

SEPTEMBER 2025

GREEN WATCH

Working together for a better future

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Welcome to GREEN WATCH

Each month, Environment and Sustainability Manager, Corrina Jones MRICS, shares a round-up of stories and guidance on all things 'green' and sustainable practices.

We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your colleagues to explore the ways in which we could support you to achieve your sustainability targets. If you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any of the initiatives featured in this update, please contact Corrina Jones via email to corrina.jones@esurv.co.uk.



In this month's issue:

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- Green Finance
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Climate Change

A 2.3°C warmer world by 2040


An S&P Global report estimates a 90% chance that average global temperatures will exceed the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C target by 2040, and a 50% chance of surpassing 2.3°C.

Without sufficient action, economic losses could reach 33% by 2040, with temperatures potentially rising by 2.8°C.

 [Sustainability Insights: Why Planning For A 2.3°C | S&P Global Ratings](#)

Record humidity across the world in 2024

The 2024 "State of the Climate" report confirms record global heat, unprecedented atmospheric water vapour, and a surge in humid days—conditions experts warn are increasingly life-threatening. It marks the hottest year on record and with the past decade being the warmest ever.

 [Record humidity across the world in 2024 as experts warn of rising health risk](#)


Human activities have collectively pushed Earth beyond its Safe Operating Space

The 2025 Planetary Health Check reports that seven of nine key Earth system boundaries have been breached suggesting further destabilization is imminent.

 [Download the report here Homepage - Planetary Health Check](#)

Floods hit Pakistan

Swollen rivers displaced more than 2.5 million people and killed about 100 during weeks of monsoon deluges.

 [Flood survivors begin to return home in Pakistan's eastern Punjab as water recedes | The Independent](#)

Japan swelters

Japan marked its hottest day on record at 41.8 degrees Celsius beating the previous record of 41.2 degrees Celsius.

 [Japan swelters as previous heat record melts - The Japan Times](#)

Pacific Ocean changes may 'lock in' US megadrought for decades

A major cycle of Pacific Ocean temperatures is shifting due to climate change, and that could drive decades of megadrought in the western US.


 [Pacific Ocean changes may 'lock in' US megadrought for decades | New Scientist](#)

