

## **Media Briefing**

### **Wen is available for expert comment and analysis**

Wen (the Women's Environmental Network), is a trusted voice on issues that connect gender, health, equality and environmental justice.

Please add Wen to your list of contacts and get in touch for timely comment and analysis in response to new research or stories you are developing.

**Media contact:** Heidi Ringshaw, [heidi@wen.org.uk](mailto:heidi@wen.org.uk)

### **About Wen**

Wen is an environmental charity working on issues that connect women, health, equity and environmental justice. We take an intersectional feminist approach to tackling the climate and nature emergencies.

Wen's vision is a world where women, communities and the planet flourish because our society is equitable, collaborative and caring. We work collectively to create viable alternatives to oppressive systems, and have a long history of working collaboratively for systemic change.

### **Our spokespeople can provide expert comment on issues including:**

#### **The gendered impacts of the climate crisis**

- The impacts of the climate and nature emergencies, pollution, particularly on racialised and marginalised women, and their communities, health, reproductive health, child development, and the environment

#### **Toxic chemicals in cosmetics, menstrual and baby products**

- Harmful metals and toxic chemicals in menstrual products, cosmetics, and self-care products, baby products, toys, household goods and cleaning products and the safer, sustainable alternatives to consider instead



### **Just food systems and wellbeing**

- The need for just and sustainable food systems when use of food banks and ultra processed foods are so high. The link between access to nature and wellbeing and the positive impact of therapeutic horticulture in women's refuges.

### **Eco feminism and activism**

- The role of women in tackling the climate and nature emergencies
- Court cases being brought by environmentalists and campaigners
- Feminist leadership, organising and the power of collaboration
- Why we need a Feminist New Green Deal with care jobs recognised as green jobs

### **Wen's spokespeople**

Wen's spokespeople include experts in gender, health, racial and social justice and climate change as well as women with lived experience including Wen's Climate Sisters.

#### **Wen's Co-Director, Kate Metcalf**

Kate has over 20 years' experience developing community and international networks within international development and environmental organisations with a focus on gender and social justice. Kate leads Wen's Feminist Green New Deal project aiming to ensure that women, racialised and marginalised groups are central to the green economy.

#### **Wen's Co-Director, Zarina Ahmad**

Zarina is an expert in equalities and climate change, increasing participation of under-represented groups in environmentalism. She was named as one of the top 30 influential women contributing to the environment and sustainability by BBC Woman's Hour.

#### **Health Adviser, Environmenstrual and Green Baby Campaign Manager, Helen Lynn**

Helen has spent her career building feminist health campaigns including founding the Alliance for Cancer Prevention and From Pink to Prevention. She has worked at national, European and International levels on issues linking gender, health and the environment.



## About Wen's campaigns

Since 1988 Wen has created ground-breaking projects and campaigns forcing manufacturers to include Toxic Shock Syndrome warnings on tampon packaging; initiating the Waste Minimisation Act; bringing therapeutic food growing to women's refuges; creating a blueprint for just and sustainable food systems and raising awareness of toxic chemicals in menstrual and personal care products.

Wen cultivates grass-roots action at individual and community levels, as well as amplifying women's, in particular racialised and marginalised women's, voices and advocating for change at national policy level.

We do this by supporting women and their communities to create their own blueprints for alternatives, such as Just FACT, working towards a just and sustainable food system in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets

We empower women and amplify racialised and marginalised voices through our work including our **Feminist Climate Leadership Programme**.

We campaigned for the UK Government to adopt a **Feminist Green New Deal**, working in collaboration with the Women's Budget Group, as part of a wider movement for change.

Our **Green Baby campaign** calls for a sustainable and toxic-free future so that all parents and carers can make safe, healthy and affordable choices for themselves and their children.

Wen's **Environmenstrual Week** in October is a week of action calling for sustainable, healthy, and affordable period products for all. We are leading the call for a Menstrual Health, Dignity and Sustainability Act in the UK, to address the health and waste impacts, equity and dignity, period equity, education and regulation, and challenge stigma and taboos.

Find out more about [our work](#) and [areas of focus](#).  
For more information visit [wen.org.uk](http://wen.org.uk) and follow on Bluesky and Instagram [@Wen\\_UK](#).



