Introduction

The Climate Change Bill is nearing the end of its journey through Parliament. We can be sure of a Climate Law by December 2008 whatever happens, so before we go on, give yourself a giant pat on the back!

The Climate Change Bill is the first in the world to place a legal duty on a national government to make annual reductions in carbon dioxide emissions. This is a fantastic success and really is a cause for celebration. Before it becomes law however, we’d like to see two improvements in particular:

- Raising the 2050 emissions reduction target from at least 60% to at least 80% and
- Including all sources of carbon dioxide emissions, including the UK’s share of international aviation and shipping emissions.

The best way to strengthen the Bill is by showing the Government that a very large number of Labour MPs are prepared to vote against them. **We will therefore be focussing our lobbying in these final weeks on the 84 Labour MPs who signed the Committee Stage amendments.** These MPs are most likely to vote for changes at the final Report Stage so their support is vital. (A list of these MPs is in Appendix 1).

Other campaigns

This Autumn Friends of the Earth is prioritising two key campaigns but there will also be other lobbying taking place. As well as strengthening the Climate Change Bill in the final weeks of The Big Ask campaign there is also the Renewables Day of Action on 25 October to ensure the Government doesn’t succeed in weakening the **EU Renewables Directive.** There will be important work on the Planning and Energy Bills. All of this activity depends on lobbying MPs, so it is likely that some groups will want to talk to their MP about more than one issue.

If you feel you have the time, energy and confidence to talk to your MP about more than one campaign then go for it, but please bear in mind that the Renewables Day of Action is the most important event to focus your energy on, followed by the Climate Change Bill. The exception to this is if your MP is one of the 84 MPs who signed our amendments at Committee Stage, in which case we ask that you concentrate on persuading them to improve the Climate Change Bill.

Because these campaigns are coinciding so closely we have put together a brief Overarching Campaign Briefing that ties together campaign messages, gives tips on how to talk to an MP about more than one issue at a time, and answers some sticky questions. It’s probably worth having a look at this even if you are only going to talk to your MP about one or two campaigns. You can get hold of that and the other campaign action guides as follows:

**Renewables:** Email tom.wright@foe.co.uk, call him on 0207 566 1673

**Climate Change Bill and over-arching briefing:** Email julian.kirby@foe.co.uk for more info on the Climate Change Bill and for the Overarching Campaign Briefing, or call him on 0207 566 172

**Planning Bill:** Email Jenny.lopez@foe.co.uk, call her on 0207 566 1723

**Energy Bill:** [http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefing_notes/feedin_tariff.pdf](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefing_notes/feedin_tariff.pdf)
Contents of this guide

- Key stages in The Big Ask campaign
- Phase 1: review of Committee Stage
- Phase 2: information and ideas for actions to take at Report Stage
- Phase 3: after the Report Stage and Vote
- FAQs

Appendices:
1. List of Labour MPs who signed the Committee Stage Climate Change Bill amendments
2. Summary of the position of each Labour MP and previous comments and actions
3. Positions of the main political parties on each of our asks, and our critique
4. Briefing on the arguments for strengthening the Climate Change Bill

How to use this guide

- Check Appendix 1 to see if your MP(s) is a Labour MP who signed the Committee Stage amendments
- Read this guide yourself
- Take this guide to your group meeting and discuss what you have the time and energy to do this autumn (bearing in mind the Renewables Day of Action on 25th October)
- Organise the options into a project plan with someone responsible for co-ordinating it
- Let us help – contact Julian Kirby on julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or 0207 566 1724 for more information on your MP and how to lobby them most effectively
- Ensure that we have an e-mail address for the group that will be checked regularly
- When we e-mail you saying that the next phase has arrived put your plans into action

Key Stages

The story so far:
The Climate Change Bill was introduced into the House of Lords late last year. It did well there, and the only changes were improvements, such as requiring emission reductions to be made in line with "indicative annual ranges", which is pretty much the same as the annual targets we were asking for. On 9 June the Bill then came to the House of Commons for its Second Reading – basically a simple yes/no vote on whether to let the Bill go through, although MPs used the chance to speak at length on its strengths and shortcomings. The Bill cleared this hurdle with only a handful of votes against and went through to the Committee Stage in late June. At this point 30 MPs, drawn from each of the parties, debated the Bill in detail, suggesting further amendments. This was a very important stage. We had persuaded more than 80 MPs to sign our amendments before the Committee debated them, which sent a powerful message to ministers of how much support there is on Labour backbenches. Please see ‘Phase 1: impact of lobbying MPs to sign Committee Stage amendments’ for more information on what we did, why we did it, and what we achieved as a result.

What next?
Report Stage (the debate): expected late October. All MPs have the opportunity to debate and vote on amendments to the Bill. Our 80% and international aviation and shipping amendments will be amongst these, see below for more information. These debates will probably take one day. This is our most important stage as it's our best opportunity to improve the Bill by winning our amendments.

Third Reading (the vote): this happens at the end of the Report Stage, usually on the same day. The Third Reading is when MPs get to vote on whether they want the Bill to continue into law now that it has been amended. This is a simple yes/no vote on the whole Bill. We can be certain the Bill will pass this vote.

‘Ping Pong’: Because MPs have changed the Bill since it left the House of Lords in March, the Lords have the right to vote on whether they agree with those changes, want to reverse them or make further changes. The Bill may therefore go to the Lords for their vote and if they make any changes, back to the Commons for MPs to vote on the Lord’s new changes. This process is, for obvious reasons, called ‘Ping Pong’ but is usually completed within one day. It’s possible we will lobby both Lords and MPs to make improvements in these stages but won’t be pushing as hard as at the Report Stage.

