

Institute for Public Policy Research



SOUTH WALES VALLEYS CLIMATE AND FAIRNESS PANEL

**BRIEFING AND JUROR
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**IPPR and the South
Wales Valleys Climate
and Fairness Panel**

March 2021

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

The South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel was organised by the IPPR Environmental Justice Commission.

The recommendations of the panel will be presented to local politicians and decision-makers and submitted to the major national cross-party commission, as part of a more detailed report on the process the panel has gone through.

The Environmental Justice Commission was created in 2019 with the aim of working with people across the UK to develop policies and ideas that will tackle the climate crisis and restore nature as quickly and fairly as possible, and that put people and fairness at the heart of the response to the climate and nature emergencies. The commission is co-chaired by Hilary Benn MP, Laura Sandys and Caroline Lucas MP, leading politicians from the Labour, Conservative and Green parties.

ABOUT IPPR

IPPR, the Institute for Public Policy Research, is the UK's leading progressive think tank. We are an independent charitable organisation with our main offices in London. IPPR North, IPPR's dedicated think tank for the North of England, operates out of offices in Manchester and Newcastle, and IPPR Scotland, our dedicated think tank for Scotland, is based in Edinburgh.

Our purpose is to conduct and promote research into, and the education of the public in, the economic, social and political sciences, science and technology, the voluntary sector and social enterprise, public services, and industry and commerce.

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The progressive policy think tank

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The majority of this document is in the words of the South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel. Additional content was provided by IPPR's **Stephen Frost**, **Becca Massey-Chase**, **Luke Murphy**, and **Lesley Rankin**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the jurors for their time, passion and good humour. It has been a pleasure to spend our evenings and weekends with you all.

The panel would not have been a success without the significant input and active participation of the local advisory board. Likewise, a big thank you to all of the speakers for their invaluable contributions to the deliberation process.

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A summary of the panel's recommendations is published here: ippr.org/research/publications/citizens-jury-south-wales-valleys

This summary is available in both English and Welsh.

Download

This document is available to download as a free PDF and in other formats at: ippr.org/research/publications/citizens-jury-south-wales-valleys

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SUMMARY

The UK and Welsh governments have both made clear their determination to address the climate and nature crises. Efforts to decarbonise and restore nature over the next few years and decades will impact people and communities far more than ever before, and so now they must necessarily involve them more too.

The conclusions and the recommendations of the South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel, outlined in detail in this report, make clear that the citizens of the valleys want to be involved in the transition to net zero and restoration of nature. This report demonstrates a strong appetite for an inclusive transition, where everyone is able to feel part of the change ahead, fairness is embedded across every decision and no area is left behind – as they have been in the past.

The jurors, who make 30 recommendations in total, call for the use of citizens' juries, mandatory engagement in decision making and a greater role for education in an effort to ensure the transition is inclusive and to build consent for the changes that are to come. The panel make a series of significant recommendations in relation to investment and sharing any costs of the transition, including calling for a step-change in government investment over the next ten years, targeted funding to support those communities who may be at risk of losing jobs to support them during the transition and greater funding for local communities to empower them to lead action at the local level.

On work and industry, the jurors argue that no one should have to move away in order to secure a decent job, and so they call for a new economic strategy for the South Wales Valleys, for greater support and investment in apprenticeships and vocational education, and also for investment in life-long learning and re-training for those that need support to skill-up for the opportunities that the green economy has to offer. In relation to travel, the jurors were clear that significant additional investment in public transport is required and that it should be greener, more affordable and efficient. They also made recommendations for the regeneration of local high streets, a greater focus on connections between journeys and car free city centres.

More than anything else, the findings and recommendations in this report demonstrate the need for a place-based, people-centred and fairness proofed approach to the transition to net zero and the restoration of nature.

FOREWORD

from the co-chairs of the IPPR Environmental Justice Commission

We thank the jurors for their work and welcome this report as an essential contribution to the IPPR Environmental Justice Commission.

The commission was founded with the recognition that action to address the climate and nature crises need not be about staving off the worst, but can instead be about imagining a better world which we can build together. The South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel recognised the severity of the challenge ahead, and their recommendations also reinforce the significant co-benefits of joined-up, cross-cutting, ambitious action on climate and nature.

Our jurors do not want any area to be left behind. The experiences of communities that have suffered the poor environmental, social and economic consequences of an historic industrial transition provide salutary lessons for a fair transition to net zero.

We are excited to take their recommendations forward, presenting them to local, regional and national decision-makers over the coming weeks and months. The contents of this briefing will also inform the work of the commission, including the final report, which will be released in early summer 2021.

This briefing will be invaluable to policy makers and stakeholders in the South Wales Valleys region and national and Westminster governments, as decision-makers at all levels grapple with the implementation of a just, green transition.

Once again, we thank the jurors not just for their time, but for the energy, passion and commitment they have given to this process. As they do, we hope to see their recommendations enacted to address the climate and nature emergencies in a way that is fair for all.



Handwritten signature of Hilary Benn in black ink.

Hilary Benn MP



Handwritten signature of Caroline Lucas in black ink.

Caroline Lucas MP



Handwritten signature of Laura Sandys in black ink.

Laura Sandys

FOREWORD

from the advisory board

The South Wales Valleys' Climate and Fairness Panel was assembled to provide recommendations on the practical steps needed locally to address the climate crisis and restore nature in a way that is fair for everyone.

The jurors have set out a bold and positive vision for the South Wales Valleys and 30 thoughtful and strategic recommendations on topics ranging from anchor towns, to low-carbon travel, to community involvement in decision-making.

The members of this panel come from a wide range of ages, backgrounds and walks of life and, before they started out on this process, they also had a range of views on the seriousness of the climate and nature crises. Together, they represent the variety and richness, and also the challenges, of life in the South Wales Valleys.

The jurors drew on these varied life experiences to provide recommendations that are founded on their ideas of fairness and an understanding of what a good quality of life should look like. They provide a strong steer on the steps required for a rapid and fair transition, demonstrating the opportunity to improve economic and social justice at the same time as tackling the climate and nature emergencies. They make it clear that things will need to be done differently in the future if no people, and no places, are to be left behind. As individuals, as well as members of our respective organisations, their ideas and experiences resonate with us.

We see a lot of positivity and ambition in these recommendations. Together, we commit to respecting and channelling this ambition as we take steps within our own organisations to tackle the climate and nature emergencies. We also urge politicians of all parties, policymakers, industry representatives and stakeholders to read this briefing and help us take forward these recommendations.

Wales is unique in having laid the foundations for a new way of working with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. The jurors provide a clear statement of support for this as an approach to decision-making. The challenge for all of us is to bring this legislation to life and use it to shape a fairer, greener society. To achieve this will require a place-based approach to policy making, joined-up thinking that goes beyond siloes, and a commitment to putting people at the heart of decision-making processes.

We thank the jury for this valuable contribution on the future of the South Wales Valleys and the wider debate on climate and nature in the UK.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel was organised by the IPPR Environmental Justice Commission. Co-chaired by Hilary Benn MP, Laura Sandys and Caroline Lucas MP, from the Labour, Conservative and Green parties, the commission's mission is to:

“Present an ambitious, positive vision shaped around people’s experiences and needs, and develop a plan of action that integrates policy both to address the climate and environmental emergencies and to deliver economic and social justice.”

Key to this is the commissions’ work with communities that will face unique challenges as a result of the transition. The South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel is one of four citizens’ juries around the UK held by the commission in late 2020 and early 2021.

This report documents the South Wales Valleys panel’s considered view on the practical steps required to address the climate crisis and restore nature in a way that is fair for everyone. This set of recommendations has five parts:

1. a statement on a fair response to the climate and nature emergencies
2. a wellbeing framework and vision for a better life for all
3. recommendations on the principles for the transition – decision-making and fairly sharing the costs
4. recommendations for work and industry
5. recommendations on how we travel.

