



If you see Sid, tell him that 19p a day to save the world is not “eye watering”

The Sun comment that when discussing climate issues “*all common sense seems to go out of the window*” is a very good description of its own coverage.

In another long hot summer of once in a hundred year floods and wildfires, the dominant media narrative now is that the costs of dealing with it are “*eye watering*” and anyone who wants to do so is an “*eco loon*”.

As if the OBR projection that GDP would fall by 8% by the 2070s if we carry on as we are is a less painful option, and as if the projected **34% increase in food prices** caused by climate shocks in the next two decades can be ignored; and won't cause anyone's eyes to water.

The 8 to 950,000 people who will be thrown into poverty by this alone will no doubt be grateful to have been saved from the excesses of “*eco fanatics*” as they queue up at the food bank.

The OBR has now worked out that the cost per person for meeting Net Zero by 2050 in the UK is £70 a year. **Or 19p a day.**

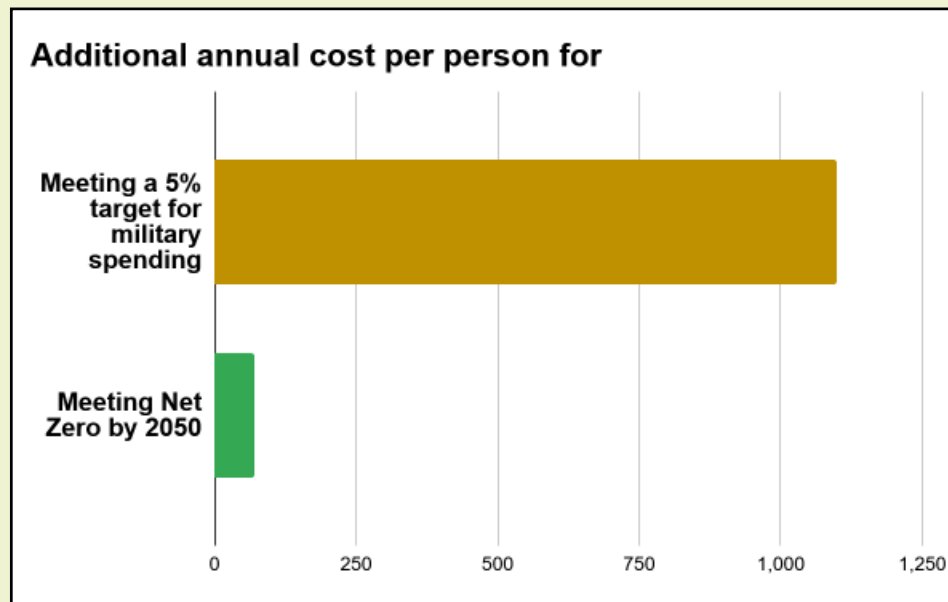
By contrast, the cost of meeting Donald Trump's demand for 5% of GDP to go on military spending is £1,100 a year. £3 per person per day. Nearly 16 times as much!

But this, in the media, is consensus, just wallpaper. Nothing to get your eyes watered about. And it's quite sane to be preparing for a war that will kill us all if we are daft enough to indulge it.

Contents

- **Editorial:** If you see Sid, tell him that 19p a day to save the world is not “eye watering”.
- **Union Round up**
Climate Jobs UK
- Climate at UNITE Conference -
• Climate Change at the Big Meeting - BMA surveys members
- **Heathrow: It Won't Fly**
- **Reality Checks** - “Eye watering” cost of Net Zero by 2050 = 19p per day! - Do it quickly! - North Sea Exhaustion - a herd of nuclear white elephants
- **Shadow curriculum review launch**
- **Reasons to be Cheerful** in the EU, UK, Germany, China and India
- **Too hot!**
- **Events**
- **Green Bites**

The contrast looks like this.



In embracing this target the government has dug itself a £77 billion a year financial black hole. The attempt to fill it will suck in any other potential investment, sabotage any green infrastructure transition and leech off schools, hospitals, and any other more worthwhile and productive recipient of funding.

Hence the desperation of the government's attempt to "boost growth" with white elephant schemes like nuclear power expansion, airport expansion, possibly letting Rosebank and Jackdaw open up after all; and Rachel Reeve's decision to abandon the Green investment taxonomy to guide investment in a positive direction, while cutting away the regulations on finance designed to stop a repeat of the 2008 crash and trying to get people with a bit of savings to risk them on the stock market in a rehash of Thatcher's share owning democracy campaigns in the 1980s - *"if you see Sid, tell him"*.

What could possibly go wrong?

Hence also their hard line on wage demands from the health sector - because you can't afford properly paid doctors if you want to buy 155mm shells - their exemplary disciplinary action against selected MPs who rebelled against the PIP cuts - because you can't afford Parliamentary rebellions if you have to find more cuts like this in future, and their ludicrous proscription of a non violent direct action campaign - because they anticipate there will be a lot more of that.

There is, however, something a bit fantasised about these figures. Just as there is in the EU's abject agreement to buy \$750 billion more US fossil fuels every year - ten times the current amount, and described as *"pie in the sky"* by energy **experts in the FT**.