Royal Assent: This is a purely formal stage when the Queen signs the Bill into law. We expect it to happen
in November or December.

This is a fast-moving campaign and it is important that lobbying happens at just the right moment. We will need to contact you urgently to begin the Report Stage lobbying. We will do this by e-mailing those people who have signed up to receive this guide as well as through the climate local campaigners network list (contact Tom Wright on 020 7566 1673 or tom.wright@foe.co.uk if you would like to be added to this list). Please get in touch if you have specific requirements about how and when we contact you.

The rest of this guide contains a review of the Committee Stage and information on what to do at the Report Stage and after that stage, with useful information in the appendices. It has been split so that you can take each section away separately which means you can work on it as a group or individually.

**Phase 1: Review of the Committee Stage and recent advice from the Committee on Climate Change to the Government**

During the Committee Stage 20 MPs, selected from each of the parties, scrutinised the Bill, considering various amendments. Friends of the Earth tabled two amendments for discussion and managed to persuade over 80 MPs to sign their support. One MP’s office told us it was the best lobbying operation they have ever seen - and it received several mentions in the Committee Stage itself.

The main reasons for putting so much effort into getting support for those amendments during the Committee Stage were to force debate on the issues and to show the Government the enormous pressure it will face from its own backbenches if it persists in keeping the 60% target and fails to include international aviation and shipping emissions.

More good news came when the Government agreed to count international aviation and shipping emissions from 2012 (the second budget period) onwards. But, as always, the devil is in the detail and looking closely we saw an unacceptable opt-out clause which says that if they don’t find a way to include these emissions by 2012 then all they have to do is issue a report explaining why not. Nonetheless the recent report by the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) – see below – means that we are unlikely to campaign on the opt-out.

A clear success of the Committee Stage has been that the Government saw the large amount of support for a stronger Bill. 34 MPs is enough to reverse their majority so having 80 MPs show their support is easily large enough to defeat the Government if it came to a vote. Unsurprisingly, the Government are now considering how to respond.

At Committee Stage the minister agreed to ask the CCC to report early to advise on whether the target should be raised to 80%. The CCC duly did so in early October and advised not just that the target be raised to 80% but also that international aviation and shipping emissions must be counted towards this. That is excellent news and very much strengthens our position – we now just need to pile the pressure on government to make sure it listens to the CCC’s advice.

The complication in the advice is that the CCC says that the UK’s international aviation and shipping emissions should not be included in the five year budgets that the CCC will lay out for all the other sectors of the economy. They say that, in the short term at least, it is too complicated to work out exactly how these emissions should be calculated and attributed to individual countries. But they do say that these emissions should be monitored, that the size of cuts in other sectors should be increased (or decreased) to compensate for the emissions from international aviation and shipping, and the Government should consider a strategy for their reduction.

This means that we must concentrate on ensuring that the Bill includes a legal obligation on the Government not just to monitor UK international aviation and shipping emissions but also to count them towards our total emissions, and therefore towards our emissions reductions targets.

Another change proposed by the CCC is that the Climate Change Bill sets targets not just for carbon dioxide, as currently, but for all green house gases (GHGs). Tt is of course also sensible to account for all the climate changing gases. However at this late stage in the Bill’s progress through Parliament the Government may postpone such a substantial redrafting until after it is passed. At
some point in future the Climate Change Law would have to be adjusted to count GHGs anyway because that is what the main international agreements deal with. As far as we are concerned we would accept either carbon dioxide or GHGs for now and so we do not suggest you complicate issues by raising this with your MP.

At the time of writing we are tabling an Early Day Motion (EDM) calling on the Government to accept the advice of the CCC, to raise the target to 80% and ensure international aviation and shipping emissions are counted. It would be great if you could ask your MP to support this EDM, called Climate Change III though we don’t have a number for it yet, as well as to support amendments to the same effect that will be tabled at Report Stage.

**Follow up actions**

If you contacted your MP and they replied, please send that reply (or a copy) to Julian Kirby, Friends of the Earth, 26-28 Underwood Street, London, N1 7JQ.

If your MP signed one or both of the amendments – see Appendix 1 – then please do write to thank them. Tell them how much you appreciate their support for these important issues and for strengthening the Bill, and that you hope you can rely on them to keep up the pressure until the final votes when their support will be most valuable. Let them know you appreciate them, and that you’ll be monitoring progress!
**Phase 2: lobbying to vote for Report Stage amendments**

The Government still maintains that the carbon dioxide reduction target should be 60% and that the opt-out for international aviation and shipping emissions should remain. We therefore need to continue to build pressure for our amendments, whilst watching to see what changes, if any, ministers announce in the run up to the Report Stage. We will of course keep you posted on any developments and how you can get involved. Please ensure we have an e-mail address for your group that is checked regularly.

If your MP signed the Committee Stage amendments then it is important that you lobby them to vote for new versions of those amendments at the Report Stage. See Appendix 1 for the names of MPs who signed one or both amendments. We will be asking them to vote for specific, numbered amendments that state the changes we want made to the Bill, but won’t have the amendment numbers until October when they are tabled. In the meantime it is still important, indeed vital and just as useful, to ask MPs to pledge to vote in support of the changes we want to see, so please do contact your MP.

