



**Website** - [UKSSN Operations Group](#)

**LinkedIn** - [\(3\) UK Schools Sustainability Network Operations Group | Groups | LinkedIn](#)

*'In a review article, published in Nature Reviews Earth & Environment, my coauthors and I find...that the number of hot temperature records observed around the world since 1950 far exceed what would be expected in a million years in a world without human-caused climate change.'*

*~ Prof Erich Fischer, professor at the Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science, ETH Zurich*

Stories to spark conversation, fresh ideas, signposts to support services, a wealth of CPD and events, and 🏠🏠🏠...grab yourself a ☕ and enjoy ❤️. For your Climate Action Plan this week:

- **UKSSN Network Meeting** - CPD for Climate Action
- **Energy** - planning for 2025/26
- **Procurement** - Catering
- **Procurement** - Innovate UK Net Zero Supplier Directory
- **Finance** - Water Management
- **Finance** - Banking
- **Climate Action Plans** - new online services
- **Health & Safety** - heat, health, and sleep
- **Climate Majority Project** - Climate Courage
- **Climate Action Countdown** - still time to sign up

## **Stories to share this week**

**The science is clear:** everything we do matters. What we most need are people who, upon recognizing the seriousness of the climate crisis, are motivated to act—not give up. And the good news is, there's a lot more of us than you would think!

🗣️ A YouGov poll of UK MPs has confirmed that 84% support the UK's long-term net-zero emissions target, despite some of their leaders saying they would scrap it.

🗣️ In a [survey covering the UK, China, Sweden and Brazil](#), a majority of people agreed that we need to drastically change the way we live and how society works, to address climate change. Another study involving [more than 130,000 people across 125 countries](#) found that 69% said they would donate 1% of their income to climate action.

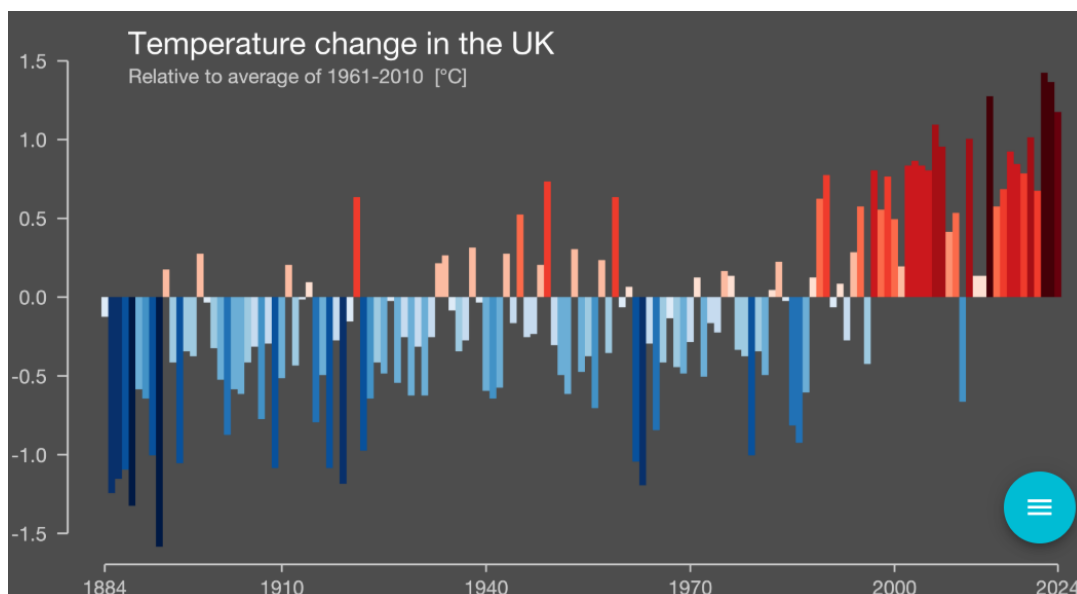
👑 The King has recognised dozens of leaders across the UK's green economy in his 2025 Birthday Honours List - [King's Birthday Honours 2025: Climate scientists, nature advocates and eco-entrepreneurs awarded - edie](#). A special shout-out from us to **Professor Andrew Charlton-Perez, University of Reading, and Climate Ambassador Scheme**. Andrew is the driving force behind the DfE Climate Ambassador programme and was recognised for services to climate science and education.

