

Climate and Nature Leadership Programme: Nature Crisis

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Joint event by the Environment APPG and Climate APPG

22nd October 2024

- In attendance: Ali Strathern MP (chair), Wera Hobhouse MP, Roz Savage MP, Luke Murphy MP, John Whitby MP, Manuela Perteghella MP, Ellie Chowns MP, Deirdre Costigan MP, Catherine Fookes MP, Claire Hughes MP, Julia Buckley MP (and staff), Cath Miller (Green party), Lord Cameron of Dillington, the Earl of Caithness, Lord Inglewood.
- Environment APPG secretariat: Charles Long, Lucy Pegg, Holly Brazier-Tope, Nadia Sabania
- Climate APPG secretariat: Alice Watson, Zoe Avison
- Speakers: RSPB CEO Beccy Speight; Dr Mya-Rose Craig; Nature Friendly Farming Network's Anthony Curwen; Charlotte Sudgens, environmental economist at AtkinsRealis.
- Anthony Curwen began the session with an overview of the role of farming in protecting biodiversity and the current policy difficulties facing farmers, such as the delivery of the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS). Beccy Speight gave information on the current science of the nature crisis and how it related to government priorities such as development and planning, as well as the international picture. Charlotte Sudgens identified the risks that nature loss present to businesses and how accounting rules could be changed to better assess these risks. Mya-Rose Craig spoke to the importance of nature for mental health and wellbeing, with a focus on how lower income and BAME communities are less likely to have access to nature.
- MPs and Peers asked the speakers questions across a broad range of areas, including on: how to tackle food waste; how to share skills between farmers; the impact of biofuel; what international nature leadership would look like for the UK; how to balance development with nature; the role of education in the nature crisis; how to alter Treasury guidance on nature; and how to broaden support for action.