There are a number of ways you can ratchet up the pressure on MPs that we’ve outlined below:

**The Report Stage is likely to be mid to late October, so please lobby your MP between now and the 18th October**

Visit your MP – see p.5-6 for details
Many of you will have already visited your MP during the Big Ask Big Month Big Lobby in autumn 2006, so you’ll have done this before. To refresh your memory, we’ve included a 5 step guide to visiting your MP which includes information on how to arrange a meeting, what to ask for and what to do afterwards. It will be much easier this time, as your MP is already supportive of a strong Climate Change Bill. Appendix 4 contains the arguments in support of a stronger Bill. Please also see the ‘over-arching brief’ that gives tips on how to lobby an MP on more than one issue, and top-line demands from our other autumn campaigns. See the introduction for details on how to get hold of this and the other campaign briefings.

Phone your MP – see p.7 for details
If you can’t visit your MP in person then this is the next best thing, ideally preceded and followed up by a letter reiterating your points and requests.

Write to your MP – see p.8 for details
We have suggested both key and additional points for a letter to your MP on the Climate Change Bill.

Write to your local paper – see p.9 for details
We have provided a template letter you could write to your local paper calling on supportive target MPs to stand by what they have said publicly and encouraging other constituents to ask their MP to keep their word. Local papers are read by all MPs who use them as a barometer of local feeling and a gauge as to their own popularity. It is a powerful method for putting pressure on your MP.

Publicise your MP’s response – see p.10 for details
All 85 MPs who have signed the amendments have already shown great support for a strong Climate Change Bill. Whether they now agree to vote for our amendments or not, it’s vital that you publicise their response, as it will provide them with an extra incentive.

If your MP replies with a vague letter please do contact Julian Kirby in the Parliamentary team on julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or 020 7566 1724 for advice on how to respond further and get a stronger comment.
Visit your MP

Before contacting and meeting your MP, there are 2 facts to keep in mind:

- It is your right to meet and lobby your MP, and it is their duty to listen to you and respond honestly.
- If your MP is one of the target MPs then s/he has already supported a strong Climate Change Bill.

Step 1: Who is my MP?
It’s easy to find out who your MP is. Visit [http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/commons/l/](http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/commons/l/) and type in your postcode. Or ring the House of Commons information line on 020 7219 4272.

Step 2: How do I find out my MP’s contact details?
MPs often have two offices, one at the House of Commons and one in his or her constituency. You can call either to make an appointment. They usually advertise their contact details locally in the Town Hall, the local press and the Yellow Pages. Most MPs also have their own websites with contact details on – you can find out if yours does by typing in your postcode here [http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/commons/l/](http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/commons/l/).

If you have any difficulty finding your MP's local office details, then ring the House of Commons Public Switchboard on 020 7219 3000 and ask to be put through to their office.

Step 3: How do I arrange a meeting/discussion?
Simply phone, email or write to your MP’s office to arrange a meeting. Try to make this contact as early as possible so they can’t blame ‘prior engagements’ as a reason not to see you. After all, they are there to represent you and are your democratic servants. They are accountable to you, not the other way around. Many MPs hold regular weekend surgeries in their constituency, so you could arrange an appointment in one of these but it’s best not use the surgery itself for your meeting as they tend to be very busy and you will be lucky to get five minutes.

If your MP says he or she is not available to meet with you, persist and call again. MPs will re-arrange their diaries if they feel pressure from local constituents, the media and other MPs. If you really can’t meet with your MP, then it may be possible to arrange a time to talk to them on the phone instead. Again, just arrange this by calling his/her office and requesting a phone discussion. Remember that your MP is not doing you a favour by meeting you; they are simply doing their job.

When should I arrange a meeting?
Please arrange to meet your MP in early to mid October. We expect the Climate Change Bill to receive its Report Stage reading in late October so need to put pressure on MPs in the run up to that stage. If they cannot meet you during this period, request a time to have a conversation on the phone instead.

Step 4: Meeting your MP
Don’t be intimidated by your MP – they are there to serve you, want your vote, and chances are you’ll know more about climate change than they do. If you want to swat up though refer to Appendix 4 for more detailed information.

The most important thing for you to keep in mind is: What are you asking your MP to do?
- To commit to vote at Report Stage for the amendments they supported at Committee Stage.
- To put that commitment in writing (either a quote for a press release or a letter to you).

Top tips for meeting your MP
Do your homework
- Keep it simple. No one expects you to be an expert. You are a concerned individual who is asking your MP to commit to taking action. That is justification enough for you to see your MP, and they should (and probably will) understand that.
- Make some notes, take them with you, and stick to your main points.
- Prepare in Advance: read Appendix 3 ‘Positions of main political parties on each of our asks’, which also outlines our critique of their views.
- Have a look at the over-arching brief that tells you what other Bills Friends of the Earth is working on this Autumn. Your MP might want to talk to you about them, even if you don’t! It gives tips on how to keep an MP on track as well as giving you top-line information on the other campaigns and how to tie them together. But, if you don’t want to discuss anything apart from the Climate Change Bill just
politely say that you want to focus on the Climate Change Bill and continue with that. See page 1 for how to get hold of the over-arching brief.

- Print up some briefings to give to your MP when you meet. The latest MP briefings will be available on [http://community.foe.co.uk/campaigns/climate/materials.html](http://community.foe.co.uk/campaigns/climate/materials.html). Please make sure you check here immediately before you visit your MP because we'll be updating these briefings as the campaign develops.

