

CLIMATE CONNECTED COMMUNITIES 2026 DESIGN LAUNCH

We'll start at 13.05 so time to grab a drink!

Housekeeping

- Please keep mics on mute, unless you are asked to unmute
- Session is being recorded – your camera can be on or off
- Post questions in the chat – we'll do our best to answer as we go and also have a Q&A slot at the end
- Feel free to introduce yourself in the chat and to edit your name to include your organisation
- We will be sharing a link to the recording and slides by e-mail later

CLIMATE CONNECTED COMMUNITIES 2026

Climate Connected Communities 2026 is delivered in partnership by Communities Prepared of Groundwork South, Groundwork London and London Resilience to support community representatives in strengthening community resilience to climate risks and extreme weather events

Climate Risks



"WE ARE ALL IN THE
SAME STORM, BUT IN
VERY DIFFERENT BOATS"



Climate Quiz



Which of the following human activities contributes the most to global greenhouse gas emissions?

- A. Transport
- B. Agriculture
- C. Electricity and heat production from fossil fuels
- D. Waste disposal



Approximately, how many properties in London are estimated to be at risk of flooding (from rivers, sea, or surface water)?

- A. 1 in 20
- B. 1 in 10
- C. 1 in 6
- D. 1 in 3



Which type of flooding presents the most common risk for London communities during heavy rainfall?

- A. Coastal flooding
- B. River flooding
- C. Surface water flooding
- D. Glacier flooding



London can be significantly warmer than surrounding rural areas during heatwaves. What is this phenomenon called?

- A. Solar amplification
- B. Urban Heat Island effect
- C. Carbon trapping
- D. Thermal inversion



By how much can trees and green spaces cool down parts of London during a heatwave compared to built-up areas?

- A. Around 1°C
- B. Around 2–3°C
- C. Around 5–7°C
- D. Over 10°C



Mark Rogers

Met Office Advisor (Civil Contingencies)

Mark has been working for the Met Office for over 37 years and has been in his current role as Met Office Advisor (Civil Contingencies) since 2012. Met Office Advisors work closely with emergency responders, providing information and forecasts for any weather-related incidents. They also provide training courses and are involved with risk assessments, severe weather plans and exercising.



Past Example – 25th July 2021



People in the area have been warned their homes and businesses are at risk (Picture: UNISP; Rob Day; PA; Getty)