## #ShowYourStripes on 21st June

### #ShowYourStripes

21st June is 'ShowYourStripes' day, an annual event to encourage people to open a conversation about climate risks and solutions. These 'warming stripe' graphics are visual representations of the change in temperature as measured in each country, region, or city over the past 100+ years. Each stripe or bar stands for the temperature in that country, region or city averaged over a year. The stripes typically start around the year 1900 and finish in 2024, but for many countries, regions and cities the stripes start in the 19th century or sometimes even the 18th century.

Find your local stripes and get involved in the conversation 🌱.

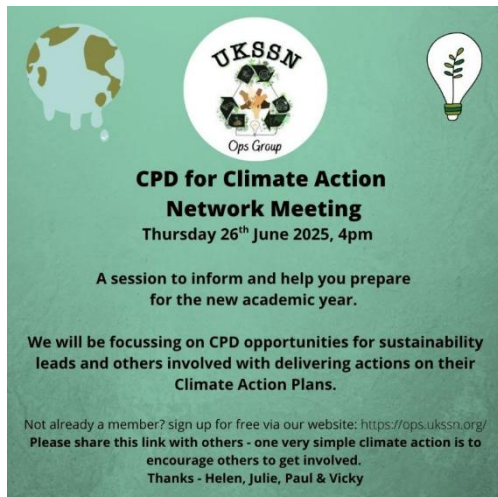


## Ideas for Climate Action this week

### **UKSSN Network Meeting - CPD for Climate Action**

#### UKSSN Operations Group

We have our final UKSSN meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> June (Teams) where we will be focussing on CPD for climate action, including Carbon Literacy, Water Literacy, Climate Fresk and the ISBL Sustainability Standards for School Business Leaders.



We are also keen to hear from colleagues who have undertaken other climate and sustainability training, the impact it had and how it fits within your Climate Action Plan.

### **Energy - Planning for 2025/26**

#### Energy Sparks

According to Energy Sparks, last year their average primary school spent £1,400 on energy during the summer holidays and the average secondary school spent over £10,000. Plan ahead and create a holiday switch off - [Energy Sparks](#)

If you are interested in utilising Energy Sparks as part of your 2025/26 Climate Action Plan, why not book a training session this term and plan how to get the most out of their platform and resources - [Training | Energy Sparks](#).

### **Procurement - Catering**

#### 'On a knife edge' – hot dry spring threatens arable harvest | The Independent

New analysis shows UK arable farmers could be facing another terrible harvest after one of driest Springs on record. This year follow on from 2024 when the UK experienced the sixth wettest spring on record.

'The Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU) think tank warns climate change is already having a “devastating” impact on farmers, food security and shopping bills, and the recent extremes will have a negative impact on the harvest.'

At the same time, 30% of food produced globally is wasted and going straight in the bin. Food waste is an issue *throughout* the supply chain and something we *all* have the power to affect. Plus around 20–35% of human-generated greenhouse gases come from food, agriculture, and related land use.

What can we do?

### 1. **Contract management**

- Get ahead of the problem. If you need support speaking to your suppliers seek out trusted partners - [Value Match | Purpose led procurement solutions delivered with integrity](#)

### 2. **Food waste strategies**

- [Reducing food waste saves you money and helps the planet](#),
- [New food waste legislation coming in 2025 | allmanhall](#)
- Seek out trusted partners - [Olio - Your Local Sharing App](#) and [Home - ProVeg UK](#)

### 3. Utilise the **DfE Sustainability Support hub** for advice

- [Search Sustainability Support for Education](#)

Want to **learn about the latest research** on agriculture and climate change, including what we know and how we know it? Check out this recent webinar from the Food and Farming Journalism Network - [Uncovering Agriculture's Climate Impact | A Food Systems Forensics Webinar - YouTube](#)

### **Procurement - Innovate UK Net Zero Supplier Directory** [Supplier Network Application Form](#)

Earlier this week 'Innovate UK Business Connect Net Zero Supplier Directory' was launched – an online directory connecting businesses delivering net zero solutions with public sector organisations across the UK. The portal has been designed to help raise net zero business visibility to public sector buyers who are actively seeking suppliers to support their climate and sustainability goals. It is the intention that public sector users will be able to explore the directory by region and sector and request direct introductions to listed businesses through Innovate UK Business Connect. By joining the directory, a business will be better positioned to access public sector procurement opportunities, connect with potential collaborators, and receive tailored support to strengthen their offer to the public sector.

Innovate UK is currently in the process of **recruiting businesses to the directory**. At this stage they/we would be hugely grateful if you would be able to share this information and the link above with any SMEs that you are working with who provide products or services across the Net Zero sector.

### 💧 Finance - Water Management 💧

#### [Action for Climate-Water Webinar Tickets, Tue, Jul 8, 2025 at 4:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Wholesale water prices are expected to increase by 42%, on average, over the next five years. It is likely these increases will be front loaded over years one and two (2025/26, 2026/27), tailing off towards 2030. The only way to affect such wholesale charges is to use less water through better usage management, efficiency measures and leakage detection. Therefore, to mitigate the emerging wholesale prices increases, settings will need to act now to reduce their water consumption. Join Sustainability Support for Education and the Climate Ambassadors in an interactive webinar to help you:

- Understand the new cost increases
- See how your setting's water use compares to other settings
- Identify SIMPLE actions you can take to (i) reduce water consumption, (ii) save money, (iii) encourage your students water stewardship, and add these actions to your Climate Action Plan
- Hear real case studies of steps other settings have taken that have reduced their water consumption and saved money!

#### **Plus -**

Don't forget to enrol on an accredited Water Literacy programme while the course is free - [Water Literacy | Train to Become Water Literate](#). Water Literacy is an informative, accessible and action-orientated course. Through a single day of learning, participants are empowered to embed change at their organisations, at home, and in their communities.



### 💰 Finance - Banking 💰

#### [Home | MotherTree](#)

Since 2016 -

- Barclays has poured \$235 billion into fossil fuels.
- HSBC has followed closely behind: \$192 billion.

Following its February 2025 annual results, HSBC said it would need to rely more on carbon offsetting than anticipated and delayed its net-zero emissions targets for operations, travel and supply chains to 2050. HSBC is also reviewing its targets for reducing financed emissions

and removed its chief sustainability officers from the executive board as part of a wider reshuffle.

Climate U-turns at banks led to increased fossil fuel financing in 2024 - [Report: Big banks' climate U-turns led to increased fossil fuel financing in 2024 - edie](#)

In total, the world's 60 biggest banks have invested 50x more into fossil fuel expansion than the fossil fuel companies themselves. All while we were trying to do our recycling, reduce meat, cycle more...

👉 Where your money goes today, creates the society we get tomorrow.

Last year we worked with MotherTree to better understand the climate impact of our money and options for investment that support both our education and our sustainability priorities, a conversation that is going to our Trustees next week.

### Bank League Table

We rank the major banks based on how much £10,000 in a current account contributes in carbon emissions.

#	Bank	tCO2 per £10k in account
1	Barclays	2.376
2	HSBC	2.170
2=	First Direct	2.170
4	Chase	1.897
5	Santander	1.742

All of the choices we make affect our carbon footprint and environmental impact. Banking is an important area, make sure it is included in your Climate Action Plan for 2025/26.

### 📄 Climate Action Plan: New Online Services 📄

#### 🌐 Blue Marble: [Climate Action Plan](#)

The DfE are not prescribing a particular climate action plan tool. If you need one and/or are seeking to move away from a simple document, then this one from Blue Marble might prove helpful.