Don't be scared

- MPs are there to represent you, so you have a right to go and see them, and they expect that.
- Seriously – don't be scared. Contrary to popular belief, MPs don’t get pleasure from belittling their constituents. They will appreciate that you have taken the time to meet them and they want you to vote for them. Plus, it’s your right to go and see them. Tackling climate change is a good reason to exercise that right!
- Take support. If you are nervous about going alone, then arrange to go with friends, other people from your local group or others in your constituency; the more constituents you take with you the better.
- If your MP is a target MP s/he has already shown support for a stronger Climate Change Bill by signing EDM 736 and supporting the Committee Stage amendments so they will be open to your requests.

On the day

- Take notes of what your MP says, the more detail the better
- If your MP asks a question you can’t answer, offer to find out more and get back to them. (You can call Friends of the Earth on 020 490 1555 and we can try and help).
- Don’t let them blind you by spin or confuse you with irrelevant information. It is likely that your MP will tell you how supportive they are and how much effort they are putting into strengthening the Bill. This may be true, but you are now asking for a firm commitment.
- **Get a firm answer.** If it’s ‘yes’ then get a quote for a press release or at least a letter giving their firm support. If it’s ‘no’, explain that you and your fellow constituents will have no choice but to publicly criticise your MP for not ‘walking the talk’. Vague assurances and platitudes are not enough so don’t let them get away with it.
- One way to ensure your MP will vote for our amendments would be to take a draft press release with you to the meeting, get a quote from them agreed at the meeting and then send it to your local papers.

**Step 5: What do I do after the meeting?**

Thank your MP for the meeting, and tell them you will be in touch to follow up any action that was agreed. If you can, send them a letter to thank them and remind them of what has been discussed and agreed and that you are looking forward to seeing them vote for a stronger Climate Change Bill.

Write a letter or send a press release to your local paper (see the 'Publicise your MP’s response' section on p10).

Please tell us how it went by contacting Julian Kirby on Julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or 020 7566 1724.
Phone your MP

Phoning your MP is an easy, effective and speedy way to get your message across when you want a quick response. Anyone can phone their MP, you don’t need experience or any special knowledge.

See the ‘Visit your MP’ section above for information on how to find out who your MP is and how to contact them.

Making the phone call

- You may be able to speak directly to your MP, or to their researcher, however it is possible that you will need to book a time later on for a longer conversation.

- Be prepared with a few notes about what you are asking your MP to do. Always be polite and keep your points brief, but don’t be afraid to disagree with your MP if you think they are wrong! See the section below - Write to your MP – for tips on what arguments to make. You can also find out more by emailing julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or calling him on 020 7566 1724.

- Keep to the point and don’t let your MP distract or confuse you – it’s your right to talk to them and say what you want. You don’t need to know everything so don’t worry about facts and figures, it’s your passion that is important. See the ‘Visit your MP’ section for more details on how to get your points across and to ensure that your requests are met.

- Try to get a firm commitment to vote, and if they give one, request a quote to put out in a press release.

- If you don’t get through to your MP, it is effective to leave a message. You can do this on the MP’s office answer phone, or with the House of Commons switchboard. Leave your name and contact number, a brief explanation of what you want your MP to do, and ask someone to call you back.

- If you don’t get through first time, or don’t get a reply to your message, do try phoning again. This is a crucial vote and your MP will want to know what his or her constituents think.

What to do after the phone call

It is vital that firm commitments to vote are publicised. See the ‘Publicising your MP's response’ on p10 for guidance on following up the phone call.

If you can, send them a letter to thank them and remind them of what has been discussed and agreed and that you are looking forward to seeing them vote for a stronger Climate Change Bill.
Write to your MP

The Climate Change Bill is in its last stages in the House of Commons, and this is the most urgent and effective time for you to influence the way your MP votes. This is a historic opportunity for your MPs to help avert catastrophic climate change.

At the Report Stage, expected in late October, your MP will have the chance to vote for two key improvements:

- Raising the 2050 emissions reduction target from at least 60% to at least 80%, and
- Closing the loophole that allows us to opt out of including our international aviation and shipping emissions in the targets

A letter to your MP should include the following:

1. Thank and praise your MP for their vital support so far, particularly for signing EDM 736 in support of the Committee Stage amendments. State that the Climate Change Bill is a great piece of legislation that all parties should be proud of, but that it needs improvement if it is to both deliver the cuts scientists say are needed to avoid dangerous climate change, and to show the global leadership to which the UK aspires.

2. State that the two improvements you believe to be crucial are raising the 2050 carbon dioxide emissions reduction target from 60% to 80% and closing the loophole that allows the exclusion of the UK’s share of international aviation and shipping emissions. If they have been published (which we’ll tell you when they are available) give the amendment numbers that call for these changes.

3. Say why the two key improvements are so important:
   - The current target of ‘at least 60%’ is based on science that is over a decade old, and inadequate to prevent dangerous climate change. There is wide scientific agreement that the target should be ‘at least 80%’.
   - The aviation and shipping sectors are responsible for a large and rapidly growing share of our emissions. It isn’t fair that these industries get special treatment whereas all other sectors are included in the UK carbon budget. Aviation emissions may be two to three times more damaging because they are released at altitude.

