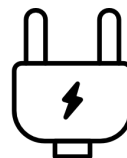
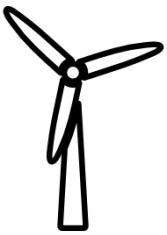




2050
Climate Group

Actions Impact Report

2017/18



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I N T R O D U C T I O N

LEADING FOR THE FUTURE: ONE ACTION AT A TIME

The 2050 Climate Group is driving transformational change in Scotland through its **Young Leaders Development Programme**.

2017/18 has seen the second intake of Young Leaders and a bigger focus on **actions** to inspire and drive the transformational change to a low carbon society across Scotland and beyond.

This **impact report** takes a look at the achievements of this year's Young Leaders through the actions they have been taking to reduce the impact of climate change within their personal, professional and political spheres.

Read on to get inspired!

2 0 5 0 X

This year, the 2050x Fund was launched in order to offer financial support for projects run by our Young Leaders. **£4500 went towards supporting youth-led climate change projects across Scotland.**

£2500 went towards **10 projects** led by participants of the Young Leaders Development Programme.

£2000 went towards setting up the 2050 Climate Group Leaders Network, in order to keep past YLDP participants and the wider 2050 network inspired and involved into the future! This included **2 climate change** projects led by members of the Leaders Network.

Following the success of the 2050x Fund, in the coming year we hope to expand on the number and range of projects we can support, enabling more Young Leaders to **make their ideas a reality.**



MENTORING

To help develop more impactful actions the Young Leaders were given the option to work on their actions with a mentor. The mentors were drawn from across Scotland working in various industries but all with a passion for tackling climate change. They supported Young Leaders with developing ideas, making contacts and inspiration to take their actions further.

Even though the years programme is finished, mentors will continue to support the Young Leaders with their projects and help them to develop.



ACTIONS BY NUMBERS

199
Total
Actions Completed



Workplace

23



Transport

25



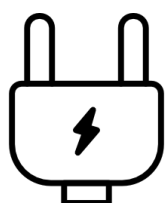
Food & Waste

91



Community

22



Home

16



Politics & Campaigns

22

ACTIONS CASE STUDIES

The following case studies highlight some of the incredible achievements made through the actions of this years' YLs, with the support of the 2050 Climate Group.

Climate Change Film Making

Cameron McKay

When we think of climate change, we often think of far-away impacts on polar bears and storm-battered regions of south Asia. Young Leader Cameron Mackay and fellow graduate Jenni O'Neill's documentary, 'Climate Change and Scotland's Future' (available on YouTube), brings this urgent issue closer to home for a Scottish audience. Through investigating what people can do to mitigate and prepare for the impacts of climate change in Scotland over coming decades, their journey takes them from Glasgow to South Uist and from National Nature Reserves to coastal towns.

Cameron met with one of the 2050 Climate Group's operational volunteers, Amy Ritchie, and they partnered to premiere the film as part of Climate Week at the University of Strathclyde. Cameron also received 2050x funding to cover some of the filming expenses.

Along with the film screening, the evening featured a panel discussion with representatives from local government, charities, and the public and private sectors. With over 120 attendees, the event was hugely successful. The film was showcased at the YLDP Leadership 2 module, where Cameron video-called in remotely, thanking the 2050 Climate Group's wider network for all the help he received in the production.



Making Changes in the Workplace

Kim Cooper

Young Leader Kim Cooper works in a microbiology lab for Scientific Services at Scottish Water and was concerned by the large amount of consumables and energy her lab uses for sterility, business continuity, and regulatory requirements.

Inspired after attending her first YLDP module, and with the help of management and her colleagues, Kim put together a workshop for employees, promoting and raising awareness about her team's energy usage and waste production. Despite having to meet various regulatory requirements, the workshop discussed methods which the Scientific Services can use and how they can procure consumables more sustainably - for example using steel loops instead of plastic, disposable ones.

The workshop was well attended by staff and management, and was praised by the Chief Scientist, Kim's lab manager and her team leader. This was a great example of a young person reaching out to her colleagues and peers to effect measurable change in her workplace.

