

Climate Justice Officer

People & Planet's goal: We believe that the change we want to see in the world can only be achieved by strong social and climate justice movements that include empowered students and frontline communities, working together in solidarity to overcome oppressive structures created and maintained by an entrenched global status quo.

We are part of an empowered global movement that is a driving force towards a more just, sustainable world. We empower students and young people to be at the forefront of efforts to create a better world by working with partners to form strong coalitions that include frontline communities themselves, and to operate across national boundaries to challenge the holders of power at the global level.

We contribute to building a more just and sustainable world through:

- Organising and training the next generation of students to be strong activists with skills and motivations that last their whole lives, enabling them to go on to create new ways of sharing this world.
- Enabling powerful student activism that fights injustices.
- Steering the huge and growing education sector to play a just role in the economy, and act as hotbeds for new ideas able to develop a more fair, sustainable world.
- Recognising that UK students can use their positions of privilege to amplify the voices of frontline communities and to challenge the different types of oppression in society.
- Creating new institutions that nurture solidarity into the future, to fill strategic gaps in our movements and maintain an ongoing legacy for hard won victories.

Job Purpose: As Climate Justice Officer, you will be responsible for coordinating campaigns and movement building for climate justice. You will work closely with the Climate Justice managers in mobilising and supporting students around the UK to further the campaigns they have democratically chosen.

You will support the People & Planet network to run our climate justice campaigns by conducting research, developing resources, coordinating communications, organising days of action, and supporting democratic engagement with the campaigns. You will play a lead role in supporting student groups, including by delivering campaign introductions, workshops and skillshares both in-person and online, running outreach and movement building events, and delivering ongoing, tailored support to campaigners.



Contract: Temporary until December 2027 (parental leave cover)

Hours: Full-time, 28 hours per week (People and Planet is a 4 day week employer).

Salary: £32,131

Start date: As soon as possible

Unfortunately due to the UK government's hostile environment, successful candidates must have the right to work in the UK and must be able to prove this.

People & Planet core campaigns

We currently have three core campaigns democratically chosen by our student network. The Climate Justice Officer will work with Managers and Coordinators to support People & Planet's climate justice work, with a focus on the Fossil Free Careers Campaign.

Migrant Justice

The Divest Borders Campaign is focussed on universities investing in the border industry. Our universities directly profit from violence against migrating people through investments in the companies that enthusiastically make border injustices possible. We want to build a world free from borders, and as a first step we are demanding that universities divest from the border industry.

Climate Justice

The Fossil Free Campaign targets UK universities and colleges who invest in the fossil fuel industry, the sector most responsible for the climate crisis. Divestment has mobilised a student movement to demand that universities divest from the fossil fuel industry and adopt ethical investment policies, as well as severing other cultural and academic ties.

The Fossil Free Careers Campaign campaigns to stop universities from providing a recruitment pipeline into extractive industries, and propping up the companies most responsible for destroying the climate. We support students across the UK who are fighting back and campaigning to get their universities to end their relationships with the oil, gas, and mining industries.

Overview of the Role

This role is a multifaceted position with wide ranging opportunities and varied responsibilities.

An important part of the role will be supporting the People & Planet university network. With roughly 50 groups at universities across the country, People & Planet is the UK's biggest network of university students taking action on social and climate justice. With an excitement to meet new people and travel around the UK (when possible) you will support, train and help organise events for national volunteers, key group organisers, and group members.

We are deeply committed to equality, diversity, liberation and social justice and we welcome applications from anyone who shares these values. We find that people with diverse perspectives and experiences improve and refresh the way People & Planet works and we welcome new ideas and ways of working.

People & Planet particularly encourages applications from people from ethnic minority backgrounds, trans people, queer people, people with disabilities, people with caring responsibilities and other groups typically under-represented in campaigning organisations like ours. We are committed to make reasonable adjustments to enable any candidate to show their suitability for a role within People & Planet.

