

THE BIG ONE

GUIDE TO MASS ACTION AT PARLIAMENT

21-24TH APRIL 2023

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1. Intro

The climate, nature and humanity face disaster. We know it's time to act. Do you trust politicians to do the right thing for us? For the planet?

Collective Demand

Extinction Rebellion and new allies from leading environmental and social justice groups delivered two fresh demands to the Government - and set a deadline of 5pm on 24 April for ministers to enter into negotiations about how they will be delivered:

- The Fossil Fuel era must end
- Change decided by us, not for us

Read more [here](#).

Gathering day after day in large numbers at the Nations' seat of power - means XR can leave the locks, glue and paint behind and instead invite others to **unite to survive** in peaceful protest - creating a critical mass of people and a moment that's impossible to ignore.

If politicians aren't willing to put in the hard graft to turn things around, then we will. **It's time we choose our future.**

See 'What's the Plan' for an overview and the Programme section for details on what's happening before, during and after The Big One. Includes the People's Picket, Big One for Biodiversity March and more. Information is continually being added, so keep checking back!

2. Connect

Follow XR UK Broadcast Channels for key information:

→ **Rebellion Broadcast**

UK-wide actions, strategy and Rebellion updates on [Telegram](#) or [Mattermost](#).

→ **Movement Broadcast**

UK-wide events, talks & trainings on [Telegram](#) or [Mattermost](#)

The Big One Info:

[Unity Agreement](#)

[Donate to XR](#)

[XR Website - The Big One](#)

[Tell us you'll be there - sign up here!](#)

[100 Days Rebel Toolkit](#)

[Join the discussion on Mattermost](#)

Messaging Guidance

Powerful text provided for you by the UK Media & Messaging team. No need to reinvent the wheel, just read and copy!

☰ THE BIG ONE MESSAGING

The doc also contains slogans and taglines so you can busy making placards and promoting the event on social media with all the right hashtags. [Join the Facebook event](#)

M&M Design Assets (flyers, poster, QR codes) are now [here](#):



3. What's the Plan?

A four day protest with tens of thousands of people, outside the Houses of Parliament from **21st - 24th April 2023**, with time on either side for preparation and 'pack down'.

The **invitation** is to all humans, all movements, all organisations to come together and stay for as long as they can.

The action will focus on Parliament Square and the area directly south of Parliament Square. XR will join with other organisations in building alliances, engaging with decisions and transforming energy into pressure on the government.

We intend to create an **inclusive space** so that people from different backgrounds are welcome to join, with minimal risk of arrest. **This means no glue, paint or lock-ons for the four days.**

Our rights to gather together at Parliament and on the roads outside the Houses of Parliament are enshrined in international law. We are communicating with the **Metropolitan police** to facilitate the protest and work together to meet the needs of the local community.

Programme

There will be an **inspirational lineup** of speakers, musicians, performers, poets, writers and thinkers, alongside radical acts of co-creation from attendees and supporters alike.

- For **Programming** proposals and suggestions please contact: programming.XR@proton.me

Get in touch with the name of the act, links to live video footage, phone number and availability over the 4 days. **Application deadline 5th April**

- For **Relationships** please contact: relationshipsXRUK@protonmail.com
Relationships circle makes contact with and agree understandings with groups and organisations who would like to support, contribute or collaborate.
- For **Actions** email xr-action@protonmail.com and follow the Rebellion Broadcast for updates.

The Big One

Activities designed to form connections and encourage participation will take place throughout the streets of Westminster until 20:00 each day. More details and exact event times will be announced.

Friday 21st ~ Unite to Survive

People's Pickets at Government Departments, from 7am

Saturday 22nd ~ Earth Day: Unite For Nature

Big One for Biodiversity ~ March and rally

Sunday 23rd ~ Running Out of Time

Marathon Day: Outreach, Organising, Creative Actions & Assemblies

Monday 24th ~ Choose Your Future

People's Pickets at Government Departments, from 7am

4. Programme

The Big One ~ Patchworks London

An amazing community event space open for use every day from 17th-28th April.

