



## **Friends of the Earth's Climate Action Plan**

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We still have time to act, and we know what the solutions look like. Yet our leaders are letting us down, backing fracking, funding oil and gas projects abroad, and filling the skies with more planes. The solutions to the climate crisis don't look like this.

We want communities where children can play outside and breathe clean air; warm homes that don't cost the earth to heat; access to nature wherever we live; better food that's good for us; and greener jobs for everyone.

That's why we're calling on the UK government to urgently adopt our Climate Action Plan, outlined below, which will cut greenhouse gas emissions at the rapid pace informed by the latest science, and build a greener and fairer society for everyone.

Friends of the Earth is proud to be part of the largest grassroots environmental network in the world.

We believe in climate justice and that fighting climate change isn't solely about cutting domestic carbon emissions, but building a fairer and more just world in the process.

We recognise that the UK - the birthplace of the industrial revolution - has been one of the biggest historical emitters of greenhouse gas emissions, and that our government has a responsibility to provide finance and support to those countries who have done least to cause climate change but who are vulnerable to - and already dealing with - its sharpest impacts.

**Therefore, to deal with the climate emergency, we call on the UK government to commit by the end of 2020 to:**

### **1. Transport**

**Stop doing this:** Stop the sale of petrol and diesel cars within a decade.

**Start doing this:** Invest in brilliant and cheap public transport, cycling and walking everywhere.

### **2. Power**

**Stop doing this:** Stop making electricity from dirty and harmful fuels and ban fracking.

**Start doing this:** Aim for 100% clean energy from the wind, sun and sea.

### **3. Buildings**

**Stop doing this:** End the misery of cold, expensive-to-heat homes.

**Start doing this:** Fund a massive insulation scheme and shift to eco-friendly heating.

### **4. Agriculture and land use**

**Stop doing this:** Stop using our land in harmful ways such as intensive farming.

**Start doing this:** Double tree cover to help stop climate change and enable wildlife to thrive.

## **5. Infrastructure**

**Stop doing this:** Stop backing projects that fuel climate breakdown like airport expansion.

**Start doing this:** Make climate change a deal-breaker in spending and planning decisions.

## **6. International justice**

**Stop doing this:** Stop funding fossil fuels globally.

**Start doing this:** Pay its fair share of finance to support more vulnerable countries to cut carbon pollution and deal with the impacts of climate change.

## **What it adds up to**

Adopting this Climate Action Plan would **put the UK on a path to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045**, consistent with the ambition of the Paris Climate Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Vulnerable countries across the world would also benefit from increased finance from the UK to help them deal with climate change they didn't cause.

More detail informing the above solution areas can be found in Friends of the Earth's "[A pathway to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions](#)" (2018) briefing.

This Climate Action Plan will require significant state-led investment as well as taxation of polluting companies – with at least an extra £22 billion a year in additional UK government spending. Friends of the Earth's "[Making the polluter pay for the transition to net zero](#)" (2019) speaks to the level of investment we believe is necessary and where we believe funds can be raised.

The economic benefits of this investment are clear, with the National Infrastructure Commission estimating for instance that for every £1 invested in energy efficiency, £3.20 is returned through increased GDP plus £1.27 in increased tax revenues.

The transition to a net-zero economy outlined above must be a just one, protecting workers and communities. We must ensure no-one is left behind in that transition.

People working in high-carbon sectors should be redeployed or retrained with the fullest protections. Friends of the Earth are proud signatories of the [Greener Jobs Alliance statement](#).