

# THE TIME IS NOW

LOBBY GUIDE



## A MASS LOBBY FOR OUR CLIMATE, NATURE, AND PEOPLE.



JOIN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN  
WESTMINSTER TO TELL MPS THE TIME IS NOW  
FOR ACTION.

WEDNESDAY 26TH JUNE, 1PM  
WESTMINSTER, LONDON

# THE TIME IS NOW TO FIGHT FOR OUR CLIMATE, NATURE, AND PEOPLE.



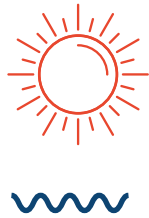
On 26th June thousands of us will gather at Westminster, central London, to call on our politicians to set the foundations for a brighter, greener and safer world. People across the globe are suffering from the effects of climate change and our wildlife populations are being wiped out. **The time is now** for MPs to end the UK's contribution to climate change and pass ambitious laws that create a healthier environment for nature and people. We simply don't have time to waste.

## WHY NOW?



Life as we know it is at stake. The earth's alarm clock is ringing. Climate change is the single biggest threat to our planet. Our oceans are choking in plastic, we are breathing in dirty air and nature is struggling to survive. We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect and restore the earth we love. Together we will call for stronger laws to protect our climate, nature and people.

## THIS SUMMER WILL SEE THE GOVERNMENT:



Decide whether to commit to end the UK's contribution to climate change by setting a net zero emissions target.



Propose ambitious new laws which would clean up our air, slash plastic pollution and restore wildlife to our countryside.

**“WE ARE THE FIRST GENERATION TO KNOW WE ARE DESTROYING THE WORLD, AND THE LAST THAT CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. MPS NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT URGENCY AND ACT NOW TO RESTORE NATURE AND STOP CLIMATE DISASTER.” —FANNY CALDER, WWF**

## WHY MEET MPS?

Members of Parliament are there to represent us — that's their job — so we need to tell them what we want. Not many people contact their MP; only a handful write letters or go and meet their MP in person. So imagine the impact that thousands of us turning up to talk to our MPs will have!

At a time when political parties are becoming increasingly divided, we need to ensure the government doesn't lose momentum on tackling climate change and the big issues affecting our environment. Let's show that regardless of political differences we want them to act now.

***“10 years ago, the UK was leading the way on combatting climate change. But recent reports show we need to make more drastic changes, now.” —Daniel Hale, CAFOD***

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ON JUNE 26TH



### ARRIVAL

If you are arriving by Tube there will be volunteers on hand to direct you to the lobby.

The lobby line is from the Houses of Parliament down to Lambeth Bridge and back along the other side of the river Thames. There will be signposts for regions and constituencies — see the map opposite for details.

### 1PM: THE LOBBY BEGINS

It may take a while to find your constituency's area, so please allow plenty of time and ensure you're in the lobby line by 1pm.



### 1-4PM: MEET OUR MPS AROUND PARLIAMENT

10,000 of us will meet with our MPs in the streets around Parliament, all at the same time! See page 8 to find out how this will work.

**AT 2PM WE WILL PAUSE FOR A MINUTE IN THE LOBBY LINE TO CREATE A NOISE SO LOUD POLITICIANS WON'T BE ABLE TO IGNORE IT**

See page 5 for details

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NEARBY?

### ST JOHN'S SMITH SQUARE | FROM 11:30AM

Got questions about the day? Want to have a sit down and hear updates from the lobby? Head to St John's Smith Square where you'll find the info hub and stalls from different organisations. There will be interviews, film clips and updates from what's happening at the lobby!

### SCHOOLS MEET UP SPACE | AFTERNOON

There will be a separate space for school groups to meet in the afternoon whilst they wait for their MP. Please email [campaigns@thetimeisnowcoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@thetimeisnowcoalition.org) if you are planning on bringing a group from your school.

### INTERFAITH WORKSHOPS, ST MARTINS IN THE FIELDS | FROM 9:30AM

### WALK OF WITNESS, STARTING IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE | 11:30AM

Led by former Archbishop Rowan Williams, to Church House where an interfaith speaker event will take place at 12pm.