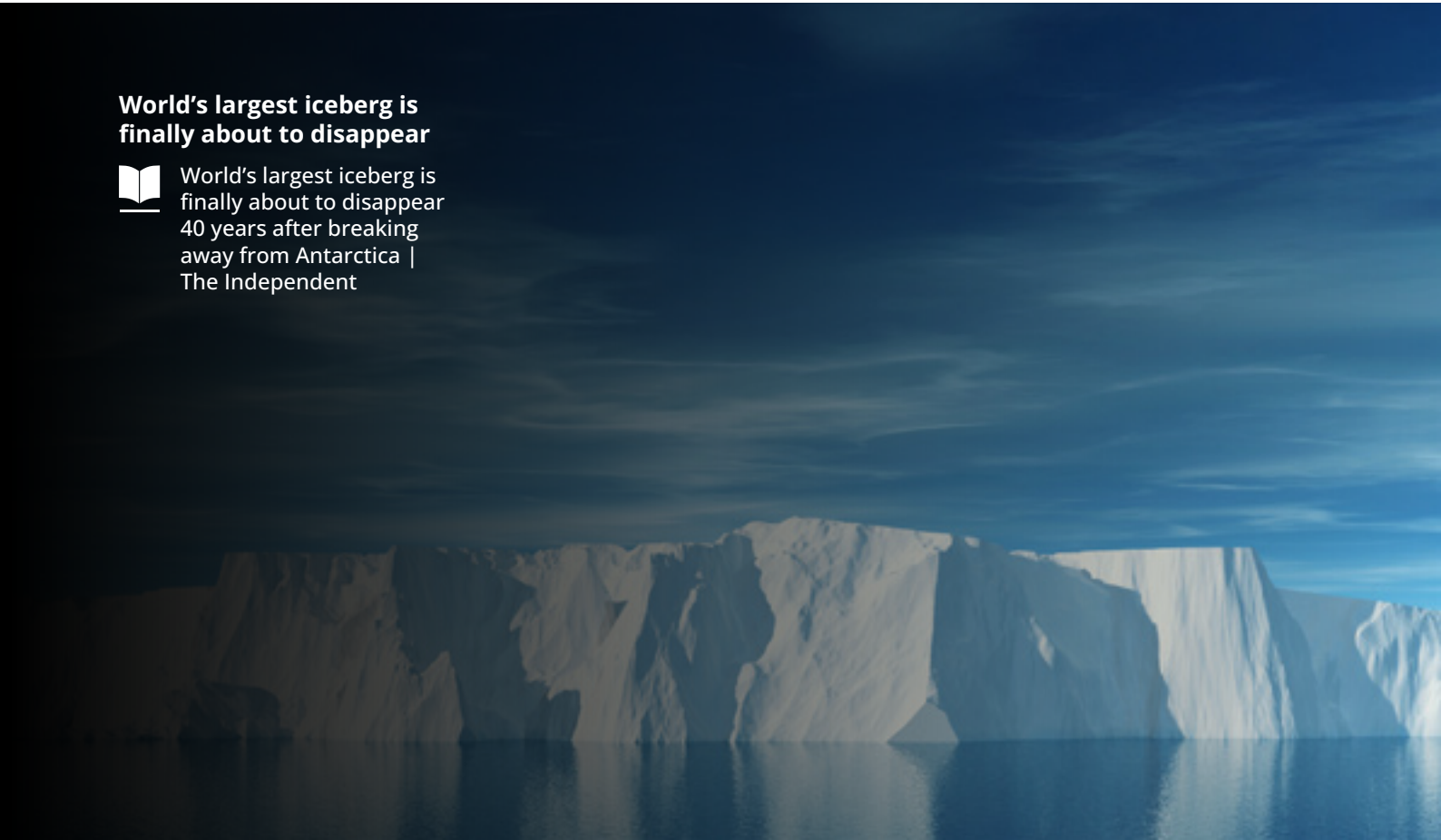
Millions in US told to stay inside

Millions of Americans across 31 states have been warned to stay inside as temperatures continue to soar—in some areas as high as 48.9 degrees Celsius.

 [Millions in US Told To Stay Inside in 31 States 'Significant Threat' - Newsweek](#)

World's largest iceberg is finally about to disappear


 [World's largest iceberg is finally about to disappear 40 years after breaking away from Antarctica | The Independent](#)



Climate Related Risk


Plans to ramp up fossil fuel extraction

New data shows countries around the world are expanding coal, oil, and gas extraction—undermining climate pledges to phase out fossil fuels.

 Nations' plans to ramp up coal, gas and oil extraction 'will put climate goals beyond reach' | Fossil fuels | The Guardian

Policy rollbacks

Companies are being urged to bolster their resilience against escalating environmental risks. The warning comes from hundreds of corporate auditors raising concerns about the private sector's preparedness which have been exacerbated by governmental policy rollbacks.

 Policy Rollbacks Leave Businesses Vulnerable to Escalating Climate and Nature Risks


Nature's Price Tag

A new report has identified that if unchecked, nature loss could cost eight key sectors up to \$430 billion annually totalling \$2.15 trillion over five years.

 Download the report here: Nature's Price Tag: The economic cost of nature loss


The impact of misinformation

Almost three-quarters of Brits believe that new climate policies will make their lives more expensive, and almost one in five believe that the UK's 2050 net-zero target is bad for the economy.

 The cost of net-zero: Brits starting to believe misinformation, survey finds - edie

Billions of workers now suffering from heat stress

Both indoor and outdoor workers are increasingly suffering from heatstroke, dehydration, kidney dysfunction and neurological disorders, according to a report published by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

 Billions of workers now suffering from heat stress, UN says | The Standard


Water scarcity impacting food production

The scarcity of water is inflicting widespread environmental and agricultural damage across England, impacting crop yields, diminishing livestock feed, harming wetlands and river ecosystems, and escalating the risk of wildfires.

 Urgent drought and wildfires warning issued amid UK heatwave | The Independent


Climate migration impacting UK food security

Analysis, undertaken by the Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit (ECIU), found £3bn of UK food imports, including rice, tea and mangos, come from the top 20 countries for internally displaced people due to extreme weather.

 Climate change-fuelled migration poses UK food security threat

Supply chain shocks to food prices increase UK inflation

Consumer goods prices in the UK rose by 3.8% in the year to July, driven mainly by an increase in food prices. Experts have attributed some of the inflation to climate-related extreme weather shocks in food supply chains domestically and globally.

 Supply chain shocks to food prices increase UK inflation more than expected - edie

Concerns grow over environmental impact of new data centres

The UK Government has launched an eight-week consultation on proposals to streamline permits for energy infrastructure, including data centres. There are concerns about environmental oversight being weakened. Government consultation on data centre permits raises environmental oversight worries.

Groups say ministers have failed to consider the environmental impact of AI data centres before signing a £31bn deal with US tech giants.

 Group tasked by Labour to limit pollution from AI still hasn't met

Only 2% of companies meet responsible AI standards

A study by Infosys reveals that most companies fall short of Responsible AI standards, with 95% experiencing AI-related environmental, safety, or ethics issues. Only 38% are actively working to reduce AI's environmental impact.

