

JOIN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN WESTMINSTER FOR A DAY
OF ACTION – AND BE PART OF THE UK'S BIGGEST EVER
MEETING WITH MPS ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

17 JUNE
SPEAK UP

FOR THE LOVE OF...

**WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2015
WESTMINSTER, LONDON**

LOBBY GUIDE



IT'S TIME WE SPEAK UP FOR THE THINGS WE LOVE



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

17 June will be an inspirational day of action on climate change. It'll be a chance to tell the new government loud and clear that we all care about something that's affected by climate change – and we all support them in taking strong action to protect everything we hold dear.

It will be a day of great hope, a lot of fun, and a big step towards a better future. You'll have a chance to meet other people who care about the impact of climate change, including from your own area, to hear great speakers and to help build a safer world.

Politicians hear a lot from people who have an interest in keeping fossil fuels burning and our temperature warming. Let's make sure that, as they start out in a new parliament, they hear instead from the vast majority of us who want a cleaner, safer and more sustainable world.

“ When I met my MP as part of the IF campaign in 2013, I didn't know what to expect as I'd never participated in a lobby before. Any nerves I had soon vanished – it felt more like having a conversation with a mate than an official representing me in Parliament! A few weeks later my MP wrote to me informing me of what actions he had taken because of our conversation. It was such a great experience seeing democracy in action. It was great fun, too!

Matt Sanderson, 25 from Southwark, south London

WHY CLIMATE?

For the love of the food on our plates and the people that grow it; the Arctic and the Great Barrier Reef; bluebells and butterflies; our children and grandchildren – we need to tackle climate change.

Climate change is the single biggest threat to the things we love, both here in the UK and overseas. But it is not yet irreversible! The solutions are here. There are many ways we can reduce the threats and work towards a better future. And coming up, there are some great opportunities to do just that.

Let's not lose what we love to climate change just because no one knew we cared.

WHY NOW?

2015 is a crucial year in the fight against climate change.

In May, we are electing a new government who could decide the direction of our country for the next five years and beyond.

The decisions they take could protect all we hold dear.

And in December this year, world leaders will meet to agree a legally binding and universal agreement on climate. We need to make sure it is the best agreement it can be.

Our government can take a global lead in these negotiations and we are looking to all our new MPs to show leadership on climate action for the entire time they represent us in Parliament – but there's a lot of pressure for them to keep the status quo. They will only take bold steps if they know they have our support.

WHY MEET MPS?

Members of Parliament are there to represent us and address the things we care about. It's part of their job! So we need to make sure they know what we want them to do.

Most people never contact their MP. Just writing a letter can make a difference, so think how much of an impact thousands of us turning up to talk to our MPs in person will have.

Most political parties agree that

tackling climate change is a high priority for the next government. But they have yet to put their words into action, and make the much-needed changes for a low-carbon future. Let's show them we support this transition!

For the love of democracy – we need to get our politicians acting on climate change.

A FESTIVAL FEEL

We'll make the day colourful with lots of bunting!

There will be many people in your community who can't come on the day, but they can be there in spirit by adding their message to a huge bunting petition. This bunting will be brought to London from all corners of the country to bring a festival vibe to the day – and to show politicians the huge breadth of support from thousands more people nationwide.

Between now and 17 June, please get together to make bunting. See page 12 for a template and ideas to help.

A great way to share your concern with your MP is to bring along something that you love that you want to protect from climate change – whether it's a pebble from a local beach, a photo or locally-grown produce. Be creative!

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON 17 JUNE?

The mass lobby on 17 June will be an unforgettable day. A day of conversation, of community spirit and of hope. Read on to find out more about the day.

1PM-4PM

10,000 of us will meet with our MPs in the streets around Parliament, all at the same time!

See page 6 to find out how this will work. Please make sure you're in place in the lobby line by 1pm. It may take a while to find your place so please allow plenty of time.

4:30PM SPEAK UP FINALE

We'll round off the day with a rally outside Parliament. Inspiring speakers will join us to share the love – and we'll invite the new government and opposition parties to respond to the crowd.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEARBY

ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE FROM 1PM

Forgot your bunting? Got a burning question? Want to find out how the day is going? Keen to find out more about the Climate Coalition? Then St John's is the place to visit. As our Speak Up HQ for the day, St John's will be a hive of activity - so why not drop in and enjoy the buzz.

