

**SOUTHAMPTON**  
**CLIMATE**  
**COMMISSION**

# **SOUTHAMPTON** **CLIMATE** **COMMISSION** **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

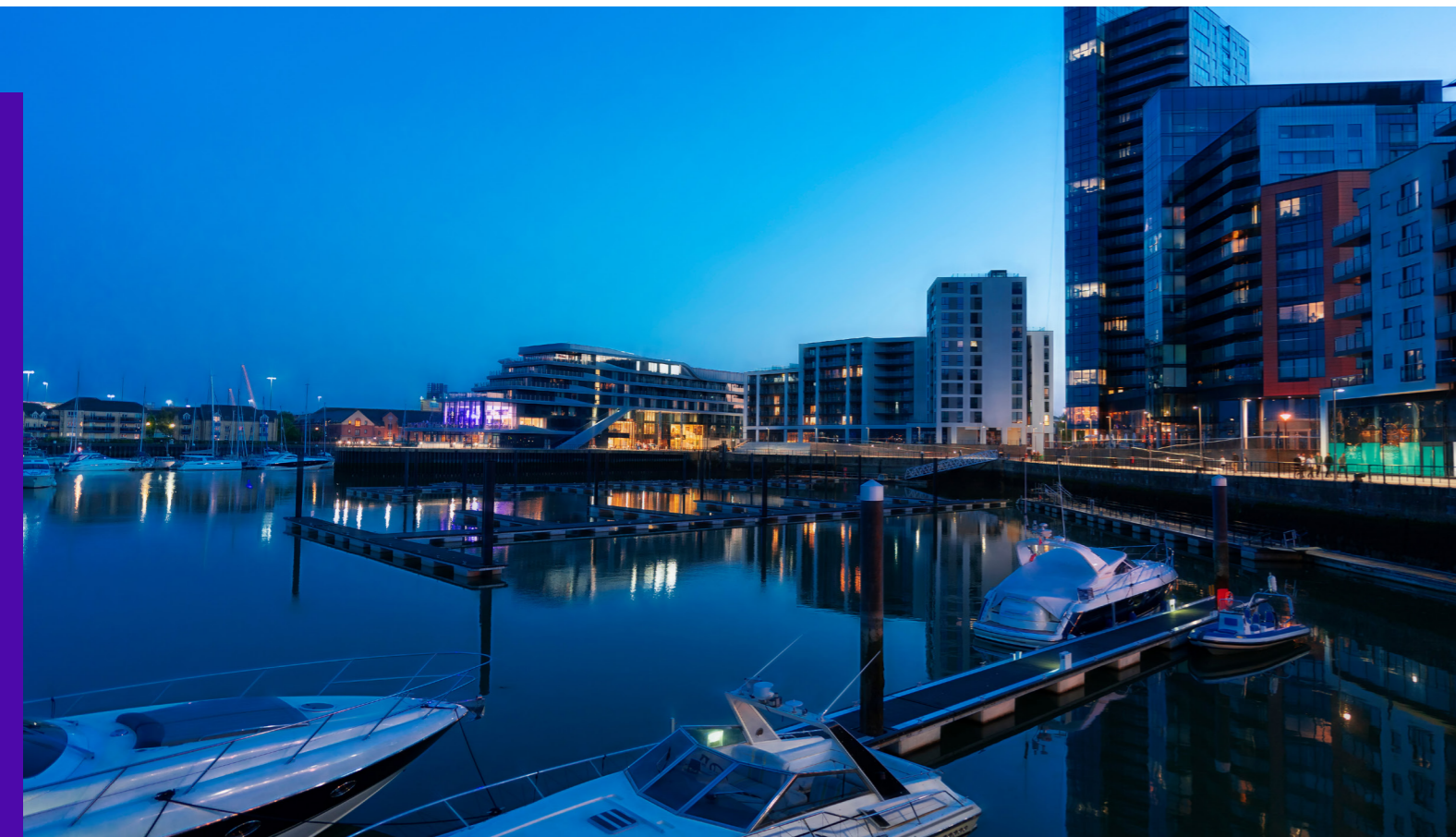


# SPECIFIC COMMISSION MILESTONES FOR 2023

- In its first year, the Commission has become more established, defining its role – although this will need continuous refinement.
- Presentations from Surrey Climate Commission, Bring Energy (formally Equans) on Southampton heat network decarbonisation strategy and Essex Net Zero: Making Essex Climate Neutral/ Essex Climate Action Plan – for scene setting
- Terms of Reference and Vision Statement Agreed
- [Website and logo set up](#)
- The Commission reviewed a presentation from the Solent Cluster and from SoCAN. The Commission published a Position Statement on Solent Cluster and Hydrogen Production.
- Policy Approval Process agreed
- Active recruitment of new members to open up applications to all who are able to represent a community or business
- Development of skills matrix to identify areas of expertise are lacking to target specific sectors – economics and ecology in particular were identified.

