



Make Polluters Pay Action Guide



Making Polluters Pay for Climate Action

SUMMARY

Oil and gas giants have knowingly pushed us to the brink of climate breakdown while making \$2.8billion in profits EVERY DAY for 50 years. Millions are paying the price for climate damage, both here and abroad.

And the public agrees. 85% say those most responsible for pollution should shoulder the costs of addressing the harm it causes.

As global temperatures breach the critical threshold of 1.5°C warming we need to step up calls on Rachel Reeves to use the autumn budget to hold big polluters to account and raise taxes on them.

In 2024 alone, just five oil and gas companies made over \$100 billion [£75bn] in profits. Fair taxes on the UK's biggest and wealthiest polluters could raise over £20bn in a year, according to Oxfam. At a time when public finances are under pressure, it is both fair and fiscally responsible to ensure that those driving the crisis help fund the solutions, at home and abroad.



Make Polluters Pay Key Stats

- Climate breakdown is already hitting people in the UK - costing each household around £3,000 a year through rising food prices and insurance costs
- In 2024 alone, just five oil and gas companies made over \$100 billion [£75bn] in profits.
- Fair taxes on the UK's biggest and wealthiest polluters could raise over £20bn in a year, according to Oxfam.
- There is overwhelming public support for the polluter pays principle - 85% of those polled by YouGov in March agreed that those most responsible for pollution should shoulder the costs of addressing the harm it causes.
- This support is cross-party. Another poll in May 2025 found 7 in 10 Reform-leaning voters support higher taxes on oil and gas companies and other high-emitting businesses to fund climate action.

Make Polluters Pay Asks for MPs

It's important to have a clear ask for your MP, you could:

- Ask them to sign the EDM 'The Climate Finance Fund (Fossil Fuels and Pollution) Bill'
- Ask them to add their name to the Make Polluters Pay Pledge "I pledge to call for the biggest polluters to pay their fair share towards the costs of climate damage - costs that my constituents, and frontline communities across the globe, are already paying" by emailing office@makepolluterspay.co.uk
- Ask them to raise issues of climate justice and the need to make polluters pay for climate damage at Treasury questions or with the chancellor
- Ask the government to join the Global Solidarity Levies Taskforce
- Ask them to organise or participate in a parliamentary debate on making polluters pay

Speaking to your MP about Making Polluters Pay

WHAT TO SAY

Top tip: Be clear & succinct! Being clear and focused is more impactful; plan your meeting well and keep it to the point.

When you meet with your MP as part of the Mass Lobby what you say to them is up to you, but below are some suggested points to help you discuss the need for climate justice and making polluters pay:

- **Introduction:** Start by stating who you are as an individual or a group and where you live
- **What and why:** Share what climate justice is and why you care about it
- **Personalise:** Try to link making polluters pay to something your MP is already supportive of such as a local environmental project, or relevant to a position they hold (e.g. if they are a member of the net zero committee)
- **Share:** some key stats from the previous page
- **Ask:** It's important to have a clear ask for your MP choose a few from the previous page and ask them to get involved
- **Response:** Building a productive relationship with your MP means offering ways you can support them in their action e.g. answering questions (If you don't know the answer to questions that's okay; reach out to us!)
- **Briefing:** Direct them to [our website](#) for our MP briefing
- **Thanks:** Thank them for acting as your representative (this can help their efforts on this issue feel valued and can contribute to a more positive partnership!)

AFTER MEETING WITH YOUR MP

After meeting your MP write to them and thank them for meeting you. You can find their email [here](#). Remind them of any actions they agreed to and provide them with any information they requested. If you don't hear back in a few weeks look for an opportunity to get in touch (e.g. through another action you're taking) and check in on their actions (remember some actions take time!)

Boost your impact!

Public communications can hold your MP to account on their pledges and spread awareness even further!

We suggest:

- *Sharing on social media*
- *Contacting local media*
- *Letting Make Polluters Pay know*



Share updates on social media from your event / meeting including photos! If you met your MP write about current outcomes from your meeting.

Send a short update and photo to your local paper about your meeting / event. If it's been a positive meeting with your MP you could even consider doing a joint release with them! If they're not yet on board with loss and damage focus on why it's so important for climate justice rather than your MPs resistance.

We'd love to know what you did, how many people were involved, how well the meeting went and any follow up plans! We'll add it to our online gallery to celebrate your action, inspire others and show politicians just how many of us believe it's time to make polluters pay!

Contact us on office@makepolluterspay.co.uk

**Thank you for
demanding Climate
Justice and calling
on the UK
Government
to
Make
Polluters
Pay!**



***CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST AND
CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE***

