

The Surrey Climate Commission was officially launched in June 2019, formed from a collaboration of organisations, including Surrey University, Surrey Chambers of Commerce, Siemens, Surrey County Council and Surrey Wildlife Trust.

We now have members representing a wide range of businesses, public sector, and civil society organisations.

Our aim is to provide an independent and authoritative voice to all organisations in Surrey helping guide the County in reaching its climate target, that is Net Zero by 2050 at the very latest, but ideally well before.

To do this, we want Surrey to develop and buy in to a roadmap that will get us there.

As a foundation to this we have just published our [Baseline Study and Vision Document](https://www.surreyclimate.org.uk/news/our-baseline-and-vision-document-now-published%20)- so please take a look. The Baseline (produced by the University of Surrey) shows where the carbon hotspots are. The Vision Document was put together by an expert task group from the Commission and identifies the key areas where we feel action is required.

We also recognise, however that we are just one wheel in the cog and the drive to net zero requires collaboration from all sides. We are therefore delighted to be part of the development of a Greener Partnership formed from the County and District Councils, together with other major influencers, such as the LEP’s, Chamber of Commerce as well as Big Corporates in Surrey.

The Partnership will allow the different organisations to focus on a joint strategy, use resources effectively and avoid duplication.

Activities already underway include:

* Together with the **Living Lab Dept. at University of Surrey** we are undertaking a research project looking at behavioural triggers and barriers around active travel.
* We are carrying out a communication exercise with the 30 largest corporate emitters in Surrey.
* We are collaborating with Surrey Chambers of Commerce in sending regular communication by way of an e-newsletter to SME’s spreading good practice/case studies and presenting and offering advice.

Above all we see this being fundamental to businesses so not only can they rise to the challenge but also seize the fantastic opportunities that can result.

**Richard Essex, Chair of Surrey Climate Commission**