ABOUT THE SOUTH WALES VALLEYS

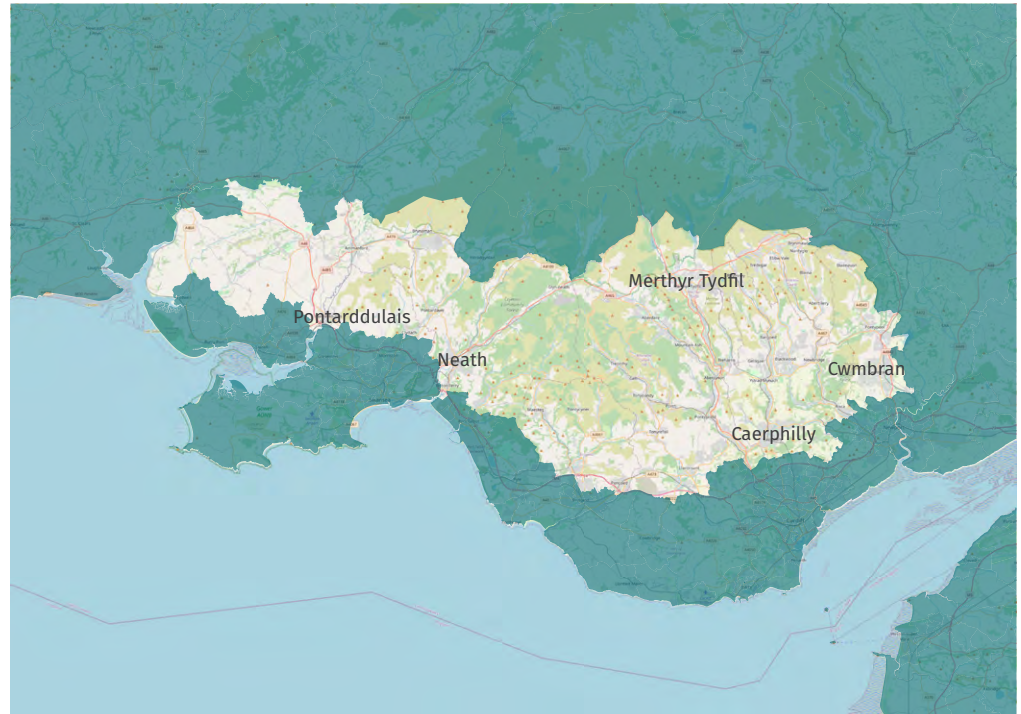
Home to almost one-third of Wales’s population, the South Wales Valleys have been at the sharp end of previous public policy failures to support and manage industrial transitions in the UK.

Investment and government action is needed to move away from high carbon industries in South Wales, and there are lessons to learn from the valleys’ past experiences to support a fair transition to a zero-carbon economy. With the action needed comes the opportunity to capitalise on the green assets in the area and improve people’s quality of life.

The valleys represent “the green lungs for the region” (MacBride-Stewart 2020). The landscape includes replanted forests, bogs, mountains suitable for wind power, and waterways, from which 80 per cent of the drinkable water flows to reach the cities in the south (ibid). The scale and beauty of the natural assets are both foundational to citizens’ health and wellbeing and present significant opportunities for carbon capture and increased biodiversity.

Meanwhile, the area suffers from very poor air quality and rivers and land have been contaminated by, now disused, mines.

FIGURE 1.1: MAP OF THE REGION COVERED BY THE PANEL BASED ON MIDDLE LAYER SUPER OUTPUT AREAS (MSOAS)



© OpenStreetMap contributors

There is also an economic and social legacy to the industrial history of the area, with the South Wales Valleys continuing to experience adverse impacts from historic mine closures and the resulting loss of employment. The steel industry continues as a big employer, with Tata Steel a Welsh government defined ‘anchor company’. However, overall, unemployment rates are significantly higher than the national average and zero-hour contracts are very common (Allen 2019). The Bevan Foundation calculates an 140,000 job shortfall in the core valleys area compared to the job density of the rest of Wales (Bevan Foundation 2020). Health problems are widespread in former mining communities, and a significantly higher than UK average proportion of the population claim welfare benefits (Beatty, Fothergill and Gore 2019).

This jobs deficit affects travel behaviour, with many people travelling in and out of the valleys for work, locking in car dependency due to the limitations of the current public transport system. These limitations also shape and constrain the lives of those in rural areas without access to a car. Bus services are extremely limited outside cities and can take four or five times longer than the same journey by car (Winckler 2018). Metro provision does not always reflect complex travel patterns, particularly for those in shift-based employment.

The unique challenges – and opportunities – of the region are recognised by the Welsh government, who in 2016 established the Valleys Taskforce to focus on addressing longstanding inequalities and develop the local economy. This strategic body concludes its work in 2021.

Environmental policy is devolved and the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides a supportive legal framework for positive action. Applied to all public bodies in Wales, it aligns with the UN sustainable development goals

and sets a legal obligation to publish wellbeing objectives covering: society, the environment, the economy, and Welsh culture, “acting in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” (Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).

ABOUT THE SOUTH WALES VALLEYS CLIMATE AND FAIRNESS PANEL

Citizens’ juries are used all over the world to deliberate on policy issues. They bring together a small group of people, representative of the demographics of a given area, to learn about an issue, discuss ideas with one another and then make recommendations about what should happen and how things should change, drawing on the citizens’ practical knowledge and experiences.

The South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel was commissioned by the Environmental Justice Commission to examine the question:

“What practical steps should we take together in the South Wales Valleys to address the climate crisis and restore nature in a way that is fair for everyone?”

19 residents of the South Wales Valleys came together online for over 20 hours of deliberation across eight sessions over six weeks. Collectively, they were representative of the area in terms of age, ethnicity, gender, locale (rural/urban), qualification level, and attitude to climate change.

The plans for the sessions were informed by insight into the current policy context from an advisory board (see appendix A). These local decision-makers and sector leads also advised IPPR on relevant local contacts.

The jurors heard from a range of speakers, providing a grounding in the climate and nature emergencies, the local context, and positive, ambitious proposals for action across four topics: ‘work and industry’, ‘how we travel’, ‘how we make decisions’, and ‘fairly sharing the costs’ (see appendix B for a full list of speakers). The panel also developed their own ‘wellbeing framework’ to help guide their recommendations.

These recommendations, written in the panel’s own words, are an important contribution to the work of the commission and have been shared with the advisory board and other key stakeholders. More details about the process can be found at appendix C.

STATEMENT FROM THE JURORS

We believe that a fair response to the climate and nature emergencies in the South Wales Valleys must be inclusive and not leave areas behind.

The response should reflect that people have different needs. There are many people we don't hear from (even through this panel) and the solution has to be inclusive for all.

Education is going to be key. This starts in schools where people can learn about and understand the changing world they are growing into.

People need to feel that they are part of the change. We need to bring people with us and for it not to feel like we are having things done to us. We need to empower individuals and communities to take the action needed.

Awareness of the severity of the issue is essential. There are many people who aren't aware of the change that is needed. Much of the information we see is about the global situation. We need to hear more about the impact this will have locally and what role people can play in making change happen.

We should reward businesses and people who are taking action. Introduce climate ratings to make clear the impact of our actions and where it will have a negative (or positive) effect on the environment. This can't just be about pledges and words - it has to be tangible action.

We need to take a broad view of the changes needed - across every sector. From how we heat our buildings, to the products we use and how we move around. We need to make it easier for businesses to make these changes and reward them for being proactive in taking action. We've seen significant action on things like plastic and we need to take action for climate in a similar way.

There isn't just one plan that's needed or one great idea that will address this challenge. We need multi-dimensional solutions. We need to be joined up in our thinking - stop taking the actions that cause harm or making it harder for people to do the right thing for the environment. We need facilitators not barriers to action.

This is now the time for action. We are used to policy and plans taking a long time to come to fruition. For us to have hope we need to see faster action on these emergencies. We need to build momentum. Find the quick ideas that show we're on track to delivering the big change. Recognise that there have been big steps already taken - particularly in the energy sector.

Change needs to be well thought through. We need to get the timing right so people don't experience the negative impacts before they see benefits. If things are planned well and made clear, we believe people will act in the way needed.

Being able to do more locally is important. But people shouldn't feel trapped by the places they live and be limited by what they can access locally. We need to think of how the Valleys connects to the wider world too.

The cost of change - both financial and in how we live - has to be shared fairly.

THE JURORS' WELLBEING FRAMEWORK

We believe in a better life for all in the South Wales Valleys.

This means a future where no one is left behind and everyone:



We believe that the future should be inclusive and we recognise that those who have been historically left behind may need additional support to prosper. Place plays an important part in this future and it is important that we are able to achieve these outcomes in the South Wales Valleys. These principles are connected and support each other.

DEVELOPING THE FRAMEWORK

The concept of wellbeing was used to frame deliberation on what constitutes a fair response to addressing the climate and nature emergencies.

This approach was introduced to jurors by Dr Katy Roelich, associate professor in the School of Earth and Environment at the University of Leeds, with support from Dr Nathan Wood. The methodology is based on their research experience in participative decision-making.

Jurors developed a place-specific wellbeing framework that describes the kind of lives they want to lead, in terms of what they are able to be and do.

This framework was used in two ways throughout the deliberative process: to support jurors in critically appraising evidence and proposals, and to highlight the significance of their own lived experience.

As a tool to support critical appraisal, jurors used the framework to determine how proposals would affect people's wellbeing. If an impact or proposal had a negative impact on an element of wellbeing, this was deemed to be unfair and jurors discussed whether proposals could be altered to reduce any negative impacts.

The wellbeing framework also connected complex interventions and scientific information to the daily lives of jurors. This highlighted their crucial knowledge about how the nature and climate emergencies, including the action required to address them, would affect people's lives.

UNDERSTANDING WHAT TO VALUE IN THE SOUTH WALES VALLEYS

In the second session, the jurors completed a 'visioning' exercise in groups to answer the following questions.

- What kind of "beings" and "doings" do you value?
- How can we describe these as simply a possible?
- How do these "doings" and "beings" support each other?

Below is a sample of the responses.



'Basic needs' were key for many jurors.

"You're dry, you're warm, you feel safe. For people who haven't got ... the basics it can't be very good for their wellbeing, if they're living in real poverty really and in poor conditions."