4. Say the improvements have the support of scientists, politicians and economists, including (take your pick):
   - EDM 736 was signed by almost two thirds of backbench Labour MPs, and the amendments at Committee Stage were backed, at short notice, by over 80 Labour backbench MPs.
   - Scientists from the past and present including Royal Commissions on Environmental Pollution (on which the 60% target was based); the United Nations Development Programme; Sir Nicholas Stern; the Tyndall Centre for climate change research; a bilateral accord signed between the UK and South Africa this summer by David Milliband; and progressively stronger ministerial statements including the Prime Minister’s November 19th 2007 speech to the WWF in which he said that developed countries may need to reduce emissions by up to 80% by 2050.

5. Ask your MP to commit to vote for amendments that make these changes.

6. Finish with a thank you for this and also for public meetings, previous meetings with you, press releases, joining you on stalls etc – make it personal, be grateful, but make it clear that you are relying on them to stand by their principles and agreements, with you and in public, to strengthen the Climate Change Bill.

Please let us know what your MP says. It will help us to organise the best possible campaign for a strong Climate Change Bill. Contact: Julian Kirby on julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or 020 7566 1724.
Write to your local paper

There is a guide to writing letters to the Editor for newspapers on the Friends of the Earth website at: www.foe.co.uk/resource/how_tos/cyw_60_letter_in_paper.pdf

Below is a draft letter to start you off but it is important to write it in your own words as otherwise newspapers could receive identical letters from different people which destroys the point of writing!

Contact details for sending in your letter can be found in the newspaper itself or by talking to your network developer direct.

Dear Sir / Madam

In a few weeks we will finally be able to celebrate having a new climate change law in the UK. It's a ground-breaking piece of legislation that could make the UK a genuine world leader in the fight against dangerous climate change. Thankfully it has been supported by my MP [insert MP's name] but it still needs strengthening.

The law must deliver bigger cuts in emissions than is currently planned and needs to cover all sources of the UK's climate changing emissions - not ignore our share of emissions from international aviation and shipping.

[Insert MP's name] and over 80 of [his/her] colleagues have recently put their names to changes that would solve this, but the Government has neither listened to them, to scientists nor to the public's calls for a tougher law. I am grateful that my MP [insert MP's name] has supported calls for a tougher climate change law but I hope that [she/he] votes to strengthen the law at the crucial final votes this autumn.

Any other local residents who are also concerned about climate change can also write to their MP encourage [him/her] to continue to improve the law.

Yours faithfully

[your name]

[address]

[contact number]
Publicise your MP's response

Advice on how to write an effective press release is on our website here: www.foe.co.uk/resource/how_tos/cyw_64_press_release.pdf

1 If your MP said they would vote for our amendments

An MP giving a public commitment to vote against the Government will add enormous pressure on Ministers to toughen up the Bill. If you get that commitment into the local paper it will also make your MP much more likely to vote the right way later. MPs will be under pressure from party Whips to vote as the Government wishes and the Whips will also be reporting back to Ministers on the number of Labour MPs that look likely to vote against the current Government line.

Your press release should include:
- your congratulations and appreciation of your MP's continued support for a strong Climate Change Bill, particularly the 80% target and inclusion of aviation and shipping
- a quote from your MP giving their support
- a quote from your ‘climate campaigner’ on the impact this will have (encouraging the Government to draft a strong Bill that will help to stop dangerous climate change)
- encouragement of other constituents to write to the MP expressing their support and thanks
- your contact details

2 If your MP said they would not vote for our amendments

If your MP has now changed their mind or is giving in to pressure from the Government then it is important to show them that their constituents have noticed and are disappointed. Your press release needs to express the disappointment of your group, but also encourage others to write to their MP. MPs read the local paper, and are very interested in the opinions of their constituents, so it is possible that a few letters will encourage them to change their mind.

Your press release should include:
- your disappointment that your previously supportive MP has now changed his/her mind and is no longer pushing for a strong Climate Change Bill
- a quote from your ‘climate campaigner’ on the impact this will have (less pressure on the Government at a critical time for strengthening the Bill and ultimately a weaker Bill)
- encouragement of other constituents who care about this issue to write to the MP asking them to reconsider, and to vote for a stronger Bill, particularly the 80% target and and inclusion of aviation and shipping
- your contact details
Phase 3: After the Report Stage

See the “Key Stages” section on page 2 for what happens in Parliament after the Report Stage.

Whether or not we win our amendments we will be claiming victory for the Climate Change Bill because it is a ground-breaking piece of legislation and the first of its kind in the world. When Friends of the Earth first proposed a Climate Change law 3 years ago the Government dismissed it, but the huge support we demonstrated from the public has forced them to change their minds.

We will be working with journalists and MPs to celebrate this victory, and it would be great if you joined in.

Write to your local paper
Write a short letter to your local paper and show them what you have done locally to be part of this successful campaign. Ensure you mention the support of your local MP and how they have helped. We will send you some ideas for text nearer the time, but in preparation you could find the best photos of the campaigning you’ve done over the last 3 years (such as Days of Action, stalls, meetings with your MP, the public signing postcards) that would add colour and local interest and make an article more likely to appear.

Write to your MP
If your MP has been supportive of the Bill (for example by signing EDMs and signing amendments) do write to them thanking them for listening to your concerns and congratulating them on being part of a historic piece of legislation.
Why are we only lobbying Labour MPs? What about the Conservatives and the Lib Dems?
Please see Appendix 3 for the positions of all main political parties and our critique of their views. The opposition parties have been supportive in the House of Lords and thus far, though to varying extents, in the House of Commons too. The Labour Government continues to oppose our two key improvements to the Bill and so it is Labour backbenchers we need to persuade to support us. With them on side and the opposition parties also supporting us, the Government will be outnumbered and will either concede or face defeat at the Report Stage votes.