This Is The Work

Church Road, London, E10 7JQ

An awesome **community event space** to share with friends and allies from around the UK and beyond; to train, create, hear inspiring artists and make change possible. And have fun while doing it!

After years of the global pandemic, cost of living crisis and new draconian police laws, this is how we will build back momentum and build a stronger movement. Zoom doesn't cut it. We need to meet in person.

It is wheelchair accessible and will be a place where unity is held above uniformity of brand or strategy or demand. Our home is your home - Earth.

See the [Patchworks page on the website](#) for the full programme of events.

Booking requests can be made via [this form](#).

The Big One

4 Days of Occupation ~ 21-24th April

Here Comes Everyone

The weekend is our opportunity to **build momentum** through discussions, creative activities, assemblies, workshops and sharing.

See the [Programme page on the website](#) for full details. Keep checking back for updates.

Friday 21st & Monday 24th

People's Pickets at Government Departments

The machinery of state is being used against people and the planet so we're getting on a picket to say, **not in our name**.

The Big One begins with People's Pickets at government departments from 7am on Friday 21st and growing throughout the morning. Groups will **self-organise pickets** at department entrances South of Parliament Square.

The [People's Picket Supporting Doc](#) has all the information and next steps for planning. This includes the 'Wedding Table' announcement to discover who is on each picket.

Whilst the deadline for groups to join pickets has passed, fill in the [form](#) and we'll fit you into plans as they develop.

We are still welcoming new organisations to The Big One. To join, please also complete [this](#).

See [The Map](#) for locations. More detail available on [this Google map](#).

Email with any questions: xr-action@protonmail.com

Saturday 22nd

A massive Biodiversity march and rally on Earth Day, sanctuary and family-friendly spaces, food, art blocking, print-making, performances and amazing guests are some of the things to look forward to.

Big One for Biodiversity ~ 10am onwards Westminster

A march, rally and die-in to honour and respect species endangered by the global ecological crisis. All organisations are welcome to join; invite family, friends and everyone you know!

- **Block printing, artwork & face painting:** 10.00-12.30
- **Speak for Nature Workshop:** Gather from 12.00, starts 12.30-13.00. Share your love, grief, hope and what you long for about Nature
- **Unite for Nature rally:** 13.00-13.30. Hear about the extent of the global ecological crisis, and explore solution pathways such as regenerative practice, ecocide law and citizens' assemblies
- **Big Biodiversity March:** 13.30-14.45. Led by XR Rhythms, with periods of silence, birdsong and sounds of nature along the way! Download and follow the cues to play one or more of these [wildlife sound files](#) on phone or bluetooth speaker. Bring along placards and artwork to honour our natural world and endangered species
- **Finale Die-In:** 14.45-15.00. Spread out and lie down in silence, for a symbolic spectacle. If you don't want to participate in the die-in you are invited to move away at the end of the march.

More information:

- PLEASE **ALL READ** the [Action Info Doc](#)
- [Map of event locations and march route](#)
- Join the [Telegram Group](#)
- [Creative Ideas Pack](#) - props, costumes, messaging and artwork
- [Biodiversity Fact Pack](#) from Scientists for XR
- Join the [Facebook event](#)
- Wheelchair accessible. For other access needs please email: xr.inclusion@protonmail.com

Sunday 23rd

The final stretch of the London **marathon** will intersect with the occupation, providing an opportunity to engage with the public and **actively support** those running in the marathon for causes amplified by the climate crisis.

20,000 Small Boats

The racist Illegal Migration Bill is expected to pass through the House of Commons for the third time on 25 April. 40,000+ people dared to risk their lives to come to the UK by small boat last year, driven by the same systemic inequalities that are causing climate breakdown.

