

## **SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE ('CLIMATE CHANGE' VERSION<sup>1</sup>)**

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<sup>1</sup> Two versions of the postal survey were used: one referred to 'climate change' and the other to 'global warming'. This split-survey design exposes where responses differ according the terminology used.

**Section 1. General environmental concerns**

1. Please look at the following list of environmental issues, and **circle** the **three** issues that **concern** you the most. *Please only circle **three** issues from the list:*

- Air pollution
- Pollution of rivers and seas
- Flooding
- Litter
- Poor waste management (e.g. overuse of landfills)
- Traffic/ congestion
- GM food
- Climate change
- The hole in the ozone layer
- Using up the earth's resources
- Extinction of species
- Radioactive waste
- Overpopulation (of the earth by humans)

2. In your view, has air pollution ever affected your health?  Yes  
 No  
 Don't know
3. Has air pollution ever affected the health of any of your family or friends?  Yes  
 No  
 Don't know
4. **Apart from effects on people's health**, are you aware of any other effects of air pollution?  Yes (go to question 5)  
 No (go to question 6)  
 Don't know (go to question 6)
5. If yes, what other effects are you aware of? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you, **in the last 5 years**, experienced any form of flood damage (including to your home, garden or vehicle)?  Yes  
 No  
 Don't know

7. Do you feel the pattern of weather is generally changing?  Yes (go to question 8)  
 No (go to question 9)  
 Don't know (go to question 9)
8. If yes, why do you think this might be? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2. Global environmental issues**

9. Have you heard of “climate change”?
- Yes (go to question 10)
- No (go to question 25)
- Don't know (go to question 25)

10. What do you know about it? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Where have you heard about climate change? *Tick as many as you feel apply:*

- |   |                          |                                  |                          |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Television  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Government agencies/ information | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Radio   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public libraries                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Newspaper   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Friends/ family                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Internet  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local council                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Specialist publications/academic journals             | <input type="checkbox"/> | Energy suppliers                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Environmental groups (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| School/ college/ university                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>(Please write in _____)</i>   |                          |

12. By **ticking one box on each row** please indicate **how much you would trust information about climate change** if you heard it from...

	A lot	A little	Not very much	Not at all	Can't choose
A family member or a friend	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A scientist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An energy supplier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
An environmental organisation (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The media (i.e. television, radio, newspapers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. How important is the issue of climate change to you personally?
- Very important (go to question 14)
- Quite important (go to question 14)
- Not very important (go to question 15)
- Not at all important (go to question 15)

14. Why is it important to you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

15. What do you think **causes** climate change? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. What **impacts**, if any, do you think climate change may have? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. Do you think climate change is something that is affecting or is going to affect you, personally?  Yes (go to question 18)  
 No (go to question 19)  
 Don't know (go to question 19)

18. If yes, in what way(s) is it affecting you, or is it going to affect you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

19. Do you think anything can be done to tackle climate change?  Yes (go to question 20)  
 No (go to question 22)  
 Don't know (go to question 22)

20. If yes, what do you think can be done to tackle climate change? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

21. Who do you think should have the **main** responsibility for tackling climate change?  
*Please tick one box only:*

- International organisations (e.g. the UN)
- The national government
- Local government
- Business and industry
- Environmental organisations/ lobby groups (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature)
- Individuals
- Other (please write in: \_\_\_\_\_)

22. Have you ever taken, or do you regularly take, any action out of concern for climate change?  Yes (go to question 23)  
 No (go to question 24)  
 Don't know (go to question 24)

23. If yes, what did you do/ are you doing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

24. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about **climate change** by **ticking one box on each row**:

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
a. We can all do our bit to reduce the effects of climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Climate change is inevitable because of the way modern society works	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. People should be made to reduce their energy consumption if it reduces climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Climate change will improve the British weather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Climate change is just a natural fluctuation in earth's temperatures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. I would only do my bit to reduce climate change if everyone else did as well	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The government should provide incentives for people to look after the environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. It is already too late to do anything about climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Human activities have no significant impact on global temperatures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Climate change is something that frightens me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Developing countries should take most of the blame for climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. I am uncertain about whether climate change is really happening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Radical changes to society are needed to tackle climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. People are too selfish to do anything about climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. The evidence for climate change is unreliable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. The United States should take most of the blame for climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
q. Claims that human activities are changing the climate are exaggerated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
r. If I come across information about climate change I will tend to look at it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
s. There is too much conflicting evidence about climate change to know whether it is actually happening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
t. Leaving the lights on in my home adds to climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
u. Climate change is a consequence of modern life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
v. The effects of climate change are likely to be catastrophic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
w. Nothing I do makes any difference to climate change one way or another	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
x. Pollution from industry is the main cause of climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
y. I tend to consider information about climate change to be irrelevant to me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
z. Recent floods in this country are due to climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
aa. It is too early to say whether climate change is really a problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
bb. The media is often too alarmist about issues like climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
cc. Flooding is not increasing, there is just more reporting of it in the media these days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
dd. There is no point in me doing anything about climate change because no-one else is	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ee. Experts are agreed that climate change is a real problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ff. Nothing I do on a daily basis contributes to the problem of climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
gg. Industry and business should be doing more to tackle climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
hh. For the most part, the government honestly wants to reduce climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. I do not believe climate change is a real problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
jj. The government is not doing enough to tackle climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
kk. I feel a moral duty to do something about climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



