

Trustee recruitment information

June 2024

“ green alliance...



Welcome letter

Laura Sandys, chair of trustees

Green Alliance is at the forefront of building evidence, advocating and driving UK political leaders to take environmental action seriously. For this big task we are looking for inspiring, committed trustees to support our brilliant team.

We are a long established and well respected influencer at the heart of the environmental community, and have achieved major successes in raising political and policy ambitions.

There is much more to do. This is a pivotal point, time is running out to take the action required to address the threats of nature's destruction, the climate crisis, and pollution and waste. But we are optimistic that political leaders have the power in their hands to bring about the change needed.

So please do apply to become one of our trustees and help us accelerate political ambitions, ensure that we have powerful policies in place and build a strong consensus for the crucial journey ahead.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Sandys".

About Green Alliance

Green Alliance is the UK's leading environmental think tank, working to secure the political leadership and action needed to address the climate and nature crises.

We advocate ambitious, achievable environmental solutions, based on robust analysis and evidence.

As well as immersing ourselves in achieving impact today, we look to the future to create the context for addressing the hardest to tackle environmental issues.

We develop, communicate and advocate a credible case for change by working closely with our allies in the environment sector, government, politicians, academics, businesses and the media.



What we do

Research and insightful analysis

We provide evidence based solutions, improve understanding of complex environmental challenges and demonstrate practically how to overcome them.

Advocacy

Our advocacy, based on expert insights, drives greater political ambition, shapes the agenda and improves outcomes. We have excellent relationships with politicians from all parties, significant engagement with civil servants and strong media contacts.

Convening with a purpose

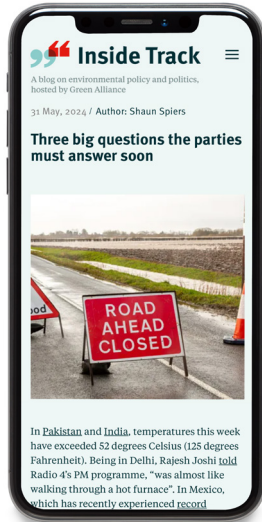
At the heart of what we do is forging constructive alliances across sectors, to amplify messages, raise political ambition and secure progress. We convene through formal coalitions, informal networks and high profile events.



The details

Green Alliance has a staff team of around 40 people. Our office is in Westminster and most of our team are London-based.

Our income for the financial year ending March 2024 was just over £3.2 million. Around 70 per cent of our funding comes from trusts and foundations.



“
You are a great organisation... informed and informative, intelligent and committed.”

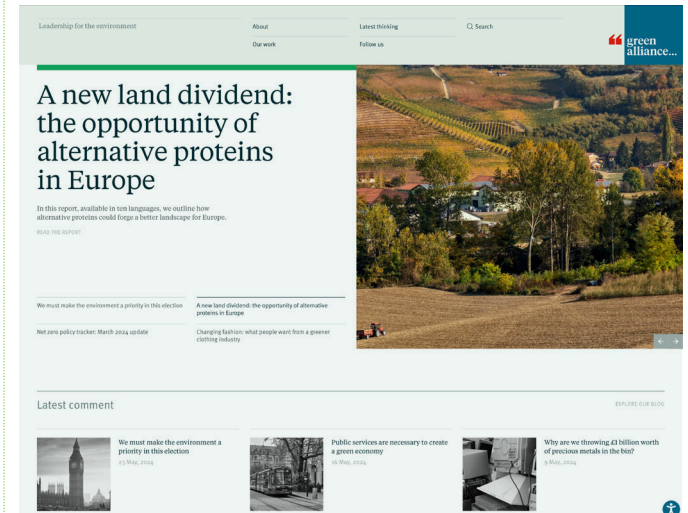
Shadow Environment and Climate Change Secretary
Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP



Resources

Why England's single use plastic ban isn't what it seems

19 January, 2023



Recent achievements

- As a result of our work over the past five years, the government was convinced of the need for a zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate to stimulate higher electric vehicle sales, making it law in January 2024.
- Our research and advocacy on the impact of international Energy Charter Treaty, which ran directly counter the UK's net zero goal, contributed to the government's decision to withdraw from the agreement in February 2024.
- We led the powerful Greener UK coalition, from 2016 to 2023 which directly influenced the creation of the new Office for Environmental Protection watchdog and the 2021 Environment Act. We won the Prospect Think Tank Award 2022 for these achievements. This important work continues through our new Legislation and Governance Unit.



Accelerating the electric
vehicle revolution
Why the UK needs a
ZEV mandate



Our history

Green Alliance was launched in 1979 “to ensure that the political priorities of the United Kingdom are determined within an ecological perspective”.

The original ‘alliance’ was a group of eminent individuals from a wide range of professional spheres. Collaboration continues to be an important feature of our work, bringing people across sectors together to create powerful alliances for change.

Throughout our history we have been at the forefront of shaping the UK environmental agenda. We have provided a platform for leaders of all parties and major commentators since the 1980s. We have succeeded in influencing political progress on the environment by leading powerful coalitions within the environment sector, amplifying their collective impact.



