

Most people do not believe there is a climate emergency

Most of us accept the science that says CO₂ is a greenhouse gas, and accept manmade CO₂ is an influence on the climate. Clearly, however, most people do not think there is a manmade CO₂ driven climate emergency, because if they did we would see jet travel plunging, car use falling, meat diets disappearing, heat pumps flying off the shelves and many other behavioural changes.

Instead polls tell us people are against dearer fossil fuel energy. They oppose higher petrol taxes, oppose schemes to make it more difficult to use cars and vans, oppose wind farms and pylons near their homes and are angry about climate protesters trying to block roads and attacking petrol companies. Only a small minority buy all electric cars.

Many voters would like government to limit UK CO₂ by enforcing a major reduction in migration numbers. We would like more home grown food to cut the food miles rather than wilding schemes to boost imports. We support promoting fuel efficiency.

Some say in a temperate climate like the UK a possible average rise of temperature of say 2 degrees might help agriculture, as would some increase in CO₂. There have been many changes in climate during earth history. Some think adaptation is a more affordable and practical response as and when change occurs. It is self evidently true that unless China, India and the US reduce their CO₂ output nothing we do can stop more rises in world CO₂. It is also obvious importing instead of making and growing at home usually increases world CO₂ so it is not a win. The Green party who promote climate crisis as their lead issue never get out single figures in the polls.