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GJA Supporters Meeting Tuesday 13 December 2022 12.00-13.30

## Greener Work: the work of the Green Bargaining Officer

### Speakers include

Jenny Patient (Yorks and Humber TUC)  
Ryan Morrison (FOE Scotland)  
Lara Skinner (Climate Jobs National Resource Centre, New York)  
And a contribution from the Wales TUC.

**Plus** COP27 Report back with Jenny Cooper (NEU Executive and ITUC delegate)  
And Retrofit workshop report with Linda Clarke (UCU/GJA)  
Online event: Contact [tahirlatif51@icloud.com](mailto:tahirlatif51@icloud.com) to register.

## Editorial: After the COP, now what?

It's obvious that the pace of action is slower than the rate of breakdown. Part of the problem is that fossil fuel companies are embedded in the COP process; often incognito in government delegations and therefore in the rooms where the rules are made and loopholes drilled.

At COP, Adil al-Jubair, the Saudi Foreign Minister, said “we don't see this as a discussion about fossil fuels” as attempts by India to generalise last year's commitment to phase down coal to cover all fossil fuels was blocked and, even worse, natural gas was affirmed as a “transition fuel”. This allowed a “dash for gas” for the exploitation of Africa's resources, with half a dozen deals sealed at the conference.

This has been posed as a way for impoverished people on the continent to have an alternative to burning wood, but 89% of the proposed infrastructure is for export to meet Europe's short term needs and will leave the African countries concerned with debt laden stranded assets once they've been met.

Next year's COP will be held in the oil rich United Arab Emirates, which is a bit like

## Quote of the Month

*We were the ones whose blood, sweat and tears financed the industrial revolution. Are we now to face double jeopardy by having to pay the cost as a result of those greenhouse gases from the industrial revolution? That is fundamentally unfair.*

*Mia Mottlet PM of Barbados*

holding an AA meeting in a pub. **Desmog reports** that “The UAE has been using **PR companies** to try to improve its reputation as it gears up to host COP28 next year, including by lobbying US politicians hostile to climate action”. A sharp focus for campaigning.

Progress now depends on the most polluting countries upping or exceeding their targets. This can be done. The EU has upped its 2030 target for renewable energy generation from 22% to 45%. China has already gone beyond its 2025 target for EVs and looks set to hit its 2030 renewables target by 2025 or 6. Australia now has better targets following the fall of its climate denying government in the spring. And Jair Bolsonaro is no longer President of Brazil.

The West/Global North is still failing to support the Global South, prioritising war instead. Loss and Damage has been agreed, but no money has been pledged. Military budgets are ballooning in the meantime, a malign misdirection of funds that should be targeted for more constructive use.

Last year, **OXFAM showed** that

- the rising emissions of the wealthiest 10% – those on more than about \$80,000 a year – will take us beyond 1.5C unless we curb their wealth,
- while that of the upper middle 40%, which is most of the working class in the Global North, is declining,
- and that of the bottom 50%, most of the people in the Global South, is negligible.

This makes policies of swingeing redistribution - domestically and internationally - not simply a matter of desirable social justice, but an imperative of environmental survival.

The current strike wave is about us all having enough to live on with dignity and self respect. It is characteristic of the media’s inversion of reality, to suit the needs of the 1%, that this is framed as “unaffordable”; while the suicidal delusion that everyone could live like the rich, if only they weren’t so lacking in moral fibre, is lauded as “aspirational”. Part of the struggle for a sustainable society is to turn that framing inside out and put it the right way up.

*Paul Atkin Ed*

## COP roundup. A view from the Green Zone

**Jenny Cooper** from the NEU Climate Change Network and union Executive was one of the two ITUC delegates from the UK.

Jenny reported on the mix of frustration and elation that seems characteristic of these events.

Frustration at the inadequacy of the official delegations, the influence of fossil fuel companies, the greenwashing of Ministers and Banks and the way this is shown up in all sorts of small ways.

- The Swedish banker talking about what a great deal her bank was giving to fairtrade farmers, while two actual farmers from Paraguay and the Philippines sat on the same panel, shaking their heads in disbelief.
- The male UK delegate who commandeered a chair in the oversubscribed women’s empowerment event, after the chair said that there was one seat per country, leaving his female colleague to sit at the back on the floor.
- Baroness Barran from the DFE at the Ministerial Education event waxing lyrical about how the UK is training all teachers to teach the climate crisis and spinning the most aspirational possible interpretation of the DFE Net Zero Strategy as though it had already been done, while no actual teachers had a voice in the meeting. A delegate from China approached Jenny for more information about these wonderful initiatives and had to be disillusioned with a more accurate view.
- The sheer evasiveness of the UK delegation in their unpreparedness to meet union delegates until Jenny’s last day after she’d exposed the Barran incident

