



# Being a Greener Funder

Nick Perks



▶ Welcome

▶ Why?

▶ What?

▶ How?

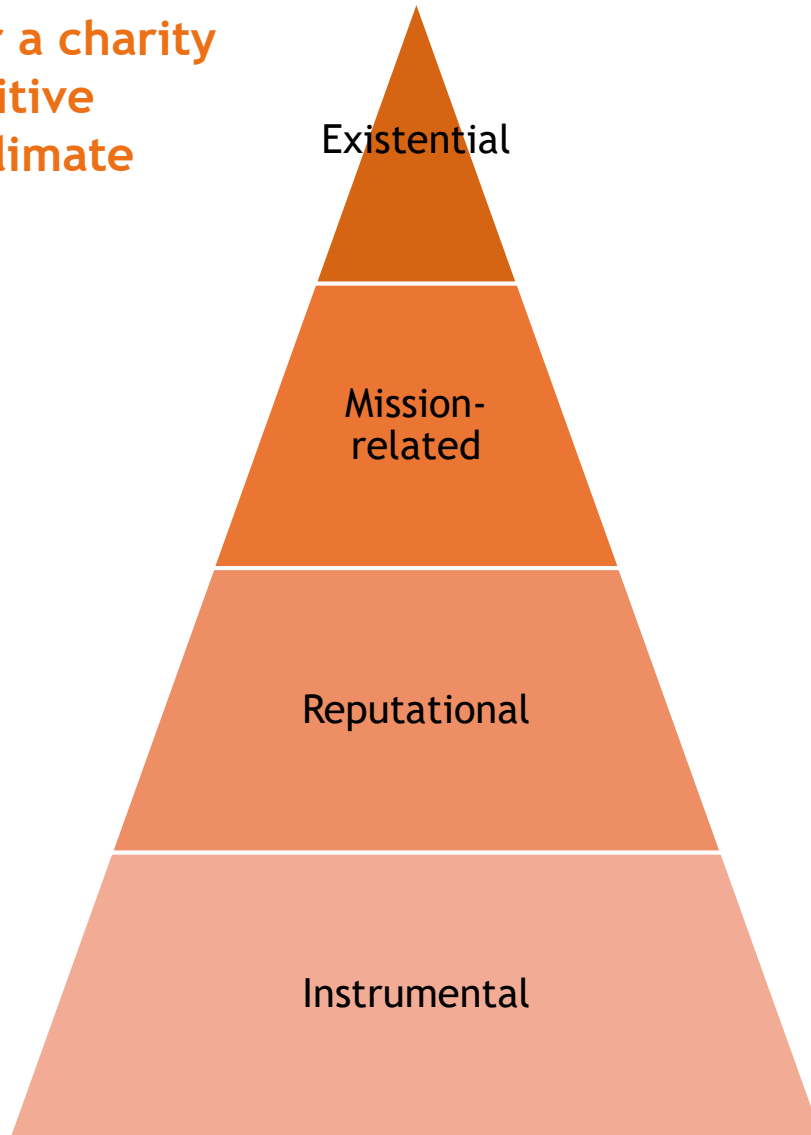
# ▶ Welcome

- ▶ Your name
- ▶ Organisation
- ▶ Why did you choose this session?

## ▶ Why...

- ▶ ...might your charity or the organisations that you support take action on climate change?

