

45 YEARS

 green
alliance...

Annual review
and summary
accounts
2023-24

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Chair's introduction

Laura Sandys



I am so proud to be chair of Green Alliance, which has provided much needed leadership on the environmental agenda since 1979. In our 45th year, alongside our past successes, we are also celebrating the incredible network of allies we have built. Leaders across civil society, businesses and government have understood the importance of our mission and lent us their expertise, voices and support, to great effect. Through our collaborations we have been able to cut through and drive real change across the crucial agendas of climate mitigation and adaptation, nature restoration and resource efficiency. Our past annual reports have recorded many achievements over four and a half decades, but I am delighted that, in this anniversary year, we have added substantially to that work.

I am particularly proud that, in the final year of Greener UK – the coalition of major environmental groups we brought together post-Brexit – we were still landing significant wins. For instance our work

with parliamentarians prevented the loss of important water quality protections under the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill and we secured the retention of a huge raft of other important protections, ranging from habitats to chemicals and food safety, under threat from the Retained EU Law Bill. We have reshaped the coalition, after seven years of incredible achievement, and continue its crucial work at the heart of the policy making process through our new Legislation and Governance Unit.

One of Green Alliance's great strengths is its eye for spotting what's important and then acting swiftly, even when those actions may not be headline grabbing. One example this year was our work with allies on the Energy Security Bill, including securing an amendment to prevent a new hydrogen levy being added to consumer bills. This change will directly benefit people by helping to control the cost of living.

Working with health organisations, we persuaded the government to commit to ban single use vapes, a growing scourge on the environment and public health. Although this was dropped from parliament's schedule in the run up to the 2024 general election, we will be pressing for its early return in the new parliament.

We work hard to keep abreast of political changes and challenges and we built strong relations across the main parties ahead of the general election. Our comprehensive

“
With time to tackle
these challenges
running out, the need
for action is urgent.”

programme for government, *Securing our future*, was taken to the 2023 party conferences and we were pleased to see several of our recommendations appear in the election manifestos, including Labour saying it would create a clean energy ‘vaccine taskforce’ and the Liberal Democrats proposing more research funding for developing alternative proteins. Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats promised the land use framework we have been calling for.

This year saw the launch of our new Adaptation Task Force, with a wide range of businesses, organisations and other bodies involved, focused on spotlighting and advancing the action needed to adapt to climate change. We also took our Circular Economy Task Force into its 12th year with a series of groundbreaking reports.

We are focused on people across our policy and political work. Central to our mission is equity, diversity and inclusion and we aim to address fundamental inequalities alongside environmental challenges.

This is my first year as Green Alliance’s chair and it has been such a pleasure to work with such a dedicated team, all passionate about driving policy changes across the wide ranging climate, nature and resources challenges we face. I joined at a significant time for both the organisation and the environmental agenda, with time to tackle these challenges running out, the need for action is urgent and there are difficult decisions ahead.

The next few years will be crucial and I know the commitment of our staff, Green Alliance’s high quality analysis and commentary, and the networks it brings together, under Shaun Spiers’ leadership, will again be instrumental in driving the political ambition and positive changes we need to see.

The trustees, working with the brilliant team, have given their all this year and I want to thank them for always going above and beyond. We are ready for an exciting year ahead.



Laura Sandys
Chair of trustees

1/

Our vision and strategy

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 our vision.

Strategy 2021-24

This was the final year of work under our strategy 2021-24, published in June 2021.

We set out plans under the following headline objectives.

1. Turn UK political ambition on climate and nature into rapid action

The UK government must act decisively for the remainder of its parliamentary term to build a thriving net zero economy by 2050 and establish itself as a global environmental leader. Policy across all government departments is not sufficiently coherent or supported by enough action, either to ensure a green economic recovery or to avert the climate and nature crises. We will work with leaders in national and regional government, opposition parties and our partners across sectors to change this.

2. Promote effective solutions for a fair transition to a green economy

The next phase of the UK's move to a green economy will transform how we all live and work. This means changes in how we build, travel, manage land and produce food, and in the products and services we buy. For this to happen, policies must be effective, equitable and have public backing. We will propose solutions that work for the environment, economy and society.

3. Push the boundaries to find new answers to complex environmental problems

A greener future for all requires new ways of thinking and doing things. While no one yet has all the answers, we have the enthusiasm, curiosity, expertise and flexibility to explore and test new approaches with our partners. Drawing on our existing networks and new perspectives

from the many people, institutions and businesses now engaging on climate and nature, we will generate powerful ideas to tackle the complex environmental challenges of the 2020s.

Our theme objectives:

Political Leadership

- Inform and strengthen the growing network of environmental champions in parliament, including as secretariat of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Environment, leading open and robust debate across the political spectrum.
- Ensure our policy recommendations on nature, resources and low carbon economic development are taken forward across all government departments.
- Work with civil society and businesses to present a united voice in pushing for greater ambition from government.
- Lead the Greener UK coalition to strengthen the new Office for Environmental Protection, environmental principles and a new framework for environmental improvement targets; ensure new green governance regimes across the UK are effective, ambitious and well resourced; and advocate high environmental standards as a fundamental principle of all UK trade deals.

Greening the Economy

- Conduct research and advocacy to stimulate green renewal following the pandemic, including through infrastructure development, innovation and skills.
- Ensure the Treasury's decisions align with the government's net zero and nature targets, and taxes and other incentives support the shift to a green economy.

Low Carbon Future

- Identify what is needed to get the transport sector on track for net zero and make the most of the benefits of greener transport for the UK.
- Develop ideas to drive new investment in UK industry and the built environment to speed up the low carbon transition.
- Press for more powers and support for local action on climate change.

Resources

- Persuade the government that a target to cut UK resource use by half by 2050 is essential to tackling the climate and nature crises.
- Outline effective policies with our Circular Economy Task Force to accelerate the development of a resilient UK economy.

Natural Environment

- Promote solutions that reflect the complex interactions between agriculture, diet and land use and how these affect nature and the climate.
- Advocate new business models and economic change to reverse nature's decline.
- Propose measures for the effective oversight of nature-based solutions to climate change.

We prioritise equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) through both our external work and internal operations to achieve these goals. See page 48 to find out more about our ambition and our EDI work this year.

Strategic context in 2023-24

Following the publication of our 2021-24 strategy, major events, including the war in Ukraine, the cost of living crisis and government upheaval, dominated the context our work. The overarching objective for this period was to turn existing political commitments into clear action. However, the changed political context meant existing environmental commitments were no longer secure and we had to pivot to defending policy in areas where there had previously been consensus.

Throughout 2023-24 this situation worsened. Despite strong public support for the environment, climate action was increasingly drawn into a divisive culture war by some in the government at the time and the media. Under pressure from within their parties, both the government and the opposition watered down of their environmental promises. We aimed to continue demonstrating the compelling social and economic reasons for political leaders to maintain green ambitions.

Our values

We are optimists

We believe 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 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.

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Progress
report
2023-24

Impact highlights 2023-24



Our Net zero policy tracker, which showed large gaps in UK climate action, was launched with a major speech by then shadow climate secretary Ed Miliband in March 2024, creating a significant media moment and public debate ahead of the general election. P15

The Warm This Winter campaign we co-founded and now advise grew to over 40 organisations, creating significant public and political momentum around fuel poverty and the need for more energy efficient homes. **P17**

Our work leading the influential Greener UK coalition saved hundreds of important laws from being lost during the passage of the Retained EU Law Bill in 2023 and secured government commitments on important environmental protections and principles. **P19**



The Greener UK coalition helped to prevent important water quality protections being dismantled during the passage of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill in the summer of 2023. P19



Behaviour change, Political leadership, Resources

Disposable vapes: we called for change and the government listened

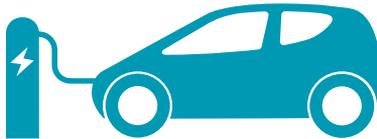
29 January, 2024

We co-ordinated a strong message from leading environmental and health groups on the harms caused by disposable vapes, persuading the government in January 2024 to promise to ban sales from April 2025. Unfortunately this was dropped from the parliamentary schedule ahead of the 2024 general election, but we will push again for it to be taken up by the new government. **P22**

Our work with the shadow front bench teams led to much stronger messages on nature from the Labour Party, including Ed Miliband, as shadow climate secretary, promising that, in government, the party would make the biggest investment in nature in a generation and new public commitments from Steve Reed, as shadow environment secretary. **P41**



Following coverage of our story that food grown on England’s lowland peatlands has relatively more climate impact than soya imported from Brazil’s Amazon region, the government increased incentives supporting farmers to restore lowland peat. P38

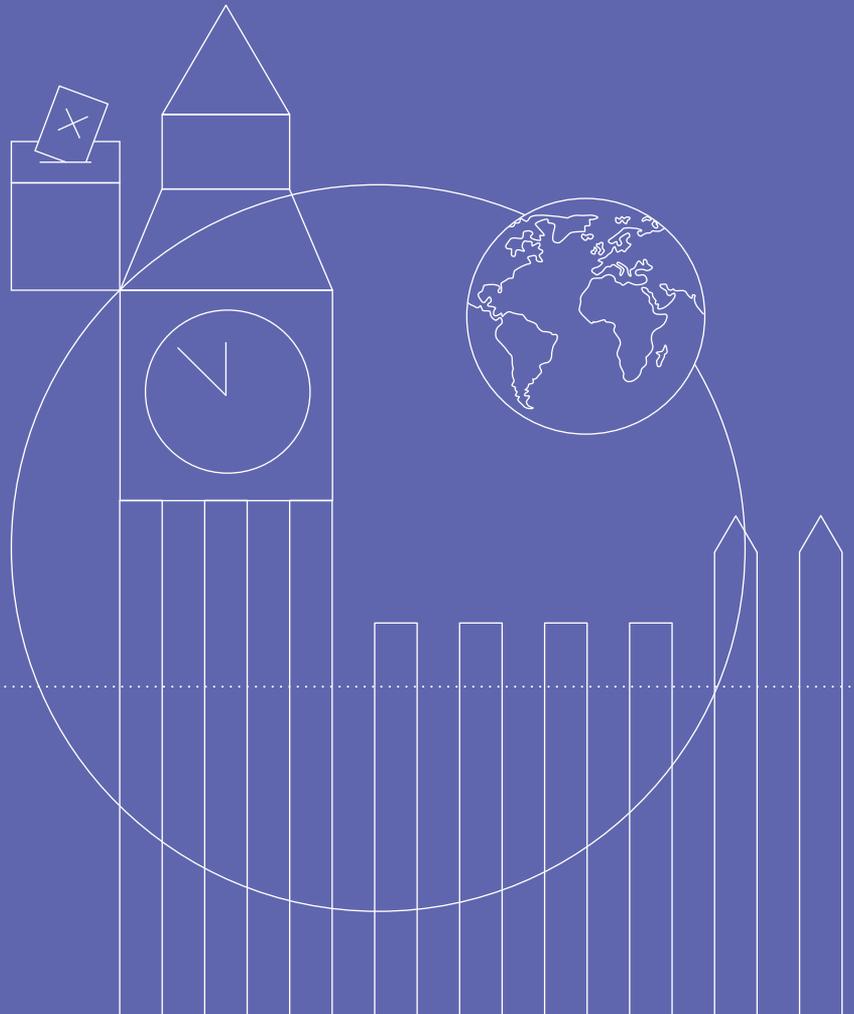


Persuaded by our work over the past five years, the government saw the need for a zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate to stimulate higher electric vehicle sales, and made the mandate law in January 2024. P31

