



We, the Green parliamentarians of the four nations of the UK, stand united in calling for COP26 to drive forward global action on the climate emergency and to act as a catalyst for a just transition to a net-zero economy across the UK. With COP26 marking the point at which nations must increase the ambition of their climate targets in line with the Paris Agreement, next year promises to be a landmark moment in the fight against climate breakdown and limiting warming to 1.5°C. It's critical that the governments of the UK, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are at the leading edge of this change and ready to play a genuine leadership role when we host COP26 next year. As leaders of the four nations we call on you to work together and step up to the challenge now, delivering faster and deeper cuts in emissions while ramping up support for communities already suffering around the world. This should include the following key actions.

1. Commit to a Nationally Determined Contribution that shows global leadership

The UK Government must show urgent leadership by delivering an ambitious Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for 2030 consistent with achieving net-zero in the shortest time possible, without the use of international offsets. Whilst the UK Government's commitment to a 68% reduction in emissions by 2030, compared to 1990 levels, constitutes an increase on previous targets, it is disappointing that this does not include international aviation and shipping. As host of COP26 and in light of the UK's historical contribution to climate change, the UK has a responsibility to submit an ambitious NDC aligned with 1.5 degrees. The UK's NDC should be commensurate with the escalating climate emergency and the UK should also use its Presidency to urge all countries to deliver the necessary targets to limiting global heating to 1.5°C.

2. Produce detailed 10-year plans that deliver our interim targets and put us on the path to net-zero

Governments across the UK are strong on climate rhetoric but are failing to deliver the actions needed to transform our society and rapidly decarbonise our economies. Indeed, the Climate Change Committee have warned that the UK is not on track to meet the fourth and fifth carbon budgets aligned with reducing emissions by 80% by 2050. The four nations need to agree enhanced climate change plans in advance of COP26 that deliver a revolution in the transport, housing, food and energy sectors, while investing in the circular economy and the restoration of our land and seas as nature rich, resilient carbon sinks. Northern Ireland in particular is falling behind, and the Executive must urgently introduce climate change legislation and statutory targets.

3. Increase contributions to global climate finance as restorative climate justice

It's widely recognised that the historic industrialisation of the UK underpinned our economic prosperity, but we must be honest about the impact it has had on our planet and the prosperity of others, particularly those in the Global South who have contributed the least to causing this emergency. Recognising our role in this injustice and committing to restorative action is both the right thing to do and essential to success at COP26. We believe that all rich polluting countries must

fulfil their \$100 billion per year climate finance promise to the world's poorest countries through non-repayable grants. The UK Government must also lead efforts to provide new and additional climate finance for developing countries, informed by Fair Shares analysis, with 50% going towards adaptation. In Scotland this means increasing the Climate Justice Fund, which could be achieved through taxes on polluting industries.

4. End the search for new oil and gas and deliver a just transition

Four fifths of the world's fossil fuel reserves must remain in the ground if we are to have any hope of avoiding dangerous climate change. Recent licenses issued to the oil and gas sector in the North Sea directly undermine the goals of the Paris Agreement, and we believe that they should be revoked alongside the introduction of a moratorium on new UK oil and gas licenses. With surveys showing 80% of North Sea oil and gas workers showing interest in transferring knowledge and skills to renewables, the time is now for to plan for a transition that leaves no workers behind. The UK must also stop ploughing public money into dirty fossil fuel projects overseas through UK Export Finance.

5. Ensure the right voices are heard at COP26

The summit in Glasgow must not be used as an opportunity by global corporate polluters to promote their narrow interests to a captive and influential audience. Businesses with a vested interest in slowing action and ambition on climate change must be locked out of the COP summit and not be allowed to sponsor major events in Glasgow. We call on the UK Government to support calls for a Conflict of Interest Policy at COP that would the limit the ability of polluting corporations and their executives, trade associations and lobbyists to take part in negotiations, panels, and critical discussions. Conversely, many delegates from the Global South and marginalised groups who are most impacted by climate change may struggle to participate in the summit. The UK Government must ensure their access to the summit is supported and their voices, including those of women, heard.

6. Mainstream and upscale nature-based solutions to tackle the climate and nature emergencies

Although nature-based solutions must not be a substitute for a rapid and comprehensive phase out of fossil fuels, they are critical to our net-zero aspirations and tackling the catastrophic declines in nature here in the UK and across the world. Here in the UK there is enormous potential for cost-effective sequestration of emissions through restoring degraded ecosystems. This includes restoring and protecting peatlands, reforestation with native trees, and preventing damage to marine sediments and carbon-rich habitats like kelp forests. Estimates suggest these measures could provide a third of all emission reductions needed by 2030 to meet our obligations under the Paris Agreement. All four nations should also put an end to the damaging practice of peat burning and dramatically upscale programmes and funding for peatland restoration and conservation. Putting these plans in place now will also position the UK well to play a leadership role in this crucial area, helping mainstream nature-based solutions worldwide and ensuring they are fully integrated and prioritised in NDCs.

7. Catalyse a global shift to the Wellbeing Economy

An underlying cause of the climate emergency is our dangerous and outdated economic system, based on the exploitation of people and our natural world. COP26 is an opportunity for the UK to catalyse a global shift towards a new resilient economic model that puts the health and wellbeing of people and ecosystems above growth. The UK government should collaborate with those already adopting the Wellbeing Economy and champion a new vision of prosperity in the 21st century that aims to meet the needs of all people within the means of the living planet. We must heed the public

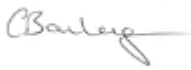
health imperative for this: experts have warned that the same unsustainable consumption and production patterns that drive climate breakdown and biodiversity loss also drive pandemic risk through their impacts on our environment. COP26 should be a turning point towards a global economy that is greener, fairer and healthier by design.



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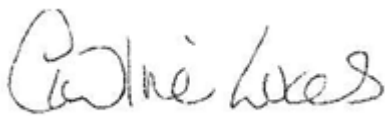
Mark Ruskell MSP



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Baroness Natalie Bennet



Caroline Lucas MP



Patrick Harvie MSP



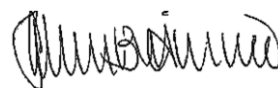
Baroness Jenny Jones



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