Reasons for a charity  
to take positive  
action on climate



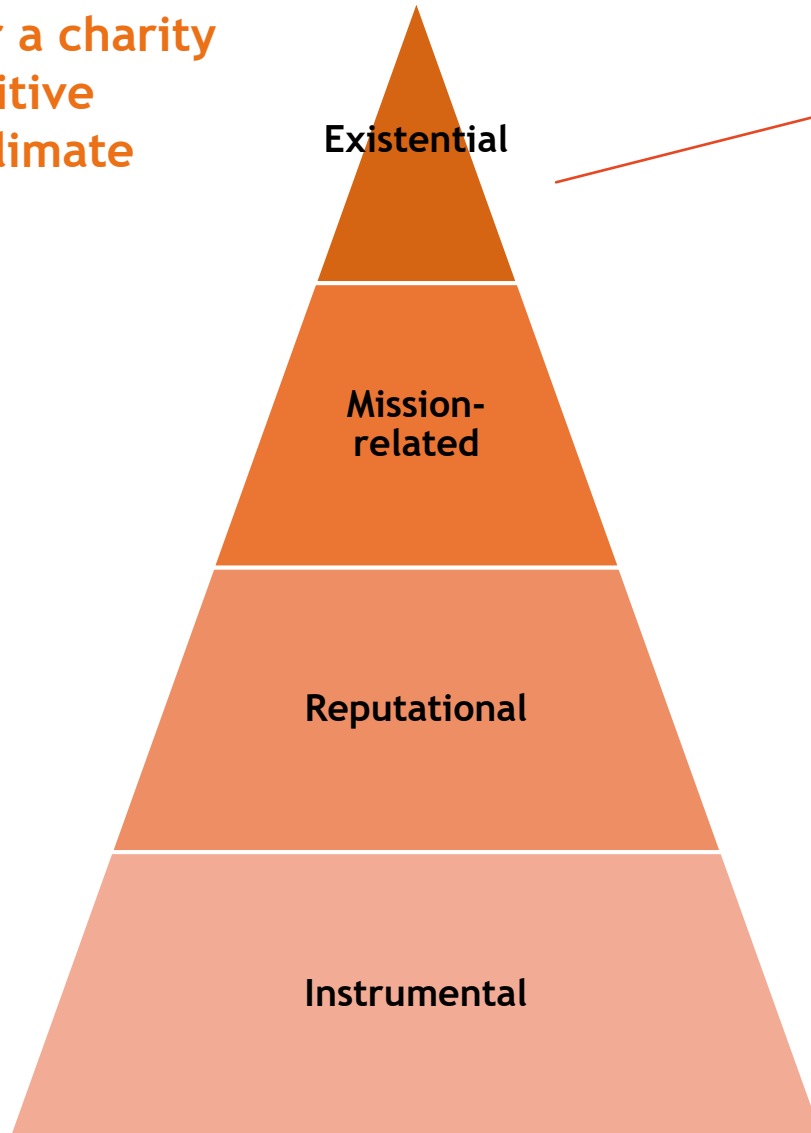
Leadership



Practical benefit

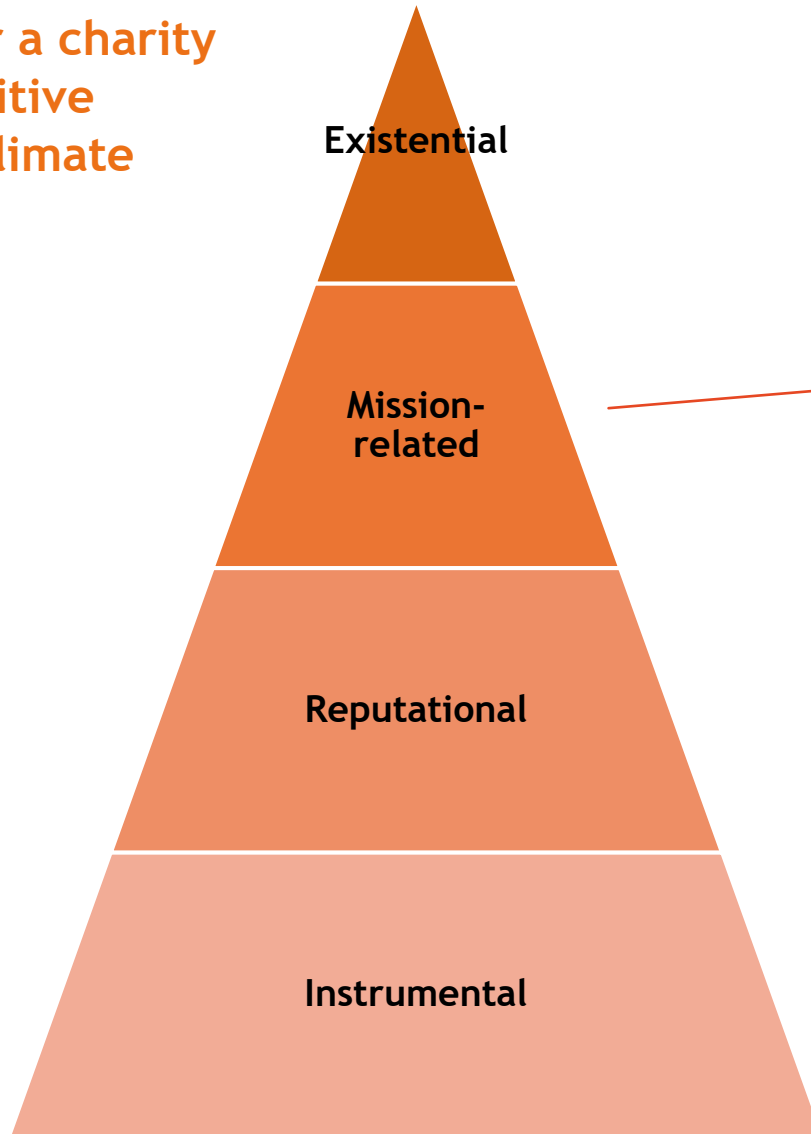


**Reasons for a charity  
to take positive  
action on climate**



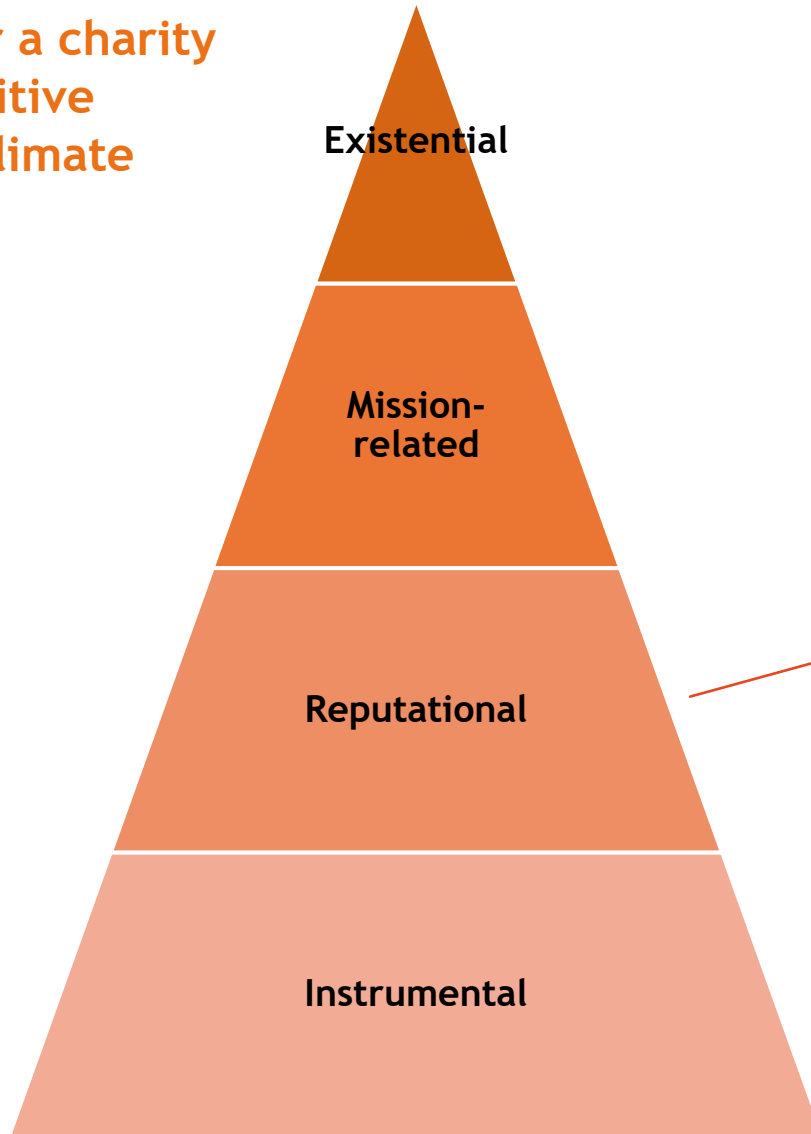
The world is currently on a trajectory of 2 or 3 degrees warming by the end of the century, similar to the scale of change as from the last ice age to now (but at far greater speed). These impacts would be catastrophic for all human life. Surely every charity should play its part.

