

* **Green Bullet**

28th June 2018

North West Environment Link (NWEL) is a partnership of environmental voluntary sector organisations, representing hundreds of thousands of members in the North West.

We are members of VSNW, the regional voluntary sector network for the North West, whose purpose is to support a connected and influential voluntary and community sector (VCS).

This bulletin is intended to keep NWEL members and wider networks up to date on events and issues that will be of interest to environmental voluntary and community sector organisations in the North West. Please send any items for inclusion in the next bulletin to andyyuille@gmail.com - and feel free to forward all or parts of these bulletins throughout your own networks to help spread the word!

The Green Bullet is also available to download from the [VSNW](https://www.vsnw.org.uk/green-bullet) website.

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# *Campaigns*

**Climate change**

* There’s still time to join one of the Climate Coalition’s Speak Up events, being held 30 June – 8 July all over the country. [Find one near you](https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/speakupweek/?utm_source=The+Climate+Coalition+Email&utm_campaign=1417403452-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_04_10_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5d9d4008a3-1417403452-44002069) or [ask your MP to sign a letter](https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/joint-letter?utm_source=The+Climate+Coalition+Email&utm_campaign=1417403452-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_04_10_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5d9d4008a3-1417403452-44002069) of support!
* The [agricultural sector can provide up to 30% of the solutions needed by 2030](https://www.worldwildlife.org/press-releases/forests-food-and-land-can-deliver-30-of-solutions-needed-to-tackle-climate-crisis-by-2030) to tackle the global climate crisis, a new WWF-led initiative has claimed. Land use-related activities such as food produce, unsustainable forest management and infrastructure development are a major driver of global climate change, but according to the 30X30 coalition, they account for a “paltry amount” of climate funding. Businesses, cities, regions and citizens have therefore been urged to take the necessary action to conserve and restore land.
* The G7 summit saw a “G6” block emerge, reaffirming their commitment to the Paris Agreement, while the [USA prioritized economic growth and the increased use of fossil fuels](http://www.climatechangenews.com/2018/06/10/g6-advance-climate-agenda-trumps-us-defends-fossil-fuels/).

**Marine Conservation Zones**

The government is consulting on [designating 41 new marine conservation zones](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/marine/consultation-on-the-third-tranche-of-marine-conser/) (MCZs) off the coast of England, in addition to the 50 existing protected areas. MCZs are intended to protect a range of nationally important marine wildlife, habitats, geology and geomorphology. We know from past consultations that the public's support really does make a difference to the Government's final decision – so please do consider responding, if only very briefly! The Wildlife Trusts have started a [Wave of Support](http://action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/25087/action/1) campaign that enables you to send a positive response with just a few clicks in a couple of minutes. Deadline: 20th July.

**Plastics**

* Since China – formerly the UK’s biggest export market for plastic waste – closed its doors at the start of this year, other countries have been flooded with our rubbish, according to an Unearthed analysis. Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and Poland have all [introduced restrictions to stem the flow of plastic](https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2018/06/14/china-plastics-ban-malaysia-vietnam-poland/) from countries that relied heavily on China to take their trash.
* While a new report says that [plastic recycled in the UK could supply nearly three-quarters of domestic demand](https://www.edie.net/news/5/Recycled-plastic-could-supply-three-quarters-of-UK-demand--report-finds/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%2005800b89ff-dailynewsletter_COPY_320) for products and packaging if the government took action to build the industry,
* But at present, [90% of all waste clean-up costs fall on the taxpayer](http://www.cpre.org.uk/magazine/opinion/item/4877-its-time-plastic-producers-cleaned-up-their-act), providing a perverse incentive for manufacturers – so much for the principle that ‘the polluter pays’