Kim has also developed ocean-themed posters for the microbiology wing on marine debris, ocean acidification and climate change. Her next step is to give a talk to her department on waste management, which she states is the main reason why she applied for a place on the YLDP. According to Kim, long-term behaviour change is her biggest stumbling block in influencing her lab. We therefore paired Kim with one of our external mentors, Alex Hillam, who has a working knowledge of behaviour-change initiatives. Kim's action is a perfect example of an ambitious determination to influence her peers, while being open to the wisdom and experience of those at different stages in their careers.

Plastic Free Perthshire

Jamie Wylie

Plastic Free Perthshire is a project aiming to help businesses and their customers reduce their consumption of single-use plastics. The three main plastics that the project aims to tackle are: straws, takeaway cups and bottles. To help businesses reduce their plastic use, a business brochure was developed, which set out the problems with plastic use; the benefits of using less plastic; and solutions to help them and their customers cut back on plastic. Plastic Free Perthshire also focuses on engaging with the local community to encourage people to reduce their consumption of single-use plastics. Jamie is currently engaging with two community groups and will be speaking to a local school later in the year.

The project has been very well received so far, with two businesses officially making the 'Plastic Free Perthshire Pledge' and many more in the pipeline. Plastic Free Perthshire has been covered in local media, and has had two successful meetings with local MSPs about the project. Jamie will be meeting with Perth & Kinross Council soon to discuss plans to reduce the use of single-use plastics on their premises.

The 2050x fund provided vital support in creating and printing the brochures, which are the key output of the project. Being able to produce the brochures has made Plastic Free Perthshire much more professional, and has really helped in getting businesses on board with making commitments to reduce their plastic use.

In addition, another member of the YLDP cohort, Alice Judge, has also been involved in the Plastics Free Edinburgh campaign and is collaborating with the Perthshire team.



A Policy Plan for HMO Landlords

Priyasha Madhavan

Our final 2017/18 YLDP modules focused on influence in the political spheres; however, some of our Young Leaders got a political head start! Young Leader Priyasha Madhavan is developing a policy plan to try to incentivise landlords and letting agencies to provide more sustainable properties. Her focus is initially on properties in Edinburgh, with a hope of expanding elsewhere in Scotland. Her ambition is to move the burden of responsibility for energy efficiency and sustainability onto landlords and letting agents rather than tenants, as a top-down approach to affecting change.

Her policy plan is linked in with the Scottish Government's 2018 changes to the repairing standard following the Summer 2017 consultation on energy efficiency and condition standards in private rented housing. Priyasha has paired with another Young Leader from the University of Edinburgh's Students' Association who has now proposed a motion for the students' association to support a policy plan.

Priyasha is now paired with one of our external mentors, Mari-Claire Riley (Climate Change Officer, Falkirk Council) who is supporting her to develop the policy plan as well as providing general assistance in project management. Priyasha's project has the potential to effect real change in Edinburgh and, considering its links with changes in Government policy, beyond.

Do Edinburgh!

Lizzie Rhoades

'Do Edinburgh' is a Do Nation competition set up by Lizzie between student societies at the University of Edinburgh. Student societies signed up to compete to raise the most "pledges" from individuals (instead of cash donations), committing to certain efforts which have a positive environmental impact. The society that achieved the most individual pledges won a £150 voucher for Cafe St Honore (which is certified as an organic, sustainable restaurant), funded by our 2050x Fund. The winners were also awarded a Sustainability Award from the university's Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability (SRS).

Lizzie started Do Edinburgh because she feels there is little engagement in the idea of student sustainability being distinct from a more general conception of sustainability. Lizzie received what she calls a “huge amount of support” from 2050 Climate Group members to refine her idea before pitching it to the students' association.

With 3 additional members on the team, Do Edinburgh has garnered support from SRS, UN House, EAUC-Scotland, and MAD Challenges. The competition ran throughout the month of February and received over 482 pledges which add up to 11,530kg of CO₂e reductions. Through Do Edinburgh, it's been demonstrated that simply making commitments to have positive impacts on the environment can change behaviours for the better.

