

TOP TIPS

WHAT YOU NEED TO HAVE A CLIMATE HEART-TO-HEART WITH YOUR MP

BEFORE YOUR EVENT

INVITE YOUR MP

Find out who your MP is and invite them along. You can find their details by calling the House of Commons enquiry line on **020 7219 4272** or visiting [theyworkforyou.com](https://www.theyworkforyou.com).

SET A DATE

When setting a date for your event, consider when your MP will be able to attend—most MPs are in Westminster during the week so hosting your event on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday is likely to work best. Invite them using our template letter, available to download at speakupweek.org.uk, or call your MP's office and ask for a slot at their surgery ('surgeries' are regular sessions for them to meet constituents). Remember, MPs are busy people so don't wait until the last minute to invite them!

WHAT IF YOUR MP CAN'T MAKE IT?

Host your event anyway and use it as an opportunity to chat about what you want to protect from climate change and how you might get your MP on board. Snap lots of photos and send them to your MP afterwards with a letter to show them just how many of their constituents support them tackling climate change.

BEFORE MEETING YOUR MP

MAKE A PLAN

You don't need to be an expert on climate change to meet your MP, but a well thought out approach can make all the difference in turning your MP into a champion for climate issues. You and your MP may not see eye to eye on everything, but it's better to focus on finding common ground rather than starting with the areas you disagree on. Why not find out if they're interested in any particular climate-related problems or solutions, or find out if anything they're interested in is being affected by climate change. To help guide your discussion and learn about what we're calling for, download our briefing paper at speakupweek.org.uk available from late April. This will also be sent to you if you register your event.

AT YOUR EVENT

FIND COMMON GROUND

Your event is a unique moment to find common ground with your MP and create new opportunities to learn from each other. Remember, they are not all that different from the rest of us—they are our neighbours, who also want their families and children to thrive in a fairer, more secure world.

Talk about why action on climate change is important to you and how it is affecting your constituency. Bring them a copy of the briefing and ask them to support stronger climate ambition for the UK. You will find the briefing at speakupweek.org.uk from late April.

FOLLOWING UP

SEND A LETTER

If your MP attended the event, follow up with a thank you letter or email thanking them for attending and remind them of any commitments they made. If they were unable to attend, send them a letter or email filled with photos and signatures from people at your event to let them know just how much their constituents care about and support them taking action on climate change.

Please let us know how it went! Email us at campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org

WHAT IF...

YOUR MP TRIES TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT

Acknowledge what they're saying, but politely explain you are aware of the short amount of time you have with them so would like to focus on increasing the UK's climate change ambition.



WHAT IF...

YOUR MP AVOIDS MAKING DIRECT COMMITMENTS

Make sure you offer your MP something concrete to do - we will have a specific suggestion for how your MP can support a call for greater ambition before the Speak Up Week. If they don't initially commit, ask a follow up question, thank them for listening and ask again if they can be supportive of increased UK climate ambition. End the meeting by confirming next steps (whether or not they agreed to what you asked).



WHAT IF...

YOUR MP DOESN'T AGREE WITH YOU

That's OK, just focus on the areas that you do agree on. The main thing is to understand your MP's views and build a relationship with them to keep the conversation going after this meeting. This is where research into your MP's interests before the meeting will be helpful. They might not be a champion on climate issues, but may have spoken out about air pollution or energy efficient homes. Some consequences of tackling climate change, like job creation in sustainable energy or food security for millions of people, may be a way to approach the subject.