Meeting them won't be possible. But the attempt to do so will cause enormous damage and a breakdown of the current political order across Europe which is only just beginning; as the current Green Party leadership contest here, the formation of Your Party, the eclipse of the Tories and splits in Reform; and the formation of different currents within Labour are a symptom.

Paul Atkin ED

Quote of the Month

"The strategic value of America's oil and gas resurgence has peaked and will henceforth roll over."

Doubling down on fossils at this historical juncture is a trap. We are moving into a different energy era where the long-term prize will go to the masters of electro-tech, a more competitive way to organise an energy system once you get over the investment hump. China is running away with this electric future. Joe Biden recognised this with his Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), a China policy dressed up as a green agenda. Trump is not only gutting the IRA but also going to great lengths to stop the free market deciding what energy technology makes most commercial sense."

Ambrose Evans Pritchard - bucking the trend- in the Daily Telegraph



Trade Union Round Up

Climate activity at Unite Policy conference

The **'Final Agenda' for this huge conference** covers 177 motions – but this does not take account of motions composited, withdrawn, or superseded by EC statements; as happened for the 'Just Transition' and Palestine debates.

It seemed that more than half of the (fairly diverse) speakers were first-time delegates, although the hall was still dominated by middle-aged, white men. Motions were overwhelmingly carried - leaving the EC with a huge range of mandated actions to prioritise from. Climate change was mentioned in most sections of the agenda and raised as an organic part of debates throughout the week - a far cry from earlier years.

Sharon Graham's speech emphasised her view of trade unionism as a bond between workers and communities, giving the power to act. With a more critical relationship with Labour, she summed this up as "no more political tail wagging the industrial dog". I felt inspired by her statement of *"profound geographical, economic and climate change"* and her fiery defence of *"jobs, workplace investment, living standards, communities"*, but less than impressed by the industrial policy demands - including expansion of Heathrow, delaying the Electric Vehicle mandate, and *'buying British'* for defence.

Motions

- C18: Extreme Weather and Climate Change - Protecting Workers' Health and Safety. Speakers from multiple regions gave excellent examples from different sectors: Health, Hospitality, Aviation and Passenger. The demands were to lobby government and change rules - e.g. ILO to list temperature-related illnesses as occupational diseases - to support Heat Strike and Cool It campaigns and the Trade Union Year of Action on Climate, to provide resources and training on climate change and related hazards for reps, through an EC committee.
- M103: Climate Justice and Air Pollution, strongly worded on climate impacts in the workplace, and focusing on the need for indoor air pollution to be given more priority. Supporting speakers, including from Grangemouth, called for Unite to work with TUCAN and campaign for climate justice and worker-led transition, across all sectors, and an Executive report within 3 months.
- M61: Equalities and the Climate Crisis dissected how climate change impacts differently across protected characteristics and demanded Unite consult, engage and resource Equalities networks in developing campaigns on the climate crisis.

The Economy and Industry debate had motions on Industrial Strategy, Automotive and Steel which demanded that

- the UK delay its ban on Internal Combustion Engines,
- Unite campaign to secure working class jobs,
- UK infrastructure projects should use UK steel
- the UK should support Green Steel.

Manufacturing members now seem more unwilling than previously to buy the company line: *"We can't let companies dictate our future any more", "the fight for jobs falls to us"*.

The EC statement on A Workers' Just Transition (subsuming several good, bad and indifferent motions) was moved by Cliff Bowen. Included motions were then moved and debated, but fell when the EC statement was carried.

Bowen emphasised the urgency of a Just Transition, and that its form should be a workers' transition, not one of money men and a tone deaf government - "Net Zero is too important to leave to the market". The list of jobs lost and at risk was long - Luton, Grangemouth, Alexander Dennis, Prax and North Sea jobs - making the environmental crisis and the industrial crisis the most important topic to discuss. It was important not to let Net Zero become greenwash, and not to let it feed Farage. The EC recognised there were no easy solutions, but what was key was that the workers' expertise was recognised - *"nothing about us without us"*.

However, the statement replaced clarity about Just Transition in some of the motions by a bland statement that Unite will "call for policies that protect jobs, invest in industry for the long term and ensure a sustainable future for workers", while "opposing policies that claim to lower carbon emissions but only outsource them". The list of "new green technologies", including nuclear and CCUS, in which Unite would "continue to demand investment" replicated previous policy. Unfortunately the statement muddled *"jobs impacted by Net Zero"*, with those (at Vauxhall Luton, for example) which are accurately victims of company asset stripping. However, in the end, there were too many bad things as well as good things watered down here for any coherent opposition to be organised.

Trade Union Round Up

- M96: Transport Provision recognised *“the current climate change emergency and the need for commitment to getting more cars off the roads and more people using public transport”*. As such it was one of the delightful plethora of climate-related motions from diverse sectors and regions, some quietly stating a strong new position for Unite. Other such motions tackled water renationalisation, fuel poverty, retrofit of housing, data centre energy use, and the 4 day week campaign.
- C17: Unionised Jobs and Energy Efficiency, recognised that no effective energy transition is possible without drastically cutting demand through retrofit of housing, and demanding an EC campaign developing worker-led policy recommendations, and building alliances with civil society. This tapped into interest in climate action as social action, essential for communities as well as workers.
- C26: Right to Protest was passed, recognising the fundamental democratic right to protest and demanding that Unite speak up for the repeal of unjust laws and practices putting this at risk.

