



Environment

The Salvation Army recognises environmental degradation as one of the most pressing issues facing the world today, affecting us all. Its effects fall disproportionately on the most vulnerable, particularly in terms of health, livelihood, shelter and the opportunity to make choices.

The very survival of humanity depends on the health of the whole ecosystem. In addition to being compelled by lived experience, the Salvation Army also accepts the scientific evidence that demands action on all levels to lessen the effects of environmental damage. It is committed to sustainable environmental practices which are required to safeguard the integrity of creation.¹

People will not experience fullness of life unless God's creation is protected and cared for. The Salvation Army UK and Ireland adopted Care for Creation as one of our Mission Priorities and have set a bold target to tackle its impact on the environment and reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2040.

While practical measures made by all of us will make an important contribution to delivering climate justice, our elected representatives must also show leadership and responsibility to tackle the structural injustices that exist.

The Salvation Army is working with colleagues across the faith community and beyond to speak up for the change that is needed. Find out more at:

- The Climate Coalition (www.theclimatecoalition.org)

International development

The UK has long been a world leader on its international development assistance. Since 1960 only 15 countries have made the United Nations target of 0.7% Gross National Income (GNI) towards Official Development Assistance (ODA). As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the UK Government said it would temporarily drop its overall ODA to 0.5% with a view to restore then when possible. As of 2023 the UK's ODA was 0.58% of GNI.²

The Salvation Army International Development UK works alongside communities across the world to overcome poverty and injustice. Our focus has been on five key themes:

- Anti-Trafficking
- Clean Water
- Emergency Response
- Food Security
- Women and Girls

To deliver a life with dignity, equality for all people and a world without poverty and injustice, we would urge the next government to:

- Advance and deliver on the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Provide practical care for those who are impacted by adverse or damaging environmental situations as well as work towards securing and delivering support for loss and damage alleviation across the world.

¹ The Salvation Army UK and Ireland Positional Statement on Care for Creation

² The 0.7% aid target, House of Commons Library

The General Election provides all of us with an opportunity to use our voices and challenge those seeking elected office to address the issues in your community. To help you make the most of the coming weeks and stay compliant with electoral law, [the Public Affairs Unit has created a range of resources](#).