*'This tool helps nurseries, schools and colleges to build tailored Climate Action Plans that align with the Department for Education's (DfE) 2025 Climate Action Plan target. Designed for busy leaders*

and staff, it guides you through each step of the process, aligning with the [Let's Go Zero](#) and [Sustainability Support for Education](#) Programmes to help you plan and prioritise your actions.'

### **Giki: [Launching Giki Actions](#) | [Giki Actions](#)**

'Giki Actions helps you cut through the complexity with our database of over 600 proven actions and expert guidance, so you can build a customised plan in minutes, not months. It's at the heart of our mission - taking complex sustainability challenges and making them manageable with the right information and tools.'

### **Health & Safety - Heat, health and sleep**

#### [Global warming may increase the burden of obstructive sleep apnea](#) | [Nature Communications](#)


Earlier this week I had a request for the installation of additional air-conditioning because a poorly designed room was too hot to work in and suffered from poor air circulation.

New research from Nature Communication suggests global temperature rise of more than 1.8C above pre-industrial levels could triple the burden of obstructive sleep apnea, a condition characterised by disturbed breathing during sleep and loud snoring. 'Globally, higher temperatures were associated with a 45% higher probability of having obstructive sleep apnea on a given night.'

BRAIN EFFECTS

Sleep Deprivation Leads to Greater Risk For:

- Depression
- Irritability
- Anxiety
- Forgetfulness
- Fuzzy Thinking



Increased levels of heat affect our health and wellbeing at work and at home, and the wellbeing of children and young people in our care. The impact will likely be greater on those least able to adapt (e.g. areas of high deprivation). Have you recently reviewed your safeguarding policy, risk assessments and wellbeing plans? A few resources that might help:

Sleep toolkit - [Sleep and Recovery Toolkit For Employers](#)

Find out more here - [Temperature in the workplace: Is it too cold or hot to work? - HSE](#)

Guidance for schools - [Hot weather and heatwaves: guidance for schools and other education settings – The Education Hub](#)

## **Climate Majority Project: Climate Courage Schools**

### [Select tickets – Climate Courage Schools: launch – Zoom](#)

Education needs to take the emotional impact of climate change seriously. But this is a hard message to get through when Climate Change Education is in its infancy and the increase in young people struggling with their mental health. The Climate Courage Schools is a campaign to ensure all young people gain the practical, emotional, and cognitive skills needed to “adapt and thrive in the world and workplace of the future”, as pledged by the Department for Education. The launch event (link above) is Wed 25 Jun 2025, 4.30-6pm.

1. **Leadership:** Put climate understanding, emotional insight, nature connection and whole-school action in every head-teacher’s brief.
2. **Culture:** Train all teaching staff to navigate climate distress and foster connection.
3. **Action:** Give schools protected time to co-create real-world adaptation projects with students.
4. **Curriculum:** Prioritise and incentivise emotionally-aware climate learning in every subject

## **Climate Action Countdown: Let’s Go Zero**

### [Join the Climate Action Countdown! – Let’s Go Zero](#)

Join thousands of schools across the UK between Monday 23 – Friday 27 June 2025 for a week of climate action, creativity and community. This free, exciting initiative is packed with curriculum-friendly activities that help build pupils’ passion for a zero-carbon future. Sign up to get instant access to your FREE resource pack – with ready-to-use activities for primary and secondary schools.

What’s included in your FREE resource pack?

- A step-by-step teacher’s guide to running a climate assembly
- A pick-and-mix menu of fun, impactful climate actions
- Tailored resources for primary and secondary settings
- Printable posters, manifestos and PowerPoints
- Inspiration to involve your whole school community – from pupils to parents and PTAs

**Join the Climate Action Countdown!**

**Plus -**

### **Building a Culture for Sustainability in your School**

Let’s Go Zero are running an online webinar on 27<sup>th</sup> June at 15.45 - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)



*'In this webinar we will focus on how you can build a culture for sustainability in your school. We will hear from Francis Hyland, **National Coordinator, Eco-Schools**, who will tell you about all the free resources they have available for school staff and students on getting started for sustainability in your school. Alongside other brilliant ideas and actions you can do to progress on your sustainability journey and even achieve your green flag award!*

*We will then hear from two school representatives from **St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust and Hollinswood Primary School** about what they have been doing in their respective schools, from setting up Eco clubs for the first time, to getting staff on board.'*

## **Support Services: Where to turn for help**

### **Sustainability Support Hub - [Action for Climate by Sustainability Support for Education](#)**

Sustainability Support for Education are holding more Action for Climate webinars throughout June and July.