© M120



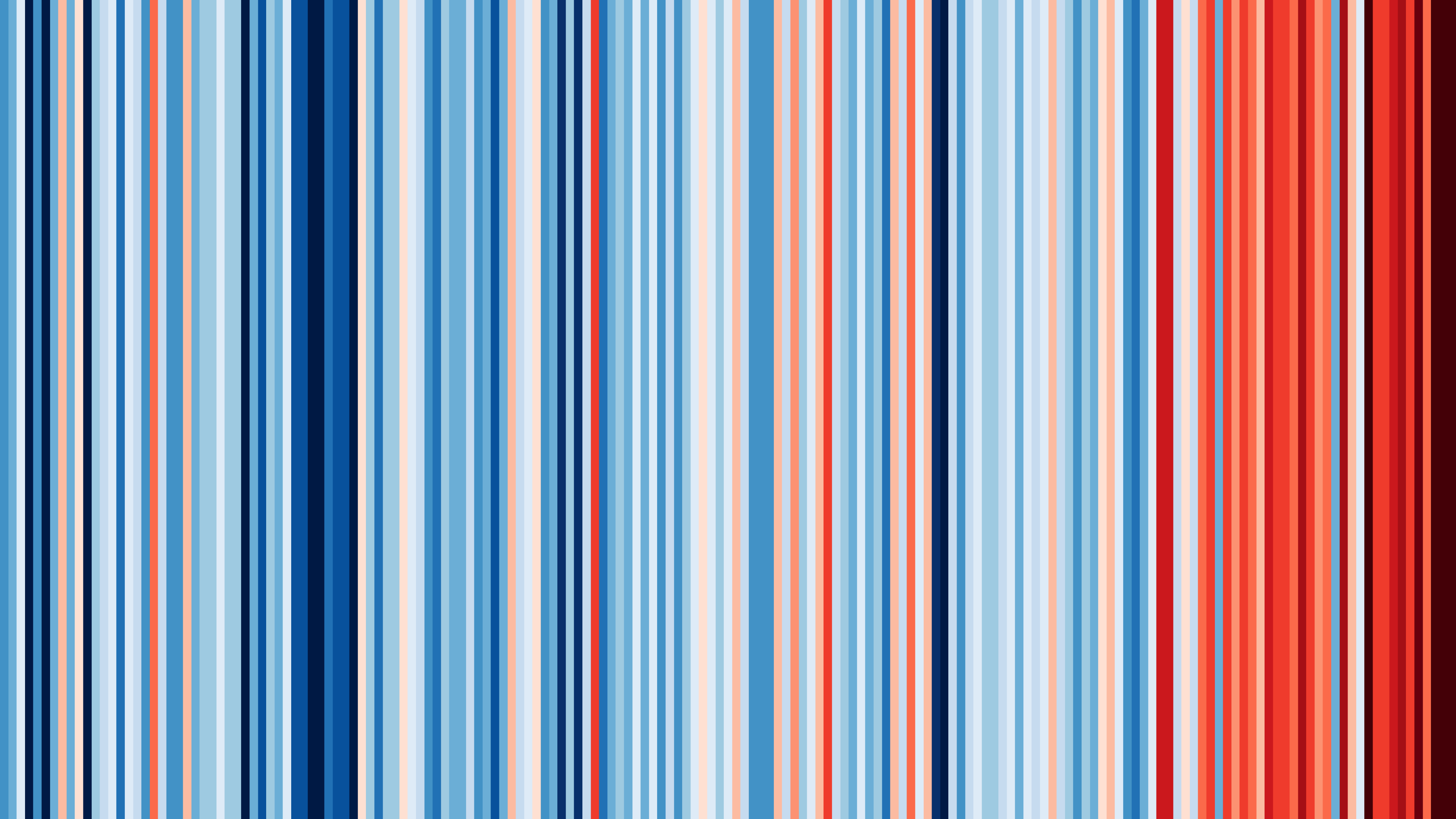
Met Office

“Global Weirding”

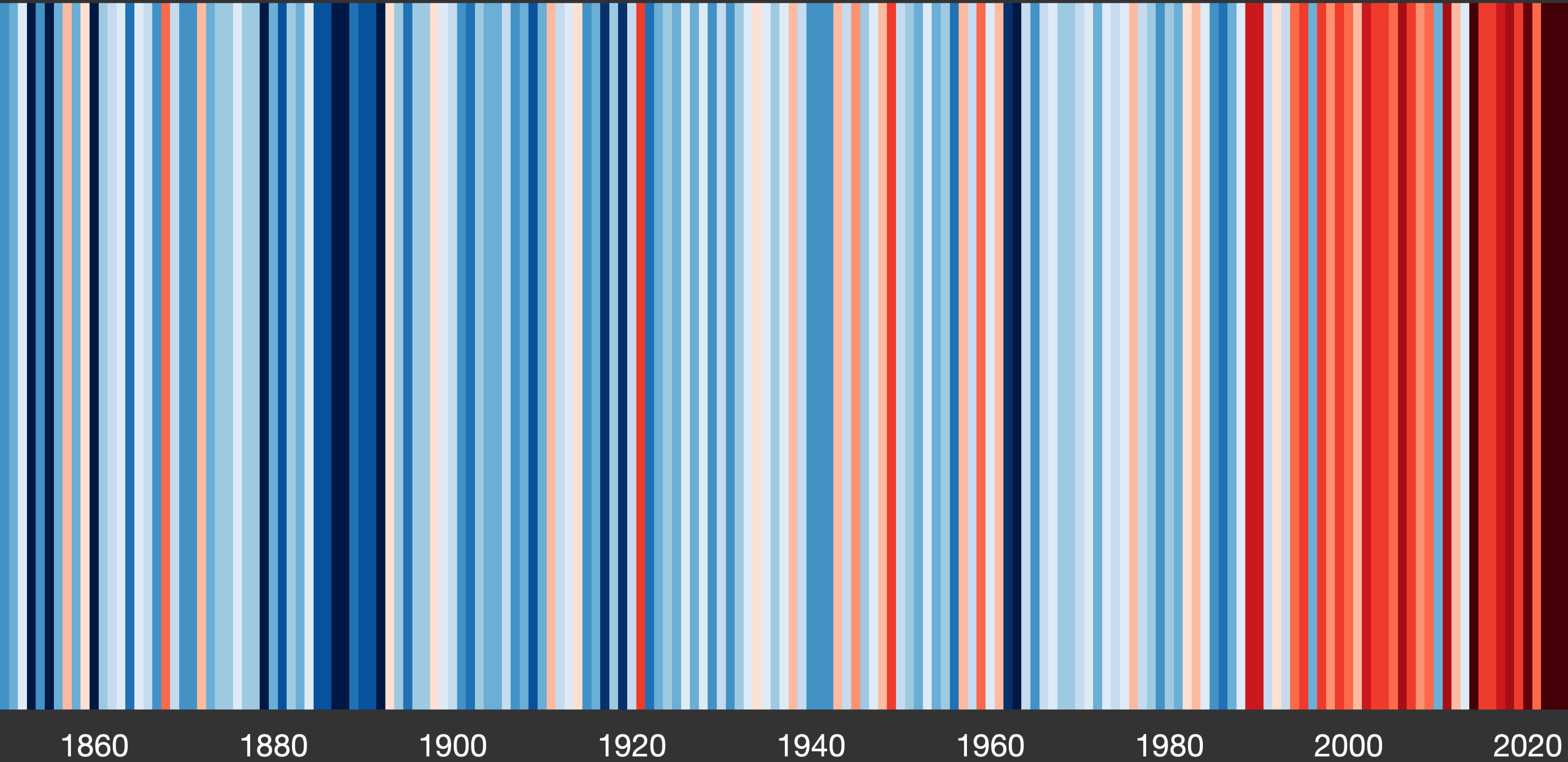
Have you heard of the phrase “Global Weirding”?