We're a small, friendly team who work creatively and flexibly together to achieve our goals of empowering students to campaign for social and environmental justice currently working remotely. Unlike most organisations, People & Planet does not have a CEO or Director. The management team runs the organisation collaboratively with oversight from our trustee board which is made up of a majority of elected students.

Main responsibilities

This is a list which covers all aspects of the role. Full training and support will be given to you so that you can undertake these things with confidence.

Campaigns support and delivery

- Contribute to developing campaign strategy for student groups and support students to engage in ongoing campaign development.
- With support, project manage and deliver campaign events, actions and other projects, including mobilising students for national days of action.
- With support, design, develop and coordinate the distribution of campaign materials and resources, both on and offline.
- Engage with key third-party organisations.

Group support

- Help to organise and deliver People & Planet events which are relevant to a wide range of students.
- Co-ordinate the planning and delivery of support for groups of students and young people.
- Support students to run Climate Justice campaigns on their campuses. This may look like supporting them with planning an action, negotiating with university decision-makers, or recruiting new group members at events.
- Maintain contact with key organisers.
- Record group activities and contact details and contribute towards monitoring and evaluating our work.
- Actively pursue group-building at key targets.
- Maintain a forum of Fossil Free Careers campaigners.
- Support groups to transition from one People & Planet campaign to another as victories are achieved or priorities change.

Training and supporting students and wider network

- Develop and deliver relevant skills and campaign workshops to students.

- Advise and support students to run effective campaigns and engage students, listen to what is most urgent for them and take this back to the team.
- Recruit, train and support campaign organisers in universities.
- Support and encourage students to attend campaign mobilisations and events.
- Facilitate skill-sharing and communication between groups.
- Assist with the training and support of incoming Campaign Coordinators.

Communications

- With support, write content for newsletters, articles, blogs, emails and social media which communicate campaign skills and events in an accessible and engaging way.
- Generate media coverage and support students in generating media coverage.
- Design and contribute content for People & Planet's social media and email channels.
- Write key mass mailing communications for both movement building and campaign purposes to a variety of audiences.
- With support, write sections of funding reports and potential bids.

Person specification

Necessary criteria for the role

This is a list of things we are looking for in candidates. These are the things you will need to be able to demonstrate and that we will be assessing your application on.

Personal attributes

- A belief in an equal society and a commitment to challenging inequality and the ways oppression can play out in everyday life.

Experience

- Experience of campaigning on issues such as climate injustice, corporate power, migrant rights or social oppression.
- Experience organising creative actions, protests or non-violent direct actions.

- Experience organising successful events, particularly in a campaigning context.
- Experience of organising as part of, or showing solidarity with, diverse groups in society. For example communities of colour, indigenous groups, disabled people or LGBTQI groups.
- Experience of facilitating workshops, trainings or meetings.
- Experience of writing mass mailing communications for a variety of audiences.

Skills

- Excellent verbal communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build rapport with diverse audiences.
- The ability to organise, motivate and support others to take action for a cause.
- Excellent project management and personal organisational skills, with good time management and ability to prioritise effectively.
- The ability to build partnerships and work in coalition with a diverse range of individuals and organisations towards a common goal.
- Excellent written communication skills, particularly attention to detail and the ability to make written communications persuasive, accessible and engaging for a diverse range of audiences.
- Ability and willingness to travel around the UK and work at events over occasional evenings and/or weekends.

Helpful criteria for the role

This is a list of extra things that may be useful in the role. Candidates don't need to have these but tell us if you do, it's a little bonus but not a must.

- Knowledge of university and/or college sectors, particularly focused on being able to organise or campaign within those institutions (this could be through student campaign groups, student unions, or university decision-making structures).
- Experience of creating graphics, videos or other digital content for campaigning via social media.
- Experience of working on one of People & Planet's core campaigns.
- Experience of writing content for funding applications or reports.