"Shelter and being well fed. Basic needs."



Although the jurors agreed that the different 'beings and doings' were linked, **health** was mentioned by many as being of primary importance, and a foundation for the rest of **wellbeing**.

"You can have everything, but if you're not physically and mentally feeling good whatever you've got isn't... means nothing."

"I suffer from depression ... it's hard when you don't feel right and no one else understands. You're completely isolated."



The emphasis the jurors placed on being able to move around revealed dissatisfaction with current **public transport**.

"The cost and the amount of public transport's not always good depending on your area you're living in. You know they finish at stupid o'clock in the evening, in some areas they don't get the buses."

"Access to places and spaces so that you can enjoy the outside. You shouldn't have to travel long distances to be able to enjoy the outdoor spaces. And there should be transport networks that allow you to do that so it's accessible to everyone. Difficult in the South Wales Valleys because you've got to go up and down!"



Access was a key theme throughout the wellbeing conversations.

"There's an underlying theme about access, and that could be access to a whole range of things. It could be access to work, good well paid work, good access to food, there might be many communities that have an expensive locals shop ... if you've got access to a whole load of different things then it opens up opportunities across the board."

A close **connection with the landscape** was a highly valued aspect of life in the South Wales Valleys. This was felt to be even more relevant after the lockdowns of 2020.

“Nature and the local wildlife kind of brings communities together for us all really, even though we live in very different areas throughout Wales.”

“Despite living in very different places, nature has been very healing in a very difficult time - ‘soothing’ – ...it’s an important part of our life.”

“The countryside we’ve got around here is just amazing, and we take it for granted, but it’s there to enjoy isn’t it, and we want to keep that there for the future.”



Jurors were proud of the local sense of **community**, but wanted more to be available locally.

“I think there’s such a community spirit ... Community is so important ... I’d like to be able to provide more for my community and possibly have a place where we could do things more sustainably to support people on lower incomes as well. I think that’s something that probably could be nurtured more. I’d like to support local independent businesses a lot more.”

“You should have everything that you need within 20 minutes of where you live.”



Other priorities included **liveable housing, providing for children**, and being able to **make your own choices**.

“The renting market I feel is unfair as well, you pay a lot more to rent than when you’ve got a mortgage, and then you can get pushed out straightaway ... there’s no stability.”

“Some of the private renting is appalling, the conditions.”

“We do things for our children. Everything we do we borrow as we hand it down to our children – houses cars, whatever, money. We only borrow it. So it’s the wellbeing of us to give to our children.”

“Providing for your children for the future. If you can provide a good home and a good stable relationship with your children.”

“The feeling that one is not being controlled, not told what to do ... is probably quite important.”



2. HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE JURY

Overarching principles

- **The people who are most affected by a decision should be at the core of the decision-making process.** This helps mitigate unfair, unintended, consequences.
- **More decisions should be made at a local level and the uniqueness of each place should be recognised in the decision-making.** In the South Wales Valleys, a few miles can make a real difference to the needs of a place and the people in it.
- **Decisions need to be joined up with different organisations working together to make the most of the resources and time we have.** We shouldn't be acting in silos.
- **Future benefits should shape decisions about the climate and nature crises.** These benefits should be visible and promoted.
- **Decisions should aim to create a better tomorrow for those after us.** Big changes won't happen in a week, or a year. We may need to wait 10, 20 or even 60 years to see the difference today's actions will make, but we need to start implementing them without a wait.

Recommendations

1. **Use citizens' juries to create local action plans.**
 - People should be involved in the decisions about the places they feel connected to - and for many this is very local (the 'parish' rather than a political administrative district).
 - Local people should have more responsibility for the stewardship of their local environment.
2. **Local engagement should be mandatory in all local government decision-making.**
 - There needs to be ongoing dialogue within and across local authorities. There are so many different small groups within larger local authority areas – there can't be a 'one size fits all' approach.
 - Engagement shouldn't just happen at the point the decision is made. We need to set up citizen-led ways to hold authorities to account for the long term.
3. **People need to be educated from a young age in how to engage as citizens in more democratic processes than just voting.**
 - They should be enabled and encouraged to get involved in local decisions and taught about the tools they can use to hold leaders to account, such as the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act.
4. **There should be many more avenues for people to participate in decision-making processes.**
 - We should reduce barriers to engagement, eg consultations shouldn't happen at only one time (day/evening) or only in-person or online.

DELIBERATING ON HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS

The jurors explored how decisions about the climate and nature emergencies are currently taken, some of the barriers to action and how things might be improved.

There was scepticism about governments' willingness and capacity to act.

“Party politics shouldn't play a part at all, unfortunately it does.”

“The county council was saying it had difficulty in communicating with central government ... the electorate have the same problem in communicating with the county council.”

“How likely is that the government will take on what's sort of been said? ... how likely is it to be put forward? ... Is it likely that what we've said here will be heard by people who can actually do something about it?”

Jurors were clear on the need for greater community involvement in decision-making and inspired by the potential for community-led initiatives that supported the nature recovery. One juror reflected that hearing about the action already being taken locally was “mindblowing”. Alongside support for these kinds of initiatives there were a wide range of questions on where the time and funding to develop them would come from.

“How are community projects financed and how do we get them going? Individual communities taking things forward or a central pot that is distributed down?”

“We keep getting told they have the power but how do they use it to make this kind of community action happen? How do we find out? How do we make it happened where it isn't happening?”

The jurors emphasised the need for younger people to be engaged in community activities and provided the opportunity to be out into nature. This could be supported through engagement with schools and by making “forest schools more prominent” as a mainstream option for childcare.

The desire to consider the needs of children and the long-term sustainability of the valleys was explored through discussion of the role of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act in ensuring the right decisions for the future were being made now.

WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

The below quotes capture the responses of the jurors to the question: “What does the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act mean to you?”. These have been grouped by IPPR into three thematic groups.

What does the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act mean to us?

“It gives me hope to know that my generation (I'm 17 years old) is being considered and thought about when thinking of ways to improve where we live, and are actively given a voice when changes are being made.”

A FRAMEWORK FOR BETTER SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DECISIONS

“The act formalises our collective responsibility to properly manage our planet and resources in an environmentally and socially responsible way, and helps us to hold our leaders to account for delivering on these goals.”

“A stewardship approach to the natural environment which seeks to increase biodiversity and preserve the countryside as an inheritance for future generations.”

“It brings tangible commitment to a very broad spectrum of the things we want to achieve as a country.”

AN OPPORTUNITY THAT WE NEED TO USE

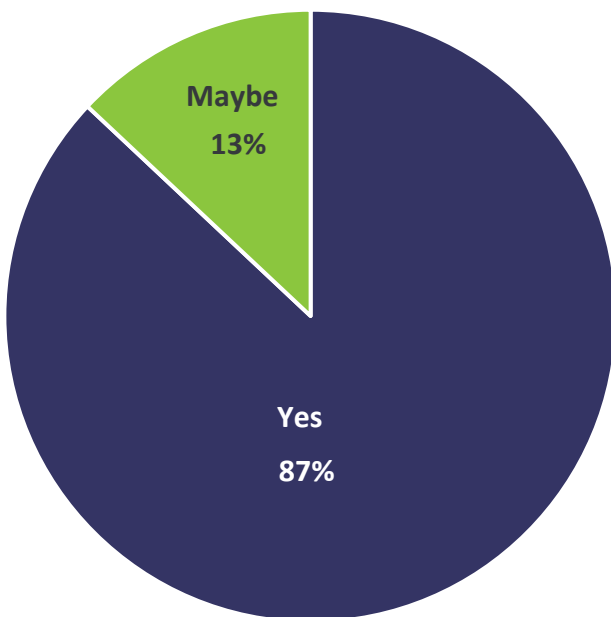
“An opportunity to leave a positive legacy.”

“In principle good but how exactly is it applied, particularly around planning matters. Who is overseeing adherence?”

“It's nice just to think that this is taken into account in future decisions/planning.”

“It could mean a recall from the public on things that local government may do or want to do on the future.”

FIGURE 2.2: JUROR RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION: “WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT APPROACH TO DECISION-MAKING BEING USED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE UK?”



Source: Jurors' responses

SPEAKERS ON HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS

How we make decisions in Wales – the opportunities created by the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

- Jane Davidson, former Welsh government minister and author of #futuregen: Lessons from a Small Country

What is the role of communities in addressing the climate and nature emergencies?

- Chris Blake and Ian Thomas, The Green Valleys CIC and ‘Welcome to Our Woods’

3. FAIRLY SHARING THE COSTS

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE JURY

Overarching principles

- **Investment needs to take place over the next 10 years** to achieve government targets without negative impacts.
- **Funding must be targeted to ensure that people aren't left behind** because change is prohibitively expensive for them. Distribution of funding should be based on need; different areas will need different levels of investment.
- **Those who earn more should pay more**, whether they be individuals or businesses.
- **Approaches to funding needs to harness community spirit** and use the strong networks and cohesion already present. This could also have a positive impact on wellbeing, increasing community connection.
- **Funding decisions must be transparent** to justify the costs and demonstrate the benefits for nature, climate and wellbeing. This must include addressing the benefits locally to avoid the historic extraction of value from the South Wales Valleys.
- Recognise there may be tensions between nature, climate and wellbeing, particularly as we recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, but **seek to fund opportunities to address these issues in an integrated way** that do not have a negative impact on those most in need.