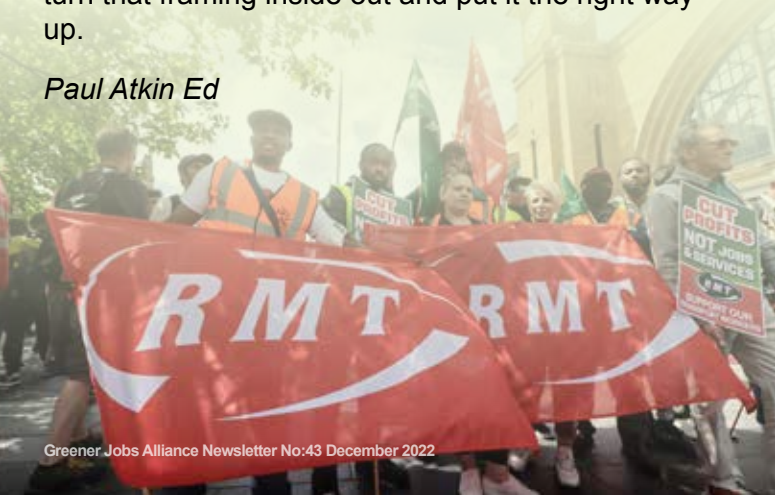
Frustration and pain at the way powerful testimony of people being hit hard in the Global South is like water off a duck’s back.

- A delegate from indigenous territory in Brazil bursting out in anger at the end of her speech in frustration at the utter failure of wealthy countries to take any responsibility for the damage their oil spills have done, which is threatening the survival of her nation
- Dr Sifiso Ndlovo, the General Secretary of the Zimbabwe Teacher’s Union who reported on the twenty schools recently swept away by cyclones in his country.

And elation at the solidarity and continual demonstrations, meetings, protests among the NGO and Union delegations, connecting, sharing stories, news, deepening understanding, expressing outrage and tooling up to take the struggle back home for the next round.

Read Jenny’s COP Blog [here](#) and TUC report [here](#).

<sup>2</sup> Photo: Steve Eason flickr.com/photos/127991958@N06/



# The ITUC view

Governments from the global south finally achieved a long fought for agreement to establish a fund to compensate “loss and damage” from climate change related events in developing countries. The challenge is now to provide the necessary finance for the fund and to make it operational by COP28.

The trade union movement welcomes the establishment of a work program on just transition. The “*Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan*” asserts that Just Transition is founded on Social Dialogue.

Sharan Burrow, outgoing ITUC General Secretary, said: *“Workers must have a place at the table for a transition that stabilises the planet, economies and our societies. Transition plans need to include both climate and employment plans. That requires unions to be involved and own the process, otherwise we risk stoking the fear of those who feel left behind and left out of decision making.”*

Eric Manzi, ITUC-Africa Deputy General Secretary, said: *“To build resilience for workers, families and communities, comprehensive and universal social protection systems are needed. We need to see the funds to ensure those systems can deliver unemployment benefits and fundamental health services.”*

*“In Africa, funds are desperately needed for transition skills training and ensuring informal jobs become formalised decent jobs with social protection. This is the way to deliver for workers in poor and rich countries alike.”*

Unions regret the absence of commitments by countries to respect labour rights and human rights. The right to

free trade unions, collective bargaining and occupational health and safety are essential to ensure a Just Transition.

The reluctance of countries to specifically guarantee the respect of human rights is a major concern for the labour movement. Ambitious climate policies can only be successful if there is trust that rights are respected for everyone.

On climate mitigation the result is very disappointing. Countries are backtracking on their commitment at COP26 in Scotland to phase down coal. The door is opened for “low-emission” energy instead of focussing fully on renewable energy.

Sharan Burrow said: *“On market mechanisms we see the continuing undermining of the objectives of the Paris Agreement by proposals that allow double counting and unsustainable removal technologies. Stepping up mitigation ambition must be a major priority for COP28. The challenge will be how the incoming UAE COP28 Presidency will deal with that.”*

*“But we know what is needed. The ITUC will lead the call for a new economic model based on a new social contract. We want climate-friendly jobs, workers’ rights, just wages, social protection, equality and inclusion. This must be at the centre of the plans of all governments”.* Luca Visentini, new General Secretary of ITUC



# Climate protesters jailed & reporters arrested

Alongside the latest COP in Egypt and increasing numbers of protests around the country, climate protesters have been jailed for their actions and journalists have been arrested for doing their job – reporting on those protests and why they are happening.