EMMANUEL CENTRE FROM 1PM

Looking for a respite from the crowds? Then this is the place to come. As well as stands where you can meet staff and volunteers from our amazing member organisations, there will also be a series of films and talks taking place.

Sit back and recharge while learning how different organisations are finding solutions to the issues raised by climate change.

ARCHBISHOP'S PARK IN LAMBETH 2PM-4PM

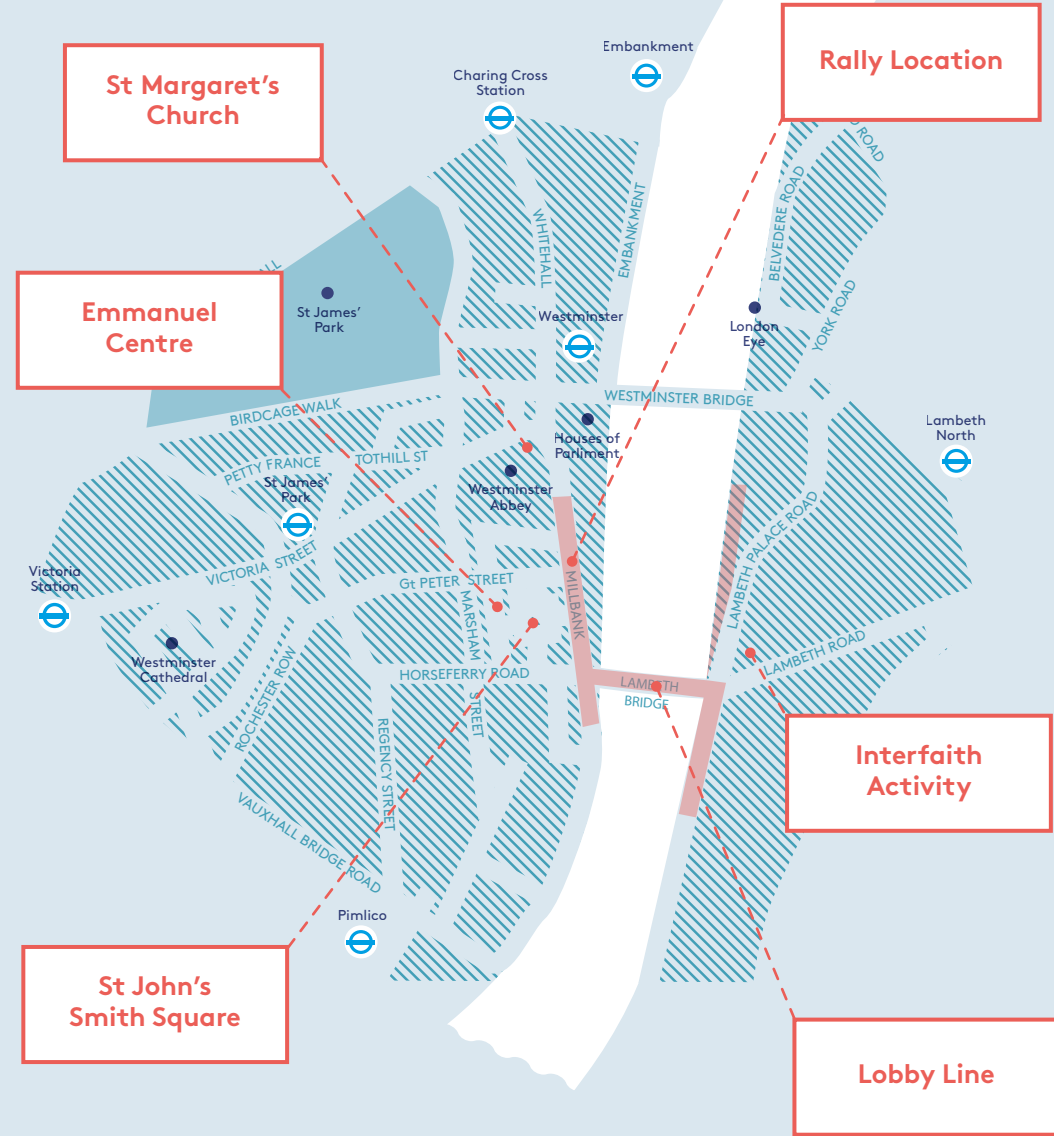
We'll be hosting an interactive art installation in nearby Archbishop's Park in Lambeth. Come and get involved in this awesome interfaith project. We hope to create something really beautiful!

