

London calling for global climate action

[London Climate Action Week 2025](#)



Image credit: [London Climate Action Week](#)

Atlas London
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This week, London once again steps into the spotlight as a global climate leader, with London Climate Action Week (LCAW) returning to the capital.

Through a dynamic programme of events, networking, and workshops, LCAW mobilises London's unique ecosystem of organisations, communities, and individuals to accelerate global climate action and create a hub for sustainability leadership.

This event takes on new urgency in a year that has seen the hottest temperatures on record, rising global emissions, and mounting pressure on governments and businesses to act. Providing a platform for hundreds of climate-focused activities that span policy, finance, energy, and resilience, it attracts 45,000 participants annually, making it the largest city-led climate gathering in Europe.

LCAW puts cities in the centre of the climate conversation, and rightly so. Urban areas house more than half the world's population and generate nearly 70% of global emissions through buildings, transport, and energy use, with this figure expected to rise to over two-thirds by 2050.

[The Global Climate and Energy Outlook report for 2024](#) warned that, while there has been significant progress since its first release in 2015, current global GHG emission projections were still not on track to achieve the 1.5°C ambition set by the Paris Agreement.

Achieving social, economic, and environmental resilience will require strong global cooperation and commitments from major economies, further cost reductions in low-emissions technologies, significant infrastructure and energy systems improvements, and purposeful, measurable impact delivered through local strategies.

Thought leadership is about hosting dialogue and modelling solutions, and London is rising to the challenge.

The city's commitment to net zero is underpinned by policy and delivery, from investment in green infrastructure to business challenges that support emissions reduction in commercial property. Initiatives like the [Mayor's Business Climate Challenge](#) and the [City](#)



[of London's Climate Action Strategy](#) offer clear roadmaps for how urban centres can transform their operations, supply chains and built environments to drive meaningful, measurable impact.

Providers of cleaning and support services are positioned to deliver change on the ground, with a direct line to impact the operational performance, energy use, maintenance, and resilience of the built environment.

The industry is uniquely placed to help deliver on the ambition of events like LCAW. In a city like London, where infrastructure and space are under pressure and energy demand is high, the role of support service managers is strategic.

Commercial real estate has long sat on the margins of the energy transition. Yet buildings present untapped potential for emission reduction, with existing properties still relying on long lifecycles and complex, outdated systems and processes that increase energy consumption and emissions.

The rise of IoT, advanced analytics, and intelligent data-driven solutions makes it possible to reduce carbon, improve efficiency, and enhance performance while preserving architectural character.

In commercial cleaning, eco-friendly alternatives replace traditional chemicals while ethical suppliers work hard to minimise single-use plastic, consolidate deliveries and implement water-efficient



equipment, continuously improving existing practices.

As technology advances, practical, cost-effective decarbonisation routes present themselves within the built environment.

There is a broader contribution to consider.

The support services industry stands at the crossroads of efficiency and sustainability, and the circular economy offers a practical route away from traditional 'take-make-dispose' models by keeping resources in play for as long as possible. Through repair and refurbishment initiatives, resource recovery systems, 'product-as-a-service' arrangements, and green procurement, managers can cut waste, reduce costs, advance climate goals, and maintain operational performance.

The shift brings cultural change challenges, often requiring upfront investment and supplier alignment while facing potential regulatory hurdles. These barriers can be overcome with considered planning and expertise, allowing organisations to realise the environmental and financial dividends. It is about managing buildings, resources, systems, and risk. This becomes especially important in the context of urban resilience; with London projected to face increased flood risk, water stress, and extreme heat events by 2050, proactive building adaptation and strong operational practices are essential.

London Climate Action Week reminds us that climate action cannot be delivered in a silo. It is a shared responsibility that requires business and government, finance and civil service, planners, and residents to work in tandem.

The support services sector may not be the most visible in the climate conversation, but it is one of the most vital. Atlas London works in close collaboration with our portfolio to deliver mutual environmental improvement, looking ahead to the future of London and playing a defining role in shaping buildings that are fit for a changing planet.

Cities like London offer a powerful, concentrated opportunity to test, scale, and inspire, and, at its heart, LCAW showcases what is possible when a community leans into its potential.



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