This was a fitting end to a conference where delegates worked beyond silos and sectors to update Unite's policies for its younger, more diverse and more precarious members and their communities. Conference had a very different atmosphere and outcomes to the previous policy conference in 2023, where climate motions were aggressively opposed - now we have plenty on the EC agenda to push to actually happen.

Jenny Patient; *first-time delegate at the 8th Unite Policy Conference in Brighton, with thanks to the Unite Grassroots Climate Justice Caucus, which helped provide information about how the conference works and enabled me to share ideas about the motions.*

If you are in Unite you can join the Unite Grassroot Climate Justice Caucus, you can **sign up to the mailing list**.



By Alisdare Hickson: Defend our right to peaceful protest, CC BY-SA 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=114486196>

Climate Change at the Big Meeting

The Durham Miner's Gala is a spectacular celebration of trade unions and working class solidarity, with an overwhelming impression of a huge number of different miners' associations and colliery lodges represented, alongside solidarities reaching back to the 1984/5 strike - notably Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners, joined for the first time with Durham Pride in an official Pride bloc - the ever-active Women Against Pit Closures, the ongoing struggle for justice for assaulted Orgreave, trade union support for Palestine, and interestingly a sizeable Kurdish bloc.



Banner at The 139th Durham Miner's Gala;
Photo Ellen Robotom



A message from the Kurdish contingent.

Trade Union Round Up

Climate Action Newcastle had secured a place for a small climate bloc which included CACCTU, Uplift and Greenpeace in the parade, marching behind the excellent Jack Drum Arts Samba Band. Sadly, though, there were barely more climate activists than banners in the bloc, which meant none of us were able to get around to leaflet the procession or the crowd lining the pavements. However, it was encouraging to see that in addition to our banner proclaiming that “the Climate Crisis is a Working Class Issue”, the other climate banners all referenced workers and the need for green jobs.

Despite the aptness of the Durham motto: “The Past We Inherit, the Future We Build”, from what I could hear, there was no reference from a platform of powerful speakers to how this might relate to the work that must be done, or the planned and supported transition for workers that is needed, to build that just and sustainable future for our communities; nor to the ability of organised workers, collectively, to make it happen.

Conversations with individual trade unionists in their various union-branded gazebos were more encouraging. Those I spoke to in the UNITE tent (admittedly not many and not necessarily representative) seemed of the view that focusing on the false idea that the job losses were caused by net zero policies was not an approach that served the members well and probably inhibited the necessary fight for supported transition to the essential jobs in renewables and other related sectors. I also heard agreement that carbon capture was not going to create the jobs touted for it and that people were being sold down the river and public money being wasted.

I also found agreement that the unions should be not just demanding a plan but proactively creating one, spanning sectors and unions, with input from scientists and climate campaigners, so as to build a united campaign with demands that everyone (workers and “climate activists”) could get behind. I felt these sentiments stood in contrast to the strapline on the Unite gazebo “Rebuilding the working class - jobs, pay, conditions” which comes across like an insistence that working class people aren’t interested in wider campaign demands that relate to class interests. Well, we are! Neither do people necessarily believe that power lies exclusively in the workplace - for example, an RMT member said that whilst there are practical barriers to the union supporting policies like Fare Free Transport, they welcome and encourage grassroots community campaigns for this.

Members of other unions were also generally sympathetic, though most had not been aware of the Trade Union Year of Climate Action, or of the motion proposing it that had been passed at TUC. Members of UNISON and PCS, not surprisingly, were most aware. Hopefully these union members will be taking our leaflets back to their branches and initiating conversations about how they can support a year of action; though it’s also fair to say that relaxing

in a sunny field after an early start and strenuous preparations may not have been the best time for an intense political discussion.

The first lesson from the day is that if we are to make productive use of the gala as an outreach opportunity there needs to be more of us - to hold the banner, leaflet the parade, run the stall, talk to all the people representing diverse unions, and take note of the speeches. And it was disappointing that more people from the wider climate movement hadn’t come along.

But secondly, the generally supportive reception was encouraging. It feels to me that two contradictory things are happening: on the one hand, climate is falling off the agenda for left wing activists to an alarming degree, despite the threat from Reform’s climate disinformation and attacks on climate jobs; but at the same time people are more widely conscious of the seriousness of the situation. As we were approaching the end of the parade, an old man leaning over the rail read our banner and remarked to me “but that’s for middle class people isn’t it?” I only had time to say “not now it isn’t” (meaning that the climate movement has shifted somewhat towards recognising climate as a workers’ issue), and he responded “no, it’s everybody now isn’t it”.

Ellen Robottom



Trade Union Round Up

BMA surveys members

The BMA is keen to hear about sustainability initiatives in the workplace and how members are involved with them. The survey also asks how far members feel able to influence sustainability practices and where the barriers to engagement lie. Other questions relate to NHS net-zero targets.