COMING EARLY?

From 12 noon Ecumenical services will take place simultaneously, at St Margaret's Church, Parliament Square, and Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street.

All are welcome, but registration is encouraged so we can plan for the right numbers. Check in with the Climate Coalition or the organisation you support for more details on how.

Alternatively, some of our members have arranged meet-up points or events so if you are joining us with a specific organisation, do check with them to find out where to go.



There will be volunteers on hand at nearby tube stations, all round the MP meeting route and at the rally to help with directions, answer questions and give you any help you need to make the most of the day.

MEETING MPS EN MASSE! HOW IT WILL WORK



Talking to MPs is the important focus of the day. We need our MPs to stand up for the things we love if we want them to play their part at home and around the world. This is our big chance.

We've planned it carefully to make sure this mass lobby event has the maximum impact – for MPs and participants.

FORM AN ORDERLY QUEUE

It's simply not possible to get 10,000 people into the House of Commons in one afternoon, so most MPs will meet their constituents outside (see map on page 5).

The line will be divided into eleven colour-coded nations and regions – and MPs will be brought out to meet you by our very special fleet of rickshaws.

After you've spoken to your MP, join us on Millbank at 4.30pm to round off the day at the Speak Up rally. (See map on page 5)

FINDING YOUR CONSTITUENCY

You'll need to stand with others from your constituency. Constituencies will line up in alphabetical order within nations or geographical regions, and both nations/regions and constituencies will be marked by signs. Our stewards will help you find your place.

Nations and regions will be in this order and colour coded as follows. The further down the list your region is, the further back in the queue. Make sure to allow yourself ample time to find your place.



Scotland – dark blue

Northern Ireland – pink

Wales – red

North East – purple

North West – yellow

South West – gold

East Anglia – light blue

West Midlands – light green

East Midlands – orange

South East – silver

London – dark green



WHEN WILL I SEE MY MP?

We expect that people from Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and North East England will meet their MPs inside the House of Commons.

People from everywhere else will meet their MPs outside in a line between 1pm and 4pm.

Please don't try to enter the House of Commons if you don't have a pre-arranged MP meeting inside. This could delay meetings for others and reduce the impact of the day for MPs and participants.

If your MP suggests meeting you somewhere else or at a different time, please encourage them to pop outside to see you – this way they will feel the love as 10,000 people are gathered to speak up on climate change, and the bunting will illustrate the diversity and strength of feeling from around the country.

There will be plenty of stewards on hand to make sure you get where you need to be.

You may have a long wait to meet your MP so make sure you plan for this and bring food and water, and anything you need to keep comfortable, such as raincoats and portable stools. Be prepared for unpredictable British weather!

If you have any problems, contact a steward.

WHEN YOU MEET YOUR MP

You may only have a short time with your MP so make the most of it. If there are a lot of you, you may not all have a chance to speak, so agree between you how you will share the time.

The Climate Coalition and some of our members will supply briefings on issues to raise with your MP and questions to ask. The main aim is that we want our MPs to be champions on climate change – and to stand up for what matters to their constituents.

You can ask your MP to add his or her message to your bunting if you like – and take a photo of them doing so! The following page has more information on how to invite your MP. See more tips on talking to your MP on page 10.

TAKE NOTES

It would be really helpful to share your feedback on how your MP responded, so please make sure someone from your constituency takes notes of any comments and questions and passes this on to us. We'll have forms available, or you can head to St John's, Smith Square to feedback after the lobby.

Alternatively visit: www.fortheloveof.org.uk after the lobby where a survey will be available.

GETTING READY FOR THE BIG DAY



INVITE YOUR MP

As soon as possible after the election on 7 May, contact your MP and ask them to meet you in Westminster on 17 June.

To check who your MP is (remember it might have changed!) visit www.parliament.uk or www.fortheloveof.org.uk. Don't forget to let us know your MP is coming!

