

Creating a Low Carbon Economy



The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (Solent LEP), together with the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) and the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce have agreed a strategy for development of a low carbon economy in the Solent area which will help stimulate sustainable economic growth, create jobs, and reduce our carbon footprint.

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Priority 1: New Low Carbon & Green Technology

capitalising on the world class research in the sub-region into green technologies and turning these into business opportunities, growth and jobs as well as supporting strong manufacturing.

Priority 2: Resource Efficiency in Homes and Businesses

ensuring our homes and businesses minimise waste including waste of energy, to support household disposable income and business competitiveness.

Priority 3: Generation of Secure, Renewable & Low Carbon Energy in the Solent

developing large scale renewable energy such as tidal and offshore wind, together with small scale on homes and businesses and renewable and district energy schemes incorporated into new development where practical.

Our Vision:

The Solent area will generate economic and business growth together with new jobs by developing a Low Carbon, Green Economy. The Solent area will become the national leader and internationally recognised for its Low Carbon, Green Economy. Sustainability will be at the heart of the sub-region's success in generating economic growth, prosperity and improving quality of life.

Expected Outcomes:

1. The Solent area has a thriving Green Economy with:
 - innovation and learning in environment and sustainability from our world class research institutions being translated into economic opportunities, growth and jobs
 - increased numbers of business and jobs within green businesses and the green technologies sector;
 - local businesses being well placed to take advantage of the business opportunities presented by low carbon and sustainable technologies and policies;
 - businesses working together and being supported in achieving efficiencies in energy and water and minimisation of waste through the use of green technologies leading to increased competitiveness.
2. The Solent area has **reduced the consumption of energy by businesses and homes** through high environmental design standards of new buildings and retrofitting of older buildings, leading to reduced costs and increased competitiveness.
3. The Solent area has become **self-sufficient in the generation of secure power** (electricity and heat) from renewable and low carbon sources and has a decentralised power generation network, leading to greater retention of spend on energy within the local economy and energy security.
4. Businesses, residents and public bodies are collaborating to achieve **reductions in the Carbon Footprint** of the Solent area and ensure sustainable development.
5. The Solent area is **adapting to the effects of climate change** by locating new development in suitable locations, protecting existing homes and businesses from flooding and by taking account of the effects of climate change in the design of new infrastructure and service delivery.
6. **The need to travel is reduced** within the Solent area and there is a reliable transport network which has improved accessibility, supports continued economic growth and provides for the efficient movement of goods and people whilst reducing reliance on oil and the car through the provision of credible alternative forms of transport.
7. **New residential and business developments are carbon neutral**, delivering the highest standards of efficiency in energy and water use and minimising waste and the impact on the natural environment from their construction.
8. The Solent has a **protected and enhanced network of green and blue infrastructure** that preserves biodiversity, contributes to urban cooling, and provides an attractive location to live and do business.
9. A strong network exists in the Solent area and the region between food producers, suppliers and retailers and productive land is protected to ensure **a secure and sustainable regional food supply**.
10. The levels of **domestic and commercial waste generated have decreased significantly** and all residual waste is recycled/reused.

This will mean: