Ministry of Imagination

An imagination-based manifesto for times that need one.

Harvested by Rob Hopkins from the guests of the *From What If to What Next* podcast
Welcome to the Ministry of Imagination

The *From What If to What Next* podcast ran from May 2020 until March 2024, calling it a day with its 100th episode. Each one took a different ‘What If’ question and with two guests dived deep into what the world might be like had that change already been made. The questions were often sent in by listeners and covered a wide range of topics.

Those who subscribed on Patreon to support the podcast also received our bonus ‘Ministry of Imagination’ episodes. Here, the guests stuck around for a little bit, and were inaugurated as Ministers at the Ministry of Imagination. The Ministry itself increasingly became a character in its own right—it was a Ministry of Imagination after all. On one visit it might have run off to join the circus, another might find it on an asteroid because it wanted a change of perspective, and on other occasions it transformed itself into a dazzling array of different things or hosted all manner of wonderful and fantastical events and occasions. It always kept us guessing.

Each freshly-inaugurated Minister was invited to choose 3 policies that could be immediately implemented that would rapidly accelerate the collective move in the direction of the question we had been discussing. They were encouraged to choose policies that were bold, audacious, ambitious and beautiful. They set to their task with great relish.

After a while it struck me that, when viewed together, these policies needed to be captured and shared more widely. Here was a platform for the profound reimagining of society, policies that had emerged through the creation of a space where the imagination was cherished and nurtured. At a time when the policies being put forward by political parties seem to be becoming increasingly bereft of imagination and ambition, focused on small incremental steps rather than the bold steps our situation demands, perhaps a Ministry of Imagination Manifesto which pulled them all together in one place might be what the world needed? And so, here it is. As Jayna Brown puts it in her book *Black Utopias*, ‘perhaps now is the time that we must join the awesome, the unexpected, already present in the world’.

Power to the Imagination!

Rob Hopkins, April 2024.
Our Ministers

A
Ben Addicott  
Lusi Alderslowe  
Jon Alexander  
André Anderson

Ben Doust  
Dela Duncan

Tom Bailey  
Laura Baldwin  
Sophy Banks  
Yannick Beaudoin  
Ruth Ben-Tovim  
Monika Bielekynye  
Doug Bierend  
Sven Birkerts  
Eva Bishop  
Leah Black  
Kwame Boateng  
Rutger Bregman  
Carson Brown  
Jayna Brown  
Melissa Bruntlett

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Sven Birkerts  
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Orosola de Castro  
Dr Dennis Chester  
Gregory Claeys  
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Simon Cohen  
Flora Collingwood-Norris  
Chuck Collins  
Ariane Conrad  
Lottie Cooke  
Mya-Rose Craig  
Natalie Creary  
Anne-Marie Culhane

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Zahra Davidson  
Cyril Doon  
Dr Michael Dixon  
Marielke van Doorninck  
Vincent Doumeizel  
Guillaume Dorvaux  
Anna Hughes  
Jo Hunter  
Ben Hurst  
Yumna Hussen

Our Ministers

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Dr Scilla Elworthy  
Brian Eno  
Elow Eshun

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Graca Fonseca  
Leila Fortunato  
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Ed Gillespie  
Sarah Gillespie  
Robbie Gillett  
Katie Gilmore  
Marie Godart  
Georgia Gould  
Graham Goulden  
Mike Grenville  
Joanna Grover

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Nameerah Hameed  
Shasta Hanif Ali  
Rosemary Harris  
Paul Hawken  
Dr Penny A. Hay  
Michael Hines  
Jennifer Hinton  
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Leila Hoballah  
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David Holmgren  
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Sam Knights  
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Dr Vanessa Timmer  
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Andrew Whiteley  
Matt Weller  
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Lisa Witter  
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Kwesia X

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Tyson Yunkaporta

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Carlos Zimbrón

* See page 114 for bios of all contributors
Acknowledge and fund the role that artists play in our changing society:

We need to deeply recognise the risks that artists take in doing this because they put their whole life on the line and don't always have good livelihoods. This particular Ministry of the Imagination absolutely applauds those people that wish to name themselves as artists for the whole of their lives and what it is they build around them in creating renewal, repair and regeneration. So many of them are rooted in their water courses or their landscapes or their earthscapes and it's what they build as connection to those places on Earth and sea, for all creatures and communities around them. Lucy Neal

Craft and making skills in schools from Year 1:

Teach textile making skills so children gain knowledge of how to make their own clothing. Flora Collingwood-Norris

Create a radical change in the entertainment industry:

To get it to move away from dystopian regurgitation to much greater funding and support for content that explores inspiring future visions where everything is perfect—the kind of future visions that will energise us, that will inspire action, but not magical thinking. To foster informed hope is to acknowledge the systems that are harmful in the present day as well as the historical harm and then to create narratives that help us to overcome that. New avenues for funding entertainment so there’s a compelling combination of entertainment and education that helps to deliver accessible forms of knowledge about the world, our bodies, the planet, climate etc. Monika Bielskyte

Creative spaces for everyone:

They are a hybrid of libraries and playgrounds that allow people who struggle to think of what they want to create, or why they want to create, or how to create. To access spaces within a mile or two of where they live that give them a format for playing, for the space of half-an-hour to an hour. André Anderson

Cultural hubs and comedy clubs in every community:

We have huge regional inequalities in this country that lead to vastly unequal opportunities and access to culture. The venues that working class comedians and singers and artists performed in for decades have been systematically defunded, destroyed by decades of neoliberal cultural policy. What we need is a culture of imagination, play, creativity, and spaces in which that can thrive. Culture is in the pubs, in the clubs, in the streets, but it needs dedicated spaces for unleashing that creativity, that are free at the point of use. I want us to invest in grass roots, working class art because I think that’s where the most transformative and where the most interesting work is going to happen. Sam Knights

Enshrine access to culture in human rights law:

Access to culture should be a human right as a governing principle that motivates society. Everybody should have access to drama and to comedy and the arts throughout their entire life, and we need to make sure people aren’t being priced out of culture. Sam Knights

Everyone’s an artist:

We’re going to respect the artistry and creative potential in all people and give space to that as well. We know people feel enriched, validated and empowered by engaging with the arts and culture. We’re going to make everyone proud to be able to call themselves an artist. Chloe Naldrett

Formalise the role of artists:

The first step towards this new world is to create an alliance of film makers and novelists and songwriters and poets and painters and creative space makers of all sorts and give them the financial means to create art that projects us into this new future. Phil Teer

Free access to the arts:

So many of us as activist and change-makers can become fatigued—we have survived trauma and are dealing with grief and loss. The arts are fundamental to having the potential to unlock and build the collective imagination. And if we work in this way, it will be restorative and healing. Shasta Hanif Ali
Free art education:
For your entire education years all the way to PhD. Tijay Mohammed

Free art materials and musical instruments:
Everyone, especially or including young people, should have access to any supplies that they need with which they can be creative. Space and time for everyone to express creatively. Mahfam Malek

A national ‘get artists back to work’ programme:
All artists would be employed to rebuild our communities, to help people be safe and stay healthy and be a part of their society. Favianna Rodriguez

New funding for performance spaces:
There’s going to be a huge fund, funded by a new windfall tax on oil and gas companies, which means every town or city or region gets a significant budget to repurpose unused spaces for theatre. The other part of the money is revenue stream, which enables you to run those buildings on a fairly basic level, to support a pop-up, flat-pack manifesto driven new theatre in your immediate town or city or region. David Micklem

Poetics:
The injunction is intended to be open for someone to think, what does the word poetics as a command mean to me? It’s an invitation to a kind of disorder. Kevin Quashie

A skills and design library for changemakers:
There’d be lots of funding behind groups of designers to get them trained up and to then do mass participatory design projects on schools, on hospitals, on our towns, our villages, our groups. All manner of designs would be in this design library and all our leaders would be required to contribute to it as well. Looby Macnamara

Standardised functional technical provision in theatres:
We need to stop driving hired equipment around the country. Instead, all theatres are going to have standardised technical provision and we’re going to ask theatre directors and theatre designers to work within those limits. Creatives will rise to that challenge. Also, we’re going to make sure nothing from a theatre production ever ends up in a skip. We’ll have a library of sets, costumes and props that can be re-used. Chloe Naldrett

Teach stand-up comedy to people inside the system:
Wouldn’t it be great if government policy people and industry people were listening to the sanitation person do a brilliant stand-up comedy thing? I love that idea of having people in the industries that we’re trying to transform do the comedy, wise comedy about what’s off with the system and what could be really wide awake in the system. Giving people the tools in those industries to go to that uplifting place. Belina Raffy

Theatre Credit Programme:
Everybody will get £1,000 a month towards theatre. They can spend it in any way, on tickets, going to the theatre, or on participation, a sort of credit towards their participation in the making of a piece of theatre, or they can consider themselves as artists for some of that month, and they can use it to supplement their salary by making a piece of theatre. You can spend it monthly or roll it over and spend it all at the end of a year, or two years. It just keeps accumulating. You can take 3 months out on a project and we’re encouraging employers to facilitate this so that if you’ve got £12,000 racked up in your theatre credit account you can then take 3 months out of your work to go and make some work. It’s a bold and new intervention into civic society. David Micklem

Theatres reimagine touring:
We have to be brave and acknowledge not every show we make should be put in a series of vans and driven around the country. Not every show justifies the emissions this creates. We have to change the system. We need the whole industry working together. I’d instigate an investigation out of which we will design a new policy for touring. Chloe Naldrett

Value artistic expression and creativity:
Any associated programmes are well funded. Aimee Lewis Reau

‘respect the artistry and creative potential in all people’

Chloe Naldrett
Beyond Borders

Borders into bikes:
We’re going to take all the materials that’ve been used to build border walls, and we’re going to turn them into bicycles. **Todd Miller**

Do away with the nation state:
We recognise that this is one planet and that all land is connected. With their consent and only if there is interest, leadership is local and connected, and given to those who remember depending on the land we live on, what the land is, and they are named to be whatever leadership looks like. Speaking to each other for the next 14 generations, or 7 times two, they decide what we need: what are the recoveries, the healing, the initiatives that need to happen that continue to deepen our sense of both the local, that we are the land that we live on, and the fact that this is one planet, that we are connected. We immediately assume that all attacks on land, on treaties, on language, on culture, are done now—that sovereignty is lifted beyond what we can imagine, and that resources are given to support the reclamation, the remembering, the teaching, of language and culture, without any questions. **Susan Raffo**

Go forth and encounter alien species as a way of understanding our shared humanness:
The Ministry pledges today to reach out into the stars and encounter alien species to understand ourselves as a collective species, to understand our planet in a greater context. I say this influenced by the work of the science fiction author Octavia Butler whose speculative fiction often involved an encounter with other species and as a way of considering what it means to be human. I think the goal of reaching beyond, of thinking and looking and potentially finding other species, is perhaps the most profound way that we can reckon with our shared humanness. The sense that a) we’re not alone but b) we have to look at and think about ourselves not from a purely subjective individual position but as a species in concert with a planet. **Ekow Eshun**

Open borders:
a) Borders, not just around the physical country, but also in our minds, our hearts and our institutions, decide that some people are worthy of access and others are not. It doesn’t just harm the people who are excluded—that level of dehumanisation also does so much damage to everyone who participates in it. **Rhiannon Osborne**

b) An Open Earth Policy would allow people to travel as they want to travel, to go where work is, to go where better conditions are. But the policy is connected to other kinds of economic distribution. People can travel where they want, but ideally, they’re not going to want to travel because they have what they need where they are. But no-one should be prevented from travelling to get better conditions. **Dr Dennis Chester**

c) Globally, any sort of infrastructure, whether it be surveillance, or walls, or agents, armed agents, will all be removed and used in a completely different way. We will open up all borders around the world. **Todd Miller**

World Department of Interconnectedness, Solidarity and Wellbeing:
Its role will be to ensure there’s no exclusion, and that border walls will be turned into bikes. It will also shed the boring bureaucracies of governments and create a more poetic world. **Todd Miller**

‘We recognise that this is one planet and that all land is connected.’

**Susan Raffo**
Abolish the gig economy:
Zero-hour contracts and gig economy practices that are forms of wage slavery need to be abolished. Anab Jain

Abolish work:
By abolishing work (following the implementation of a Universal Basic Income), we’ll actually have realised the dreams of our forefathers and mothers. So many times, it’s been prophesied that at some point our society would become so advanced that robots could just do the job and our real challenge would be boredom. I think we’re going to face that challenge and I think we’re going to do a great job. We can completely redefine what it actually is to work. Rutger Bregman

All businesses to transition to not-for-profit structures legally within the three years:
Support will be given to help them do that, legal guidance, and some funding if necessary. You’ve got three years to go not-for-profit. Jennifer Hinton

Artistic leave:
It’s incredibly important we find the time for play, for imagination, for comedy, and I want people to be able to take time off work for artistic purposes, in the same way that we take maternity leave and paternity leave, compassionate leave. If you want to write a novel, you should be given the time to write a novel and not have to monetise it, like we have to do with everything these days. Just give people the time to create art, to think about our present society and tell stories about the alternatives. Let’s redefine our relationship with work. Sam Knights

Ban police unions and prison guard unions lobbying for more incarceration:
This would lead to a shift back towards a different way of dealing with harm inside of communities. And a growing awareness that we can actually heal inside of the United States. Zach Norris

Business development curriculum to be rewritten:
The word profit will still exist. We’re not erasing the word, but we are saying profit is now a means to an end, and we’re articulating that in the curriculum, and in the educational tools for anyone in a business school, a coding academy. Now they’ll be hearing about alternative business models. Della Duncan

Climate misinformation regulation:
It’s important to inject more trust into public dialogue around the sustainable behaviour of companies, or the lack of it. There does need to be some form of legislative or policy intervention that requires companies to be more truthful and transparent about what they’re saying and communicating around their climate commitments versus what they’re actually doing in their footprint and impact. That would be a big step in restoring people’s trust in companies and organisations that are doing the right thing and it would also incentivise companies themselves to shut the gap between stated intentions dialogue and behaviour. At the moment, a lot of companies know that people want this and they’re talking about it, without the behaviour follow through that will make it meaningful. So hopefully regulating that more carefully will force behaviour to back up words and communication. Michael Hines

Create time:
Listening takes time, slowing down takes time. We’re so rushed and we need to create time for people to listen and engage, and that involves some pretty radical reworking of work places practices, things like a 4-day week or job sharing. A maximum number of paid hours would be interesting—you can work more than that if you want to but it would be on a voluntary basis. There might be things like a universal basic income or a community basic income, which is an interesting variation which has been trialled in Australia and is working very well. We need to structure our lives away from constant business and productivity and the pressure to always be doing, achieving and kicking goals. We need time to down tools and let our minds free-spin in neutral. Andrew Skeoch

Create time for deep listening:
I would want to ensure that everyone took more time each week to engage in rest and deep listening. We have to move away from the emphasis on doing, not being, and it’s going to take a policy to really ensure we do that. Cassie Robinson

Create a whole new and improved set of union rights for workers in the UK:
Including representation for self-employed and off-payroll workers. A lot of people in the offshore and energy industry are on zero hours contracts or self-employed. Better union access to the workplace, sectoral collective bargaining, funding and support for trade unions for engagement in just transition processes (rank and file members as well as people from the office). And finally, I would bring back the ability to do a general strike, because I want a general strike. Rosemary Harris
Daydreaming infrastructure:

In every community in our neighbourhoods we will have centres for supporting daydreaming and imagining. It will have a slew of resources: submersible pools, other immersive experiences, hammocks for resting—making sure that day-to-day imagination infrastructure is available. Aisha Shillingford

A day of the week for nature:

a) I would be introducing something called N Day (‘Nature Day’), the day of the week when you’re not working anymore because we now have a 4-day working week. You’re not forced, but you are inspired through measures that your local, regional and national governments have done, to introduce all sorts of ways for you to interact with nature on that day. N Day is increasingly recognised as being extremely good for people’s physical and mental health. Vicki Hird

b) An optional 4-day week where your fifth day has to do with nature volunteering, to get more people out into nature. I think this government’s new Ministry needs to support better engagement and connection with nature and it’s not going to happen unless it’s funded and supported nationally. Eva Bishop

Dissolve all PR companies:

Part of the job of PR companies is to write letters from a CEO to another person, or speeches, or public statements, that the person who’s signed at the bottom of them, will never see. My idea is that you’ve got to be good at saying stuff, so if you’re a CEO and you can’t put together a well-framed explanation for what you decide to do, and you actually needed somebody to do that for you, that should come across. It’s all well and good to make a terrible, terrible decision and then have a PR genius frame it beautifully. But if they’re no longer available, you’re going to have to come out and say sorry. Ben Addicott

Equal pay:

All people are paid, not necessarily based on what the imagined value or fake value of their jobs is, but their value to their fellow beings. Professor Sunny Singh

Equal pay for equal work legislation:

Regardless of your gender or your race or your ethnicity or your migrant status, you would be honoured and recognised for the work that you did. There would be no possibility of having poorly paid work that does not allow people to live with dignity and with the ability to have a decent life. Kavita Ramsdas

Expanding the purpose of a corporation by changing its ownership DNA:

The basic structure of corporations would transition into forms of steward ownership or purpose ownership. This is already starting to happen: Patagonia in the States is one example and there are many others. Rather than having shareholders or private individuals own companies, some kind of legally binding purpose becomes the owner within this structure. You have a legal trust and the trust owns the company and then the purpose of that trust might be sharing profits with employees, preserving local environmental features, water systems or regenerative agriculture. Nick Romeo

A federal job guarantee:

There are versions of this that have been tried at smaller scales with really encouraging results, and there is a more expansive version that is operating in India as well. The basic idea is that anyone that wants a job gets one, but they also get some input into the type of work they do. You can simultaneously address real needs in communities, of which we have no shortage, while giving people who are facing long-term unemployment a sense of purpose, social community and the self-esteem that meaningful work can supply. Nick Romeo

A 4-day work week:

a) A 4-day week would enable us to have the time and the energy to work towards the future that we believe we want to have and that we can have if we work together. Eliza Marshall

b) This would produce a shift in our attitude to time, to money, to success, to values, to the things that we prioritise. It could democratise a bit more time that could help people make space for creativity in their lives. Zahra Davidson

c) This would give us an extra day a week to look after our clothes properly. If we’re really going to repair them it takes time, so we need extra time to do that. Flora Collingwood-Norris

d) One of the days left is gifted to civic life and there’s an amazing menu of different activities that you can choose to do. On that day, you only do 4 hours of work and the other 4 hours are working with your colleagues in a different way—so it might be learning something, cooking, some other activity which is more relaxed. It’s a day where you’re learning, celebrating and working for the civic good. Anne-Marie Culhane

Give workers control over their work lives:

And give them the ability to make decisions about how to organise within the confines of work. I think that for far too long we have perpetuated a system of inequality—not only economic inequality but an inequality of power. And I think it’s absolutely essential for every single worker who is part of the labour force to be able to have a direct say in the ways in which their labour, their world, and the products that they make, are created and brought to life. Alex Zamalin

Institute large amounts of time for rest:

Limit work weeks to no more than 3 days a week and workdays to no more than 5 hours a day. People can have copious amounts of time for rest, play, imagining and daydreaming. Aisha Shillingford

Limit senior leadership roles to 10 years:

After 10 years anyone in these roles would have to either move on or reassess their role to make space for people who might otherwise not have been able to move into those positions. Leah Black
Living wages for every artist:
This is a policy which I am borrowing from a friend, a spoken word artist Alix Olson. In order for us to have the capacity to think about utopian ideas we need to have artists who are thinking and imagining and inventing the world. Alex Zamalin

A new labour law that would ensure union participation:
This would inform every person in the country that they have the right and the ability to sign up to an organisation that will represent them, making it really easy for them to do so. It would represent workers in all parts of the economy, from gig workers to care workers, and it would allow for those workers to be in community with other people who share their experiences, and to be able to have a more powerful voice together. Ai-Jen Poo

A proliferation of new economic models:
These would also increase in visibility and would include mutual aid networks, solidarity, sharing economy and gift economy schemes. Della Duncan

Put youth and nature on the boards of all advertising and media agencies:
Each agency could have a Future Generations Board, and together with nature have a physical seat at the table and as a stakeholder, in line with what Patagonia have just done. There is something in changing how decision-making works that would lead to different questions being asked. Is this brand, is this work, creating a positive impact in the world? Would be one of the questions asked by youth and nature at the table. No decisional work would be made, or would leave an agency, or would go out into the world that would harm the future well-being of children. Maybe it’s also convened as an annual imaginarium of some kind (with) the voices of the future at the centre of the decision-making. Lisa Merrick-Lawless

Slow things down by 25%:
We’re moving way too quickly, and the world needs to chill. So, one of the things we’ll do immediately is to access the cosmic time clock, take a breath and go down to 75% of the speed in which we function. It’s going to have an enormous benefit. Jared Seide

Start a Service Corps:
A jobs programme that’s not required but is optional, that creates jobs prioritising our relationship to land. Like the peace corps internationally, we would have the jobs corps locally that would provide jobs, allowing you to explore what it is that you want to pursue here at home, with you getting paid and without a cost to you. Higher education isn’t for everyone, and that’s important to say when we’re talking about bringing workers into our post-transition. Elaine McMillion Sheldon

Support and mentoring for the transformation of businesses:
We would have a year-long programme where we’d call all coaches, consultants and guides to go out in the world and work with any business leaders where there is excessive surplus, working with them on practical steps to have that business model shift so they can harness and redirect their profit to the mission driven cause of their choice. Della Duncan

Upskill the advertising industry for climate transition:
I would go inside the advertising world and the thousands of people who work in the industry and provide compulsory training to upskill people for the climate transition. This would involve a programme of futures thinking, imagination training, training on climate and sustainability in the creative work that they’re producing, so they don’t have the fear of greenwashing hanging over them and they understand what actual change in the world is and what is actual greenwash. They would be able to easily work with clients and brands to create something different. And all the creative and strategic problem solvers in the industry would be working in doughnut agencies, directing their creativity on work that served Kate Raworth’s doughnut model within planetary and social boundaries. Lisa Merrick-Lawless

A Worker’s Bill of Rights for Coal and Post-Coal Workers:
A state government choosing (to protect) the benefits, safety and fair pay of our post-mining communities. Elaine McMillion Sheldon

‘We’re moving way too quickly, and the world needs to chill.’

Jared Seide
Affordable housing for everyone:
We have enough affordable housing for every single person in this country that needs it. 
Ana Rausch

Ban animal testing:
I would inject more funding and resources into alternative ways of testing drugs and cosmetic products currently tested on animals. I’d put a huge cash injection into that. The biggest minds in the world would come up with solutions. We’d continue to innovate and improve public health, but in ways that don’t harm animals at the same time. Tomi Makanjola

A basic needs guarantee:
Everyone in society will have all their basic needs met. If you present yourself at Basic Need Centres across the country, housing, finance, food and water, everything can be met, very easily, with no judgement. Jo Hunter

Create a care society:
a) This would change many things from how we grow our food to how we engage with the land... But most important is how we put the care of babies, infants and small children, and the people who are looking after them, right at the centre. Because then we’re creating an environment in which children have the best chance of growing up with more healthy attachment, which in turn means we’re going to stand a greater chance of growing up more balanced, less likely to need to project our discomfort with ourselves onto other people in oppressive and violent ways, and less likely to seek solace in destructive consumerism. Anthea Lawson

b) We need to value care work most of all and let other things find their place around it. Alastair McIntosh

Create an industry of healing:
Take all the money that governments spend subsidising not only fossil fuels, but also the production of things we don’t really need and put it into creating an industry of healing to vastly expand the range of emotional, mental support for people. We’re building return paths into all kinds of areas of our lives. How do we come back from injuries? How do we repair from shocks and trauma? It will become a huge, zero carbon, deeply meaningful, vastly expanded area of work in our society. Sophy Banks

For all researchers to follow the One Health Initiative:
This says that animal health, human health and planetary health should all be incorporated into one. This will force doctors, vets and farmers to work together; it will force further interdisciplinary work, as well as facilitate collaboration which I think is key to decolonising ecology and building a more sustainable future. Bushra Schuitemaker

Free housing for everybody:
a) Housing is at the nexus of so much instability and it has the possibility of freeing so many of us from precarity if we had guaranteed free housing. The vast majority of people who are incarcerated were homeless the year prior to their incarceration, so if folks had stable, good housing, that would be a game-changer. Mariame Kaba

b) Mother Earth has been generous enough to provide us with everything we need to be able to house every single human on the planet. Mahfam Malek

Free, locally tailored systems of care:
We would take all of the money that we have been spending on the many carceral systems... and reinvest it in richly accessible, locally tailored systems of care that are free for everybody and grounded in community needs and priorities. This beautiful mycelial network would grow up and out in many spaces. At a policy level, we would have free healthcare, including community-led health centres where people can access 24/7 interdisciplinary care from all kinds of providers from across disciplines, and grounded in their own cultural and spiritual and community practices. We would have accessible housing so people can live in their communities in beautiful and comfortable spaces and transit systems and community design... And we would also have a robust system of home and community care, so all care recipients could self-determine how, when, and where and from whom they get care... And people doing care giving in their own communities would be given all kinds of care and support and be cared for as well in their own care giving work. Zena Sharman

Gender diversity training for future medical practitioners:
We are asking them to move beyond this idea of a cis white male body as the norm and really expand out, so that the studies that are being engaged with in medical school are about looking at all bodies and expanding out the biodiversity of human expression and human experience. Syd Yang
Give doctors the power to prescribe listening to the dawn chorus:

If you are feeling anxious or stressed, or disconnected from the world around you, the doctor’s practice organises a visit to the nearest dawn chorus. You get a nice camping chair from the NHS so you don’t have to sit on the dewy ground and you get to sit there with a blanket on your knees and a flask of tea and listen to the dawn chorus. That would have huge benefits to mental health and well-being across society. Rob Hopkins

Government funded resources to be made available to all pregnant people:

All people that are pregnant can access a diversity of resources all paid for by the government to feel supported throughout the pregnancy, during birth and after birth, in a holistic way. Individually, within their relationship, and in their household, they can access mental support, physical support and spiritual support. All parts of society are in service to support pregnant people through their journey. Leila Hoballah

Healthcare available to all:

Especially mental healthcare, and I also mean fair and equitable healthcare available to all. Ari Rausch

Health over wealth:

This means that the Department of Health has to live above the Treasury in terms of the hierarchy of government, reinvigorating that idea of a Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health should provide the framework which defines the possibilities in our lives. And the Treasury, which has always been the most powerful Ministry in Government, is relegated to the service of the Ministry of Health. Tim Jackson

Holistic health and wellness care for everyone:

To me this includes everything from access to healthy food to access to traditional medicine, western medicine, mental health care, chiropractic, even spiritual practices. People are getting their mental health support or community support in a way that supports their wellness, and that we don’t—in this moment, in the mainstream—recognise as healthcare. Let’s make sure that people have what they need to be well. Mahfam Malek

Housing, housing and housing:

I’d like to bring some peace and diplomacy between the public and the private sectors so that we can properly tackle the housing crisis and affordability levels. I will be introducing new funding models, building micro-communities that link the education sector, jobs and skills, key worker accommodation, the ownership of pension funds, transport connectivity—towards understanding the bigger question of, what sort of society do we want? How do we want to live and who do we want to live with? Robert Phillips

Legislation that prevents healthcare conglomerates from making profit based on volume:

They now get rewarded from making care accessible across the socio-economic spectrum so there’s no difference in the care you receive depending on where you live or how you love or how much money you make or who your parents were. Dr Arne Seide

More access to the water and the sport of rowing:

It’s a sport that we should have everywhere we can because it teaches us life lessons—we’re all in the same boat. I volunteer now with an adaptive programme and it doesn’t matter whether you move your legs or not. There’s a sense of interconnectedness that comes from being in a boat. So, more access to this incredible activity of allowing your mind to wonder and being in rhythm with other humans. Joanna Grover

A New Drugs Policy:

I would release all prisoners of addiction-based crimes, because addiction is a failure of love. I would give them all compassionate care, community care, rather than an approach around discipline and locking people up and delegating a problem to a system that is broken. Simon Cohen

Preventative social and creative prescribing:

Our Health Service would not only prescribe medicines, but also community activity or other activities that might be good for their holistic, all-round health. It would be a preventative approach woven into our Health Service from a young age, enabling doctors to anticipate some of the issues and solve them with creativity. Zahra Davidson

Reimagine GP practices:

These are now seen as places to heal in your widest sense, surrounded by gardens and other activities that embed lots of ritual and storytelling, which will help bond people again. Places where we as clinicians have to say our oath before we start work every day and to remember that we are here to cure sometimes, to treat often, but to comfort always. Dr Jane Myat

Revise health and safety law to better manage risk:

It would need to be applied to ensure that it better represents a risk benefits approach. Alongside that would be a clause wherein the claim against any organisation or individual is allowed a free judicial hearing, and it would go a good way to stop all that blame-claim nonsense that means that lots of people are too scared to do anything. Ben Tawil

A shift to relational medicine:

We put the patient, their family, their network, at the heart of problem solving and decision making, and we surround them and help them to find their own solutions to their problems and difficulties and provide the right environment for that. It would need the right amount of time, thinking space and support for us as clinicians, so that we can optimise compassionate and holistic care. Dr Jane Myat

Support for leaders:

Anyone in a significant position of responsibility is entitled to, and expected to receive, body, emotional and/or spiritual support. This will be expected, normalised and available to anyone in significant positions of responsibility: every politician, every leader in industry, everyone in schools. It is expected that you don’t step up to positions of power without putting in place a network of support for yourself which includes those feedback loops, those spaces for checking in and ensuring that you are living values through your work—your deepest, most precious values about caring for life in your work. Sophy Banks
City Planning

A ban on advertising:
You have to apply for a special permit and you sell your goods on their merits. Word of mouth is acceptable and accurate descriptions of the product. But no fantastical, mythical lies about what’s going to happen if you spend $49.95 a month on the service. It’s an advertising free zone. Baratunde Thurston

A billboard non-proliferation treaty:
We have to stop the out-of-control growth of digital advertising screens everywhere. Then we can talk about re-democratising some of the existing billboards so every neighbourhood association will have the opportunity to repurpose these commercial advertising spaces with regularly changing art works that reflect the values of their community. Robbie Gillett

Cities designed for and by women:
Women are leaders, are involved in leadership, are involved in engagement, and are designed for on a street level, so we’re thinking about how women experience the city and designing for them. Melissa Bruntlett

A City-Wide Street Art Policy:
All boring surfaces are painted with murals, livening up our spaces to add colour to our experience of the city. Melissa Bruntlett

Community change spaces:
every community in the UK would have a public common space which nobody would have to pay to be part of but where they could come and be supported to create new initiatives, to share ideas. Those spaces would belong to the community and community change would be lead from them. Georgia Gould

Democratise digital advertising screens:
With this policy, 50% of the ad space on those screens would be given over to voluntary associations, community groups, local charities, and the other 50% to local independent businesses. It’s a policy for re-democratising those corporate ad spaces. Robbie Gillett

Design for an inclusive city:
Any new buildings must have a multi-functional rooftop with at least semi-public usage because our cities are for people and rooftops are for people. We need to accommodate the rooftops as accessible space, even if they only open it up once a month for kindergarten children or for once-a-month workshops. Katrien Ligt

15-minute cities, not just in cities:
Having most or all of our needs within a short walk or bike ride from home can be a city idea—a reconnecting of the villages within the city idea, a reconnecting of neighbourhoods within the city—but also can work inside smaller communities. Jane Davidson

Imagination houses in every city:
I would create an imagination house in every city and one per district for big cities. In those houses you would be able to work on stories and projects involving imagination with everything you would need to do that: books, videos, people helping you, tools to help you build things, computers and so on. You would be able to meet people who are working on imagination projects. And every Thursday night you would see, read, hear about projects and people would come and tell stories about a new project and a new idea. Cyril Dion

Involve users in all project planning:
For example, when designing building processes for commercial buildings the person who’s going to work in a building, or use it, is part of the process. They can ask ‘Why couldn’t it be like this?’ They’re part of the design of anything we do that’s new. David Holmgren

Join up the rooftops:
Let’s build bridges between the different rooftops, and staircases to make them accessible. You’d be obliged as a building owner to do this where possible, and thereby make these spaces accessible for everyone. Katrien Ligt

Legal spaces for street art:
We need to decriminalise the act of creating art in public space. Rosa ter Kuile
New rules for public space advertising:

a) Replace advertising in public spaces with ‘gladvertising’, or ‘radvertising’, campaigns that encourage people to rethink waste, or how we go on holiday, to reinvigorate the vision we have for sustainable ways of living. Dr Vanessa Timmer

b) I’m going to make sure that advertising going forward has policies that ensure they respect the needs and integrity of human beings, that don’t exacerbate trauma, and they focus on products and services that benefit people and planet, not just more stuff. Tom Bailey

No new development that destroys habitat:

If we need more housing, it has to be vertical or dense. We can convert malls and sprawl into density and there’s ways in which we can make use of what we have already. No more habitat destruction. Dr Patricia Ononivi Kaishian

Obligatory productive use of suitable rooftops:

These spaces need to be used, it’s way too precious not to use it. If a rooftop is not used by its owner, someone else is allowed to use it. It could be the municipality or another person or organisation in your city who from then on can use it. And if you don’t have enough money to fund rooftop use, local government can make and develop a plan with you. Katrien Ligt

The planning system now recognises and enforces quiet zones:

These were created as part of the National Cortisol Reduction Strategy which was linked to the big push for mental health and wellbeing that kicked off around 2025. These quiet zones are places where noisy land uses are kept at a considerable distance and they are buffered by lots of new urban tree plantings. We now have a new set of indicators instead of GDP and one of those is the distance that people have to travel to find silence. That distance has got shorter for every year of the last four years and that continues to grow as it becomes a national policy ambition. Rob Hopkins

Public space provided for visual art:

In much the same way as a Parish Council or Town Council is obliged to provide allotments in this country if so many people ask for it, there will be a space provided for the expression of non-text based visual imagery. Sarah Gillespie

Quiet weekends for cities:

This would involve leaving any sort of noisy vehicles at home and livening up the sounds of the city, including allowing for street music and making spaces for play and really hearing our natural lives in the city. Melissa Bruntlett

Revive the renaissance city state:

We should be organising politics not so much based on nations or empires but on the city. Cities are good at thinking for the long-term, particularly compared to nations in most cases. We need to give huge powers to cities. We’ve got to devolve power seriously and create not just city states, something more like a harmonious bio-regional city state where there’s a lot of decision-making that local people have. Lots of citizen assemblies. A regenerative economy that is living within its means. Roman Krznaric

Shift zoning and land use to enable an explosion of a reimagined civic commons:

Enable libraries, parks, post office, community centres, markets, public squares, at a scale that has been unimaginable before and in a way is a return to a life in which people were able to have civic commons as the backbone of a city. But in addition, there’s the cafe for disruptive and difficult conversations, a town square for bridging polarities, food halls for tasting the differences of our cultures, and ports where we import ideas from around the world. The libraries themselves are of course places to take out books, musical instruments, cooking supplies, and practice doing all sorts of crafting and remaking, but they’re also places to take out time with another person within your community and spend time with a ‘human book’. Dr Vanessa Timmer

Widen pavements:

Instant widening of every residential pavement in the UK by approximately the width of one car vehicle. I’m sure that it’s do-able, let’s see the results. Tim Gill

‘Let’s build bridges between the different rooftops, and staircases to make them accessible.’

Katrien Ligt
Climate Change

Carbon coins:

These would be issued by the EU. They allow the banks to create investments through lending money to businesses that do not emit any greenhouse gases. These are businesses in the realms of energy, food, transport—key infrastructures in modern society. The value of the coin is connected to how much fossil emissions needs to be reduced during the coming 20 years. This is how co-ops for urban agriculture and disadvantaged neighbourhoods will start to flourish and many other developments will follow from this. *Johannes Stripple*

A carbon tax:

So many of the problems in the world result from our recourse to cheap fossil fuel. Recourse to fossil fuels is so much the easy option that it is in many ways a kind of impediment to our imagination. If we progressively make it harder to use environmentally and socially damaging fossil fuels, I think that could unlock our imagination collectively to build a much more imaginative world generally. *Chris Smaje*

'Climagination':

An app to encourage mass participation in tackling the climate emergency that harnesses the power of sport. An amazing climate app that everyone goes on and it’s like a video game, but it’s something that you can play with athletes. You can play it with famous people. You can play it with your mates. You game against athletes themselves. And you don’t just do it for the fun of it, you do it win some amazing sporting experiences. Money cannot buy types of experiences where you can go and meet and greet an athlete, or maybe you could even have 10 minutes as a sub on a team. *David Garrido*

Genuine zero emissions by 2030:

Every sport, business, person, organisation has to get to zero emissions by 2030. From now until then, 15% reduction in emissions per year. It means no flying; it means pausing pollution; awaiting solutions and focusing local. It’s an emergency mode decarbonisation of existing infrastructure for the rapid restoration of nature. *Laura Baldwin*

Help every household to decarbonise:

Every household will be required to reduce their carbon footprint and would get stipends to do that. This would include transitioning to solar energy, planting food gardens, planting more trees. Households would have to shift their energy consumption and would be rewarded for doing so. *Favianna Rodriguez*

Legally binding climate targets that fit within the life span of administrations:

It means they can’t push action and policies out. If you’re there for 4 years, then that’s what has to be delivered in your tenure. You can’t be offering grandiose things that other parties then have to deliver. It would give a clear narrative around addressing biodiversity and the environmental collapse of the living planet Earth. *Agamemnon Otero*

Mother Earth citizenship papers:

All human beings who live on spaceship Mother Earth will be proudly able to say that they belong on this spaceship and they can choose to live anywhere they’d like to live on this spaceship. *Kavita Ramdas*

The 'No Hard Rain' Act:

This would abolish all UK nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. There would be no Trident replacement or increase in warheads. The money released would go towards providing insulation and heat pumps in all buildings and free installation for all those below the average income. *Kate Soper*

‘All human beings who live on spaceship Mother Earth will be proudly able to say that they belong on this spaceship’

*Kavita Ramdas*
The Clothing Industry

A clothing care promise:
You would need to repair your clothes at least twice before even thinking about getting rid of them. Maybe it’s an agreement when you buy your clothes that you have to promise to look after them before you can buy them? Flora Collingwood-Norris

A fair and living wage for all clothing supply chain workers:
This would ensure our clothes are made in dignity, which potentially would also mean that there would be less mending needed. Orsola de Castro

Mandatory disclosure of all ingredients that make up the fabrics of our clothes:
We can’t provide further care for our clothing—whether that’s how to wash them or how to repair them—if we don’t know of which fibres and fabrics they’re made. Those materials should be clearly put on all labels, including all chemicals used. Orsola de Castro

‘Ensure our clothes are made in dignity’
Orsola de Castro

Data & Information Technology

An AI Bill of Rights:
Today, data has been appropriated by very few and used to manipulate billions of people with data analytics. What we need to figure out is how to use AI and data for the common good. That’s quite possible but it requires an AI Bill of Rights that is redrawing the playing field. It would make sure that the use of data and the use of AI is not to the benefit of the few and being extracted from everyone else but is put into the service of the common good. Otto Scharmer

Better digital infrastructure for small organisations:
I’m imagining an infrastructure that would make things easier for people across the country and beyond, because there are organisational admin challenges with keeping clubs and clusters of people together on an on-going basis that could be solved with technology. There are many small organisations doing these things well. It’s great they’re small, because it’s relational work, and not always about organisation growth, but if we can have some kind of aggregation platforms so people have more connection to smaller organisations, and so they have more connections to people, and everyone can be part of more clusters as part of ordinary daily life, that would be super. Zahra Davidson

New online platforms that serve the people:
We need people to bring their creative brilliance and their understanding of how digital systems could work, to create digital futures. This will mean that city residents and city governments are empowered to use the 21st century digital potential in ways that serve people that are distributive, that are put in our hands and made to serve the purposes we want them to have. This will have repercussions for the way that governments run their services; ways governments communicate with their residents; the way neighbourhoods can connect; the way that people can run enterprises; the way we can see transparency through global supply chains. We’ve got to get this one right. Kate Raworth

Social media companies will be forced to abandon the ability to make profit:
No social media will be able to benefit from keeping people attached to their devices. Fortunately, we’ve come to understand that the algorithms that have provided us with information through our social media feed are actually constructed—they’re not really as the world is; they’re as we have been conditioned to believe. Social media companies are going to need to step back, and technology will be valued and monetised in ways that don’t require us to stay attached. I’ve become aware of a new app that does increase our ability to be present and engaged and it’s called ‘airplane mode’ or ‘the off switch’. Jared Seide
Citizens’ Assembly Civic Service:

A kind of civic version of jury service, where everybody in the country would have the opportunity to be part of a Citizens’ Assembly where they reimagine something—either within their local community or a national question. They would be part of a deliberative process to set a vision and imagine a new policy or a change and then they would set an action plan to make that a reality. Whatever actions they come up with would go to a local authority, national government, maybe even a corporation and those actions would be taken forwards. Everyone would get the opportunity to imagine a different future. Georgia Gould

Citizens’ Service:

This would be a policy of service, which is going to require citizens to take part in some non-profit driven service to their community, to their country, to their state—a year or two years of service to the community. Dr Dennis Chester

Deep citizen participation in all policies which affect people’s lives:

As Minister of Imagination, my policy would be for policy making not to be controlled by me. Rhiannon Osborne

Every mayor and director of planning in local authorities to go on walking tours:

The children and young people on that tour can bring to life what the neighbourhood is like for them to live in, what they like, what they don’t like, and what they think needs to change. It’s a particularly effective way of bringing children’s voices and views into conversations about neighbourhoods and cities. Tim Gill

Give children the vote:

This would guarantee that we give attention to listening to them properly. It would make them equal citizens in their world. They would take it incredibly seriously. I think they would bring real wisdom and kindness and care and thoughtfulness. Ruth Sapsed

Introduce 8 annual direct democracy gatherings, in line with the seasons:

This will mean changing the annual calendar to follow the wheel of the year. The gatherings will be in every neighbourhood across the country, in line with the eight seasonal markers, for up to 300 people. Everyone will have a day out of activities for these gatherings, facilitated creatively and caringly by the creative catalyst teams [see Imagination & Creativity]. Everyone will draw on many different ways of knowing and key decisions at all levels will be made on these days, each guided by the particular cycle of nature that we’re in. It will be a different way of marking how decisions are made, how we gather and how we learn from the wisdom of the year. These eight days will be at the heart of decision making, creatively and seasonally. Ruth Ben-Tovim

Mandatory Citizens’ Assemblies:

If you get 100,000 signatures on a petition, there has to be a Citizen’s Assembly on it, and there has to be a public response to that Citizens’ Assembly from the Prime Minister at its conclusion. Jon Alexander

Put power directly in the hands of local communities:

Get the power away from central government, a proper devolution of power to the local. There is no central committee that’s going to fix this. Jon Alexander

A shift to matriarchal ways of governing:

Returning the mother to the centre of our communities, and a shift back to matrifocal, matriarchal ways of governing. That would go a long way to shifting the ways that we are caring for one another and caring for our relationship with the land. Sherri Mitchell

‘Get the power away from central government, a proper devolution of power to the local.’ Jon Alexander
The Economy

Abolish capitalism and de-commodify:
They go hand-in-hand—if you abolish capitalism, things are already de-commodified. Dr Rupa Marya

Abolish the practice of discounting when it comes to ecological risk:
With discounting, the further away people are in time, the less benefit is attributed to them. For someone 50 years or 100 years from now, their welfare isn’t taken into account nearly as much as someone only 1 or 2 years away, when it comes to big government investment decisions. It means projects which have long-term benefits, like around renewable energy, often don’t get passed by governments. This would be an important step in challenging the intergenerational injustice written into our political systems. Roman Krznaric