27. How would you rate the quality of public transport in your local area?

Excellent

Good

Average

Poor

Very poor

Don't know

#### Section 4. About you

Finally, just so that I can compare the views of different people, please could you tell me about yourself:

28. Are you...

Male

Female

Prefer not to say

29. Please indicate the age bracket you are in:

16-24

55-64

25-34

65-74

35-44

75-84

45-54

85 or over

Prefer not to say

30. What is your highest qualification?

No formal qualifications

GCSE/ O-Level

A-Level/ Higher/ BTEC

Vocational/ NVQ

Degree or equivalent

Postgraduate qualification

Other (please write in: \_\_\_\_\_)

31. What is your highest qualification in a **science-related subject**?

No formal qualifications

GCSE/ O-Level

A-Level/ Higher/ BTEC

Vocational/ NVQ

Degree or equivalent

Postgraduate qualification

Other (please write in: \_\_\_\_\_)

32. Which political party are you **most likely to support**? Please tick one box only:

Labour

Other (please write in: \_\_\_\_\_)

Liberal Democrats

None/ would not vote

Conservative

Prefer not to say



33. Do you own (or regularly drive) a car/ van? Yes (go to question 34)   
 No (go to question 35)

34. If yes, roughly how many miles do you drive (per year)? \_\_\_\_\_ miles per year

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35. Please indicate your approximate income per annum (before tax)?

Up to £9,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£25,000 - £29,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
£10,000 - £14,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30,000 - £39,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
£15,000 - £19,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£40,000 - £49,999 <input type="checkbox"/>
£20,000 - £24,999 <input type="checkbox"/>	£50,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/>
	Prefer not to say <input type="checkbox"/>

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36. Which of these newspapers do you read regularly? *Tick as many as you feel apply:*

Sun/ News of the World <input type="checkbox"/>	Daily Star <input type="checkbox"/>
Daily Mail/ Mail on Sunday <input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Times <input type="checkbox"/>
Daily Telegraph/ Sunday Telegraph <input type="checkbox"/>	Mirror/ Sunday Mirror <input type="checkbox"/>
Times/ Sunday Times <input type="checkbox"/>	Local newspaper <input type="checkbox"/>
Express/ Sunday Express <input type="checkbox"/>	Other ( <i>please write in:</i> _____) <input type="checkbox"/>
Guardian/ Observer <input type="checkbox"/>	
Independent/ Independent on Sunday <input type="checkbox"/>	None <input type="checkbox"/>

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37. Are you a member of any environmental organisations (e.g. Friends of the Earth, Worldwide Fund for Nature)? Yes   
 No

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38. Would you be willing to take part in a brief interview (either in person or over the phone) to discuss these issues further? **As with this questionnaire, interviews will be strictly confidential.** Yes   
 No

If yes, please could you write your full telephone number here: \_\_\_\_\_

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If you would like to receive a copy of the results of this research, please enter your postal/ email address here:

  
  


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If you have anything to add about the issues raised in this questionnaire or any comments about the questionnaire itself, please write them here:

  
  
  

**Thank you for giving up your time to complete this questionnaire. It is very much appreciated.**

## SURVEY COVERING LETTER

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[University of Bath letterhead]

September 2003

Dear Sir/ Madam,

### **Survey of environmental concerns**

My name is Lorraine Whitmarsh and I am currently working on a research project about environmental concerns funded by the University of Bath. Most of this research is being carried out in the Portsmouth area, and your address has been selected by a scientific sampling method to ensure a representative picture of people's views. Your help and assistance in completing the enclosed questionnaire will be invaluable for the study.

If you agree to participate, **all the information you provide will be completely anonymous and confidential.**

The questionnaire starts by asking you about a range of environmental issues that may affect you and moves on to ask you how you feel about global environmental problems. If you don't want to answer all of the questions, you don't have to - please just do what you can. It shouldn't take long to complete, and I hope you'll enjoy it.

**Once you've completed the questionnaire, please could you return it to me in the enclosed stamped, addressed envelope.**

At the end of the project, key findings from the survey will be sent to organisations like Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and the Environment Agency. This survey will provide a valuable insight into how people like you feel about certain environmental problems and how you feel they should be tackled.

Should you have any queries or concerns about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact me on the address above.

Thank you very much for your help.

Yours faithfully,

Lorraine Whitmarsh