The **survey** is open to members working for the NHS in England, Scotland and Wales, and Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland.

It follows on from **previous research** by the BMA looking at trusts' progress towards net zero. It found, after 2019 – and especially during the COVID pandemic – progress had stalled.

It also found most NHS organisations had not received any funding support for implementing sustainability practices – and concluded that many parts of the NHS needed government support to help them get back on track.

Take part in the new **BMA sustainability survey here**

Please pass on to any doctors you know. Ed

Climate Jobs UK

The **GMB** and **Prospect** have set up **Climate Jobs UK** in concert with **Cornell University** in New York. They have commissioned research from YouGov that found that, when thinking about the future, only 31% of people in the UK think that the transition will have a positive impact on jobs nationally, and that falls to 20% when asked to think about jobs in their local area.

While YouGov are very skilled at asking slanted questions (it's what they're for) this indicates the scale of the task we face in identifying, campaigning for, unionising and informing people about greening employment. An example is that every bus driver who drives an electric bus now has a green job. The trade union year of climate action gives us a great opportunity to do just that.

We will publish a fuller examination of what Climate Jobs UK stands for in a forthcoming Blog.



Heathrow Third Runway - It won't fly!

Reasons why

1. Heathrow expansion is estimated to cost up to £60bn—triple the airport's £20.5bn regulatory asset base! With £17bn already in debt, how can they possibly pay for this?
2. S&P says a £25bn expansion of Heathrow would need a big capital injection from shareholders. Yet Heathrow's latest £10bn plan only includes £2bn from owners...the rest? Paid by passengers via a 17% hike in landing fees!
3. Is this really value for money? £10bn at Heathrow = +10m passengers. Meanwhile, Gatwick gets +30m for just £2.2bn, and Manchester/Stansted get +50m for £2.5bn. Heathrow's maths doesn't add up.
4. Airlines aren't impressed. Under the current regulatory model, they end up shouldering the cost of Heathrow. Is a third runway even needed? Heathrow's own plan says business travel is down 20% since 2019—and that trend looks permanent. Are we expanding for the sake of it?
5. Heathrow's role as a hub is shrinking. Since 2012, transfer traffic dropped from 27.4% to 21.4% and is set to fall further. Is pouring tens of billions into a declining hub wise?
6. The human/environmental toll is huge: 781 homes wiped out, 4,750 made uninhabitable, 2 million facing dangerous aircraft noise, and a mountain of local disruption. All for one runway.
7. Let's not rush this! Building over the M25, a project of this scale and cost, with lasting local and national impacts, needs independent scrutiny—not a political rubber-stamp by the end of the Parliament.

Robert Barnstone No Third Runway Coalition

REALITY CHECKS >>>>>>>>>>

“Eye watering” cost of Net Zero by 2050 = 19p per day!

The **Office for Budget Responsibility** (OBR) has warned that climate-related risks are a major driver of the UK’s national debt being on course to hit 270% of GDP by 2070 – up from less than 100% today. Concluding that if the world warms by 3C this century.

- Climate damages could reach 8% of GDP by 2070s
- Government borrowing would be nearly twice as high by the 2070s.

And **the OBR point out** that the government will only need to invest just over half as much to reach net-zero than was expected just four years ago. The 2025 estimate envisages a cumulative government investment of 6% of GDP across the 25 years to 2050, down from the 2021 estimate of 11%; so the net cost of reaching net-zero emissions is now put at £116bn over 25 years; £204bn lower than previously expected.

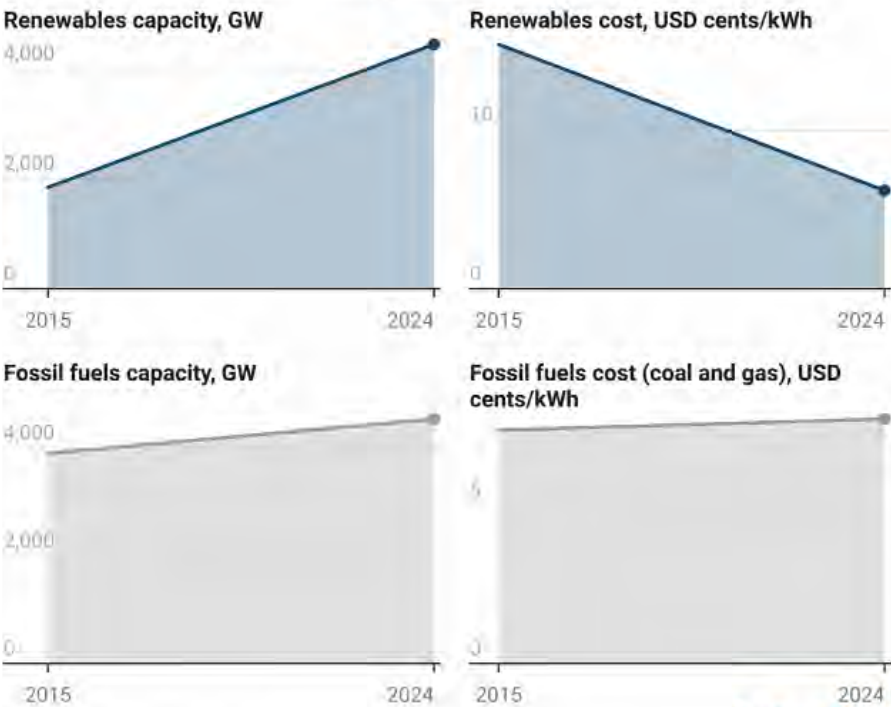
This figure is less than £70 per person per year, which works out at £1.34 a week, or 19p a day. Not exactly “eye watering” and probably worth the investment to have a habitable planet for your grandchildren.