Tip: Ask your MP's assistant for his or her mobile phone number – this will make it easy to keep in touch with their office on the day.

YOU CAN:

- write to them at House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA
- find their email address or telephone number on www.tiny.cc/findMP

Dear _____ MP

On Wednesday 17 June, thousands of people will come to Parliament to speak up for the things we love and ask for action on climate change.

As one of your constituents I would like to meet you to talk about my concerns and ask you to represent them in Parliament.

Please confirm that you will meet me and others from _____ constituency on 17 June. We will meet you at _____*.

And please give me a number to contact you on the day if we have problems meeting up.

Yours sincerely

* If you are from Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales or North East England, please arrange to meet your MP in the House of Commons in Westminster Hall. If you are from anywhere else, please ask to meet them outside in the lobby line. See page 6 for more about how this will work.

REACH OUT TO OTHERS

Encourage others – your friends and family, colleagues, local groups, place of worship, or book club – to take part in the day. They don't have to be 'political' types – this is an event for everyone.

The day will have a stronger impact if the MPs meet a whole range of constituents, as it'll make it crystal clear that climate change is a mainstream issue that affects all of us – young and old, of all races and religions, across the political spectrum.

TELL THE MEDIA

Your local media – newspapers, radio and news websites – are always on the hunt for stories about local people doing interesting things!

Phone up, tweet them or send a press release, telling them that you are heading to London to speak up for what you love and ask our newly-elected politicians to act on climate change. Bunting offers a great photo for the local press – do invite them along to a community bunting-making session, send them photos, and tweet pictures of your bunting.

You can see a sample press release on page 10.

GETTING THERE

A day out to central London needs a bit of planning, especially if there's a group of you. Don't leave important details to chance. How are you going to travel? How much time do you need to get around? What and where will you eat? Does anyone in your group have special needs you need to plan for?

Transport for London have a useful travel planner with details of buses, trains and tube services, routes for walking and cycling, and accessibility advice: www.tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey Some of our member organisations will be organising transport. Check www.fortheloveof.org.uk to see if anything is arranged from your area so far (this will be updated over the coming weeks).

Keep an eye on the weather forecast so you know whether to pack sun cream and a floppy hat, or an umbrella and a pair of wellies.

For any other queries, contact www.theclimatecoalition.org/contact-us

“

Use your voice. Know that you have power and you can make your government listen.

Emma Thompson, actress.

TALKING TO YOUR MP

This is a unique opportunity to make a difference on climate change. It's so early in the new parliament and so close to big global decisions that restoring support for action on climate change could make a big difference.

WHAT DO WE WANT MPS TO DO?

We want all politicians to know why climate change matters to us and to work together to prevent it damaging all we hold dear. The scientific consensus is unequivocal: to stop the world's temperature rising by dangerous levels and to stop climate change undoing years of work in eradicating poverty overseas, we need to make a quick transition to sustainable energy and help those affected by changes already happening to adapt.

WHAT DO WE WANT OUR GOVERNMENT TO DO AT THE UN CLIMATE CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER?

The UK has a big role to play in bringing countries together and we need our negotiators to play their part. The UK has been at the forefront of the fight against global poverty and this can help build a better, fairer global deal on climate change. The UK can also lead by example by accelerating a sustainable transition at home. Our positive pressure will help the government take this forward.

WHAT IF MY MP IS FROM A MINORITY OR OPPOSITION PARTY?

Climate change affects all of us, and needs all of us to work together to rise to its challenges. This includes MPs, as political decisions are a vital piece of the jigsaw. No matter what party they belong to, your MP is your link to political power and can make your voice heard at the highest levels.

WHAT IF MY MP DOESN'T AGREE WITH ME?

Scientists say with 95% certainty that human activity is the main cause of climate change – it's less about whether it's happening and more about how to tackle it. This is politically and economically complicated, so try to understand your MP's views and build a relationship with them to keep the conversation going throughout their time in parliament. Some of the consequences – such as jobs created in sustainable energy, or improving food security for millions of people – are actually very positive but it may take time for your MP to take that on board.

WHAT IF MY MP CAN'T OR WON'T MEET US?