In November The Guardian reported more than 30 climate activists were behind bars in the UK during the COP and this was followed by the three weeks jail sentence for Just Stop Oil protester Louis McKechnie.



Photo: Alisdare Hickson flickr.com/photos/alisdare/

A number of journalists reporting on these matters were also having their collar felt, with at least one LBC reporter, Charlotte Lynch, being arrested whilst reporting on the Just Stop Oil M25 protests. Charlotte said she was “flabbergasted” at being put in a police cell and found the experience of being jailed “*absolutely terrifying*”.

And Byline Times reported filmmaker Rich Felgate and photographer Tom Bowles arrested at the same protest within ten minutes of the police’s arrival despite offering press cards as identification.

Felgate accused the police of intimidation and said: “*They know who I am, they know what I’m doing. Random officers say hello with my name – they do that with protesters. They do that to remind people they’re keeping tabs. To let them know they’re watching.*”

Whilst intimidation of journalists reporting on politically sensitive issues is nothing new the number of arrests domestically and similar in Spain prompted the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) to cry foul.

Hertfordshire Police quickly held a review of what happened on the M25 protests with Chief Constable Charlie Hall saying he had apologised to four journalists arrested at those events after the review concluded the arrests of the journalists “*were not justified*”.

The journalists were arrested under “*suspicion of conspiracy to commit a public nuisance*”, a new crime brought into law this year through the controversial Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act which allows prison sentences of up to ten years in jail on conviction. This new law reflects the strengthening of rhetoric and increased action from government against climate protesters which can and will be used against protesters but also wrongly against journalists legitimately doing their job.

Welcoming the police review’s report Séamus Dooley, assistant general secretary NUJ said: “*This is a vindication of the firm public stand taken by the general secretary, strongly supported by the NEC. The recommendation is also an endorsement of our steady work at national level in training and developing greater awareness among police of the importance of the press card. The clear and unambiguous acceptance of the key recommendations regarding the role of the NUJ is especially welcome.*”

“*We need a consistent approach by all police so that journalists are not restricted on the whim of individual constabularies. This is a positive outcome, but it does not take away from the fact that these journalists should not have been treated in this fashion.*”

Full details of the police review can be found [here](#).

Mick Holder

## Cities and Just Transition

The current edition of the C40 Knowledge Hub contains articles on

- How cities can measure **current and potential green jobs**
- How to ensure an **equitable and just transition for workers**
- How to support **informal workers and economies in a just transition**
- Interactive dashboard of **good examples around the world**
- Local Councils; how to **plan a road to net zero**
- How **vocational education and training** can help cities become smarter and greener.

## Magic retrofit ingredients

On the 18 November a workshop took place at the University of Westminster that showed the way to large-scale retrofitting of social housing. There's lots of discussion about retrofitting as a means to address astronomical increases in energy bills and climate change. Yet much is technical, in the context of a market economy, and fails to confront the enormous social and structural obstacles to implementing climate emergency targets and improving the quality of housing, especially social housing.

These include:

- the fragmented and exclusive nature of the construction industry, with a myriad of small firms, large-scale self-employment and predominantly white male workforce;
- unhealthy environments with densification, lack of decent housing, poor air quality and ventilation;
- severe construction skills and labour shortages; and the lack of a comprehensive vocational education and training (VET) system for construction occupations, let alone for nearly zero energy building.

The workshop brought together local government, unions, employers, architects and educators to discuss how these problems might be resolved, placing local authorities, further and higher education colleges, unions, environmental groups and local communities at the centre and focussing on the London boroughs of Camden, Islington and Wandsworth.

The urgent need to combat climate change and address the energy and cost of living crises presents an opportunity to develop an alternative retrofitting strategy, one that goes together with improving social housing and transforming the construction industry into an inclusive eco-sector with good employment and working conditions. In the past, in comparable crisis situations local authority direct labour organisations have played a key role in developing and renovating social housing. Why not today?

The first session considered the social housing situation with Cllr Aydin Dikerdem, Cabinet Member for Housing at Wandsworth Council, Cllr Diarmaid Ward, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Finance, Planning and Performance of Islington Council, and Sim Dhinsa, programme manager for the Retrofit programme for Camden Council. Each spoke of the funding problems and what they are doing to address these and develop retrofit programmes. Examples included

- pilot schemes,
- the insourcing of repair and void services,
- setting up a women in construction network,
- using procurement to ensure good quality training and apprenticeships,
- and developing a public retrofit taskforce.

Kristina Roszynski from Cullinan Studios then presented the GreenScies project led by London South Bank University, investigating how to extend across Islington the district heat network scheme in place in Bunhill, which extracts hot air from the underground system.

