



International Development Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Tel: 020 7219 1223 Email: indcom@parliament.uk Website: www.parliament.uk/indcom Twitter: [@CommonsIDC](https://twitter.com/CommonsIDC)

The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
COP26 President
Cabinet Office
By email

16 November 2021

Dear Alok.

International Development Committee report and survey on UK climate action

Congratulations to you and your team on the successful conclusion of the COP26 meeting in Glasgow. I appreciated what a huge undertaking this has been and how much hard work must have gone into it.

Please find herewith a copy of our report on [Global Britain in demand: UK climate action and international development around COP26](#). You may be aware that we have been conducting an inquiry examining, ahead of COP26 in November, the progress the Government has made putting climate change at the centre of aid policy. During the inquiry we heard from academics, NGOs, and civil society organisations in developing countries, as well as people involved in this and previous COPs. You may not have had time to look at our Report in the run up to COP26 but I hope that you will now be able to read and engage with our recommendations and the evidence we took. We made recommendations on how UK aid for climate change should be targeted to help the people whose everyday lives are affected by it. We also made recommendations on the UK stopping funding of fossil fuel projects, making it easier for low- and middle-income countries to access climate funds, and ensuring programmes in those countries build and develop local expertise. All these themes will be familiar to you from the discussions that took place in Glasgow.

During our inquiry we wanted to engage with young people and ran a survey to see what they thought about climate change and development issues. Annexed to this letter is a summary of the key findings. While the findings are not unexpected, I feel they are interesting and important, and I hope you will take a brief moment to read through them.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Champion MP
Chair of the Committee