Recommendations

- 5. Invest in infrastructure ahead of need** to accelerate adoption of low carbon technology or behaviours.
 - Government investment in electric vehicle charging infrastructure is needed to increase confidence in buying electric vehicles.
- 6. Increase the level of funding for housing retrofit and make its distribution fairer.**
 - Make green grant funding available in Wales.
 - Give powers to allocate funding to local areas to ensure that those most in need are able to access the funding.
- 7. Increase the contribution of community funding to action on climate and for nature**, where appropriate.
 - There are many examples of successful community funding in the South Wales Valleys, these should be used as exemplars to build momentum in this area.
 - Provide more information about how to start community investment and about existing opportunities for investment.
- 8. Ensure that people have a say in how funding is distributed locally.**
 - Develop a clear set of principles for local authority spending.
 - Devolve some funding to local areas and create groups that are representative of the local population who can decide how this funding should be spent.

DELIBERATING ON HOW WE FAIRLY SHARE THE COSTS

This cross-cutting principle covered the scale of investment required to act on the climate and nature emergencies, the cost of inaction and the range of actors involved in funding the required action.

The theme that ran through the jurors' questions was whether and how much money would be coming to Wales and the valleys. Jurors were clear that the burden of financing the transition should not fall on communities that were already struggling and some were concerned that initiatives might be limited to areas with more affluent residents who could afford the investment. Some were anxious about a potential imbalance between Wales and the rest of the UK.

“It all sounds great but ... you’ve got to fund each priority somehow and also as very much as you want to make it fair across Wales, by having this legislation [the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act], you don’t want to disadvantage us against the rest of the UK, cos, you know, we’re part of the UK.”

“50 billion investment per year. How is that assigned, where will the money come from, what are the calculations involved in that? Will it come from UK government, will some be dedicated to Wales? How does Wales link in with this?”

“I wonder how a Westminster government without these goals can be persuaded to fund them?”

As picked up on in more detail within the recommendations on work and industry, the jurors explored the need for investment to be linked to a sustainable local economy.

“Unless you can actually deal with the financial sustainability of a place first, how do you afford to do all the other things that you need to then be able to do in order to keep those priorities straight? ... If you don’t have any resources, you can’t actually deliver on any of those priorities.”

There was also interest in private investment, the impacts of indebtedness, and who would benefit from the returns of investment.

“Changes that will create jobs in communities, which will benefit the community and your life

“[Private investors] want a return in the end so there has to be a return for them, which again, there’s the cost that has to be paid and it’ll end up coming from the people of Wales eventually, and if the programmes don’t generate enough of a return to pay off the debts and continue to fund the country then we’ll end up behind instead of ahead.”

Concerns about the costs of prioritising action on climate and nature, were balanced by those who felt the cost of inaction was greater and that there were many opportunities created by investment in a greener economy.

“You know at the moment everyone’s gone through a lot of hardship and there’s a lot of other things that are needed in life at the moment rather than money being spent on climate change. But ... if we don’t do anything now then there won’t be these nice nature walks, and there won’t

be things that we can enjoy in life. We have to take these drastic measures because at the moment things are that bad. And then as we make changes then it sort of rolls on to like the benefits of them. Changes that will create jobs in communities, which will benefit the community and your life and, you know, being involved more in the community will get people out of the house at the moment, and, there are other benefits to it than just saying 'look, we can't do anything about climate change at the moment, we need to concentrate on ourselves and on our life because we've been through tough times.'

SPEAKERS ON HOW WE FAIRLY SHARE THE COSTS

Investment to address the climate and nature emergencies

- Katerina Szwarc, Grantham Research Institute

Investment to address the climate and nature emergencies in Wales and the South Wales Valleys

- Lee Waters, deputy minister for economy and transport

4.

WORK AND INDUSTRY

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE JURY

Overarching principles

- **Wales must receive a fair economic settlement.** That should include greater devolution of powers, including over taxation, and a fairer allocation of funding from the UK government.
- **Work should be more flexible and there should be more work** of a better quality. There isn't enough good work out there to support families. People should have choice in the work they do. We need more flexibility, recognising that people live complex lives and have differing responsibilities. We need good work standards, including time for breaks.
- **People must be able to work to live rather than live to work.** All work should pay the **real living wage**.
- **The key is to enable good jobs in local areas.** Covid-19 has demonstrated that digital or remote working is very possible for many businesses that may previously have been reluctant to use it. But remote working requires good internet and the local spaces (ie not just in your home because not everyone has the space) to enable this kind of working arrangement to be viable.
- **Recognise the variety of 'green jobs'.** Not all green jobs are specifically involved in the energy industry. Local jobs can be greener and jobs that aren't specifically in the low-carbon economy, such as caring, should also be regarded as green.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are ordered according to the level of priority given to them by the jurors as part of a final vote.

9. **We need to introduce a framework of incentives, rules and laws for businesses to go green.** Businesses have to be encouraged to change with the right combination of carrots and sticks. Some will do it because it's the right thing to do, some will do it because it's better business and some will only do it when it's forced. There should be rewards for sustainable business practice and grants to help encourage the action we want to see businesses take. We should support businesses that are producing good, sustainable products by making people more aware of the environmental issues surrounding the things they buy.
10. **Develop a new economic strategy for the South Wales Valleys and for Wales that focusses on creating 'anchor towns',** making the most of local assets and backing this up with investment that communities have a say in. To ensure the local economy is future-proofed **focus on support for the sectors that are essential for life** (the environment, health and care, food, energy, and homes). Within this there should be investment in natural assets and creating local jobs to maintain nature.
11. **Provide increased access to apprenticeships and colleges rather than emphasising universities.** We need to value different types of work and

aspiration. We should not think of education and training as different – we should bring together the strengths of both to be more modular and provide flexible qualifications. We should embed knowledge and skills and not be too focussed on exams. New training opportunities are needed to ensure that local people have the opportunity to do the green jobs being invested in – for example installing heat pumps and electric vehicle infrastructure.

- 12. Provide the opportunity for better work that is accessible and local.** Create local work hubs and allow people to work closer to home. These local hubs should enable people to work in the same places that they live and could make use of existing cafes or other local businesses. We should help local companies to learn from how other organisations, or countries, that have made this work. These changes will help bring town life back.
- 13. Create a new strategy for local investment and local sourcing of goods and materials and staff, starting with the public sector through procurement.** This should be the linchpin of reducing CO₂ emissions for services and goods. This will create new opportunities for sustainable home-grown businesses that also buy goods and trade locally – keeping investment within the valleys, ‘by Wales, for Wales’.
- 14. Make education and training more affordable for all.** Education has become too expensive for those of any age. We should make sure that learning is available for everyone, especially those who are out of education now and older workers who are looking to retrain or for a new path.
- 15. Ensure that education has stronger links to end-goals and job opportunities.** Rather than dealing with subjects in the abstract link it to real life opportunities for careers in those areas. This will include introducing support from careers services at an earlier stage in people’s education. We need to help people have clear purpose in life by providing training coming out of school or university. We can show people what their options are for the future, especially through local industry.
- 16. Invest in lifelong learning to support older generations.** Provide more flexibility and a viable option for all ages to learn and get a job in new, greener industries. Lifelong learning means having the ability to adapt and evolve, this is key to ensuring a learning culture for Wales.
- 17. Change working practices so that they are more flexible and allow for part-time work and part-time education** at the same time. We should make sure that the tax and benefit systems doesn’t stop people from being able to take on part-time education.
- 18. Address the issue of invisible work ensuring that care, childcare and support for elderly and community is paid** – these are crucial contributions to society, particularly coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic, but go unrecognised and unpaid. We should also think about an increased role for community organisations and social services in supporting those who care for others.
- 19. Establish ‘decent work’ standards** and strong regulations across different sectors. We should involve workers and the businesses affected by these regulations in designing and advocating for them. We shouldn’t have regulations that aren’t needed and where we are asking more of businesses (particularly small ones or entrepreneurs) we should try to find ways to make things easier for them too. By

involving everyone in the process you help ensure we get the kinds of good, green businesses we want.

- 20. Support all businesses to adopt the real living wage.** An extra pound matters to a lot of people and we need to make sure that all work pays enough to live on. To make this possible there needs to be strong support for businesses who provide decent jobs - from the public and government.
- 21. Treat digital infrastructure as a basic human right** to enable remote working and make sure that children have access to laptops and tablets to facilitate remote learning. This could be linked to incentivising people working from home after the pandemic (and not taxing people more to do so).
- 22. Introduce environmental ratings for all products.** We need to make people more aware of the environmental issues surrounding the things they buy. Introduce a recycle rating that would include things like the amount of meat used, chemicals used, electricity used, and the amount of materials or plastics used. This should extend to the public sector, for example introducing low-carbon menus in schools so that they can make their own decisions. This could also include the carbon footprint of food within the hospitality sector.