Tell us about a time when the weather felt
'weird' or unusual





Temperature change in London since 1850



More information on Climate Risks



Show your Stripes:

<https://showyourstripes.info/>

Climate Risk map:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-and-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/climate-change/climate-adaptation/climate-risk-map>

Flood Risk:

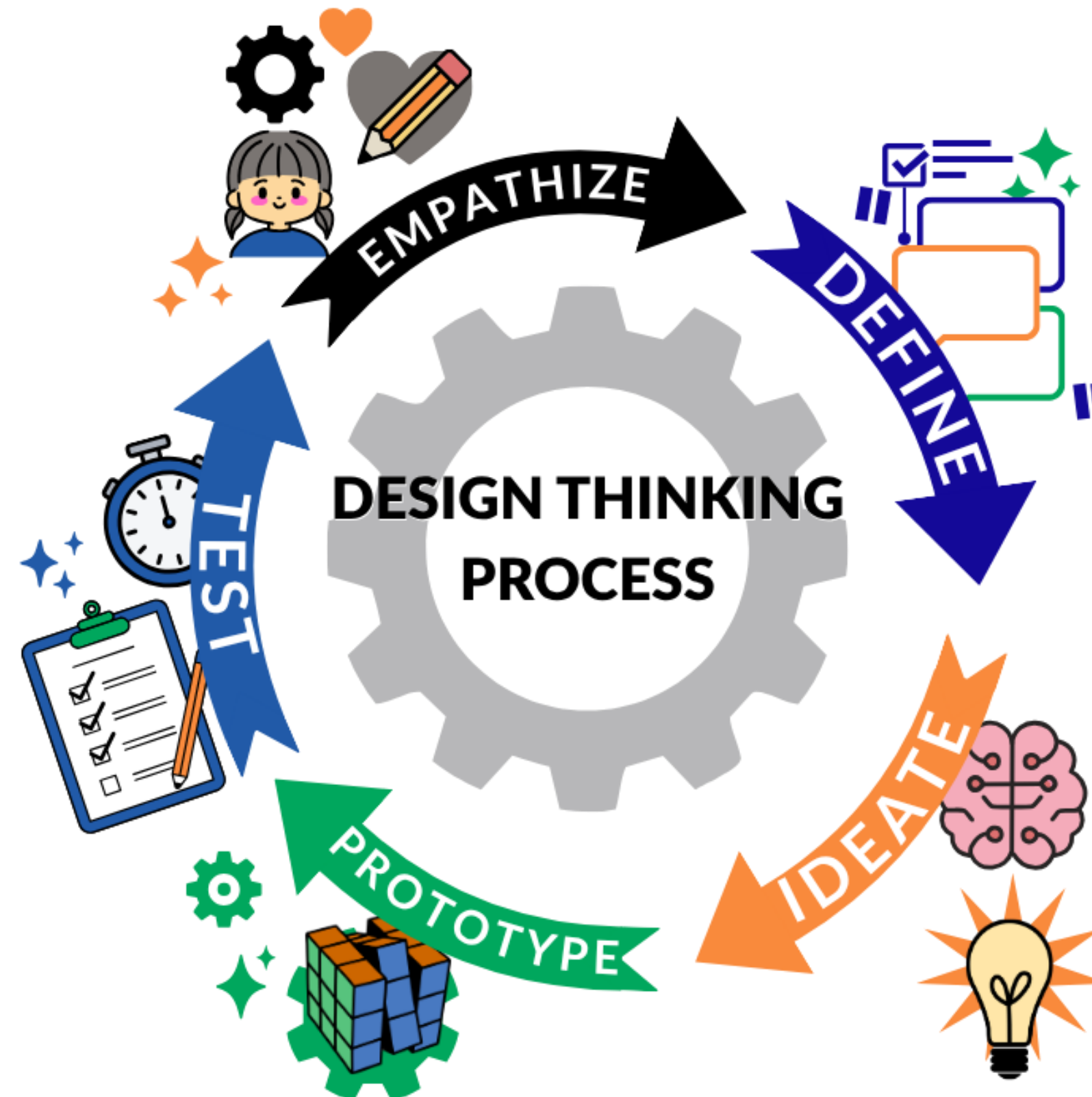
<https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>