Our vision

Our vision is for a green, prosperous and equitable UK, where people and nature thrive together.

Society and the economy will be built on strong principles of environmental protection, restoration, resilience and fairness. These will ensure long term wellbeing and a healthy environment.

Everyone, wherever they live, will have affordable, sustainable, high quality homes, transport and food, and access to green spaces rich with nature. The economy and infrastructure will support companies to be resource efficient, offering green jobs.

We believe ambitious political leadership is at the heart of achieving this vision.



Our values

We are optimists We believe that a green and prosperous UK is achievable.

We are change makers We are flexible and agile, focusing on where the power is, and on whatever we think will have the greatest impact.

We are collaborative We are pluralists and believe that collaboration and seeking to understand others' viewpoints is the only way to make progress; this is reflected in how we operate both internally and externally.

We embrace complexity We will never ignore the fact that environmental issues are inherently complex and inseparable from other important issues, including social impacts, and we do our best to address this in all our work.

We are inclusive In all aspects of our work we seek to include, involve and listen to diverse voices and communities, as a necessary component of success.



Could you be one of our new trustees?

We are keen to add new talent to our board of great trustees. This is an opportunity for passionate individuals who support our strategy and objectives, and will bring energy and enthusiasm, helping us excel at what we do.

We need trustees with a diverse range of skills, experience and knowledge, and would love to hear from people who could bring one or more of the following:

- experience of leadership in the environmental movement
- a background in social change or political campaign strategies
- experience of the media, for example as a journalist
- environmental expertise, perhaps with experience of working with the EU
- experience of HR and supporting an excellent staff team
- knowledge and experience of the civil service, industry or business



How the board works

The whole board meets once every three months for up to two hours. These meetings usually take place at Green Alliance's office, in Millbank Tower, SW1, but trustees are able to join the meeting via Microsoft Teams when necessary.

You would need to read the board papers in advance and come ready to contribute your questions and comments.

Prior to the meeting, we invite staff to join the board for refreshments at the office, and up to three staff members give a brief overview of work they have led. This gives trustees great insight into the work taking place and helps bring topics covered in the board papers to life.

In addition to the quarterly board meetings, trustees may be part of smaller working groups for designated periods.

Trustees are encouraged to attend Green Alliance events, including our annual reception.

Usually, the time needed is between four and six hours a month.

Trustees serve an initial term of three years, which can be renewed up to a maximum of nine years.

Find out more about our current board of trustees on our [website](#).



We're committed to diversifying

We need a diverse and inclusive board to lead Green Alliance effectively. We know that including different perspectives, experience and expertise will enrich our conversations and help us make better decisions.

We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds, particularly from candidates who are under 35, people of colour and those who will increase the socioeconomic diversity of our board.

We are open to applications from people who have not served on a board before and will offer mentoring and support in skills development to enable full participation as a trustee. We understand that people can have different needs and will always work to accommodate them.

Read more about our emphasis on equity, diversity and inclusion on our [website](#).



What do trustees do?

The board of trustees is responsible for making sure Green Alliance fulfils its purpose. They support and hold the executive director and the senior management team to account. Together, Green Alliance trustees:

- ensure the organisation pursues its objectives, manages its resources effectively and complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and other relevant legislation and regulations;
- contribute actively to the board's role in determining the strategy of the organisation and setting the mission, purpose and priorities of Green Alliance and safeguarding the organisation's ethos and values;

- offer advice and assistance to the chair, other trustees, executive director and staff;
- share contacts that could be relevant and beneficial to Green Alliance in the pursuit of its charitable aims;
- represent the organisation and participate in its activities, as appropriate.

Being a trustee is a voluntary role, but reasonable travel, childcare and caring expenses will be paid.

Find out more about what it means to be a trustee on the Charity Commission's [website](#).



Find out more

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Green Alliance trustee, please join our information webinar ‘What is a trustee?’ on Monday 17 June at 12 noon.

Laura Sandys, our chair, will host the session with contributions from other members of the board and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

[Sign up for our information webinar](#)



How to apply

Make sure you are eligible to become a trustee by reading the criteria on the Charity Commission's [website](#).

Your application should include a current CV and a supporting statement (maximum two sides of A4; shorter statements welcome).

In your statement, please explain why you would like to be a Green Alliance trustee, what you would bring to the role and whether you fulfil one or more of the criteria above.

Applications should be sent by email to: trustee.recruit@green-alliance.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 10am on Thursday 11 July 2024.

Interviews will be held at our office in Westminster on Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 August, between 4pm and 7pm, when you will have a chance to see where we work.

We can offer online interviews if you are unable to attend in person on those dates; please let us know in your application. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

Successful candidates will be invited to observe our board meeting on 10 September 2024 before their first full trustee meeting on 3 December 2024.

If you have any questions, please email Jenny Baker, jbaker@green-alliance.org.uk