Reasons for a charity to take positive action on climate



Climate change is directly relevant to the specific mission of most charities: for example many **young people** are already interested in taking action on climate change, or grappling with climate anxiety; **older people** are particularly at risk to higher temperatures; climate impacts are a risk to **public health** and many climate solutions can also support better health; **heritage** buildings or landscapes are particularly at risk from flooding, wildfires, pests and other climate impacts; and so on...

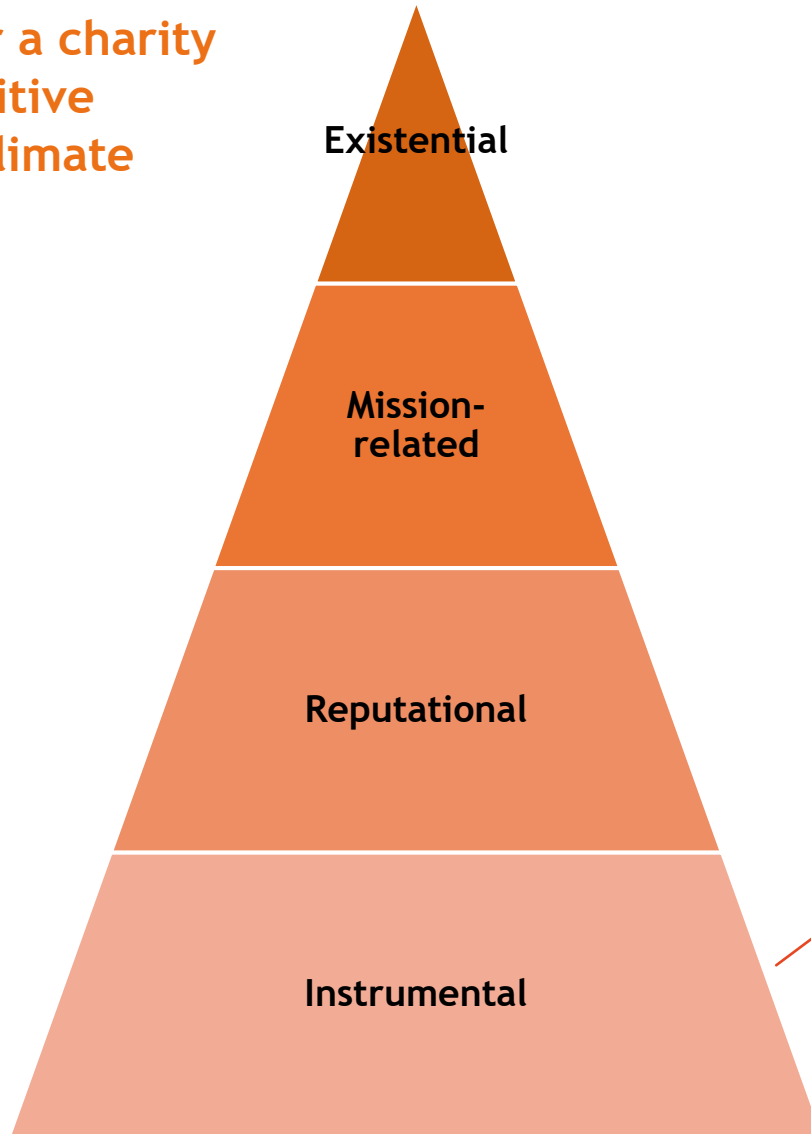
## Reasons for a charity to take positive action on climate



