

SYP's priorities for COP26

advocacy action pack



how to use this pack

This pack has been written to help members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs) and other young person to share SYP's priorities for COP26 with elected representatives on Friday 29th October 2021.

It contains lots of useful information, including a template email, suggestions for social media actions, and - of course - our COP26 priorities.

why Friday 29th October?

On Friday 29th October children and young people across Scotland will be calling on elected representatives to take action to tackle the climate emergency, as part of [The Moment](#).

The Moment is being coordinated by [SYP](#) and the [Children's Parliament](#) to give children and young people the opportunity to take part in nation-wide climate meetings with MPs, MSPs, and local councillors to ensure their voices are heard as part of the debate on the climate emergency.

what is COP26?

COP26 is a huge international climate summit, where decision makers will come together from all over the world to update on the changes they have made to reduce carbon emissions, and hopefully will agree further steps they will take to address the climate emergency. COP26 will take place in Glasgow between 1st and 12th November 2021.



#TheMoment

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questions?

If you have any questions about The Moment, COP26, or anything included in this pack, please contact Rosy Burgess, SYP's Events and Campaigns Officer at rosy.b@syp.org.uk.

what actions can I take?

There are four main actions we would like young people to take:

- Email your elected representatives to tell them about SYP's priorities for COP26 - there is a template email [here](#), which you can adapt to send to your local MP, MSPs, and councillors. You can download SYP's priorities for COP26 [here](#).
- Make a short video calling on Scotland's decision makers to take action on SYP's priorities for COP26. Share it on social media on Friday 29th October, and tag local elected representatives. Remember to tag @OfficialSYP and use #TheMoment as well! There is a script you could use to help you record your video on page 3.
- Share SYP's priorities for COP26 on your social media channels - there are some template social media posts you could adapt on page 3.
- Have a look at The Moment action pack ([here](#)) to find out how to arrange a meeting with your elected representatives!

what are SYP's priorities for COP26?

There are five priority areas young people across Scotland have told us they want decision makers to take action on. These areas are:

- meaningful participation of children and young people.
- climate justice.
- education on living sustainably.
- access to active and sustainable transport.
- circular economy and packaging.

These priorities are based on SYP policy, which is created through consultation with Scotland's young people. You can find more information about each of the priorities [here](#).

template social media posts

Scotland's young people want our decision makers to take action to tackle the climate crisis. @OfficialSYP has 5 priorities for #COP26:

- meaningful participation
- 🌳 climate justice
- education
- active & sustainable transport
- ♻️ circular economy

<https://bit.ly/sypcop> #TheMoment

Hi <decision maker> - have you seen @OfficialSYP's five priorities for #COP26? Scotland's YP want to see action on meaningful participation, climate justice, active & sustainable transport, education & circular economy. How will you act for #TheMoment? <https://bit.ly/sypcop>

The climate emergency is an issue of climate justice which stops young people from realising their #rights. @OfficialSYP has five priorities for #COP26 that Scotland's young people want decision makers to act on. Check them out at <https://bit.ly/sypcop>! #TheMoment

template video script

"My name is <your name> and I live in Scotland. I want decision makers to act on the Scottish Youth Parliament's five priorities for COP26 because... <say why you think decision makers should take action>."

top tips

- Don't worry if you can't take action on Friday 29th October - you can still share SYP's priorities for COP26 at any point before 12th November!
- Stay positive and try not to engage with negative social media posts. If you are worried about anything you see on social media, please speak to a trusted adult, or check out Young Scot's website [here](#).
- If you are emailing your elected representatives, copy in your youth worker, teacher, or another trusted adult so they can support you.
- You can find out who your local elected representatives are [here](#).
- If your elected representative asks to meet you to hear your views, please tell a trusted adult before you make any arrangements. Please also make sure you are follow the current Covid-19 rules to make sure everyone is safe.

introducing the Scottish Youth Parliament



The [Scottish Youth Parliament](#) (SYP) is the democratic voice of Scotland's young people. Our members are elected from across different communities of place and interest to represent the views of their peers, and campaign for the changes they wish to see. You can find out more about the wide diversity of our membership on our [website](#).

Our work is grounded in article 12 of the UNCRC and we want young people to grow up in a Scotland where their views are listened to in all issues affecting them.

All of our stances and priorities come directly from the views of young people across Scotland. Most recently, we published our 2021-26 manifesto, [From Scotland's Young People](#), which engaged with thousands of young people to find out what changes they want to see over this Scottish Parliamentary term - including several relating to climate and environmental policy. This manifesto focused on amplifying the voices of seldom-heard groups as well as those of the general youth population.

We are by no means climate experts nor do we claim to have the answers to the issues. But what we can do is share young people's concerns and suggested solutions.

SYP has run several campaigns relating to environmental issues, including our [All Aboard](#) campaign, which focused on improving public transport, and [Pack it up, Pack it in](#) which focused on reducing litter and pollution levels.

We're also currently working to ensure young people across Scotland have their voices heard by decision makers in the run up to COP26 through our work on [The Moment](#), which we are running in partnership with the Children's Parliament and the Scottish Parliament.

You can check out this '[about SYP](#)' sheet for more information.