

The following ten statements are selected from a wide range of issues associated with climate change, energy conservation and renewable energy. Please indicate the answer which best reflects your view by deleting those options you do not agree with. If you wish to explain your view on any question please add a comment below that question. Comments should be restricted to no more than 150 words on each question.

1 The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that human-induced climate change is happening and needs to be addressed urgently.

STRONGLY AGREE

I am not sure that I understand the question fully. My understanding is that the IPCC is not 'recent' – it was established in 1988 originally. So, I am making an assumption that perhaps you are referring to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and the various Working Group Reports published in 2013 and 2014? I have to admit that I have not read the Working Group Reports or the associated Special Reports in detail but I have read the Synthesis Report. I do agree that human-induced climate change is happening and needs to be addressed urgently on an international basis.

2 If I am in Government I will be working hard to see that the UN Climate Change talks (to be completed in December 2015) result in a successful outcome with binding targets which have a chance of keeping the rise in global temperatures to no more than 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels.

STRONGLY AGREE

3 In view of the huge destabilising volatility we have seen in fossil fuel prices over the years it makes sense to invest in the UK's own renewable energy industry – where the prices of the source do not change.

STRONGLY AGREE

4 The UK has a very wide range of renewable energy sources – all of which should be encouraged.

STRONGLY AGREE

I agree strongly with this view. I am particularly keen to develop the full range of renewable energy sources in line with the 2014 Welsh Liberal Democrat policy on renewable energy (which considered the issues in detail). I am keen to ensure that we are not over-reliant on on-shore wind as a source of renewable energy.

5 Do you agree with the Department of Energy and Climate Change Public Attitudes Tracking Survey

www.gov.uk/government/statistics/public-attitudes-tracking-survey-wave-12

which shows that most people either 'strongly support' or 'support' onshore wind?

STRONGLY DISAGREE

I do not agree or disagree with DECC undertaking a survey. I agree that it should have been conducted but I do question the methodology. However, I do not agree with 'most people' who 'support' or 'strongly support' on-shore wind as a source of renewable energy. I am opposed to the current scale of on-shore wind schemes including, particularly, the number of schemes in the Planning 'pipeline'. Many of these schemes are leading to severe negative consequences for the

landscape environment in rural Wales and potentially detrimental effects on the health of people in the local communities that are affected. The DECC Survey was fundamentally flawed, in my view, because 'most people' will not be adversely affected by on-shore wind schemes and 'most people' are not aware of the potential health hazards when such schemes are located close to rural settlements and communities. 'Most people' have not had the difficulties of trying to raise legitimate concerns about the size and location of wind turbines close to their homes and those concerns being disregarded.

6 Experience shows that the cost of capturing wind energy on-shore is half the cost of doing the same off-shore.

DISAGREE

I dispute the underlying assumptions behind this question as the majority of the economic models, in my view, do not take into account all the costs of on-shore wind.

7 Do you agree with the Deutsche Bank report in 2011 which clearly stated 'we do not expect the impact of shale-gas production on EU gas prices to be anywhere near as great as has been the case with US shale-gas production'?

AGREE

8 It is of prime importance that funds be put into insulating properties as a way of reducing the UK's waste of energy.

STRONGLY AGREE

9 Giving short-term 'grants' for insulation and energy efficiency at specific times causes providers, working in the insulation business, problems of continuity of work.

STRONGLY AGREE

10 Climate Change is the most challenging of the problems facing our planet and we owe it to future generations to do our utmost to address it.

AGREE

I agree that climate change is one of the challenging problems facing the Planet but whether it is the *most* challenging problem we face is, I think, a matter of debate. Personally, I think the international finance and banking system, international inequality and the rise of international political extremism and terrorism are of an equal magnitude of concern and challenge and also need to be addressed urgently.