 Only 2% of Companies Meet AI Ethical Standards



RICS

New Professional Pathways


The RICS is launching an innovation programme to develop and pilot three new professional pathways in order to expand the profession's reach and better serve the changing needs of markets and employers. The three pathways are:


- Residential Retrofit Surveying (AssocRICS)
- Sustainability Advisory (MRICS)
- Data Analytics and Intelligence (MRICS)

 [Exploring new professional pathways for RICS membership](#)

New Professional AI Standard

RICS has published the first global standard for responsible AI use in surveying, effective from 9 March 2026. It sets mandatory requirements for ethical, transparent adoption, including environmental due diligence on AI suppliers and impact assessments for in-house models.

 [RICS launches landmark global standard on responsible use of AI in surveying:](#)

 [Download the standard here](#)

Corrina says...



The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' (RICS) initiative to introduce new professional pathways, particularly those focused on Sustainability Advisory, Retrofit Surveying, and Data Analytics is extremely positive. These pathways reflect a timely and strategic response to the evolving demands of our sector, especially the urgent need for climate action, circularity, and data-driven decision-making. This is a vital step towards future proofing the profession.

AI is becoming an integral part of our service delivery, but we should be mindful of the impact these models can have on the natural world. The new RICS AI Standard requires that RICS regulated firms assess the environmental impact of AI tools—including their resource use. As AI becomes more embedded in our workflows, we must acknowledge its energy demands and material footprint. This standard ensures that sustainability isn't sidelined in the pursuit of innovation, and that AI is deployed in ways that align with our wider sustainability goals. It's a vital step toward integrating environmental accountability into digital transformation across the built environment.

Collaboration to Drive Change

The RICS and the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) have announced a partnership geared towards achieving a sustainable built and natural environment through online learning delivered through CISL's eight-week Sustainable Real Estate change course.


 [RICS collaborates with CISL to promote sustainable built environment | Today's Conveyancer](#)



Property Risk

Concerns over retrofit quality in government schemes

Over 30,000 homes retrofitted under government schemes were found to have substandard insulation, raising risks of damp and mould. The government is auditing installations and pledges to remediate issues at no cost to residents. Plans to strengthen consumer protections are underway.

 **30,000 homes fitted with botched insulation under government schemes, ministers admit - BBC News**

SLC issues new climate change client guide

The Society of Licensed Conveyancers (SLC) has issued a new client guide on the effects of climate change, which it says will help conveyancing clients to help source information and expert advice. The guide follows the release of the Law Society's recent practice note, which outlines the expectations on property lawyers when it comes to providing advice on the impact of climate change on property transactions.

 **SLC issues new climate change client guide | Today's Conveyancer**


Insurance support tops £150 million for homes affected by subsidence

Subsidence-related insurance claims reached £153 million in the first half of 2025, with nearly 9,000 UK households affected after an unusually warm spring. The average payout per claim was £17,264, according to the ABI.

 **Insurance support tops £150 million for homes affected by subsidence | ABI**

Record number of wildfires in England and Wales

England and Wales saw a record 793 wildfires in the first half of 2025 - a 663% rise from 2024 and 33% above the previous record in 2022.

 **Record number of wildfires in England and Wales in first six months of the year, fire chiefs warn | UK News | Sky News**


Overheating

Low-income homeowners are more exposed to overheating risks, prompting ministers to consider subsidising air conditioning for the first time. But air con is highly energy-intensive, and the UN has warned that rising demand for air con could offset the gains from renewable energy expansion if left unchecked.


 **Overheated homes: why UK housing is dangerously unprepared for impact of climate crisis | Environment | The Guardian**

Our hot homes are making our children sick

As the UK experiences hotter temperatures families across the country are increasingly feeling the impact, with half of children in England living in homes at risk of overheating.

 **Half of children in England live in homes at risk of overheating - BBC News**

Experts warn many UK homes aren't built to withstand extreme summer heat. In 2024, heatwaves led to an estimated 358 deaths at home. Urban high-rises are especially vulnerable due to the heat island effect. Tackling overheating is key to climate resilience.

 **'Do not buy these flats' residents warn about unbearable heat inside London new-builds | Extreme heat | The Guardian**

Corrina says...




Defects have always played a role in property valuations, and the discovery of widespread insulation issues under government retrofit schemes adds another layer of risk for lenders and valuers to consider. Poor-quality installations that lead to damp or mould can significantly reduce a property's market value, increase maintenance costs, and affect mortgageability. As retrofit activity scales up, ensuring quality and accountability will be essential to protect asset value and maintain confidence in the housing market.

Property Market


Climate concerns reshape property market

Landmark research shows 99% of property professionals report rising buyer concern over climate risks—up from 72% last year. Heat stress (62%) and energy performance (65%) now top flooding (51%) as key issues, with over half of conveyancers advising clients on future climate impacts.

 **'Dramatic shift' in climate sentiment, with conveyancers increasingly advising on risk | Today's Conveyancer**


Gatwick second runway plan approved

Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander has approved plans for a second runway at London Gatwick Airport, as the government looks for economic growth opportunities.