- Identify key actions for your plan
- Engage the right colleagues
- Access expert resources for successful implementation

### **National Education Nature Park - [Home | Education Nature Park](#)**

Join the National Education Nature Park and explore the habitats in your school, nursery, or college site. Whether you are new to the programme or already involved, exploring local habitats is a fantastic way for students to connect with nature, develop essential skills and dive into scientific research. Register today and kickstart your adventure with our [Habitat Heroes activity](#). Already involved? [Time to map your site!](#) Create a baseline for improving your outdoor spaces and track the difference you're making for both people and wildlife.

### **Let's Go Zero - [Climate Action Advisors - Lets Go Zero](#)**

One simple step we can all take is to sign up and engage your local (& free!) LGZ Climate Advisor. Let's Go Zero are also offering Carbon Literacy courses, a key part of your CPD plan for climate action -

- **Carbon Literacy - [Free Carbon Literacy training from Let's Go Zero](#)**

**Change Agents UK** also runs regular Carbon Literacy courses, a crucial step in everyone's Climate Action Plan - [Change Agents UK Events - 7 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

### **Climate Ambassadors - [Contact us & get involved | Climate Ambassadors](#)**

Stephen Morgan MP said: "The Climate Ambassadors programme is a vital part of our strategy to empower schools and educators in tackling the climate crisis, and I'm proud to be joining over 1,000 volunteers to support schools in developing and delivering their climate action plans."

### **Count Your Carbon - [Home - Count Your Carbon](#)**

Count Your Carbon is the nation's first free, full-scope carbon emissions calculator, built for – and in collaboration with – nurseries, schools and colleges. It supports educational settings to calculate, understand, reduce and track your carbon emissions.

## **PLUS:**

### **Waterwise – [Water Literacy | Accredited Learning Experience](#)**

With growing pressure on water supplies, learn more about why water management is a critical part of an effective Climate Action Plan:

### **Blue Marble (New) - [Sustainable schools & trusts - start today with a Climate Action Plan - Blue Marble](#)**

Blue Marble recently released a new Climate Action Plan tool for schools. According to their website the CAP tool is free for schools, designed to quickly and easily create a plan that unlocks meaningful action.

### **Greener Schools Index - [Greener Schools Index](#)**

The GSI is a free tool self-assessment tool designed to support all schools, however big or small, and at whatever stage they are on their net zero journey. The second phase of GSI is now open and will help you assess your current level of climate action and identify areas for further development. Give it a try...it is free and a particularly useful planning tool.

### **Carbon Literacy Project [Carbon Literacy Action Day - The Carbon Literacy Project](#)**

The Carbon Literacy project has developed a new Toolkit Course for School Staff to support governors, leadership, teachers, and volunteers to develop their understanding and confidence around climate education, action, and leadership. This can be passed on, building up that learning in their school community; creating a movement of action which is relevant, helpful and practical, and that will show huge benefits for themselves, their school community and of course, the planet.

Plan ahead for Carbon Literacy Action Day – on the 13th November 2025. Coinciding with the UN COP30 Climate Change Conference, the annual International Action Day is the biggest climate education-and-action training event of its kind and offers the perfect opportunity to jumpstart your Carbon Literacy training programme and demonstrate your school's climate leadership. Find out more and register your interest.

