

People's Assembly for Nature Travel Policy

In the UK, transport is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions and as environmental charities, WWF, the RSPB and the National Trust have policies to reduce their emissions wherever possible and practical. This Travel Policy is designed to act as a guide for attendees at the People's Assembly for Nature to help reduce the emissions caused by travel to/from the in-person weekends in Birmingham. As the full costs of travel for participants will be covered by the commissioning charities, sustainability is a key consideration.

However, we know that sometimes the lowest carbon option will make logistics difficult, sometimes impossible, especially for attendees coming from further away and/or more rural locations. We also understand some people may have accessibility requirements and/or caring duties that may impact on decisions. For that reason, anything that falls outside of the guidelines will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Public transport

Where practical, attendees are encouraged to use public transport to travel to the assembly. This includes the use of:

- Buses and coaches
- Trains
- Ferries

All attendees will be provided with clear guidance on how to reach the venue using public transport. Where possible, walking/cycling is encouraged to get to/from stations.

Taxis/Private vehicles

Public transport is the preferred means of travel, but there may be occasions when attendees need to use a taxi/their own vehicle. This may be relevant for those with disabilities or health issues and/or those who live rurally where public transport options are limited. If a taxi is required to get from/to stations, then lift-shares can be arranged with the help of event organisers.

Flying

Flying produces significantly more carbon emissions than other methods of transport, so for that reason, flying to Birmingham will only be allowed under certain circumstances:

- From Northern Ireland (with ferries available for anyone who prefers not to fly).
- From the Scottish Highlands and Islands.
- Where journey times one way would be longer than six hours.
- Where there are accessibility needs.
- Where someone's personal circumstances means up to six-hour travel time isn't feasible and would be a barrier to attending (e.g. caring responsibilities/dependents)

Anything that falls outside of the exemptions above (including where work is a barrier, rather than caring) will be considered on a case-by-case basis and go to the designated leads for approval:

- Helen Meech (RSPB)
- Alex Hunt (National Trust)
- Kat Machin (WWF) via Executive Director sign-off (Kate Norgrove/Katie White)