MAD Seat

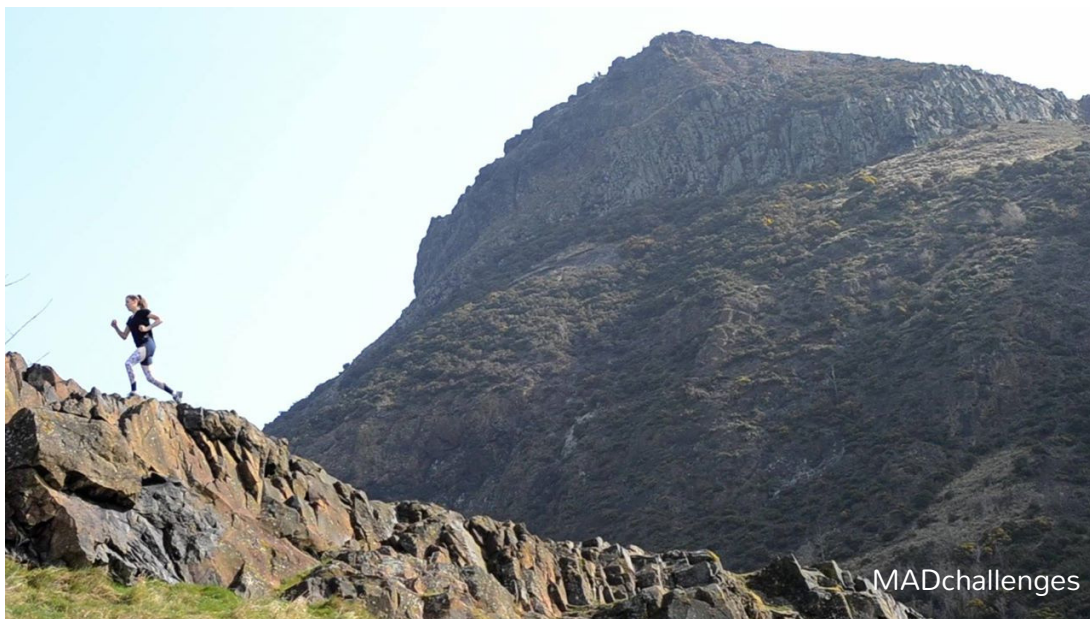
Gabrielle Blackburn

MAD Seat is the flagship event from the MAD Challenges team, a team born out of the 2050 Climate Group - the founders were on the YLDP last in 2016/17! Gabrielle, a Young Leader this year, is involved in organising the event being held on 1st and 2nd June 2018.

MAD Seat participants chose either 6, 12, or 24 hour slots and ascend and descend Arthur's Seat as many times as possible, which Gabrielle describes as a “ridiculous and beautiful outdoor challenge”. MAD Seat uses the Do Nation platform to raise “pledges” for actions that make a positive impact on the environment rather than cash donations. This year, MAD Seat received funding from the 2050x Fund to cover some core costs.

The purpose is to connect people with nature, both physically through their actions, and also through their mindset. Gabrielle believes that the only way we are going to achieve a sustainable future is if enough people, from a range of world views and backgrounds, join the dots between their lives, what they value in nature, and the future they want to see.

More from Gabrielle: “How can you get involved? Sign-up to the challenge! And encourage friends and family to do the same. The most powerful tool we have to change the world is our connections with the people around us. So your participation and recommendations mean the world to us.”



Lunch and Learn at Scottish Water

Rebecca Harding

“Lunch and Learns” are established lunchtime events at Scottish Water that are a short, informal opportunity to share knowledge and experience on certain topics. Rebecca had the idea to share learning from the YLDP in these sessions, and connected with other Scottish Water employees on the programme to organise some informal sharing sessions.

At each session, two Young Leaders gave a presentation or set up an activity and took questions at the end. So far, Rebecca and her fellow Young Leaders have found interest to be high, with a lot of questions around personal action that individuals can take, as well as about disruptive businesses who are going 'all out' to reduce their impacts on the environment.