Do it quickly!

A rapid transition to renewable energy, coupled with policies addressing poverty and improved livelihoods, could save the world at least **\$12 trillion in energy costs**.

Here’s why - from **5 reasons why switching to renewables is smart economics** from Carbon Brief.

Renewable energy soars as costs fall, while fossil-fuel capacity slows
Installed capacity, GW, and cost of electricity generation (LCOE), USD cents/kWh



Source: IRENA 2025 transition report

CarbonBrief

Installed capacity for renewable energy (consisting of solar PV, concentrated solar and onshore and offshore wind) and fossil fuels in GW, shown in the charts on the left-hand side, and the levelised cost of electricity (LCOE) in US cents per kWh, shown in the charts on the right-hand side. Source: IRENA.

The UN and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) highlighted that solar is now 41% cheaper than fossil fuels, while offshore wind is 53% cheaper, thanks to falling costs and growing investment. “Eye wateringly cheap”, you might say.

UN Secretary General António Guterres said that “fossil fuels are running out of road.” but warned that fossil fuel subsidies, which are still nine times higher than those for renewables, were sabotaging progress.

According to the most recent report from the **UK Sustainable and Investment and Finance Association**, based on current green transition policies, mid-term action plans to cut emissions, and long-term net zero targets, global economic exposure to fossil fuel asset stranding risk amounts to \$2.28 trillion by 2040 – of which the UK’s exposure is calculated at \$141 billion. In comparison to the cost of climate inaction, in a warming scenario between 2.5°C and 2.9°C, climate-intensified natural disasters may lead to \$12.5 trillion in economic losses by 2050.

The **Guardian** reports that Trump’s “one big beautiful bill” could raise household energy bills in some Republican-leaning states by more than \$600 every year and UK energy bills could rise by £50 a year because of delays to the rollout of clean-power projects, reports the Times.

REALITY CHECKS >>>>>>>>>>

North Sea Exhaustion

Analysis of North Sea data by the End Fuel Poverty Coalition shows that

- by 2027, more than two-thirds of the UK's gas needs will be completely dependent on imports.
- Even if new fields are approved, the UK will still be 94 per cent reliant on imports by 2050.

According to official statistics, only 14 per cent of the gas originally estimated to be in the North Sea basin remains commercially viable and that even if this only supplied national needs, at current levels of demand, existing fields would hold just three years of gas, while new fields would add less than half a year.

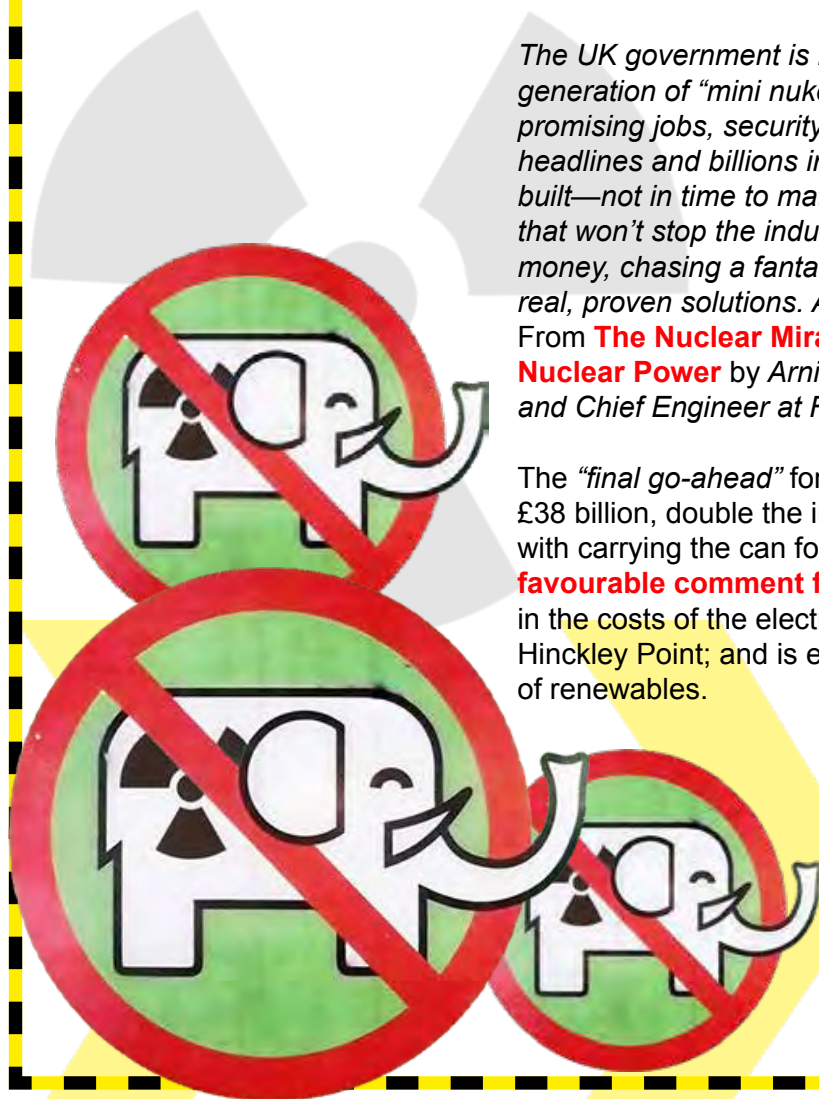
The implications for jobs are obvious. There is no lifeline in opposing the ban on new investment.



