# Thousands rally at Westminster urging MPs to fund climate action for hardest hit communities



Thousands of activists, including schoolchildren, faith leaders, parents, and grandparents, gathered at Parliament Square in London for a significant mass lobby event titled "Act Now, Change Forever." On a busy day in Westminster, approximately 5,000 people from across the UK met with their Members of Parliament to urge urgent climate and nature action amidst increasing climate-driven extreme weather. The event sought to prompt politicians to commit funding to communities hardest hit by climate change, restore nature, and secure a greener, fairer future with robust support for UK jobs.

The colourful scene featured protestors wearing vibrant t-shirts and holding up creative signage with messages such as "Make Polluters Pay," and “Worried mother trying to protect my kids,” while symbolic items like a giant melting ice cream shaped as planet Earth and a surfboard emblazoned with “Ocean + Climate Emergency” underscored the urgency of the crisis. Among the attendees was an 80-year-old grandfather, Sigurd Reimers from Somerset, representing the group Our Grandchildren’s Climate, advocating for pensions to divest from fossil fuels to safeguard the future of forthcoming generations.

Campaigners highlighted recent climate events including droughts in northern England and flooding in Texas to demonstrate the immediate and global impact of climate change. Kate Norgrove, executive director of conservation advocacy at WWF, pointed out how politicians often underestimate public support for climate action, as evidenced by the extensive turnout of people from around the country queuing to meet their MPs. She stressed that the urgency of the issue demands immediate response, saying, “The time was yesterday really. We can feel the heat.”

Mark Funnell from the National Trust emphasised the tangible consequences of climate change on the UK's landscapes, mentioning droughts, floods, and extreme weather already affecting many regions. He called for stronger parliamentary action and said that although the government has laid out ambitious environmental commitments, more progress is needed on the ground. Dani Jordan from Surfers Against Sewage also stressed the interconnectedness of climate, pollution, and nature crises, praising the event for uniting diverse voices to foster hope and collective strength.

Energy Secretary Ed Miliband lent his support via video message, acknowledging the significance of the gathering and affirming the government’s commitment to placing climate and nature at the forefront of its agenda. He highlighted recent government efforts, including investments in clean energy, land use reforms for nature recovery, and funding for tree planting and peatland restoration. Miliband described these as part of the most substantial UK investment in climate, clean energy, and nature ever announced.

The event, coordinated by The Climate Coalition and supported by a variety of organisations such as Oxfam, Friends of the Earth, Tearfund, and Zero Hour, was part of a wider campaign to mobilise citizens and provide resources, training, and guidance for engaging MPs on climate policy. Activities during the day included photo opportunities, panel discussions, and networking hubs aimed at empowering new and experienced campaigners alike. Participants were encouraged to join the growing grassroots movement to demonstrate widespread public demand for decisive climate action.

This mass lobby reflects a critical moment of civic mobilisation amidst mounting environmental challenges, emphasising the necessity for urgent, comprehensive responses to the climate crisis both in the UK and globally.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/), [[2]](https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/act-now-change-forever), [[3]](https://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-oxfam/climate-action/act-now-change-forever/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/), [[2]](https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/act-now-change-forever), [[3]](https://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-oxfam/climate-action/act-now-change-forever/), [[4]](https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate/act-now-change-forever-join-climate-coalition-mass-lobby), [[5]](https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/lets-act-now-to-change-forever), [[6]](https://www.zerohour.uk/act-now-change-forever/), [[7]](https://groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/take-action/act-now-change-forever-join-us-mass-lobby)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/thousands-meet-with-mps-in-westminster-for-mass-lobby-on-climate-action-G5YNJRGDIROAHMSGOTG4PK75FY/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/act-now-change-forever> - The Climate Coalition's 'Act Now, Change Forever' campaign is a mass lobby event scheduled for Wednesday, 9th July 2025, in Westminster, London. The initiative aims to unite thousands of individuals from across the UK to meet with their Members of Parliament (MPs) and advocate for urgent action on climate change and nature restoration. Participants are encouraged to register online to join the movement and receive updates on training sessions, resources, and event details. The campaign focuses on delivering vital funding to communities affected by climate change, supporting UK jobs, and restoring nature to create a safer, healthier future.
3. <https://www.oxfam.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-oxfam/climate-action/act-now-change-forever/> - Oxfam GB is collaborating with The Climate Coalition for the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby event on 9th July 2025. The campaign seeks to mobilise thousands of people from across the UK to gather in Westminster and meet with their MPs, urging them to implement bold, practical solutions to protect the planet and communities. Oxfam highlights key objectives, including demanding that polluters pay for the climate crisis, ensuring vital funding for communities hardest hit by climate change, lowering bills, supporting UK jobs, and restoring nature for a safer, healthier world. Individuals can sign up to participate and access resources and training sessions provided by Oxfam and The Climate Coalition.
4. <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate/act-now-change-forever-join-climate-coalition-mass-lobby> - Friends of the Earth is joining The Climate Coalition in the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby event on 9th July 2025. The initiative aims to bring together thousands of individuals from across the UK to meet with their MPs in Westminster, demanding urgent political action to combat climate change and protect the natural environment. Participants are encouraged to register with The Climate Coalition and can expect a day filled with activities, including a photo opportunity for supporters and groups, a hub space for refreshments and networking, and panel discussions and stalls from various organisations. Friends of the Earth provides guidance and support for those new to political events and encourages widespread participation to demonstrate the power and passion of the grassroots movement for people and the planet.
5. <https://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/lets-act-now-to-change-forever> - Tearfund is partnering with The Climate Coalition for the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby event on 9th July 2025. The campaign invites thousands of people from across the UK to gather in Westminster to meet with their MPs, advocating for urgent action on climate change and nature restoration. Tearfund emphasises the importance of delivering vital funding to communities most affected by climate change, restoring nature for the future, and investing in sustainable, green solutions. The organisation encourages individuals to sign up and participate in shaping a fairer, more stable, and resilient future for everyone.
6. <https://www.zerohour.uk/act-now-change-forever/> - Zero Hour is supporting The Climate Coalition's 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby event on 9th July 2025. The initiative aims to unite climate and nature campaigners from across the UK to meet with their MPs in Westminster, advocating for bold, practical action on climate change and nature restoration. Zero Hour offers guidance, support, and training for participants, including a 'How to speak to your MP' guide and information on supporting the Climate and Nature Bill. The event also features a post-event social at Tamesis Dock, providing an opportunity for campaigners to connect and celebrate their collective efforts.
7. <https://groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/take-action/act-now-change-forever-join-us-mass-lobby> - Friends of the Earth is collaborating with The Climate Coalition for the 'Act Now, Change Forever' mass lobby event on 9th July 2025. The campaign aims to mobilise thousands of individuals from across the UK to meet with their MPs in Westminster, demanding urgent political action on climate change and nature restoration. Participants can register their interest with The Climate Coalition and are encouraged to join Friends of the Earth for a photo opportunity at Victoria Tower Gardens, visit the Friends of the Earth hub space at the City of Westminster Archives Centre, and attend activities at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre. The event provides an opportunity to be part of a significant grassroots movement advocating for people and the planet.