

The UK needs to lead the way for the UN Climate Talks (COP26).

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) is being hosted by the UK in November this year. This event is where the countries of the world decide how they are going to tackle the climate crisis.

As the president and host of the event, and one of the largest economies in the world, the UK is calling on other countries to update their plans to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2050; the UK Government has also stated that current plans do not go far enough.

The UK therefore needs to lead by example, or leave itself open to accusations of hypocrisy; with other less wealthy countries likely to say that if the UK can't take the relevant actions, how they afford to do so.

So what should the UK be doing in order to cut our carbon emissions and lead the way for the rest of the world to do the same?

Stop subsidising fossil fuel companies through tax allowances and relief worth hundreds of millions of pounds. Switch this support to **wind and solar power generation**, to increase take-up and jobs.

Prevent new oil drilling in the North Sea and reject the new Cumbria coalmine. Don't issue licences for the Cambo oil field, or any other potential oil fields. To achieve the necessary cuts to carbon necessary to avert catastrophic climate change, there can be no new fossil fuel fields. Coal is the most polluting of fossil fuels and the new Cumbria coalmine currently awaits the decision of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Stop funding fossil fuel production across the world. Cancel the loan guarantees and funding to British business involved in the Mozambique gas drilling and pipeline. It amounts to \$1b of direct funding for fossil fuels.

Increase climate aid to the Global South. At the moment the government is cutting it. The developed world has and continues to cause the vast majority of climate change, the global south are in the front line of the consequences. They need assistance to move their economies onto greener paths and adapt to protect people from the effects of extreme weather.

Fund UK householders to insulate, heat and cool their homes to a green standard. The Green Homes Grant was cancelled in March 2021 in spite of huge demand. This is an opportunity to provide green jobs as well as improve peoples' lives and reduce carbon emissions.

Fund buses not roads. Cancel the £25b currently earmarked for investment in roads and instead invest it in public transport.

Speed up the phasing out of petrol & diesel cars. The current plan to end the sale of new petrol & diesel cars in 2030 needs to be much sooner if we are to reach net zero by 2050.

Cancel all proposed airport expansions, block any further ones and stop bailing out the air industry. Currently expansions are planned at 7 airports in England



What you can do:

- Sign and share some of the many petitions to the UK government calling for climate action right now. There's a page of them on our website.
- Write to your MP and tell them what you want to see the UK doing for COP26.
- Make the climate crisis something people think about. Talk about it to your family, friends, and the people you work with.
- Stand with us to show that you care and get people thinking. We're holding climate vigils on the 2nd Monday 12-1pm, and 4th Friday 5-6pm of each month. More info on our website.
- Join Climate Action Leicester and Leicestershire and get involved in our work.

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