DELIBERATING ON WORK AND INDUSTRY

Jurors covered a broad set of issues related to good work, education and training and the transition to a zero-carbon economy. The jurors emphasised the importance of education and skills, strengthening local economies, green industries and nature jobs, and 'fair work' and a stronger safety net.

The idea of creating 'anchor towns' was popular and the policy spoke to the desire of the jurors to address the local jobs deficit. For some, it felt like the towns of the valleys had been hollowed out by the investment made elsewhere in South Wales.

"Merthyr should be an anchor town. Town life has been taken away and into retail parks. Jobs, businesses and activity in one place shouldn't come at the cost of other places."

Many jurors provided personal testimony of the impact that the limited jobs close to home and poor public transport made in their lives. One juror described how she was unable to use her university degree and had to take a local low paid job because of unsuitable public transport schedules and costs. Another reflected that childcare responsibilities made it unworkable for her to travel for better paying jobs found in and the larger cities.

"In our area there are few jobs and most skilled people travel outside to work, unemployment and those on benefits is huge. I found a point in one of the previous talks interesting, that women are at a greater disadvantage in terms of fairness. One of the walls I face as a woman with a young family is being able to get my children to school on time and then travel to one of the bigger cities (Swansea, Cardiff) to work and get there on time, making public transport an impossible option."

There was significant discussion about the role of more thoughtful procurement, by both the public and private sector, in supporting the creation of new, green businesses within these 'anchor towns'. This focus on better use of supply chains was recognised as an important part of developing the local economy, with jurors reflecting on the value this could bring to both the area and the environment.

“Sectors where demand wasn’t being met by longer supply chains should be publicised, so local suppliers could step in, keeping the work in Wales.”

“Making it locally, sourcing it locally, spending it locally, developing, you know, opportunities locally, all of that investment will be beneficial for people and reduce carbon so yeah, you can get both.”

Jurors were clear that good jobs needed to pay a real living wage, as “a lot of people are struggling and that extra pound per hour matters”. This was linked with the need for everyone to be able to access affordable training that will allow them to transition between employers and to higher skilled, green jobs. One juror highlighted the potential for a portable training account to support this approach to lifelong learning.

“When I was in the Royal Navy, as part of the Investors in People initiative, everyone had a personal training record in which all their courses and qualifications were recorded. Might something similar and more portable between different employers and training routes be supportive to our aspiration for a ‘learning culture’ for Wales?”

The balance of incentives and regulations put in place to encourage, or force, the private sector to make these changes needs to be carefully designed. For jurors this meant involving businesses and entrepreneurs in the design of policies that would affect them so we “don’t drown them in regulation”. There was also considered to be a clear role for workers and unions to be advocates for change within sectors and organisations. One juror summarised this discussion with a note of optimism.

“The tide of industry may have left Wales... but the capacity and the ability of the people here hasn't changed. That's an unfound superpower that just needs unlocking

“The tide of industry may have left Wales ... but the capacity and the ability of the people here hasn’t changed. That’s an unfound superpower that just needs unlocking.”

SPEAKERS ON WORK AND INDUSTRY

Understanding work and industry in the South Wales Valleys

- Dr Sara MacBride-Stewart, Cardiff University

Understanding work and industry in the South Wales Valleys

- Helen Cunningham, Bevan Foundation

Policy proposals on a fair and green transition for work and industry

- Anne Meikle, WWF Cymru
- James Davies, Industry Wales
- Dr Sarah Lloyd, People & Work
- Shavanah Taj, Wales TUC

5.

HOW WE TRAVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE JURY

Overarching principles

- **Reduce the need to travel as far** – more people should be able to get what they need locally.
- **Travel should be a positive choice not a burden.** We don't want to stop people being able to get outside of our neighbourhoods, and become insular. However, we also don't want to have to travel outside of our communities for what we need.
- **Electric is only part of the answer;** we also need fewer car trips overall, so a move to electric vehicles must only happen in combination with public transport improvements and a reduction in journeys.
- **We should think about rural and urban areas differently** when it comes to transport.
- **We don't want to punish anyone for where they live,** so benefits and subsidies are better than sanctions and penalties for encouraging greener travel.
- **We should have a strategic focus on popular routes** – put energy into improving public transport where we know people are travelling.
- **We need a joined-up approach** that thinks about the connections within journeys.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are ordered according to the level of priority given to them by the jurors as part of a final vote.

23. Invest in public transport - public transport should be greener, affordable and efficient. The connections need to work for people.
 - Public transport should connect people with popular destinations, whether for leisure and tourism or work.
 - We should look to other countries for inspiration for how to do public transport better.
24. Invest in regenerating our high streets - local councils should invest in small businesses being able to set up on our high streets. They are the heart of the community and mean that people can stay local, reducing the need for trips.
25. Streets should be greener and more nature friendly - we should plan for benefits to nature as well as people.
26. The South Wales Valleys should be prepared for electric vehicles by investing in job creation and training in this area. There should be a focus on skills development in electric vehicle repair and associated infrastructure.
27. It should be mandatory to build communities, not just cheap homes. Planning permission should be dependent on plans for living space, workspace and transport being joined up.

- Developers should not be able to get away with not adhering to their commitments. Local authorities need to hold them to account, and need to be held to account themselves.
- New developments should include community essentials, such as doctors surgeries, (Welsh) schools, banks and shops.

28. City centres should be car-free except when essential, eg for disability.
29. Invest in cycling and walking infrastructure to make these safer and more accessible options for shorter journeys or as a connection to public transport.
30. Stop building new roads unless there is a clear public benefit justification. The Wellbeing of Future Generations Act provides a good test.

DELIBERATING ON HOW WE TRAVEL

This topic covered better public transport, car use and the cars we use, increasing walking and cycling, and space for nature and changing investment priorities.

Jurors conveyed the isolation that comes from not being able to afford your own car in a rural area that has such poor public transport provision. This has real world impacts on wellbeing and life chances, which have only been exacerbated by the pandemic.

“I haven’t got a car, I gotta to walk everywhere. I won’t touch the bus cos it is costing me too much money, so I just walk.”

“Where my cousin lives, he lives sort of just outside of Cardiff, and he said the last bus out of Cardiff is half past two. So how can you expect people to sort of use transport for jobs when you gotta finish a job at two o’clock to get home.”

“The bus is right outside my house but the cost is quite high and since Covid they’ve have upped the cost which doesn’t make sense as people are struggling more now with the pandemic.”

The jurors were clear on the connection between travel and access to work. Much of the private car miles in the valleys are due to people commuting into Cardiff and large towns for work. Jurors thought businesses, and the public sector, should move their offices out of the big towns, where possible, to give a more even spread of job opportunities across the area. Jurors felt that providing more options to ‘work in the community’ would benefit everyone and should be incentivised.

“If working hubs, like those in libraries but specifically for working reasons were created in our valley’s smaller towns, Merthyr, Aberdare etc in buildings or spaces that are already derelict due to the closing of our local amenities over the years, this would provide a working space close to home. I thought an incentive to the large companies in the bigger cities to allow their employees to work this way could be tax reductions, with the employees receiving similar benefits of receiving income tax reductions, like similar schemes already set up for people who wash their own work clothes.”

Active travel was considered unsuitable for longer journeys because of the area’s hills, although electric bikes might be more practical if they could be provided affordably. Jurors wanted travel options to be accessible to all. Maintenance of existing cycle paths was a real concern, making them unsafe in some places.

“The provision/ state of cycle paths locally here are quite poor! I know there are some plans to improve this in my area though.”

Making public, business, and personal vehicles green, providing appropriate public and community transport and reducing the need to own a car altogether were all discussed. Jurors suggested that companies should ‘green’ their fleets. It was noted that public transport options do not always cover crucial locations, such as hospitals. Some jurors supported car sharing initiatives, including for employees, while others were sceptical about their practicality, given their own intensive use of their cars for school pick-ups and errands as well as to commute.

Jurors saw the potential of electric vehicles and appreciated the benefits of decarbonising travel, with the more electricity coming from renewable sources. However, they were concerned about availability of charging facilities, negative environmental and social impacts such as the environmental damage of mining, the potential for human rights abuses in the supply chains, and the disbenefits of car use in general.

SPEAKERS ON HOW WE TRAVEL

Travel and the climate and nature emergencies

- Dr Crispin Cooper, Cardiff University

Environmental justice in the context of travel

- Christine Boston, Sustrans Cymru

Policy proposals on a fair and green transition for how we travel

- Haf Elgar, Friends of the Earth Cymru
- Victoria Winkler, Bevan Foundation
- Kerry Rogers, Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
- Paula Renzel, Sustrans Cymru

JUROR EXPERIENCES OF TRAVEL

Between meetings jurors were encouraged to think about their own experiences of travel and complete a short survey on the topic. The below summarises their responses.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

Jurors were asked whether their attitude to travel had changed due to Covid-19. Some of their responses are listed below.

