

COP26: 31 OCT - 12 NOV 2021

There are less than 80 days until the **2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26)**. During that time it is vital that the Government hears from as many people as possible – individuals, groups and organisations – so that they hear loud and clear that we demand meaningful, actionable and fair solutions to the Climate Emergency. **Please write to your MP about this.**



Just Transition Wakefield was formed as a network of groups, organisations and individuals to campaign for a zero carbon Wakefield as part of a zero carbon UK. We aim to engage communities and their representatives to understand the climate emergency, its current and future impacts, and the strategies that can be employed to enable Wakefield to become a zero carbon district, whilst improving the quality of life for all members of the community.



Scan this QR code to link to our website where you will find some letter/email templates and suggestions for wording that you could use.

You will also find a list of local MPs and ways to contact them.

On our website there is also lots more information about our organisation, latest news and events, and ways to contact us if you would like to get involved.

For more information visit [justtransitionwakefield.org.uk](https://www.justtransitionwakefield.org.uk)
f <https://www.facebook.com/JustTransitionWakefield/>
@JustTransitionW



TELL THE GOVERNMENT: IT'S TIME TO ACT!

Frustrated at the UK Government's lack of meaningful action on climate change? There is something we can all do today:

Write to MPs and demand they act NOW

It's time for our politicians to stand up for a future that can sustain life on Earth. As the crucial **COP26** climate talks approach, we are calling on all MPs to signal their absolute commitment to rapidly cut greenhouse gas emissions to curb global heating.

The more voices that join the call, the louder we'll be heard.


Not sure how or what to say? Read on to find out what our MPs need to act on, why, and how to demand that they do.

JOIN US TO DEMAND ACTION!

What are the key issues?

- 1** We are already seeing the catastrophic effects of climate change, at **1.1 degrees** of warming. The IPCC clearly shows that is set to rise far higher if we do not act now.
- 2** The Government wants to spend a whopping **£27bn** on building NEW roads in the UK, which would only increase traffic levels and CO2 emissions.
- 3** HS2 will **not** benefit the majority, but will **adversely** impact over 130 protected wildlife sites and over 50 ancient woodlands.
- 4** Transport emissions account for **27%** of the UK's carbon emissions.
- 5** **Biofuels** could be more damaging to the planet than burning fossil fuels – the largest biofuel generator, **Drax**, is right on our doorstep.
- 6** All UK buildings represent a potential for energy generation or storage, but most are currently **huge emitters**.
- 7** Individuals and businesses are making changes, but Government needs to create a **regulatory and financial framework** to accelerate this change.
- 8** There are millions of **underemployed** people, many displaced from outdated industries, and an urgent need for skilled workers to retrofit homes and businesses throughout the UK, and for many other climate jobs.
- 9** Proposed **expansions** of Heathrow, Leeds Bradford and other airports will dramatically increase emissions across the UK and globally.
- 10** The UK Government are licensing new North Sea oil and gas fields and still dithering over the Cumbrian Coal Mine. The Government is still using taxpayers' money to invest in **oil and gas** projects overseas.
- 11** **50%** of total global emissions ever have been put into the atmosphere in the last **30 years**. Whilst China's emissions have increased, they are manufacturing the products that the rest of the world consumes.
- 12** UK Government is stressing over calculating the costs of climate action – but the **costs of inaction** will be far, far higher.

What must the UK Government do?

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- 1** The UK Government must **rapidly curb greenhouse gas emissions** by developing a comprehensive package of climate legislation, climate policies and climate finance, so that government, businesses and families can work together to slash emissions by 2030. These policies should include:
 - 2** No NEW Roads. All road builders to be moved to the creation of improved **cycling and walking routes**, repairing and resurfacing existing roads.
 - 3** **Cancel HS2** and accelerate regional projects like Northern Rail – increase services and electrify the entire railway network.
 - 4** Directly finance large scale green technology trials for **zero carbon HGV options**, including electrification of long-haul HGVs and rapidly expand the EV charging network.
 - 5** **Ban biofuels** for large-scale electric power generation such as at Drax.
 - 6** Upgrade **Building Regulations** urgently so that all new buildings are at least zero carbon, and include biodiversity and natural shading in the key requirements. Create national retrofit standards for existing homes and commercial properties.
 - 7** Properly **fund local councils** to lead local climate change plans and accelerate national action, and support families and businesses to make their own changes.
 - 8** The government needs to fund a **national training programme** to create the workforce to carry out essential climate jobs like retrofit insulation, fire safe cladding and heat pump installation into existing homes.
 - 9** **Stop all Airport Expansion** with no increases in flights until genuinely green options are available. Seek global agreements on shipping and aviation to limit emissions during the energy transition.
 - 10** The UK Government must **stop ALL new fossil fuel exploration** – at home and abroad. This includes the Cambo Oil Field, the Cumbrian Coal Mine and oil and gas in Mozambique.
 - 11** As chair of the global UN COP26 talks, deliver a **comprehensive solution** for the world to directly cut emissions, instead of hiding them behind greenwash and empty words.
 - 12** Stop stealing from the Bank of Future Generations. We must **invest in solutions** now, to save in the long run. The costs of managing extreme crises are far greater than investing in **meaningful climate action** now.