80%+ of the UK public are fairly or very concerned about climate change. Existing and potential trustees, staff, partner organisations and donors will expect and welcome action on climate change. Climate change is an issue of our time. Charities that don't act may be at reputational risk.



**Reasons for a charity  
to take positive  
action on climate**



Climate mitigation and adaptation is driving large scale economic, social, financial and technological changes. For climate smart charities there may be opportunities to save money, raise funds, or otherwise take advantage of these contextual changes.

# Third Sector and Net Zero

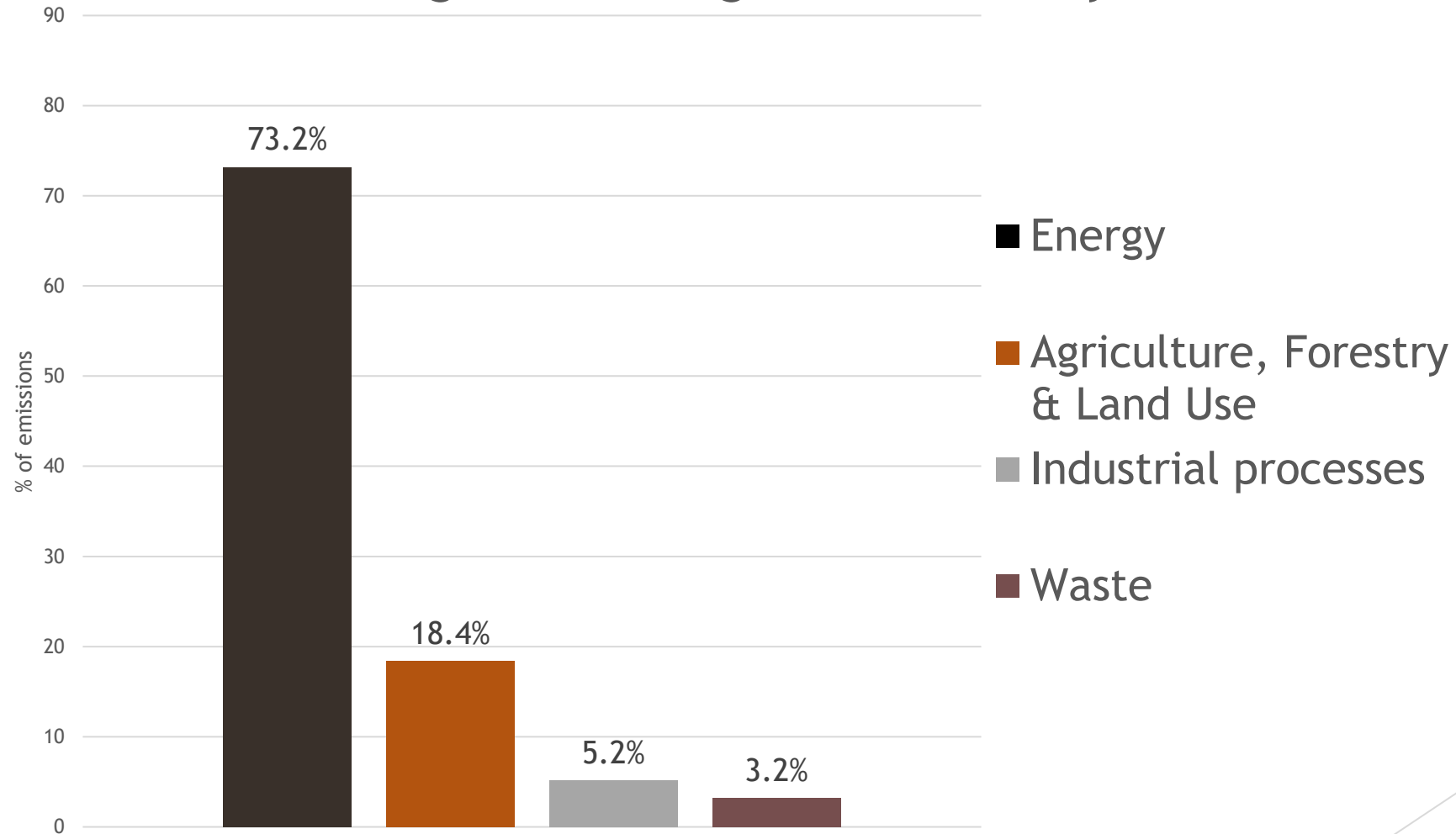
- 54% of respondents saw climate crisis as “extremely important” or “very important”
- Pressure from funders, trustees and the public were key drivers, with rising costs following next (at that time)