A Herd of Nuclear White Elephants?

The UK government is betting billions on Rolls-Royce and a new generation of “mini nukes” to fill the country’s looming energy gap, promising jobs, security, and a low-carbon future. (But) despite all the headlines and billions in taxpayer subsidies, an SMR will never be built—not in time to matter, and not at a price that makes sense. But that won’t stop the industry from burning through billions more in public money, chasing a fantasy that distracts and diverts resources from real, proven solutions. As Yogi Berra said, “It’s déjà vu all over again.”
From **The Nuclear Mirage: Why Small Modular Reactors won’t save Nuclear Power** by Arnie Gundersen: former nuclear industry executive and Chief Engineer at Fairewinds Energy Education

The “final go-ahead” for the Sizewell C nuclear plant in Suffolk will cost £38 billion, double the initial estimate. The deal lands the government with carrying the can for any significant further cost over runs. Even a **favourable comment from the GMB** notes that there will be “savings” in the costs of the electricity generated only when compared with Hinckley Point; and is eloquently silent about comparisons with the costs of renewables.



No Elephants Sign based on original image by Cory Docorow flickr.com/photos/doctorow/

Shadow Curriculum Review launch



The Shadow Curriculum Review Panel reporting during a very hot evening in the House of Commons. Photo TtF

On the 8 July, the Youth Shadow Panel released their final report of recommendations for the Government's Curriculum and Assessment Review! One of the key focus areas of the report was Climate, Sustainability and Citizenship Education, based on the issues brought to the panel by the hundreds of young people involved in the project. Let's have a look at what the panel suggested...

1. "Integrate solutions-centred climate change and sustainability content across all subjects and key stages" - This is brilliant! The report talks about the benefits of quality climate education not only for young people's wellbeing but also in creating a generation equipped with the green skills needed to combat the climate crisis.
2. "Outdoor learning, play and access to nature should be available and accessible for every child and young person in every school" - In almost every roadshow I attended, the need for more outdoor learning was echoed, so it's fantastic that this has been included in the final report.
3. "Make Citizenship an essential, statutory subject for all key stages"

Overall, **the report** has some brilliant recommendations of which we support and would encourage the Government's panel to include them in their own report expected in the autumn. Teach the Future will continue to push for quality climate education across the curriculum, and with the new school year just weeks away, there will certainly be lots of opportunities to do so, stay tuned!

Liv Marshall Teach the Future

Reasons to be cheerful...

As part of the build-up to COP30, an international effort to combat climate disinformation has issued a call to action. The Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change, backed by the UN, UNESCO, UNFCCC, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, France, Morocco, the UK, and Sweden, is calling on stakeholders worldwide to submit solutions to counter climate-related disinformation and manipulation. *In the UK we might start with challenging the tsunami of emotive lies in our Daily Press. Ed*

No one else running?

Australia is increasing its main climate and energy programme – the capacity investment scheme – by 25% to underwrite the construction of 40 gigawatts of large-scale solar, wind and storage by the end of the decade. In capacity terms, this is nearly twice as much energy infrastructure as the country's existing coal-fired power fleet.

India has hit a target for **50% of its installed electricity generating capacity** to come from non-fossil fuel sources five years early: with renewable power output rising at its fastest pace since 2022 in the first half of 2025, while coal generation declined by nearly 3%. The **Press Trust of India** says that India's non-fossil capacity has reached 242.8GW, out of a total of 484.8GW. Indeed **India is likely to overtake the US** in clean-power deployment, in a “*remarkable turnaround for a country whose renewable industry looked like a lost cause*” less than two years ago.

The Vatican is **building a solar farm** that will make it the world's first carbon neutral state. Nearer to God.

Home **solar installation levels in the UK were 22% higher** in the first half of 2025 than in the first half of 2024: the highest rate since 2015, buoyed by adoption in Wales.

Businesses in industries like renewable energy, energy efficiency and recycling have expanded their UK workforces, collectively **employing one-third more people in 2023 than 2015**.

Almost half (45%) of people in the UK have purchased second-hand clothing in the past year, and one in five chose a used option for their most recent furniture purchase. **Retailers are scrambling** to grow their resale channels to keep up with peer-to-peer sales platforms.