 **Gatwick airport second runway approved by transport secretary - BBC News**

Price falls for homes near Gatwick

House prices in the Gatwick Diamond could fall by up to £40,000 following approval of a second runway, with Mole Valley and Tandridge most affected. Yopa's analysis shows initial planning may cause a modest dip of 1-5%, but construction and operation could lead to sharper declines of up to 7.5%. However, long-term gains are expected, with prices projected to rise by 9.5% post-completion in 2030, driven by improved transport links and job growth.

 **Short term price falls for homes near Gatwick - first calculations**

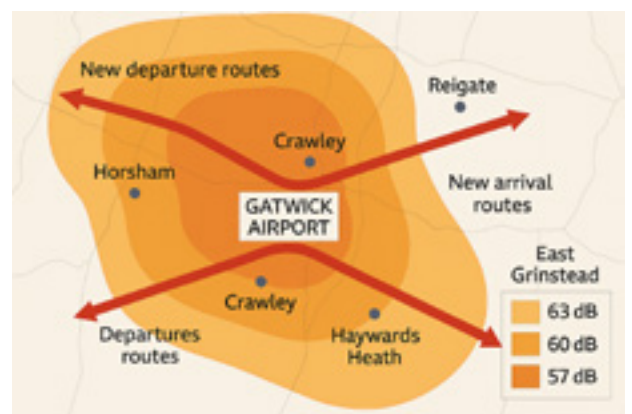


Corrina says...



The government has given conditional support to Gatwick Airport's £2.2 billion plan to bring its northern runway into full use for departures. This move could add 50,000 flights annually by the 2030s, supporting economic growth. The potential of economic growth is welcome, but there are key considerations which we cannot afford to ignore which include a loss of 19 acres of ancient woodland, a significant increase in carbon emissions, noise and air pollution, traffic congestion, and pressure on housing and services.

Housing markets in the area may be impacted, we could potentially see price drops for properties near the runway due to environmental disruption. Conversely, properties in peripheral areas may see an uplift due to the proposed improvement in transport links.



Map: Identifying areas which will be most impacted by the airport expansion, based on data from GACC's flight path report (PDF)

Retrofitting

Grant Funding Extension

The fourth iteration of the Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) will be extended by up to nine months, until late 2026, under plans unveiled by the UK Government.

 [Extending the ECO4 end date - GOV.UK](#)

Government Response Published


On 22 May 2025, the Energy Security and Net Zero Committee released its report Retrofitting Homes for Net Zero. The Government has now responded to the committee's recommendations, with highlights below:

- **Announce a Long-Term Retrofit Strategy**
£13.2bn pledged for the Warm Homes Plan (2025–2030) to upgrade 5 million homes. Full details due in October.
- **Revise EPCs**
New metrics coming in 2026 via the Home Energy Model to better reflect emissions and energy costs.
- **Reduce policy price gap between gas and electricity**
Plans to reduce electricity costs and close the price gap with gas.
- **Confirm the future of fossil fuel heating systems post 2035**
Commitment to clean heating; further clarity expected in the Warm Homes Plan.
- **Improve Retrofit Workforce Standards**
National accreditation and consumer protections under development; updates to follow.
- **Spray Foam & Mortgage Risk**
Inspection protocols published; broader regulatory reforms planned.

 [Access the full response here: Retrofitting homes for net zero: Government Response](#)


Beyond the Warm Homes Plan

The Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT) has released a new report, proposing a national retrofit programme to deliver healthy, sustainable, climate-resilient homes. Key recommendations include streamlining funding, scrapping VAT on retrofit measures, offering household guidance, and cutting stamp duty for energy-efficient properties.

 [Download the report here: Beyond the Warm Homes Plan](#)


EIC calls to scrap VAT on green building retrofits

EIC has urged the removal of VAT on green retrofits to support circular economy principles. The call comes ahead of the UK Government's Circular Economy Strategy, which will target six key sectors to cut waste and boost reuse.

 [EIC calls to scrap VAT on green building retrofits](#)

High-Temperature Heat Pumps

A Retrofit Game Changer? Sovereign Network Group has retrofitted six homes with high-temperature air source heat pumps using existing systems—cutting costs and disruption. While slightly less efficient, early trials show this approach offers a practical, scalable solution for retrofitting older housing stock.

 [Unlock Net Zero - The lead view... - High-temperature heat pumps could be the retrofit game changer we need](#)

Corrina says...



The Warm Homes Plan is due in October, but experts fear it won't meet the scale of retrofit needed. CIAT's Beyond the Warm Homes Plan calls for a national retrofit programme to modernise UK housing, reduce climate risks, and improve resilience. Homes contribute to climate change and are vulnerable to it—yet most aren't equipped to cope.

