

Douglas Mcfarlane

My own views are similar to those outlined by the John Muir Trust. I hope you will take great care to listen to their views and I am sure many similar views put forward by those who put the future wellbeing of the countryside and people in general before damaging so-called development programmes.

In response to your points

[1. What development will we need to address climate change?](#)

Every development must show it will reduce our impact on the total environment. So-called development has in the past seriously damaged the environment. All subsidies hidden or otherwise to sectors damaging the environment should be withdrawn. The John Muir Trust says:

We need development that leads transformational change in land use for nature, people and place. This means development that reverses biodiversity loss, works with rather than against nature to improve the resilience of places, protects carbon storage in peatland and incentivises enlarged areas of native woodland cover in the public interest.

[2. How can planning best support our quality of life, health and wellbeing in the future?](#)

*The JMT says:*

Every planning authority should evaluate applications for planning based on the proposed development's contribution to the quality of life, health and wellbeing of present as well as future generations. A planning development should only be approved if it passes a future generations health and wellbeing test (this could be part of a public interest test). An example public interest test is set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

[3. What does planning need to do to enable development & investment in our economy to benefit everyone?](#)

Educate. Listen. Ignore those who seek financial gain. A healthy, safe environment benefits everyone, but may not be financially attractive. We must move into a new era.

[4. How can planning improve, protect and strengthen the special character of our places?](#)

*The impact of someone on foot is less than that of a cyclist, which in turn is less than a car.*

Only by reducing car use can we strengthen special character, while allowing access for all.

Planning is for people not for speculators. Planning is for the future; all aspects of its impact must be assessed.

[5. What infrastructure do we need to plan and build to realise our long term aspirations?](#)

A totally integrated public transport system. Safe cycling and walking. Increased biodiversity we have managed to reduce it to a miserably low level with previous infrastructure learn from

our mistakes. Choose the small over the gigantic. Increase the involvement of community and remove the domination of money.