**Air quality**

* Ministers have committed to [reviewing the way in which air pollution is monitored](https://www.airqualitynews.com/2018/06/20/government-to-review-air-quality-monitoring-rules/), in response to criticism from a joint inquiry by four select committees. The joint committees however say that ‘serious concerns remain’ over the extent of the government’s commitment to improving air quality and reducing its impact on public health.
* A new study suggests that [all new diesel cars fail EU emissions standards](https://www.fleetnews.co.uk/news/fleet-industry-news/2018/06/06/all-new-diesel-cars-fail-eu-nox-emissions-standards-in-real-world-driving-says-study) in real-world driving tests…
* …while another in-depth analysis estimates the [health costs from pollution from cars and vans](https://www.transport-network.co.uk/Car-pollution-costs-health-services-6bn-a-year-study-reveals/15088) at £6 billion a year
* The [mayors of London, Manchester, Liverpool and the West Midlands](https://www.edie.net/news/6/Ban-new-petrol-and-diesel-cars-in-2030--not-2040--say-mayors/?adfesuccess=1) have teamed up to urge ministers to bring forward their 2040 ban on new diesel and petrol car sales by a decade.

**Fracking**

* [CPRE](https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/don-t-fast-track-fracking) and [Friends of the Earth](https://act.friendsoftheearth.uk/act/stop-government-forcing-fracking-communities?utm_source=Friends+of+the+Earth+Communications&utm_campaign=617fa40d0f-LM1805021&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_383af65c6b-617fa40d0f-20757677) both have petitions opposing last month’s Government proposals to fast-track fracking by making exploratory drilling permitted development, alongside other proposals set out in last week’s Bullet.
* A new study finds that [methane leaks from the US oil and gas industry are 60% higher](https://www.carbonbrief.org/daily-brief/gas-leaks-worse-for-climate-than-thought) than Government estimates, casting doubts on the claims that shale gas can provide a ‘transition’ to a greener energy future

**Great Cumbria Litter Pick**

Friends of the Lake District are on a mission to sign up even more volunteers to their ambitious 'Great Cumbrian Litter Pick' on Friday 6th July. To date, 50 groups have registered throughout the county from Carlisle to Millom and Whitehaven to Sedbergh, involving schools, businesses, organisations and communities. You can [register to do your own](https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/forms/register-your-own-local-community-litter-pick?mc_cid=c69e7e4d81&mc_eid=548e5b0d88) local community or individual litter pick, or [sign up to join an organised one](https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Pages/Site/great-cumbrian-litter-pick/Category/great-cumbrian-litter-pick-map).

**Save Our Spaces!**

[Save our Spaces](https://locality.org.uk/policy-campaigns/save-our-spaces/) is Locality’s campaign to save our much-loved publicly owned buildings and spaces from being sold off for private use - our parks, libraries, swimming pools and town halls. New research shows that more than [4,000 publicly owned buildings and spaces in England are being sold off every year](https://locality.org.uk/policy-campaigns/save-our-spaces/the-great-british-sell-off/). Community ownership can puts these buildings and green spaces back at the heart of the community and protect them for local people, for generations to come.

**Parks**

The new leadership of Knowsley council has [reversed the decision to sell off some its parks](https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/knowsley-scraps-plan-to-sell-off-parks/#utm_source=Place+North+West&utm_campaign=Place_Daily_Briefing__Tuesday__2018-06-12&utm_medium=email) in order to be able to fund the maintenance of the rest. The council were forced into taking the decision by central Government austerity. It’s not clear how the funding shortfall will now be made up.

**Flooding & drought**

A coalition of corporations, politicians, academics and public-sector bodies has called on the UK Government [to include flooding and drought risks in its housing agenda](https://www.edie.net/news/4/Cross-party-report-calls-for-Government-to-embed-water-efficiency-in-planning-policy/?adfesuccess=1), after finding that 129% more UK homes will be at risk of flooding by 2050 – that means [1 in 3 homes at risk of flooding](https://www.transport-network.co.uk/One-in-six-homes-at-risk-of-flooding-architects-say/15020).

**Trees**

Michael Gove has appointed a ‘[tree champion’](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/jun/13/michael-gove-appoints-uk-tree-champion) to stop the unnecessary felling of trees and boost planting rates.

