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Tackling global
challenges
through
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research



UCL Climate Action Programme for UK Parliament - Key Facts

Eligibility: open to MPs and Peers from either House and all parties

Specifics: 5 online sessions delivered in March 2021

Aim: a series of activities to examine how people respond to the complex nature of climate change

Participant demographics: MPs from the Conservative, Labour and Scottish National Party, plus crossbench Peers. From rural and inner city regions across several nations

Figure 1

Climate Action Programme for

of them at the end of the programme.

UNCONVENTIONAL

The aim of the programme was to enable parliamentarians to think differently about their own levers for action. Feedback gathered during the programme suggests it worked.

“I really valued the opportunity to take a few steps back and consider the thought processes and instincts which underpin so much of our communication in relation to climate change,” said one Labour MP.

“I understood the importance of seeing their challenge from another person’s viewpoint, filtered through someone else’s value system” added a Crossbench Peer.

Aside from sharing golden nuggets on how our human brains respond to the challenges of tackling climate change, the programme did something very

simple and practical for the MPs and Peers involved. It provided a confidential and non-judgemental ‘space’ for reflection.

When asked what they liked most about the programme, one responded simply: “the chance to think”. Another commented on how the environment created during the programme enabled “stimulating discussions” to happen across parties and houses.

NEXT STEPS