Take action at the Home Office on Sunday 23 April at 16:30:

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Vigils will continue each evening and we'll be back in force in the morning, making sure we have our **demands ready for Monday 24th** when parliamentarians return. This is the work.

The occupation will be designed for maximum participation and access; **building pressure** by coming back again and stronger over the 4 days and showing that we are impossible to ignore.

The Big Decisions

4 Days of Decision ~ 25-28th April

The Future Is Ours To Choose

It can't end on Monday. This is the beginning of something new. The relationships we form together, the ideas we share, the love and rage needs you to step up.

We will continue to build our strength and build on the work we have begun to become an unstoppable force for change.

XR will aim to keep accommodation and other areas open for group discussion, collaboration, experimentation and decision. TBC!

5. The Maps

The Big One is...big! To help navigate all that's going on in Westminster and beyond, there are a few key maps to help.

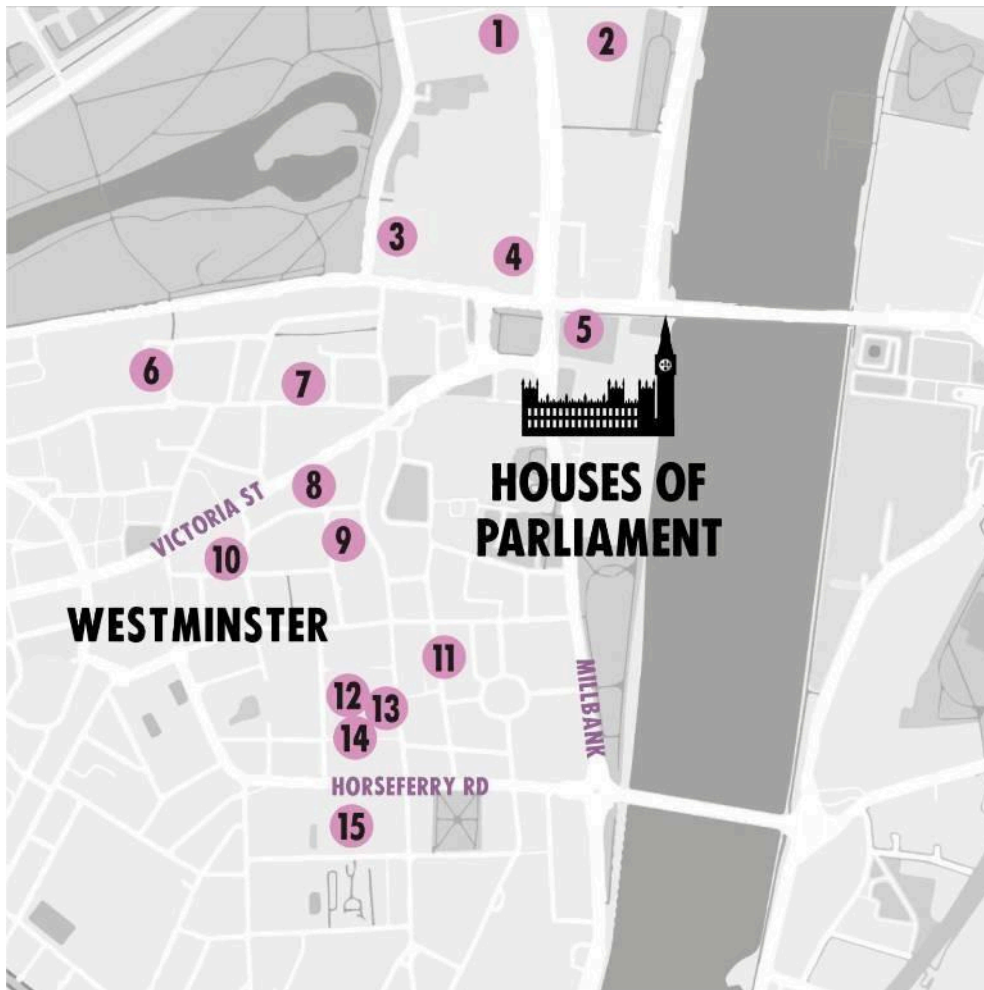
Site Maps

The following maps can be found on the [maps page on the website](#):

- **Amenities:** including public toilets, onsite 'loos of last resort', freshwater and sustenance locations. Click on individual icons for more details.
- **Site plans for 21st-24th:** including stages, first aid, welcome hub and more.