It highlights the urgent need to reduce climate-related risks and improve the resilience, health, and efficiency of homes - key factors in futureproofing property assets which would benefit homeowners, investors and mortgage lenders.

CIAT recommends a national strategy focused on:

- *Cutting emissions across the built environment*
- *Enhancing resilience to climate risks like overheating and flooding*
- *Improving indoor health and comfort*
- *Reducing energy costs for households*

To overcome financial barriers, the report proposes several fiscal levers, including increased grant funding, low-cost micro-mortgages, and reduced Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) for energy-efficient homes. Reduced SDLT could have the most immediate market impact—making greener homes more affordable and attractive to buyers. This in turn could:

- *Encourage homeowners to retrofit, boosting property value and marketability*
- *Increase demand for green mortgages*
- *Elevate energy performance as a key factor in valuations and lending decisions*
- *Help lenders futureproof portfolios against climate and transitional risks*

We will update you on the Warm Homes Plan as soon as it is published!

New Build


Brownfield First Policy Needed

The State of the Brownfield Report identifies that England's brownfield sites could deliver 1.5 million homes by 2030, protecting greenfield land. Over half have planning permission and are near infrastructure, yet nearly half of new homes in 2021/22 were built on greenfield sites. The report urges a brownfield-first housing policy to safeguard biodiversity.

 [Nearly 1.5 million homes could be built on England's brownfield sites: report | Mortgage Introducer](#)


Planning and Infrastructure Bill

Members of the House of Lords have proposed amendments to ensure wildlife-friendly housing design, following OEP warnings that the bill could weaken environmental protections.

 [Planning and Infrastructure Bill: Lords call for mandatory hedgehog highways and other nature-saving measures - edie](#)

Tighter rules on water saving in new homes

House builders will be required to install water-saving features in new developments under government plans to tackle water scarcity issues that have held up housing schemes in some parts of the country.

 [Inside Housing - News - Tighter rules on water saving in new homes proposed under government plan to boost building](#)


Government environmental reforms 'will break planning system gridlock'

The government has announced a series of environmental planning reforms to accelerate infrastructure delivery and homebuilding while safeguarding the environment.

 [Government environmental reforms 'will break planning system gridlock' | Today's Conveyancer](#)

Up to 40,000 homes to be built on disused railway land

The UK government has pledged to build up to 40,000 new homes on disused railway land, including former goods yards, industrial sites and station buildings, over the next ten years.

 [Up to 40,000 homes to be built on disused railway land - BBC News](#)

Solar Powered Town

An 8,500-home development in Kent will run on a solar-powered 'smart grid', helping to make it one of the UK's first all-electric new towns.

 [Unlock Net Zero - Projects & Innovation - 8,500-home Kent new town to run on solar-powered 'smart grid'](#)



Green Finance

Atom calls for EPC reform to accelerate UK net-zero ambitions

A trial by Atom bank suggests UK banks may be overestimating mortgage-related emissions by up to 50%, due to unreliable EPC data. The findings challenge EPCs' role in net-zero planning and fuel poverty reduction. Atom and industry group B4NZ are urging EPC reform and better data sharing.

Atom bank is advocating for actual energy data from smart meters to improve carbon reporting.

The bank highlights that EPCs often misrepresent household emissions, hindering net-zero progress. Accurate data could enable targeted green lending, especially if clean energy becomes a cost-effective alternative to gas.

Atom calls for EPC reform to accelerate UK net-zero ambitions | Property Reporter

Atom's call for EPC reform is timely and necessary. Smart meter data should become the foundation of carbon reporting and green finance. It enables targeted lending, supports retrofit verification, and helps us understand where emissions reductions will have the greatest impact.



Corrina says...



It makes sense to replace EPCs in Green lending with smart meter data. Lenders are increasingly expected to align portfolios with net-zero goals. Yet, the tools we rely on to assess residential emissions—particularly Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)—are proving to be blunt instruments in a world that demands precision.

The research from Atom bank, reveals a critical flaw: EPCs significantly overestimate household emissions, in some cases by up to 50%. This discrepancy stems from EPCs relying on theoretical models and standardised assumptions, rather than actual energy use. The result? A distorted view of carbon risk and retrofit impact, which undermines our ability to target green lending effectively.

A recent report published by the government explored this very anomaly. The GHG SMETER Project analysed over 2,500 retrofitted homes, and found that smart meter-enabled thermal efficiency ratings (SMETERs) offer a far more accurate picture of real-world energy performance.

This matters. If we're overestimating emissions, we're also overestimating the cost and complexity of decarbonisation. Worse, we may be misdirecting capital away from households that need it most—particularly those at risk of fuel poverty, where EPCs fail to reflect actual heating patterns and energy use.

Atom's call for EPC reform is timely and necessary. Smart meter data should become the foundation of carbon reporting and green finance. It enables targeted lending, supports retrofit verification, and helps us understand where emissions reductions will have the greatest impact.