### INTERFAITH SPEAKER EVENT, CHURCH HOUSE | 12PM

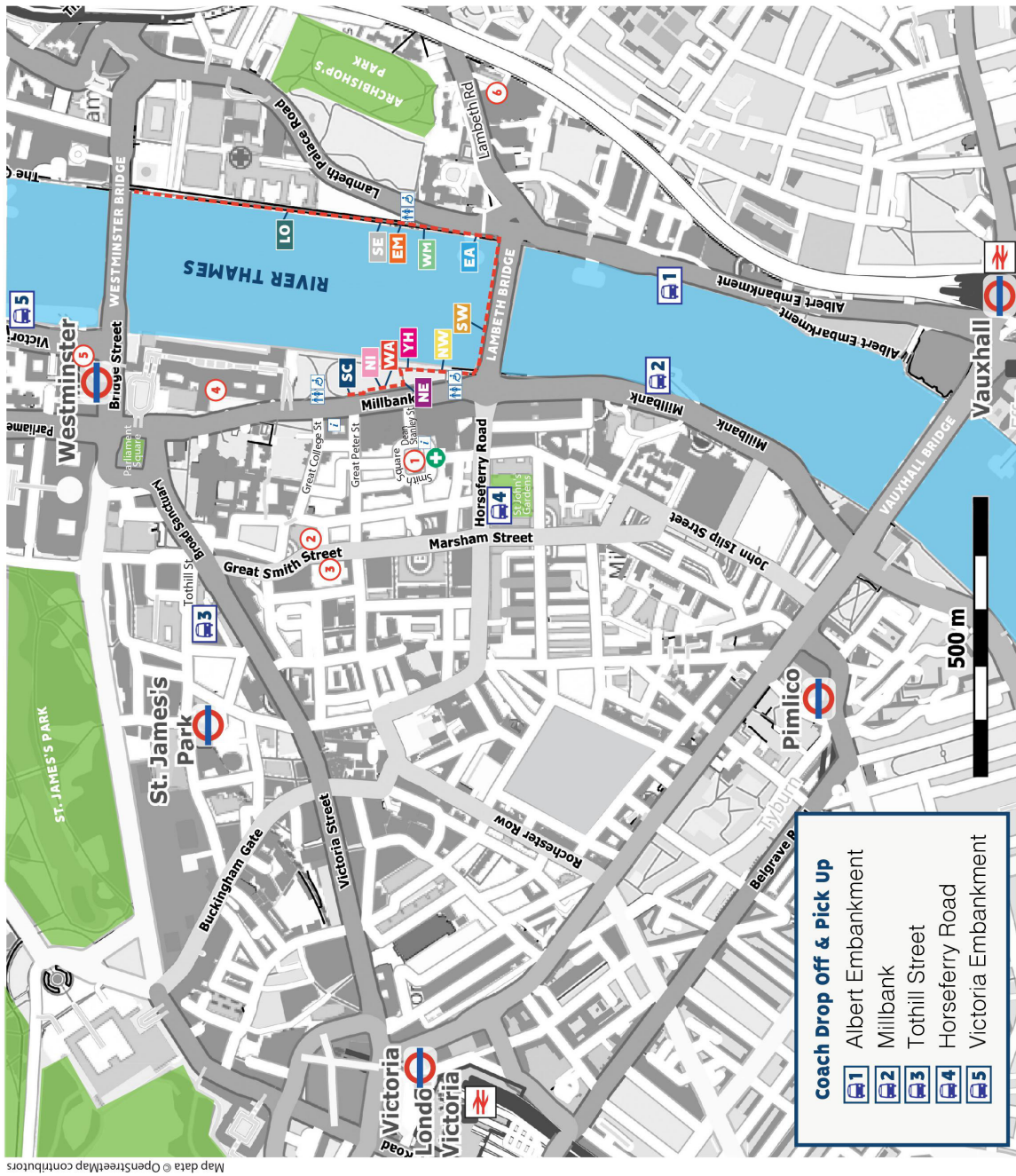
For more details and to register, please visit [thetimeisnowfaithevents.eventbrite.com](http://thetimeisnowfaithevents.eventbrite.com). Everyone is welcome!

### EVENT AREA MAP

Lobby Line .....  
**Lobby Locations**  
**SC** Scotland  
**NI** Northern Ireland  
**WA** Wales  
**NE** North East  
**YH** Yorkshire & Humber  
**NW** North West  
**SW** South West  
**EA** East Anglia  
**WM** West Midlands  
**EM** East Midlands  
**SE** South East  
**LO** London

1 Lobby HQ (St John's Smith Square)  
 2 Church House  
 3 The Abbey Centre  
 4 Houses of Parliament  
 5 Portcullis House  
 6 Old Paradise Gardens

Toilets Information  
 First Aid  
 Tube Station  
 National Rail Station



**STAY UP TO DATE!**  
 Check [thetimesnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimesnowmap.co.uk) for more information on activities. If you're joining with a specific organisation, check if they're organising any events or meet up points.