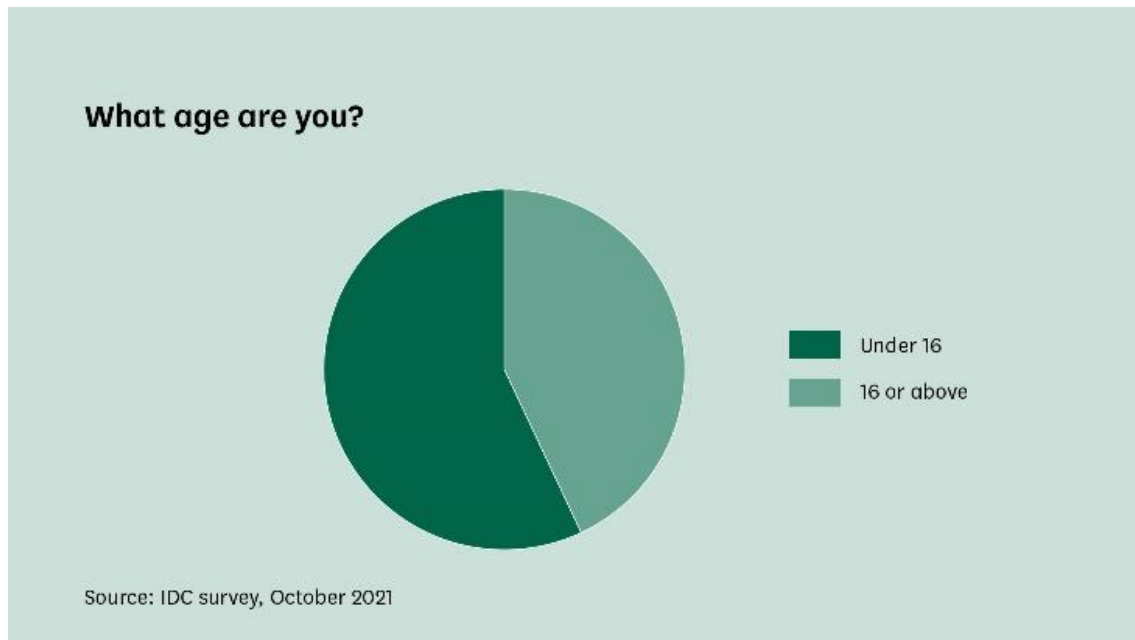
CLIMATE CHANGE SURVEY RESULTS

What we learned from our survey into young people and climate change

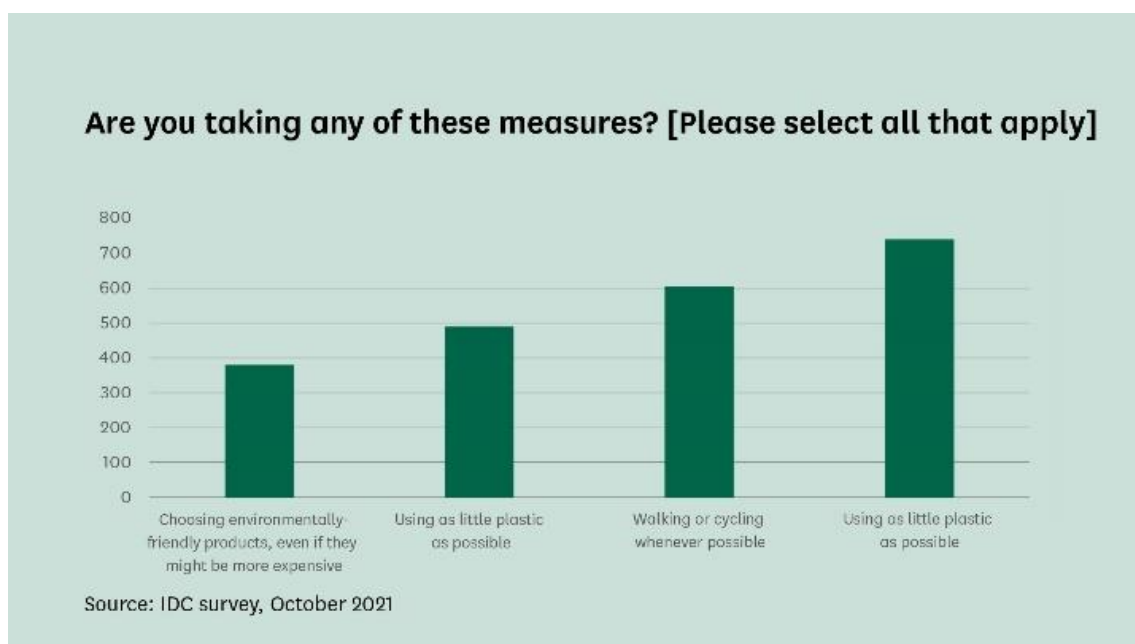
The International Development Committee conducted a survey as part of the inquiry into COP26, development and climate change between July and October 2021. We asked young people to respond to a series of questions about their knowledge of climate change, their measures to tackle climate change and UK climate action and received 996 responses. We are pleased that so many young people have taken the time to engage with the survey.