The second session put the spotlight on the construction sector, including an overview of Unite the Union's approach to retrofitting, which includes

- establishing a North East Yorkshire & Humber (NEYH) Retrofitting of Homes Taskforce,
- a national Environment Taskforce,
- and an Environment Charter.

The Electrical Contractors Association followed, emphasising the development of training schemes, including the introduction of environmental aspects into the new Domestic Electrician Apprenticeship. Finally, Fran Bradshaw from Anne Thorne Architects described the importance of design/construction collaboration in the retrofit project to passivhaus standards for the North London Housing Coop.

The third session then considered the VET system and what needs to be done by Further Education Colleges to prepare young people for large-scale retrofit programmes, including through the Green Skills hubs of the London Mayor's Academy Programme.

The workshop ended with a panel discussion, drawing together the three strands of the programme and debating what a successful large-scale retrofit programme might look like, focussing particularly on Camden, Islington and Wandsworth local authorities. Its success was in providing a platform for exploring how local communities can work together to develop a social and labour centred approach to retrofitting, one that provides proper training and future employment for young people and good quality, low energy housing.

It showed how retrofitting and improving the quality of social housing go together with transforming the construction VET system, the construction labour process and employment relations and that the first step in achieving this is to set up retrofit task forces in each local area.

A recording of the workshop can be seen [here](#).

*Linda Clarke, University of Westminster*



Photo: Martin Franklin

## National Homes Retrofitting Taskforce needed

The successful completion of any retrofitting programme in the UK is some way off, given the make-up and infrastructure of the construction industry and inadequate training programmes.

- Inadequacies of the VET programmes for sustainable construction and energy efficiency for buildings.
- Studies from Europe suggest VET programmes require significant changes because the skill set for sustainable construction / retrofitting is different from historic construction training.
- The make-up of the construction industry in the UK has led to a dramatic decline in construction trainees and apprentices, resulting in a shortage of skilled workers which has increased since Brexit.

Opportunities for work-based training is minimal because the construction industry is made up of 50% self-employed; extensive subcontracting and a reliance on micro-firms (9 or less workers), and FE starved of funding and facilities.

The Unite Environment Taskforce therefore argues for setting up a National Retrofitting of Homes Taskforce, based along similar lines as the current North East Yorkshire and Humber Unite Retrofitting of Homes Taskforce.

Carl Jerromes UNITE

## Resources for warm homes and insulation campaigning

- [Fuel Poverty, Cold Homes and Health Inequalities in the UK](#)
- [Climate Jobs: Building a workforce for the climate emergency](#)
- [Building a workforce for the Climate Emergency: Climate jobs discussion meetings](#) (recording and slides from CACCTUs meeting earlier this year - Warm Homes, Healthy Workplaces: Climate Jobs in Buildings)

## Union Green Rep Networks

The GJA has been pushing for the need to link up climate activists in each union. In some there are informal arrangements while in others the union has introduced rule changes following conference decisions.

On 10 November the UCU held its first annual Climate and Ecological Emergency meeting. A committee has been appointed with the task of supporting UCU Green Reps and overseeing the implementation of conference motions.

## 2022 Dorje Khatri award for Climate Justice given to Swedish Unions for Green Steel project

LO Sweden has worked with major Swedish companies, to develop industrial processes free from carbon dioxide emissions. Last year this led to the production of the world's first fossil-free iron and steel.

The 'green steel' project started in 2017. The president of LO at the time, Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, said: "This project is good for everyone: It produces fewer climate-changing emissions... creates more good quality long-term jobs and the working conditions are much better when you take coal out of the process. And the company likes it because the order books are full and they're investing in three new, coal-free steel mills. This is a win, win, win project".

*We aim to have an article from Community in the next edition spelling out the support needed for the steel industry here to match what's happening in Sweden.*

*Editor*

## The Cost of Living

It's hard to watch [this short film](#) from Greenpeace and the New Economics Foundation on the stories of the women of Rother Valley as they try to support their communities during the cost of living crisis without weeping.

Neglected by government, and facing enormous energy bills, more and more people are relying on their community to help put food on their table and provide a warm refuge. Without a steeper tax on windfall profits and investment in home insulation, we will suffer every winter, while oil and gas bosses continue to get richer.

On December 3rd there was a Day of Action for Warm Homes all over the country. There will have to be many more in the future.

A recent briefing from the Financial Times is equally devastating in its cold assessment of the costs of government negligence in insulation investment compared with its short term profligacy in subsidising energy suppliers. "*£10bn could be shaved off households' bills every year with an upfront investment of £60bn-£65bn. The government says its energy price guarantee subsidising gas and electricity bills will cost £31bn for just six months.*" Full report, with energy poverty map, [here](#).

