



SOUTHAMPTON CLIMATE COMMISSION

Annual Report 2024



OUR VISION

Working with partners, stakeholders and the community, the Southampton Climate Commission provides an inclusive, collective approach, in ensuring a just transition towards a low carbon and climate resilient future for everyone in the city.

The Commission seeks to be an independent voice in the city, providing authoritative information on steps towards

a low carbon, climate resilient future so as to inform policies and shape the actions of local stakeholders and decision makers.

It will monitor progress towards meeting the city's carbon reduction and nature-based targets and recommend actions to keep the city on track and advise on the assessment of the climate-related risks and adaptation opportunities in the city.



SPECIFIC COMMISSION MILESTONES FOR 2024

- Re-elections and new Chair and Vice Chair agreed (Jess Lewis – Sustainable Projects Lead, Southampton and Phil Horton – Sustainability and Environment Manager – Royal Yachting Association)
- Membership expansion
- Move from on-line to hybrid meetings
- Update from Climate Assembly
- Comms working group – identified Alan Whitehead as spokesperson for group
- Climate Lottery Funding explored – Commission not suitable entity but individual members collaborated
- Net Zero 360 offer to SMEs shared with Commission
- Local Area Energy Planning and Green City Tracker examined
- Planning for workshop in 2025 to develop Strategic approach for Commission
- Paper on presentation developed to guide speakers on what the Commission’s role is in communicating the content
- Southampton Climate Commission as a case study on LGA website [Southampton Climate Commission | Local Government Association](#)

For Southampton Collective and Southampton Climate Action Network, the Climate Commission has:

- Through detailed talks and presentations provided during commission meetings, helped us improve our understanding of current issues facing Southampton when it comes to climate change and environmental challenges, so that our work is relevant and evidence-based;
- Helped provide a framework around policies that are being developed in the current year, so we can influence change at critical points of opportunity;
- Provided the opportunity to discuss and develop consensus, so together we have a stronger shared voice on issues relation to climate and other environmental challenges;
- Enabled us to forge deeper relationships with people with shared interests across sectors - which is leading to the development of larger projects within Southampton area - and is crucial given the importance of collaboration and the risks associated with disinformation that is shared about climate change etc;
- Also enabled us, as community-based organisations, to advocate for community voices and local residents to be part of projects to raise awareness, reduce emissions and adapt to our changing environment.

CITYWIDE CLIMATE ACTION 2024

Net Zero

- Development of Net Zero 360 training to support Southampton schools in their mandatory Climate Action Plans [Southampton Schools Climate Action Planning | SBSS](#)
- Funding secured by University of Southampton and Southampton City Council to help develop Green City Tracker tool and develop Local Area Energy Plan for the city
- South Western Railway, in partnership with Southampton City Council using the Transforming Cities Fund, completed the transformed Southampton Central station forecourt scheme. This has delivered an enhanced sustainable experience for customers/residents using an integrated rail, buses, cycles, taxi's and pedestrian access to the city, Retail, Leisure and Port areas.
- Bring Energy developed a MoU to explore the further integration of geothermal energy in the district heating network of Southampton and in the

northern part of the city (signed in 2025). [Star Energy and Bring Energy to collaborate on geothermal heating in Southampton, UK](#). Furthermore, they are implementing sustainable reduction of heating Return Temperatures from clients to reduce heat losses. The programme is to finish end of 2025.

- The Environment Centre - 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 - launched the refreshed Hitting the Cold Spots service, published our Air Quality Showreel on Clean Air Day, celebrated 20 years of the Southampton Warmth for All Partnership and secured funding for our brand new energy advice service, My Home Made Better.
- In Southampton alone, they facilitated 123 large energy efficiency / low carbon measure installations, resulting in estimated lifetime savings of more than 1,600 tonnes of CO₂e and £574,000. They also provided information, advice and guidance to 1,330 households and achieved more than £1.3 million in gains/savings for clients.