Main findings

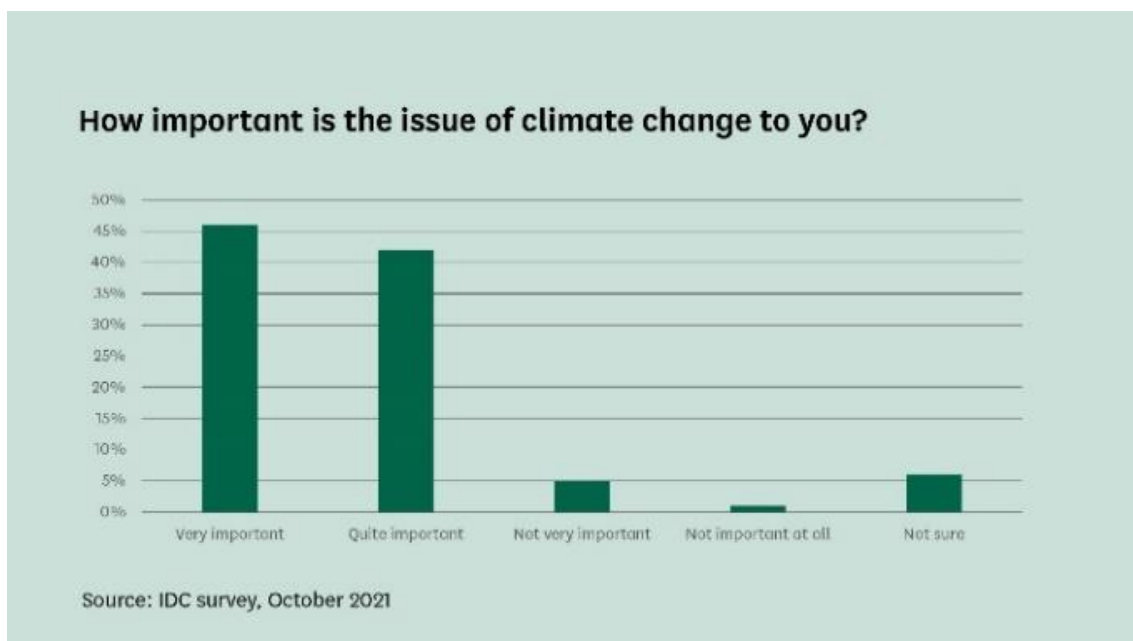
- Out of 996 respondents, 564 respondents were aged 15 or under and 426 respondents stated that they were 16 or above. (6 respondents did not indicate their age. See Graph 1.)
- Most respondents (739) said that they recycled paper and electronic equipment, 604 said that they walked or cycled whenever possible, 489 said that they used as little plastic as possible and 380 respondents stated that they chose environmentally-friendly products, even if they might be more expensive (Graph 2; multiple choice question).
- A majority (614 respondents) said that the UK was not doing enough to help countries in need tackle climate change. (Remainder did not reply. See Graph 8).
- Over a third of respondents (396) stated that the UK as COP President should put more pressure on the top greenhouse gas emitters to reduce their level of emissions. Just over a quarter of respondents (258) stated that the UK should focus on more sharing of knowledge and best practice on how to tackle climate change during its presidency. Nearly one in five respondents (197) would like the UK to focus on the provision of more money for tackling climate change whilst around one in twelve respondents (120) would like the UK to focus on the provision of more power to communities to decide how to tackle climate change. (Remainder did not reply. See graph 10.)



