# Preparing for COP26

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### Format of presentation

What is COP?

How does it work?

COP26 focus

UK progress towards its climate change targets

#### What is COP?

1992 United Nations hosted the 'Earth Summit' in Rio de Janeiro
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – 'there is a problem'
Met annually since 1995 – UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP)
Parties are 197/199 sovereign States

COP26 @ Glasgow 1-12 Nov – prelim/fringe meetings @ Italy/Switzerland

First time ever in UK – expect 30,000+ attendees

Alok Sharma MP – UK President of COP26

#### How does it work?

- 1 Progress towards Nationally Determined Contributions to achieve Convention targets, submitted since previous COPs
- 2 Negotiate new targets towards which NDCs are requested
  - Game Theory & other negotiating techniques
- Geopolitical changes since previous COP < Covid19, war, leadership etc

COP3/1997 > Kyoto Agreement to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions 1987 Montreal Protocol > close hole in ozone layer — CFCs ban — pre-UNFCCC

#### COP26 focus

COP21/2015 > Paris Agreement

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WiGD00gK2ug&t=69s 1:39

Limit ave global surface air temp rise to not >1.5°C as at c1800, by 2050

- Reduce domestic greenhouse gas emissions + help LDCs
- Build domestic resilience to impacts of extreme weather + help LDCs

## UK progress towards its NDCs

Climate Change Act 2008/19 legalised its #1 NDC > 'net zero' by 2050

**All-Party Parliamentary Climate Change Group** – APPCCG

Launched 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Daisy Cooper MP St Albans – a Vice-Chair

Commissioned **Policy Connect** < independent research consultancy to monitor the UK Govt's policies to achieve its #1 NDC

How do you think the government stacks up?

### **UK Climate Policy Dashboard**

UK NOT ON TRACK to meet LEGAL obligations in CCA 2008/19

APPCCG/- if UK to be global climate change leader > needs evidence of reduced domestic GHGs AND resilience support to LDCs

Good	POWER	6/10	Renewables – wind, hydro; but little solar, tidal turbines
On the Way	TRANSPORT	5/10	Electric vehicles; little on public transport – train/bus
Insufficient	AGRICULTURE	5/10	Few electric farm vehicles, machinery
Insufficient	MANUFACTURING	4/10	Still fossil fuel power sources
Insufficient	BUILDING	3/10	Few low-carbon buildings/training; few incentives
Critically insufficient	WASTE	2/10	Little enforcement; not national; little plastic disposal