“A lot of my journeys were not essential, and I've realised how little I enjoy driving compared with walking.”

“We don't need to do as much of it, especially from a work perspective. Teams/Zoom has proved that.”

“I've had to change the way I work and travel, I've not left my house for work since March.”

“Make many fewer journeys now as only go out when necessary or to have a change of scene following days spent at home.”

“Covid puts me off wanting to use public transport.”

“I feel safer travelling on my own in the car.”

IDEAS FOR TRAVEL IN THE VALLEYS

“Focussing travel around people, not cars.”

“Fewer cars on the road.”

“More local amenities would mean I could walk more, without the need to travel by car.”

“Re-open the rarely used, and disused, railway lines to passenger services (such as Swansea 9 lines project).”

“Smaller, more frequent, more reliable, longer running bus service. Including use of minibuses.”

“Organisation of public transport to be better. Services cheaper, more accessible and more frequent.”

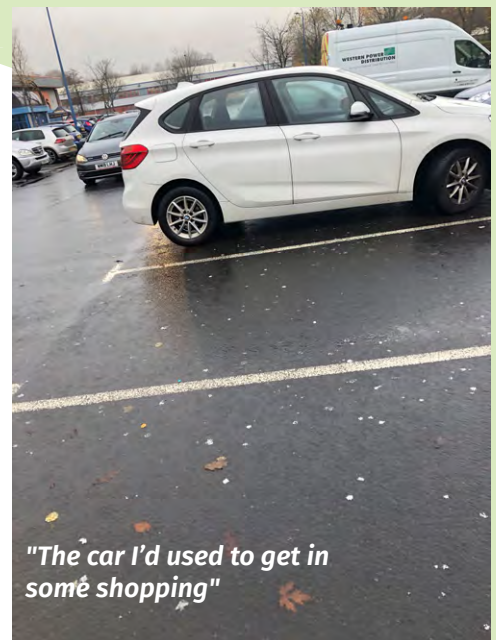
“Targeted investment in more flexible public transport.”

FIGURE 5.1: WORD MAP BASED ON JUROR RESPONSES TO THE QUESTION: “WHAT THREE WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL WHEN YOU TRAVEL?”



Source: IPPR analysis of jurors' responses

WHAT JURORS LIKE MOST ABOUT TRAVEL IN THE VALLEYS



“

"The greenery, the views, being able to relax on public transport and actually take in your surroundings. Rather than driving the car and concentrating on the road"



“The canal is my preferred mode of transport, it’s not the barge itself but the canal path as a walking and running route between Cwmbran and Brecon.”



"Love the scenery"



"The view from my bus stop"



"My view from a mountain walk."



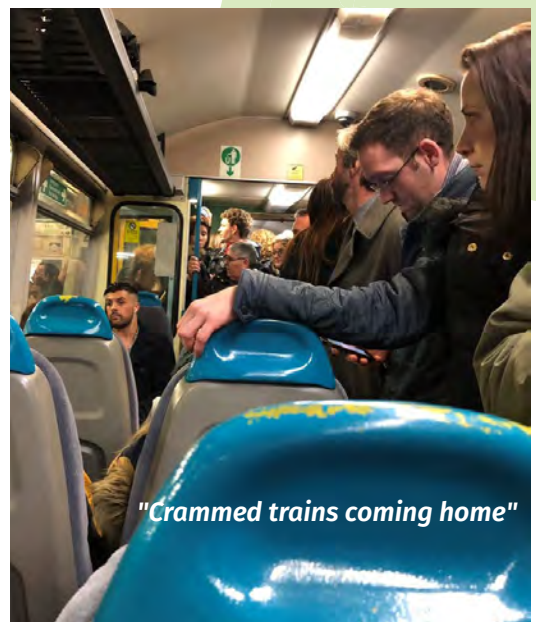
"My yellow car"

Source: Jurors' photos

WHAT THE JURORS LIKE LEAST ABOUT TRAVEL IN THE VALLEYS



"Our local railway line carries no passengers, only very occasional coal trains, maybe one a week, from the nearby open cast mine, which is due to close soon. I see this as a terrible waste of a valuable transport resource, that could, and should, connect local communities, and provide passenger transport to Swansea from our local area, without impacting on already congested roads."





"Taken in my nearest town where the car park has as much prominence as the castle."



"Hate pot holes"



"The Arriva Trains Wales train"

"It's not the train travel itself but when the trains are rammed, randomly delayed or even cancelled with little to no notice when the board has said due in 3 minutes for the previous 30 minutes. This image is also good as this is the great western train service between London and Swansea which is a bloody lovely service and then you have to get some of the worst trains known to humanity in the Valleys. You're lucky if there's a loo or even if the windows/doors keep the wind out."



Source: Jurors' photos

6. EVALUATION

Members of the South Wales Valleys Climate and Fairness Panel were asked to complete a brief survey in the week following the final session. The full response to this survey is detailed in appendix D. The below provides a summary of the feedback received from the 16 jurors who completed the survey.

The jurors enjoyed the experience of being part of the citizens' jury and, as well as finding it informative and educational, many found it energizing and inspiring to be part of a community making decisions together.

FIGURE 6.1: 'THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE THE EXPERIENCE' WORD MAP



Source: Jurors' responses

Many of the themes from the panel's recommendations were emphasised within these final individual reflections, particularly on the value of bringing people together to make decisions.

"How important it is that the voice of the people of the valleys can be heard."

"Having more local discussion that is tangible has to be the way forward, participants can act as educators to others. Showing success of this panel could encourage other initiatives."

"I felt a responsibility but also part of a community."

Feedback highlighted how important it was for people who start with different perspectives and experiences to be given this opportunity to be heard.

“That it doesn't matter how knowledgeable you are about the subject before-hand, you can still contribute and you will be listened to.”

“That we all see the same problem, just from different perspectives and we need to communicate clearer to get to better solutions.”

“It was really good to see that all generations got a say in this process.”

For many, this was the first time they were hearing about the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and it provided them with hope that their recommendations would be heard by decision-makers who cared about these issues.

“I understand the problem is nuanced and complex, and don't always have faith in the UK government, but it is refreshing to see the steps Wales is taking, and I believe by being proactive we will prosper.”

“Knowing that things like the future generation act is in place, and also just the fact that this took place means something is actually being done about the climate emergency we are living in.”

Jurors gained confidence in talking about the climate and nature emergencies, with some having their previous opinions about these changed by being part of this process. Key to this was a growing awareness of the impact and opportunities locally.

“Local data related to climate crisis made it more accessible.”

“It has given me a clearer understanding of the action needed and made me feel part of that process.”

“Made me realise the valley we live in and how things need improving.”

This citizens' jury encouraged many to make changes in their own lives and inspired to be part of addressing these issues in South Wales.

“I will continue to seek connection with my local community and press for a voice for us when decisions are made.”

“Think about the small things I do that can have an accumulative impact.”

“Educating myself more on the subject and to check if there are any community projects I could get involved in.”

“Buy more locally, be willing to spend more with local providers for products I could buy cheaper elsewhere such as on Amazon.”

The process gave many more optimism for the future, with one juror providing a simple summary of why:

“Because together we can do this.”

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APPENDIX A: ADVISORY BOARD

The board guide the process by ensuring information presented to jurors reflects local concerns and opportunities, and is presented in as balanced a way as possible. They helped to identify, select, and invite speakers.

The advisory board represent a cross-section of regional decision-makers and those with a stake in the area's response to the climate and nature emergencies.

SOUTH WALES VALLEYS ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Christine Boston, director, Sustrans Cymru, Sustrans

Helen Cunningham, policy and research officer, Bevan Foundation

James Davies, CEO, Industry Wales

David Hagendyk, director for Wales, Learning and Work Institute

Sophie Howe, future generations commissioner for Wales

Jason Jones, head of regeneration, Carmarthenshire County Council

Julie Jones, co-director, Gower Gas & Oil

Carwyn Jones MS, Labour member of the Senedd, Bridgend

Sarah Kessell, chief executive officer, Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales

Sue Pritchard, director of the Food, Farming & Countryside Commission

Shavannah Taj, general secretary, Wales TUC

APPENDIX B: SPEAKERS

WELCOME

- **Carwyn Jones**, Labour member of the Senedd, Bridgend

THE CLIMATE AND NATURE EMERGENCIES – AN INTRODUCTION

- **Dr Cat Scott**, university academic fellow in biosphere-climate interactions, University of Leeds
 - What are the climate and nature emergencies? A basic introduction to the science
 - How are the emergencies linked?
 - What happens if we do not act?
- **Professor Rebecca Willis**, professor in practice, Lancaster University
 - What must society do to address the problem?
 - Why are we aiming for 'net zero'?
 - What is already being done to tackle emissions and restore nature?
- **Dr Jennifer Geroni**, director, Environment Platform Wales
 - What are the main sources of emissions in the South Wales Valleys?
 - What does the nature emergency look like in the South Wales Valleys?
 - What is already being done to tackle emissions and restore nature in the area?