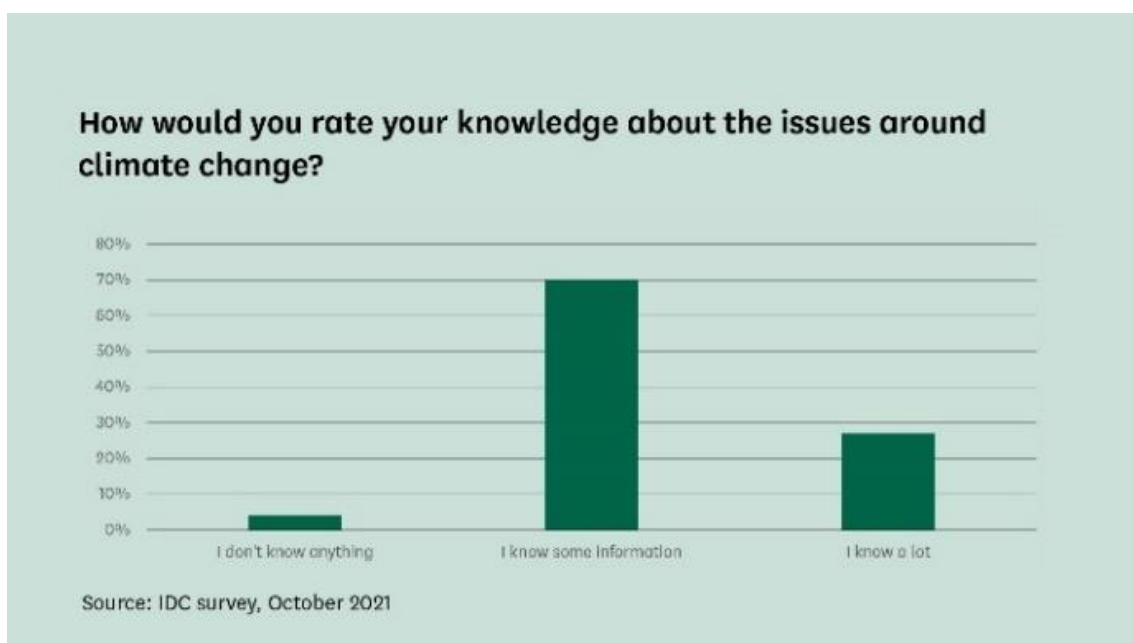
Graph 1



Graph 2

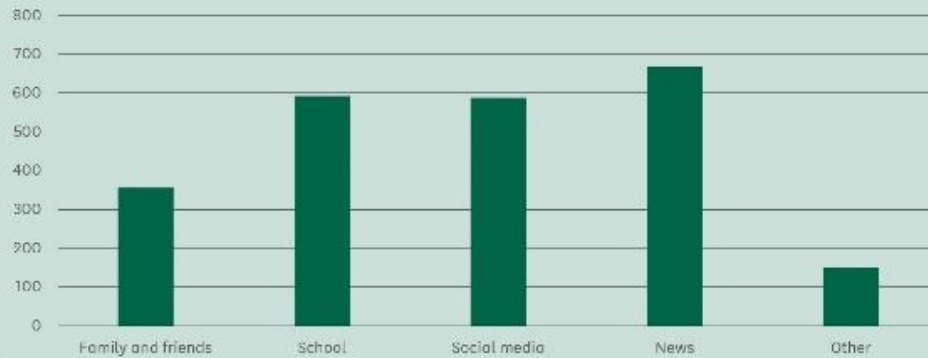


Graph 3



Graph 4

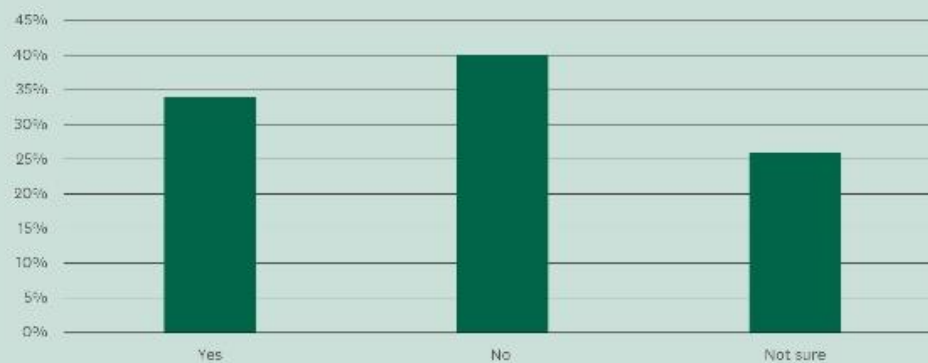
What are your main sources of information about the issues around climate change? [Please select all that apply]