Great British Energy will provide £10m to support the installation of solar panels, batteries, heat pumps and electric car chargers at community facilities, care homes and fire stations.

The government's **40-step plan** to accelerate delivery of new onshore wind farms, aims to host at least 27GW of onshore wind by 2030, with another 2GW at a reach.

This plan sets out measures which, if taken together, DESNZ estimates will support up to 45,000 skilled jobs across the UK – doubling the current workforce.

The number of electric vehicle (**EV**) **charging points** in the UK has increased by 27% in the last 12 months, surpassing 82,000.

Tidal energy generators in the Pentland Firth have survived 6 and a half years of continuous operation without unexpected maintenance or repair, “a significant milestone” proving that this technology can be viable. The site currently has 4 turbines, is aiming for 20 by 2030 once the grid is strengthened, and 130 at full potential.



Eday Tidal Generator, Fall of Warness by George Brown, CC BY-SA 2.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>>

Solar power is “gaining ground” in Germany: between 15% and 17% of the country's total electricity production now “comes from the sun”.

Solar power was the largest source of electricity in the EU for the first time in June, overtaking nuclear and wind, while coal fell to an all-time-low.

Cities are stepping up. Three-quarters of the cities in the C40 — a **global network of nearly 100 mayors** prioritising climate action, collectively representing nearly 600 million people — are slashing their per capita emissions faster than their national governments. As global greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise, per

Reasons to be *cheerful*...

capita emissions across C40 cities fell 7.5 percent on average between 2015 and 2024.

Transforming abandoned open-pit mines into “solar hubs” could generate 4,764 terawatt hours of electricity each year – 10 times the global amount in 2018 - and 2.6% of the current world total of 180,000 KWh.

“New-energy truck” sales in China may have risen 175% year-on-year in the first half of 2025, which could see diesel consumption fall 6%.

China’s solar industry association has raised its forecast for 2025 solar capacity installations from 215-255 gigawatts (GW) to 270-300GW.

As cities grow larger and wealthier, per-capita CO2 emissions decrease. **From AGU Advances**

Tree-planting and forest restoration “largely offset” the losses in forest carbon due to deforestation between

1981 and 2019, due to the “higher sequestration efficiency” of newly planted forests according to **Nature Communications**.

In the **shale oil and gas industry in the United States**, particularly East Texas and the Permian Basin, excessive wastewater injection practices have created areas with extreme overpressure, driving up the cost of new drilling operations and threatening the economic viability of shale production in many locations.

Regulatory filings and price data reviewed by Reuters show that, despite claims by US president Donald Trump, grid reliability has improved dramatically in Texas, the state with the most renewable energy.

The UN’s highest court has told “wealthy” countries “they must comply with their international commitments to curb pollution or risk having to pay compensation to nations hard hit by climate change”.

Too hot!

Greece has imposed mandatory work breaks during heat waves. Temperatures last month were expected to exceed 40C.

Employers in Japan are now required to ensure employees wear clothing that allows air to pass through easily, to install a shading to block sunlight for outdoor workers and to provide a break space with air-conditioning or shade. Construction workers are now wearing puffy air-conditioned jackets equipped with cooling fans on their backs while at work.

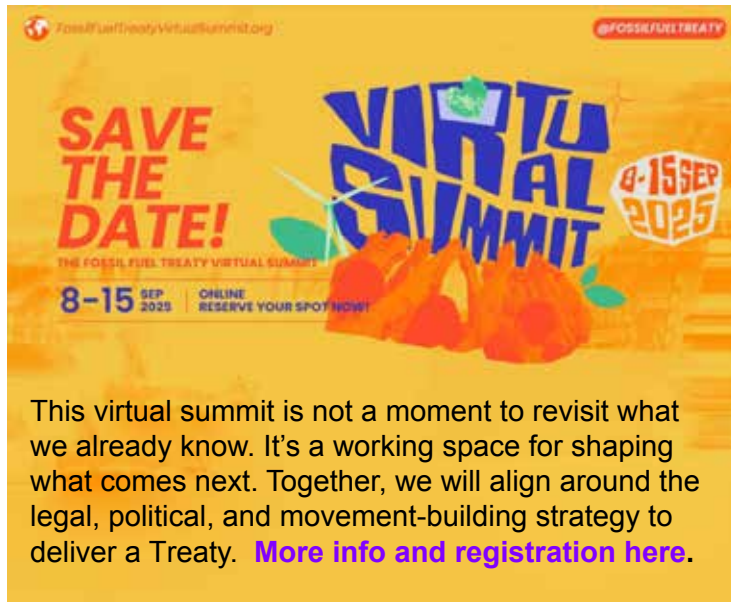
A **report by the World Bank** estimates that by 2050, heat stress in India could reduce working hours by 20% and heat-related deaths “may rise to more than 328,000 by 2050” if emissions continue at current levels.

A **study of urban construction workers in Taiwan** finds that heat stress imposes a “substantial economic burden” and results in productivity losses in the range of 29-41%

The **BMJ reports** that, in the UK, older people, women, global majority communities and those living in the most deprived areas all had a greater risk of death during periods of heat.



Events



SAVE THE DATE!