These sessions are a great method of reaching out to less informed or engaged colleagues on climate change issues. For pitching similar sharing sessions at your place of work or study, Rebecca recommends pitching these to your boss as great opportunities for continued professional development. She recommends deciding on your angle and selling point, promoting the lunches through a development network or other internal comms, and asking whether you can have the sessions catered. Young Leader Kerry Relf, who ran a Lunch and Learn with her colleague Alex, had this to say of the event she ran:

"I think the 'Lunch and Learn' Alex and I presented made people think about the impact of their own personal carbon footprint on the Earth. We had feedback, which suggested that the audience was surprised to see how small changes could make a difference. Overall many small changes makes a big impact. The 'Lunch and Learn' was easy to organise and run."

The Free Vegan Cookout

Harley Brewer

The Free Vegan Cookout is a monthly event in which people give out free vegan food to the public along with leaflets and conversation relating to the impacts of a vegan diet on the planet. The aim is to cause a shift in people's diets with the aim of reducing climate change. They want to show people that vegan food can be tasty, easy, and accessible, and want to talk about veganism in a positive way.

How it happened: Young Leader Harley Brewer put on this monthly event with his Free Vegan Cookout team in Glasgow, and have been granted funding from the 2050x Fund for promotional materials, crockery and cutlery. They are now looking to expand into other locations and cities.

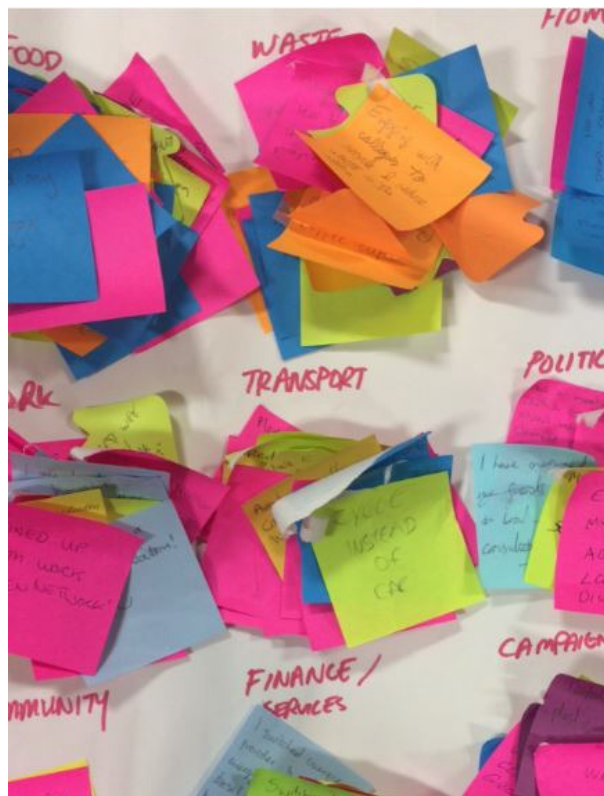
The event runs with volunteer efforts, and Harley and his team welcome vegan food contributions from new volunteers. The team requests you also bring copies of your recipes to share with members of the public, as there have been a lot of requests so far!

Climate Change Podcast

Jonathan Bowes

A new climate-related podcast is currently in development, and it's been a popular idea so far! The idea has input from Young Leaders, 2050 operational staff, and 2050 board members - and is certainly an action to watch!

One idea for the podcast is "Carbon Dating," a light-hearted "dating" podcast discussing different environmental issues each episode. Another idea is a 2050 Climate Group podcast, with a focus on engaging, educating, and empowering young people on climate change.



ACTIONS FEEDBACK

Great speakers at all the events

Excellent funding opportunities

Useful advice from the Actions team

Helpful mentors

Diverse range of actions was really
inspiring

More practical skills
workshops

Better facilitation for
planning actions and
projects

More collaboration
between Young Leaders

In 2018/19 we will be looking to increase the number of actions completed as well as their increasing their impact, by coming up with more creative ways of empowering Scotland's young people.

We will continue to make actions a greater focus of the YLDP, and help integrate the Leaders Network to allow for more young leaders to collaborate.

THANK YOU

To our funders and supporters for helping us to take action on climate change



Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Buidheann Dion Àrainneachd na h-Alba



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