What if my MP simply says “no”, or refuses to state a clear position either way?
Point out to your MP that they have shown their support by signing EDM 736 and Amendment NC1 (international aviation and shipping) and Amendment 2 (80% target), that you are grateful and respect them for having done so, and that you and your fellow constituents now expect them to ‘walk the talk’. Be clear that you will publicly praise them for voting in favour of those amendments at Report Stage, but that you will, publicly, be unable to do so in the event that they renege. Be artful about how you express this – you want to avoid sounding mean and threatening whilst being clear what you expect and what you will do if let down.

What if my MP doesn’t respond to my letters/request for a meeting?
Chase your MP. Keep calling their office. Be polite but be persistent. Don’t give up. This is a crucially important point in our campaign for this amazing Bill.

What do I do if my MP says “yes” to voting for our amendments at Report Stage?
Congratulate them! Do it personally, then do it publicly too:
- If your MP pledges to vote for our amendments at Report Stage write to the local paper(s) congratulating them but also expressing hope and trust they will honour that commitment.
- If your MP then votes for our amendments at Report Stage write another letter to the local paper congratulating your MP for doing so and state that together you have strengthened this fantastic Bill.

FAQs

I have other MPs in my area who are Labour but haven’t signed the EDM or who are not Labour. Should I lobby them too?
You should only lobby your own MP. If there are neighbouring MPs who are Labour and have signed the Committee Stage Amendments the best thing to do is to try and urge people you know who are their constituents to lobby them. Our priorities are those Labour MPs who signed the Committee Stage Amendments because they are the ones who could make a difference to getting our Amendments into the Bill.

My MP has done everything I’ve asked and stated publicly that he/she’s onside totally. Do I really need to do this?
Yes, and it is especially important to get a recent and unequivocal quote from them stating unambiguous support for our Amendments. The more vocal they are in supporting us the better: ask them to shout even louder. If they have publicly stated a definite and absolute ‘yes’ then write and thank them. This is very important and valuable - MPs that have been supportive so far will be coming under serious pressure from party Whips to oppose our Amendments. Letters and lobbying from constituents not only persuades MPs but also provides support to MPs facing a crack-down by their party Whips.

Do you want us to do stalls, public meetings and big events, like last summer?
No, though that was very useful then. At this stage in the campaign it is very personal lobbying that is most effective and so we are focussing on direct lobbying of MPs who have already shown support for a strong Climate Bill. Letters and visits from informed constituents such as yourselves are what will win these final campaign asks for us.

Why do we want these amendments included? What arguments should I make?
Please see Appendix 4 for the arguments for strengthening the Bill. If you would like more information, contact Julian Kirby in the Climate team (julian.kirby@foe.co.uk or 020 7566 1724).
Appendix 1: Labour MPs who signed Committee Stage amendments

Amendment 2 – raise the 2050 carbon dioxide emissions target from at least 60% to at least 80% target
Amendment NC1 – include the UK’s share of international aviation and shipping emissions by second budget period
*only signed Amendment 2
**only signed Amendment NC1

Diane Abbott Janet Dean Lindsay Hoyle Linda Riordan
Nick Ainger Jim Devine Brian Iddon Mohammad Sarwar
Graham Allen Jim Dobbin Lynne Jones Barry Sheerman
John Austin Frank Dobson Alan Keen James Sheridan
Hugh Bayley Mark Durkan** Peter Kilfoyle Clare Short
Alan Beith** David Drew Martin Linton Alan Simpson
Joe Benton Frank Field Tony Lloyd Marsha Singh
Roger Berry Mark Fisher Gordon Marsden Anne Snelgrove*
Clive Betts Paul Flynn Robert Marshall- Gavin Strang
Colin Burgon Michael Jabez Andrews
Ronnie Campbell Foster* Eric Martlew
Martin Caton Hywel Francis Christine
David Chaytor Mike Gapes McCafferty
Katy Clark Neil Gerrard John McDonnell
Tom Clarke Ian Gibson Ann McKechin
Harry Cohen Roger Godsiff Andrew McKinlay**
Michael Connarty John Grogan** Michael Meacher
Jeremy Corbyn Nigel Griffiths Anne Moffat
Jim Cousins Fabian Hamilton Julie Morgan
David Crausby Dai Havard Chris Mullin
Jon Cruddas Kate Hoey Doug Naysmith
Ann Cryer Philip Hollobone Eddie O’Hara
John Cummings* James Hood Bill Olner
Clare Curtis- Kelvin Hopkins Albert Owen
Thomas John Horam Gordon Prentice

[Paul Truswell – please do not write to Paul]
## Appendix 2: Summary of MP’s Climate Change Bill positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Supported 80% target (via hard evidence e.g. statement at public meeting, signed pledge card, letter to constituent etc.)</th>
<th>Supported inclusion of aviation and shipping (via hard evidence e.g. statement at public meeting, signed pledge card, letter to constituent etc.)</th>
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* Please do not write to Paul Truswell.
The Government/Labour party

The MPs that we will be targeting for the Report Stage of the Climate Change Bill are all backbench Labour MPs so it is the Government’s arguments that they need to be persuaded to vote against.

Regarding the 2050 target
The Government do not support the 2050 target of at least 80%. They do accept the 60% target currently in the Bill is wrong according to the latest scientific evidence. Gordon Brown has stated that the necessary target is likely to be at least 80%. However, they want to wait until the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) reports in December before changing the target.

