

Target the Corporate Climate Killers!

Plymouth Climate Council Newsletter March 2023: Stop the Unabated Fossil Fuel Expansion!



As gas prices rise, the UK oil and gas industries rake in billions in extra profit. In February 2023, **Shell announced that its annual profits had more than doubled in 2022 to an eye-watering £32 billion**, this money coming directly from ordinary households' soaring energy bills.

Record Heat & Profits

Whilst global warming produced record temperatures and extreme weather events, fossil fuel businesses expanded.

British Gas (whose owner *Centrica* had seen profits quadruple to £3.3bn) employed contractors to forcibly install prepayment meters in vulnerable households, **cutting off their heating**. Rishi Sunak has consistently blocked any meaningful investment in home insulation, instead going down the most dangerous route possible by incentivising fossil fuel extraction by tax relief on the new 'windfall tax'.

New Oil, Gas & Coal

Now, **over £8 billion of oil and gas projects** are being unleashed, with new UK oil & gas fields and coal mines doing nothing to help with energy bills, but accelerating climate breakdown. Fossil investment by banks is happening despite the stark warning from scientists that to avoid collapse there can be **no new investments in oil, gas and coal**.

Demand Zero Emissions

A comprehensive **climate jobs programme** could ensure investment in warm, well-insulated homes for all. We can create decent well-paid jobs in communities around the country, helping the local economy in all regions, improving public transport, getting clean air in cities and restoring our wildlife and green spaces.

Together with energy efficiency, a rapid transition to cheap, reliable renewable energy such as wind and solar can reduce our dependence on gas and cut energy bills permanently.

Emergency Transition Now!

The climate crisis and cost-of-living crisis can be tackled together, with a focus on public sector jobs which meet needs and cut emissions, alongside a reversal of the damaging austerity cuts which have left ordinary people and public services struggling. This will only happen if we target the fossil fuel corporations and their political friends, challenging the shareholders meetings, exposing the millions in dividends paid to their Executives and Managers despite the damage they cause, and shining a very public light on their affairs and profits. Climate campaigners, together with trade unionists can put significant pressure upon these corporations - embarrass them into an emergency transition away from fossil fuels, or risk being taken into not-for-profit public ownership.



Build the Climate Movement!

In Plymouth:

16th March 6pm, Public Relaunch Meeting of the Plymouth Community Climate Centre at the Athenium Theatre, Derry's Cross, PL1 2SW. Build the Power to shape the Present and the Future!

30th March 7pm - Plymouth Hub for Climate Justice - at the Sustainability Hub, Kirkby Lodge, Kirkby Place (off James St. above Portland Square) in the Plymouth University Campus: Public Discussion: Why is Climate Justice central to solving the climate crisis? www.plymouthhub4climate.org

In London:



Join us at Westminster to force the changes that can prevent climate chaos.

**100,000 PEOPLE
HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
21 APRIL**

and beyond



Plymouth Climate Council is part of the Campaign against Climate Change and supported by Plymouth Trades Union Council. Find us on Facebook:

