

Climate Working Group

Mission: to demonstrate local leadership and ensure coherent, system-wide action on tackling the causes and effects of climate change, and through collaborative working ensure an effective and immediate response within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that is fair, long lasting and appropriately timed.

Ways of working

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Climate Working Group brings together representatives of key decision makers to promote and champion collective local action on climate issues, recognising that decisions by one organisation can have impacts for others. Each organisation, and each sector, is responsible for mitigating and adapting to climate change. They will have their own plans and strategies to do that, and control over their own resources. There are also existing collaborative groups that focus on specific themes (such as the Resilience Forum, or Natural Cambridgeshire) who will need to take climate implications into account.

The Climate Working Group is an alliance and a collaboration, not a separate organisation with its own budget or powers. Its starting point is the recommendations of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate, which addressed recommendations to actors across the public and private sector. The Climate Working Group will champion the recommendations, and keep progress on the recommendations under review.

Terms of Reference

1. To work collectively to identify and implement action that can deliver short term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to remain within the global carbon allowance;
2. To identify and implement system-wide actions that will achieve long term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, to reach the target of Net Zero emissions as soon as possible;
3. To work collectively to reduce the risk to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from the extremes of climate change, and to develop adaptation measures to minimise impact;
4. To undertake its activities in a way that enables a fair transition to a low carbon future;
5. To support opportunities to co-design and pilot effective responses;
6. To establish and keep science-based targets up to date; and

7. To monitor and review progress against these objectives (ongoing structures to keep under review the local implications of climate change to be considered following Independent Commission's second report).

Operation

To meet three times per year.

To be chaired by the Mayor.

To be supported by a Climate Working Group Senior Officers Group, providing governance link to sub-groups and specialist working groups, and task and finish groups as required.

Secretariat to be provided by CPCA.