The Committee on Climate Change has now written to Ed Miliband, the new Energy and Climate Change Minister, advising that the target be raised to 80%, and that international aviation and shipping emissions count towards this target ([www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk)). We now need to pile on the pressure on the Government to honour its pledge to act on the advice of the CCC.

This Committee, already operating in ‘shadow’ form until the Bill is passed into law, is charged with advising the Government on climate change policy. But, it will only have advisory powers and the Government can ignore it. Perhaps tellingly, ministers have so far refused to pledge to do as the CCC recommends. Unless the target is 80% in the Bill the Government will not have a legal duty to reduce emissions by anything more than 60%.

Besides, why have the wrong target in the Bill? It is ridiculous to pass a Bill into a law with what everyone agrees is the wrong target and, even worse, send a dangerous message to other countries looking to copy this Bill.

Regarding international aviation and shipping emissions
The Government has partially conceded on this since the Lords Stage of the Bill and now accepts these emissions should ideally be included. However they maintain that there is a need for an opt-out because there may be future international agreements that treat these emissions differently. They also repeatedly cite the difficulty in counting such emissions. They have therefore argued for the Bill to require including these emissions by 2012 (the second budget period of the Climate Change Law) then all they need to do is publish a report explaining why and that will be that. This is an unacceptable loophole and we have been pushing for it to be closed - either by removing the opt-out altogether or by limiting how long and under what circumstances the Secretary of State can use the opt-out.

Since the CCC’s interim advice to the Government (see section above) the situation has changed slightly. The advice is that international aviation and shipping emissions must be included in the total UK emissions budget but that there will not be specific budgets set for this sector, unlike other sectors, at least not in the short term. Given the enormous weight of authority with there is little sense in campaigning for these emissions to be included in the 5-year budgets nor, therefore, in removing the opt-out. However the CCC’s advice is in fact very much in keeping with our earlier position which is that these emissions simply must be counted towards the total. We therefore need a legal obligation on government – in the Bill – to ensure that international aviation and shipping emissions are counted, annually, and that if those emissions increase, or fail to decrease, then bigger cuts must be made in other sectors. This is what we now need to push MPs to support. It is not just our advice – it is the hallowed Committee on Climate Change’s advice too, and that’s a powerful argument. See [www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk)

What will make the Government change the Bill to include these points?
Ultimately, Parliament can change the Bill. The final wording is decided by what MPs vote for – not by what Ministers think. Of course Minister’s are very powerful players in this, as they have enormous influence over the way Labour MPs in particular will vote. But the other huge influence over MPs is you - their constituents.

What is most likely to happen is that Ministers will pick up on backbench concerns about these aspects of the Bill and propose their own way of dealing with them. This is why it is so important to persuade MPs to make specific public statements supporting these changes early in the process. If this doesn’t happen, then the issues are likely to come to a vote. Then the challenge will be for us to persuade more MPs to vote for amendments to toughen up the Bill than Ministers and party Whips can persuade to vote against them.

Appendix 3: Positions of the political parties on desired amendments to the Climate Change Bill as at end of Aug 2008
Other parties
The remaining parties are largely sympathetic to our demands so MPs from these parties are not important targets for us to persuade. Nonetheless it might be useful to understand their positions.

The Conservatives
Regarding international aviation and shipping emissions:
The Conservatives defeated the Government in the Lords with an amendment on including international aviation and shipping emissions in the Bill after the first budget period, i.e. after the first 5 years. This is the amendment that the Government have largely accepted. The problem with the current version is the opt-out, as mentioned above, but the Tories seem supportive of moves to close this, as we request.

Regarding the 2050 target:
Currently the Conservatives do not officially support the 80% target, despite their ‘Quality of Life’ Report which recommended it. Instead they support including a clause that ensures we keep within the 2°C warming limit, which in many ways is much the same thing. However, while the 2°C limit is right in principle, legally it leaves a lot of “wriggle room” for Governments to set weaker targets than would be ideal. It will be necessary to make cuts of at least 80% by 2050 if we are to avoid a 2°C rise and so it is logical for the Tories to support the 80% target at Report Stage.

Tellingly in the Committee, every Conservative backbencher voted for the 80% amendment, saying that if the Government insisted on removing the 2 degrees C figure from the Bill, they felt they had to reconsider their position. The Conservatives spokesmen abstained on the vote - which is hardly surprising as it is naturally far harder for them to simply shift the whole Party’s position during a debate without consulting other members of the Shadow Cabinet.

The Liberal Democrats
The Liberal Democrats fully support the two changes we are calling for. However pressure on them at constituency level is always valuable to ensure we maximise the number of them that turn out for the Report Stage votes on our amendments.

The National Parties
All these parties (Plaid, SNP, SDLP, DUP, Independents etc) support our desired amendments. However, as with the Liberal Democrats, pressure on them at constituency level is always valuable to ensure we maximise the number of them that turn out for the Report Stage votes on our amendments, particularly with regards to Northern Ireland.
Appendix 4: Arguments for strengthening the Climate Change Bill

We seek support from the Government regarding the two needed changes to strengthen the Climate Change Bill – a stronger long term target and the inclusion of aviation and shipping emissions.

These two asks haven’t changed since we first called for them when the Bill was introduced in November 2007. Three Select Committees scrutinised the Bill over the summer of 2007 and published their final reports. All three Committees - the Environmental Audit Committee, the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, and the Joint Committee on the Draft Climate Change Bill - drew conclusions that support our arguments.