The Attention Redistribution Tax:
In the world in which we live there’s a lot of media around people and it means that everything competes with everything else. If we want communications and advertising to be part of creating a better world, we do also need to force necessary lifestyle choices into the mainstream of media attention, so that they’re out there in the marketplace of ideas competing with all of the other games, products and services. And so it would be my proposal as Minister for the Imagination to incentivise companies with large scale control over our attention, i.e. digital platforms or broadcasters, (specifically digital platforms that may not be paying their fair share of taxes in accordance with their profits), to pay and to provide a percentage of the attention that they command, and to give that over to climate positive products, services and causes. People seeing those will have a better chance of moving towards sustainable behaviour. Michael Hines

Bankers on the breadline:
Every time someone is elevated to the position of a director of a bank or a top-level banking jobs, they should spend 30 days on the breadline. It would reverse their ideas. And we follow them with video cameras for those 30 days and we see how their attitudes shift. On Channel 5. Dan Edelstyn

Ban profit:
All resources are completely redistributed to ensure that all basic needs of every living being (the human and the other-than-human relatives) are met, and that we do not even consider what profit and expansion looks like until we are sure they have been. Those of us who have been conditioned by the overwhelm of western business spend some time learning to rest so we don’t use our business to force other people to not be able to rest. Susan Raffo

Change the indicators we use to measure progress:
From economic growth and competitive markets to increasing social and ecological well-being and health. Jennifer Hinton

Change the tax system to support a regenerative society:
I want people to get truly paid for what they’re doing, but with much less taxes on it. That will make it much easier for lots of people to have jobs in a regenerative society where they can rebuild, recreate, reuse, reshape things, while the mining of raw materials will become extremely expensive. It won’t be profitable any more to dig for new materials, but it will become completely profitable to re-use the materials that we already have. This will bring lots of new jobs to our city. Marieke van Doorninck

Change VAT so it is based on carbon:
VAT is to be determined by the carbon content of the product or service. This rapidly becomes the de facto worldwide standard for carbon accounting. Johannes Stripple

Create money to enable transformation:
We can already create money—special drawing rights already exist—but we are not using it. Otto Schärer

Delegitimise excess consumption:
Luxury cars, cruise ships need to be delegitimised and heavily taxed, in a world where we have food banks; we have poverty, we have starvation and war. Alastair McIntosh
Dignify the regenerative economy:
This is for people engaged in fulfilling livelihoods that help both their community and land express their potential. It involves an intention to foster, encourage, support any kind of regenerative economy initiative from cooperatives to small artisanal initiatives—as well as secondary cooperative structures helping these artisans link together and work collectively under a more protective umbrella. These could also be linked into tertiary or fourth degree structures as well. We see this as contributing to immense social and economic resilience in regions across Europe. Erika Zarate

Economic revolution leading to economic equality:
The economic revolution, which begins with the overthrow of fossil fuel governments, needs to be go further in the direction of economic equality. In the first instance we need: a universal basic income; pay differentials within all organisations not greater than a 1 to 10 ratio between the lowest salary and the highest; public ownership, not communism but public ownership of all utilities and transport; a cap on individual wealth of 10 million dollars affecting about 10 million people in the world; a four day work week; and on the basis of progressive taxation and the creation of a wealth fund, the creation of an environmental rescue fund which will eventually involve the expenditure of between 100 and 200 trillion dollars. Such an agenda can alone ensure that less wealthy countries will be able to survive the extreme temperatures we face, the rising seas, and other forms of climate crisis. The class of billionaires who currently consume a million times more than the average person, will simply cease to exist. Gregory Claeys

An economy of ‘enough’:
We need to allow ourselves to have the conversation that says, ‘maybe we’ve got enough’. But what we’re not very good at is sharing and cherishing that—that’s a very different task for our economy. We need to make ourselves at home. Dr Katherine Trebeck

Full transparency of capital flows in the world:
Once we can see where every dollar or peso or pound or euro is and where it’s going I feel it will produce a tremendous response and reaction, an absolute horror at the system that is taking life and transforming it. It’s exacerbating the very thing causing the fear and flight of capital, raising rents and housing prices. It’s making those who are impoverished more impoverished, and it’s invisible to us right now. Paul Hawken

A global debt write-off, or debt jubilee:
This would be a reset button to be able to enact other policies towards an economically just future. Hilary Powell

A global shift to true pricing of all economic activities:
This will become a ubiquitous feature of the world so that when we’re consume something—a hamburger, a transatlantic flight or a chocolate bar—we’re aware of the entire range of externalities of that product. This would inevitably start to change consumption patterns and it could also be a powerful tool for policy makers. Nick Romeo

A Green New Deal:
We will get that up and running nationally with jobs in green technologies and industries. Hilary Powell

Incentivise all companies limited by guarantee or classic corporate structures to transition into modern cooperatives:
By sharing ownership in a whole new way, the responsibility and involvement fundamentally shifts. You get long-term core owner engagement and the entire economic landscape shifts as we move from a world where cooperative models are becoming the main business model over corporate structures. Daniel Christian Wahl

Inheritance tax and company taxation:
We need to reimagine the various dubious ways in which individuals and companies hand on wealth to the next generation, to their own favoured people. We need forms of inheritance tax or company taxation that mean people don’t need to preferentially benefit their successors over other people. Chris Smaje

Local contract tendering:
Local authorities and public bodies and anchor organisations are now obliged to offer contracts to local / democratic / community-owned organisations before they can offer them out to more distant private corporations. Danielle Cohen

A massive programme of redistribution and reparations:
This programme includes policies such as high taxes on wealth, inheritance and luxury consumption, some reappropriation of land and other assets that are deemed illegitimate and socially useful and are going to be put to socially useful ends. We’re going to give money and resources to low-income communities, for them to manage democratically, so that they can start to make this transition to a not-for-profit economy themselves in the way that they want to do. And we are going to work with other governments around the world for international agreements to eradicate tax havens so that these sorts of redistribution and reparations programmes can’t be avoided by those who would seek to avoid them. Jennifer Hinton

Money for everyone:
We know it works. We know it helps. Get it out as quickly as we can. Stefanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu

Move beyond competition:
Eliminate any form of competition that determines the ability of any living being to be able to survive. The outcome of competition can determine whether or not someone can feed their family, keep their house, or whether or not somebody can live or die because they may not have access to the care that’s needed for them to be well. We’d eliminate all forms of unhealthy competition, so that people can receive what basics they need to live their lives with a sense of dignity. Sherri Mitchell

Hilary Powell
Gregory Claeys
Dr Katherine Trebeck
Nick Romeo
Erika Zarate
Paul Hawken
Danielle Cohen
Jennifer Hinton
Stefanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu
Sherri Mitchell
Move beyond growth:
Our current money system is violent, it’s self-concentrating, and it’s a threat to all life. We will have debt forgiveness and wealth tax. We have a way that money would be distributed using the principles of water in landscapes—like the permaculture principle of how you have water flow distributing through a landscape, being applied to our money system. Atossa Soltani

National maximum wages:
I would recalibrate the labour market completely, so that people weren’t able to accumulate such huge amounts of wealth. I would ensure that there was a transparent and far more equal salary and wage system in the labour market. Dr Wanda Wyporska

A new Department for Social Economy:
This would recognise that it is a critical driver of growth and that if communities are going to take advantage of the opportunity to take on and use the land in their local communities, or to take on a contract from the local authority, they are going to need to be supported and resourced to build the structures to do that, and that building those structures takes time, and takes energy. Danielle Cohen

A new system of transparent finance:
This would mean that the wealth could not be hidden, sequestered or laundered. There would always be a human being attached to ownership and wealth. That transparency would help us with these problems of an estimated $30 trillion hidden in trusts and offshore entities. Chuck Collins

Overthrow capitalism. Jayna Brown

Reform the tax system:
We’ll do this so that we are paying equitable taxes relative to the profits that are made in any given year, both for individuals and corporations. We have an enormous problem of income disparity in this country, which is related to the lack of affordable housing, the lack of services, the lack of healthcare. We’re still operating in that neo-liberal mindset of cutting taxes for the rich that will trickle down, and it’s hurt us on every social problem. I would put an end to the tax system as it is and have one that is much more income-based and equitable. Sam Tsemberis

Reparations at home and abroad:
This means healing the harms that have existed since the founding of this country. We’re not trying to continue global empire, and we’re trying to redress some of the harms we have caused. We are no longer the number one exporter of military hardware and warfare, but now are seeking to export some of the lessons we’ve learned. We’re going out and asking many different places that have been harmed by United States policy how we can begin to make it right. Zach Norris

Replace GDP as a measure of progress with the number of girls who ride their bikes to school:
It’s a beautiful symbolic example that aligns with the sort of things we really cherish as communities, that we need more of in our societies and it also will only move in the right direction if we have a fairly massive transformation of our economic systems and our cities and how they’re designed. It means parents would have enough money so they wouldn’t be living on the breadline. It would mean there are schools locally so public services are delivered where they’re needed. It would mean streets are safe and perhaps not polluted and not too smoggy or unhealthy. One of the key ways that we will transform political leadership and address some of the challenges of our world, is if we’re really bringing women, and young women particularly, to the fore through education and giving them opportunities. Dr Katherine Trebeck

Shift the economic model from extractive to regenerative:
It would de-commodify nature, labour, capital, money, technology and data. It would bring in the voice of future generations and the voice of the planet. Otto Scharmer

Shift from GDP to a National Happiness Index:
a) Sport obviously plays a huge role in this, with everybody of all ages and abilities having access to sport within their lives, and a diverse mix of different activities that they can take part in. Laura Baldwin

b) We shouldn’t be just about growth and making money. We should be about making people happy and more fulfilled, more able. It will show which schools, which surgeries, which businesses are actually making their staff and people feel better, and which ones are just making money and making them feel worse. We can have all sorts of performance ladders and encourage people to do better. Dr Michael Dixon

c) I would like to introduce the Gross National Happiness Index as a measure of our social success. Does everyone have enough to eat, a safe place to live, do they have the education they need, and is our society attending to helping people realise their best possible selves? Sam Tsemberis
Slavery reparations as baby bonds:
Each child born gets a certain amount of money on a sliding scale depending on whether that child’s parents are wealthy or not, to try to close the wealth gap between white and black Americans in this case. It may be a good start in the US and see if you could scale this and provide that opportunity for any formerly colonised nations. Dr Priscilla Layne

Stop all subsidies into planet-destroying activity:
That also requires us to look at international trade regulations to enable us to create a healthy protectionism, balanced by healthy global trade regulations. We are then forced to share certain minerals and resources on a fair basis to enable bio-regional economies to really take off and provide core base technology. This policy also requires us to look into the detail of how we use the energy and resources that are left on the planet, to enable the most people in their bio-regions to become masters of their own fate and active participants in the regeneration of their culture, their local economies and their eco-system. Because that’s the only way we can save the planet for humanity—by saving places. Daniel Christian Wahl

Substitute the over-consumption of commodities with other pleasurable activities:
This will ensure our transition to sustainability. In the first instance, growth needs to be replaced by de-growth. What luxury we will have will be chiefly public rather than private. We need to provide banquets, entertainment venues, provisions for educational sports facilities at the neighbourhood, the local, the regional and the national level. At the same time, we’re abolishing planned obsolescence and are encouraging repair, recycling and voluntary simplicity in all things. A crucial part of this policy will be making public transportation free, although only sustainable travel is to be permitted. And as in wartime... some activities, as well as some commodities, will need to be rationed. Gregory Claeys

Transformation of the stock market:
Our current model pumps money out of the public good and puts it into the pockets of the richest in society. A lot of that happens through the mechanisms of the stock market and the way financial markets work. Obviously, it’s going to take a little while to see that one through, but I think it should start right now. Tim Jackson

The Triple Bottom Line Charter:
This law says that no large corporation above a certain size, let’s say $100 million in revenues, is allowed to have a charter unless it has a triple bottom line of not just profits but people and planet. The charter of every one of these corporations would have to be re-chartered every five years. There would be a panel of people, chosen by sortition, from all the different areas where that corporation was effective: from their employees and the people who lived in the areas where they extracted any resources from the Earth. That panel would change every five years. The fundamental DNA of the decision-making process, from the board to the CEO, all the way down in that corporation, would go from trying to make more money, to trying to make sure that corporation could stay alive five years later by really shifting those bottom lines. Jeremy Lent

Value a tree more when it is alive than when it is dead:
Our economic system commodifies nature, has been built on a system of colonisation, exploited huge parts of society and continues to privilege and benefit a tiny percent of people. At its heart is this divorce from nature and the fact that we see natural resources, all the life around us as something to be bought, sold and commodified. If we created a true reflection of value that really put a cost on ecosystem services, on the oxygen that forests create for us to breathe or the ocean creates for us to breathe; if we truly put a value on indigenous wisdom, knowledge and history; if we truly put a value on biodiversity, we would live in a really, really different world. Clover Hogan

A wealth tax:
This is how to ensure that we, as a society, don’t become too unequal, too unbalanced, and it’s a way to capture wealth and reinvest it in the commons, reinvest it in the universal services. Chuck Collins

A wellbeing economy:
A well-being index and a planetary dashboard that’s constantly measuring the well-being of Earth systems, like a human vital monitor, when we measure our heart rate or our well-being through various metrics. We would have a planetary dashboard that’s giving us direct feedback of how we’re doing in terms of our coherence to our planetary limits. Atossa Soltani

‘If we truly put a value on biodiversity, we would live in a really, really different world.’
Clover Hogan
Abolish measurement in schools:
We will no longer have any examinations but will completely remodel the education system to be self-directed and focused on really supporting people to find their place in society, to find their way of being of service. Phoebe Tickell

Abolish ‘Prevent’ and the counter-terror apparatus:
Education cannot be a place where we are surveying and racially profiling children or anyone, whether that’s teachers or whoever else. The idea of censorship being so deeply embedded in the education system has to go. We can’t turn our teachers into police officers or immigration enforcement officers. Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan

Abolish private schools:
It could happen a lot of different ways, like reappropriating those buildings. I remember in Bradford where my Mum went to school, they used to bus immigrant children. They would try and spread them out so it wouldn’t be unpleasing to the white population. They’d only have a few people of colour in their school. I have this idea that maybe we bus private school children around the country—we spread them out and we give them a chance to integrate into wider society. Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan

Abolish school uniforms:
Abolish anything that limits the bodily autonomy of students. Does wearing a school uniform affect the jobs I’m going to get in the future? No. Because I’ll go to jobs that will accept me for who I am and how I express myself. Not ones that expect me to be a carbon copy. Lottie Cooke

Abolish testing in schools:
It is my intention to entirely remove mandatory testing of children at any point in their education process. Tests will be available on a voluntary basis, which means that the child decides whether to opt in or opt out. All subjects are now approached with a non-test focused opportunity which means we’re going to see the developments in those areas thrive, prosper and grow beyond our current limited and fearful limits. Ash Perrin

Add the ‘children in permaculture’ curriculum into teacher training programmes:
The teacher training courses will now include as compulsory, all areas of this curriculum: growing food, systems thinking, permaculture ethics and principles, and how to apply them through everything that you do as a teacher. Nature connection, forest schools, the climate emergency and finding solutions, low carbon solutions, a circular economy, inclusivity, and decolonisation. Lusi Alderslowe

Add the ‘children and permaculture’ curriculum into the national curriculum:
Every child will be learning outdoors in nature every day. There will be play-based kindergarten-style education up to age 7, and there will be no competitive exams. It will all be collaborative project-based learning and portfolios. Lusi Alderslowe

Art classes central to education:
All primary and secondary education will include robust programmes of hands-on arts education, including printmaking, and all arts classes will be ungraded to ensure unfettered flights of imagination. Katie Gilmartin

Art in schools:
Art in schools should not be abolished at the age of 9 or whatever it is at the moment where it’s basically side-lined. Keep art and creativity at the forefront. Force them to do art, three hours to four hours per day. All children should be forced to do compulsory art and all children should be forced to do compulsory philosophy. Dan Edelstyn

Beaver education included in the curriculum:
I’ve spoken to our colleagues at the Department for Education, and they are going to fund a class visit to a beaver wetland for every primary child because it needs to be part of the curriculum before children leave school. And a unit on beavers and wetlands and re-envisioning the landscape is going to be part of the new nature GCSE. Eva Bishop

Bringing transition into the curriculum:
We would need to have institutionalised transition teaching at schools, learning by doing. You should learn gardening, cooking, taking care of animals, re-using, recycling, and so on. I don’t see any big change in society if we don’t do something very important to change the educational system. Christian Jonet
A budget for embedding an expert in PSHE (personal, social, health and economic education) in every school:

This is one of the most important things we can do. While teachers are wonderful, and love what they teach, chances are they really don’t want to talk to students about sex or about masculinity or gender equality or any of that kind of stuff. But I do think schools should be equipped with people who are passionate about that work, who are trained in that work. One person in every school would be enough to have sessions around the year on all those topics, delivered by experts who are passionate, enthusiastic and skilled in delivering those sessions. Ben Hurst

Challenge universities to be knowledge transfer centres and bio-regional learning centres:

They can actually drive the public awareness around the bio-regions they’re nested in. They will be forced to make every discipline use its detailed disciplinary lens on the bio-region and then are forced to work across the different departments. Only then are they really serving the public in their full potential of becoming bio-regional learning centres where we can have a much more informed public, that can make much more informed decisions around how we collectively manage the commons and eco-system that we are expressions of. Daniel Christian Wahl

Civic university:

An institution that makes it easy for anyone to learn the tools to be able to imagine, or to be involved in social action in their community. They get both support and qualifications… and people get free education. There would be a civic university in every part of the country. Georgia Gould

Compulsory inclusion of ‘global health’ in the school curriculum:

There will be a change to the current UK curriculum from primary school, all the way through to 18 years of age, to include a compulsory subject that is focused on the agriculture industry, the environmental sector and also global sustainability. Once people are ready to go into work and employment these are core parts of everyone’s culture—whatever job they’ll be doing they’ll have this in the back of their minds. Bushra Schuitemaker

Compulsory interaction with the natural world in the school curriculum:

From ages 3 to 18, and it can involve bird watching to learning about local wildlife, but it has to be an hour or two per week and is established in the curriculum. One, this would increase the collective consciousness about the world around us and how we interact with that. Two, it would make individuals more susceptible to the natural world and see it change over time and our influence on the natural world. It’s an easily enforced policy and includes providing resources to state schools to allow that to occur. Reuben Pakiya-Brooks

Create a listening curriculum:

This will be not just in schools but in higher and adult education as well and would comprise a range of things about nature awareness and attuning our senses into the world in a subtle and nuanced way. It’s also about respecting different cultural and life narratives, different belief systems and value systems. It’s teaching skills like conflict resolution and non-competitiveness, and it goes right through all areas of governance, the economy, law, society—anywhere where there is a competitive frission so we find ways to resolve our differences without causing harm. Andrew Skeoch

Deconstruct the neoliberal nature of education:

Education is big business. I would like to deconstruct that and strip that down, that means completely reimagining what we see as a university or as a school. A school might not even be buildings anymore. We could completely reimagine what it means to learn. But you do need human interaction rather than talking to a screen. Kwame Boateng

Deep listening in classes:

This is part of the government’s policy of banning smartphones in schools, as they are one of the biggest threats to our ability to concentrate and to our attention span. As our collective attention span gets shorter and shorter, our ability to sit and listen to the natural world gets shorter and shorter, and as does our ability not to be influenced by fascists and terrible people. So allowing our kids to grow up with attention spans as intact as possible would be one of the motivations behind this idea of deep listening classes in school and we’ll have that running through the curriculum and alongside critical listening. If we are able to listen deeply and we have the power of critical thinking, we can pick through critical ideas. So we have a smartphone (and ipad) free education system because we know that kids learn much better through analogue things than through digital things. Rob Hopkins

A ‘Disconnect to Reconnect’ Policy:

No Wi-Fi in schools. By disconnecting from screens and phones, kids would be encouraged to mind wander; to keep their heads up, to interact with one another and to make eye contact. This not only benefits their well-being but of course reduces energy consumption. This is where the magic will happen—the conversations, the small talk between people is what matters. This is going to be one of the key things for us moving forward, and these conversations will start to shape connection and to think about how we can reimagine what we’re doing. Jonathan Rhodes

Each bio-region has its own university:

These are geared around curriculum that is inter-disciplinary and systems based, and predominantly field work. These universities support the knowledge of their bio-regions and the flourishing of multi-species within that bio-region. And they’re open to people from the local area to bring in different sorts of knowledge. There’s a pooling of mastery knowledge, combined with tacit knowledge, indigenous and local knowledge, and historical context, so the universities have a civic role in serving their bio-regions and supporting that area. When there is an invitation from another country to take part in research, the invitation has to come from that other country rather than a university from our bio-region imposing itself on another. Anne-Marie Culhane

Education that’s free and open to everyone:

It should be accessible irrespective of age as well, because university is a place we should all be able to attend. Kwame Boateng

Education that produces a portfolio of learning:

By the end of their time at school, children have a portfolio which is full of what they have done as a young person to make sure that they are leaving school ready to be good stewards of the Earth. I think that is the ultimate purpose of schools, is that they are building children over 10 years to create this portfolio. Matt Willer
An education system that teaches us how to be happy:

Mindfulness, meditation, loving practices that allow us to go out into our lives with the tools to live happily, joyously, connectedly. That would be one of the most impactful and beneficial things for society over the long term. Tom Bailey

End private education and provide universal free education:

This would cover higher education, post-graduate, doctorate, as far as a person wants to go, or if they can just walk away after finishing at 16 or 18 years. Professor Sunny Singh

Environmental national service:

When children finish their schooling, they can spend a year working in the environment, learning about it but also doing practical work because we need to be really stepping up what we’re doing now to increase the resilience of the landscape. Of the things we need to survive, the first is a really vibrant natural environment. Chris Jones

Free education for all:

a) If you want to go to school and you want to learn and you want to just be, you can go and sign up for free, and get a 4-year college degree if that’s what you want. Or a vocational degree if that’s what you want, and that would be at no cost to you. Mariame Kaba

b) We will also pay teachers very, very, very well so that we cannot have a shortage of them. Ana Rausch

c) Knowledge and learning are vital to our understanding and change-making, and how to influence change, how to learn about our histories, how our past has shaped our present and our future going forward. Cost should never be a factor in learning any new skill or building knowledge. Anything that you can learn, that will make a difference in this world, to your life, to others’ lives, will be free and there will be no barriers. Shasta Hanif Ali

Funding for social-emotional learning in every school around the world:

Social-emotional learning is critical and must be prioritised. Every school, every environment where a child is taught needs to raise up art, music and emotional intelligence. It needs to be well-funded and a critical part of the education of everyone, alongside the traditional academics. Jared Seide

Futures literacy programmes on a global scale:

This will be from kindergarten to late in life and not just in the global north and rich countries but truly globally. It’s almost like a vaccine to inoculate the population against disinformation. I think it’s important to de-platform massive disinformation spreading sources in extreme cases such as in a pandemic, in war or when millions of lives are at stake—but it will never be enough because that kind of content causes real harm and continues to spread. So we have to make the ground less fertile, the ground as in our societies, especially as we’re moving towards immersive media technologies (AR, VR, XR) that will make it easier to integrate digital input within the physical realm and will make it harder to distinguish reality from fiction with generative AI tools. Monika Bielskyte

Greater parental involvement in schools:

I’ve spoken to so many parents, including my own mum, who feels so ostracised from the system. They need to be able to visit the school whenever they want at a time that suits them. Lottie Cooke

Healthy human culture is taught in all areas of the education system:

Parts of healthy human culture are already shared in high schools, and then universities and professional training are needed to underpin all the work. Leila Hobalah

The ‘Imagination in Schools’ Policy:

Where kids learn the fundamentals of multi-sensory imagery, perhaps every day. This would empower them to think creatively and envision more of a sustainable future, so it’s absolutely integrated in their classrooms and all things that schools do. Jonathan Rhode

Initiate a learning programme about listening and collective decision making:

It’s about ensuring the most possible voices are included in any decision made. It’s about multiplicity. I’m not very keen on top-down policy delivery. I’m much more interested in bottom-up and the politics of invention. This is a whole programme that allows people to be very practiced in making a decision where things have to be weighted up and balanced, with reasonable proportionality. People have to be able to enact that and learn how you make decisions and how you work across disciplines if you’ve got scientists, artists, lawyers, business people, citizens, salmon, oak and the rivers all there together making a decision. Lucy Neal

Integrate climate education into every school system in the world:

This would be a starting point for completely transforming the way that we school our young bright minds. Currently it often reminds me of Charlie Chaplin’s Modern Times, sheep being herded through a factory. We have to revolutionise the education system and integrate the climate crisis so that whether you’re learning literature or science or mathematics, you’re asking them what are the problems in the world that you want to solve. It means not only are you preparing the next generation of climate leaders, but you’re setting up our societies to be able to continue to respond with compassion, empathy, heart and critical thought to these problems as they unfold decades into the future. Clover Hogan

Introduce climate crisis teaching and remedies at every educational level:

Looking backwards from 2030, we came so close to the catastrophe, narrowly avoided it and had to restore the world through reduced consumption, rewilding and every climate cooling measure we could devise. This meant depicting the old symbols of luxury—the Porsches and SUVs, the relentless discarding of plastic and general pollution—as agents of the planet’s, and our own, collective death. We taught the young, from nursery school right through university, to mock and to shun such excess, to regard unsustainable forms of conspicuous consumption as abhorrent and to reduce their wants. We had to set the example and learnt to place a greater priority on sociable interactions with other people. Education, education, education. Gregory Claeys
Learning about fulfilment:
The sense that the post-growth society is fulfilling means that we have to learn about
fulfilment. In many cases that’s going to mean relearning. A lifelong learning in the
possibilities of fulfilment and flow, a state of mind in which you’re so engaged in your
activity that you’re at one both with the task itself and the world as a whole. This is a form
of emotional learning about ourselves, a form of psychological development that has gone
missing in our education systems. Tim Jackson

Learning through joy:
We should have mixed ability groups where project learning is at the heart instead of on a
subject-by-subject basis. This will be without the years being separated, so young people
from different ages can come together to co-create their curriculum and to learn together.
Guillaume Dorvaux

Learning together:
We should have mixed ability groups where project learning is at the heart instead of a
subject-by-subject basis—project learning and mixed ability groups without the years
separated, young people from different ages coming together who co-create their
curriculum to learn together. Yumna Hussen

Link refugee policy with education:
People should be able to claim refugee status on the basis of being enrolled in our wonderful
outdoor education system. Ben Rawlence

Life-long learning for creativity:
With lots of creativity and a massive injection of funding for arts and health in education,
particularly thinking about emotional and psychological health, as well as the way we relate
to each other and our interpersonal skills. Good amounts of hospitality, generous listening
to people that we don’t always agree with, having humility and patience. Lots of creativity in
order to imagine a better world together. Dr Jane Myat

Major new investment in arts education:
Primary, secondary and tertiary levels will get much more investment and encouragement
for students to see the arts as an essential component of a good education. From STEM to
STEAM. Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics will now be a part of a
rounded education. David Micklem

Make every school carbon neutral:
This could mean that in an inner city the school has to become a vertical garden over 6
storeys, or it could mean that in a rural area the school is mandated to feed itself from the
land. Ben Rawlence

Make school holidays earlier in the year:
I always lament the fact that schools break up for summer in July. When kids are allowed
out of schools and suddenly have free time, the best part of the year has passed. Summer
is lovely and it’s warm but the actual opportunity to see the budding and the blooming and
the real active part of the season has passed. The ideal would be to start the holidays, the long
holidays, around Easter time and that we have two months off, and that go back to school
around August. I fear that there’s an association that develops within childhood—the beautiful
evergence of spring and early summer is associated with testing and suffrance and failure.
Sam Lee

Mandatory classes for kids on ‘what is a politician?’:
In the same way that kids learn about geography, history, mathematics, language, and so
on, they will learn about what a politician is, what they do, what’s the importance of being in
politics, in life. Then the kids will grow up with a sense, not of the person politician, but of the
function, the role, the importance of having politicians running public policies. Graça Fonseca

Medical education will be free:
Every graduating physician, as a way of paying back for their free education, gets to work an
equal number of years in a community that is radically different from the one he or she grew
up in. Dr Anne Seide

A new GCSE in failure:
The only way we can change the mindset we have now is through teaching the importance of
accepting failure from school, from the beginnings of your education. This subject is going
to run through all levels of education, but more focused on the high levels of education
because those probably are the most stubborn students. Carlos Zimbrón

Plant education in the national curriculum:
Not in a biology lesson way, but in a much more holistic way, so that plants weave through
every conceivable lesson, from food technology to maths, to languages. We should be learning
about plants in every aspect of our education. A corollary to that was that every school would
need open green spaces, which were allowed to not be mown to within an inch of their lives,
and plants are allowed to inveigle their way into other areas of the school. Having spaces
where plants could thrive all around the school would be a very powerful thing. Jane Perrone

Positive and creative education:
It is really important that positive action starts right at the bottom of the list of the age range.
Creative activities, music, art and poetry, often fall to the bottom of the lists, particularly in state
schools and it’s one of the most important ways to allow children to express themselves and
understand their differences or come together or listen to one another. Educating through
creative means and positive activities: rewilding, planting vegetables, climbing trees, looking
at bees, planting their own flowers. Eliza Marshall

Reconnect learning and nature:
Our schools, colleges, universities and apprenticeships should reorientate towards the skills, knowledge, understanding and wisdom
people need to know to find a better future for people and for nature, the skills we’ll need in order to restore nature on a massive scale.
Rebecca Wrigley
Reforest education:

Schools won’t just teach from textbooks, but they’ll teach in nature. Reforestation education will be integrated into the curriculum. And schools will be in green spaces—you could not have a school unless students walk out into a green space fostering deeper connections and a better sense of well-being. It’s great for exploratory thinking and kids love it. **Jonathan Rhodes**

Reimagine education:

I’d change the whole focus and purpose of education. The critical thing we’re going to be teaching children is how to ask questions. We’re going to teach them how to evaluate who they are and the world around them, and how they’re related to everyone else, to be able to ask good questions, and how to be in good conversations, where people have got different views, and how to bring their questions forward. **Aneetha Lawson**

Reinstate environmental literacy into schools:

Make it mandatory that all primary and secondary schools teach this on an on-going basis, all the way up to when children leave school. As part of this they should also make sure they’re teaching financial and business literacy and providing funding for organisations to go into schools and teach about community energy. This should also be applied to colleges, so adults can go into college and learn financial literacy. It would give people autonomy, a bit more equity, and a leg up in terms of wanting to be involved in community energy or organisations to go into schools and teach about community energy. This should also be applied to colleges, so adults can go into college and learn financial literacy. It would give people autonomy, a bit more equity, and a leg up in terms of wanting to be involved in community energy or other kinds of entrepreneurship as well. **Leila Fortunato**

Re-orient education towards hands-on problem solving:

We’re moving away from this abstract knowledge, memorisation and regurgitation in testing. We know kids get so excited by solving actual concrete problems out there in the world and that is the best way of learning. They gain this sort of sense of empowerment and freedom and so we are going to have project-based problem-solving education. **Anthea Lawson**

Replace GDP as the metric of success for our society:

We need to replace the fiction of endless growth with care work and maintenance. **Doug Bierend**

Replace schools with farms:

For me it’s about taking our children out of school and putting them into the real world so that they are learning whilst doing. So they’re learning the practicalities of farming; they’re learning where their food comes from; they’re learning about different cultures and different people. We’re in such a time of change and revolutionary change, unless we change the things we’re doing including all our institutions nothing will change. And I think I’m a bit biased as well because none of my children went to school. **Dee Woods**

Reshape our educational systems towards whole person / whole systems learning:

This is essentially the capacity to co-sense and co-create the future, not just passing exams but really accessing self-knowledge. **Otto Scharmer**

Schools as the most valued places in any community:

I would make it so that schools become the very pinnacle of society, like in the Middle Ages where churches were the tallest buildings. The skyscrapers of London are the tallest buildings because the world is about money now—but I think at this stage schools are really the most important place and celebrated places for society. Parents, teachers and members of that school’s local community have a shared responsibility to rehearse the next generation to become the best stewards of the Earth that anyone has ever encountered. **Matt Willett**

Showcase schools:

All existing schools and their grounds will be redesigned using permaculture design methodology and retrofitted to become models of net zero carbon design. This means generating their own electricity, and children and young people will monitor its generation and usage. It means chemical free food will be grown on all school grounds and children will be helping to grow and prepare it whilst learning about natural systems and their place within that. It means that biodiverse learning states will be created with the needs of the child and the rest of nature at the centre. **Lusi Alderslowe**

Teach social emotional learning in schools:

This should be seen as, if not more, important than maths, English and science. If you don’t feel safe, you won’t learn. We’ll present the evidence and encourage schools to do it. Also, we’ll get rid of league tables, and I’d like to see evidence of fewer exclusions from school, of more kids staying on longer at school. If you keep kids in school, you will close a prison. The evidence is all there for this stuff. **Graham Goulden**

University life as a test drive for sustainable living:

Imagine if every university student’s campus experience was an experiment in sustainable ways of living, from trying vegetarian food to swap meets and repair cafes, to organising for bolder policy change. Imagine if when students signed up to a school dorm room, they received an option of leasing a certain number of things, like cups and mugs, furniture, things that they might need in their room. And imagine if every student’s tuition has a free public transport card associated with it. **Dr Vanessa Timmer**

Weekly story-making sessions for kids in schools:

A few hours every week at school are dedicated to creating new stories. It could be stories through art, for example, a small movie. But it could also be stories involving day-to-day life: a new story about how we are going to eat at school, or about how their neighbourhood could change. If you don’t train that muscle every week, if you don’t make the conscious effort to imagine things very often, it’s going to get weak and at some point, you just won’t have the power to imagine things anymore. **Cyril Dion**

Young people co-designing their education:

Everything, from their curriculums to everything in the school, from the physical building, from the teachers that come in, the teachers that get hired, the philosophy of the school. It’s co-designing their curriculum in a way that facilitates their learning in the long run. **Yumna Hussen**
Embracing Failure

Change the definition of ‘failure’ in the dictionary:
I’m going to change the definition of failure and the connotation of failure in the dictionary. It’s not negative. It’s just a description of the idea of trying again. Carlos Zimbrón

A National Statement of Failure:
I would proudly declare Britain a failing state. This would be joined by a campaign for us to confess our individual and collective failures as a nation, to help us reconcile ourselves with our past, our present, and open the way for a gentler, kinder future. Simon Cohen

Spaces for sharing intergeneration stories of failure:
These are spaces where young people and elders come together for music, stories and talk about failure. Young children will hear stories about all of the misdemeanours or things they got up to and things they got wrong, all the times they messed up, and look, they’re still alive. It is human to err; and it’s okay. Meanwhile the young people would do what they do best, which is to fail without any conscience or inner critic, and refresh and enliven the elders as well. As well as normalising conversations around failure, it will help everyone’s mental health in society as a whole. Simon Cohen

‘I would proudly declare Britain a failing state.’
Simon Cohen

Energy

Community energy funded by windfall tax on oil and gas companies:
Government should provide grants financed by the profits from big energy companies, providing grants to local communities to support their community energy organisations and management infrastructure. Leila Fortunato

From energy consumers to energy producers:
We’re starting smart grids where we have energy positive neighbourhoods where people are using the energy of others and they can exchange the energy that others are making. There are small grids on the neighbourhood level so people are no longer that dependent on the big companies that provide energy, but energy is actually something that you make yourself, that you share with your neighbour and that you produce yourself. It will be so much more fun for people. Marieke van Doorninck

Set an oil extraction deadline:
Either we have a date or amount of barrels of oil that are allowed out of the sea and then we’re stopping. To make it a more interesting prospect, as we go through the process of decommissioning the oil rigs, every time one is de-commissioned, we’re going to bring it back to the mainland and we’re going to turn it into a theme park. Rosemary Harris

Stop extracting and burning fossil fuels:
There’s a fungal aspect to this as we’d be aligning ourselves with cycles of renewal by doing so, rather than a linear process of extraction that can’t carry on. Doug Bierend

Time shared between energy reps and energy workers:
For every hour that anyone related to politics (MPs, civil servants, advisors) spends with representatives and lobbyists connected to the energy industry—fossil fuels or renewables—they have to spend the same amount of time with the workers that are actually producing the energy. Rosemary Harris
Abolish all existing and emerging infrastructure and monuments to colonialism:

From policing to carceral mental health systems, to a militarised education system—all of those infrastructures, local and global, international, that still exist to punitively harm and enact violence on otherised bodies would be dismantled. Farzana Khan

Advisory bodies of trans and non-binary youth:

These would be highly respected, well-funded and well-resourced so that they can have impact on decision-making in the arenas of healthcare, sports, education, in religious spaces, and that other policy-makers, those of us who are older, have a practice of turning to this advisory body and listening to it and acting and advising and legislating accordingly, based on their recommendations. Syd Yang

A citizenship amnesty:

I would offer citizenship to everyone who lives in the United States and calls it home. The care economy is a place where many, many immigrants, especially immigrant women, have worked for many years, and they’ve contributed to so many families and to our economy, and yet live in an insecure reality for their own families because they lack citizenship. I would ensure that they had full citizenship tomorrow. Ai-Jen Poo

Dismantle any structures that are hostile:

Such as the UK government’s ‘hostile environment’. This especially pertains to migration and movement, and to how people can move, build community, in ways that aren’t extractive, that don’t produce satellite colonialism, that actually allow us to experience one another without it being at the expense of different communities. To be able to experience different realities and communities through a movement that is supported and resourced and celebrated. Farzana Khan

The diversification of museum collections:

All museums that receive any kind of funding from the state would need to immediately pivot their collection strategies so that they start collecting, immediately, art by artists of colour, especially black indigenous artists, women and disabled artists. Otherwise they will no longer be eligible for funding and they have to accelerate the diversification of their collections, including by selling some of the work they have by all the old white European dudes. Favianna Rodriguez

A diversity mandate:

The objective is that our organisations, companies and public bodies reflect the communities they serve. It means that if a company doesn’t achieve those targets of reflecting the population they serve within 12 months, then the community has a mandate to step in and populate that board, that company, that organisation. It will also apply equally to equal pay, equal terms and conditions, equal representation within internal meetings. And communities have the mandate to step in if those targets aren’t being met at any level. Erika Rushton

The equal distribution of domestic work:

A societal, structural change where men take 50% of the responsibility and the burden of domestic chores and household chores. Not just physical chores, but also the mental load of planning for it, making lists for it, or brainstorming for it. Nameerah Hameed

Gender-balanced co-leadership:

We want to see co-leadership installed all around the world, in both governance and business. Co-leadership meaning that we have co-Chairmen, co-CEOs and co-roles going all the way down the hierarchy of organisations. There is no reason why we shouldn’t have 50-50 women and men sharing roles in absolutely every aspect of our lives. Bianca Pitt

Get rid of the story of white people:

That story is out. That’s last year. It’s cancelled. What you’re allowed to be now is a really, really, really, pale black person that can be feeling bad about your lack of access to sunlight, or the distance from Mother Nature appreciating you. We get rid of the notion of white people, the story, not the actual white people. It’s a ridiculous story that’s false today. I would really love for us to get rid of the story of white superiority and then follow that up with getting rid of whiteness. We’re not telling ourselves that story anymore. Natasha Marin

Increase diversity in large organisations:

Organisations of a particular size above 500 to 1000 members have to have some association with a smaller organisation to enact some form of diversity inclusion criteria, and to establish a policy that allows for an increase of change within that sector. They have to reach the goal of representing the current census of the UK. That will be subsidised and there will be money given to organisations that do that and allow for them to reach their goals. Reuben Fakoya-Brooks
More consideration to women’s voices:

Particularly looking at civil society, we want to make sure that women are equally represented in media, in books, on tweets, in podcasts, and that we make sure that for every piece that is authored around the world, we have both a woman speaking and a man speaking. **Bianca Pitt**

A movement to love and support trans and gender diverse people:

This would enable their survival and thriving in the fullness of who they are. And would include providing free, self-determined access to high-quality, easily available gender affirming care, without gate keeping. We are living in a moment where that is being actively, violently threatened, so we would also need to repeal all anti-trans legislation and resist the criminalisation of trans people and gender affirming care and care providers. To me this is fundamentally about joyfully loving and celebrating and wanting there to be trans and intersex people and bodies in the world and I think it would contribute to a much more thriving and flourishing world and community. **Zena Sharman**

A new gender justice imagination curriculum:

This will be a new curriculum that will ensure that we see people of all genders, of all races and of all ages, as being able to bring caring into their work, no matter in what context—that caring is a part of all of our understandings as responsible citizens of the Earth, and that we have different ways in which we can all contribute to being caring citizens of the Earth. **Kavita Ramdas**

Write women back into history:

I would like to see women restored to history books and to history in general, for their leadership and voice to be featured. I want their art to be shown in museums and their books re-released. **Bianca Pitt**

‘I would like to see women restored to history books and to history in general.’

**Bianca Pitt**
**Access to good food for all:**

It would be amazing to have a country or a world where everyone is able to eat amazing organic food, so it’s not something for a certain type of person. It’s not too expensive. It’s not inaccessible. It creates this food equality around the world where people, especially poor people, aren’t forced to eat really bad processed food. A massive movement of eating local and eating fresh could only do good for everyone involved. *Mya-Rose Craig*

**A ban on factory farming:**

Intensive farming of livestock will be phased out over a period of years, with a just transition for the farmers and the workers and those in the processing sector. This just transition will mean people find new, alternative forms of livelihood making good food, producing more fruit and veg, as well as quality meat from rich pastures full of biodiversity and mixed grasses and plants. *Vicki Hird*

**Every door should have a pretzel door knocker:**

It would remind people as they came and went of the importance of bread in the fabric of society. *Catriona Milligan*

**Everyone leaving school knowing how to grow their own food:**

From nursery upwards—learning to grow fruits and vegetables naturally. *Kwesia X*

**A Future Farming Act:**

This would completely reform the way in which we farm in the UK, to help lead the world in re-bugging our farm systems. It directs farmers to farm in ways that work with nature and ways that support the bugs. This will make sure that the soil is well protected and will protect hedgerows and the edges of fields so they’re full of bugs that also support the farmers in pest management. I can’t begin to tell you all the different sub-policies within this Act, but they will change the way in which the whole of the UK is farmed, supporting the renaissance in bug life in the UK so it becomes a rich part of our culture and imagination again. *Vicki Hird*

**Government funding for home growing:**

The government is going to give every single household the money and resources required to do some kind of growing at home. Whether or not you live in London and all you can do is a herb garden on your windowsill, or perhaps you have a slightly bigger garden and you can grow some wild flowers for biodiversity, or perhaps keep a couple of chickens for yourself—everyone is going to have the ability to do some kind of growing at home to help boost food security as well as local biodiversity. *Bushra Schutemaker*

**The Honest Crust Act:**

This will regulate the description of bread and related products to prevent misinformation, lying about what is in products, and gross exploitation and misuse of terms such as ‘freshly baked’ and particularly ‘sourdough’. *Andrew Whitley*

**Include animal agriculture in climate targets:**

Place it at the heart of their approach to reducing their emissions. *Dr Melanie Joy*

**Make vegan the default food offering in all public settings:**

In all cafeterias, in hospitals, on aeroplanes, and so on. You’re automatically given vegan food unless you opt for the food labelled ‘C’ for carnistic. *Dr Melanie Joy*

**A National Food Growers Training Programme:**

This will start with children learning to garden in school. It will identify those who want to be gardeners, growers, farmers, and help them become that. It will make possible more urban farming rooftop projects but also a lot more farmers in rural areas. It’s one of the biggest challenges now, in France at least, because one third of the farmer population will go into retirement in the next five years. *Paola Krug*

**National Transition Service:**

In the past we had military service. If we want to stop with industrial food production system, stop pesticides, fertilisers and so on, we need more people in the fields to do the work that will not be done by the chemicals. Everybody would be invited to give some of their time to help. *Christian Jonet*

**A New Agricultural Policy:**

I’m going to get my people to work on two key elements. One is making sure that our grazing areas and our nature areas are better managed and better protected, and making sure that’s done in a cohesive and connected manner so that we are creating stepping stones of habitats that are not over-fertilised. And secondly, to make sure that we have a pesticide approval process that has public engagement, isn’t done secretly behind closed doors, and properly considers all of the environmental risks before they allow the risk of pesticides. *Matt Shardlow*
'Polluter pays' legislation:

This would assist in the general transformation of agriculture towards regenerative systems. Instead of paying farmers to attend to a little bit of biodiversity by bigger field margins, beetle banks, a bit of cover cropping, we would say everything you grow has got to be maximising the number of people you nourish with it. You’ve got to look at less and better in terms of nutrient density, and we will reward you for that, just as we are penalising you for using fertilisers which are pulling in the wrong direction. Money that comes from penalising that kind of activity could be used to support farmers to grow, find the varieties, research them, get everybody involved in this idea of making food as nutritious as it possibly can be. Andrew Whitley

Remove subsidies for animal-based products:

Right now, tremendous amount of government funding enables meat, eggs and dairy to be accessible and affordable for people, but they are harmful to the environment, harmful to the animals, harmful to our bodies. Remove subsidies for these products and subsidise products that are ethically sourced, more sustainable and more healthful for everybody. Dr Melanie Joy

Repurpose the defence budget:

This would fund black-owned farms and spaces that are owned and run by people of colour for food growing, food production, that can also function as education spaces, health centres and sites of political organising. Josina Calliste

Repurpose Track and Trace:

Instead use the technology to create an environment where everyone is supported to grow food, and matched with local projects, farms, food growing spaces, so that everyone knows the local projects in their area where they can learn how to provide for themselves and their families and their communities. Josina Calliste

Set community standards for a people’s bread:

These would be voluntary community standards. We’ve got to create the right conditions for people to seek out and value the people’s bread. It’s bread we really value because we know where it’s come from, we know who’s grown it, we know who’s baked it, if it’s not ourselves, and the place we buy it is a place which is pleasurable and life-enhancing to be in. It’s ‘people’s bread’ because they want it to be like that and believe in it implicitly. They won’t eat anything else, because they suspect it’s coming from a system which is corrupted and on its last legs—because it’s incompatible with the society that we have to create in the future if we’re not going to fry the planet and further wreck biodiversity and go to hell in a handcart. Andrew Whitley

Shift agriculture to plant-based:

All farms should be converted to either a sanctuary or completely converted to a space to grow plant foods immediately. Tomi Makanjola

Stricter food labelling laws:

Food processing aids which currently don’t have to appear on labels would have to appear on labels. There would have to be transparency about the processes that are undergone in the production of the food. If say flour has been bleached, that has to be stated, and what’s used to bleach it. If there are colourings introduced to a product because the process it’s undergone has meant the colour is unattractive, that all needs to be declared on the label. Catriona Milligan

Supermarkets that benefit local neighbourhoods:

Tight planning around supermarkets that means they don’t get permission to be built in a neighbourhood unless they’re going to invest at least 75% of their profits locally. Catriona Milligan

Support farmers to become the genuine stewards of the countryside:

Shifting away from pesticides, synthetic fertilisers and other 20th century disasters and change the farming subsidy. It will fight the climate crisis, restore wildlife, store carbon and water, grow food in a resilient way, without the synthetic fertilisers, and make land available for people to improve their health and well-being. Jane Davidson

Universal access to clean food:

I would have community gardens near schools. There can be inter-generational activities, and you can have great speakers come in, like the Jane Fondas of the world. These community gardens can become hubs that generate food, meeting that need for safety. Joanna Grover

Veganism training for new parents.

Tomi Makanjola

‘Eat amazing organic food’

Mya-Rose Craig
Ask every other Ministry to engage in new processes for their policy making:

They will have to engage communities across sector, race, class, gender etc in collective imagining processes to determine the policies of their particular ministries. So, the Ministry of Health will have to engage people in imagining the healthcare system, imagining wellbeing, and have that shape their plans and policies. *Aisha Shillingford*

Change how government makes decisions:

Parliament will now be elected by consent, and decisions will be taken by consent within Parliament. Decisions taken in this way will lead to motivation and feeling of sharing the risk and opportunities. *Guillaume Dorvaux*

Create a Wellbeing Economy Governance Partnership:

If we look at the world through the GDP lens, we see these massive countries and economies that have done so much damage to their own societies and to societies around the world. If we take off this lens and put on a different one, that of a Wellbeing Economy, we start to see different champions, different heroes, who aren’t delivering things perfectly but are having a good hard go at creating different economic systems. The idea is that we put our shoulder into this emerging nascent initiative and have that stand up and be the group of nations and space where decision-making and inspiration and sharing and collaboration happens. *Dr Katherine Trebeck*

A Cultural Commission for the Unexpected:

People are invited to apply to this Commission to create public installations that can be interacted with, and these installations will do unexpected things. They’re designed to deliberately disrupt our everyday routine. And if we disrupt our everyday routine, we then step outside of our current context, or we think differently, and we’re given the opportunity to be a bit more playful and to enter into a more imaginative space—wonderful engaging interactive installations that are fostering our imagination and play. *Tom Doust*

An 80/20 Policy for Everyone in Government:

Taking a page from Google’s book, we are going to give all the employees in government, at all levels, one day of the week off to work on any creative project that they like and see what happens to our governance across all of the Ministries as a result. *Ariane Conrad*

The Emergency Ice Cream Act:

This act is an additional service to fire, police and ambulance, available on your emergency contact number of choice. Somebody just brings ice cream, free of charge, to any situation. It’s of course going to be made not from dairy but from the local milk equivalent that’s sustainable to the area. Round here that would probably be oat, which is fortunate because oat ice cream, darn fine. *Ben Addicott*

Employ Chief Citizen Participation Officers:

Their job is to think innovatively and include citizens in right ways, through the process and delivery of every policy. Because what you measure matters, and someone has to be in charge of that measurement. And I think one of the things that we were missing, before my Ministry came in, is that we thought citizen participation was having a public hearing. The problem with that is that only the people who have a vested interest, or only the people who have the time to show up, show up. So, we need new ways to be more inclusive of the people who don’t have the time, who don’t have a vested interest. And my chief Citizen Participation Officer is thinking of inclusion all the time in every part of the process, while keeping in mind that some things need to happen quickly, and some things can take more time. *Lisa Witter*

Establish Foresight Units within every government in the world:

We need to stretch our minds and to move from a ten-year stretch to a thousand-year stretch—to really dream way out, leaving generations ahead of us and to be stewards for things we cannot see. My policy is to make sure that every government has a Foresight Unit that does this, that stretches to a thousand years and engages citizens in that thousand-year view. Instead of just five-year plans or twenty-year plans, we have thousand-year plans. We have Foresight Units that dream in thousand-year increments but act in today and tomorrow. *Lisa Witter*

50% leadership of women in all areas of governance:

We absolutely end the male default in leadership. And we ensure that any gains in representation for women overall translate to gains for women of colour simultaneously. *Nameerah Hameed*

51% women:

By global agreement, every single government, every board of a company, and governing body of any international organisation has 51% women. Feminine intelligence is what’s going to get us through this next very tricky time. These are women of all cultures, a variety of backgrounds and genders. *Dr Scilla Elworthy*
Give government departments better names:

I propose that we change the name of all departments that have natural resources to calling them Departments of Earthly Delights.  Anab Jain

Inclusive, community-led governance policies:

These attend to and are an expression of the rich diversity of our bio-regions. This is because the change that we’re seeking, as the Ministry of Imagination in this beautiful bio-region, cannot just involve a few people. It must involve all sectors regardless of if they’re initially attuned to regeneration, transition or bio-regioning. Everybody needs to be on the same train for it to be able to take off. Erika Zarate

Indigenous women to lead every nation:

Every single major leading position, such as governors, prime-ministers, presidents, all become vice-governors, vice-prime-ministers, vice-presidents, and are put adjacent to an indigenous woman who is elected to become leader of the land. For example, here in what we now call the United States, an indigenous woman is appointed president and whoever else was president can now be vice-president. There’s a shared power and a shared creation of a path forward. And although she is listening to the ideas of the previous power establishment, she ultimately has the seat of extreme influence. They are elected based on how well they take care of the Earth and the people. Dr Lyla June Johnston

The integration of ecologists and environmental experts into government policy:

A flipping of the current status quo of listening to experts to inform policy rather than individual politicians forming policies and experts trying to find ways to make it work. I think that should help with conceiving more achievable sustainable goals by actively having experts from the ecological and environmental sectors in governance, in those inner circles. Reuben Fakoya-Brooks

Make decision-making, global to local, full-on experiential:

A lot of destruction and devaluing goes on because we have such an isolated way of making decisions. Let’s imagine a bank, a pension fund or a government, debating investing into the tar sands. Right now, those debates happen in a nice little clean room somewhere in Ottawa or Toronto or somewhere else in the world. What if you were required to move that particular room, and that space, and all those people who were talking about the issue, right onto the First Nation in the tar sands suffering the effects of water contamination and pollution, effects on their health, and not having any benefits from this particular form of extraction? You now have to debate those discussions about investment right then and there, drinking the local water, talking to the local people. How would that affect and change and transform the way you make decisions? Yannick Beaudoin

More direct democracy:

Make democracy more direct, more dialogic, more distributed and data-driven, with referenda on all levels, complimented by citizen councils, capacity building, quality data and expertise. Otto Scharmer

A move to genuine democracy:

This would be a real democracy, where we don’t have career politicians anymore. We’ll live in a society where it’s actually really the people who are in power. The idea to just randomly select people is incredibly powerful, because our democracy can become a school of citizenship. If you treat people like lazy, disinterested, cynical citizens, then they’ll behave in that way. If we treat people like engaged people, like creative people who want to contribute, then we’ll find out that this is entirely possible, and that people from the left to the right, rich, poor, young and old, can work together and reach reasonable compromises. Rutger Bregman

Organisations must include impacted people in their decision-making:

A legal duty on every organisation to demonstrate that it’s making significant steps each year to ensure more of the people impacted by its activities are part of the decision-making process. This means finding ways to distribute power across the staff team, but also covers how organisations are sharing power with service users, with neighbours, with suppliers, with producers, all the way back through their supply chain. Sarah McAdam
Planning for seven generations:

a) Not just for humans, but also when thinking of other species. Each time we uproot a plant or a tree for our needs, we plant seven more in exchange. *Anab Jain*

b) I would decree that in every department, every decision that was made must consider the learning of the previous seven generations and consider the impact on the seven subsequent generations. *Mike Grenville*

Radical decentralisation and constitutional reform:

We are going to overhaul our voting system to have a better system of proportional representation. We will have an upper house that safeguards the most fundamental elements within our system, most notably the environment and education, and depoliticises them by putting them genuinely in the hands of the many not the few. And we’re going to launch a nationwide exciting series of neighbourhood and Citizen Assemblies to really give power back to the people. *Robert Philips*

Redesign government buildings to facilitate better interaction:

I’d redesign them into circles with huge circular tables and lots of different modules of circles there, and invite all our politicians to sit in circle, and to have women’s circles where the men are just listening as well so that all our decisions come from this circular space as well. *Looby Macnamara*

Resource a distributed network of support for the changes that need to happen:

This stuff is really difficult. We’re requiring organisations to change so we need to give them people with relevant expertise and advice and support, as well as opportunities to come together to share learning and share their questions and support each other and find out what’s needed and what’s possible. *Sarah McAdam*

A 10-year moratorium on male and white leaders:

UN member states would come together and say, it can’t be worse, so for the next 10 years, no member states will elect a male and/or white leader. Just to put a caveat on that, I’m not at all suggesting that there’s a problem with men or white people, it’s just, take that back seat a little bit. Go into the passenger side and see what we come up with if we allow new fresh perspectives to be fully valued and fully realised in our very global decision-making. It would be not just public sector, but also moving into the corporate side. *Yannick Beaudoin*

Transform the governance of the Ministry itself:

I want to model the change that we’re going to support in the country. Distributing power differently across a narrow band of people with privilege isn’t going to cut it. As we make changes to our governance, we’re going to be transparent about what we’re doing—what we’re finding difficult, what’s going well—so that we can invite feedback from this wider country that will be able to tell us what they need and give us ideas and experience as we work our way through a complex change. *Sarah McAdam*

Create places for deep listening:

These are not only natural places but human places so we can listen to each other as well. To preserve the natural places we need to invest in things like landscape restoration, rewilding, regenerative farming, innovation in recycling. Just enforcing existing environmental legislation would often make a huge difference. We need to care for and nurture the natural world, not in the sense of management but letting it be as wild and as beautiful as it possibly can be. We also need spaces for us to listen to each other: forums that allow for inclusion and mutual respect, and processes of negotiation and diplomacy so that we can work out those contentions, find ways of cooperating and coming together to create the kind of futures that we want. *Andrew Skeoch*

Create spaces for deep-listening spaces:

This is where we are going to grow our empathy because we are going to practice being with those that we perceive as being ‘other’ or different from us. We’re going to get the opportunity to deeply listen to and connect with lots of other beings, human and non-human. *Laura Schmidt*

Freedom of knowledge exchange beyond national boundaries:

We would have this relationship between people from different areas, across the globe, in which we’re constantly talking and reflecting and exploring the next steps that need to take place in terms of our educational apparatus, a space where everyone is engaged in manifesting the society that they want to live in, irrespective of borders, race, class, gender. *Kwame Boating*

A National Listening Campaign:

Listening is a very, very important part of society, and we’re going to put huge billboards up, setting out the very positive implications about what happens when we listen, without in anyway being political. But maybe it’s great that people could share their different ideas on how they think a world could be run and we could learn from one another. *Eliza Marshall*
Artists and creativity at every civic table:
This would be interwoven throughout all parts of life, throughout all government agencies, throughout every business and entity. There’s a sense we’re willing to let artists and creativity inform, nurture and creatively disrupt all of the systems that we have today, whether it’s transportation or buildings or hospitals and how we run them. We now really think of creativity as an essential piece of life and not something that happens over there by those people. *Alexis Frasz*

Benchmark grants:
A campaign to provide little, small grants for people to install public benches, or seating areas, or tables, or areas where people can gather in small groups of five and ten people, and to then install those pieces of furniture. And these are outdoors, usually. It becomes almost a piece of public realm where people can come together and sit down, can share ideas or just sit there and ponder. Very simple but effective. *Tom Doust*

Create a ‘think it, do it’ culture:
If people have a creative idea in their community, there are resources and there’s support for them to put it into action immediately, without having to go through lengthy processes of application for grants and things like that. There’s a pool of funds where people can do things, small things, that improve their community over time. *Alexis Frasz*

A creative and imagination directorate:
Within our local authority that’s staffed by activists to encourage silo-busting experimentation towards climate, racial and economic justice in the city. *Leah Black*

Creative peer support on prescription:
Whenever you need it, you can access a group of peers and work together using creativity and imagination to work through stuff that you’re working on. It’s free, and you can be completely yourself, completely vulnerable. *Jo Hunter*

Creativity / imagination tents around the city:
During Covid, testing sites popped up everywhere, so similarly I’m going to create tents, structures around the city, for reflection and creativity where you can unload all the crap that you’ve been taking in sub-consciously and then on your way out you can pick up any art materials that you want, on the house. Then you can leave and be empowered to make something beautiful. *Rosa ter Kuile*

Dedicated spaces for imagination work:
Every time a new home is built, a new office building, even when we’re renovating, there is a new requirement that dedicated spaces be provided for imagination work. We need to think about how we can heal harm and we need to create spaces in our homes, in our communities, in our government buildings, where people are intentionally setting aside time to deal with not just the thorny issues, but the interpersonal conflict that sometimes gets in the way of us healing from harm. *Zach Norris*

Diversify the voices in discussions about the future:
Ensure young people are at the table, that the most affected communities are at the table, indigenous voices are at the table, and not in a tokenised way. This would ensure that the people who have the freshest ideas, who have the energy, who have the passion and grit, and capacity for imagination, are at that decision-making table every step of the way. *Clover Hogan*

Everyone gets a term as minister of the imagination. *Kevin Quashie*

Expand what we mean by culture:
Re-centring what has been on the margins of what we think of as culture. It would influence everything from what is required reading in schools to what are the holdings of libraries and museums, to also what is funded, for example, in the film, music, television industries as being things that are defining pieces of culture. By expanding and in some cases inverting that, we will have a wider range of narratives to draw upon to make sense of life, to make sense of our world, to make sense of each other. *Dr Masum Momaya*
Imagination & Creativity

**Free, unlimited life-time access to the Ministry of the Imagination:**

How can we sustain ourselves through the hard times, the grief of racial injustice and climate injustice? Every day, should you need it, you’ll have access to the Ministry headquarters and there will be imagination pods there so you can come in and have nap breaks, a room to yourself, daydream and strategise. It will be a nurturing space and there’ll be free childcare. There’s no internet access though, so you can’t google how to have a rest or how to have a nap break during the day. *Shasta Hanif Ali*

**Hubs and homes for creative activity:**

Supportive infrastructure but also people who can help both artists and other regular everyday people come in with interesting creative ideas or a desire to be creative and not exactly knowing how to apply that imagination. *Alexis Frasz*

**Imagination infrastructure budgeting:**

This would ensure that all levels of governance commit some of their budget monthly to adopt and take on the things we’re imagining together. A key part of creating an imagination infrastructure is that it takes root. With this policy, the imaginings that we have are resourced to take root in the ground. *Cassie Robinson*

**Imagination sabbaticals, fellowships and retirement:**

We will see an explosion of imagination sabbaticals, imagination fellowships and that retirement gets retold as a story of imagination—that it’s actually your time to imagine and to be supported to imagine. And perhaps we’d remodel the whole idea of what the purpose of life after the age of 65 is. Maybe it’s supporting the younger generations with that wisdom of imagining how the world once was and where it could go. Time for imagining and support to do that at all ages. *Phoebe Tickell*

**Imagination subsidies:**

I would finance new stories and create imagination subsidies. If your project, your movie or your book or your architecture project is really a breakthrough in imagination, if you imagine something that nobody has imagined before, you will get a subsidy. *Cyril Dion*

**Launch teams of creative catalysts:**

These will be in every local neighbourhood and in the new organisations and systems that make up civic life. They’ll be artists, facilitators and craftivists, trained in the art of invitation to support, enable and activate. These catalysts will see the creative in all of us and bring out our innate desire to steer and make decisions about our own lives. They’ll guide us with care and creativity to become stewards and protectors of the places we live, weaving us back into deep connection with land and with each other. *Ruth Ben-Tuvim*

**Imagination agents:**

This would be a number of voluntary people charged with making sure that these spaces and places for our imagination are brought to life, giving people permission to play. If we have these imagination agents dotted around who give their time to allow us to say yes, and to give us that permission and help facilitate that opportunity, that would be fantastic. *Tom Doust*

**Fully funded, fully equipped and fully staffed art rooms in all care homes:**

Just an art room with huge amounts of materials. That’s it. That’s a condition of their licence to operate as care homes. *Sarah Gillespie*

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**Learn from exemplars:**

What I’m envisioning is a whole, large, gregarious, fluid, somehow remunerated culture of people who themselves exemplify and foster the qualities that we’ve been talking about through their own example. Let’s bring philosophers back into our culture, turn them loose. Let’s let the poets have a wider audience than the Friday night poetry reading. Anyone who has a creative or imaginative purchase on living, to try to create a system, a class, a circulation that gets these people out and interacting and modelling by example so that people say, ‘Wow, that’s what it’s about. I want to be that too.’ So, we need examples, this kind of body of exemplars, on every front. *Sven Birkerts*

**Imagination infrastructure budgeting:**

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Serious government funded research into biomimicry:

I’m fascinated by biomimicry, and it sounds like it’s gotten sufficiently advanced in 100 years that it would be a scientific discipline. I would love as a Minister of the Imagination to get involved in it. Rita J. King

Test driving a sustainable future:

It’s all about winning the idea, through research, through tests, through think pieces, conferences and gatherings. We can compile and draw together different ideas for how this new world would be. We’re starting to build the world as a piece of well-reasoned, rational thinking. Phil Teer

A transition salary:

This would be a public income for transitioners to allow people who want to stop with bullshit jobs and experience new lifestyles, new ways of producing, of consuming, in a more local and resilient way, to do so without taking too much personal risk for themselves and for their family. If you want to experience new ways of doing things, you must have some economic security, a small income from the government to have the possibility to try your new ideas. Christian Jonet

Two days a week for everyone to work on creative projects:

Whether you’re knitting a jumper for your new niece, or you’re trying out oil painting for the first time. Whatever it is, there’s space for you to try it out and relax. Rosa ter Kuile

‘Let’s bring philosophers back into our culture, turn them loose.’

Sven Birkerts

‘understanding our relatedness to the web of life’

Dr Rupa Marya

Indigenous Sovereignty

Give indigenous people their land back and follow their stewardship to manage that land:

That would go a long way in bringing us forward to a world in which we’ve taken up the lesson of the mushrooms. There are a lot of metrics we could point to as benefits for indigenous land stewardship but more broadly it changes our relationship to the land to have those with the longest standing relationship to their bio-region leading the way. It speaks to the anti-colonial piece as well. Doug Bierend

Uplift indigenous sovereignty and land stewardship:

To be done in ways that tie those cosmologies, those ways of understanding our relatedness to the web of life, so that we all must learn to remember those things that we all used to have. Dr Rupa Marya
Conflict resolution training for all:

We would all be trained and practicing different ways of both understanding our role in conflicts and how to mediate and get through and address conflict without resorting to simply punitive measures, carceral measures. How we frame and how we move through conflicts has long-term consequences both for individuals and for communities and for societies. We would figure out how to engage in constructive conflict in a way that harms are addressed and acknowledged, but also worked through in a way that serves perpetrators and victims and all those affected. Panthea Lee

Consider silence as important as five-a-day:

We must consider silence as a health issue. Fifteen to twenty minutes of silence is now a health requirement for people to collect their thoughts and to move away from the hustle and bustle on a daily basis. André Anderson

Create the conditions for people to love themselves:

It’s about helping people find what lights them up. Is it meditation? Is it gardening? Belina Raffy

A daily 20-minute moment of contemplation:

Employees can decide to either have it at the end of the day, the middle of the day, or the beginning of the day. It’s not lunchtime. Everyone can take the time to collect their thoughts in whatever way is needed and companies can provide a percentage of their budget towards this contemplation time to be as fruitful as possible. André Anderson

Embrace slowness:

The mandate of productivity that’s governed by capitalism, ableism and white supremacy is dismantled, so that you can go to school and not get sick. So many people, myself included, were hospitalised in school. People get sick and they never return to school. And in our workspaces, instead of focussing on deadlines we will ask, ‘Are we moving slow enough? Do you need rest? Do you need a mental health day? Do you need a care day?’ I would figure out a way for us to really embrace slowness and reframe the ways in which we view and engage with productivity. Shayda Kafai

Enshrine the concept of ‘bildung’:

(The European Bildung Network defines bildung as ‘the combination of the education and knowledge necessary to thrive in your society, and the moral and emotional maturity to both be a team player and have personal autonomy’). We can change how we relate to everything that’s not us, including other people, including our ideas about ourselves. In doing so we can increase our capacity to handle complexity, our capacity to be empathetic, our capacity to handle our own shadows and project them less on to others. Anthea Lawson

Everybody should have access to carnival and soca music:

That is life. And we should be able to wear feathers to work, if we work. Natalie Creary

Free talking therapies for men:

This would be something that would be super, super helpful for all of us. I know that it’s uncomfortable, especially for us as men. Talking is not something that comes naturally to us. If we could create a system where people could get it for free, whether on the NHS, or through independent organisations given money to deliver this to all the men across the country, it would be a really quick way of seeing a huge impact in men’s mental health and their emotional literacy. Ben Hurst

A self-doubt and inner critic pause button:

A pause button that we could press when self-doubt and our inner critic gets particularly loud. Because we would then have the moment to realise that it is not coming from within us but from the different systemic oppressions that govern or try to govern us. The pause button would give us the time and space to remember that we are indeed brilliant knowledge producers. The world tries to make us forget. Shayda Kafai
The ability to move throughout the country at little to no cost:
We’re never going to go back to small village, localised life where nobody moves—we’re always going to move throughout the country which is beautiful. Commuting is going to always be part of our lives and therefore we need to do it cheaply and easily. People should not have to weigh up whether they can afford to go to a green space, or to go and have a wild time in nature. Money should never be a barrier. Maybe that means renationalised public transport or something more radical than that, but it would be great if it was free. Nadia Shaikh

The Earth is for everyone:
No-one can be excluded from enjoying the wealth of our shared planet. Nandita Sharma

End individual land ownership:
In our tribe we can have some form of land ownership, but the land can never move beyond the hands of the tribe. If there’s no possibility that the land can move beyond the commons, then that whole idea of land as capital disappears because then the land can’t be leveraged in any way, as it belongs to everyone. Sherri Mitchell

Free access to the land registry:
I would abolish a thousand years of secrecy around land ownership and who owns it in England and Wales by finally opening up and completing the land registry. This would then underpin a huge raft of other reforms that would necessarily flow from that. But first, we’ve got to know who owns the land. Currently the land registry is locked behind a paywall—you would have to pay about £72 million if you wanted to obtain the information on who owns all of England and Wales. Guy Shrobsole

Give land back:
In all places land has been stolen, re-establish commoring on land. Dr Rupa Marya

Greater investment in our infrastructure and an end to false scarcity:
More car-parking and toilets which are free for people to use so that they can go to places and feel comfortable and welcomed in our countryside. There’s always a bank holiday-esque madness of people flocking to places and for those that already feel excluded, that is an intense feeling. We have to do something about all of these beautiful places having the infrastructure that says, ‘You are welcome, you belong, we’re going to make this easy for you’. This links into public transport, so that it’s cheap and accessible, people can get to places and have comfort when they get there. There are so many unseen issues around access. We have to remove every single barrier we can that stops any person from being able to get to places. Nadia Shaikh

Greater right to roam in England:
I would want to see far more than the 8% of the land we currently have a right to roam in England opened up for public access. That would include rivers—it’s bizarre that we are essentially banned from 97% of them currently. And I would give greater access to woods as far too many of them are shut off and used for things like pheasant shoots or private forestry. I would also give people more access to green belt land on the edges of towns and cities. A greater right to roam would let the public reconnect to nature for both mental and physical health. Guy Shrubsole

Introduce a robust way in which people who own and manage land can access payment for public goods to give people proper access to land:
We recognise payment for public goods needs to be really widespread and it needs to be well understood how to access those payments—and for that to result in a shared sense of rights and responsibilities. Access responsibilities are shared by the public and the landowners but the rights are also shared and that’s something that needs to be supported by resourcing people that have that land. Payment for public goods can be through agri-environment payment schemes. You’re guaranteed to have this to mend stiles, to put in gates, to teach people about the land that you manage. This is there in perpetuity because it’s so fundamental to the fabric of access in England. Lewis Winks

100 Square Feet for Everyone:
This would be a government scheme that entitles everyone over 18 to 100 square feet in which they can grow things, garden, sit on a deck chair, whatever. It won’t be applicable to those who already have 100 square feet. Perhaps there’s land unused by the council, by the hospital or the church. But everyone will be entitled to that. After all, in medieval times everyone had their strip of land. And that way people have some connection. If you don’t use your 100 square feet, it will go back to the council or whichever body is actually running the scheme. But everyone should be entitled to grow things. Dr Michael Dixon

Include the land as an actor in decision making:
Whether this would be having a Future Generations Commissioner or a Land Commissioner, or an Office of Land within government, it would make sure that the impact on land and the wider environment is taken into account in all decisions. Kate Swade
Land can no longer be capital:
Land cannot be borrowed against. Cannot be foreclosed. It cannot be capital. That would change everything. Tyson Yunkaporta

Land reform:
Not as a sweeping state programme of land nationalisation, but of making it more and more possible. In Scotland we’ve got a fund to help communities buy back their land within a controlled purchase system of government economic valuation. I would like to see that escalated and with it, for those private owners who hold onto their disproportionate land holdings a land value taxation, the proceeds of which are used to clear the landlords progressively. Alastair McIntosh

Land reparations:
Families who previously owned slaves or plantations or had indentured labour have to give a certain percentage of their land and wealth to descendants of indentured labourers and slaves. Dee Woods

Local volunteer facilitator in each primary care network or group of practices:
We’ve created link workers doing social prescription. Their job will be to find out what volunteering opportunities are required. They’ll be responsible for creating volunteering opportunities, as well as making sure that the volunteers are used locally where they are needed. Dr Michael Dixon

A new land use strategy that nationalises the ownership of carbon stores:
We’re in a climate and nature emergency and land has a vital role to play in fixing those intertwined crises. But we have a problem in England in that 150 people own our biggest carbon stores and uplands. They’re used as grouse moors currently and the aristocrats and city bankers who own them regularly set fire to them. I would implement a new land use strategy that protects these huge natural carbon stores rather than setting fire to them. I would challenge the landowners to comply with that and if they refuse to do so I would nationalise the ownership of the carbon stores. Guy Shrubsole

Protect the commons:
All land, air and water will be held as common property. It doesn’t belong to anyone, but everyone can use it as they need to live. Nandita Sharma

Public bodies doing things that public bodies should be doing:
For instance, the quasi-corporation Ordnance Survey is this mysterious organisation which is meant to be doing public good but has all its data behind massive paywalls which means people can’t really access it. I’d like to fully bring that in-house as a public body and open it up. The work that the OS does not only gives people information about where they live but enables them to question things, do research and do work on understanding the history of the local area and the land use. As part of that I’d like to see every school child, starting at primary school, being given an OS map that has their school right at the centre, enabling them to get to know their local patch. Lewis Winks

Reconceptualise land as a common good:
I would start my ministerial career making the statement that regardless of how it’s owned, land is a common good. That would have knock-on effects around creating policy based on a charter of responsibilities for landowners as well as land rights. I would tax the wealth that is generated through land, rather than through people’s salaries. Other implications of that would be shifting government priorities—both at the national level and the local level—to focus on two things: enhancing the environment and enhancing people’s health. Every other policy should be measured against and linked to those two priorities. Kate Swade

Reform farm support—river buffers and carbon stock protection:
a) From here on, we will only pay farmers for systemic and vital components. One is to protect water, and the other is to protect and grow carbon stocks. As we know, to grow carbon stocks we need lots and lots of perennial vegetation—farming with more trees, more herbal grasslands, minimising cultivation, more permaculture, more allotments. On the water protection side, an absolute compulsory buffer of 20 metres besides all water courses, which is paid for well, so the farmers don’t feel like their land has been nationalised under their feet. This would give space to protect water from run-off coming across fields and would give space for beavers to do all the things they need to do. It all revolves around how we support agriculture in the emergency that we face. Chris Jones

b) I’m going to controversially build on the policy of a mandatory 20m national buffer and make them automatically publicly accessible, because I think that people need better access to nature, and we need to break down the barriers of land and river ownership. It’s going to need some supporting measures and a lot of work, but I think it’s a really important policy. Eva Bishop
A Repossession Act:

a) This Act is all about land and buildings coming back into common ownership. Everybody’s going to end up being a stakeholder in the country of which we’re all part. It looks back at who was advantaged and disadvantaged from historic land ownership agreements—who was stripped of their asset and who gained asset—and it’s ameliorating that over time so there are no sudden winners and losers in this, but within a 20-year time frame everybody will be a stakeholder.  Erika Rushton

b) My addition to the Repossession Act will be that buildings and spaces that are used for communal purposes will be owned by the community by default. They would automatically go to the local community who would come up with alternative uses for them.  Danielle Cohen

Revive local democracy around land:

This would be about funding local authorities properly and potentially reconsidering neighbourhood level governance. I’m a big fan of the idea of sortition or neighbourhood juries and citizens’ assemblies. De-party politicising local governance to allow many more normal and ordinary people to have a say in some of the big decisions about how land should be used locally. In particular, strengthening and enabling local authorities to use their compulsory purchase powers to buy up land that is being badly used and to bring it into the common good.  Kate Swade

Transform our current system of ownership of nature to one of guardianship:

At the moment, if you own a piece of nature and your name is written in the land registry, you can by and large destroy and abuse the nature that you own. I own a stretch of the river Medway and it is therefore within my power to destroy every tree and creature on that riverbank. That is ridiculous—I shouldn’t be allowed to have that power. How that would look is an interesting question. I don’t think state expropriation is a good idea. Everyone that owns land can keep that land, but we would change what that relationship means. If you own a piece of nature, you can decide whether you plant a hawthorn hedge, but you can’t just destroy every bit of greenery on your land and glyphosate it. And you can’t economically expropriate it as such that it destroys that piece of land.  Paul Powlesland

Universal right to clean water:

I truly believe we cannot access the imagination unless we feel safe. So, the first thing I’d do is to provide clean water. I’d have all the great scientists around the world innovating to come up with ways to develop clean water that can be accessible to everybody on this planet, whether through de-salination or some other plan. Without this basic need being met we can’t get to a higher thought.  Joanna Grover

Water systems to be included in all decision making:

Every single decision we make has to consider its impact on water systems and it may not compromise the health and cleanliness of the water around us.  Dr Lyla June Johnston

‘I truly believe we cannot access the imagination unless we feel safe. So, the first thing I’d do is to provide clean water.’  Joanna Grover
Abolish forced care restraints and cages:
I’m seeing this in a very fun way, that asylums and prisons will magically turn into big, bouncy castles, with magical slides. I’m thinking about people who still want to be in a safer contained place having big bouncy walls and soundproofing.
Stefanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu

Abolish prisons and replace them with restorative justice:
One of the things that we have to consider is how we minimise the ways in which coercion and violence influence our society. So, I propose that we abolish prisons and replace them with various practices of restorative justice. The more we’re able to engage in the work of democracy, of thinking about forgiveness, freedom, reconciliation, the less likely I think we will have citizens who are driven by fear, anger, resentment.
Alex Zamalin

Abolish the prison industrial complex:
This would extend to all forms of policing and all carceral spaces: no prisons, jails, but also immigration detention facilities, psychiatric institutions, long-term care facilities and any kind of carceral space or policy that exists that ultimately is about locking people up, locking them away, treating them as disposable. We would free everybody from those kinds of spaces.
Zena Sharman

Community groups represented at parliamentary level:
Government has to respond to the needs of local communities on a community level where people work as a co-operative.
Leila Fortunato

Daily reflections on safety:
Everyone would be invited, on a daily basis, to imagine safety. To meditate on it, talk about it, sing about it, dance about it, and to share their thoughts collectively about what safety feels like, what safety looks like, what safety makes possible in their lives and in their communities’ lives. And to do that in as imaginative way a way as possible, because we all need to be imaginative around these issues.
Andrea Ritchie

Decriminalise all drugs:
We’d also have these mad magic experimental centres where folks can try different medicines, where we have an understanding that all drugs are medicine and come from this Earth and it’s really about our relationship to these medicines.
Stefanie Lyn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu

Defund the police:
This means allocating funds to programmes that would better support the community. Less policing, more social workers, more mental health care.
Dr Priscilla Layne

The Earth, Future Generations and Ancestors Act:
The Earth, future generations and ancestors are included in all decision-making at every level of governance as shareholders, on the board of all companies and having a seat at every board meeting. From local councils to corporations to government, this is a kind of imaginative politics and imaginative governance, where Earth, future generations and ancestors are represented as stakeholders in decision making.
Phoebe Tickell
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Enact the substantive rights of nature:

Your rights as a human are not just protected by one law, they are protected through loads of different laws at all levels of the system. In terms of nature, the crime of ecocide would map on to the crime of genocide at an international level but we also need national crimes against killing nature unnecessarily, and all the different protections going down from that. A general Rights of Nature Bill would have different general rights for each part of nature to be protected and would allow regulations to specify in more detail how that would look. So oak trees might have different substantive trees to other trees. We could also have regulations for each river because the challenges for each river are different. There would be an act allowing the right of the river to flow, the right of the river to not be polluted, the right of the river to not have rubbish in it, but then regulations would define what that would mean for each river. It would be the work of local communities to work out what they want each river to have. It’s a complex change and an entire new legal system, and it’s a big job but one we need to get going on.

Paul Powlesland

Give legal personality and standing to nature:

a) At the moment we have such a problem in that laws relating to nature are not being enforced. With our rivers for example, water companies and farmers routinely break the existing laws and there is no one to uphold and enforce those laws. I imagine each river having a guardianship body that can bring cases on behalf of the river and importantly can keep any fines and damages that are received from that. One of the big problems now is that if a water company is fined for putting sewage into the river, that fine goes to the Treasury not to the river itself to look after it. For instance, on the river Roding where I live, we have to do everything voluntarily, we don’t have any paid staff at all. If we just had the fines from the criminal offences that Thames Water are committing at the moment, then we’d be able to fund a team of at least a dozen people to care for the river. There should be a planning person representing the river Roding in all planning applications that relate to it. There should be an invasive species officer to enforce the current law of invasive species on the river. All these ideas stem from the original one of having legal personality for the river because if you don’t have that none of the other stuff can happen.

Paul Powlesland

b) The Earth is a sentient living being and trees, rivers, mountains, animals all have human rights. Aimee Lewis Reau

c) More-than-human kin are represented in all areas of decision making, governance and civic life. Because it might not always be possible to get a beaver, otter or salmon for example, we will appoint legitimate representatives for some of these species. For the smaller ones (e.g. a diatom or a small micro-organism) we may be able to project them on screen so they can be present. We need to make sure all beings are fairly represented, so one or more of them is present in its own form or as a human representative, whenever decisions are being made.

Anne-Marie Culhane

Legislatively adopt the United Nations Human Rights Charter:

Instead of having healthcare or education that is unaffordable, we have a system where healthcare is a human right and education is a human right. We’ll have the ability to educate the people who live in this country and keep them healthy. They can then be productive members of society so that all of us will do better.

Sam Tsabberis

Make lying in politics a sackable offence:

If we know that you have lied, you cannot continue in your current role.

Agamemnon Otero

Paid employment as a sentencing option:

If we could get people into work, it could give people hope. How best to give hope to the hopeless? That sense that things could get better, second chances, could lead to less trauma for young people, less violence in the streets in the future. The evidence tells us that would work.

Graham Goulden

Pass binding international agreements regarding cyber warfare, biological warfare:

We have to have a much broader capacity to deal with hybrid warfare, as well as a restructured UN, or a new international body, that makes invading other countries finally become a thing of the past. Also fostering civil conflict in another country or a third country has to be rendered profoundly unprofitable, not just for hostile nation states but potentially even for large corporate entities that are becoming in some ways more powerful than nation-states.

Monika Bielskyte

Political Civic Service:

I would introduce civic service for 18-year-olds, who have to do a gap year within politics, with politicians and have to be there for at least 6 months. They must learn about what politics is, how politicians work, how government works, how city council works, how public institutions work. What’s difficult, what’s the intake, what it is to be a politician, and what is the mission that you have when you are in public service.

Grâça Fonseca

Prosecute the corruption:

We have two criminal justice systems right now—one for the owners and the rich and one for the rest of us. If we have our own leaders not paying their coal severance taxes, we need to go after them and make sure we have justice for the communities that are doing the hard work. Right now, we have no protection from that kind of misbehaviour.

Elaine McMillion Sheldon

Reconfigure criminal justice and legal systems:

We’re going to figure out ways to bring in transformative justice, to move away from penalties and how to be with each other when we’ve caused great harm and how we move to repair in accountability.

Laura Schmidt

Reparations for the climate crisis, colonialism and slavery:

This would enable communities who have been extracted from and harmed, to do with those reparations whatever they chose. In the UK, for example, giving the amount of money we owe away would force us to think about alternative models of well-being that don’t rely on just wealth accumulation.

Rhianne Osborne
Reparations for the slavery of black people:

It's impossible, I would suggest, for a country or a society or a world to live in parity, to live in equalness, to live in openness, without an acknowledgement of the ways that society has historically been built on the oppression and the forced labour of black people. One of the routes through that is through reparations, not even as a punitive act but just as an acknowledgement that it's very hard for the world to move forward without a genuine grappling of the costs of the development of our society. Britain's cities and institutions are built on the profits of forced labour. Through reparations we get to a fundamental rebalancing of our society, not just in terms of paying the descendants of enslaved people for the exploitation of their forebears, but also understanding that the West’s relationship to the developing world is based on exploitation, based on extractive practices, based on forced transportation of people, of natural resources. The reparations are a route towards a rebalancing of economic systems and geopolitics in a way that is directly personal but is obviously political on an international scale. Ekow Eshun

Resolve conflicts:

For those involved in a dispute, this could be children on a playground, it could be adults in a community, it could be employer / employee, the process of resolving that dispute requires each party to find something about the other party’s position that they agree with. Stated out loud. Baratunde Thurston

Start a root causes and futures local funding programme:

Tomorrow we’re moving £20 million to create this programme that’s completely focused on root causes and futures and is 100% led by communities. Leah Black

Transformative justice:

When harm is done, or when someone says harm has been done in the past, there’s a beautifully trained, supported and relational team that shows up and holds all the people involved in a transformative process. The person or people that were hurt, the people that did the harm, the bystanders to the harm that didn’t intervene, all have a process of transformation, getting to mend and heal relationships, mend and heal themselves. There’s this whole new, funded policy programme, to make sure this is the way we address either historical harm or current harm that’s done. Staci K. Haines

All journalism training to include a course on psychology:

This would enable journalists to understand our negativity bias, being aware that we are biased toward negative information, and to balance that out, we need around five pieces of positive information to have the same impact as one piece of negative information. Research shows excessive negative news can cause anxiety, depression, a sense of hopelessness and helplessness, increased mistrust of others, fear of others and a distorted picture of how the world really is. Sean Wood

A national community media fund:

This would be funded by government but administered by an independent third party to protect the freedom of the press. It would be grants for community-owned media. There’s a real issue with the concentration of the ownership of the press into fewer and fewer hands, with more large corporates, as well as wealthy individual billionaires, controlling increasingly large parts of the press. More community owned media will be supported and funded through grants, tax breaks and so on which would bring about more news media that really works in the interests of the people. Sean Wood

News titles that are majority bad news to carry a health warning:

Titles without information about constructive responses to problems or potential solutions, whether online or in print, will have to carry a health warning, like cigarette packets. It needs to be very bold, at the top, upfront, saying that excessive bad news may cause anxiety, depression, various other mental health impacts and a distorted view of reality, so consume with caution. Sean Wood

Raw candid communication:

This is less of a policy and more of a cultural dynamic. Everyone would strive to find the most important thing that needs to be communicated, instead of inundating everybody with either a false version of reality or too much or too little information. What’s the important thing to say? This would create a general culture of communicating the important things in the clearest possible way. Rita J. King
Bring education outdoors:

a) Use parks or little nature spots as classrooms, rather than being indoors in concrete buildings. *Kwesia X*

b) Each school should have only one classroom and teachers have to book it and make the case for using it. The presumption is that you’re outside and you can use a classroom if you must, but you’ve got to make the argument. *Ben Rawlence*

c) As a minimum 50% of a child’s time at school needs to be spent outside learning. Whatever subject it is, maths, science, DT, geography, history, 50% of that actual learning needs to take place outside because of the fundamental reconnection for young people with nature. *Matt Willer*

Connect children to nature:

Let’s put children back in nature and allow them to dream. They can dream of abundance. They can dream of happiness. They can dream of nature. And they’ll build better lives. *Dr Eduard Müller*

A daily national nature moment:

A moment where everyone has to either say or do something within nature to make an impact on themselves and the people around them. *Kwesia X*

Every sporting organisation to hugely increase its biodiversity:

I’m not going to be one of those Ministers that is going to set wishesy-washy ‘net zero by 2250’ targets. I want everyone to enhance the biodiversity of their site by 50%. Sport is inevitably connected to its natural surrounds, whether you play on grass, whether you play on a beach, whether you play on a golf course, near forests, by a coastline. Therefore, the only reason you are there is because that natural environment allows you to be there. Up by 50% please everyone! Can you imagine the last few games of the Premier season being played in very high grass? It would be interesting to see. *Davia Corrido*

Free ‘DNA glasses’ for everyone:

This imaginary technology is going to be made available to everyone through the NHS. No longer do you have to worry about trying to identify that bird that’s fluttered from one tree to another, or wondering what that plant is in your neighbour’s border that you so like. You just look at it, and the glasses will tell you the name of that animal, the name of that plant. This will transform our relationship with the natural environment because we will be on first name terms with everyone. Everything we meet, we will know what it is. It will give you a much more informative window on the world around you. *Matt Shardlow*

Giving primacy to the living systems of the Earth:

Biome level health requires us to treat the earth as a living organism, for it to have vital signs and dashboards to measure the productivity of the Earth and help to create underlying conditions that allow that. It would mean forest cover becomes sacred. All economic and development and governance policies will be to increase forest cover, native forests, creating green belts around the world, and rain belts around the world. That would be the biggest economic engine. They would bring productivity, agricultural productivity, vibrant health and would address water scarcity. *Atossa Soltani*

The global north will support the global south’s divestment from extractive industries:

Industrialised countries benefited from the wanton extraction and burning of fossil fuels and now we’re asking countries to not do that without the support and resources that we took from them in the first place. I would love the US in particular to fund and incentivise protection of rainforests in the Amazon, the Congo etc so that people are not under financial pressure to destroy it. *Dr Patricia Ononiuw Kaishian*

Government funding for bio-remediation projects:

This will happen in all brown field, poisoned, factory landscapes, oil-spilled areas. Also forcing companies to not just band-aid over damage done but actually deeply repair it. And I’d love to see mushroom biology being deployed here. *Dr Patricia Ononiuw Kaishian*

Legally binding rights of Mother Earth:

This would be similar to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but as a legally binding foundation for law across the rest of the world. This would then be followed, as part of the same declaration, with the recognition of the crime of ecocide. Under that crime, any corporations or people or institutions that destroyed any living system would be brought to trial to face the actual implication of what they were doing and recognise that what they’re doing is absolute destruction of what’s most important in life. *Jeremy Lent*
Licence beaver releases:

Now we have a pretty good idea of which landscapes beavers can be tolerated in and so let’s remove the onus from local NGOs or private landowners getting beavers on their land and put that back into the government sphere. This is something which is for everyone, and it should be paid for by the taxpayer. It’s incredibly cheap: 0.5% of our national flock budget would achieve this over a period of 10 years or so and would get beavers out everywhere. Chris Jones

A national light pollution target:

This would be a policy that would set a national metric so we could measure light pollution, aimed at driving down light pollution, monitoring light pollution, and making sure that new developments reduce light pollution levels and don’t keep increasing them all over the country. Matt Shardlow

National parks as exemplars of biodiversity:

I would like our national parks and protected areas to become the leading lights, the shining examples, of nature restoration and that their primary purpose should be around nature and nature-based enterprises. They should be supported with public funding, potentially with advisory support, with business enterprise support, to create national parks to be proud of. Rebecca Wrigley

A National Rewilding Plan:

Bring people together from communities of the four nations of Britain—Scotland, Northern Ireland, England and Wales—to co-create and co-design a plan for restoring and rewilding nature across 30% of Britain. Rebecca Wrigley

A National Nature Service Bill:

a) This would put in place a huge programme of civic education, both formal within schools and informal life-long learning. It would entail resourcing local authorities and schools appropriately but also providing programmes of opportunities for people to learn about their natural environment. Through this bill we would have local naturalists who would be able to train up and teach young people about the world around them and to pass on their wisdom and knowledge. We would have schools adapting their curriculums based on what might be going on in the world around them and giving people opportunities to go out on field trips. It would also mean that local authorities would have adequate funding to put in place things like rangers in national parks, to support people in their access needs and requirements, and to teach people about responsible access to places like national parks and protected landscapes. Lewis Winks

b) As part of the National Nature Service there will be people who are facilitating and restoring our natural landscape. They will be re-planting hedgerows and planting trees, and they will be monitoring our wetlands and our ancient rainforests. They will be working closely with farmers, so they’re not isolated and alone with this big burden of responsibility not only to grow the food and to feed the country but to also be expected to restore nature by themselves. We do have a massive deficit currently of ecological knowledge. One of the reasons why it really is hard to get some of our monitoring and management done in this country is because there’s not a lot of people that know how to do it. Hopefully some of those young people being educated via the National Nature Service programme will choose to become knowledge holders of the ecology in and around where they live. And they will be a valued part of our community and we’ll all be really happy to pay our tax money for the wages of the Nature Service. Nadia Shaikh

Reconnect to the Earth:

We are all in a process of learning about the Earth and about its systems and how it works and we’re all in a process of imagining how we can heal the Earth that we live on, so that we can sustain, restore, and heal our relationship to it. That is something that we’re doing in every classroom, in every home, in every conversation, in every workplace. It’s just a regular part of our day. Andrea Ritchie

A universal tree credit system:

Everybody is assigned a tree to grow, to plant. It would be a world where our trees, and our growing of trees, was more highly regarded than the size of our bank accounts and that those who had the ability to nurture—the green-fingered—were adored and raised higher up in society as being the successful human beings, those who could plant more trees. Sam Lee

‘You just look at it, and the glasses will tell you the name of that animal, the name of that plant.’

Matt Shardlow
New Institutions & Government Bodies

The Attention Academy:

This would include various things. One is a benign immersion in nature without any surrounding presence of cell phones—a true retreat in that sense. Or extended periods in a museum, very likely with someone who can bring the would-be viewer forward into understanding how to look at a painting. Or a poet giving a session on how to slow down, enter and understand a poem. Once you understand what these forms of expression are, you'll want to go back. We'll make it fun. Society or government will pay for the period that you're spending, the month that you're away doing nothing but paying attention. Sven Birkerts

The Committee on Rules of Engagement with the Internet:

This would be representative across a broad spectrum of the culture. The task of the Committee would be to determine rules of engagement or rules of usage for the Internet. Our access would not be 24/7 as it is now. It would be conserved as a necessary resource to be used at designated times but in such a way that it would open much, much more non-internet time to everyone. Its aim would be to get us off, or at least a good distance away from, what is now utterly consuming us. Sven Birkerts

A Department of Human Health:

At present we have a sick care system, as in you have to be sick to use it. It's in bed, almost symbiotically, with the pharmaceutical industry. We are treating our bodies downstream. We know if you're going to deal with pollution in a river, you can spend all the money you want trying to take the pollutants out of the river, or you can go upstream to find out who's putting them in and stopping it there. And the same thing applies to human health. Paul Hawken

A Department of Mirth:

I've always found it easier to understand the world and its more complex parts through comedy. It's a way to be confrontational with ideas and to throw up the grey areas without necessarily going in on the attack. You bring up the idea more playfully. But the specific thing the Department of Mirth is going to do is to provide a stand-up comedian for any political broadcast, whose job is to re-phase the text of the events, with bias. All statements are open to the same level of critique and some would say ridicule. An alternative name for this would be the Jester Act—I'm bringing back jesters. I think it would not only make complex issues more approachable, but it would be more fun to engage with them. This is helpful, because fundamentally a lot of the time they're boring by design, so you don't pay attention to them. If, as a politician, you had to get up there with the awareness that straight after you said something, a skilled performer would potentially pull you apart, you might be a little more inclined to be more ready. Ben Addicott

A Department of Risky Play:

When there is a question mark over whether play is safe, it's the department's responsibility to make sure that they find a way to enable the game and the play to happen to its fullest extent with limited injury. That means woodchip on a playground floor being replaced with crash mats where appropriate. It might mean that there's a nationwide 'How to fall off a height into a crash mat' training programme rolled out across schools, maybe as part of the 'play day' initiative. It means we are going to have that same nit-picking, annoying, boring, fastidious, controlling, restrictive, oppressive, breath-stealing and risk assessment health and safety officials doing it the opposite way round. They now must answer their own questions because the play will go ahead, regardless. Ash Perrin

Hospicing and unlearning centres to be opened across the land:

This is inspired by the work of Vanessa Andreotti and these centres will ideally be in woodlands. They'll be for addicts or those in recovery who are still finding it hard to let go of the promises of modernity. Skilled doula's run the centres. They'll use creative tools and skills to help the stories of violence and unsustainability of modernity die in us as well as in the systems, and they'll help us imagine and birth the beginning of something new. Ruth Ben-Tovim

A Ministry for the Future:

When you are in office you are concerned with the day-to-day, and you have problems every day, from when you wake up to night-time. So, you need to have a team that works on the next thousand years and realises that what you are designing today has a real impact on future years, for instance, the impact of AI in the job market. You should be acting on that with the help of the Ministry of the Future within government. Graça Fonseca

A Ministry of Culture:

Widespread funding of arts education, of artists. Perhaps move the massive budget we spend on defence, militarisation, prisons and incarceration into funding culture more broadly, so that the question of resources is not one that is hampering creativity, imagination and the creation of all kinds of cultural production. Dr Masum Momaya

A Ministry of Failure yearly review:

Companies and the governments will have to share their failures at the end of the year. At the moment, they mark the end of each year with setting out their achievements and showing off what they do. With this new law they are also obligated to share their failures. Carlos Zimbrón
A Ministry of Food:

This would be at a national level. Part of it would be a National Food Council made up of ordinary people, practitioners and policymakers. We’d also have Local Food Councils made up of all the stakeholders within the food system and for me that includes children.

Dee Woods

A Ministry of Global Joy:

The Ministry of Global Joy will be responsible for issuing global joy impact statements for all potential policy decisions, just as we do financial impact statements and environmental impact statements. It will ensure that joy is given weight as a criterion in all decision-making processes.

Katie Gilmartin

A Ministry of Reparations:

This will have endless budgets and be led by those who have suffered from systemic oppression. It will provide all the resources needed to design and go through the processes of reparation with very practical outcomes.

Leila Hoballah

A Ministry of Service to Our Non-Human Relatives:

This department is solely involved in ensuring the well-being of non-humans and is the most funded, the most primary and is given the most weight in all our decision-making processes.

Dr Lyla June Johnston

A Ministry of Wisdom:

How can we develop a Ministry in which we can switch from one way of doing our profession to other, novel ways—in our schools and in our culture? Maybe it’s learning a new language, maybe it’s learning to write poetry, maybe it’s to paint.

Maryanne Wolf

A Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Land:

It would create a space where landowners can talk about the colonial past, inspire redistribution of land, and provide kinship-based commons for people of colour who have learned how to grow food to put into practice their new growing skills.

Josina Calliste

‘The Ministry of Global Joy will be responsible for issuing global joy impact statements for all potential policy decisions.’

Katie Gilmartin

No separate Minister of the Environment:

Integrate it into every single Ministry there is: Defence, Finance, Fisheries, Farming, Food, Education or Transport. They need to be fully integrated into living systems. We have inherited this Victorian legacy of silo-ing these different areas of endeavour; of human need and human responsibility, but we have to re-imagine what that means, because this is one system and it’s all connected. It produces solutions and breakthroughs that can’t happen if we continue to think and work in a siloed way.

Paul Hawken
New Rituals & Traditions

An annual day for cities to report their Doughnut Economics metrics:
This is how we are improving our people’s ability to thrive. This is what we’ve done to ensure that our city better mimics the genius of nature, of which we’re a part. This is what our city’s doing to improve our impact on global supply chains and peoples’ lives worldwide, and these are the measures we’ve taken to bring our city within planetary boundaries. That shift in reporting and that accountability year-on-year, will help embed the vision of the direction that we’re going in. Kate Raworth

Daily acts of remembrance:
There should be a band of professional mourners that lead everyone into a ceremony of mourning at least once a day. Maybe not on weekends. Nonhlanhla Makuyana

A daily one-hour contemplation:
You can nap, you can meditate, preferably spend some time in nature, but it is programmed, compensated, nothing time. To just let your mind wander and land where it will. Baratunde Thurston

Every community to have a dedicated community fire site:
I’d like to see urban spaces all have a dedicated community fire site. That focus, that hearth, is a place for fires to be lit and anybody can come, and every parish has its spot where we’re allowed to have fires and to gather. A funded programme across the country, across the nation, where people could play music and share stories and educational programmes and all sorts of different expressions of things that could happen in that circular place. A funded live music series. It would be restoring an economy for the music world to have more venues. And all looked after by the co-operatives and communities. Sam Lee

Every public space will have grief workers:
They are available to play games, dance and/or cry with anyone that shows up and may be in need. Aimee Lewis Reau

A formalised recognition of the significance of silence:
We are going to outlaw background music and television droning away in public spaces, and we’re going to make a huge effort at not allowing the noises and sounds of humankind to disturb natural spaces. Ariane Conrad

From international days to international years:
Rather than International Women’s Day, International Permaculture Day and so on, this new policy would shift the word ‘day’ to ‘year’ It would give us a year of celebrating women, celebrating permaculture, celebrating peace. To really start embodying and shifting that balance, and we’d need more than a day. Looby Macnamara

The invention of new games:
Games are a very good way of understanding things. If we could put some of the more complicated human issues into the form of games, we would be able to engage the intelligence of millions of people on them, because they would want to play them. And if we could make those games in such a way that the kinds of decisions that people were making within them could be fed back, we could start to see new solutions—we would have a huge thinking resource, namely the whole population, to tap into. Brian Eno

A more seasonal calendar and work life:
In winter months not much should be done. We should hibernate. Summer months, everything’s going on, everyone’s having a good time. I just don’t think we should expect people to be doing things when it’s cold. Nonhlanhla Makuyana

A new monthly ‘long now’ holiday:
A time for engaging in long-term thinking, deep-time rituals. We would connect more with a longer future for people and planet. You could do anything on your ‘long now’ holiday. We must find the time in our lives to reconnect with these longer, deeper cycles of nature. Get off our phones. And revel in the imaginative joys of these ‘long now’ holidays that will be happening every month. Roman Krznaric
A new remembrance Sunday:

This would not be about remembering just our own soldiers in the war. It would be remembering the people who died in all the wars, but also all the previous generations as well: all the people that we’ve known, all the people who’ve created our communities. It would be a wonderful celebration of the great deeds of the past. Mike Grenville

Normalise the grieving and mourning process:

We’re going to engage in community rituals, ceremonies and practices. We’re all going to know how to do these, we’ll be well versed in them. And we’re going to have the individual capacity and resources as well as the collective capacity and resources to regularly move our grief. Laura Schmidt

A People’s Doughnut Day:

A day of song and art and stories and imagination, inviting the residents of the city to propose new designs for the doughnut. What if we transformed our streets into permanent neighbourhoods of sofas and grass and lawns and no more cars coming into this part of the neighbourhood? What if we opened up new enterprises here? What if the people owned this? What if we could experiment here? To have that open proposition from the city’s residents, with song, with music, with art, would just be a fabulous celebration of the path that the city’s chosen to go on. Kate Raworth

Support grief ceremonies or rituals:

I think that to go forward there is a great yearning for everybody to grieve and to gather around that which has been lost or is being lost or is being hurt. That is completely necessary. So much is carried in people’s hearts and if they’re not able to express that grief there’s too much energy caught up with holding that down and that’s not healthy in a society. Our invitation is to help and support those occasions or ceremonies or rituals where people can learn to hold the space, or to invite people in so that, that which is being lost can be properly honoured or acknowledged, because it is continuing despite our best efforts. Lucy Neal

Teach young people about endings:

All schools will have classes on endings of life and about the human place in the cycle of things. Humans are often taught as separate from the whole process, so seeing that we have endings too. Mike Grenville

‘So much is carried in people’s hearts and if they’re not able to express that grief there’s too much energy caught up with holding that down and that’s not healthy in a society.’

Lucy Neal
New Universal Rights

Expand the concept of universal basic income to all life:

We’re looking at meeting the sustaining needs of people, of the Earth’s natural systems—the land, the water, the air and of the other creatures that we share this planet with. We’re paying attention to the core needs, the core sustaining needs of all life, and humans as a part of that life, shifting our orientation toward that collective need. An economy that pays attention to meeting the sustaining needs of the planet, of other forms of life on the planet, and of humans. Staci K. Haines

To guarantee everyone’s basic rights and ensure that they’re continually respected:

We know that if people don’t have their individual needs met then they can’t work towards having the collective community needs met. Erika Zarate

The New Fulfilment Act:

This would move us towards a 3 to 4-day working week for all, with some kind of Universal Basic Income provided. It would ban all practices of built-in obsolescence in order to curb energy use and material throughput, and there would be severe restrictions on the use of concrete which has a calamitous footprint. Especially there would be no property building simply for investment and no more long vacant houses and flats allowed, or ‘bullion in the sky’ as the British Prime Minister has called it. Kate Soper

The right to have the time to do:

There are no rights except the right to have the time to do, whatever doing means. Kevin Quashie

Universal access to work:

People are not restricted from work or kept from work based on their immigration status or based on whether or not they’ve been incarcerated because what we’re working towards is getting rid of the carceral system. Everyone has access to equal pay and living wages. Syd Yang

Universal basic income:

a) This should be an income that allows people to live and flourish. Professor Sunny Singh

b) It would be accompanied by an obligation to do something that is useful for the local community. And these will be decided by consent, of course, with the process involving local institutions and people. Guillaume Dorvaux

c) Creating a Universal Basic Income that frees up people’s energy, their creativity, their imagination, so that people can unleash the potential within themselves and their communities. Tom Bailey

d) A guaranteed green basic income that you can only spend on services and products that do not cause any emissions. Offsetting and climate compensation is strictly forbidden, so this creates a huge demand for real zero carbon stuff. Johannes Stripple

e) The only test you have to pass to access this basic income is to be breathing. There would be enough money, per month, to give every single person access to the basic needs that establish human dignity, just food, security and a house. These are the basic things that enable people to not have to sell their very souls, their very living blood to survive for another day, or give themselves to the corporate marketplace. Jeremy Lent

f) Many people live their day-to-day lives in survival mode and I think that we need to create a foundation where that is no longer the case. Dr Masum Momaya

g) We’ve got the means, we’ve got the evidence, we can finally do it. We can completely eradicate poverty. We can give everyone a bit of venture capital to make their own decisions in their lives. Move to a different job. Start a new company. Whatever they want. I think it will be the crowning achievement of our social democracy, that our people have not only access to high quality healthcare, and high-quality public education, but also have this basic income. That is not a favour, but a right. Rutger Bregman

h) We know that when you give people the cognitive space they want to be citizens, but you’ve got to give them that space. Jon Alexander

Universal basic services:

a) These will be free and fair at the point of access. High quality services, with those public servants paid a decent wage, with good pensions and terms and conditions. It would include education, medical care and housing, so everybody has the absolute basics they need to live a dignified life. Dr Wanda Wyporska

b) It’s a way for us as a society to ensure that no-one falls through that floor, and that we can all heal from the legacy of deprivation and trauma, and that there’d be a sense of adequacy and security. Chuck Collins
Universal family care:

This would be a fund that we all contribute to, that we could all benefit from, that helps us pay for childcare, paid leave, and long-term care. It would create enough money in the care economy to ensure that every care worker could earn a living wage with benefits and have real economic opportunity.  

— Ai-Jen Poo

Universal health care:

a) Health care that is good, that’s reliable, that people can use when they’re sick, but also use for prevention. Also get mental health care and support when they need it, as well as vision and dental care, and all the things we need for health care and to be able to be well in the world.  

— Mariame Kaba

b) This would include an expansive sense of health such as access to land, quality housing, access to medication, plant based as well as different forms of drug medication where appropriate, in a way that is democratised and accessible through centring the most marginalised and the most vulnerable in a reparative, cyclical way.  

— Farzana Khan

Universal rights protecting people against discrimination based on gender or sexuality:

There are a lot of women, transgender folks around the world whose existence is very precarious, and they need certain protections.  

— Priscilla Layne

‘an income that allows people to live and flourish.’  

— Professor Sunny Singh

Accept the non-binary:

The Ministry proposes that we live in non-binary states—that we surrender the idea that there are only singular or at most two ways of being; that we surrender distinctions of gender, crucially, between male, female, straight and non-straight. I say that in the context of bizarre and aggressive fantasies and fears about gendered otherwise. To assert equality around queerness, around blackness, around states of being that are not to do with whiteness and maleness, it feels important that we live in a world where we’re allowed to explore identity as a fluid, non-fixed state. To try and find a way towards personal, collective and social freedom, we need to begin from a position of non-policing, a position of liberation, acceptance and openness towards gender racial culture identity. We collapse boundaries, we collapse binaries, and we live in a state of acceptance that the ways people chose to determine who they are, can be honoured.  

— Ekow Eshun

Collective agreement to move at the speed of vulnerability:

Collectively we agree to move at the speed of our vulnerability and not at the speed of what our mind can create. Individually people can move as fast as their ideas might want to happen but collectively, we move at the speed that ensures that children and elders are really centred, and that it is not possible for us to move collectively if our children, our elders, our most vulnerable, are not safe.  

— Susan Raffo

Eradicate the belief in normalcy:

We are haunted by normalcy. We would somehow eradicate the belief that there is such a thing, or we would constantly enter conversations challenging the idea that there is such a thing.  

— Shayda Kafai

Put life at the centre of everything we do:

It may mean that we need some wormholes to get into the other planes of reality—the plane of reality where change starts so that it becomes unthinkable that life is not at the centre of everything we do, so that the idea of GDP or economic growth as a political priority just becomes crazy. Why would we put money at the centre when we’re living beings that are part of a living web of life? The guardians of life are these generations that hold it and that pass it on to the generations in the future, so what should be at the centre is our responsibility to pass on life down generations. Not only human generations, but this huge, interconnected web of beauty and aliveness should be passing that on in the best possible way. That will become the absolute ground of how we experience ourselves, how we make decisions and how we live our lives.  

— Sophy Banks

A ‘Yes’ Default Policy:

Anything you want or propose is an automatic yes, with just three exceptions: if it takes too much time, too much money, or it’s harmful to the planet or other people. That’s it. Otherwise, everything is a yes.  