Source: IDC survey, October 2021

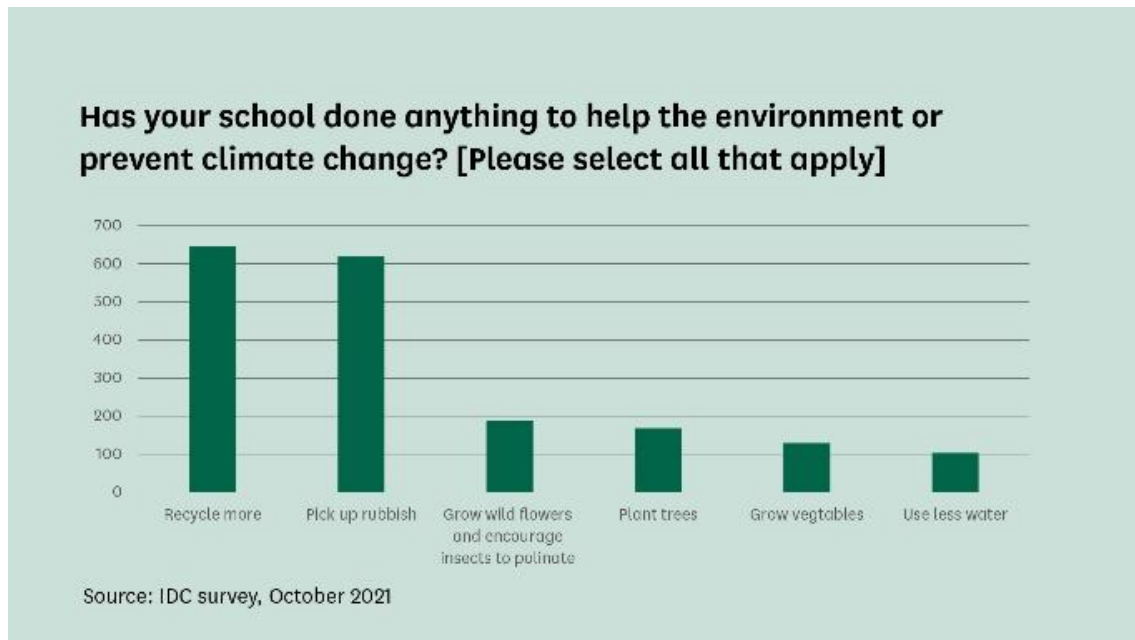
Graph 5

In your view, are schools equipping their students with enough knowledge to understand the issue of climate change?