# Former Coalfields Education Project

At our first meeting attendees discussed their own experiences in working on Climate Change issues and on linking these issues with the strong mining heritage we have in many parts of the country. We discussed the reluctance among some people in the old coalfield areas to fully embrace the greener future, but agreed that no guilt or judgment should be attached to people whose families worked in mining. We also heard about the great work of the West Yorkshire Eco Educators and saw their banner – an interesting reflection of the old mining unions' banners.

There was a discussion about what the mining heritage actually means, in terms of families who had miners in them, the unique and vibrant culture that was present in the coalfield areas and the ways it has been represented in culture and remains with us today, especially in some areas of the country.

We also reflected on the great community spirit prevalent in the coalfield areas, with strong community self-help, huge support for initiatives such as the Cooperative Movement and the development of facilities like Aged Miners' homes and how in some respects they developed the first welfare state, long before the Attlee government of 1945.

We discussed the spirit of innovation often found in the old coal fields, where so many inventions important to us to this day, such as turbines, railways and electric light were invented (the Davy lamp, take that Thomas Edison).

We need that spirit of community and innovation as we face the Climate Crisis and it is really important to teach it to our young people. There is much that can be learned from what happened in the old coalfield areas.

However, we have to link that to the fact fossil fuels must now be kept in the ground. Perhaps, instead of talking about ex-coalfield areas, such as the northeast, we could instead talk of them as energy-producing areas, where the energy used to be coal, but will now be renewable. Mention was made of the proposed gigafactory to be built on the site of the old coal-fired Blyth Power station in Northumberland\*. Around 80 000 miners in the UK lost their lives in the course of their work and so it would be good to think that the old coalfield areas would get their fair share of new green jobs.

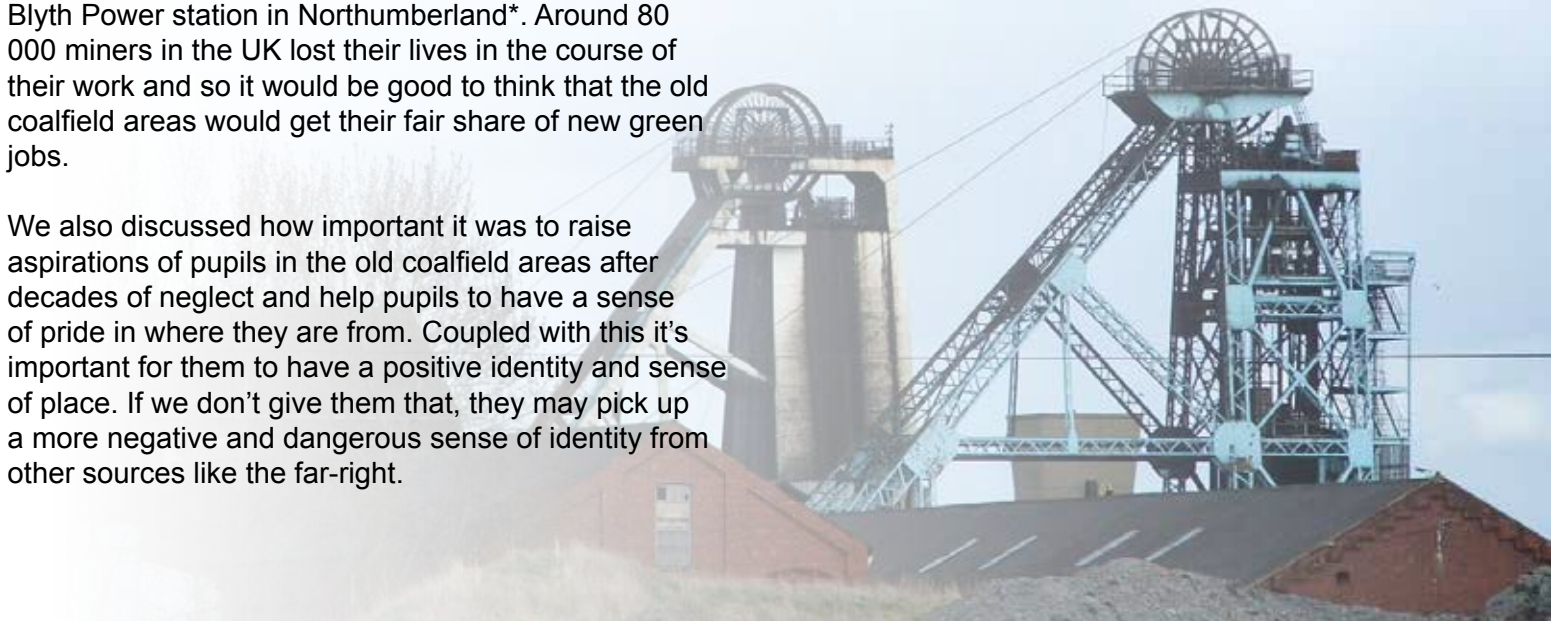
We also discussed how important it was to raise aspirations of pupils in the old coalfield areas after decades of neglect and help pupils to have a sense of pride in where they are from. Coupled with this it's important for them to have a positive identity and sense of place. If we don't give them that, they may pick up a more negative and dangerous sense of identity from other sources like the far-right.