We led a coalition of organisations working on the Energy Security Bill as it went through parliament in 2023, securing amendments on a new net zero duty for Ofgem and preventing a new hydrogen levy being added to consumer bills. **P15**

Our work with other organisations successfully convinced the government to withdraw from the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) in February 2024; this out of date international agreement has been used to protect fossil fuel interests and challenge ambitious climate policies. **P16**

Political leadership



“

Green Alliance are an excellent organisation to work with. Their events bring a wide range of voices into the policy making process whilst also being engaging and informative.”

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP,
shadow secretary of state for
energy security and net zero

We aim to raise ambitions across the the political spectrum, to reverse detrimental human impacts on the environment at home and abroad, as a prerequisite to achieving a thriving UK society and economy.

Convening for impact

We brought environment sector organisations together to improve the Energy Security Bill as it went through parliament in 2023. The coalition of organisations we convened was instrumental in securing two amendments. First, to ensure Ofgem, the energy regulator, had a new net zero duty and, second, to prevent a new hydrogen levy being added to consumer energy bills.

Election countdown

Our Impact 2024 project, run with The Climate Coalition and Wildlife and Countryside Link, built momentum around green issues ahead of the general election. Bringing the CEOs of environmental organisations together to work strategically and align messages, we helped to secure two meetings with the Labour leader Keir Starmer and worked closely with partner organisations to respond quickly to major political developments.

The first event in our 2024 Election Countdown series, in March 2024, was widely covered in the media. Featuring a major speech by shadow climate secretary Ed Miliband setting out Labour’s position, it was followed by a discussion on the climate challenges for the next government, with Emma Pinchbeck, chief executive of Energy UK and Areeba Hamid, co-executive director of



Emma Pinchbeck, chief executive of Energy UK (left), and Areeba Hamid, co-executive director of Greenpeace, speaking at our event 'The climate challenge for a new parliament', March 2024

Greenpeace. This coincided with the release of our latest assessment of the UK government's climate progress. Our *Net zero policy tracker* found that the UK's transport and land use sectors in particular were significantly off track. Along with the speech, it created a media moment and wider public debate, with coverage in *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *The Spectator*, *The Guardian* and *Politico*. We presented these findings to senior civil servants and parliamentarians.

“

The Environment APPG is a great forum that brings together politicians, NGOs and the business community to discuss some of the biggest challenges of our time... [it] plays a big role in making sure environmental policy is well evidenced.”

Craig Melson, associate director for climate, environment and sustainability, Tech UK

Managing the Environment APPG

In running the secretariat for the Environment All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), we were part of several coalitions working with MPs to secure important changes to UK policy, including the withdrawal from the Energy Charter Treaty (see page 18), expansion of marine protection in the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands, a UK moratorium on deep sea mining and the commitment to ban single use vapes (see page 22). The APPG kept parliamentarians informed with regular briefings ahead of parliamentary debates, covering topics such as food waste, biodiversity loss and climate finance for loss and damage affecting vulnerable nations.

“

Green Alliance is an effective cross party environmental advocate working in parliament to secure the solutions we need to restore and strengthen environmental protections in the UK.”

Nathalie Waters,
foundational director,
Samworth Foundation

What are MPs' views on climate?

In 2018, we worked with Lancaster University on research into MPs' attitudes to climate change (*Building the political mandate for climate action*, November 2018) finding that, while there were some climate champions in parliament, many felt like outsiders if they raised it. In 2023, we supported new work by Lancaster University, The Climate Coalition and the Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations, asking the same question five years on. We published the findings in *Sustaining the political mandate for climate action* (September 2023), revealing that MPs have become much more concerned about climate change, but that new anxieties have emerged around how action necessary will affect people and fears of backlash if it is seen as unfair. With messages for all sides, our report warned of the powerful interests lobbying against action, the need to stay alert to social injustices and the divisive impact of climate protests.

Spotlighting the link between climate and fuel poverty

Green Alliance is a founding member and political adviser to the Warm This Winter campaign, targeting fuel poverty. The campaign has built stronger links between organisations working on fuel poverty and climate issues and grew to over 40 organisations this year. It has created new momentum around the serious issue of fuel poverty, securing national media coverage, with the help of several cross party champions in the House of Commons.

Strong presence at party conferences

In 2023, we had our largest presence ever at the autumn Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat party conferences. Our networking receptions at each were full and buzzing, bringing together party representatives, businesses and environmental organisations. At more than a dozen other events across the conferences, our experts spoke on issues ranging from farming reform to the future of the energy system.



A programme for government

The new government elected in 2024 will oversee the second half of a decade in which global leaders have the enormous responsibility of determining whether or not we will leave a liveable planet for future generations. Significantly, over half of voters in the 2023 UK local elections thought the government should do more to tackle climate change. *Securing our future* (September 2023) was our menu of practical solutions for the next government on the major environmental problems the UK faces. Each recommendation was based on evidence gathered from our detailed research and analysis, in partnership with other experts, and outlined the wider benefits for the country. We took this to the party conferences in 2023 where it formed the basis of our conversations.

Withdrawal from the Energy Charter Treaty

The Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) is an international agreement which has been used to protect fossil fuel interests and challenge ambitious climate policies. We worked with other groups to make the case for the UK to follow other countries and leave this out of date agreement, via political and parliamentary advocacy, increasing media and political awareness of the evidence. In February 2024, the government announced the UK would withdraw from the ECT in an important step towards ensuring UK trade policy aligns with the government's net zero goals.

Legislation and governance unit

After seven years of productive work, the Greener UK coalition of leading environmental organisations ended in December 2023. It was steered by Green Alliance to ensure strong UK green policy after Brexit. Its work was instrumental in securing the Environment Act 2021 and establishing the Office for Environmental Protection watchdog, among other outcomes.

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At its ending, Greener UK was reported as being “... widely credited with having had a great influence on environmental legislation”

ENDS Report,
14 December, 2023,
'How Brexit changed the game for UK green groups'

Final success for Greener UK

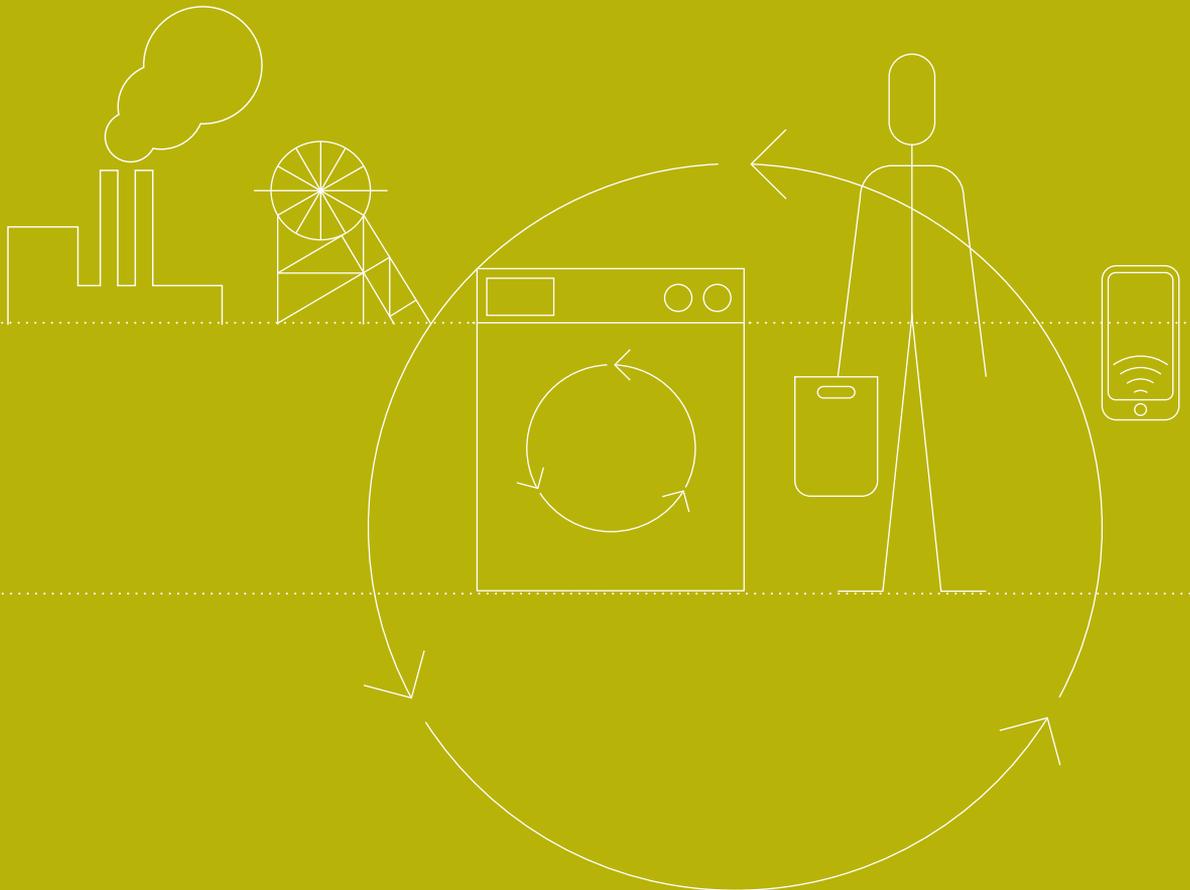
Greener UK's final major campaign success was on the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 (REUL Act). Its detailed work helped to prevent the loss of hundreds of important laws. Expert institutions, like the Climate Change Committee, National Trust and RSPB, and well known personalities, like Deborah Meaden, David Gower and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, all publicly supported the coalition's call to save environmental laws. We secured important commitments from the government, including to maintain environmental protections, and follow environmental principles. Greener UK also worked closely with parliamentarians to prevent the dismantling of water quality protections during the passage of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill in the summer of 2023.