If you are travelling to London you can expect your MP to make time, but some (e.g. Ministers) may simply not be able to attend. Do still come along – you will be given a Green Card to fill in, which we'll give to the House of Commons to tell your MP that you came to see them and to arrange another time. Meanwhile, you'll be free to take part in the other fantastic activities on the day and show strength in numbers!

WON'T MY MP KNOW A LOT MORE THAN ME?

The purpose of the day is for MPs to hear from their constituents – not from experts. We want MPs to listen to what we have to say, not just on 17 June but throughout this Parliament. We want them to listen on what the UK can do to build a more sustainable future, on protecting the things we love in our local communities, across the country and throughout the world.

We'll be in touch nearer the day with suggested questions to ask your MP, along with answers to any questions you may have. To find out more about climate change and what we want MPs and the UK government to do, keep in touch with the Climate Coalition: www.fortheloveof.org.uk

PRESS RELEASE

SAMPLE

[YOURTOWN] RESIDENTS HEAD TO LONDON TO SPEAK UP FOR THE CLIMATE

Members of *[your group]* are heading to London on 17 June to join the Speak Up For The Love Of... climate lobby.

[Yourtown resident Your Name] said, "Climate change could affect so many of the things we care about, from our families to our food to our wildlife to our futures. We are heading to London to ask *[Your MP]* to press the UK government to take action for the climate."

[Mention any interesting details – explain why the lobby is happening now, why 2015 is important. Don't forget local details, like how many people are going from Yourtown? How are you travelling? Do you have anyone particularly young, old or famous in your party? How much bunting have you made?]

For further information, interviews and photos contact *[Your name and phone number]*



ALL ABOUT BUNTING

BUNTING FOR BEES, BEACHES AND BASIL...



What better way to show what you love than to display it on some bunting?

Bunting is a great decoration and easy to make—the ideal way to share an important message about climate change. Get your friends, family and the whole community involved!

To make your climate bunting:

1. Get some old material, unwanted clothes, fairtrade cotton or anything else you can get your hands on!
2. Cut out triangles using the template pattern opposite, or if you are feeling really crafty and want to make bigger triangles, you can make your own. Use a roughly equal size for each triangle—an isosceles triangle with a base of 20cm and long sides of 25cm works well.
3. Write a message about what it is that you love and what you want to protect from climate change. Be creative and decorate your triangle with images! Do this on as many flags as you like.

4. Join together with others in your family, school or community to create your string of bunting. Sew or attach the flags onto a long piece of material or ribbon, leaving gaps about half as wide as the flags. (For super neat bunting, you can use bias binding instead of ribbon and fold it over the top of the flags.)

