

Climate emergency debated on the Tyne

On Wednesday 2 October, more than 60 representatives from leading organisations across the North East of England met to discuss how the region is preparing for the fall out of the climate emergency.

There were representatives from local authorities, development corporations, universities, water companies, statutory bodies and the business community. Amongst the visitors was James Bevan, the Environment Agency's chief executive, who addressed the gathered audience about the issues.

The other organisations who also spoke during the event were Durham University, NewcastleGateshead Initiative, North East England Nature Partnership and Thames Estuary Partnership.

The representatives were taken on a guided boat tour of the Tyne Estuary Partnership project, led by the Environment Agency and Ground Work NE & Cumbria, and shown first-hand how the River Tyne is preparing for the effects of Climate Change. They ventured from Newcastle Quayside to Jarrow before turning around and returning to moor up in sight of the beautiful array of iconic bridges.

Climate Change is the biggest threat we face – and it is happening now. We are already seeing the effects of the Climate Emergency in the UK through hotter, drier summers and wetter winters. The impact on people, communities and wildlife – and the habitat on which they depend – is huge.

The Environment Agency is doing everything possible to respond to the challenges of Climate Change, build resilience, and protect communities now and through the next century in a new flood and coastal strategy. We will work across government, business, and with communities up and down the country to manage the impacts of climate change and understand how we can adapt to a different future.

Groundwork NE & Cumbria are working in partnership with the Environment Agency – to build the Tyne Estuary Partnership and develop priority projects for enhancement and improvement. The River Tyne is one of the most iconic and well-known rivers in the UK and provides a focal point for economic activity supporting thriving businesses and communities. It responds to the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan; to create connections between existing initiatives and real practical actions.

The partnership project looks to:

- Develop a strong, strategic, influential partnership invested in long term environmental and economic enhancement of the iconic estuary
- Working together to achieve improvements in biodiversity and the ecological environment to reduce silting and pollution, improving water quality
- Realising wider benefits that joined up action can achieve; natural

capital gains, health and wellbeing improvements, education, social, cultural and heritage benefits

It could include the introduction of nature based solutions such as creating a saltmarsh to help with carbon absorption and implement other crucial interventions that can reduce the risk of flooding, clean up air quality and make the area more attractive to residents and visitors to the area.

Rob Carr, Tyne Catchment Coordinator, at the Environment Agency, said:

It's hard to hear but climate change is impacting us all, right here in the north east, and we individually have the choice to reduce our personal contribution to the Climate Emergency in our day to day lives. The food we eat, the journey we take, the home we live in, the places we work and play. It's not just something that happens to others, it is happening to us – right here, right now.

The Tyne Estuary Project is looking to improve and increase the nature that runs through Tyneside along our Tyne estuary. Nature can help us manage flooding, improve air quality, capture carbon, help address social and health issues as well as attracting investment in our local economy.

The Environment Agency along with a growing Tyne Estuary Partnership have a vision for a more natural, healthy and vibrant riverside. We have identified over 70 locations where we hope to work with land owners, business, developers, Local Authorities and communities to realise our vision and help manage, through nature, the climate emergency we all face.

Chris Watson, Director of Land & Communities, Groundwork NE & Cumbria, said:

Groundwork NE & Cumbria welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership with the Environment Agency and other organisations to develop a sustainable approach to the environmental and economic enhancement of the iconic Tyne Estuary. As an organisation, we strongly believe that such a local approach to sustainable development can contribute towards the fight against the much wider and significant climate emergency, which we all face.

The tour of the Tyne Estuary Project was also an opportunity for people and organisations to sign up to the [Tyne Estuary Partnership Pledge](#) to help realise the vision, hopes and plans for the Tyne and to secure its future for generations to come.

UK response to WTO ruling on Airbus

The World Trade Organization (WTO) plays a vital role in enforcing the global trade rules and resolving disputes between nations.

The WTO has today (Wednesday 2 October) issued its [ruling](#) on US retaliation rights in the Airbus dispute. It states that the US can be authorised to apply tariffs worth \$7.497 billion annually on the UK, France, Germany, Spain ('the Airbus nations') and the wider EU.

The UK government is clear that resorting to tariffs is not in the interests of the UK, EU or US. We are working closely with the US, EU and European partners to support a negotiated settlement to the Airbus and Boeing disputes.

We are also seeking confirmation from the WTO that the UK has complied fully with WTO rulings regarding support to Airbus, and should not be subject to tariffs.

The UK is confident that it has fully complied with WTO rulings in the Airbus dispute.

A ruling is expected in the coming months to confirm whether the Airbus nations are in full compliance with WTO law. The US is allowed to seek authorisation to retaliate before the WTO's ruling on whether or not the Airbus nations are now in compliance. However, we believe that resorting to tariffs now would be short-sighted and counterproductive.