The work continues

Since January 2024 our new Legislation and Governance Unit, led by Ruth Chambers, has taken forward major strands of this work. The unit is ensuring Greener UK's crucial coalition relationships and extensive expertise continues to influence government and parliamentary work on environmental law and policy.

Since the passing of the REUL Act, the team has scrutinised Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) plans, convening sector experts to analyse the 74 laws the department proposed to revoke, probing with specific technical questions. We are pleased that, so far, there have been few major regressive changes, apart from the concerning loss of important air quality regulations.

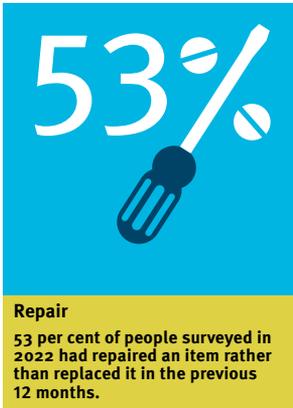
Resources



The UK is one of the worst offenders globally for using at least twice its fair share of resources, causing environmental harm both at home and abroad. Throwaway culture is a major culprit. We are determined to turn this around and make sure all the advantages of a circular economy, that preserves precious materials, pollutes much less and creates new job opportunities, are not ignored.

Highlighting strategy failure

Progress on improving UK resource use is moving far too slowly. The Conservative government published a resources and waste strategy in 2018 but it led to little positive action. During this year, we responded to government plans to weaken proposed reforms on packaging and recycling. The deposit return scheme, a major announcement of the 2018 strategy, and hugely popular with the public, has suffered repeated delays. In June 2023, the National Audit Office launched a damning assessment of government progress on resources and waste, echoing our concerns. The report concluded that, four years after the publication of its strategy, Defra had no “effective long-term delivery plans” to achieve its ambitions.



Extract from the graphic 'Consumer engagement with circular business', from *Profit without loss* (November 2023)

Inspiration for the next government

Our Circular Economy Task Force of leading businesses was relaunched during 2023, with ambitions to inspire the next government to embrace resource reduction across the economy and address the role of resource issues in the triple planetary crises of climate change, nature's destruction and pollution and waste. In *Profit without loss* (November 2023) we presented macroeconomic, business and consumer research into the benefits of a circular economy, revealing its many advantages to society. There was great interest in our findings at a roundtable for civil servants and others, including representatives from the Treasury, the Department for Business and Trade and UK Research and Innovation.

Getting rid of disposable vapes for good

One of our main objectives this year was to remove the environmental and health scourge of disposable vapes. They are a fast growing source of street litter and waste, not least because inside every discarded single use device is a battery containing valuable lithium. It is estimated that lithium lost in this waste every year could power 5,000 electric cars. We co-ordinated high level advocacy, involving other environmental groups and the health sector, including the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and liaised with supportive parliamentarians, to make the case to the government. We were delighted when, in January 2024, the government announced its intention to ban disposable vape sales from April 2025 (this legislation was dropped when the general election was called in May 2024 but we are pressing the new government to reinstate it).

Stimulating debate

Our TransformTax project ran from 2020 to June 2023. It highlighted a new approach to the environmental impact of the tax system. Head of resource policy, Libby Peake, presented the findings of this work at an event in June 2023 at which then CEO of the Climate Change Committee Chris Stark and Jill Rutter of the Institute for Government discussed the conclusions, with questions from an expert audience and probing from the chair, Peter Foster of the *Financial Times*.

“

I am always very grateful for everything that you and your organisation do and the briefings provided. In the response to the Kings Speech, three of us mentioned the lithium in vapes which could have powered 5,000 car batteries.”

Baroness Bakewell of
Hardington Mandeville

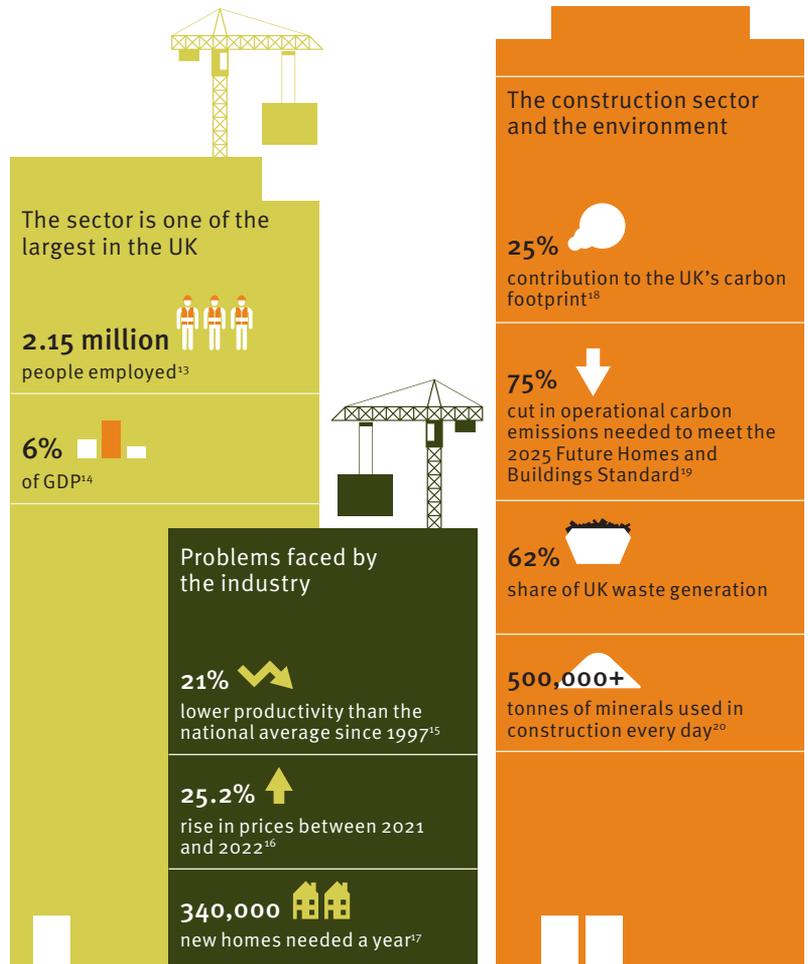


‘How should the government green the tax system?’ (June 2023) with (L to R) Jill Rutter, Institute for Government; Chris Stark, Climate Change Committee; and Libby Peake, Green Alliance

At our event for financial experts in the City, held with the Dutch Embassy in February 2024, we looked at how financial institutions could assess the risks of over consuming resources. At the Labour Conference in 2023, shadow resources minister Ruth Jones spoke on a Green Alliance platform, promising that her party would pursue an ambitious agenda; this followed shadow front bench endorsement of our proposal for a new economy-wide resource use reduction target in 2023. She said: “Getting in place the right government support for a circular economy is a real priority for the next Labour government.”

Influencing government research

Academic collaborations and reports for our Circular Economy Task Force have inspired the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero's project 'Unlocking resource efficiency', launched in November 2023. This aims to identify the potential of resource efficiency to decarbonise industry. Our work has been widely cited by the project, for example on construction, where our report *Circular construction* (March 2023) was described as its "primary data source" on the potential impact of retrofit, refurbishment, renovation and repair of buildings.



'The UK construction sector at a glance', from *Circular construction* (March 2023)



Right to repair

The 'right to repair', giving access to affordable spare parts and good information, and designing products to be repaired, is fundamental to keeping items useable and avoiding waste. In partnership with the Restart Project, the Design Council and parliamentarians, we worked to promote an amendment to the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Bill, requiring the government to give consumers this right. Our proposal was well supported by cross party peers and the government acknowledged it was an important area where more progress was needed.

Greening the economy



Green policies help to solve fundamental economic challenges. Green investment raises productivity and will lead to high quality jobs in new industries. A green industrial strategy would bring a new sense of purpose and pride. More investment in skills is also needed as low carbon industries and infrastructure are developed. We demonstrate how green economy benefits can be maximised, particularly so they are experienced fairly across the country, to reinforce public support for ambitious climate and environmental action.

Valuing nature

In 2021, the UK Treasury commissioned a report into the economics of biodiversity from the eminent British economist Professor Partha Dasgupta. Its detailed findings were that nature underpins our economy and that the state of nature is inextricable from economic wellbeing. However, since this powerful message was published, it has not altered government decisions around valuing nature.

In a major two year project supported by Partners for a New Economy, which began in 2023, we are shining light on the Dasgupta Review’s messages once again and exploring what they should mean for Treasury policy and how the economy is managed. In the project’s first year, we formed a network of ‘Dasgupta champions’, including politicians, civil servants, academics and city financiers, to galvanise more action to drive pro-nature economic policy. Our briefings to Treasury officials and Labour Party advisers explained how the government’s fiscal rules should be amended so biodiversity and the need to value natural capital are prioritised.

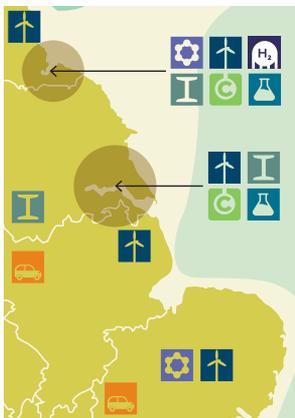
Industrial strategy for a green economy

The absence of a comprehensive industrial strategy is holding back UK economic growth and resilience in the face of global instability and competition. It is a particular problem as the US, EU and China have all launched major strategy drives to corner green tech investment, such as for electric vehicles. The UK’s lack of response is potentially leaving it sidelined in the global race for high value renewable industries.