**SHARE HOW YOU'RE ENJOYING THE DAY!**  
 Post your photos and updates on social media using #TheTimesNow





# THE EARTH'S ALARM CLOCK IS RINGING.



For far too long, politicians have been pressing the snooze button.

On the day, we want to create a noise that cannot be ignored.



At 2pm, whilst we are gathered in the lobby line, we are going to set off as many alarm clocks as possible. By doing so, we will send a message to Westminster that they need to wake up and respond to the challenges our beautiful world is facing.

We need your help to make this possible.

If you have a portable alarm clock at home, please bring this with you on the day and schedule it to go off at 2pm. And if you don't, don't worry — you can use your phone!

Together, let's send a message to Parliament that The Time is Now for action.



## GETTING READY FOR THE BIG DAY

### INVITE YOUR MP

Please let your MP know that you will be at the lobby and you'd like them to come too. We are inviting all MPs but they are most likely to come if they hear from their constituents directly. The earlier you send your MP an invitation the better.

### FIND OUT WHO YOUR MP IS & THEIR CONTACT DETAILS AT [PARLIAMENT.UK](https://parliament.uk)



Write to them at  
House of Commons,  
Westminster, London,  
SW1A 0AA



Email them using  
our template email.  
Find this at  
**[thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](https://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk)**



Ring the parliamentary  
switchboard on  
020 7219 3000 and  
ask to be put through  
to their office

MPs are very busy so if you don't hear back from them do follow up with their office by giving them a call. If you do hear from your MP please let us know they will be coming to the lobby so we can look out for them on the day. Email us at **[campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org)**

### HAS YOUR MP INDICATED THEY CAN'T MAKE IT?

Come along on the day anyway! There will be lots going on for you to get involved in, and other MPs attending need to see a diverse crowd and strength in numbers.

Head to St John's Smith Square where you'll have the opportunity to fill out a 'green card'. Your green card will be passed to one of the attendants in the central lobby who will give it to your MP to let them know that you came.



## REACH OUT TO OTHERS

Encourage others — your friends and family, colleagues, local groups, place of worship, book club — to take part in the day. They don't have to be 'political' types or to have done anything like this before. This is an event for everyone!

If MPs meet a whole range of people it will show them that climate change and the environment are mainstream issues that affect all of us — young and old, all races and religions, across the political spectrum.



## TELL THE MEDIA

Your local media — newspapers, radio and news websites — always want to know about local people doing interesting things!

Phone them, tweet them or send them a press release. Tell them that you are heading to London to tell politicians that The Time Is Now for action on climate change and the environment.

You can find a sample press release on our website — [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk)

## GETTING THERE

Some organisations will be organising transport. Visit [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk) to see if anything is arranged from your area so far (this will be updated regularly.)

If you are organising a coach please email [campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org) so we can organise a drop off and pick up space for you.

## USE OUR NATIONAL EXPRESS CODE 'CCL2019' FOR 25% OFF YOUR JOURNEY TO THE LOBBY ON 26TH JUNE

Redeem the code at [theclimatecoalition.org/thetimeisnow/nationalexpress](http://theclimatecoalition.org/thetimeisnow/nationalexpress)

The National Express code can be used anywhere on the National Express network to London Victoria Coach Station. A maximum of 5 tickets can be booked per transaction. This code should only be used by people attending the lobby.

Transport for London have a useful travel planner with details of buses, trains and tube services, routes for walking and cycling, and accessibility advice. Check out their website: [tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey](http://tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey)





## MEETING MPS EN MASSE!

Talking to our MPs is the main focus of the day. Let's make sure we use this opportunity to tell them they need to take action to end our contribution to climate change and start building a cleaner, healthier and safer world for nature and people. Don't forget your MP is there to represent you and their own constituents!

### FIND YOUR SPOT

The line will be divided into constituencies and we will fill the pavements around Parliament. See page 4 for the map.

Constituencies will be lined up in alphabetical order within nations or regions, which you'll be able to spot by looking out for the colour-coded signs listed below. Our stewards will help you find your place and you can use the map on page 4 to help you. Make sure to allow yourself enough time to find your place.