London's Urban Heat Island

<https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/londons-urban-heat-island-average-summer-2jxd0/>



What is the design process?



How can communities
build resilience to
climate risks?



What can you do to help?

- Engage your community about the topic in a creative way
- Explore 'How to create a more resilient and connected future'
- Use one of our suggested themes for inspiration
- Bring your own idea to pitch your project



CLIMATE CONNECTED COMMUNITIES 2026



Creative Art



Story Telling



Data Collection



Local Preparedness
Campaign



Gap Analysis



Feasibility Study



Event Hosting



Local Challenge



Youth Engagement



Your own idea

Creative Art



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Real Life Examples



Youth Climate Mural (Kempston, Bedfordshire)

At a secondary school in Kempston, students worked with a local artist to design and paint a climate-change themed mural on a school wall.

The project involved young people brainstorming what climate change meant to them, sketching ideas, and then collaboratively painting the final mural.



Pollinator Alleyways Project (Bristol)

A grassroots initiative transformed neglected alleyways into pollinator-friendly spaces with wildflowers, bee habitats and community murals. Volunteers carried out most of the work, supported by small grants and donations, and many transformations happened over a single weekend.



https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/aug/22/bee-buffets-the-pollinator-pathways-turning-drab-alleys-into-insect-havens?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Citizen Science (Haltwhistle Burn)

A citizen science project in the Haltwhistle Burn catchment engages volunteers to monitor flood, rainfall, and water quality data using low-cost tools. This improves local understanding, supports modelling and planning, and fills gaps where formal systems are absent. The approach is expanding locally, demonstrating scalable, community-led environmental monitoring benefits.



<https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/learn/haltwhistle-burn-citizen-science/>

What are your thoughts so far?

Can you see yourself pitching within one
of these themes?