You can access the findings of the GHG-SMETER Report here: [Green Homes Grant \(GHG\) SMETER project evaluation - GOV.UK](#)

Green Finance (continued)

Property Linked Finance Initiative

The Green Finance Institute and Climate Bonds Initiative have launched the Global Property Linked Finance Initiative to make PLF a global asset class for funding home decarbonisation. PLF ties repayments to properties, enabling long-term, affordable retrofits. The initiative aims to standardise and scale adoption, building on models like the US PACE programme.

Global property linked finance initiative launched to help fund decarbonisation of homes

The GFI published a 'greenprint' to promote the use of PLF in the UK, demonstrating how it could unlock £52-70bn in private investment to retrofit housing stock.

Access the report here: [FINAL PAPER](#)

Green Mortgages

UK lenders have scaled back green mortgages, now just 11% of available deals - down from 16% in August 2023—raising concerns about their role in supporting the UK's decarbonisation goals, according to Moneyfacts data shared with the Financial Times.

UK lenders pull back from green mortgage market | [TransparencyNOW](#)

Over half of lenders offer green mortgages, which reward energy-efficient homes with better rates or cashback. However, research shows they're often not the cheapest deals available. Green mortgages

Green Home Finance Roadmap

The Green Finance Institute (GFI), in partnership with the Green Mortgage Advice Initiative (GMAI), has launched the Green Home Finance Roadmap (GHFR) for the Mortgage Industry: a blueprint for embedding sustainability across the UK mortgage market in collaboration with non-financial stakeholders. The one-page action plan outlines five key themes for progress:

- cross-sector collaboration
- commercial viability
- public awareness and driving demand
- policy clarity for market confidence
- industry education and training

Access the Road Map here: [ROADMAP](#)

Net-Zero Banking Alliance on the cusp of ending membership

The UN-backed Net-Zero Banking Alliance's (NZBA) 100+ members will vote on whether it should continue to be a membership organisation, or transition to become a provider of frameworks that support banks to measure and cut financed emissions.

Net-Zero Banking Alliance on the cusp of ending membership - [edie](#)

Barclays Exits Net Zero Banking Alliance

Barclays has become the latest high-profile financial institution to depart the UN-backed Net-Zero Banking Alliance. Barclays remains committed to becoming a Net Zero bank by 2050.

Statement on the Net Zero Banking Alliance

Corrina says...



The challenge of trying to retrofit the UK's housing stock is considerable and often too expensive for the average homeowner to consider. Something needs to be done to help support property owners and enable action and Property Linked Finance could be the answer. Property linked finance (PLF) enables long-term, affordable funding for building retrofits by tying repayments to the property rather than the owner. This approach overcomes high upfront costs, reduces investment risk, and supports large-scale decarbonisation, making it easier to achieve energy efficiency and climate goals. But how would the property owners, buyers and the property markets react to such a new initiative?

Property owners may welcome PLF as it removes the barrier of high upfront retrofit costs and allows them to benefit from energy upgrades without being tied to long-term debt if they move.

Buyers will inherit the repayment obligation but also benefit from improved energy efficiency and comfort. Some buyers may be cautious about taking on a property with an existing PLF loan, especially if they did not initiate the improvements. Education and clear communication about the benefits and costs will be crucial to buyer acceptance.

Property markets in the US, Canada, and Australia have seen billions invested through similar models, with wide acceptance and positive impacts on building quality and energy efficiency.


However, successful adoption in new markets like the UK will depend on supportive financial institutions, legislation, consumer protections, and awareness campaigns to address resistance to change and ensure smooth integration with existing mortgage products.

Sources: New financial model aims to encourage decarbonisation | Journals | RICS; Property Linked Finance: a new 'green print' to fund the future; How a New Innovative Financing Tool is Greening Buildings in Cities

Energy


Changes to energy price cap

From 1 October to 31 December 2025 the price for energy for a typical household who use electricity and gas and pay by Direct Debit will go up by 2% to £1,755 per year. However, compared to the start of 2023, this is £625 (26.3%) lower than when the energy crisis was at its peak.

 [Changes to energy price cap between 1 October and 31 December 2025 | Ofgem](#)


Energy bills may rise for wealthy households

Ofgem is reviewing energy pricing to make it fairer, proposing higher charges for wealthier households to ease costs for low-income groups.

 [‘Means testing’ energy bills could soar to pay for renewable energy | Personal Finance | Finance | Express.co.uk](#)


Golden age of nuclear

New jobs and growth as companies in the UK and United States sign major new deals to turbocharge the build-out of new nuclear power stations.

 [Golden age of nuclear delivers UK-US deal on energy security - GOV.UK](#)


Solar panels in space ‘could provide 80% of Europe’s renewable energy by 2050’

Researchers also suggest system could resolve problems with irregular and weather-dependent Earth-based supply.

