

Healthy environment, healthy people

NERC science supports policy delivery and action that improves the quality of the environment we live in, benefitting human health, the UK economy and our net zero journey

NERC investment delivers:



Skilled people



Climate and atmosphere models



Long-term data on pollutants



Environmental monitoring technologies



Knowledge exchange and collaboration



Infrastructure

Used by: national and local government, businesses, industries, communities, civil society

Healthier people due to less exposure to:

- **Pollutants:** cutting exposure to air pollutants, thereby reducing respiratory and cardiovascular disease
- **Diseases:** combatting environmental drivers of wildlife born-diseases, antibiotic resistant infections and food pathogens
- **Climate extremes:** mitigating and adapting to extreme weather reduces climate change-induced nutrition, heat and disease stressors

Healthier economy due to:

- **Cost savings** e.g. £billions by avoided air pollution health impacts
- **Business growth** e.g. £53.2 million in revenue for UK air quality sensor firm
- **Increased productivity** e.g. improved pollen forecasting tackles the 29 million working days lost annually to hay fever
- **Protected industries & jobs** e.g. £20m-a-year UK shellfish industry

Healthy numbers

- 4 million** people are breathing cleaner air in London
- 96% decrease** in antimicrobial use in beef cattle, to combat AMR
- 2 million** cases of skin cancer prevented by 2030 thanks to ozone recovery



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