Poll: Give us a quick idea of where your mind is going right now



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Eligibility Criteria

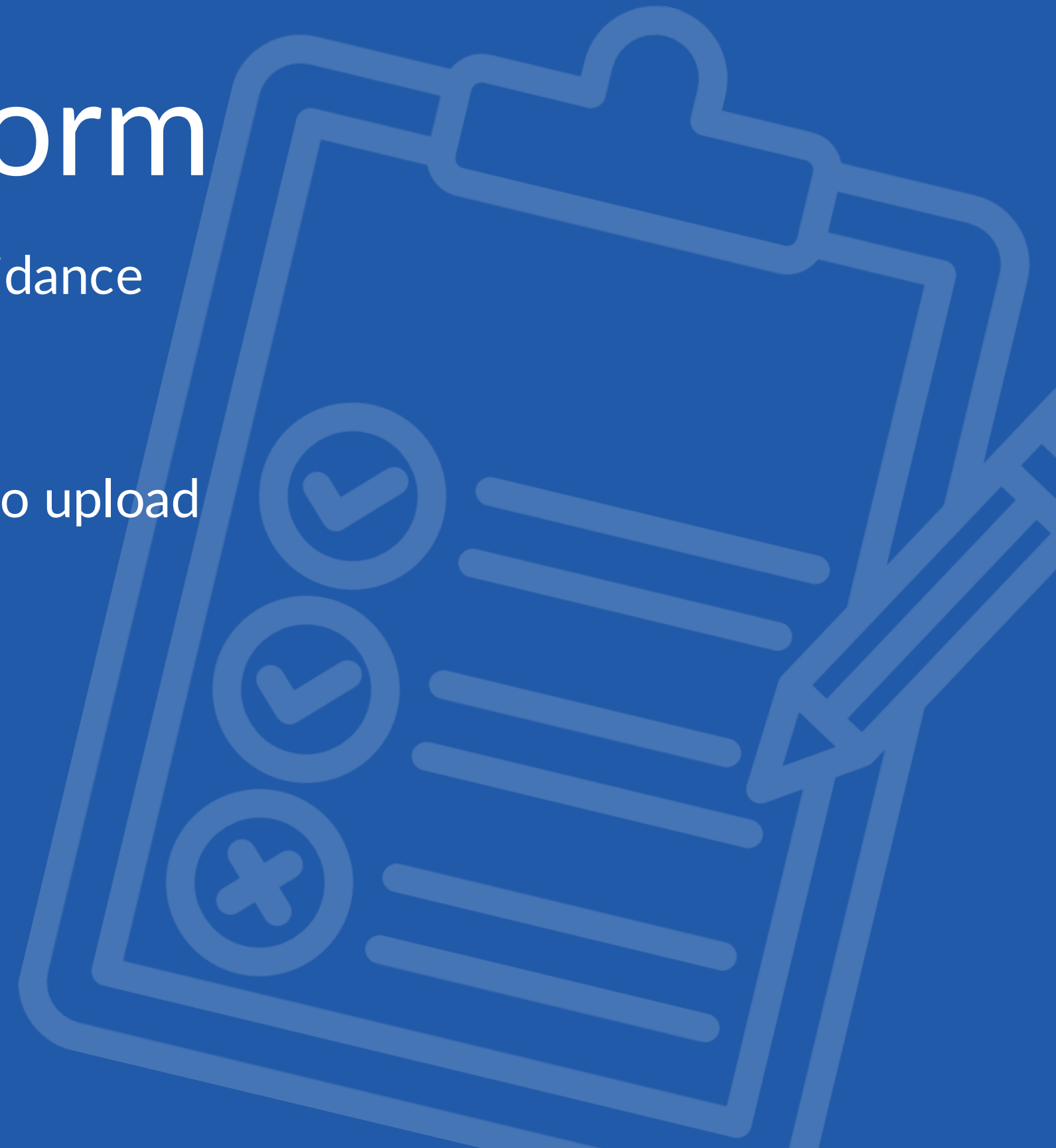
Applicants:

- ✓ Must be a not-for-profit group or organisation that has a formal structure (e.g. constituted group, charity, social enterprise, place of worship etc)
- ✓ Must have a dedicated bank account in the name of the group or organisation
- ✓ Must be operating in the London borough(s) that they want to deliver activity in
- ✓ Must have a non-party political affiliation
- ✓ Can only submit one pitch for a grant (i.e. per group / organisation)

There are no restrictions on applying if you have previously received GLA funding or are currently receiving GLA funding for another project. However, consideration of your organisation's capacity to deliver the proposed work will be made

Expression of Interest Form

- Online form accessible via Grant Information & Pitch Guidance document
- Short and easy – focus time on developing idea & pitch
- Only your idea pitch will be scored – either by short video upload or written description
- Deadline = Monday 11th May @ 10am



Online Pitch to Panel

- Second and final stage
- Up to around 20 applicants will be invited
- Details will be provided to these applicants upon notification
- Up to 15 of these will be offered a £1,000 grant to test their idea
- Grant paid upfront in full



Timeline

Monday 11th @ 10am -
EOI Deadline

Towards end of May –
Online Pitch to panel for up to
20 applicants

Up to 15 applicants offered
£1k grants

MAY

£1k grants paid upfront

Grantees test ideas as pitched

Grantees attend check-in &
networking sessions
facilitated by Groundwork

JUNE-AUG

Grantees submit short
monitoring report

SEP

Grantees attend 2026
Climate Resilience
Summit 2026 @ City
Hall

OCT

Q&A