People's Pickets

See the map below and also this more detailed [Google Map](#) for the location of each picket.



- 1** DEPT FOR BUSINESS & TRADE
- 2** MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
- 3** HM TREASURY
- 4** DEPT FOR CULTURE, MEDIA & SPORT
- 5** UK PARLIAMENT - HOUSE OF COMMONS & HOUSE OF LORDS
- 6** MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
- 7** DEPT FOR WORK & PENSIONS
- 8** DEPT FOR ENERGY SECURITY & NET ZERO
& DEPT FOR SCIENCE, INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY
- 9** DEPT FOR EDUCATION
- 10** DEPT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE
- 11** 55/57 TUFTON STREET
- 12** DEPT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD & RURAL AFFAIRS
- 13** HOME OFFICE
- 14** DEPT FOR LEVELLING UP, HOUSING & COMMUNITIES
- 15** DEPT FOR TRANSPORT

6. Make your impact

Everyone is encouraged to take on a role for The Big One.

There are two main pathways to get involved and make your impact:

1. **Join the Support Crew** to get involved with tasks on the ground for the Big One. Help people feel safe and connected. Training and support provided. We need LOTS of people in these roles!
See the main on-the-ground [crew roles](#) and join one right away. Just tick the box and you will be sent an email with more details of each role and a link to join the Telegram group chat.

We particularly need stewards! It is the perfect starter role and you can even volunteer with your friends and family. Check out everything you might want to know about Stewarding [here](#).

A new, basic **Steward training** for crews had been designed especially for this event. It contains **general action support skills** and includes elements from Wellbeing, Embedding Nonviolence, Accessibility and Nonviolent Direct Action training. You'll then be able to specialise your skills in other action support teams. LOTS of stewards are needed at The Big One! Register for online training:

- [11 April - 7pm](#) (general stewarding)
- [12 April - 7pm](#) (general stewarding)
- [17 April - 7pm](#) (general and lead stewarding)

[Sign up for shifts](#)

2. **Become a Planner** and join a vibrant network of busy ants helping build and weave the action. The work is needed right now, with the roles continuing at least to the end of the action. These roles are remote so you can work online from anywhere in the country. Find a role from the [volunteer jobs board](#).

Everyone is asked to follow the [Unity Agreement](#) for the safe and inclusive participation.

7. Paint the Streets

In the run up to April **Paint the Streets** and **Outreach** will generate an unstoppable energy towards The Big One.

Paint the Streets campaign

It's time to cover the streets with posters - on walls, in cafes, pubs, bus stops and other public spaces. Place your order via the [Uk-wide order form](#) and we'll send out posters, stickers and flyers.

Get involved with subvertising workshops, bus-stops and London Tube runs over the Build Up phase from 17th-21st April.

London materials can be collected from the Art Factory and pickup points after filling the form. These include a special print run of Paris 68 Redux Posters.

Join the [PTS Telegram chat](#)

Outreach

Get involved with Outreach - connect people on the ground:

Join the [Outreach Telegram chat](#)

8. Production & Logistics

The production team is focused on designing and coordinating all the streams of production, support, sound and food to keep the protest flowing.

Could you put your abilities to good use? **Sound & Power, Logistics, Sustenance and Accommodation** always need more trusted, practical minded rebels to help:

- Email the production team to introduce yourself and get involved: production@extinctionrebellion.uk
- [Join the relevant Telegram chat groups](#) directly by selecting the Production crew(s) of interest.