Currently over 250 MPs have signed Early Day Motion No. 736 which calls on the government to support the changes the Bill needs. The following have also supported the needed changes:

- a recent UN Human Development report¹ (this is noted in Early Day Motion No. 736²)
- scientists from the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution³
- Sir Nicholas Stern in an article in the Guardian on 30 Nov 2007⁴

We need higher targets – at least 80 per cent cuts by 2050

All three select committees agreed that there is substantial evidence that the targets in the Bill should be amended.

Sir Tom Blundell, Sir John Houghton, Sir John Lawton, all former or present chairs of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, and Professor Norman Myers, foreign member of the US National Academy of Sciences, had this to say about the Government's climate change target:

"In tackling the global challenge of climate change, governments must follow the latest science that clearly shows the need for the UK to reduce its CO₂ emissions by at least 80% by 2050. This will require much more substantial action by 2020 than the Government is currently considering."

The UK Climate Change Bill proposes a reduction in CO₂ emissions of at least 60% by 2050. This target is based on a report of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution (RCEP) from 2000. Since this time, developments in climate change science show that this target is insufficient to avoid the worst impacts of climate change for people, species and habitats⁵.

Sir Nicholas Stern’s article⁶ in the Guardian on 30 November said the following about developed countries’ climate change targets:

"For a 50% reduction in global emissions by 2050, the world average per capita must drop from seven Tonnes to two or three. Within these global targets, even a minimal view of equity demands that the rich countries' reductions should be at least 80%"

- The target is too low to avoid dangerous climate change: The draft Bill proposes 60 per cent cuts in carbon emissions by 2050. This is too weak - even if the UK and the rest of the world met this target the world would still heat up by 4 or 5 degrees Celsius. Scientists have warned that the effects of climate change get much worse if the planet warms by more than 2 degrees Celsius. This is why the UK Government and EU have said keeping warming below that level is the fundamental aim of their climate change policies.
- The target is unfair: In order to avoid dangerous global climate change developed countries, which have contributed more to the problem, need to make proportionally greater cuts. The 80% target is the very minimum required to reflect this. The UNDP report, letter from the authors of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution, and Sir Nicholas Stern have all emphasised this point.

⁴ [http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange)
⁵ [http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange)
⁶ [http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange](http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2007/nov/30/comment.climatechange)
Recently David Miliband signed the UK up to a bilateral accord with South Africa which stated that developed countries such as the UK need to make cuts in the range of 80% - 85% by 2050.

- **The Government legislates, not the Committee**: The Government argues that it should wait until the Committee on Climate Change reports in December before deciding on what the target should be. But it won’t commit to doing what the Committee on Climate Change recommends. In this situation it is crazy to include a target in the Bill that Ministers accept is wrong (see Chancellor’s quote).

- **Global leadership**: 19 European countries have campaigns for a climate change law. Austria has one in its Parliament, and Japan has just launched a campaign for a similar law. All these countries and many others are looking to the UK’s law, the first of its kind in the world, for leadership and example. We have to get it right so that they do too.

- **It is possible**: numerous studies, including the RSPB/WWF collaboration “The 80% Challenge”\(^8\) and our own “Living within a carbon budget” report\(^9\) in collaboration with the Tyndall Centre and the Cooperative bank, have shown that it is perfectly possible for the UK to achieve an 80% emissions reduction by 2050 without hurting our economy.

- **Not hitting at least 80% would be more costly**: as Sir Nicholas Stern’s report\(^10\) has made clear. We also put our economic competitiveness at risk if we delay adjusting our economy to the low carbon future we will inevitably have to deal with.

### Emissions from international aviation and shipping should be included in the Bill

Again, the Select Committees all agreed that excluding the UK’s share of emissions from international aviation and shipping was a weakness in the Bill. Two Committees explicitly rejected the Government’s argument that there is no international agreement on reporting these emissions. They cited the Kyoto reports the Government already makes.

- **International aviation and shipping emissions can’t be ignored**: These sectors are among the fastest growing sources of carbon emissions. Yet international aviation and shipping emissions will not initially be counted. This is like having a drink driving law that ignores the effects of whisky.

- **Ignoring international aviation emissions is unfair on other industries**: The UNDP report estimates if these emissions are ignored the UK will have to reduce other sectors by 78-86%\(^11\) to meet just a 60% target by 2050; if you consider the extra impact of emissions at altitude then other sectors would have to cut their emissions entirely to compensate\(^12\).

- **A deadline for the inclusion of these emissions must be set in the Bill**: The Government argues it should be allowed to include them later, but sets no time limit or date for this. This could allow endless delay whilst governments argue.

- **It is perfectly possible**: UK emissions from international aviation and shipping are already counted under our Kyoto obligations. They are posted publicly on the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs’ website.

- **It doesn’t matter where the emissions come from ... they still cause climate change**: so no matter how difficult, we must count international aviation and shipping emissions.

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\(^7\) http://www.tiscali.co.uk/money/budget/2008/features/budget-speech-in-full/15

\(^8\) http://www.wwf.org.uk/filelibrary/pdf/80percent_report.pdf

\(^9\) http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/reports/living_carbon_budget.pdf

\(^10\) http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/sternevs_review_economics_climate_change/sternevs_review_Report.cfm


\(^12\) http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/reports/aviation_tyndall_research.pdf