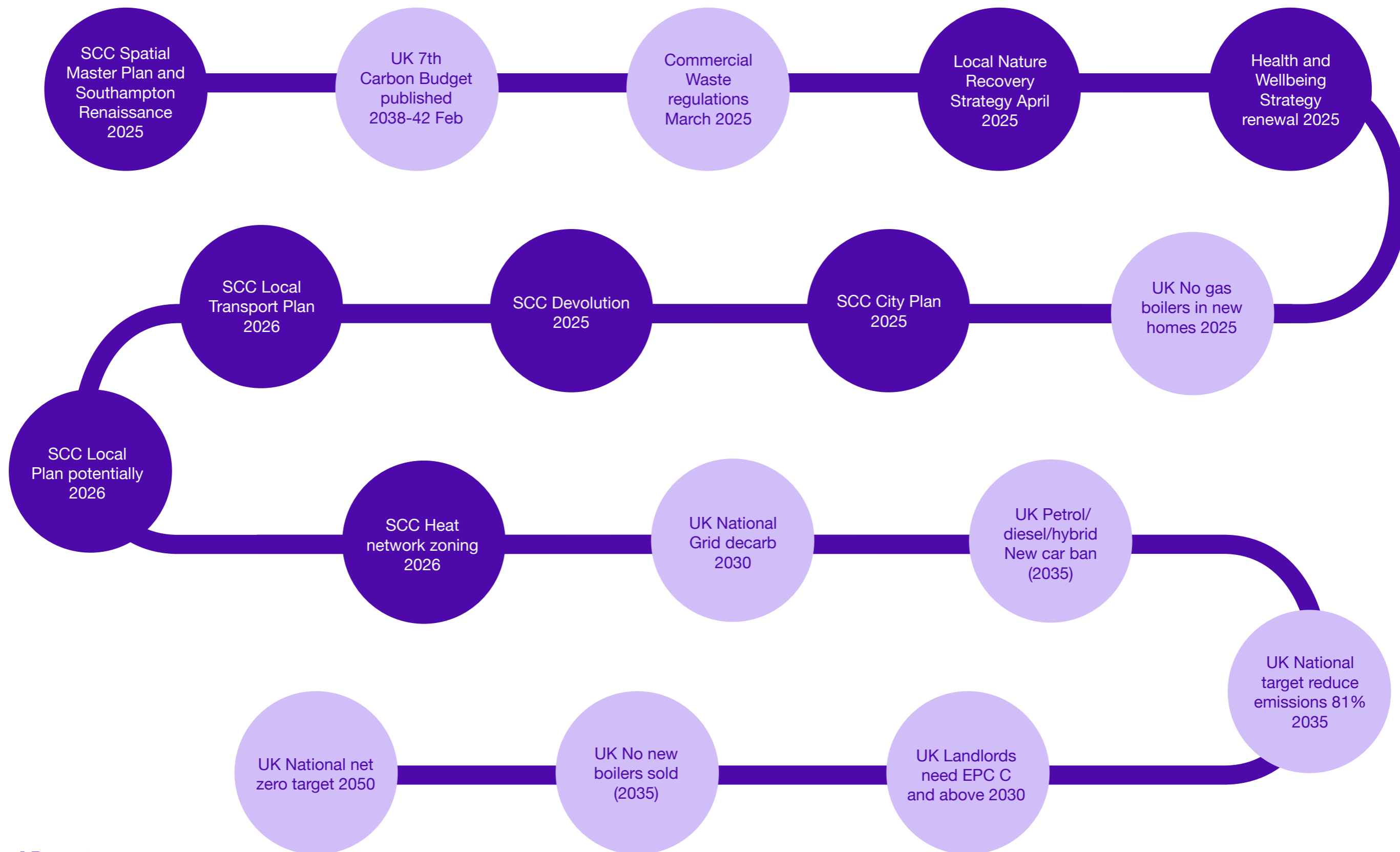
Adaptation to climate change and ecological recovery

- Development of [Green Space Factor](#) for the city Green Space Factor Guidance
- Establishment of internal Green City champions network at Southampton City Council to help communicate and facilitate sustainable incentives and opportunities to all staff

Forward Plan

- Development of more Strategic approach to Commissions workplan in 2025, with a focus on key priorities, scrutiny on significant reports expected and community engagement.
- Examine City Plan and Renaissance Plan
- Mapping of groups

NEXT STEPS



SOUTHAMPTON CLIMATE COMMISSION