What to bring

We are aiming to be zero waste so will not be providing crockery and cutlery. Bring your own plus spares for a new friend. See this handy kit checklist:

<https://xrb.link/P2H5m0n3eay>

Amenities & Sustenance Map

Amazing map [here](#) detailing:

- Toilets (public and onsite loos of last resort) including full descriptions and accessibility
- Water refill stations
- Sustenance
- Welcome Hub
- First Aid
- Action Wellbeing



Logistics

Coordinate the flow of kit to site, and assist with site set up and clear down each day allowing the roads to re-open at 8pm. A team of volunteers is needed to make the plan happen! Sign up for shifts to drive vans, ride a cargo bike or bike trailer or be part of our vital set up and strike team. Help us to create a sight to behold with a leave no trace trail.

Sanitation & Waste

Consider how you can help to minimise the waste you produce during The Big One. For example, bring your own food and water supply, bring reusable bottles, cutlery, tubs etc. Please take your rubbish away with you. We will have 'loos of last resort' and accessible loos, but will also provide information about public loos in the area.

See the Amenities & Sustenance Map (above) for details.

Join the Sanitation & Waste team - no experience is necessary.

Sustenance

We aim to feed more people than ever before and require kitchen volunteers and people to transport the food via cargo bike, bike and trailer, or rickshaw.

We would love you to bring a couple of extra food items to share at the **Food Share Table at St. John's Gardens, SW1P 4DA**. See the Amenities & Sustenance Map (above) for details.

We aim to serve plant based food, with minimal allergy restrictions. You could bring some vegan pasties, cake, biscuits, dried apricots, falafel, energy balls, crisps, nuts, fruit,

Note down ingredients so allergies can be checked. Sharing helps bring us all together.

Join us at our Sustenance space, for a cuppa, some food and a nourishing rest. Remember to bring a mug, bowl and spork.

More Production information [here](#).

Inclusion and Accessibility

The Big One aims to be as inclusive and accessible as possible.

You may feel overwhelmed about how you will manage whilst in London. Our aim is to support each other and to help you find the access you may need.

Information on provisions made to facilitate inclusion and accessibility is available on the [Rebel Toolkit](#).

For further access information and needs, or to ask any questions, contact: xr.inclusion@protonmail.com

London Marathon Info

The London Marathon takes place on Sunday 23rd and the MiniMarathon for young people will happen on Saturday 22nd. XRUK is working closely with the marathon organisers to ensure both events are successful.

Throughout the weekend, the area north of Parliament Sq will see large numbers of spectators. Runners will follow the route alongside The Houses of Parliament, the focal point for The Big One. The intention is to use this intersection point to warmly invite marathon spectators along to enjoy The Big One - a high number of stewards will be needed here to help people to find their way.

You can see the [marathon route here](#).

Some roads will be closed to traffic from the early hours of the morning, and all roads are reopened at 8:30pm.

Traffic and crowd barriers along Great George Street - which runs from Westminster bridge, alongside the houses of Parliament and Parliament Square - will arrive on Friday night and remain until Monday.

Both running routes encircle St James' Park and Green Park. These areas will be very busy with infrastructure, supporters and runners - making for an incredible opportunity for outreach for The Big One.

On Friday and Monday, infrastructure may still be around, however, use of the parks should be unaffected.

Additional London Underground trains will operate throughout the weekend - a benefit to those attending The Big One - though additional travel time may be needed, especially at peak times.

Westminster tube station will operate a one-way system and will be the busiest underground station. To access Westminster, other underground stations such as Pimlico or Victoria may be less busy.

Further travel information will be provided closer to the time..

Police info

XR has a working relationship with Metropolitan Police, developed over the past four years of nonviolent direct action. We proactively liaise to prioritise inclusivity, safety and respect for human rights. We have met and discussed arrangements for the Big One, in particular the need for road closures.