## CPD and Events

There is still a multitude of CPD, training and networking opportunities between now and the summer break to support climate and biodiversity action in education. Below are just some of the highlights to look forward to over the summer term:

- North Hampshire Climate Action Planning in Education Workshop- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 9:30am – 12pm, The Hurst School, Baughurst, Tadley, RG26 5NL- Registration form: [Hampshire's Climate Action Planning in Education Workshop](#)
- South Hampshire Climate Action Planning in Education Workshop- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 9:30am – 12pm Park Community School, Havant, PO9 4BU- Registration form: [Hampshire's Climate Action Planning in Education Workshop](#)
- [London Schools Eco-Network](#) 2025, Highgate School (25th June 2025)
- Zenergi Energy Management workshop (ISBL accredited), Leeds  
- <https://zenergi.co.uk/news/sustainability-lead-training-an-introduction-to-energy-and-carbon-management/> (25th June 2025) - email [Helen.burge@buoyantimpact.co.uk](mailto:Helen.burge@buoyantimpact.co.uk) for free tickets 😊
- North-West [Sustainability Learning Conference](#) (26<sup>th</sup> June 2025)
- Reimagine Places & Spaces, GovNews, London & Online - [Reimagine Places & Spaces: The Future of Modern Workplace](#) (3rd July 2025)
- [Northern Sustainability Summit](#), Manchester, (10<sup>th</sup> July 2025), all sectors

If you are planning an event let us know and we will share with colleagues in the network.

### Plus...

Don't forget there are other useful (& sometimes free) training opportunities to help progress your Climate Action Plan, including:

- [Home - Supply Chain Sustainability School](#)
- [Free Online Environmental Sustainability Training Course with Certificate](#)
- [IEMA - Training](#)
- [8-week, cohort-based programmes | Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership \(CISL\)](#)

If you are aware of other high-quality courses, please let us know and we will add to our growing list 🙌

## 🏠 And finally...Citizen Science 🏠

### City Nature Challenge

Citizen science apps like eBird, iNaturalist, Zooniverse, and Merlin are growing in popularity. These apps are designed to help you identify the species that you see. Their goal is to encourage people to get involved with nature conservation and allow everyone to contribute to scientific observations of the world's flora and fauna. Not only do these apps allow people to engage with nature, learn about their environment and connect with others, they also open up a way for people to contribute to science, even if they don't have a scientific background.



Next time you go for a walk and you see a mushroom you've never seen before, or hear an interesting birdcall, consider utilizing one of these apps to expand your knowledge. Who knows what your observations might lead to.

Have a great weekend ❤️ ❤️ ❤️

## Other recommended sources of advice and support

1. DfE sustainability hub: [Sustainability Support for Education](#) (with updated features for 2025 and updates in [LinkedIn](#))
2. UKSSN: [UKSSN Operations Group](#)
3. Education Nature Park: [Home | Education Nature Park](#)
4. Climate Ambassadors: [Climate Ambassadors: Turning Climate Ambition into Climate Action in Education | Climate Ambassadors](#)
5. Let's Go Zero: [UK Climate Change • Let's Go Zero](#)
6. EAUC: [The Platform - Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges, EAUC - United Kingdom](#)
7. FED: [FED | Climate Change](#)
8. Good Estate Management for Schools - [Good estate management for schools - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)
9. Sustainable Drainage (SUDS) - [Susdrain - The community for sustainable drainage](#)
10. The Trust Network (TTN) - [The Trust Network supporting good school estates & facilities management](#)
11. Salix - [Project delivery: support and guidance](#)
12. Count Your Carbon (Eco Schools) - [Home - Count Your Carbon](#)

## Other useful references

### **HM Government Net Zero Strategy (October 2021, page 29)**

'Government is leading the way – embedding climate into our policy and spending decisions, increasing the transparency of our progress on climate goals, and providing funding to drive ambitious emissions reductions in schools and hospitals.'

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6194dfa4d3bf7f0555071b1b/net-zero-strategy-beis.pdf>

### **Department for Education Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy (April 2022)**

[Sustainability and climate change strategy - GOV.UK](#)

### **Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR)**

[Environmental reporting guidelines: including Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting requirements - GOV.UK](#)