This year, we continued to call for an industrial strategy and more action on skills development for a green economy. In *The cluster effect: why the UK needs a place-based green industrial strategy* (June 2023) we analysed UK regional industrial strengths and, in a podcast and blog series, we expanded on these themes, looking at what a small nation without the financial resources of the US or the EU can do, for instance via regulation and smart policy.

Expert commentary

We spoke regularly on the green economy at academic and parliamentary events, for instance on the government’s fiscal rules and Labour’s green spending plans. While Labour’s rollback of its bold £28 billion a year pledge under its Green Prosperity Plan early in 2024 was a disappointment, we highlighted that its investment strategy overall was still cause for optimism. As well as providing commentary to the media on the spring 2024 budget, our



‘Potential net zero industrial and service clusters’, image extract from *The cluster effect* (June 2023)

head of economy, Steve Coulter wrote features in national titles on the need for green investment.

Growing a green workforce

Early in 2024, we worked with the Youth Environmental Service on our report *Green shoots*, recommending new pathways to training in areas of high youth unemployment. And with the Overseas Development Institute, we highlighted the shortage of heat pump installation engineers and advisers. As a member of the government's Green Jobs Delivery Group, we have been able to present our evidence and promote these ideas.

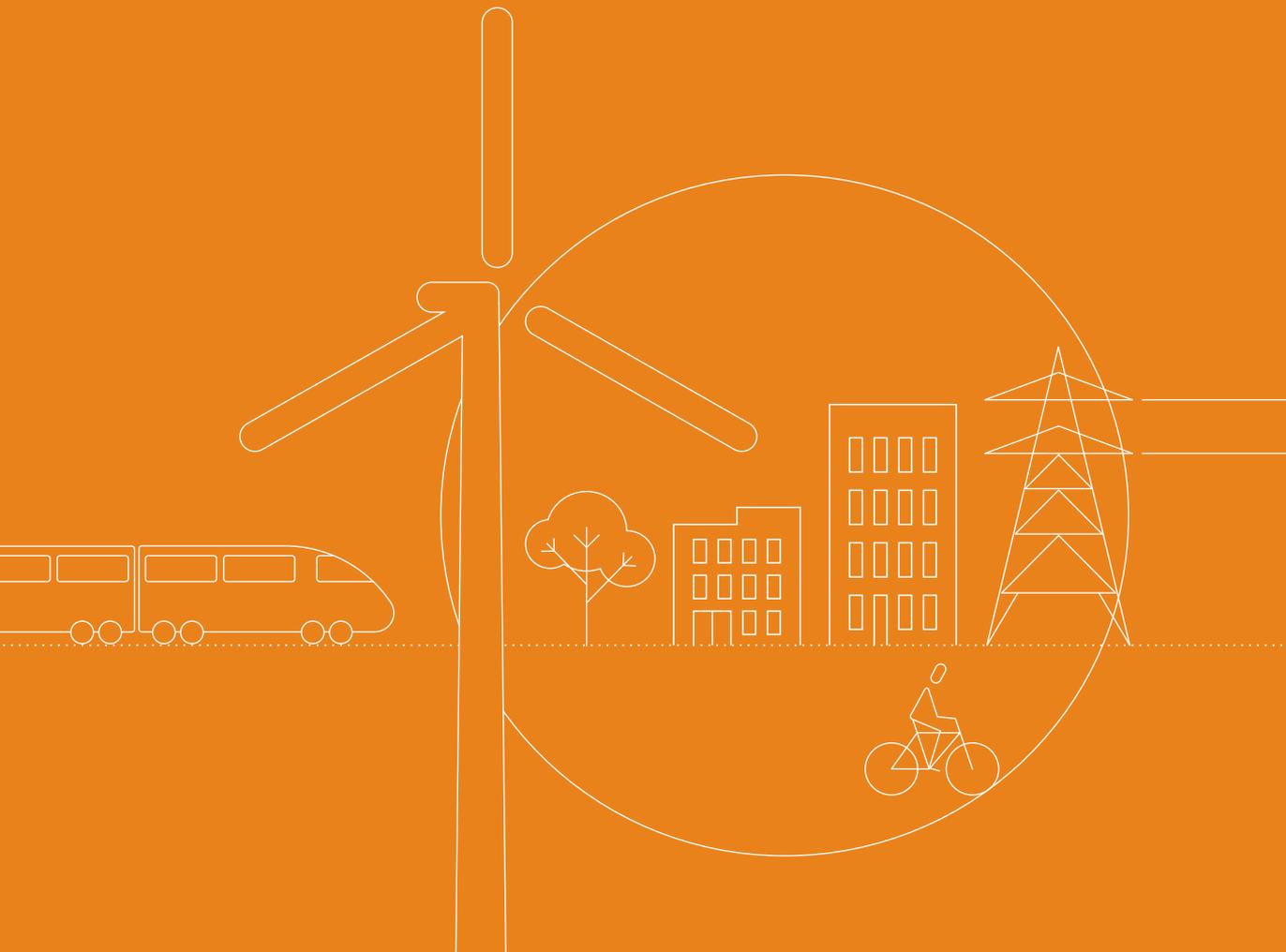
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We continue to work with Green Alliance because they bring leaders from business, politics and civic society together, securing the transition to a greener, cleaner, fairer future that we so urgently need.”

Andrew Weston, head of public affairs, The Co-op



Low carbon future



Every part of the UK's economy must contribute to ending the fossil fuel era. Working with leading businesses and NGOs, we are targeting those sectors that need to modernise for a greener future, like transport, buildings and energy intensive industries. We advocate policies that will speed up the transition and ensure everyone can access the benefits sooner.

“

The collaboration and networking between those working on this has been right up there with the best I've seen over the years, so kudos to all those who made it happen.”

Doug Parr, chief scientist and policy director at Greenpeace UK, on our successful advocacy for a zero emission vehicle mandate

Futureproofing industries

Under our Greening the Economy work (see page 26) we focus on the need for an industrial strategy and better workforce skills development. Under our Low Carbon Future theme, we are helping to put flesh on the bones of this argument, with deep dives into economic sectors.

Accelerating electric vehicles

Five years ago, we set out to persuade the government of the case for a zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate. We were, therefore, delighted when, in January 2024, the government made the mandate law.

This year, working with experts, we analysed the barriers preventing the UK battery industry meeting the fast growing demand for zero emission vehicles. Our recommendations in *Powering up the UK battery industry* (September 2023) were highly influential. Our work was referenced 48 times in the Business and Trade Committee's report *Batteries for electric vehicle manufacturing* and it was also referred to in



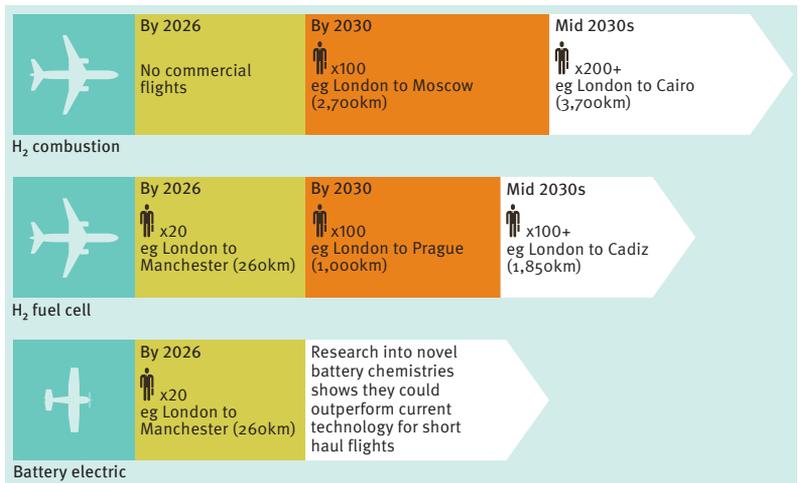
the government’s UK Battery Strategy, both released in November 2023.

Electrifying heavy industry

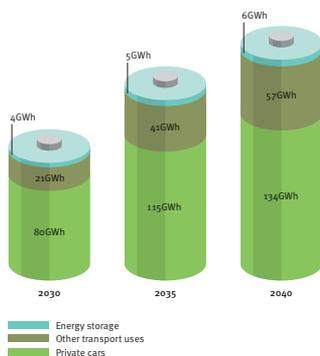
Continuing our focus on heavy industries, our second report on the steel industry, *A brighter future for UK steel* (August 2023), looked at UK demand for steel, positioning Green Alliance as a key commentator ahead of the deal announced between the government and Tata Steel in late 2023. We helped to co-ordinate the NGO response to the debate around the future of the Port Talbot steel plant, particularly in relation to the impact on the local community. Our work informed UK Steel’s December 2023 report on using scrap steel as a strategic raw material, and we engaged with Labour as it formed its view. We also continued to advocate for more support to electrify other industries, like chemicals, spotlighting policy gaps in this area.

The path to zero emission flight

To move the government’s focus on aviation emissions beyond short term fixes, our infographic, *The sky’s the limit* (February 2024), showed the risks of increasing passenger numbers and explained how to achieve zero emission flight. Our work was cited in the Environmental Audit Committee’s report on net zero and the UK aviation sector in December 2023.



‘The potential of zero emission flight’, from *The sky’s the limit* (February 2024)



Projected UK battery demand, from *Powering up the UK battery industry* (September 2023)

Greener building technology

Engaging with experts in domestic heat pumps, heat networks and insulation we aimed to understand the barriers to progress on greener building technologies. To widen the political conversation around heat pumps, in January 2024, our briefing for politicians showed how they can benefit fuel poor households.

Power system innovation

The energy market still favours new gas power for system flexibility. But, by 2030, this is likely to cost double the alternatives. We suggested a new government task force to drive innovation on clean power flexibility, acting with the same urgency as the Covid-19 vaccine task force. We briefed on solutions to speed up the development of clean power and how to avoid conflict between the needs of nature and the sector. This was shared with politicians and other environmental organisations.

The intersection of climate and public health

New work this year explored how an integrated approach to the climate crisis and public health could lead to better outcomes for both. Our report *Why we need to talk about health and climate* (October 2023) featured essays from experts on a variety of relevant subjects including diet, racism and the role of the NHS. This work is continuing with support from the Wellcome Foundation.