Plans for 2023 include:

- a. development of resources for schools about mining heritage and the need for renewable energy now
- b. Working within the NEU and in collaboration with other unions
- c. Attending Banners Held High Festival in Wakefield in May
- d. Attending the Durham Miners Gala on Saturday 8th July 2023

All are welcome to attend the next meeting. Contact Peter Sagar at [peter0462@gmail.com](mailto:peter0462@gmail.com) for a link.

*The "British Volt gigafactory" in Blyth that Boris Johnson used to grandstand about looks stillborn for lack of finance (and expertise on the part of the company, which looks as iffy as some of those that got contracts for PPE). At present, with the EU's level of subsidy, there are 41 gigafactories on the stocks in the EU compared to just 3 in the UK (one of which is Blyth which looks like staying a muddy field for quite some time). It's reckoned that to supply current levels of vehicle manufacture with a local supply chain, the UK would need 7. At present it looks as though vehicle manufacturers are looking to invest elsewhere; Jaguar in Slovakia, BMW aiming to build electric Minis in China and the electric van start-up Arriva heading for the USA.*  
Ed



# DEBATE:

## A just transition beyond growth

What follows is a precis of a call for a conference on 8-9 December International Trade Union House in Brussels (Boulevard du Roi Albert II, 5; B - 1210) and live streamed - full programme [here](#) - organised by the independent research and training centre of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) which contains a number of assertions that are the subject of a heated debate in both the trade union and climate movements.

The recent finding by the IPCC that “*economic growth (measured as GDP) and its main components, GDP per capita and population growth, remained the strongest drivers of GHG emissions in the last decade*” puts into question the possibility and desirability of the continued pursuit of economic growth.

Europe is currently facing multiple crises undermining future growth potential.

- Impacts of climate breakdown and biodiversity loss,
- declining birth rates,
- the continuing undertow of the Covid-19 pandemic,
- rising inequality,
- war.

Truly addressing our ecological crises will require what the IPCC calls a shift from a “*GDP growth-oriented economy*” to a “*low-carbon energy-services, well-being, and equity-oriented economy*”, with a focus on improvements in human wellbeing and the quality of life.

Trade unions have a key role to play in this in representing the interests of working people and fighting for the wellbeing of workers, equity and social justice.

The aim of the conference is to build bridges between the trade union movement and the post- and de-growth community, and to situate a transformative just transition vision within the ‘*beyond growth*’ narrative: for an alternative green deal for Europe that is not a ‘*green growth*’ strategy but a more radical societal and economic transformation.

It is a major side-event of the broader “*Beyond Growth 2023 Conference*” which will take place on 15-17 May 2023 on the initiative of twenty-one members of the European Parliament from five different political groups and supported by more than forty partner organisations. The conclusions from this conference should feed into the debates of the 2023 event at the European Parliament.

### Join the debate

**We invite contributions on this issue to our debate blog.**

Some questions seem obvious. *Growth for who? Growth in what?*

For instance, China’s carbon emissions 2021-22 fell by 1%. while its economy grew at 4.3% - a result of faster than planned deployment of renewable energy, Covid lockdowns and a slowed pace of construction - while US carbon emissions grew 1.5% while its economy grew slower, at 2.9%. - a result mostly of a rapid rebound in domestic aviation.

So, with the top 10% mostly responsible for emissions growth, is it a matter of growth or redistribution, particularly in a cost of living crisis? “Going beyond growth” is not an option for most of the Global South, so how can Just Transition be put into an international framework by trade unions in wealthy countries on continents like Europe? Please send comments to [gjanewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:gjanewsdesk@gmail.com)

Ed





## Films Notebook

### Review: *The Atom: A Love Affair*

PCS members were treated to a showing of this excellent documentary, directed by Vicki Lesley, portraying the world's relationship with the atom, i.e. with nuclear power, from the Second World War to the present. It deserves a much wider viewership as it's far better and more creative than most of what can be seen on TV these days.