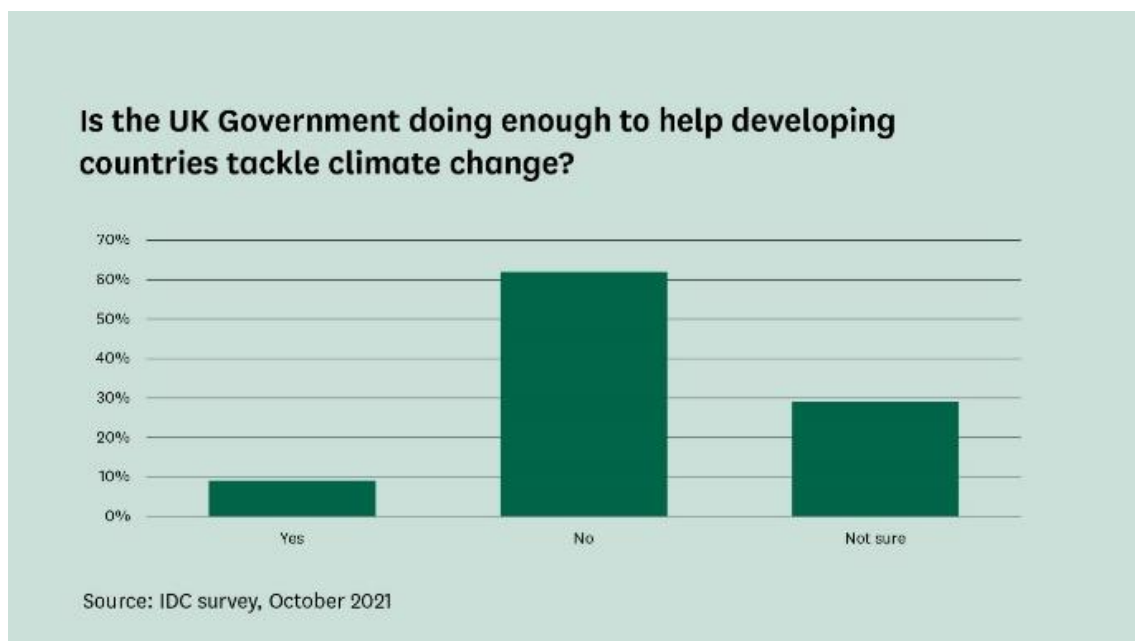


Source: IDC survey, October 2021

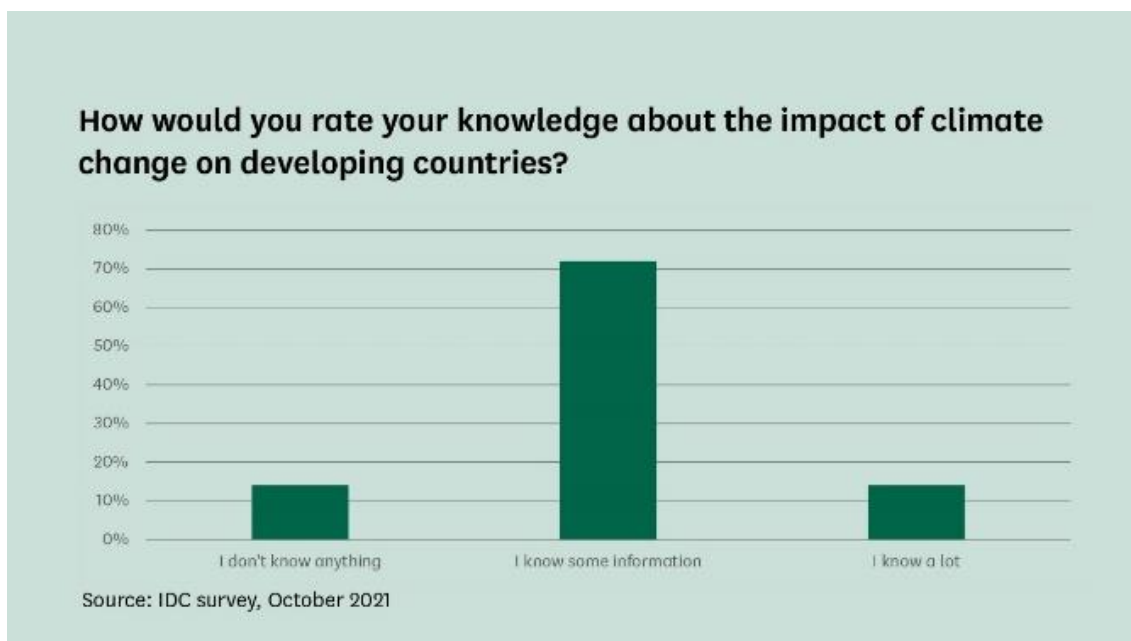
Graph 6



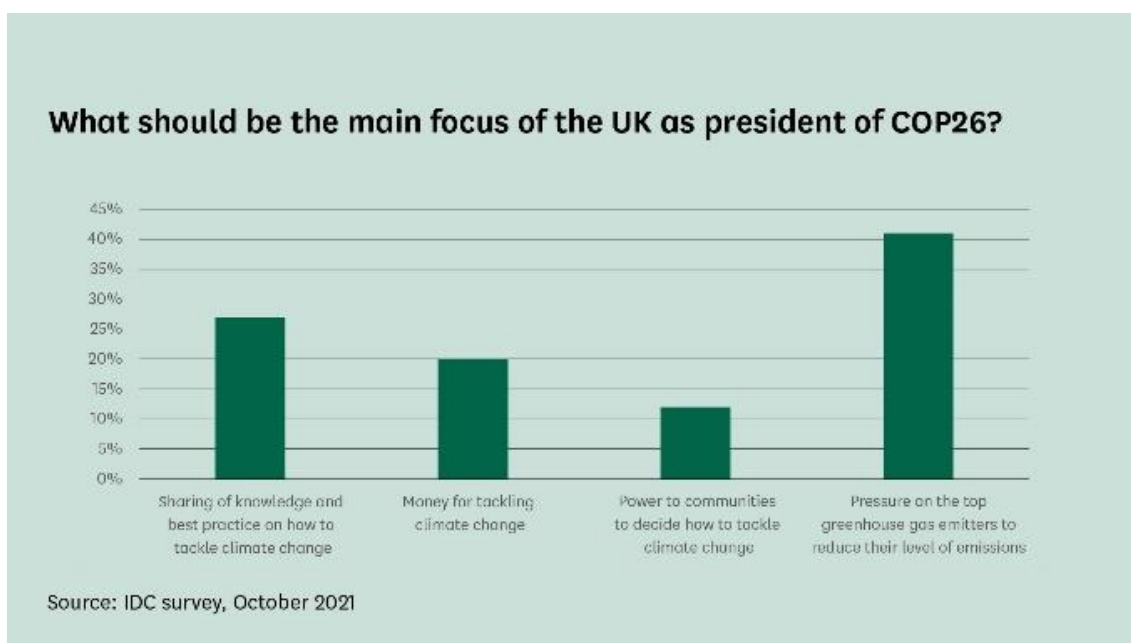
Graph 7



Graph 8



Graph 9



Graph 10

You can find out more about the work of the Committee on its [webpage](#). The Committee agreed a report on Global Britain in demand: UK climate action and international development around COP26 that is available on the [website](#), along with all the written and oral [evidence](#) taken during the inquiry. You can watch any of the oral evidence sessions on [Parliamentlive.tv](#). You can follow the work of the Committee on Twitter using [@CommonsIDC](#).