In a project supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation, we examined how to make sure those most affected by climate change are heard by policy makers. This was to inform our own work, but we shared our findings through a three part podcast ‘Why inclusivity matters’ and a workshop designed for other organisations in the environment sector.

Why methane can't be ignored

In 2022, we drew attention to the problem of methane, a short-lived but highly potent greenhouse gas which the UK is failing to limit. Our work showed that the oil and gas industry wastes the equivalent of 750,000 homes' worth of gas each year, via venting and flaring. Cutting methane emissions now could slow down climate change, reducing average temperatures by 0.2°C. The UK is a signatory to the Global Methane Pledge. Ahead of the COP28 climate summit in December 2023, our short infographic summarised the problem and solutions, urging UK leaders to do more. An ambitious action plan would help to restore the UK's reputation for climate leadership. We continue to press for more action on methane.

“

We support Green Alliance's bold political advocacy to raise awareness on climate issues that often fall under the radar, particularly efforts to drastically cut methane emissions which is essential to prevent global temperature rises and honour our international promises.”

Bryn Higgs, director of foundation, Frederick Mulder Foundation



From *Why the UK should do more to cut methane emissions* (November 2023)

“

We work with Green Alliance to amplify and drive action on climate adaptation, alongside mitigation measures. We value the partnership for its research, activation and stakeholder engagement.”

OVO



Homes fit for the future

The energy supplier OVO commissioned us in 2023 to investigate how to get UK homes ready for the impacts of climate change. Our report *Climate adaptation in UK homes* highlighted that the government should work more with energy suppliers, and showed how suppliers can directly help customers adapt their homes. OVO is using this report to inform its company strategy.

England is not building enough homes and has some of the most unaffordable housing in the world, denying a whole generation of younger people the chance of home ownership or affordable rental options. While there are commitments to build more homes, weak planning rules mean those that are built are too often in the wrong locations, with damaging environmental consequences. In a collaboration with PricedOut, the campaign for affordable house prices, we reported on how to strengthen the planning system to direct new housebuilding to the most sustainable locations, for instance close to existing transport hubs.

Natural environment



“

Green Alliance is a crucial part of the UK's ecosystem. Combining world class policy analysis with deep political understanding, the team brings both vision and real world pragmatism to climate and the environment challenges.”

Madeline Carroll, director,
UK programme, European
Climate Foundation

Better land use and management is needed to reverse the alarming decline in nature and cut greenhouse gas emissions. The UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world and emissions from agriculture remain stubbornly high. This significantly harms economic prospects, including the future of farming. And it diminishes all our lives, as once common British species are vanishing. But with the right conditions nature can recover. We are working with parliamentarians and other NGOs on ways to make sure this happens.

Supporting farmers

The greatest opportunity to support land managers to restore nature in England is the new farming policy, the Environmental Land Management (ELM) scheme. We engaged with the government on its development, pointing to discrepancies between the targets it needs to achieve and what the current scheme can deliver. We pressed for more



government analysis to show how the policy will help meet UK nature and climate targets. The January 2024 Agricultural Transition Plan update provided slightly more information, but we are still not confident this policy matches the scale of change required.

To build the case for an ambitious ELM, our report *Farming for the future* (November 2023) highlighted its potential to enhance farm incomes. We showed that diversifying into environmental services, like tree planting and peat restoration, could help secure and even increase the incomes of the least profitable farms. We were pleased that the Fursdon Review of land management on Dartmoor, in December 2023, concluded that peat restoration should be a priority. Through parliamentary briefings and questions, we continue to seek more support for farmers to enable them to farm successfully alongside nature.

Why we need a land use framework

Any farming policy to restore nature, reduce emissions, benefit farmers and maintain food production should be guided by a spatial plan which drives the best actions for different places. We have been pushing for a land use framework as the answer. This year, we led the debate on this as the shape of a framework was being determined by Defra. We engaged through briefings and ministerial roundtables and kept the pressure on with media stories, such as *ENDS Report's* coverage of the framework's purpose and a piece in *The Guardian* about the beneficial use of farmland for solar.

Perhaps the greatest challenge for a land use framework is lowland peatlands which are highly productive farmland, but at a huge cost to the climate, as peat is a major carbon store and farming it is a significant source of emissions.

The climate impact of food imported from recently deforested areas of the world is a major concern. Although the UK has led global efforts to protect rainforests, in June 2023 we highlighted that growing food on England's lowland peatlands is just as much of a climate threat. Per unit of protein, it has a carbon footprint many times greater than soya imported from Brazil's Amazon region. This story was

“

I am sure the noble Lords have seen an excellent briefing from Green Alliance...”

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle, during a Lords debate into the Sustainable Farming Incentive

covered by *The Guardian* and, later, the government increased incentives for farmers to restore lowland peat. We were invited to run a session at IUCN’s annual peatland conference, at which we discussed creating a shared consensus about the future of peatlands. England urgently needs a land use framework which allows for the restoration of these areas whilst maintaining food production.

The government had still not announced a framework by the end of March 2024. However, we were pleased that the Liberal Democrats supported the idea at their autumn 2023 party conference and the Labour Party also committed to a land use framework.

An appetite for change

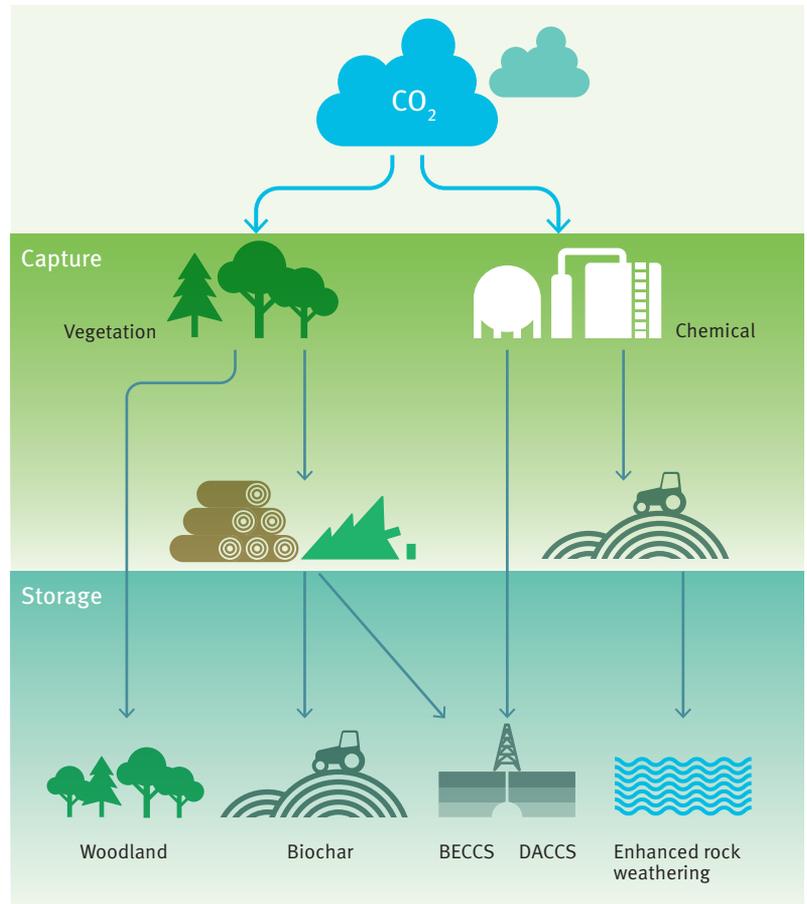
Our analysis in *Appetite for change* (August 2023), reported in *The Independent*, revealed that alternative proteins (ie dietary alternatives to meat and dairy products) could be a major growth opportunity for the UK. The industry could also tip the balance of land use in nature’s favour while providing new jobs. The government is supporting the industry, with record investment in 2023. However, more needs to happen for the UK to compete with the rest of the world as the industry expands.

In *Crossing the divide* (December 2023) we explored different attitudes to alternative proteins and the future of farming, identifying four characteristic ‘world views’, seemingly at odds with each other: agroecologists, ‘technovegans’ (who embrace alternative proteins), ‘sustainable intensifiers’ and traditionalists. We suggest that potential alliances between them could lead to progress on land pressures and climate change. This was presented to Brussels-based think tanks and NGOs interested in breaking the deadlock. We also discussed the proposals with UK agroecology organisations, showing how an alliance between them and advocates of alternative proteins would benefit the climate and nature. Many of these organisations are interested in taking the idea forward.

Raising awareness about greenhouse gas removal

One of the fastest growing demands on land use is for greenhouse gas removal. This means actively removing CO₂ from the air by planting more trees and restoring nature to create 'carbon sinks' or through technologies that 'capture' carbon.

The government's Net Zero Strategy depends heavily on one technology in particular, bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (known as BECCS). This involves burning organic matter, like crops or trees, and capturing and storing the carbon emissions released. But it is controversial for a number of reasons: there are risks of nature-rich habitats being destroyed to source biomass and some types of biomass could cause emissions rather than remove them.



'Methods of greenhouse gas removal and storage', from *The case for an UK Office for Carbon Removal* (June 2023)

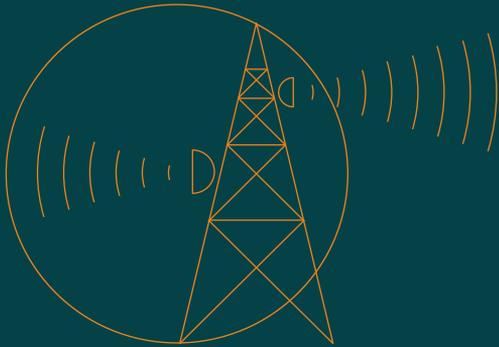
Food production could also be displaced where land is used for energy crops. We believe high reliance on BECCS is risky and have been raising these concerns.

In June 2023, our report *The case for a UK Office for Carbon Removal* received wide press coverage, including a story in *The Telegraph*. We argued for a new governance body to ensure the integrity of this industry. In February 2024, we briefed parliamentarians on the alternatives, such as enhanced rock weathering and ocean carbon removal, which could help to reduce the need for large scale power BECCS. We are now working to build wider business support for this idea.