# *Information update*

## Brexit and beyond

MPs have voted to make the Government’s proposals for a ‘green watchdog’ in the EU Withdrawal Bill slightly less bad than they were – but still [significantly weaker than the current arrangements](https://www.edie.net/news/11/EU-Withdrawal-Bill--MPs-vote-to--give-teeth--to-post-Brexit-green-watchdog/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%2005800b89ff-dailynewsletter_COPY_320), with WWF describing it as “the tamest poodle of an environmental watchdog”. This [Greener UK briefing](http://greeneruk.org/resources/Greener_UK_briefing_for_EUWB_Commons_Consideration_of_Lords_Amendment_3.pdf) sets out some of the differences between the Lords amendment (which would have kept existing standards in place) and the amendment eventually passed (which weakens existing standards and leaves gaps) – and therefore highlights areas that still need to be addressed. There’s still time for you to contribute to the [current consultation](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/environmental-principles-and-governance/supporting_documents/Environmental%20Principles%20and%20Governance%20after%20EU%20Exit%20%20Consultation%20Document.pdf) on the principles and details that the legislation will enact – and it’s important that you do because the proposals are almost [universally derided in the environmental sector as extremely poor!](https://www.edie.net/news/11/Campaigners-attack-plan-for-new-watchdog-to-protect-environment-after-Brexit/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%200a24f7b6ff-dailynewsletter) See ‘consultations’ below. Greenpeace also have a [petition asking the Government to keep its word](https://secure.greenpeace.org.uk/page/s/green-watchdog?source=EM&subsource=NBREBXPEEM011M&utm_source=gpeace&utm_medium=EM&utm_campaign=NBREBXPEEM011M) on environmental protection – something which its current actions demonstrate that it has no intention of doing without significant external pressure.

## Energy

* The Government has [rejected plans for the pioneering Swansea tidal lagoon project](https://www.edie.net/news/10/Government-says-no-to-Swansea-tidal-lagoon/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%20289ddda809-dailynewsletter_COPY_328), on the basis that it failed to meet value for money criteria compared to nuclear and offshore wind options
* A [summary of the evidence](https://drillordrop.com/2018/06/25/government-policy-risks-unrestricted-drilling-and-fracking-mps-told/) provided to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Shae Gas Impacts makes for sobering, but fairly quick, reading. This first session focused on the cumulative impact on landscape, traffic and communities of scaled-up shale gas developments
* [New solar power installations halved](https://www.edie.net/news/10/UK-solar-power-growth-halves-for-second-year-running/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%20c5e3171528-dailynewsletter_COPY_323) in the UK last year for the second year in a row, as the fallout of government subsidy cuts continued to shake the sector. The UK numbers were so poor that they caused overall EU solar growth to flatline at a time when record amounts of new solar were added globally.
* A cross-party group of senior MPs and peers have urged the government to commit to [reducing greenhouse gas emissions to "net zero" by 2050](https://www.edie.net/news/11/MPs-and-peers-push-for--net-zero--emissions-by-2050/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%2085c4a166a5-dailynewsletter_COPY_313).
* Cuadrilla has secured [an injunction against protesters](https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/cuadrilla-secures-injunction-over-lancashire-site-protests/#utm_source=Place+North+West&utm_campaign=Place_Daily_Briefing__Monday_4_2018-06-04&utm_medium=email) blocking the entrance to its fracking site at Preston New Road. [Protests are still taking place daily](https://reclaimthepower.org.uk/fracking/preston-new-road/).