Why do I say this? Because although the film ostensibly takes the classic documentary elements - contemporary footage, voice over narration, expert commentary - it assembles these in a refreshingly objective way that brings the network of complex issues to the surface. This is not just a technical point, it cuts right to the heart of how media is used to frame a debate, and highlights how far what we see from the mainstream is confined to a very limited political space.

In *The Atom*, the history is laid out clearly: the atomic bomb, development of nuclear energy, the anti nuclear campaigns, the Cuba missile crisis, Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, the problems of disposal. Also, crucially, the vexed and problematic issue of nuclear power's relationship to the decarbonisation of the energy sector, something very much at the forefront of debates generally, and a continued source of division within the trade union movement, as elsewhere.

The film presents these conflicting perspectives with as little editorial interference as possible, allowing developments to speak for themselves. For me, this is the source of the film's strength - not polemicising one way or the other allows for a greater balance than the underpinning conformist bias of BBC documentaries.

This objectivity seems to pull the viewer naturally towards an anti nuclear position. But then I would say that - the pro nuclear lobby would doubtless read their own message into the same footage. For those uncommitted to either camp, though, the clear presentation of evidence would, I suspect, create a more sceptical viewpoint, one which concludes that the availability of other, safer, methods of decarbonising energy renders unnecessary the risks and dangers attendant upon nuclear power.

Ultimately, however, the theme of the film is humanity's relationship (or 'love affair') with the atom, and how that has played out across time, and this alone makes it compelling.

It's a shame that *The Atom* was stalled by Covid, and is not currently showing in cinemas around the country. In Portsmouth, we are seeking to hold a screening at our local independent cinema in the new year; others may seek to do likewise by submitting an enquiry via the [film's website](#) or by emailing Vicki Lesley directly at [vicki@tennerfilms.com](mailto:vicki@tennerfilms.com)

Tahir Latif

Greener Jobs Alliance Newsletter No:43 December 2022

## Film Premiere

### The Loud Spring

(62 mins, [labournet.tv](http://labournet.tv))

Brady Arts and Community Centre  
192-196 Hanbury St, London E1 5HU  
Saturday 17 of December 7:45 pm.

Starring Julia Steinberger, Andreas Malm, and the Angry Workers collective, [labournet.tv](http://labournet.tv)'s new hybrid documentary/fiction *The Loud Spring*, explores what the change we need to avert a climate catastrophe might look like and why we need a powerful workers' movement.

With COP 27's 'failure' and the cost of living crisis, in a situation where public awareness of the drastic consequences of climate change is growing, the film draws attention to the elephant in the room: where does the political power to change things come from? Is it direct action by a dedicated few? Is it the angry masses in Chile, the so-called Arab Spring, and the Yellow Vests in France? These movements have had significant victories, but they still have not managed to change society in any fundamental way.

*The Loud Spring*, by using animation to imagine a possible social revolution in 2024, makes a bold step forward in helping us visualise the end of capitalism rather than the end of the world. Interviewing academics, workers, and activists, from Mexico to Sweden, the film does not present us with a blueprint or a utopia, but the basis upon which we can discuss the challenges of emancipation in the 21st century.

**The film screening will be followed by an open discussion with the filmmaker, the Angry Workers Collective, and Andreas Malm (tbc).**

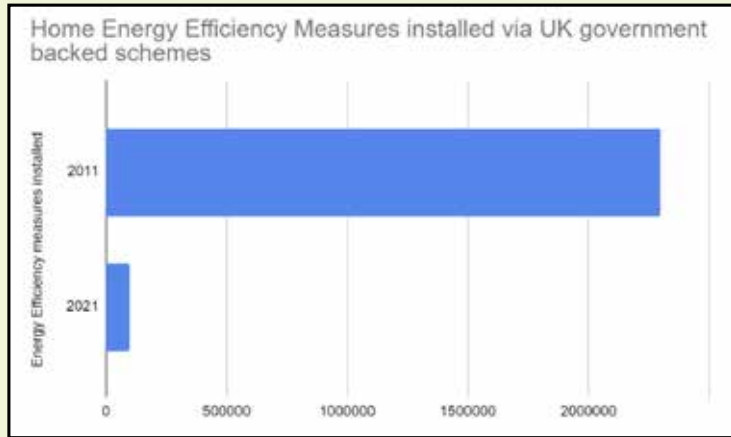
### Book Tickets

You can watch the trailer [here](#).



# Green Bites

## Statistics of the Month



This staggering indictment of government failure is from a letter from Lord Deben, Chairman of the Climate Change Committee (John Selwyn Gummer in old money) to Chancellor of the Exchequer Jeremy Hunt

on 9 November. It outlines the Committee's advice on reducing energy demand in buildings in response to the energy price crisis as a matter of immediate urgency.