The WTO has previously ruled that both the US and the Airbus nations need to take further steps to bring support to the aerospace industries into compliance with WTO law. The UK and other Airbus nations have now taken steps to bring their support fully in line with WTO rulings.

In contrast, the US has taken no steps to bring its support to Boeing into compliance with WTO law. The EU will in some months equally be granted rights to impose countermeasures against the US.

Research and analysis: Lumpy skin disease in Israel and South East

Europe

Preliminary outbreak assessment for lumpy skin disease in Israel and South East Europe.

Travel advice: Slovakia vs Wales FC – UEFA Euro 2020 qualifier match

Travel advice for Welsh fans travelling to Trnava for the Slovakia vs Wales FC match on Thursday 10 October 2019.

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Travel advice for Welsh fans travelling to Trnava for the Slovakia vs Wales FC match on Thursday 10 October 2019.

- Date: Thursday 10 October 2019
- Venue: City Arena Stadium (Anton Malatinský Stadium), Trnava, Slovakia
- Kick-off time: 7.45pm (local time)

As well as this advice, check out our [travel advice for Slovakia](#).

Passports and insurance

- you don't need a visa to travel to Slovakia, but your passport will need to be valid for at least 6 months after entry
- if you lose your passport, you'll need to get an [Emergency Travel Document](#) from the British Embassy in Bratislava
- take out comprehensive travel and medical [insurance](#) – your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) will be valid only for urgent treatment
- for more guidance please see our [travel advice for Slovakia](#)

Getting to/from the airport

By taxi

- it takes 20 minutes to get from the airport to city centre of Bratislava (Slovakia's capital) – there is no airport in Trnava. There are a

variety of taxi options available in Bratislava including private hire, app-based and metered cabs

- some visitors have reported being severely over-charged by local taxis
- with private hire it's best to negotiate a price before leaving – for a journey to one of the major hotels in central Bratislava expect to pay 15-20 EUR and make sure any taxi you take has a taxi sign or clear taxi branding on it
- if taking a metered cab ensure the taxi meter is switched on
- check that the taxi has working seatbelts

By bus

- bus no. 61 links Bratislava airport with the city centre from the Main Railway Station (Hlavná železničná stanica), 05:00 am to 11:00 pm in peak times every 10 minutes (20 minutes outside the peak times)
- bus no. 96 goes to the airport from the direction of Petržalka, Prokofievova
- night line N61 provides direct connection between Bratislava Airport, Main bus station (Hlavná autobusová stanica) and Main railway station (Hlavná železničná stanica)
- the trip from the airport to the city center usually lasts 30-40 min
- one single ticket costs 0,90 € (60 minutes Mon-Fri, 90 minutes weekend) and the ticket has to be bought on the station in the automat and then validated in the bus

Getting to the Stadium: City Arena Trnava Stadium (also known as Anton Malatinský Stadium)

Bus

Special buses will be arranged for Welsh fans from Bratislava to Trnava around 02:00 pm on Thursday 10.10.2019 (organised by Welsh Football Association) departing from the city center and the Main bus station.

City Arena stadium is located right in Trnava's city centre. It lies right on the southern edge of the historic town centre, a few hundred metres from the central square. The stadium itself is part of a larger new development including a shopping mall and cinema.

Address

Športová, 917 01 Trnava

The match

Where fans should enter the stadium

Welsh supporters will be seated in sectors 15,16,17 and 46,47,48 (Gates C and D) – see stadium plan. There will be no special leaving procedures – as the same gates (C and D) will be used to leave the stadium.

Entry procedures

Access to the stadium can be slow. Please use gates C and D to enter the stadium. Expect to be searched at least twice. To avoid last minute delays get to the stadium early. The stadium opens 2 hours before the kick-off.

Restrictions

In addition to items which would usually be prohibited in the UK, please note the following items that will also not be allowed to be taken into the stadium: flares, fireworks, alcohol, cans, glass, plastic bottles or containers, coins, lighters. Also, umbrellas are not allowed – please take your raincoat with you in case of bad weather. If you do bring any of these items they will be confiscated by the Slovak authorities.

Alcohol and smoking

Alcoholic beverages can be purchased in the stadium, but not brought in from outside. Smoking will not be allowed.

There are no Embassy offices in Trnava, the nearest is in Bratislava.

Address: Panská 16, 811 01 Bratislava, Slovakia

Local phone number: +421 2 5998 2000

International phone number: +44 20 7008 1500

Email: britishembassybratislava@fco.gov.uk

Opening hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8.30am-5pm (local time)

Friday: 8:30am-2am (local time)

Emergency services phone number in Slovakia: 112