Leadership on nature

The Labour Party has not historically had a strong stance on nature, so this year we engaged with the shadow Defra team on what an ambitious Labour plan to restore nature could look like. Subsequently, there have been positive signals from the party. As shadow climate secretary, Ed Miliband publicly stated, at our 2023 summer reception that, if elected, Labour would make the biggest investment in nature seen in a generation. Farmers are at the centre of this and need more support with the capital costs of creating habitats to support nature's recovery, prevent flooding, mitigate climate change and give the public greater access to nature. To this end, we called for £1 billion per year as part of Labour's Green Prosperity Plan. So we were disappointed when the party scaled back its spending ambitions in February 2024, leaving nothing for nature.

Communications in 2023-24



Media

2,202

mentions across all media

421

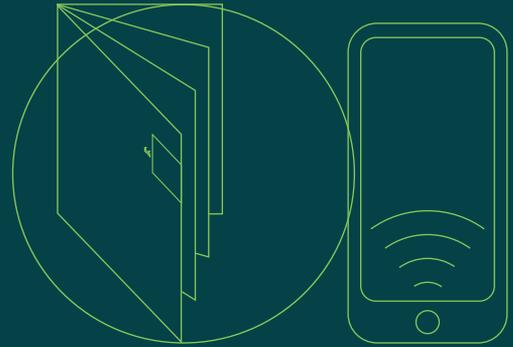
mentions in national and top regional outlets

231

mentions in specialist climate, nature and public policy outlets

227

mentions in broadcast media



Digital media and publications

20

publications

30

briefings

43,000

engagements and two million impressions on X

9,000

podcast downloads

3,500

new followers (30% increase) on LinkedIn

67,000 views of

120 blogs



Events

19

online events

13

in-person events

2,655

attendees



Expert speakers

19

Green Alliance experts spoke on 77 external platforms during the year, including national and international conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures and podcasts

3/

Our plans 2024-25

Following the general election in 2024, many changes and new policy opportunities are expected on the environment agenda. We have set out interim plans for this period before outlining our new strategy in 2025.

Political Leadership

We will build relationships at the most senior levels across government departments, including Number 10, the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and the Treasury, to embed more urgent action on climate and nature.

We will nurture a strong cohort of parliamentary champions in the next government, equipping them with the skills and expertise to speak out and raise political ambitions to tackle complex and systemic environmental issues, eg around resource use, the economy and industrial strategy.

As secretariat of the Environment APPG, we will protect the cross party consensus on climate and nature issues with the backing of influential associate members, active government engagement and providing a platform for voices across all parties.

We will lead collaboration with partners across the environment sector to identify effective strategies for change, eg through our Legislation and Governance Unit, our Impact 2024 project and the Environment APPG, to increase the overall political impact of the sector.

Legislation and Governance Unit

We will monitor the implementation of the 2021 Environment Act, ensuring any review of the Environmental Improvement Plan enhances the delivery of green goals, tracking government departments' compliance with environmental principles and making good use of the oversight processes of the Office for Environmental Protection.

We will respond to Welsh government proposals on environmental principles, governance and biodiversity targets, working with Welsh partners to ensure a robust new governance system is in place as quickly as possible.

On wider legislation, we will respond to the first legislative programme of the new government and support efforts to introduce a new law to ban the use of horticultural peat.

Resources

We will inspire the next government in its first months to realise the opportunities of the circular economy and assist in prioritising the most effective policies.

We will ensure the government recognises the urgency of a more strategic approach to critical raw materials, reducing UK reliance on volatile supply chains by cutting demand and increasing domestic recycling capacity.

We will continue to push for a national resource reduction target, building on the emerging political consensus that more must be done to curb throwaway culture and reduce waste.

Greening the Economy

We will continue to push for a substantial programme of green public investment, to crowd in private capital for renewables and nature restoration.

We will convince parliament and the government of the need to take forward the recommendations of the Dasgupta Review of the economics of biodiversity.

We will press for a long term green industrial strategy to attract investment, build the low carbon industries of the future and provide new job opportunities across the country.

Low Carbon Future

We will advocate for new transport policy options, such as a five year bus fare cap and an independent commission on replacing fuel duty to fund sustainable transport, helping the government to understand its wider social benefits.

We will push for new regulation to increase heat pump roll-out and limit their cost, for instance through the Clean Heat Market Mechanism and rebalancing electricity and gas prices.

We will increase political awareness of the need to adapt homes for climate change impacts.

We will outline how to achieve a just transition to decarbonise traditional industries and promote supportive policies, including effective support measures.

We will make the case for prioritising clean flexible power, drawing on the government's Covid vaccine task force as a successful example of how to drive urgent development.

Natural Environment

We will ensure the new government acts on the scale of change needed to meet land-related climate and nature targets including through the Environmental Land Management scheme and a new land use framework.

We will work to open up political and policy space for the government to act on reducing meat and dairy consumption.

We will provide analysis and convene relevant interests to drive decisions about land use and management to reduce pollution and cut emissions, including in relation to land used for livestock, bioenergy, greenhouse gas removals, renewable energy and regenerative agriculture.

4/

Equity, diversity and inclusion



Thank you ... for the incredible workshop on green careers and how to lobby to change policies and enact change – our Y9 and 10 Geographers LOVED it”

Feedback from the ARK Putney Academy secondary school, following a session run by Green Alliance staff

We made progress on our equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) aims this year, led by an EDI committee of staff from across the organisation. The committee’s responsibility includes driving action to meet five key objectives:

1. Ensuring that people and social justice considerations are embedded in our environmental policy thinking, design and advocacy.
2. Increasing the diversity of the board and workforce, especially regarding socioeconomic and ethnic diversity.
3. Building a more inclusive culture at Green Alliance. We define this as welcoming people from all backgrounds, experiences, identities and characteristics, enabling all our employees to feel that their differences are valued.
4. Listening to a diverse range of people and enabling a greater platform for underrepresented and less heard voices across our internal and external activities.
5. Playing an active and collaborative role within the think tank and environment sectors to increase diversity and inclusion.

In 2023-24, we participated in several external EDI initiatives including the *RACE Report* and the Diverse Sustainability Initiative and we contributed to research on diversity led by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

Thanks to funding from the Garfield Weston Foundation, we researched how we can improve wider engagement in policy development, leading to recommendations which we are now implementing.

We updated our workplace adjustments policy to provide greater clarity and support for employees, and provided neurodiversity training for the whole staff team.

Changes we introduced in our recruitment process meant we saw a more diverse group of people applying for our graduate scheme and this learning is informing wider changes to how we recruit staff.

Future plans for our EDI work

Identify actions to progress our work on anti-racism, including organisation wide training.

Engage staff in training on being an active bystander (allyship), inclusive recruitment and other topics, as identified.

Host a webinar on 'Putting fairness at the heart of climate action', with follow up events, depending on feedback.

Recruit new trustees using updated guidance on increasing diversity and removing barriers to access.

5/

Financial review

Treasurer's report

It's been a year of change for our finance team. Kim Rennie joined us in July 2023 as our new head of finance, bringing accounting expertise and a forensic eye for detail. In March 2024, we said farewell to Marta Silva, our finance manager, who worked for Green Alliance since 2002 and was our first member of staff to retire. We are grateful for all she contributed, both as a member of the staff team and in managing our finances so expertly over the years as we have grown. We have also welcomed Laura Godfrey as our new finance officer helping us to embed new systems and ways of working.

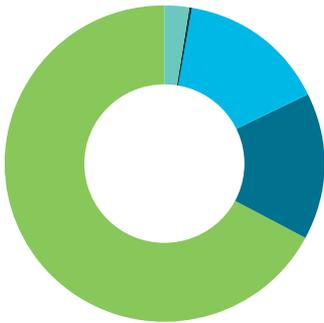
Following the recommendations of last year's finance review, we have been exploring new programme management and finance systems with a view to automating and integrating the way we manage our resources. Our aim is to have new systems in place by autumn 2024.

We expected to move office this year but have been able to extend our lease until September 2025. We will keep the designated building fund for another year in preparation for that move.

We have had another successful fundraising year and are grateful to both old and new funders for supporting us. Our income for 2024 was £3.18m (2023 £2.97m), significantly above our fundraising target of £2.43m. Once again, credit is due to the staff team for the creative ideas and constructive partnerships that have led to successful funding bids.

Our income from corporate funders doubled this year to £489k (2023: £239k) and income from NGOs also more than doubled to £465k (2023: £215k), reflecting the demand for the collaborative and convening nature of our work. Trusts and foundations have once again provided the majority of our income but that proportion has fallen to 67 per cent (2023: 80 per cent). Income from individuals rose to three per cent, thanks to two significant personal donations as well as regular income from members (2023: two per cent).

Income



Individuals 2.8%

Public bodies 0.2%

Business 15%

NGOs 15%

Trusts and foundations 67%

Sources of income from trusts and foundations continue to be diverse. We are not dependent on any one funder for more than 20 per cent of our income.

Expenditure for the year was £2.89m (2023 £2.85m), generating a surplus of £295k (2023: £118k surplus).

Reserves

Our reserves policy sets a target of 15 per cent of income to be held in free reserves which are £477k for 2023-24, to protect the organisation from unexpected financial risks and to ensure we are able to maintain operations or wind up projects, in the case of a loss of income or failure to secure funds.

We end the year with £1.35m in unrestricted reserves. We received several unexpected unrestricted donations this year which left us with a healthy general fund. We have allocated £400k into a designated ‘impact and innovation fund’, which will allow us to develop new ideas and conduct early research to increase our impact and attract future funding. We have also allocated £80k into a designated systems fund to implement the new finance and project management systems. There is also £115k in a dedicated resources fund relating to unspent unrestricted project funding carried over to 2024-25 and we retain the £150k building fund from the previous year in preparation for our move in 2025.

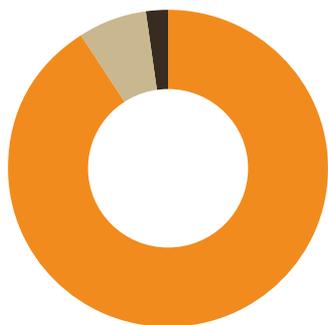
Total funds at the end 31 March 2024 (note 12 in the financial statements) were £2.04m (2023: £1.75m) comprising of £690k in restricted funds (2023: £978k) and £1.35m in unrestricted funds (2023: £758k), which includes the four designated funds above.