The full letter can be read [here](#). Their central argument is that a combination of public funding and Government action to facilitate access to and reduce the cost of capital could enable over 60% of households to achieve levels of energy efficiency compatible with Net Zero for less than £1,100.

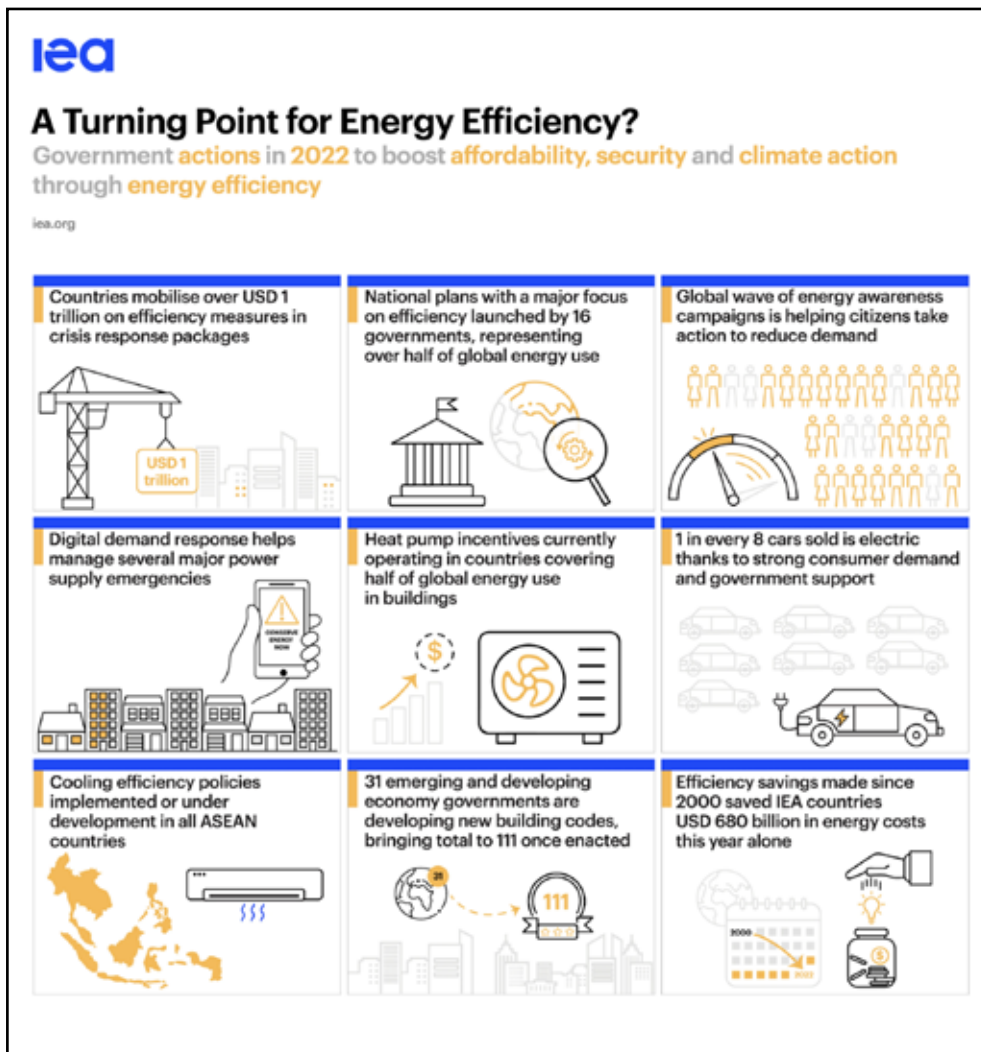
89%

Of the coal from the projected Cumbria coal mine would go for export; because its high sulphur content makes it too dirty for domestic steel production. The mine would create 500 jobs, while the development of [green jobs in Cumbria](#) could create 9,000.

## Graphic of the Month

The IEA Reports that these measures have already amounted to a 2% increase in energy improvements, double the rate of the last 5 years.

This needs to double again to be on track for Net Zero.



## New on the GJA Blog

[Deep Sea Mining](#) imperils or greatest ally, the Ocean.  
By Philip Pearson

## Next Issue: Due out in January

Containing a full report of the TUC Bold Solutions the economic, climate and energy crises and how we fix them conference.

Subscribe to the GJA Newsletter

## Supporting the Greener Jobs Alliance

The GJA is a loose coalition of organisations involved in climate change work.

We wish to make it clear that the views expressed in our publications and activities do not necessarily reflect the position of all the organisations whom we work with.

We will always seek to make that clear by listing the organisations that have specifically signed up to a particular initiative.