

10 Point Plan for Building Back Greener in the Solent



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An Overview



Pioneering Net Zero in the Solent

Our region is exceptionally placed to be at the vanguard of environmental innovation and decarbonisation as the UK embarks on its journey to Net Zero. The Solent's combination of natural geography and industrial strengths provides a major opportunity to pioneer clean growth by incorporating emerging technologies with an appetite to deliver ground-breaking solutions within maritime, logistics, transport mobility and coastal protection.

We want to ensure that the recovery and growth of the Solent economy is achieved in a way that reduces carbon and adapts to climate change. This document summarises our local response to the Government's national Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, published in November 2020. We identify key local actions to adapt to climate change and accelerate the achievement of Net Zero, building on the recently-designated Solent Freeport with its focus on clean growth, green skills and jobs, but also wider activities beyond the Freeport that can support the Solent's coastal communities and complement the wider levelling up agenda.

Our Plan specifically responds to the recent shift in policy focus to reduce carbon and develop a coherent pathway to Net Zero by 2050. This is emphasised at the UK level through new Government policy set out in the **Net Zero Strategy, Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial**

Revolution, Transport Decarbonisation Plan, and the Industrial Decarbonisation Strategy, amongst others.

It reflects our strong clean growth ambition locally and showcases our unrivalled assets, such as a unique coastal geography, that are already being harnessed to reduce the carbon footprint of our key sectors.

Local authorities within the Solent have set ambitious targets to achieving Net Zero emissions and our emerging Solent 2050 Economic Strategy provides an overarching framework for pioneering approaches to climate change, adaptation and decarbonisation, and establishing real expertise which other regions – nationally and globally – can learn from.

Set out overleaf are the key priorities that provide a framework for our Ten Point Plan for Building Back Greener in the Solent.



Our Ten Point Plan Priorities



1: A world class green business and talent base

Developing the business base and skills we need to drive a green industrial revolution in the Solent, recognising that these will be critical enablers to delivering the transition to Net Zero.



2: Green ships and maritime decarbonisation

Building on our exceptional existing strengths, our heritage and our role at the cutting edge of marine and maritime innovation to fully realise the potential of the region as a driving force of maritime decarbonisation.



3: Jet Zero

Bringing together our world-leading assets, innovation capabilities and track record in enterprise to be at the vanguard of Jet Zero, by driving the uptake of sustainable aviation fuels, investing in Jet Zero innovation and R&D (e.g. to develop zero-emission aircraft) and to develop the infrastructure we need to deliver Net Zero aviation by 2050.



4: Protecting our natural environment

Harnessing the Solent's unrivalled natural capital assets to pioneer clean growth technology and adaptation and in doing so, drive productivity improvements across the region's business and employment base.



5: Pioneering sustainable transport

Piloting innovative solutions to green mobility and building on existing good practice and pioneering innovation to ensure that sustainable, zero emission transport becomes embedded across the whole of the Solent region.

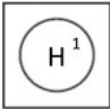


Our Ten Point Plan Priorities



6: Renewable energy generation and storage

Building upon the Solent's growing renewable energy industry and competitive strategic location to further develop supply chains and support regional clustering, with particular strengths and opportunities around wind, tidal and solar energy.



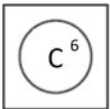
7: Advancing the growth of low carbon hydrogen

Supporting the Government's aim for the UK to develop 5GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030 through existing innovation within our business base and thriving research community, and through development of the Solent Freeport which offers further opportunities to advance the growth of low carbon hydrogen locally.



8: A greener built environment

Significant opportunities for innovation in sustainable housing and community development, applying and showcasing green technologies and clean growth principles within the development of new and expanded communities across the Solent.



9: Investing in carbon capture, usage and storage

Harnessing the unique opportunity for carbon capture, usage and storage provided by the Solent's natural habitats and coastal setting, such as our mud flats and sea kelp forests, building on various projects currently underway by the Environment Agency, New Forest National Park Authority and the University of Portsmouth's Institute of Marine Science.



10: Green finance and innovation

Unleashing innovation and developing new sources of finance to further develop the green technologies we need to achieve Net Zero.



Delivering our Ten Point Plan

The scale of the challenge to achieve a Net Zero economy in the Solent and our related ambitions to lead the way in clean growth innovation requires a truly collaborative response that brings together our wide range of private, public and third sector partners active in the Net Zero agenda across the Solent region and beyond.

We are extremely grateful to our many partners and stakeholders which have contributed to developing this Ten Point Plan, including the recently established Solent Net Zero Commission, which includes representatives from across the private, public and academic community. We look forward to working with them over the coming months and years as we collectively turn this framework for Building Back Greener in the Solent into an exciting reality.

Reflecting the constantly evolving nature of the Net Zero agenda, we will keep our Ten Point Plan under regular review and updated as required.

There are many activities already actively underway across the Solent to reduce our carbon footprint and adapt the region's economy to the challenges associated with climate change. However, we will be developing a more detailed implementation plan that sets out more specific targets, costed proposals and key projects that will be needed to deliver our Ten Point Plan's key priorities and ambitions. This will be ready to publish in the New Year.



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October 2021

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