The free reserves of the charity, being the general unrestricted fund less the net book value of tangible fixed assets, at 31 March 2024, were £589k, which is 18 per cent of our target income for 2024-25.

Investments

At the present time, the trustees’ policy is to maintain all surplus cash balances on deposit. These are with the COIF Charities Deposit Fund which regularly monitors

Expenditure



Charitable activities 91.1%

Fundraising 6.9%

Governance 2%

environmental, social and governance risks and provides high capital security and interest.

Going concern

The board of trustees has confidence in Green Alliance's business model of closely aligning income and costs in an agile manner. Trustees have reviewed fundraising plans and analysed cash flow forecasts through to October 2025. Trustees believe that the organisation can manage any operational or financial risks and to respond in a dynamic way. On that basis, the board considers there is a strong expectation that Green Alliance will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board continues to adopt the 'going concern' basis of accounting in the preparation of these financial statements.

Fundraising disclosure

Green Alliance does not employ any third parties to undertake fundraising activity on its behalf. Fundraising is led by the senior management team with support from the staff. Most of Green Alliance's income is generated through trusts or foundations, NGOs or businesses.

We have a membership scheme for individuals, with over 300 members, who contribute to the organisation through a regular subscription. We ask for new members' consent and preferred method of contact and respect the wishes of those who choose not to be contacted. We have not undertaken any fundraising activity involving direct mail or telephoning supporters. We did not receive any complaints about our fundraising activity in the year.

In line with 2016 fundraising regulations, we have written guidance for staff concerned about the fundraising practices of Green Alliance and to ensure that they are protected from discrimination in any cases of whistleblowing.



Paul Lambert FCA
Treasurer

The Green Alliance Trust
Extract of the statement of financial activities for the year ended
31 March 2024
(incorporating the income and expenditure account)

	2024 Restricted Funds	2024 Unrestricted Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	—	496,596	496,596	384,395
Charitable Activities				
Political Leadership	1,090,595	109,291	1,199,886	849,727
Greening the Economy	185,208	—	185,208	137,596
Low Carbon Future	633,019	41,529	674,548	1,064,266
Resources	—	269,094	269,094	148,700
Natural Environment	244,128	72,189	316,317	380,811
Investments	—	41,563	41,563	7,883
Total income	2,152,950	1,030,262	3,183,212	2,973,378
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds:				
Fundraising	—	199,794	199,794	174,657
Charitable Activities				
Political Leadership	1,044,100	64,328	1,108,428	809,062
Greening the Economy	240,102	(203)	239,899	289,310
Low Carbon Future	783,923	(2,082)	781,841	1,141,819
Resources	45,707	115,134	160,841	160,821
Natural Environment	340,336	56,774	397,110	279,962
Total expenditure	2,454,168	433,745	2,887,913	2,855,631
Net income and net movement in funds	(301,218)	596,517	295,299	117,747
Transfers between funds	12,933	(12,933)	—	—
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	978,058	768,182	1,746,240	1,628,493
Total funds carried forward	689,773	1,351,766	2,041,539	1,746,240

The Green Alliance Trust
 Extract of the balance sheet at 31 March 2024
 (company number: 03037633)

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets		17,736		29,006
Current assets				
Debtors and prepayments	304,898		605,080	
Cash at bank	1,935,782		1,453,949	
	2,240,680		2,059,029	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(216,877)		(341,795)	
Net current assets		2,023,803		1,717,234
Total assets less current liabilities		2,041,539		1,746,240
Charity funds				
Restricted funds		689,773		978,058
Unrestricted funds:				
General		606,952		618,182
Designated		744,814		150,000
		2,041,539		1,746,240

The full financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 17 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Laura Sandys
 Chair



Paul Lambert FCA
 Treasurer

Thanks

We are grateful to every organisation and individual who contributed to our work in 2023-24.

For details about supporting Green Alliance as a funder, partner or member, please contact Charlotte McMenamin-Walsh cmcmenamin-walsh@green-alliance.org.uk

£1,000 - £5,000

Wildlife and Countryside Link
CPRE
E3G
Environmental Defense Fund
Foundation for Integrated Transport
Hope for the Future
Hubbub
The Nature Conservancy
PricedOut
ReLondon
The Wildlife Trusts

£5,001 - £10,000

Client Earth
Corplex
Deloitte CRM
The Eden Project
Friends of the Earth
Schneider Electric UK
University of Sussex

£10,001 - £20,000

AECOM
Age UK
BASF
Carbon Capture and Storage Association
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Environmental Services Association
Gower Street
INCPEN
IPPR
NPT Transatlantic
RSPB
Tregoning Trust
Wellcome Trust Limited
WRAP

£20,001 - £30,000

Energy Networks Association
Frederick Mulder Foundation
Kingfisher
National Grid

£30,001 - £40,000

OVO Energy
Red Panda Paw Trust

£40,001 - £50,000

Greenpeace UK
The Helvellyn Foundation
WWF

£50,001 - £75,000

Suez Recycling and Recovery UK
Zero Waste Scotland
Good Food Institute Europe
Schroder Foundation

£75,001 - £100,000

All Party Parliamentary Group on the Environment
National Trust

£100,001 - £150,000

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Lund Trust
Network for Social Change
Samworth Foundation
Uplift

£150,001 - £200,000

Partners for a New Economy via Swiss Philanthropy Foundation

£300,001 - £350,000

Montpelier Foundation

£350,001 - £400,000

Quadrature Climate Foundation

£600,000 - £650,000

European Climate Foundation

Partnerships and alliances

Business circle

Our Business Circle is a forum for companies demonstrating environmental leadership as a business priority.



Impact 2024

With this collaboration we are bringing together the UK's largest environmental organisations on a regular basis until January 2025 to develop political strategies for greater collective impact.



Circular Economy Task Force

This business consortium pioneers new approaches to resources policy. It is chaired by Colin Church, chief executive of IOM3 and convenes stakeholders from government, civil society and industry to develop and test ideas.



Warm This Winter

Warm This Winter is part of Green Alliance's broader cross sector convening work around the UK energy system and cost of living crisis. Green Alliance, Uplift and the End Fuel Poverty Coalition together form the secretariat for the campaign.



Greener UK

From 2016 to 2023 the Greener UK coalition worked to ensure environmental protections were maintained and enhanced during the Brexit process, particularly through ambitious domestic legislation, and during the negotiations with the EU and on other trade agreements. Since January 2024, aspects of this work have been taken forward by Green Alliance's Legislation and Governance Unit.



Members

Thanks to our individual members who include environmental, business and government experts active in our network, and those in other spheres who support our work.

John Adams
Jia Asfar
Syed Ahmed
Victor Anderson
Frederick Appleton
Tim Ash Vie
Anne Ashe
John Ashton
Dr Robert Atkinson
Janet Barber
Alison Barnes
Kim Barrat
Phil Barton
Clive Bates
Toby Belsom
Terence Bendixson

David Bent
Lord Berkeley
Peter Betts
Dr Stephen Bolt
Duncan Brack
Tim Branton
Tom Burke CBE
Richard Burnett-Hall
Kate Burningham
Sarah Burton
Tony Burton
Danielle Byrne
Alison Cairns
Lord Cameron of Dillington
Mark Campanale

Rachel Cary
Giles Chitty
Ian Christie
Chris Church
Eddington Clark
Roger Clarke
Rob Cooke
Tim Cordy
Martin Couchman OBE
Paul Court
Kate Davies
Hannah Dick
Philip Douglas
Julie Doyle
Stephanie Draper
Jane Durney
Jack Easton
Paul Ekins
Sara Eppel
Louise Every
Richard Eyre
Bill Eyres
Malcolm Fergusson
Tim Foxon
Justin French-Brooks
William Gillis
Matthew Gorman
Dr Tony Grayling
Prof Michael Grubb
Nigel Haigh OBE
Sally Hamwee
Dan Hamza-Goodacre
Sir Peter Harrop
Dr Paul Hatchwell

Dirk Hazell
Barbara Herridge
Joan Herrmann
Hannah Hislop
Paula Hollings
Stuart Housden
Rupert Howes
Robert Hull
Merlin Hyman
Michael Jacobs
Prof Nicholas Jenkins
Stanley Johnson
Claire Jones
Prof Andrew Jordan
Angela King
Jean Lambert MEP
Paul Lambert
Lucinda Langton
Dr Paul Leinster OBE
Simon Lyster
Ian MacArthur
Eleanor Mackay
Dr Tom Macmillan
Peter Maddox
Mark Mansley
Deborah Mattinson
Ed Mayo
Robert McCracken KC
Duncan McLaren
Paul Meins
Charles Millar
Catherine Mitchell
Peter Mitchell
Prof John Murlis

Dr Elizabeth Ness
Dinah Nichols
Adam Ognall
Tom Oliver
Prof Timothy O’Riordan
Derek Osborn CBE
Sara Parkin
Dr Doug Parr
Anthony Paterson
Nick Perks
Craig Peters
Adrian Phillips CBE
Ben Plowden
Anita Pollack
John Pontin
Dr Andrew Purkis OBE
Denis Pym
Dr Kate Rawles
Dame Fiona Reynolds DBE
David Richards
Sue Riddlestone
Michael Roberts
Nick Robins
Neil Rotheroe
Phil Rothwell
Prof Stephen Salter
Prof Philippe Sands
Jenny Saunders
Nicholas Schoon
Paul Scott
Juhi Shareef
Yasmin Shariff
Ben Shaw
Dr William Sheate
Richard Shennan
Gareth Simkins
Jonathan Sinclair-Watson

Neil Sinden
Rita Singh
James Skinner
Stephen Somerville
Naomi Southwell
Shaun Spiers
Martin Spray
Adrian Spurrell
Ben Stafford
Ralph Steadman
Clym Tomas Stephenson
John Stewart
Andrew Stirling
Neil Stockley
Martin Stott
Daisy Streatfeild
David Symons
Joss Tantram FRSA
Dr Richard Tapper
Clare Taylor
Derek Taylor
William Thicknes
Gillian Thomas
Guy Thompson
Dr Bruce Tofield
Jasmine Tooke
Mike Tregent
Richard Usher
Jane Vaus
Andrew Warren
Dr Steve Waygood
Anne Weir
Alan Wheeler
Dr Rowan Whimster
Sheena Will
Prof James Wilsdon
Nicholas Wilson
Sir Graham Wynne CBE