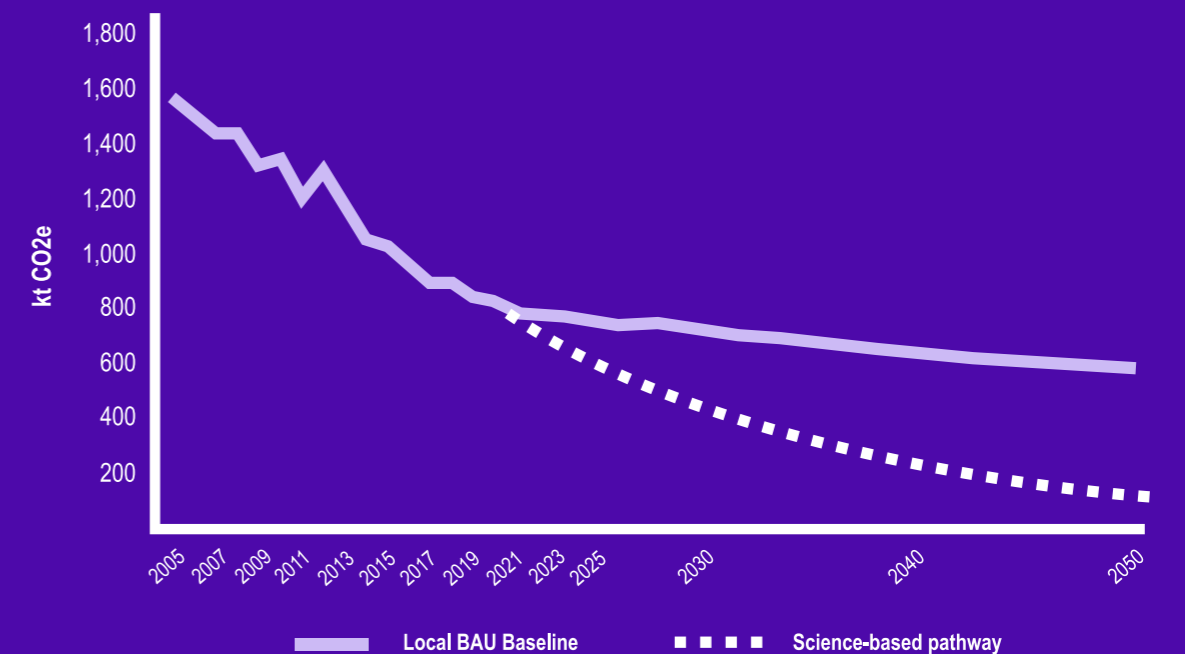
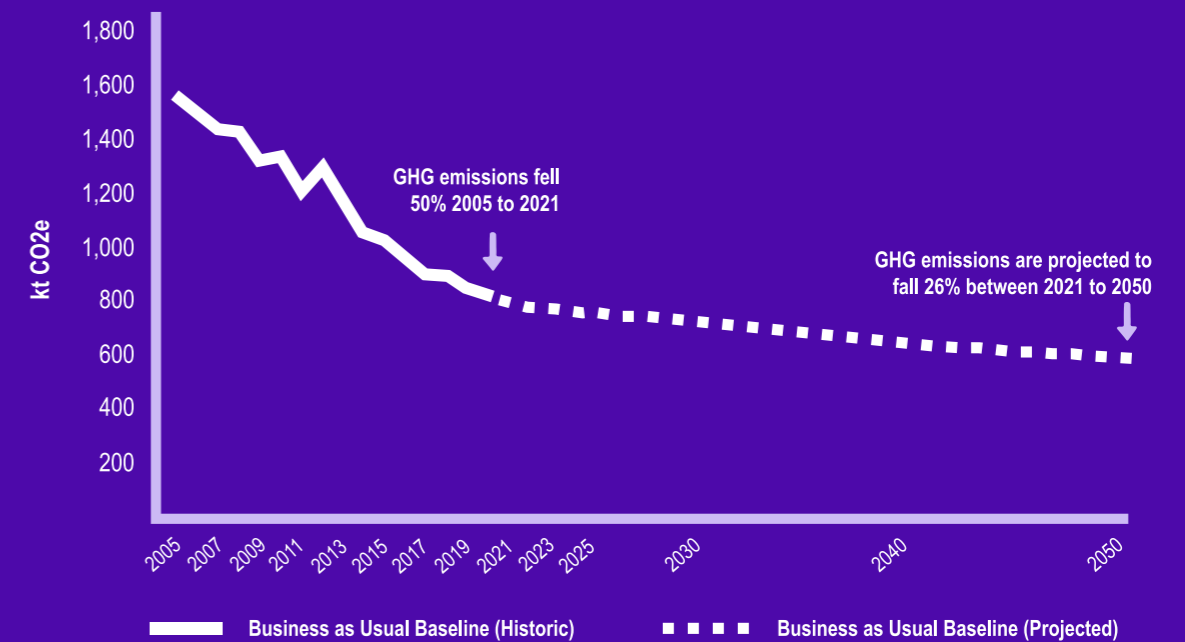
# CITYWIDE CLIMATE ACTION

- Citizens Climate Assembly – collaboration of SCC, University and Involve. Focus on transport. [Resources - Citizens' Climate Assembly.](#)
- Net Zero workshops for SMEs. [Net Zero - Solent Business & Skills Solutions](#)
- Healthy and Sustainable Schools hub, forums and Conference. [Healthy and Sustainable Schools.](#)
- Southampton City Council Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan published. [Our Green City.](#)
- Funding from Innovate UK to undertake Local Area Energy Plan and develop Green City Tracker.
- Princess Anne Hospital staff roof garden. [Princess Anne Hospital Staff Roof Garden - strata design.](#)
- UHS to reduce carbon emissions with new energy-efficient heating system thanks to £29.4m grant. [New investment in reducing carbon emissions - University Hospital Southampton.](#)
- Development of Southampton Climate Action Network and the associated work on Doughnut Economics. [SoCAN News - SoCAN: Southampton Climate Action Network.](#)
- Growing Southampton Green Network in the city, run by Southampton Voluntary Services.
- Solar Together scheme 2023 delivered a total of 48 PV installations and 2 retrofit installations. 88% of participants across the scheme opted to add a battery to their solar panel installation. This indicates a very high appetite for battery storage and an increasing resident focus on self-consumption. We estimate that the Southampton installations delivered through Solar Together 2023 will save nearly 1000 tonnes of CO2 over 25 years.



# SOUTHAMPTON CITY PROGRESS TOWARDS NET ZERO

- Dividing the global carbon budget up by population gives Southampton a total carbon budget of 8.8 million tonnes from 2020. Based only on the fuel and electricity used within its boundaries, Southampton currently emits c.0.8 million tonnes of carbon a year, meaning that it would use up its carbon budget in just over 8 years.
- Carbon emissions from Southampton have fallen by 50% since 2005. With on-going decarbonisation of electricity, and taking into account population and economic growth, we project that Southampton's 2005 level of emissions will have fallen by 63% by 2050.
- If it is to stay within its carbon budget, Southampton needs to add to the 50% reductions already achieved to secure 73% by 2030, 80% by 2035, 86% by 2040, 90% by 2045 and 93% by 2050. This means that the majority of all carbon cuts need to be delivered in the next ten years.
- We note that emissions data from Government is lagged with a delay of up to 2 years. It is possible that the impacts of recently adopted or initiated policies and projects may have yet to show up in the data. However, it is clear that a significant intensification of effort will be required to keep Southampton on track towards its net zero targets.



# SOUTHAMPTON CITY PROGRESS TOWARDS ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ECOLOGICAL RECOVERY

- Consultations on Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Strategies. [Our Green City](#).
- 26 new wildflower meadows in place exceeding Southampton City Councils Meadow Target of 25 by 2025.
- Last two years the Council has planted 4000 trees.
- The Council is supporting the Trust to introduce a City Wilder Officer project to help households and businesses bring nature into the city and to also support the Waste of Space campaign alongside the Green Grid Action Plan.
- Plan to achieve National Park City status by 2025. [Southampton National Park City](#).
- School SuDS Project - The scheme will deliver SuDS in five schools that are classified as having a high surface water flood risk and have experienced frequent flooding. The implementation of SuDS in schools will educate younger generations on the importance of water, promote water reuse, and be used as a case study to improve implementation of SuDS across council schemes.

# FORWARD PLAN

- Communications plan for Position Statement and generally publicising who we are and what we do.
- Equality and transparency policies.
- Share funding applications and grants to avoid duplication and identify opportunities for organisations working together.
- Consultation monitoring and response. [Consultations and surveys](#) and others.
- Green City Tracker/ Local Area Energy Plan.
- Citywide Climate Action Plan and mapping of other groups.
- Fossil fuel and pension investment.
- Retrofit – solar panels/ conservation areas.
- Southampton Sustainable Food City.
- Development of Local Plan (City Vision) sustainability policies.
- Climate and Vulnerability Risk Assessment for the City.



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