## Planning

* The draft analysis from the [Letwin Review into build-out rates](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/analysis-from-independent-review-into-building-homes-published) has been published, including finding that [developers releasing a limited number of homes for sale at any one time slows down the system](https://www.theplanner.co.uk/news/lack-of-housing-type-variety-driving-slow-build-out-rate-says-letwin?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_term=) and that there is a lack of variety in the types of homes being built.
* The Local Government Association (LGA) has called on the government not to implement planned changes to the National Planning Policy Framework that will [‘impose often undeliverable’ housing targets](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/news/article/565/planning_news_-_7_june_2018?utm_source=PPQ+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7785c474af-Newsletter_07062018_HTML&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_734e0b63a9-7785c474af-6976173#one) on councils. The revised NPPF is expected to be published in July. [Wildlife and Countryside Link’s response](https://www.wcl.org.uk/docs/May%202018%20WCL%20NPPF%20Response%20FINAL.pdf) to the NPPF consultation summarizes many of the environmental NGO sectors concerns.
* 6 years on, a new study shows that a tiny majority [(51%) of councils now have an NPPF-compliant plan](https://www.savills.co.uk/research_articles/229130/246341-0/slowly--but-surely) in place.
* The panel that will support Julian Glover in his [review of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-parks-review-launched) has been announced.
* Revisions to the online Planning Practice Guidance set out new details on how applications seeking planning permission in principle (PiP - a new form of automatic, upfront consent for housing developments that aims to provide a fast-track route through the planning process) should be prepared and submitted.
* A new report by the TCPA suggests that only [2% of councils think that development in their area is meeting their affordable housing needs](https://www.tcpa.org.uk/planning-for-affordable-housing).
* [Liverpool has held on to its World Heritage Site status](https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/liverpool-retains-world-heritage-status/#utm_source=Place+North+West&utm_campaign=Place_Daily_Briefing__Wednesda_2018-06-27&utm_medium=email) for another year, but remains on an “in danger” list where it has been since the Liverpool Waters proposal received the go-ahead.
* The latest Government figures show an [11% increase in the number of housing planning permissions](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/planning-applications-in-england-january-to-march-2018) granted last year: permission was granted for 347,000 homes in the year to 31 March 2018, compared to 314,000 in the previous 12 months.
* The Government has announced [£1.67 billion additional funding for social housing](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/brokenshire-confirms-social-housing-investment-boost), which CPRE says will [barely scratch the surface](http://www.cpre.org.uk/media-centre/sound-bites/item/4899-cpre-reaction-social-housing-boost) and won’t touch the crisis in housing affordability in rural areas
* The Government has granted new powers to councils to allow them to seek government approval to establish [New Town Development Corporations](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/news/article/566/planning_news_-_14_june_2018?utm_source=PPQ+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a1207a4708-Newsletter_14062018_HTML&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_734e0b63a9-a1207a4708-6976173#one). These bodies would be responsible for delivering new towns and garden communities in the council area. They will also do all of the masterplanning and project development, attract private investment, partner with developers and oversee the completion of the new settlement.

## Transport

* The [Airports National Policy Statement](https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/airports-national-policy-statement) (essentially an endorsement of a new runway at Heathrow) was [voted through Parliament with a large majority](https://www.bdb-law.co.uk/blogs/planning-act-2008/800-airports-nps-voted-through-as-tidal-lagoon-loses-support/?utm_source=Blog&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=Planning%20Act%20blog%20800), and has been formally ‘designated’ by the Secretary of State. [The Cabinet](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/news/article/566/planning_news_-_14_june_2018?utm_source=PPQ+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a1207a4708-Newsletter_14062018_HTML&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_734e0b63a9-a1207a4708-6976173#three) has formally backed the third runway. There will now be a debate and vote in Parliament, (probably several) legal challenges, and a statutory consultation will follow shortly. The Government’s latest figures foresee [aviation emissions rising by 7.3 million tonnes of CO2 by 2030](https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2018/06/15/heathrow-airport-climate-carbon-target-ccc/) if a third runway is developed at Heathrow.
* Greater Manchester has revealed plans for what is claimed to be the [UK’s largest cycling network](https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-launches-uks-largest-cycle-network/#utm_source=Place+North+West&utm_campaign=Place_Daily_Briefing__Wednesda_2018-06-27&utm_medium=email), covering 1,000 miles of routes and 75 miles of “Dutch-style” segregated bike lanes.
* Metro Mayors Andy Burnham and Steve Rotheram have condemned [Network Rail as not fit for purpose](https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/metro-mayors-network-rail-not-fit-for-purpose/#utm_source=Place+North+West&utm_campaign=Place_Daily_Briefing__Tuesday__2018-06-26&utm_medium=email) following transport chaos in the North West.