They have affirmed our right to peacefully protest outside government buildings in April and thanked us for our early engagement. We have confirmed our shared need: to ensure no significant harm comes to anyone.

The police have emphasised our right to peacefully assemble and guaranteed ample opportunities for dialogue during the course of the event. They have assured us there will be no surprises for attendees at The Big One.

For the reassurance of those present who may have had involvement with the police in protest situations before, bust cards will be available from stewards and at the Hubs, even though it is anticipated that they will not be required.

What we have communicated with the Metropolitan police:

- We have a fundamental right to assemble outside Parliament and government departments.
 - We are working closely with the London Marathon to ensure that it can go ahead with us alongside, without disruption.
 - There are no tactics planned to resist being moved, or to occupy roads overnight, or cause criminal damage as this would jeopardise the inclusive environment that makes pressure through numbers more effective.
 - We pack down each day at 6pm and are cleared by 8pm (except a closing ceremony on Monday 24th, and nightly vigils) - the preparation centre will be open for events.
 - A Special Access Vehicle Route will be provided from Parliament
 - Mass presence will remain within South Westminster.
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9. Transport & Accommodation

Transport

This [transport guide](#) will help Local Groups decide whether to book transport, how to do so, ticketing, best practice on the day, and what support is available from XRUK teams.

Tell us if your Local Group has booked transportation using [this form](#).

To be put in contact with a group organising transport in your area complete [this form](#).

More info on the [Rebel Toolkit](#)

The team are more than happy to help:

100DaysTransport@protonmail.com

Accommodation

The Accommodation Team is working hard to help everyone find a place to stay in London. Each Region/Nation is twinned with a London Borough and accommodation will be allocated with this in mind. See twinning information below.

Camping

Campsite opening times:

- Campsite 1 (Lambeth): 19 Apr 12.00 - 28 Apr 12.00
- Campsite 2: 20 Apr 12.00 - 25 Apr 12.00

Specific locations will be released on London Campers Community Telegram Group (see below).

To register your interest please [sign up here](#)

- Join the [London Campers Community Telegram Group](#) for updates and to communicate with other potential campers.
- [Volunteer to help out onsite](#) - we are all crew!
- Join the [London Campers Volunteer Chat](#) to connect to other volunteers.

XRUK has often facilitated campsites but camping in public spaces in London is not legal. XRUK liaises with local authorities and the Met Police to ensure camps are safe.

Indoor Accommodation

- [Register an available venue](#)
- [Register for somewhere to stay](#) and more information

We may find it hard to place everyone but there are offers and requests coming in all the time. Please be patient. We will find space for you if we can and try to let you know if we can't. Contact us asap if you withdraw or amend your offer or request by emailing: xr.accommation@proton.me.

Human Hotel

- [Search for available accommodation](#)
- If you are able, please [sign up to host](#)

Full accommodation information on the [Rebel Toolkit](#).

Twinning

Welcome to London! Each XR Region/Nation will be twinned with a London Borough.

Contact your Regional group coordinator for more info.

Nation / Region	London Borough
Scotland & Northern Ireland	Camden, Muswell Hill & Islington
North West & Yorkshire	Hackney & Tower Hamlets
North East & Cumbria	Haringey & Waltham Forest
Cymru	Brent, Barnet & Harrow
Bristol	Kingston & Richmond
South West	Hammersmith & Fulham
East of England	Lambeth
Midlands	Southwark & Lewisham
South East	Wandsworth

10. COVID advice

Members of Health for XR have produced [this advice](#) for people who are at higher risk of severe complications from COVID-19.

We ask that anyone who has tested positive for COVID, and may be infectious at this time, not to attend The Big One.

Thank you for engaging with this crucial moment in history. More details will be shared as plans develop; galvanised by your input, energy, heart and courage!

**You are needed, we are needed, everyone is needed.
Here comes everyone.**