WELLBEING

- **Dr Katy Roelich**, associate professor at the School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds
 - Who is responsible for making change happen within society?
 - What kinds of actions might different actors take to address the climate and nature emergencies?
 - How can jurors approach making decisions between different policies / actions?

HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS

- **Jane Davidson**, former Welsh government minister and author of #futuregen: "Lessons from a Small Country: How we make decisions in Wales – the opportunities created by the Wellbeing of Future Generations (WFG) Act"
 - How the WFG Act shapes decision-making in Wales
 - How to hold government and public services to account through the WFG Act and how communities can influence public sector processes and decision-making
 - Opportunities to influence political parties in the run up to the elections next year

- **Chris Blake** and **Ian Thomas**, The Green Valleys CIC and Welcome to Our Woods: "What is the role of communities in addressing the climate and nature emergencies?"
 - What role can communities play in leading action to restore nature and tackle the climate emergency?
 - What support do they need to take this role?
 - Where is there a good example of this action already underway in the area?

FAIRLY SHARING THE COSTS

- **Katerina Szwarc**, policy fellow, Grantham Research Institute: "Investment to address the climate and nature emergencies"
 - What scale of investment is required to address the climate and nature emergencies in the UK?
 - What are the economic costs of not acting on the climate and nature emergencies?
 - What are the potential ways this funding could be raised?
 - What funding is already committed, and by who?
- **Lee Waters**, deputy minister for economy and transport, Welsh government: "Investment to address the climate and nature emergencies in Wales and the South Wales Valleys"
 - What investment is needed in Wales to address the climate and nature emergencies?
 - What level of investment is already committed in the South Wales Valleys (and/or Wales), and by who?
 - What are the barriers to getting in place the funding required to address the climate and nature emergencies?
 - What opportunities are there to raise more funding in the region?

WORK AND INDUSTRY

- **Dr Sara MacBride-Stewart**, reader in health, medicine and society, Cardiff University
 - What are the key industries within the valleys and how are most people employed?
 - What do we know about the impact of these industries on climate and nature?
 - What are the risks and opportunities that climate and nature policy may have on jobs locally?
 - What is already happening in the valleys to support a greener economy?
- **Helen Cunningham**, policy and research officer, Bevan Foundation
 - What do we mean when we talk about 'fair work' or 'good jobs'?
 - What are some of the key challenges in the Valleys related to employment, un-employment and under-employment?
 - What are some of the big ideas for addressing these challenges and creating a fairer economy?

- Policy proposals on a fair and green transition for work and industry
 - **Anne Meikle**, director, WWF Cymru
 - **James Davies**, executive chair, Industry Wales
 - **Dr Sarah Lloyd**, director, People & Work
 - **Shavanah Taj**, general secretary, Wales TUC

TRAVEL

- **Dr Crispin Cooper**, research fellow, Cardiff University: Travel and the climate and nature emergencies
 - What is the environmental impact of the current transport system? What do we know about the contribution of travel in the Valleys, or South Wales, to these?
 - What do we know needs to change?
 - What are some of the ideas put forward to achieve this change?
 - What could some of the benefits be of changing how we travel?
 - What is currently being done within the South Wales Valleys to change how we travel?
- **Christine Boston**, director, Sustrans Cymru: Environmental justice in the context of travel
 - What are the 'fairness' issues associated with how we travel now and the transition required?
 - What are the main opportunities and ideas relevant for changing how we travel in the South Wales Valleys, keeping in mind the rural nature of much of this region?
 - What are the barriers to change and who needs to act to make change possible?
- Policy proposals on a fair and green transition for how we travel
 - **Haf Elgar**, director, Friends of the Earth Cymru
 - **Dr Victoria Winckler**, director, Bevan Foundation
 - **Kerry Rogers**, conservation manager, Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales
 - **Paula Renzel**, senior policy officer, Sustrans Cymru

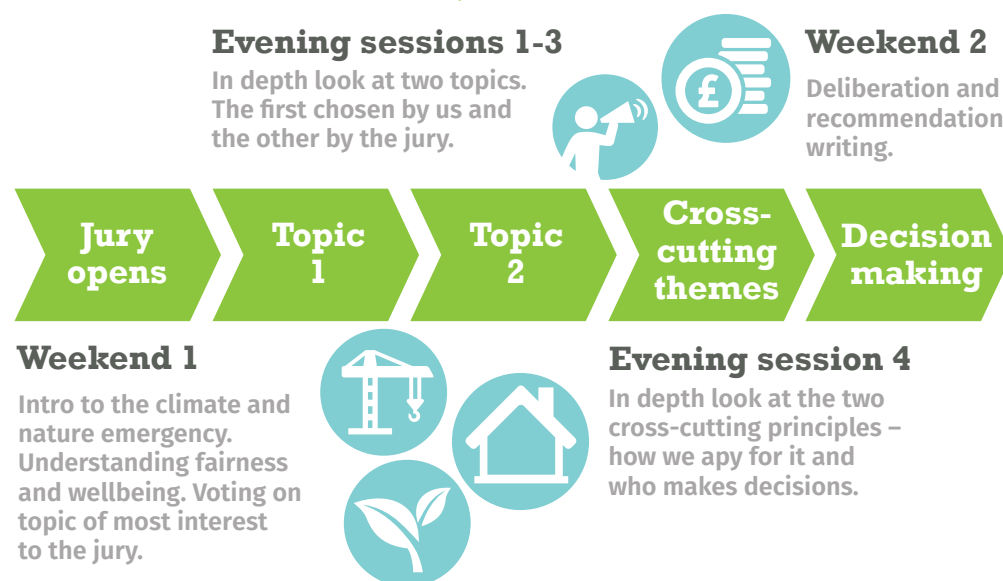
APPENDIX C: PROCESS DETAILS

19 residents were recruited across the South Wales Valleys, and together are representative of the area in terms of age, ethnicity, gender, locale (rural/urban), qualification level, and attitude to climate change. IPPR worked with the Sortition Foundation in the recruitment of jurors. Jurors were paid £310 for attending all sessions.

The panel met online for eight sessions, on weekends and evenings from October to December 2020, with some light work in between sessions (less than one hour per session). There was also up to 30 minutes of optional, informal discussion at the end of each session to talk through extra questions and ideas, to mirror an in-person event as closely as possible.

This totalled around 20 hours of deliberation across eight sessions over six weeks.

FIGURE A1: OVERVIEW OF THE CITIZENS' JURY PROCESS



Source: Authors' analysis

The jurors were provided with an introduction to the climate and nature emergencies, internationally and locally. Due to the region's industrial history and the challenge that a transition presents for local employment, IPPR selected 'work and industry' as a topic to explore in detail with the panel. The second topic area was put to a vote. 'Our travel' was chosen as the second topic for discussion. The options not chosen were 'our homes', 'our world around us' and 'what we eat'.

Sessions were open to the advisory board and the commissioners of the Environmental Justice Commission to attend.

APPENDIX D: EVALUATION

PARTICIPATION

The citizens' jury was comprised of 19 South Wales Valley residents. Over the course of the eight sessions the average attendance per session was greater than 16 jurors. Just over half (10 people, 53 per cent) of the jury attended every session. Only three jurors were not present for the final weekend of deliberation.

Between the formal sessions, any jurors who could not attend a meeting participated virtually – this included watching recordings of the sessions, completing homework and sharing reflections with IPPR staff.

EXPERIENCE AND IMPACT ON THE JURORS

The members of the citizens' jury were invited to complete a short evaluation survey after the final deliberations. 16 jurors completed this survey. Results are presented as a percentage of total responses.

Below is a summary of the survey responses.

1. Enjoyment

Jurors were asked to score their experience based on a rating of 1 ('not at all') to 10 ('enjoyed every part of it').

The average response was 9.5 out of 10. No jurors gave a score lower than eight.

2. Describe the experience

Jurors were asked what three words they would use to describe the experience of taking part in the panel.

The top three responses were 'interesting' (five jurors), 'informative' (five jurors) and 'educating' (three jurors).

3. Quality of the process

Jurors were asked to rate their level of agreement with statements related to the quality of the process. The below presents the level of agreement for each statement. Unless otherwise stated percentages are from 16 respondents.

Statement	Responses
The purpose of the panel was clear to me	88% agreed or strongly agreed (14 respondents)
The process was impartial	75% agreed or strongly agreed (12 respondents)
The evidence presented was balanced	73% agreed or strongly agreed (11 respondents out of a total of 15)
The evidence was accessible to me	88% agreed or strongly agreed (14 respondents)
There were enough opportunities for me to share my views	88% agreed or strongly agreed (14 respondents)
I felt comfortable sharing my views	75% agreed or strongly agreed (12 respondents)
The panel was representative of the local area	81% agreed or strongly agreed (13 respondents)

COMMENTARY

The jurors were positive about the quality of the process and felt that it had largely met the standards assessed in this survey.

Across these quality criteria only one juror disagreed with a statement and this was on the issue of the panel being representative of the local area. There was worry from a juror that “time commitment may have been difficult for some” but another reflected that it “was really good to see that all generations got a say in this process”.

The amount of information and the relevance of some presentations was questioned by one juror.