# *Publications*

**Land use change**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government have published their annual [Land Use Change statistics 2016 to 2017](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements/land-use-change-statistics-2016-to-2017), showing the amounts and location of land changing use in England. [Analysis by CPRE](https://www.cpre.org.uk/media-centre/latest-news-releases/item/4867-countryside-being-lost-to-housing-at-an-alarming-rate-increase-brownfield-development) shows that the amount of farmland, forests, gardens and greenfield land lost to housing development each year has increased by 58% over the past 4 years. The proportion of brownfield land used for housing development [still languishes at 44%](https://www.planningportal.co.uk/news/article/566/planning_news_-_14_june_2018?utm_source=PPQ+Newsletter&utm_campaign=a1207a4708-Newsletter_14062018_HTML&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_734e0b63a9-a1207a4708-6976173#five) - although this is a big improvement on the rather awful 28% in 2016

**Climate change**

* [Most European nations are set to miss their carbon reduction pledges](http://www.caneurope.org/docman/climate-energy-targets/3357-off-target-ranking-of-eu-countries-ambition-and-progress-in-fighting-climate-change/file) made as part of the Paris Agreement, according to a new ranking of "good", "bad" and "ugly" countries published by the Climate Action Network, Europe's leading NGO coalition on climate change. “The bad” include Belgium, Denmark, Germany and the UK – which are no longer considered at the forefront of climate action and “aim rather low despite their relative wealth”.
* A new report has calculated the difference in clean energy investment needed to reach 1.5C and 2C, finding that keeping to the lower temperature target will require an extra $460bn per year over the next 12 years - that's [50% more than needed to hit the 2C target](https://www.carbonbrief.org/clean-energy-investment-must-be-50-per-cent-high-limit-warming-one-point-five).
* According to a new paper published in the journal Nature, [200 billion tonnes of Antarctic ice melts into the ocean every year](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-44470208), three times more than in 2012.

**Nature in National Parks**

A new report by Campaign for National Parks calls for a fundamentally new approach to nature conservation in our National Parks. [Raising the bar: improving nature in our National Parks](https://www.cnp.org.uk/news/raising-the-bar) argues that a change is urgently needed to enable the Parks to halt and reverse the loss in wildlife seen across England and Wales. Wildlife is a critical part of the beauty of the National Parks and the purposes for which the sites are designated. However the report highlights that the condition of nature in our National Parks is not good enough. Nearly 75% of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in the English National Parks are in an ‘unfavourable condition’. This compares to 61.3% of the total SSSIs in England.

# *Events*

**Planning for a green Liverpool City Region**

CPRE Lancashire would like to invite you to a [public meeting about planning a green future for the Liverpool City Region](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/planning-for-a-green-liverpool-city-region-tickets-46647800828) at 10am – 12.30pm, Thursday 19th July, at the Quaker Meeting House, 22 School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BT. Tickets are free but booking is essential. CPRE will be joined by the Mayoral Advisor on the natural environment Gideon Ben-Tovim and LCR officers for discussions covering the city region’s Spatial Development Strategy, CPRE’s new brownfield registers toolkit for LCR, and a review of the city region’s environmental priorities and steps necessary to achieve them.

**Partnerships for people, place and the environment - Webinar Series**

Earlier this year, Defra commissioned new research to inform the local delivery of the 25 Year Environment Plan. As part of this work, the project team is convening a series of free webinars to share good practice in some of the themes central to the Plan. The first two in this series are:

* Opportunities for involving local communities in managing their environment and place-making. Tuesday 3rd July 2018, 1 to 2pm. Featuring presentations by Jenny Phelps of the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group and Paul Cobbing of the National Flood Forum. Chaired by Clare Twigger-Ross of Collingwood Environmental Planning. [**Find out more and book your place now.**](https://ecosystemsknowledge.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0422cf0f805cd08eadbae5392&id=d093d6f721&e=324a5c6036)
* Opportunities for connecting health and the environment. Thursday 5th July 2018, 12 to 1pm. Featuring presentations by Dr James Szymankiewicz, GP and new Chair of Natural Devon, and Mark Fishpool, Director of Middlesbrough Environment City. Chaired by Dave Powell of the New Economics Foundation. [**Find out more and book your place now.**](https://ecosystemsknowledge.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0422cf0f805cd08eadbae5392&id=ad271f4500&e=324a5c6036)

**Social Prescribing**

The [North West Social Prescribing Network](https://www.vsnw.org.uk/news/north-west-social-prescribing-network) are [meeting](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/north-west-social-prescribing-network-meeting-tickets-46763354452) at *Liverpool Central Library, William Brown Street* L3 8EW, 5 July 4-6pm. Hosted by VSNW, the network aims to engage and support health and social care leaders and decision-makers; develop the evidence base for excellence in social prescribing; and build stronger working relationships between acute, primary, community and social care and effective, sustainable, local community action. They have developed [a set of resources](https://www.vsnw.org.uk/social-prescribing-resources/) and welcome those involved or interested in social prescribing schemes. This [article](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/social-prescribing) gives an overview of social prescribing – health professionals referring patients to non-clinical services.