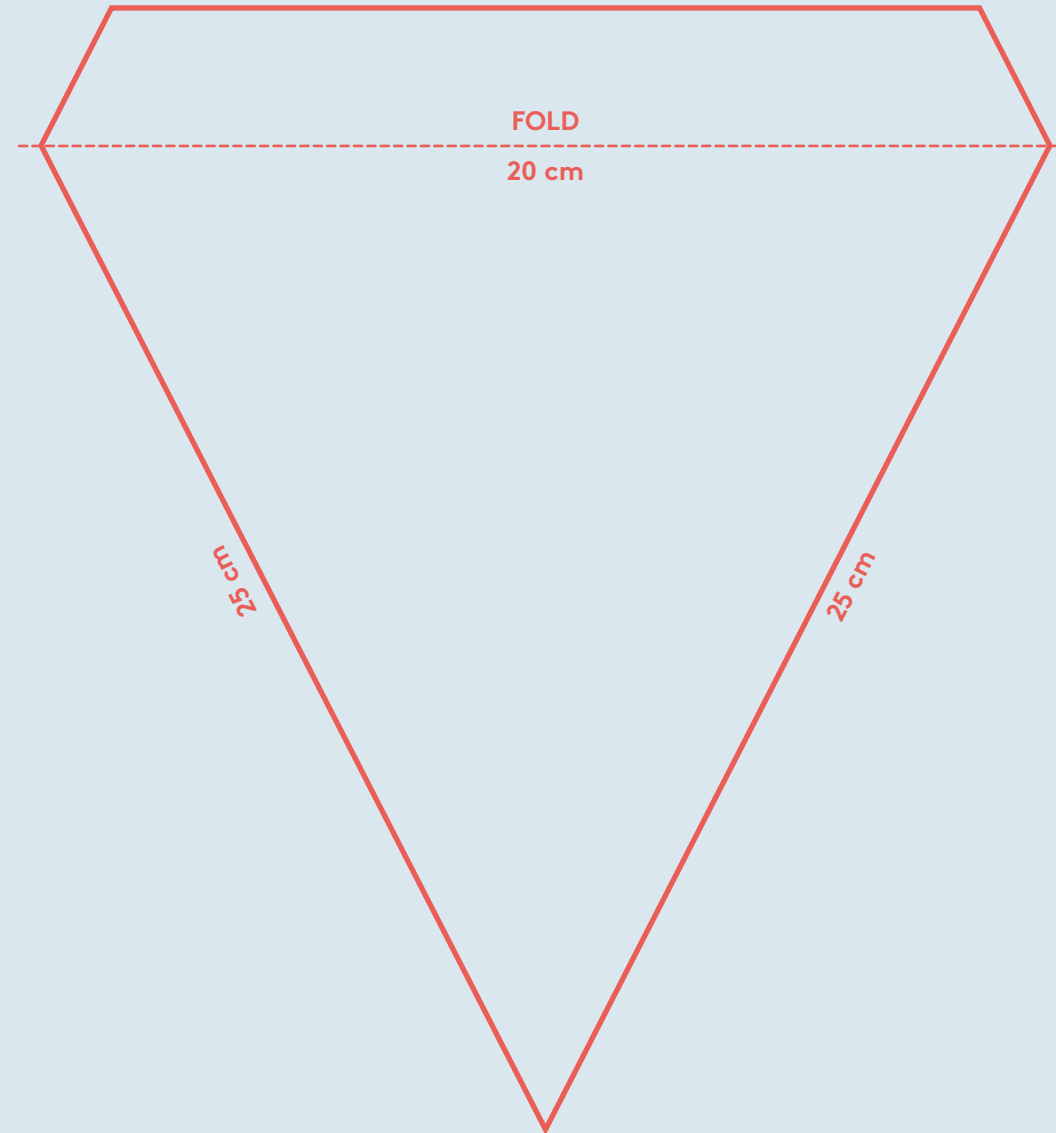
Why not try...

- knitting or crocheting your bunting?
- having a bunting party?
- making your bunting out of something that represents your area (like a sports strip or tartan)?
- getting your workplace/sports team/community group together to decorate a flag?

Bring your bunting to our mass lobby, Speak Up For The Love Of, on 17 June in Westminster and show the world what you love!

Use this as your guide to create your bunting

Not actual size



CLIMATE COALITION

THE CLIMATE COALITION, WITH OUR SISTER ORGANISATIONS STOP CLIMATE CHAOS CYMRU AND STOP CLIMATE CHAOS SCOTLAND, IS THE UK'S LARGEST GROUP OF PEOPLE DEDICATED TO ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND LIMITING ITS IMPACT ON THE WORLD'S POOREST COMMUNITIES. THE COMBINED SUPPORTER BASE OF OUR 100 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IS **MORE THAN 11 MILLION** PEOPLE ACROSS THE UK.



"Before Cyclone Aila, I couldn't grow my own vegetables. Afterwards, sustainability projects were developed and now I can grow spinach, cauliflowers and cucumbers. With a solar powered home, I burn less kerosene when cooking and my children can go to school."
Salma Begum, Bangladesh.



"I'm inspired to call for other young people to act on climate change as we know for a fact that we will be the ones directly affected by climate change as it worsens in the future – so all of us should do something to care for our environment."
Langging, Bagumbayan, Mindanao, Philippines



"Rowers spend so much time out on the river that we are sensitive to the patterns of the weather – we organise our training around them because it's dangerous to row when the river is fast or high and impossible when it's flooded. It's sad when there are years in the results that show "race cancelled"- and that blank space where my sport used to be is growing."
Emma Pinchbeck, UK



"Climate change is already affecting our wonderful UK wildlife on land and sea. Flowers such as snowdrops are blooming earlier in the spring and oaks are leafing earlier and it's almost certain that the crash of sandeels (a staple food for many UK seabirds) is linked to the warming of the sea."
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

