

THE **HEAT** OF THE MOMENT

A guide to engaging with your MP
about the causes of heatwaves

Why contact your MP?

- To counter the voices of the corporate lobby and anti net-zero brigade, showing your MP that their constituents care deeply about fighting climate change
- Because MPs have a direct link to government - especially crucial at a time with lots of political flux



How to contact your MP

Email them, or write them a letter



Call their office!

Drop in at a surgery - or if you're in London, greencard them



Turning your heatwave experience into a 'political story'

What is a 'political story'?



A 'political story' is how you use personal experience to make a political point, showing how your experiences are the result of political decisions.



Done well, it can humanise policy debates, becoming a *powerful tool* to motivate ambitious climate action.

Consider your experiences - can you link them to political decisions?

The simple formula for doing so is:

During the heatwave I experienced **X problem...**

eg., the heat on my child's walk to school was unbearable.

Because **Y impact...**

e.g., The hotter summers and lack of shade are making the pavement incredibly hot.

This is related to **Z policy issue/s**

e.g. Government support for urban tree planting to provide shade and lower street temperatures + and ending reliance on fossil fuels!



Illustrating your story

Using your pictures from the heatwaves can add an additional personal touch.

You could use photos showing the measures you took to cool down yourself and your loved ones, or images that symbolise the effects of heat.



Equally, you could tie your engagement to the #StopRosebank banner campaign by including a photo of you holding your sign next to a sign from your town.

Linking to policy goals

You can link your story to the direct cause of the heatwave, telling your MP about the need to take climate change seriously by ending our reliance on fossil fuels. But it can be more powerful if you also tie your story to existing campaign's policy goals. For example...

#Stop

Rosebank

Ask your MP to sign the #StopRosebank pledge if they haven't already - and ask that they do everything in the power to stop the largest undeveloped oil field in the UK.

If properly implemented, retrofit can help lower energy bills, reduce energy use, and create warm and comfortable homes fit for the new climate. Ask your MP to read the briefing and attend the parliamentary event!

RETROFIT:
FOR THE FUTURE



Green MP Hannah Spencer to introduce bill on maximum workplace temperatures

The UK has a minimum working temperature, but no maximum. Backed by the major trade unions, Hannah Spencer is bringing a bill to change this. This could force the government to bring in heat adaptation measures for buildings such as schools and hospitals. Ask your MP to back the bill.

Hope for the Future is the UK's only charity working at the intersection of climate, democracy and justice. If you would like to chat about any of this further, have any problems you want to discuss, or simply want to share results and celebrate, then please reach out to Hope for the Future by using the form here.

Parents for Future Parents for Future is one of the largest climate movements in the UK, empowering families to build powerful, resilient communities and secure a safer, fairer world for children everywhere.