 [Solar panels in space ‘could provide 80% of Europe’s renewable energy by 2050’ | Solar power | The Guardian](#)

UK renewables hit new record

Government figures have revealed a record 16GW of new renewable energy capacity won planning approval in the UK during the second quarter of 2025. The figures represent a 195% increase on the same period last year, highlighting growing momentum in the UK’s clean energy transition.


 [UK Renewables Hit New Record](#)



Climate Action

Corporate Bottom Lines

A new report from CDP has identified that acting on climate disclosure data can improve corporate bottom lines. Companies that identify, disclose and act on climate mitigation efforts can generate up to \$21 for every \$1 invested.

 **'Disclosure dividend': Study shows how acting on climate data can deliver up to \$21 for every \$1 invested** | [BusinessGreen News](#)

UK firms to pay electric company car drivers more towards charging costs

From 1 September 2025, HMRC has set separate Advisory Electric Rates: 8p/mile for home charging and 12p/mile for public charging—addressing concerns that the previous flat rate penalised public charger users, especially company car and salary sacrifice drivers.

 **HMRC Splits EV Mileage Rates: 12p Public Charging vs 8p Home** | [The Electric Car Scheme](#)

UK's Electric Car Grant expanded to 35 models

Toyota, Skoda, Peugeot and Vauxhall and Citroën models have been added to the UK Government's new Electric Car Grant (ECG), which provides drivers with discounts of up to £3,750 on new electric vehicles (EVs).

 **UK's Electric Car Grant expanded to 35 models** - [edie](#)

Barclays Strikes First Major Carbon Removal Deal

Barclays has signed its first major carbon removal deal with UK climate tech firm UNDO, supporting enhanced rock weathering in Canada. Covering 6,538 tonnes, it's the largest ERW agreement led by a UK supplier and a key part of Barclays' Net Zero Strategy.

 **Barclays Strikes First Major Carbon Removal Deal with UNDO in Canada** - [ESG News](#)

High Seas Treaty to become law

Two decades in the making, it enables marine protected areas in international waters to combat damage from overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Hailed as a "monumental achievement," the treaty includes binding rules to safeguard biodiversity across two-thirds of the ocean.

 **Key oceans treaty crosses critical threshold to come into force** - [BBC News](#)



Pioneering carbon capture projects ready for construction

Two carbon capture projects in North Wales and Northwest England have signed contracts, ready to begin construction and securing hundreds of jobs.

 **Pioneering carbon capture projects ready for construction** - [GOV.UK](#)

Tesco to reward farmers for meeting environmental targets


Tesco is introducing new financial incentives for more than 400 British farmers in its sustainable farming groups, linking bonus payments to progress on emissions reduction, biodiversity, soil health and animal welfare.

 **Tesco Boosts UK Farmers with Sustainability Rewards**

Free Flood Management Course for Landlords

Rent Smart Wales and Natural Resources Wales have launched a free online course to help landlords manage flood risks and protect properties. Available now on the Rent Smart Wales website.

 **Natural Resources Wales / Rent Smart Wales partners with Natural Resources Wales to deliver vital flood management course**

 **Access the course here:** [Course Information](#)

Around the World


Housing targets on collision course with climate concerns

Australia's target to build 1.2 million homes by 2029 is at odds with its climate goals. While climate resilience is planned for future building codes, updates to the National Construction Code are frozen until 2029—raising concerns among experts about stalled climate adaptation.

 [Housing targets on collision course with climate concerns | Mortgage Professional Australia](#)


US tells countries to reject UN ship fuel emissions deal

The United States has told countries to reject a United Nations' marine fuel emissions-cutting deal or face tariffs, visa restrictions and port levies.

 [US tells countries to reject UN ship fuel emissions deal or face tariffs, sources say | Reuters](#)


US businesses increase climate ambitions

The number of large, listed US-based companies with net-zero emissions targets has increased by 9% year-over-year, showing a divergence between the private sector and federal government on climate action.

 [US businesses increase climate ambitions, even as federal government retreats - edie](#)

Renewable Energy Investment Smashes Records


Global investment in renewable energy projects reached a record high of \$386bn in the first half of 2025, up 10% year-on-year, according to BloombergNEF.

 [Despite the "Trump Effect," Renewable Energy Investment Smashes Records with \\$386bn in First Half of 2025](#)

And finally...