350.ORG • 999-PLANET IN PERIL • A ROCHA • ACTION AID • AIRPORT WATCH • ALL WE CAN • ARTISTS PROJECT EARTH (APE) • ASSOCIATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ENERGY • BRITISH HUMANIST ASSOCIATION • CAFOD • CAMBRIDGE CARBON FOOTPRINT • CAMPAIGN AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE • CAPPi • CARLISLE CLIMATE ACTION GROUP (SUSTAINABLE CARLISLE) • CHALLENGE TO CHANGE • CHRISTIAN AID • CHRISTIAN ECOLOGY LINK • CLIMATE FRIENDLY BRADFORD ON AVON • CLIMATE OUTREACH AND INFORMATION NETWORK (COIN) • CLIMATE REVOLUTION • CLIMATE STEWARDS • COLUMBAN JPIC • COMMITMENT FOR LIFE - UNITED REFORMED CHURCH • COMMUNITY ENERGY ENGLAND CPRE • CROYDON REAL NAPPY NETWORK • DERBY CLIMATE CHANGE COALITION • FRIENDS OF THE EARTH • GREENPEACE • GLOSCAN • GRANDPARENTS FOR A SAFE EARTH • HEALTHY PLANET • HOPE FOR THE FUTURE • ISLAMIC FOUNDATION FOR ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES • ISLAMIC RELIEF • JOHN RAY INITIATIVE • BIG GREEN JEWISH • SHARED ENERGY/KEEP IT IN THE GROUND • LEEDS TIDAL • MADE IN EUROPE • MEDACT • MEDSIN-UK • NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE • NE-CAP :NORTH EAST CALL TO ACTION ON GLOBAL POVERTY AND CLIMATE CHANGE • NEW ENVIRONMENTALIST • NORTHFIELD ECOCENTRE • NUS • ONE WORLD UK • ONE WORLD WEEK • OPERATION NOAH • OXFAM • PEOPLE & PLANET • PEOPLERIVER • PETERBOROUGH ENVIRONMENT CITY TRUST • PLANTLIFE INTERNATIONAL • POPULATION MATTERS • PORTSMOUTH CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK • PRACTICAL ACTION • PRESERVE THE RAINFORESTS • GUYANA CAMPAIGN • PROGRESSIO • QUAKER PEACE AND SOCIAL WITNESS • RSPB • THE SAFE ALLIANCE • SALVATION ARMY • SCIENTISTS FOR GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY • SHAREACTION • SIMON KING WILDLIFE PROJECT • SIMPOL-UK • SHEFFIELD CLIMATE ALLIANCE • SPEAK • SPOKES - EAST KENT CYCLE CAMPAIGN • ST NICK'S • STUDENTS FOR A FREE TIBET • SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE • SUSTRANS • SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN SOCIETY • SWINDON CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK (SCAN) • TAKE GLOBAL WARMING SERIOUSLY (POOLE AGENDA 21) • TEARFUND • THAMESBANK • TIPPING POINT FILM FUND • TRANSITION TOWN BERKHAMSTED • UK YOUTH CLIMATE COALITION • UNA • UNICEF UK • UNISON • WILDLIFE TRUST • WINCHESTER ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE • WOMEN'S ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK • WOODLAND TRUST • WWF - UK • WWT (WILDFOWL AND WETLANDS TRUST) • YOUNG FRIENDS OF THE EARTH EWNI • SCC CYMRU • SCC NORTHERN IRELAND • SCC SCOTLAND

CLIMATE CHANGE COULD AFFECT SO MANY OF THE THINGS WE CARE ABOUT,
FROM OUR FAMILIES TO OUR FOOD TO OUR FUTURES. LET'S NOT LOSE WHAT WE
LOVE TO CLIMATE CHANGE JUST BECAUSE NO ONE KNEW WE CARED.



The Climate Coalition is the UK's largest group of people dedicated to action on climate change.

For more information, contact the Climate Coalition or one of our members:

theclimatecoalition.org
theclimatecoalition.org/members

Tel: +44 (0)20 7802 9989

Email: admin@theclimatecoalition.org

Sign up to stay in touch:
fortheloveof.org.uk/speakup