▶ What...

▶ ...changes do we need to make as a society?

## Sources of greenhouse gas emissions by sector



A woman with glasses and a black beanie is smiling and holding a white sign with black text. The sign reads "LEAVE IT IN THE GROUND". She is surrounded by other people at what appears to be a public demonstration or protest. In the background, there are large, grey, conical structures and a yellow flag with a red design.

**LEAVE  
IT IN THE  
GROUND**



**Make space for nature**









Heating /  
buildings



Stuff



Food



Travel



Homes and  
community  
buildings

Improve  
efficiency

Insulation  
and draft  
proofing

Switch fuels:  
gas to electric

Heat  
pumps



Goods and materials

Imagine alternatives

Community, relationships

Awe and wonder

Increase efficiency

Efficient design / circular economy

Reduce, reuse, repair, recycle



# Food

**Improve  
efficiency**

**Cut food  
waste**

**Switch fuels**

**Plant  
power**



# Transport

Imagine alternatives

Go virtual

Stay local

Increase efficiency

Shared transport

Smaller cars

Switch fuel

Walking and cycling

EVs

Smiley.toerist  
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Tom Page, CC BY-SA 2.0

## ▶ How...

- ▶ ...can you take practical action in your charity?

## Areas for action





Areas for action



Pick a work area



Comms and  
advocacy

What might be the BIG opportunity in this area?

What would be the FIRST step towards that?

## Areas for action





# Funder Commitment on Climate Change

- A public commitment of intent
- A holistic approach
- Report on progress once a year
- Hosted by Association of Charitable Foundations, but open to all charitable funders, with no fee
- 100 signatories to date
- Part of a global movement of over 600 signatories

## ACEVO's sustainability leadership principles

<https://www.acevo.org.uk/advocacy/climate-emergency/climate-principles/>

## FUNDER COMMITMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

<https://fundercommitmentclimatechange.org/>



[https://cfg.org.uk/knowledge-hub/charities\\_and\\_the\\_path\\_to\\_net\\_zero](https://cfg.org.uk/knowledge-hub/charities_and_the_path_to_net_zero)



**Environmental sustainability guidance**

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/good-practice-guidance/environmental-sustainability-guidance>



## Foundation Scotland

**Designing projects for people and planet**

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/help-for-applicants/projects-for-people-and-planet>



**Fit for the Future**  
<https://fftf.org.uk/>

## Growing Climate Confidence

<https://climateconfident.scot/>



# Your 'to do' list (in any order)

- Sign the Funder Commitment on Climate Change
- Commit internal capacity
- Engage with your stakeholders

Thank you!

[www.nickperks.org.uk](http://www.nickperks.org.uk)