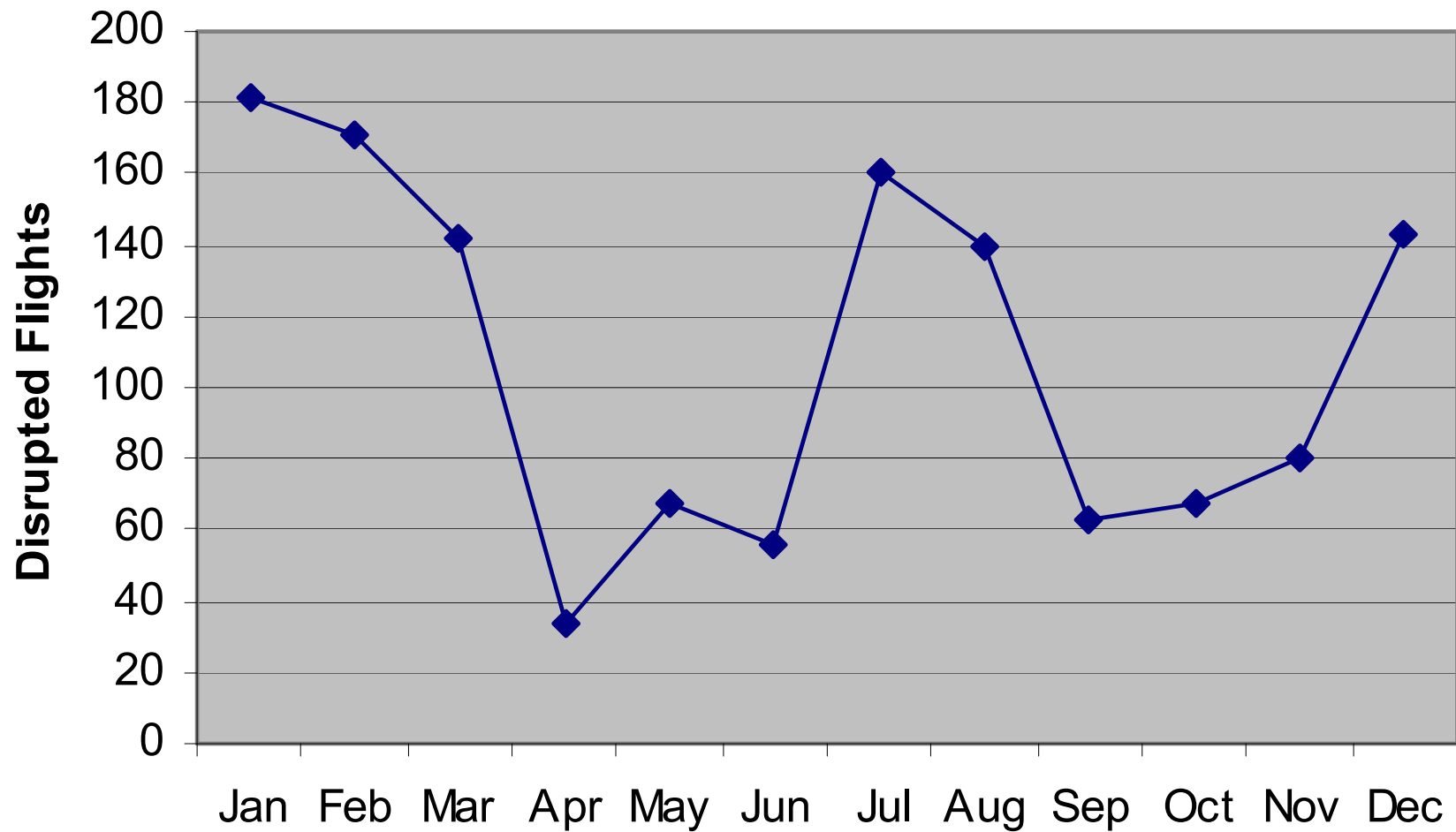
- High winds
- High winds and rain
- High winds and heavy rain
- Heavy rainfall
- High winds and snow
- High winds and heavy snowfall
- Heavy snowfall
- Cold snap
- Severe frost
- Icing
- Very unseasonal weather
- Electrical storms/lightning
- Persistently dry and windy
- Heatwave
- Duststorm
- Dense fog

## Categorizable Impact of Weather Events (Actual number of published incidents)



- Road travel impairment
- Rail travel impairment
- Sea travel impairment
- Shipping accidents
- Air travel impairment
- Flooding
- Contaminated drinking water
- Landslides
- Power cuts
- Telecommunications damage
- Damage to historic sites
- Problems due to severe frost
- Heat-induced damage
- Forest-, heath-, peat-fires
- Loss of life

## HIAL Flight Disruptions 2000 - 2007 by Month



Date	Public ation	Weather Event	Impacts	Response	Impacts for HC
<a href="#">06/02/2001</a>	BBC	High winds and heavy snowfall	Road, rail, sea and air travel disruptions, widespread power cuts, Inverness-Edinburgh train derailed, 2 Inverness-Wick trains snowbound	Most schools closed, road closures, rescue operation launched for rail passengers stuck on trains to Wick, Inverness Airport closed	
<a href="#">27/02/2001</a>	BBC	Heavy snowfall	Road traffic disruptions	School closures across Highland	
<a href="#">03/03/2001</a>	BBC	Severe frost	Temperature at Altnaharra, Sutherland down to -21C, record frost in the UK in four decades, widespread power cuts lasting up to 5 days	Power companies employing 1000 engineers and 13 helicopters to repair damage across Scotland	
04/04/2001	?	Persistent frost and wintry showers	HC road maintenance strained		Ross & Cromarty area roads maintenance budget overspent by 7.5 % or 279000

# Using the Findings

## **Service Workshops:**

Looking at Past Trends and discussing:

- Causes, effects and implications.

Thinking about future trends and discussing:

- Threats and Opportunities

Discussing what needs to change.

# Community Workshops



# Working with Partners

- Application for funding from RSE for two more workshops with UHI. Knowledge Transfer.
- Mapping of Stakeholder progress.
- Stakeholder working group.
- Climate Change Strategy for Highland.

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