“At first it didn't feel like the information presented was tangible to the Valleys. Some presentations were overwhelming and often there was a lot to take in.”

The same juror “was impressed how all that was discussed was brought together” in the final session and would have liked for it to be clearer how the recommendation writing was going to work at the outset of the process.

The use of a shared online folder was appreciated by one juror who noted that “all the information you needed was at hand and available for any of us to read over or re-visit”.

In terms of the balance of the evidence heard, there was a slight concern that it may have been biased towards “pro-environmentalism” but that it was hard to see “how it could have been done in any other way”.

1. Amount of time

The jurors were asked whether enough time was provided for the following: “learning and hearing from speakers”, “discussion and deliberation” and “decision-making”.

Most jurors were happy with the amount of time provided for learning (73%, 11 of 15 responses) and discussion (63 per cent, 10 of 16 responses). Jurors were least sure about decision-making – 50 per cent (8 of 16 responses) said there was enough time for this.

Jurors were asked to consider whether there was a specific activity they felt more time could have been given to. Most people felt the “time was well co-ordinated” and there was appreciation for the “efforts made by the facilitators to engage all the panellists”.

Some jurors would have appreciated more time in breakout groups, particularly when “asked to discuss detailed information”. One juror felt that it would have been good to have this extra time but it might have been used by those who were most confident giving their opinions.

“Part of me wanted more dialogue and discussion but mostly the same people spoke up.”

The final weekend was “great” and “dealt with very efficiently” but one juror would have appreciated more time “to make decisions and put policies forward”. Given the time constraints in the final session there was also a reflection on whether “maybe where this all leads to could of been spoken about a bit more”.

2. Support

15 jurors felt they had received enough support and information before the first meeting of the panel to be able to take part effectively, with the one other respondent saying “maybe”.

All jurors felt supported in using the technology that the meetings were hosted on. One juror thought “tech support was great” and another commented on the benefits to them of the event being online.

“I like the zoom as I felt more confident to speak while not in a room with people as I suffer from anxiety.”

3. Improving the process

Several jurors felt that there were limited ways to improve the process, commenting that it “was a great experience” and “well balanced throughout each panel meeting”.

Others had specific suggestions on changes they felt could make a positive difference to the process, with many centred on the timing and build up to the final weekend.

“Make the final weekend sessions a bit longer so there is enough time to capture all the feedback and input possible.”

“Perhaps a longer final session, and an email to all participants with the possible/ discussed policies to review before discussion.”

Some jurors suggested increasing the amount of time for discussions within breakout rooms and having fewer speakers with more focussed presentations. One juror would have liked to have had one or two additional meetings and this would expand “the overall discussion of the topic into more details to then make better final conclusions”.

There were also reflections on the need to be aware of different people’s approaches to thinking through these issues and the desire to use the time between meetings.

“Some people like to reflect on what they have heard before giving an opinion, sometimes felt like too much pressure in the breakout rooms especially after some of the speakers.”

“Acknowledging this might have been unsuitable for some, I would have liked the opportunity to read more material in advance of the sessions in order to maximise my understanding in order to contribute.”

4. One thing learned

The jurors were asked to consider: “what one thing have you learned as part of the panel that you would like others in the South Wales Valleys to know?”.

The responses to this varied but centred on the raised awareness of the local implications of climate change, the value of being listened to on these important issues, the importance of acting locally and the potential of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. The quotes below highlight these views.

“Local data related to climate crisis made it more accessible.”

“The severity of the issues and what will happen if we don't all do our part.”

“How important it is for everyone to make changes today for the sake of our future generations.”

“The importance of trying to keep as much activity local as possible.”

“The small changes they could make that would potentially make a huge impact.”

“That it doesn't matter how knowledgeable you are about the subject before-hand, you can still contribute and you will be listened to.”

“That we all see the same problem, just from different perspectives and we need to communicate clearer to get to better solutions.”

5. Quality of speakers

Jurors were asked to rate “how helpful were the speakers in developing your knowledge of the steps needed to address the climate and nature emergencies in a way that is fair everyone?” on a scale of one to five.

Six jurors scored speakers a five, nine gave a score of four and the remaining one gave a score of three.

6. Changing opinions

When asked whether their opinions changed during the process six jurors said yes, three said maybe and seven said they hadn't.

Those whose opinions had changed highlighted this had been informed by “talking about the environment locally”, an awareness of the complexity of the problem and the “impact economically as well as from a climate perspective”.

One juror reflected on the moment their opinion changed:

“About two-thirds in; this is a huge topic, and well-presented as it was, it took time to lay the groundwork.”

7. Sharing knowledge and personal confidence

Jurors were asked whether “being part of this process made you more confident in sharing your knowledge and opinions about the climate and nature emergencies?”. 13 jurors said it had and three said maybe.

8. Impact on the jurors

Most jurors felt that the process had an impact on them. When asked to rate the “extent you think being part of the panel has had an impact on you?” on a scale of one to five, nine jurors gave a five, three gave a score of four and two gave a score of three.

These impacts range from gaining a better understanding of the South Wales Valleys and the climate emergency through to a desire to learn more about and take personal action to address the emergency. Several jurors also reflected on the significance of local people coming together in activities like this:

“I am energised by the engagement with my fellow jurors to take action together to continue to influence policy. Folk in London and Cardiff may mean well, but they cannot understand life here.”

“How important it is that the voice of the people of the valleys can be heard.”

The comments below reflect the range of impacts shared by jurors:

“I felt a responsibility but also part of a community.”

“It has given me a clearer understanding of the action needed and made me feel part of that process.”

“I’m more aware now than ever. Striving for a better future with a clear path on how.”

“How important changes are needed and a passion to ensure I’m a part of making these changes.”

“Given me confidence to consider doing something similar again.”

“Made me realise the valley we live in and how things need improving.”

“Being on the panel has made me want to do a masters in environmental studies and sustainability.”

9. Likelihood of taking personal action

Jurors were asked whether “being part of this process made you more likely to take action on the climate and nature emergencies?”. 13 jurors said yes, and the remaining three respondents said maybe.

The responses highlight the desire to both make personal changes in behaviours and to engage with wider action on these emergencies. The below quotes give a sense of how different have been inspired to act through this process.

“Being part of my community trying to make things better.”

“Staying local, and community focussed.”

“I will continue to seek connection with my local community and press for a voice for us when decisions are made.”

“Buy more locally, be willing to spend more with local providers for products I could buy cheaper elsewhere such as on Amazon.”

“I already actively think about this, but I am now more mindful of how I can use my voice to implement change.”

“To make every day greener to be a benefit for the future generations.”

“Think about the small things I do that can have an accumulative impact.”

“Adjust my diet for less meat.”

“Educating myself more on the subject and to check if there are any community projects I could get involved in.”

“Try to live a more zero carbon lifestyle.”

“Being wary of car journeys I make.”

10. Optimistic about the future

Jurors were asked whether the process had made them more or less optimistic about the future. 12 jurors said they were more optimistic, one was less optimistic and three felt no different.

Those who felt no different or less optimistic reflected on the challenge of turning words into action.

“I understand the problem is nuanced and complex, and don't always have faith in the UK government, but it is refreshing to see the steps Wales is taking, and I believe by being proactive we will prosper.”

“I'm hopeful that this is being talked about but it's important that it doesn't stop here.”

The majority felt more optimistic and many saw the range of speakers and other stakeholders involved in supporting this citizens' jury as a sign of the potential for change.

“Democracy runs beyond the ballot box. This programme proves that those making important decisions on behalf of communities are both ready and willing to engage with them: the only way to tackle the emergency is to work together locally.”

“Because I see that there are real steps that ordinary people can take, with the support of local, regional, and national governments, to truly change the way we live in order to have a positive impact now and for the future.”

“Knowing that things like the future generation act is in place, and also just the fact that this took place means something is actually being done about the climate emergency we are living in.”

“Having more local discussion that is tangible has to be the way forward, participants can act as educators to others. Showing success of this panel could encourage other initiatives.”

And one juror's cause for optimism was straightforward.

“Because together we can do this.”

11. Final thoughts

At the end of the survey, jurors were provided with the opportunity to share any thoughts they didn't feel were covered elsewhere. This was largely used by jurors as an opportunity to thank the team involved in convening the panel and reflect on the importance of the process to the area, and the need to keep the momentum for change going.

“Democracy runs beyond the ballot box. This programme proves that those making important decisions on behalf of communities are both ready and willing to engage with them: the only way to tackle the emergency is to work together locally”

“There is a sleeping dragon here waiting to breathe fire into a recovery which will help the planet as well as the UK

“Initiatives like these need to lead to others and keep the momentum rolling. Do Welsh government have stakeholder panels for climate change? If not they need to do this. Are there future plans for IPPR to have Welsh think tank like the north of England and Scotland?”

“There is an untapped treasure in the Valleys. A post-industrial landscape ripe for sustainable and holistic permaculture and a vibrant, hardy, and indomitable people whose courage and resilience were once the backbone of the empire. There is a sleeping dragon here waiting to breathe fire into a recovery which will help the planet as well as the UK.”

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