Baroness Young of Old Scone
Dimitri Zenghelis

Donor members

Rosemary Boot
Anthony Bourne
John Cooper
Ian Hawking
Hywel Lloyd
Jiggy Lloyd
Hien Luong
Dorothy MacKenzie
Peter Madden
Graham Meeks
Prof Nick Pidgeon
Sir Jonathon Porritt CBE
Julian Rose
Philip Sellwood
Stephen Shindler
Samantha Simic
Prof Jim Skea
Jane Thornback
Paul Vanston
Prashant Vaze
Dr Emma Woolliams

Life members

David Andrew
Kate Ashbrook
Alison Austin OBE
The Rt Hon the Lord Barker of Battle
Richard Barnes
Dr Robert Barrington
Katherine and Ben Bell
Dr Robin Bidwell CBE

Bernie Bulkin
James Cameron
Rodney Chase CBE
Ian Christie
Greg Conary
Andrea Cook OBE
Heather Currey
Cathy Debenham
Dr Nick Eyre
Zac Goldsmith
Matt Gosden
David Green OBE
Emma Howard Boyd
Aleksander Hughes
Paul Jefferiss
Claire Jones
Baroness Brown of Cambridge DBE
Colin Le Duc
Thomas Lingard
Patrick Mahon
Michael Massey
John Midgley
Alice Page
MT Rainey
Matthew Rhodes
Chris Rose
Laura Sandys
Penny Shepherd
Lord Thomas Of Gresford
Dr Tom Tibbits
John Webb
Philip Wolfe MBE

Green Alliance

Staff team

(at 31 March 2024)

Senior management team

Shaun Spiers
Executive director

Jenny Baker
Operations director

Dustin Benton
Policy director

Roz Bulleid
Research director

Blanche Shackleton
Strategy and partnerships director

Chris Venables
Deputy director of politics and partnerships

Policy and politics team

Ruth Chambers
Senior fellow

Sarah Williams
Head of strategic partnerships

Libby Peake
Head of resource policy

Helena Bennett
Head of climate policy

Steve Coulter
Head of economy

Holly Brazier Tope
Head of politics

James Elliott
Senior policy adviser

Stuart Dossett
Senior policy adviser

Heather Plumpton
Senior policy analyst

Lydia Collas
Senior policy analyst

Liam Hardy
Senior policy analyst

Florence Boyd
Senior political adviser

Sophie O'Connell
Policy adviser

Sophia Greacen
Policy adviser

Jasmine Dhaliwal
Policy adviser

Faustine Wheeler
Policy adviser

William Carr
Policy analyst

Lucy Pegg
Political adviser

Annabel Rice
Political adviser

Johann Beckford
Policy adviser

Rosie Allen
Policy adviser

Emily Carr
Policy and programme assistant

Nadia Sabania
Policy and programme assistant

Communications team

Karen Crane
Head of communications

Tom Jeffery
Senior press officer

Siri McDonnell
Events and engagement manager

Chris Clark
Communications assistant

Operations team

Kim Rennie
Head of finance

Marta Silva
Finance manager

Laura Godfrey
Finance officer

Claire Somerville
Programme and operations manager

Fabiana Ottini
Office manager and PA to the executive director

Leslene Powell
HR and administration officer

Charlotte MacMenamin-Walsh
Partnerships officer

Board

Laura Sandys
Chair

Paul Lambert FCA
Hon Treasurer

Alison Austin OBE

David Baldock

Craig Bennett

Rosemary Boot
(to December 2023)

Rita Clifton CBE

Benet Northcote

Jane Reeves

Dame Fiona Reynolds
DBE

Anusha Shah

Dhara Vyas

Company registered number

03037633

Charity registered number

1045395

Registered Office

Green Alliance, 18th Floor, Millbank
Tower, 21-24 Millbank, London, SW1P 4QP

Secretary

Jenny Baker, operations director

Auditors

Buzzacott LLP, 130 Wood Street,
London, EC2V 6DL

Bankers

Unity Trust Bank plc, Nine Brindley Place,
Birmingham, B1 2HB

Solicitors

Bates Wells, 10 Queen Street Place,
London, EC4R 1BE

The charity and company The Green
Alliance Trust operates under the working
name Green Alliance.

Green Alliance 1979-2024

Here are just a few highlights of our achievements in influencing environmental politics and policy over the past 45 years

1980s

1980

Our *Parliamentary Newsletter* is the only easy source of information on parliamentary environment activity.

1985

We organise the first meeting between environmental NGOs and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and influence the first ever environmental policy statements by the three main political parties.

1987

Our NGO coalition campaign leads to stronger pesticide regulations.

1988

We start the NGO lobby which results in the formation of the Environment Agency in 1995.

1989

Our symbolic conference in Budapest and Vienna, for over 100 environmental NGOs from east and west Europe, agrees a joint statement for the 1990 UN summit on sustainable development.

We host the first global meeting on ozone depletion for international environment groups.

1990s

1990

Our successful campaigning with NGOs leads to the first government white paper on the environment.

Director, Julie Hill, is the first environmentalist to serve on a government committee.

1991

We host Environment Secretary Michael Heseltine's 'green renaissance' for industry speech.

1992

The government ratifies the Biodiversity Convention at a Green Alliance conference.

1995

We host Labour leader Tony Blair's first environment speech.

1997

We launch the Green Globe Task Force with the Foreign Office.

1999

We promote support for large scale renewables projects leading to the Renewables Obligation.

2000s

2000

We host the first environment speech by new Prime Minister Tony Blair.

2001

We host an environment speech by Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy.

Our recommendation for a low carbon unit in government leads to the formation of The Carbon Trust.

2003

Our NGO lobby influences new sustainable development commitments in the EU constitution.

2004

Mainstream media cover our report on children's growing disconnection from nature.

We host speeches by the Environment Secretary Margaret Beckett and the Conservative leader Michael Howard.

2006

We host the first environment speech by new Conservative leader David Cameron.

2007

We host new Prime Minister Gordon Brown's first environment speech.

Our *Manifesto for sustainable heat* influences a new government Renewable Heat Incentive.

2008

We host the first environment speeches of the new Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg and the Shadow Chancellor George Osborne.

2009

We win Think Tank of the Year at the PAN Awards.

We host the first environment speech by the Foreign Secretary William Hague.

2010s

2011

Our NGO lobby persuades the government to commit to ambitious carbon targets into the 2030s.

2012

We launch our Circular Economy Task Force.

2013

We influence electricity market reform proposals to promote energy efficiency.

We host speeches by the EU Environment Commissioner Connie Hedegaard and the Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg.

2015

We co-ordinate a climate pledge by all three main party leaders, leading to the historic UK commitment to phase out unabated coal power. We win best environmental campaign 2016 in the Green Ribbon Political Awards for securing the pledge.

Our report *The future savings challenge* wins the Farsight Award.

We host former US Vice President Al Gore's major speech in the UK ahead of the Paris climate conference, influencing the UK to take a leading role at the summit.

A campaign by our Greener Britain NGO coalition leads to new environmental commitments in the general election manifestos.

Our recommendations result in a new strategy for offshore wind support into the 2020s with commitment to build 10GW of new capacity.

2016

A hundred organisations from the north of England sign our Clean Energy Declaration.

Our Greener London NGO manifesto influences new London Mayor Sadiq Khan to pledge action on air pollution.

We founded the Greener UK NGO coalition, to protect and enhance UK environmental law post-Brexit.

2017

Our blog 'Inside Track' receives highly commended in the UK Blog Awards.

We host speeches by new Environment Secretary Michael Gove and the Climate Minister Clare Perry.

Our work highlighting the impact of marine plastics influences new government policies to curb plastic pollution.

2018

Greener UK influences the government to introduce the first Environment Bill for 20 years, leading to the 2021 Environment Act, and create a new environment watchdog, to become the Office for Environmental Protection.

Our Natural Infrastructure Scheme idea to enhance private funding for nature features in the government's 25 year environment plan.

The first resources and waste strategy for 11 years includes our proposals, including embedding the 'polluter pays' principle.

2019

We host speeches by the Environment Secretary Michael Gove and Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, at our 'Countdown to COP' conference ahead of the Glasgow COP26 climate summit.

Greener UK's Time is Now lobby brings 12,000 people from all over the country to Westminster to lobby their local MPs in person for more action on climate and nature.

Greener UK receives highly commended in the 2019 Charity Awards.

We gain huge media coverage of our work highlighting the UK's plastic problem.

2020s

2020

We took over the secretariat of the Environment APPG, increasing its influence, expanding its programme of work and its membership of MPs and organisations.

Our work gained government commitment to 2030 fossil fuel vehicle phase out, delayed by the government to 2035 in 2023.

Our work over years to increase private funding for nature results in new provisions in the government's Environmental Land Management scheme.

2021

Work in partnership with other organisations persuades the government to commit to decarbonise the UK's power sector by 2035 and promise a zero emission vehicle (ZEV) mandate to increase the production and sale of EVs (launched in 2024).

2022

The Environmental Funders Network ranks Green Alliance one of the ten most effective environmental groups in the UK.

Our work influences the government to announce a sub-mandate speeding up the development of sustainable aviation fuel.

We co-found and provide political advice to the Warm This Winter fuel poverty campaign.

We win the Prospect Think Tank of the Year Award for our work on Greener UK.

Head of resource policy Libby Peake and senior fellow Ruth Chambers both feature on the ENDS Report's Power List.

23-24

We host a speech by Ed Miliband, shadow energy secretary.

Our *Net zero policy tracker*, running since 2020, once again makes news by highlighting major gaps in government climate action.

We steer a concerted campaign through the Greener UK coalition to prevent many important environmental protections being scrapped under the Retained EU Law Bill.

Our work with health organisations leads to the government commitment to ban single use vapes.

We press for Energy Security Bill amendments and prevent a hydrogen levy being added to consumer bills.

Our campaigning with other organisations leads to UK withdrawal from the Energy Charter Treaty, used to defend fossil fuel interests.

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