**SCOTLAND**



**NORTH  
EAST**



**SOUTH  
WEST**



**EAST  
MIDLANDS**



**NORTHERN  
IRELAND**



**YORKSHIRE  
& HUMBER**



**EAST  
ANGLIA**



**SOUTH  
EAST**



**WALES**



**NORTH  
WEST**



**WEST  
MIDLANDS**



**LONDON**

### WHEN WILL I SEE MY MP?

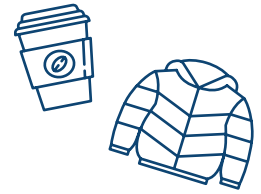
When contacting your MP, let them know they should come and meet you between 1pm and 4pm outside in the lobby line. If your MP suggests to meet you elsewhere, let them know you want to meet them at the lobby so they can see 10,000 people backing urgent action on climate change and the environment. Please let us know if your MP is still insistent on meeting elsewhere by emailing us at [campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org)

Check out [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk) for example templates for contacting your MP.

MPs will be met outside Parliament and directed to where you and their other constituents will be. However, make sure you give your MP your mobile number in advance in case they need to contact you on the day.

Ensure you're with your constituency group by 1pm to avoid missing your MP. You may want to ask your MP for the estimated time they plan to come and meet you.

## COME PREPARED



You may have a bit of a wait in the lobby line! We'll do our best to keep you entertained, but do bring food and water, and anything you need to keep comfortable such as raincoats and portable stools. This will be a family friendly event but please ensure your children have your contact details on them in case of an emergency. If you have any issues on the day there will be plenty of stewards around to assist you.

While you're in the line, we suggest meeting fellow constituents and agreeing how to run the meeting with the MP so that everyone gets a chance to speak, and the MP gets time to respond.

## IF YOUR MP DOESN'T SHOW UP ON THE 26TH JUNE



Your MP should turn up if they have confirmed this with you, however there is a chance their plans will change at the last minute.

You can call their offices when you arrive to let them know you are in line by phoning the MP switchboard (020 7219 3000) and ask to be put through to the MP's office. If they don't turn up, tweet them to ask why they're not there! Be sure you use **#TheTimelsNow**. You can also email them afterwards using the template available on [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk), expressing why you attended the lobby and requesting a meeting at your constituency surgery.

## WHEN YOU MEET YOUR MP

You may only have a short time with your MP so make the most of it! Visit [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk) for a briefing on issues to raise with your MP and questions to ask. The main aim is to tell our MPs it is time to set the foundations for a healthier, brighter, more secure future: ending the UK's contribution to climate change and passing ambitious new laws that build a better world for nature and people.

## FOLLOW UP

We want this to be more than one moment in time. MPs need to be consistently held to account to ensure they are taking your concerns seriously and acting on them. Ask them on the day for commitments and deadlines, then contact them after the lobby to follow up on these.



Send them a follow up email



Arrange a meeting at their constituency surgery



Call their office to ask for a progress update



Tweet them images from the day and a reminder to take action

## FEEDBACK

It would be really helpful to share your feedback on how your MP responded. Please make sure someone from your constituency takes note of any comments or questions and passes this on to us. We'll have forms available to download from [thetimeisnowmap.co.uk](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk). You can hand these in at St John's Smith Square on the day, email us at [campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatecoalition.org) or visit our website after the lobby where an online survey will be available.

## TOP TIPS FOR SPEAKING WITH YOUR MP

### **MAKE IT PERSONAL AND SPEAK AUTHENTICALLY**

Tell them your personal story. What led you to feel passionately about this and why are you here today?

### **BE CONFIDENT!**

You don't need to be an expert but make sure you are clear that you care about these issues and demand action.

### **TALK ABOUT THE REAL WORLD AND NOT ABSTRACT IDEAS**

Use meaningful and emotive words. Make it local and emphasise how you have noticed the environment change in your own lifetime.

### **LEAD WITH WHAT YOU KNOW**

Emphasise the consensus that human activity is changing the climate, destroying the natural environment and affecting people's livelihoods; they can't argue with facts!

### **ENCOURAGE OTHERS!**

Remember there will be a group of you chatting to your MP so encourage others to speak and make sure everyone's views are heard.

### **DON'T FORGET TO GIVE THE MP TIME TO RESPOND TO YOUR DEMANDS**

But be clear what you are asking them to commit to. Everyone likes to have a good conversation but ultimately we are here to ask our MPs to take action, so don't leave without getting some commitments.

**VISIT [THETIMEISNOWMAP.CO.UK](http://thetimeisnowmap.co.uk) FOR DETAILED BRIEFINGS, MORE ADVICE ON SPEAKING TO YOUR MP, AND TO FIND OUT ABOUT ANY OF THE ISSUES DISCUSSED IN THIS GUIDE**



# THE TIME IS NOW



**GREENER UK**



**GREENPEACE**



**THETIMEISNOWMAP.CO.UK**  
**#THETIMEISNOW**

**CAMPAIGNS@THECLIMATECOALITION.ORG**  
**020 7870 2213**