**Locality Convention**

Join hundreds of inspiring members, partners and people working in the community, voluntary and social enterprise sectors to unlock the power of community at this year’s [Locality convention](https://locality.org.uk/events/convention/). Date: 7 & 8 November 2018. Location: Bristol Marriott City Centre. And get 20% off by booking before August 31st!

**Rural Housing Week**

2-6 July is [rural housing week](https://www.housing.org.uk/get-involved/celebrating-our-sector/rural-housing-week/), focusing on the benefits of building rural affordable homes to keep communities alive and thriving.

**Festival of the Bay**

The [Festival of the Bay 2018](https://www.morecambebay.org.uk/festival2018) celebrates the wonderful history, nature, landscapes and creative communities of Morecambe Bay - a place like no other. Take your pick from a programme of walks, talks, tours, workshops, performances, exhibitions and special celebration events – designed to get you exploring every corner of this stunning area.

# *Resources*

**Bright Green Future**

[Bright Green Future](https://www.bright-green-future.org.uk/) is a free training programme for 14-17 year olds who are interested in the environment. Through Bright Green Future, they’ll gain experience and meet like-minded people. And they can start to influence how decisions are made on the environment, energy and climate change. Deadline for applications: 8th July.

**Climate visualisations**

A [new series of climate change visualisations](http://www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk/2018/warming-stripes/) by Ed Hawkins represents the long term rise in temperatures for particular locations, and for the planet as a whole, as a changing set of colours from blue to red. Each stripe represents the temperature of a single year, ordered from the earliest available data to now. Another effective visualisations for getting across the temperature change trend is his [climate spiral](http://www.climate-lab-book.ac.uk/spirals/).

**Rubbish Rebels!**

Cumbria Action for Sustainability are developing a be a self-contained lesson plan with exciting resources to help teachers deliver elements of the curriculum in an interactive way while teaching young people about recycling and reducing waste. Think fun workbooks, challenges and videos, made in Cumbria especially for Rubbish Rebels! You can [register your interest on their website](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001LKkYpd37L6pltnEW3k4yMkf76YCUfIQN18z0YIrJMYMPxqvh7FZ-GUhtWA-PTv7_9c0wkMvsUCNmJCk9ZVm793Q4SndpQGVDz-jLMFNZ5pBET9OO71A09E73CIPgU04GwIobP4PFK9W8SL2WWVFl5pkJsscZoQzA2JFN4Lx-I7Q=&c=zvqiLugoru2ZdWMzYCXiM3rYhXX3VuaFKImD83rC8-9Z01dwfYvKUg==&ch=9C9mAWp_3oin_VLyJwN8U-92HQEaoeyRTL2GvrNzHo6WnZBngcEWGQ==), to be first to know when the materials are ready to use.

**Recycle Now!**

WRAP are building up to [Recycle Week](https://partners.wrap.org.uk/assets/10923/?goal=0_b554dd0387-aeef54668d-5041921) – 24 – 30 September with a new set of sharable resources. Recycle Now has just launched a [new communications toolkit](https://partners.wrap.org.uk/collections/187/) for local authorities and partners, introducing a social norming messaging style designed to motivate citizen behaviour change to improve recycling, based on research findings showing that normative messaging has significant potential to increase recycling when incorporated into recycling communications.

**Land promoters**

CPRE have produced a briefing on [how ‘land promoters’ exploit legal loopholes](https://cpretree.sharepoint.com/news/Documents1/Land%20promoters%20briefing%202018.pdf?slrid=8584759e-60cc-5000-f5eb-0edd970413da) to profit from the increase in land value once planning permission is granted, at the expense of communities and the countryside. The key findings are that land promoters are actively working against local wishes for the sake of their own profit by exploiting loopholes in the National Planning Policy Framework and targeting local authorities that do not have an up-to-date local plan or five year housing land supply.