Air pollution has been tied to Alzheimer's disease

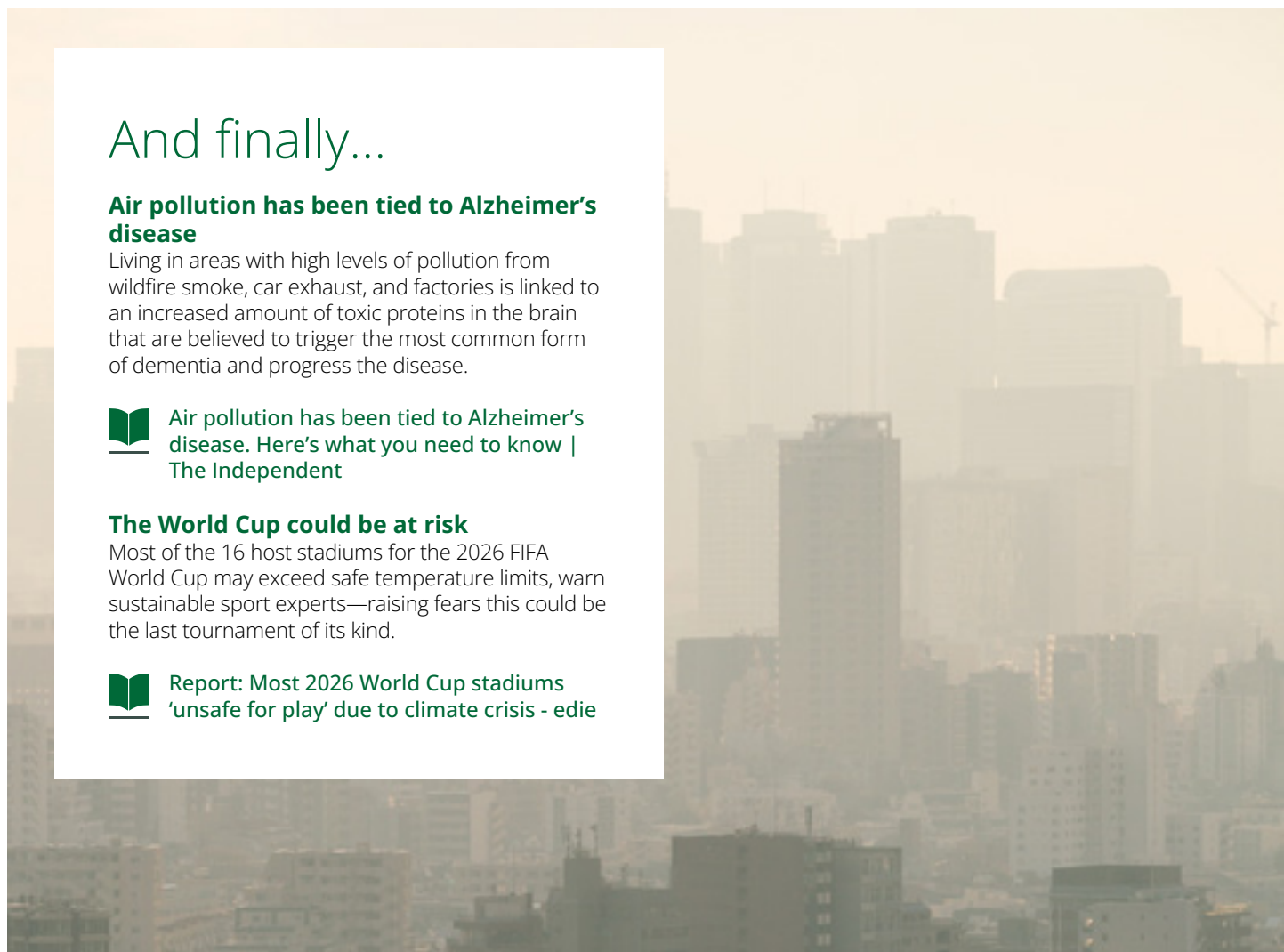
Living in areas with high levels of pollution from wildfire smoke, car exhaust, and factories is linked to an increased amount of toxic proteins in the brain that are believed to trigger the most common form of dementia and progress the disease.

 [Air pollution has been tied to Alzheimer's disease. Here's what you need to know | The Independent](#)

The World Cup could be at risk

Most of the 16 host stadiums for the 2026 FIFA World Cup may exceed safe temperature limits, warn sustainable sport experts—raising fears this could be the last tournament of its kind.

 [Report: Most 2026 World Cup stadiums 'unsafe for play' due to climate crisis - edie](#)



Environmental Days to Support

No Disposable Cup Day – 04/10/2025

No Disposable Cup Day, observed annually on October 4th, is a global campaign that encourages individuals and businesses to avoid using disposable cups for a day to raise awareness about waste and promote sustainable, reusable alternatives.



Find out more here: [No Disposable Cups](#)

International E-Waste Day – 14/10/2025

International E-Waste Day, held annually on October 14th, is a global awareness campaign initiated by the WEEE Forum to promote responsible disposal and recycling of electronic waste and highlight its environmental and resource impact.



Find out more here [International E-Waste Day | WEEE Forum](#)