THE FOSSIL FUEL TREATY VIRTUAL SUMMIT

8-15 SEP 2025

ONLINE RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

VIRTUAL SUMMIT

4-15 SEP 2025

@FOSSILFUELTREATY

This virtual summit is not a moment to revisit what we already know. It's a working space for shaping what comes next. Together, we will align around the legal, political, and movement-building strategy to deliver a Treaty. [More info and registration here.](#)



Tax the super-rich.
Workers, not billionaires.
Make polluters pay.

MAKE THEM PAY

London
20 September

This September, **we're taking to the streets of London** to make our voice heard!

It's time to tax the super-rich.

Join us and organisations from across the UK as we demand a fairer future for workers and communities.

Sign up to **#MakeThemPay**: makethempay.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE: Sat 6th Sep 2025

#StopRosebank
Day of Action!

Join us

On Saturday 6 September, join us for a **#StopRosebank National Day of Action**. From city centres to seaside towns, people across the UK are getting organised.

Find an action near you!



A one day festival of class politics and radical solidarity

WORKERS PLANET

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 10.30am - 6.30pm

THE OLD COURTHOUSE COMMUNITY BASE

BRIGHTON

FUEL ACTION DCS GREEN NEW DEAL JUSTICE FOR ALL TUC

Workers Planet, a new political education space running alongside this year's TUC Congress, bringing together trade unionism, climate justice, and international solidarity.

Get tickets here.



Demilitarise for The Just Transition!

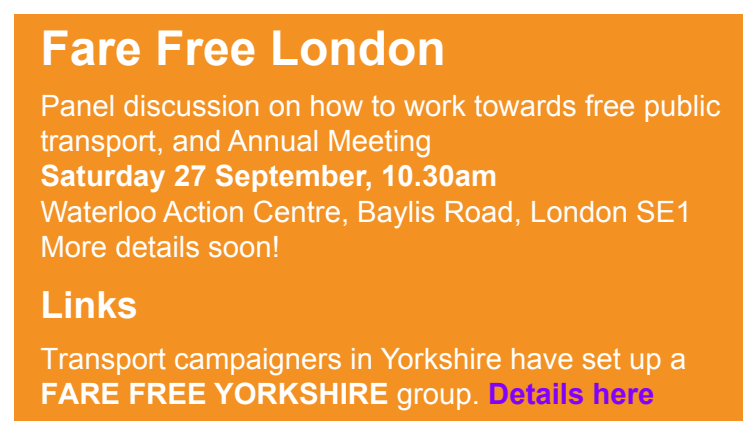
Global Week of Action for Peace & Climate Justice

15-21 September 2025

weekofaction@climatemilitarism.org

Instead of acting to stop genocidal violence and climate disasters, world leaders are militarising at pace. As ever-more resources are directed towards war and armed violence, it is essential that our movements come together to take action for a demilitarised just transition.

Our theme this year is **divest from war – invest in the just transition!** This is an open invitation to groups and individuals around the world, encouraging you to organise new or promoting your existing actions, materials and events in response to the theme. In 2024, dozens of actions took place across the globe. [More information here.](#)



Fare Free London

Panel discussion on how to work towards free public transport, and Annual Meeting

Saturday 27 September, 10.30am

Waterloo Action Centre, Baylis Road, London SE1

More details soon!

Links

Transport campaigners in Yorkshire have set up a **FARE FREE YORKSHIRE** group. [Details here](#)

Green Bites

94%

of Telegraph op-eds about green issues in Labour's first 100 days in office attacked climate science, policy, technology, or activists: an average of five attacks per day (even with one from the restaurant critic). **From DeSmog investigations**

£50 billion

Earmarked by the **UK Government** to support the expansion of carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) through to mid-century – but this is not enough to deliver even 10% of the capacity Ministers are targeting. This has been described as a “bottomless pit”.

87%

of **Global South capital expenditure on electricity generation** in 2024 went into clean energy. Solar and wind generation has been growing at 23% per year for the past 5 years, supplies 9% of electricity generation, and is only 5 years behind the Global North. Electrification is already at 75% of Global North levels, and growing faster.

15.1%

Global electricity generation levels from renewables grew 15.1% year-on-year in 2023, driven by the build-out of wind and solar in China. **From Edie**

90%

The amount that energy demand from AI could drop with smarter design of Large Language Models according to **UNESCO**. A bubble waiting to burst in more ways than one?

214,000 hectares

“ravaged by flames”, across the EU up to 8 July: more than double the average from previous years. **From Le Monde**

19%

Annual increase in the number of patents granted in China for new “green and low-carbon technologies” since 2020. **From Xinhua**

£1.4 billion

In savings for NHS England from improving energy efficiency of homes and accelerating the switch to electric kitchens and heating systems up to 2050.

8%

Projected **increase in US carbon emissions** resulting from Trump's “Big Beautiful Bill”.

New on the Debate Blog

- **At the Crossroads: Environmentalism, Peace and Hope for the Future**
- **Chris Hinchliff MP on Housing, Planning and Climate Change**
- **Virtueless signalling: Reform in the spotlight**

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.

Subscribe to the GJA Newsletter



greenerjobsalliance.co.uk