**Natural Capital Investment Forum**

This new on-line group, hosted by the Ecosystem Knowledge Network, will facilitate learning about how to secure new investment into natural capital restoration projects in the UK. This forum will provide a library of resources and key documents, as well as a space to share advice and knowledge with others. As a member of the Forum you will have access to webinars, e-news and a regularly-updated resources page. [Learn more and join here!](https://ecosystemsknowledge.net/investmentforum)

**RSPB: Accounting for Nature**

The RSPB has developed a [Natural Capital Account for its estate in England](https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/positions/economics/accounting-for-nature.pdf) to demonstrate a practical example of how natural capital accounting can support better management of natural resources, with biodiversity at its heart. The document sets out the steps that are needed when implementing a natural capital account. The RSPB's Account reveals that their network of nature reserves also provide significant additional benefits for people - some of which the RSPB were able to measure and quantify in monetary terms.

**Opportunity Mapping in the Irwell River Catchment**

The Natural Course Programme in Greater Manchester has published the outputs from its case-study on ecosystem service mapping and natural capital assessment in the catchment of the River Irwell. [The report](https://ecosystemsknowledge.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0422cf0f805cd08eadbae5392&id=2b97f949ca&e=324a5c6036)provides evidence of how natural features in this river catchment are of value to society. It also shows where investment could enhance the ecosystem service provision.

# *Consultations*

**Post-Brexit environmental watchdog**

There is still time to respond to the consultation on ‘[Environmental Principles and Governance after the UK leaves the EU’](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/eu/environmental-principles-and-governance/supporting_documents/Environmental%20Principles%20and%20Governance%20after%20EU%20Exit%20%20Consultation%20Document.pdf), for which environmental NGOs and campaigners have been near [universal in their condemnation](https://www.edie.net/news/11/Campaigners-attack-plan-for-new-watchdog-to-protect-environment-after-Brexit/?utm_source=dailynewsletter,%20edie%20daily%20newsletter&utm_medium=email,%20email&utm_content=news&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter,%200a24f7b6ff-dailynewsletter) as being weak and ineffective. Robust responses to this consultation will be essential to ensure that the environmental effects of Brexit resemble the Government’s rhetoric more than their track record! Deadline: August 2nd.

**Marine Conservation Zones**

The government is consulting on [designating 41 new marine conservation zones](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/marine/consultation-on-the-third-tranche-of-marine-conser/) (MCZs) off the coast of England, in addition to the 50 existing protected areas. MCZs are intended to protect a range of nationally important marine wildlife, habitats, geology and geomorphology. We know from past consultations that the public's support really does make a difference to the Government's final decision – so please do consider responding, if only very briefly! The Wildlife Trusts have started a [Wave of Support](http://action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/25087/action/1) campaign that enables you to send a positive response with just a few clicks in a couple of minutes. Deadline: 20th July

**Raynsford Review**

There is also still time to respond to the [interim report of the Raynsford Review](https://www.tcpa.org.uk/raynsford-review), which finds that deregulation has led to poor-quality outcomes and that the planning system as a whole is “less effective than at any time in the post-war era”. Deadline: July 16th.

# *Vacancies*

**Co-op worker – Kindling Trust**

Co-op worker wanted to deliver a model of a fairer & more sustainable food system with The Kindling Trust. [Veg Box People](http://www.vegboxpeople.org.uk/) and [Manchester Veg People](http://vegpeople.org.uk/) are two co-operative organisations that work closely together to deliver a model of a more sustainable and fairer food system for Greater Manchester.  They need someone who shares their passion to help them consolidate and grow both businesses. Visit [them online](http://www.kindling.org.uk/MVPVBP_recruitment) for more details. Application deadline: 22nd July.

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North West Environment Link (NWEL) is a partnership of environmental voluntary sector organisations, representing hundreds of thousands of members in the North West.

VSNW is the regional voluntary sector network for the North West, whose purpose is to support a connected and influential voluntary and community sector (VCS).

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