— Yumna Hussen
Create a licensing system for anyone that wants to become a farmer in the ocean:

A policy to promote these pioneers, to help them to join this revolution and farm the ocean, to make the next generation the first one of its kind on the planet. Vincent Doumeizel

Create a policy framework that favours seaweed financing:

I don’t understand why we don’t have any investors in my country—it could transform farmers’ lives. So as Minister of Imagination I will make sure that there is a policy framework that favours seaweed financing and that favours investments from other countries that will invest in Tanzania to transform the sector. Nancy Iraba

Embed compulsory seaweed education into school curriculums:

From primary school to university. If we are creating a world in which we’re telling the youth to find employment, then they should be able to know what potential there is from a young age. Nancy Iraba

The Gender Inclusive Seaweed Valuation Development Policy:

This policy will be specifically for women and will emphasise fair pricing and create market linkages for women with their international buyers. Nancy Iraba

Launch an ambitious seaweed cities project:

We will position seaweed cities on the ocean using seaweed to feed the population and to feed the fish that will then feed the population as well, and molluscs and shellfish. We will produce energy in offshore wind farms. We will get the fresh water out of seaweed because the magic thing with seaweed is that when you squeeze it, you get fresh water out of it. There will be platforms on the water, living permaculture on the water, living out of the ocean, repairing the ocean, and enabling a new pioneering way of living. Vincent Doumeizel

Set up a UN agency for the ocean:

There is nothing we have more in common on this planet than the ocean but there is no platform that is trying to understand what is happening or to manage what’s happening. We have a platform for food, for health, for climate change etc but there is no platform for the ocean. No one at the UN level is in charge of making sure that things go well on 71% of the planet, which does not belong to anyone; which has no borders; which provides most of the oxygen we breathe (one breath out of every two we owe to the ocean); which provides most of the eco-system services which enable life on this planet. We need some kind of international authority overseeing governments which will take care of these services and protect them. Vincent Doumeizel

‘have tools to practice a good apology’

Andrea Ritchie

A Non-Violence Policy:

This would be applied to every decision that is made. It’s assessed for the degree or absence or presence of its violence to both humans and non-humans that might be affected by any government policy. Sarah Gillespie

Train community mediators:

In the future we’re heading towards, community mediation and education are going to be very important. For every job that’s created in something that might tend to break down trust in contemporary society, we’re going to fund four people to be trained either as educators or community mediators. Chris Smaje

War reparations:

Half of every defence budget of every country in the world is devoted to repairing the damage of the wars that have taken place, because unless those who have become the victims of war are taken care of, the trauma of war works out in further aggression, further violence. We’ve got to provide care for the victims, rebuild the destruction of their livelihood and we’ve got to find ways to deal with, and prevent, the further production of refugees. Dr Scilla Elworthy

Widely sharing tools that address harm, conflict and need:

Some of those tools would include collective opportunities to think about how we want to distribute resources so we can make universal housing available, make universal healthcare available, make universal basic income available, make universal childcare available. We’d have tools to practice a good apology, to practice a generative conflict, to practice conflict mediation, de-escalation, and intervention in violence. People would be learning and practising all the time, in their homes, their families and workplaces, and in their communities. It’s an invitation. No-one’s required to do it, no-one’s mandated to do it, but there are so many ways to engage in it we can’t imagine that people wouldn’t want to at least try. Andrea Ritchie
A Society of Play

Compulsory dancing:
Not 24 hours a day! But you can have your own interpretation and can dance in the day while you’re doing things. Jayna Brown

Legislate for children’s right to play out in public space:
All other policy planning, transport, housing, has to honour that, incorporate it, and be led by it. It would become illegal to prevent children from playing out in any way. Alice Ferguson

A National Play Programme:
Create workshops in all schools, cities, and villages and workplaces, and create a special budget for research in art and imagination. Get artists, storytellers and clowns back in the streets and in our lives. Marie Godart

A Play-Based Public Health Policy:
It would recognise the very fundamental importance of children having freedom to play outside and to be independently mobile, to be able to travel actively. Alice Ferguson

Play ‘something useless’:
The game is to find something useless and find a use for it. Find something that nobody else wants, that nobody’s doing anything with, and think of something that would suddenly justify the continued existence of that thing. Brian Eno

Policies that support free play:
This will be outside of institutions because that’s where we’ll get the most radical and creative examples. We’ll bring in people who are engaged in free play into the schools as travelling minstrels and musicians—people who will be given some sort of space to create imaginative chaos. David Holmgren

The principle of ‘play sufficiency’:
Every local authority or municipality would have to assess the sufficiency of opportunities for play for children in its locality. This would be right across the range of professional domains, from institutions, organisations, housing, transport, health, social services, children services, education, youth work, play work, early years. It would ensure all children had a sufficient opportunity to play and everybody who had influence over children paid due account to those responsibilities and responded in an appropriate way. Ben Tawil

Protected play time for all kids:
This would make it statutory that children have time to be playful and creative outside. There should be a non-interruption policy so that time is safeguarded, and you can’t sabotage it in any way. It should also apply to teachers, so all teacher training days should take place in the outdoors, preferably the woods. Ruth Sapsed

Remove all ‘No ball games’ signs:
Replace them with signs that say, ‘Children may play here’. It would have a dramatic and positive effect, not just on children’s lives, but actually on communities. Tim Gill

A weekly play day:
We are splitting the week into three parts. There’s the weekend, there’s the working week and then there is one day which is called ‘play day’, where every single person of every single age spends a day in guided or free play, whenever they choose to do it. This will include parents of kids of course but also adults and single adults where they form play communities and again there’ll be a funded scheme to reintroduce and support and encourage people who are a little bit insecure around play. This will not be sport. This will be play specific, however in the afternoon you can opt out and go and have a game of football, as long as nobody writes down the scores or any of the results. Ash Perrin
A Child-Centred Transport Policy:
We need to look at all national and local transport policies through the eyes of the child and make sure that where new streets are designed, they’re done so from the perspective of an 8-year-old child who will want and need to use that space independently. Alice Ferguson

End short haul flights:
If there is already an existing train route that takes 2 and a half hours, any parallel domestic flight is banned. David Garrido

Entire government departments taking a flight-free pledge:
Anyone who has to travel for work does it without flying if it’s within a 4-hour window of a train journey. It is such a fantastic way of demonstrating not only is it possible to travel without flying, but also that it’s desirable and recommended. It shows us that if it’s serious enough for this to be a policy that is enacted and acted upon, then that gives more inspiration for civilians to follow suit. Anna Hughes

The Free Riders Act:
This would provide free, or nearly free, public transport on trains, trams and buses, funded by increased taxation on air flight, on second home ownership and on private car ownership, which would be largely replaced by car-pooling, and collaborative schemes for car use, where other means of transport are not available. Kate Soper

A free store on every corner and a free tool shed every four blocks:
These would be for all of us to use together to help build the capacity to build the bikes that we all need. Nandita Sharma

The government’s new ‘World in Britain’ portal:
This is a fantastic online travel site which will generate bespoke holidays and adventures for you within the UK based on the criteria that you seek from your holiday. It’s a triumphant celebration of our multi-cultural, international heritage, and it allows you to enjoy all those diverse benefits of the imagination and perception and expectation stretching glories of travel but by doing it on the ground in the UK. Ed Gillespie

A new generation of airships:
While they would not necessarily be that much faster than the train, they would certainly give us that different high-level perspective on the world. We should replace our manically brutal jet-fuelled airports with the gentle drift of helium or hydrogen airships taking us up into the heavens. Ed Gillespie

No car day once a month:
Only public transport and micromobility modes would be able to run in the city so that people can experience what city life should be. Carson Brown

Remove the majority of domestic flight routes:
If the option’s not there, then we simply can’t take it. Replace internal flights with other forms of transport so people’s freedoms aren’t taken away. Anna Hughes

A Slow Travel Policy:
This requires employers to give their employees an additional day of annual leave for every train-based versus plane-based holiday that they take. Often employees say, ‘Well, I’ve only got a finite number of days off per year. I want to get to my holiday as quick as possible.’ This policy completely spikes that argument by saying, if you take the train, then we will give you an additional day of annual leave. Every business will be required to do this, which means if you travel by train, you get more holidays. Ed Gillespie

Travel ticket pricing directly correlated to its environmental cost:
Every ticket we buy for any form of transport is going to directly reflect the environmental cost. So, if you travel within the UK, your plane ticket will cost 6 times more than a train ticket for an equivalent journey. And if you travel further afield in Europe your plane ticket will cost 10 times more than a train ticket. Travelling to Nice would cost say £50 by train, but the flight would be £500. Why would you pay £500 when you can get there for £50? Anna Hughes
Urban Ecology

A botanist on every local council:
They would understand wild plants and be responsible for council policy on matters of management of their green areas, including road verges, leading to a complete shift in understanding of things like mowing and applying weedkillers. Jane Perrone

Community and wild green spaces for everyone:
People can’t learn to love plants if they have a very passive relationship. If we could get people involved with plants, get people growing, get people observing nature, I think it would really change from a passive to an active relationship, and it would make people understand and appreciate those plants. Truly green and truly wild spaces would really help improve that people’s relationship with nature. Sophie Leguil

Encourage and promote the cultural relationship with plants:
I would like to see a lot more art using plants and focusing on plants. If we could celebrate those plants in a different way, then we could inspire people across the board. Some are interested in the words, some in the visual aspect, and some are interested in their properties. All it will take is a little sparkle to change our relationship with plants. Sophie Leguil

Financially resource rooftop farming projects:
Rooftop farming projects will be rewarded for all the environmental benefits they give to the city. They will receive a fund, as a result of which there will be many more people that are going to have other rooftop farming projects. Paola Krug

Make weed training a prerequisite of buying pesticides:
Anybody who wanted to purchase a synthetic weedkiller would have to go on some kind of training course before they used it. They’d learn the value of weeds and understand how to read a label to apply the product properly and dispose of it properly. In those aisles you’d have to have a member of staff on standby to rush over and quiz the person attempting to make a purchase. Jane Perrone

A Productive Urban Land Use Policy:
This policy would mean that all urban farming projects, whether on rooftops or not, are robustly protected and cannot be built on. All new buildings will have to have a productive rooftop with urban farming or just green roof. All existing buildings will have to do an assessment to see if they can have a food garden on the roof. And lastly, all natural and farmland will be strongly protected, and all new housing has to be on brown field sites. Paola Krug

Re-imagine every city as a park, garden or forest:
Every house and school and area would have access to green and blue spaces, and to the wild, and invite the imagination into that space every day. Dr Penny A. Hay

‘Every house and school and area would have access to green and blue spaces’

Dr Penny A. Hay
The 'Adopt a Child' Policy:

Every household that makes $75,000 and above should have to adopt a child. Before you qualify for any kind of work that would accrue $75,000 a year, you have to show proof of eligibility to be able to adopt a child. And once you’ve been given this job, or this position, you have to adopt a child, in order to create this beautiful world we wish to see where children are happy everywhere, have abundance to eat and having a family to embrace. Tijay Mohammed

All government institutions will put dollars behind elder care:

This will encourage bringing together elder care facilities with public education and making the two one and the same. Dr Anne Seide

Build the biliterate brain:

For their first ten years children are going to be surrounded by and given the greatest models by teachers and educators, about what books can do. All children will be surrounded for the first ten years with deep reading as an explicit call by our teachers. Digital media would only be very gradually introduced, after around age three or four, and very gradually. And then at five and six a little bit more. At ten, only at ten, would deep reading begin to be taught explicitly as possible on different mediums, but it would always begin with the concept of print and the book as our first and best introduction to reading. This would ensure that a society we build a biliterate brain so that our children are really able to preserve the deep reading brain of the past and expand all the beauty that digital culture can bring as well, but on a separate track. Maryanne Wolf

A children’s rights impact assessment process:

This would have a particular focus on children’s play and would apply to any spatial development and public surface planning decisions. Children would be consulted about everything that happened in their lives one way or another. Ben Tawil

Children to have their voice in every different aspect of the city:

There would be children as imagination champions in schools, in libraries, in museums and galleries, but also working with the council in every single department. Dr Penny A. Hay

Elders staying in their own homes:

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could all remain within our own homes and die within our own homes and have a beautiful setting that we’d have our friends, our relations, our neighbours, all there. Mary Nally

51% of all governing bodies made up of people under the age of 30:

After all, they are the ones that will live in the world that our governing bodies are creating, and I believe they will hold the future with great care. Katie GilMartin

Free parenting courses:

That is a game-changer. There are so many people who are parents who have no idea what they’re doing. In fact, I don’t think there’s one parent in the world who has any idea what they’re doing. We’re all making it up, all having a go at it. I would say free parenting courses is something that would be so impactful. Ben Hurst

Grannies with veto:

Nobody should be able to enter a decision-making position unless they’re young enough to have a feisty grandmother who has power of veto over them. That means CEOs but it also means politicians. Septuagenarians should certainly not be running things. We need to remember the difference between power and authority and separate those things once more. Authority can sit with the gerontocracy, but power should be distributed throughout quite a few different younger people. Tyson Yunkaporta

Invest in the best life start possible:

The focus here will be on those first thousand days of life, including the nine months in the mother’s womb. We’d see a focus on health visitors and community nurses going into families. They’d support mums, dads and carers, at a time in their life when we know those first thousand days of life are the most important time in anyone’s life. If we can reduce trauma in our communities, we can help young boys and can contribute to their success later. I’d like to see fewer cops and more midwives being recruited. Graham Goulden

Life-long learning and development:

Learning and development is something that is now considered and provided from cradle to grave. Jo Hunter
More intergenerational mixing:
More intergenerational projects that would bring the younger, the older all together. Let’s talk. Let’s communicate and not have that big divide. Mary Nally

Read, talk, walk and sing with your child:
Every single parent will be reading at least once a night so there’s this ritual of love and affection that begins reading. The ideal reader begins in the lap of the parent or the caretaker or the sibling. And the child is talked to as often as possible and sung to and sung with. And it’s interactive: it’s not only the parent reading but the parent talking and asking. There’s this elicitation of love of reading, a love of words, a love of songs, and the walk with the book at the end of it. It’s a walk that is full of the imagination and full of life and colour and flights of the mind. There’s a read, talk, walk and sing motif to those first five years. Maryanne Wolf

Turn more spaces into commons and invite children to be their guardians:
They would bring real wisdom to it. They would take it very seriously. Ruth Sapsed

Use children as think tanks:
It’s an incredible waste that all the extraordinary imagination of children is not taken seriously. They are producing all these fantastic ideas and by the age of 11 or so we’ve managed to stop them doing that, to make them serious humans. But what about just having a whole set of government think tanks which are almost entirely made up of five- to seven-year-olds? It could be seen as child labour, but they’d love doing it. I’m sure. Brian Eno

‘It’s an incredible waste that all the extraordinary imagination of children is not taken seriously.’
Brian Eno

Ban planned obsolescence:
Manufacturers will be obliged to make things last, and to tell how this product is being made, so when it breaks down, we can take all the little parts out of it and make new things out of it. Things should be made to last instead of breaking. Marieke van Doorninck

Eradicate plastic:
Every single child in every country has to be taught to refuse to use single-use plastic, any kind of plastic. Then their parents will stop buying it and then it will stop being produced. We have to stop it, and we can. Dr Scilla Elworthy

No plastics, no fossils fuels, and a mass clean-up:
Fossil fuels are left in the Earth to do what they were designed to do there. A mass clean-up of plastics in the ocean and on the land. And we cease to produce anything that involves plastic. For the core things we need, we will innovate other ways to meet that need that don’t depend on either of these things. That stops as of today. Staci K. Haines

The ‘re-use currency’:
This policy deals with every shop you do. Half of what you spend is money, and the other half has to come from re-use. If you’re going to spend $100 in the store, $50 has to come from recyclables that you have. It could be bottles, it could be cans, it could be food, it could be anything, but that is also an equivalent to $50. It would encourage us to recycle. Tijay Mohammed

Zero waste:
We need to adopt a circular economy. Let’s just manufacture waste out of production. It’s incredible all the materials that are available for packaging that are made from mushrooms and starch cellultes, things that naturally compost back into the ground and leave no toxic residue. Laura Baldwin

Zero waste by 2030:
Completely outlaw all single use plastic within a year. That means there will be new job opportunities, new manufacturing opportunities, new kinds of technology and other responses to replace those products which we do need in our lives. Jane Davidson

A Zero Waste Economy

35
A

Ben Addicott is a live sound engineer, podcast creator and renowned producer of the From What If to What Next podcast series.

Lusi Alderslade is a teacher and writer, with a passion for engaging children in permaculture. She has co-founded outdoor groups in Scotland, trains international students online and is author of the Children in Permaculture Manual.

Jon Alexander is author of Citizens: Why the Key to Fixing Everything is All of Us; and co-founder of the New Citizenship Project that works to involve people in the decisions that affect their lives.

André Anderson is Headmaster of Freedom B Balance, an art college for the artist in everyone. He promotes playfulness beyond youth and the playground, and designs learning environments for communities to grow their unique creativity.

Tom Bailey is an energy and climate change expert, and one of the co-creators of Tale the Jump, a grassroots climate movement bringing together citizens and communities to lead the way to ‘less stuff and more joy’.

Laura Baldwin is a former Olympic sailor who at her peak was ranked #2 in the world. She now combines sport and environmental activism as part of Champions for Earth and as co-founder of Sport LOCAL For Life.

Sophy Banks was one of the architects of the Transition Movement. She co-founded the Heart and Soul group in Totnes and Transition training, leading workshops in four continents. Currently she focuses on practices of grief tending and sharing tools for compassionate action as co-founder of Healthy Human Culture.

Yannick Beaudoin is a marine geologist, bringing transition economics to his role as Director-General for Ontario and Northern Canada with the David Suzuki Foundation.

Ruth Ben-Tovim is an artist, activist and facilitator specialising in ‘The Art of Invitation’. She is former Creative Director of Encounters Arts and current Co-Director of Walking Forest, a global project combining women, trees and activism.

Monika Bielskyte is a futurist, speculative designer and founder of Protopia Futures. Her focus on the intricate relationship between future fictions and real life has led her to work with established global companies, governments and cities.

Doug Bierend is a New York based writer and author of In Search of Mycetopia, with an interest in science, food, degrowth, biodiversity, and general subversiveness.

Sven Birkerts is an author, essayist, teacher of writing, and editor of Boston University’s literary journal, AGNI.

Eva Bishop is an environmental conservationist and Head of Communications at Beaver Trust, engaging and informing the public about river restoration and co-existing with beavers.

Leah Black is currently leading the development of the new Regenerative Futures Fund for Edinburgh, focused on long-term, community-led transformational change.

Kwame Boating is an educator working with The Black Curriculum on decolonial approaches to education and community development.

Rutger Bregman is a prominent Dutch historian, thinker and best-selling author of four books including Humankind: A Hopeful History.

B

Carson Brown is a co-founder and Head of Product at Taur, an electric scooter brand, and a strong advocate for greener, more efficient city design.

Jayna Brown is author of Black Utopias and Professor in the Graduate Program in Media Studies at Pratt Institute, specialising in black, queer and feminist studies.

Melissa Bruntlett is a Canadian author and urban mobility advocate, specialising in building more equitable mobility environments to cities around the world.

Josina Calliste is a health professional, community organiser and co-founder of Land in Our Names (Lion), a black-led collective addressing land inequalities affecting black people in Britain.

Dr Dennis Chester is Professor of African American Literature at California State University East Bay. His interests relate to African American literature and culture, with specialties in the Harlem Renaissance and Afrofuturism.

Chuck Collins is an author and expert on inequality and the racial wealth divide in the US. He is Director of the Program on Inequality and the Common Good at the Institute for Policy Studies and co-founder of Wealth for the Common Good.

Ariane Conrad is a German-African activist, writer and collaborative author of solutions-focused books that defend human rights and Earth.

Lottie Cooke is a student activist and writer, centring their work around improving the education system and furthering the rights of women and marginalised genders.

Mya-Rose Craig is a young naturalist, ornithologist, activist and writer. She founded Black2Nature which works to get more minority ethnic people engaged with nature and is the youngest person to be awarded an honorary doctorate in the UK.

Natalie Creary is the Programme Delivery Director for Black Thrive Lambeth, working to decolonise knowledge and tackle the root causes of inequality in local black communities. She is also a lecturer in Public Health at Middlesex University.

Anne-Marie Culhane is an eco-artist, performer, activist and educator, working across disciplines. She creates award-winning events and performances that invite people into enquiring relationships with each other and Earth’s systems and cycles.
D

Jane Davidson is a writer, Pro Vice-Chancellor Emeritus at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and former Welsh Minister for Environment and Sustainability.

Zahra Davidson is founder, Chief Executive and Design Director at Huddlecraft: an ecosystem for peer-to-peer support and action that reimagines lifelong learning.

Cyril Dion is a French writer, film director, poet and activist. He is a leading figure in the French climate movement and he wrote and co-produced the award-winning documentary Tomorrow.

Dr Michael Dixon is a Devon GP, visiting professor at University College London and the University of Westminster, and has held numerous national leadership roles in the NHS.

Marieke van Doorninck is Alderman for Sustainability and Urban Development for the City of Amsterdam, playing a key role in bringing the Doughnut model to the city.

Vincent Doumeizel is Senior Adviser for Ocean at United Nations Global Compact, leader of the Global Seaweed Coalition and author of The Seaweed Revolution.

Guillaume Dorvaux is a former engineer who now works to support collective creativity as a coach, Transition Network Trainer and Open Space facilitator.

Tom Doust is a social innovator, founder of social action charity Envision and Director of Experience and Learning at London's Institute of Imagination.

Della Duncan is a renegade economist, post-capitalist consultant and host of the Upstream podcast. She is also the development manager of Fritjof Capra's course on the systems view of life, a founding member of the California Doughnut Economics Member and Senior Fellow of Social and Economic Equity at the LSE.

E

Dan Edelstyn is co-creator of The Bank Job, a feature film, book and art project in London that took on an unjust financial system by printing its own bank notes and selling them to fund local charities and abolish local debt.

Dr Scilla Elworthy is an educator, writer and three-times Nobel Peace Prize nominee for her work on nuclear disarmament and the prevention of conflict.

Brian Eno is a self-described non-musician as well as being a theorist, activist, record producer, visual artist and cultural icon. He is known for his innovative contributions to electronics, his music and light installations, and as the originator of 'ambient music'.

Ekow Eshun is a Ghanaian-British writer, editor and curator. He is former Director of London’s Institute of Contemporary Arts and holds an honorary doctorate from London Metropolitan University. He is the author of Black Fantastic and Orwell Prize-nominated memoir, Black Gold of the Sun.

F

Reuben Faloyina-Brooks is the founder and former chair of the British Ecological Society’s REED Ecological Network and is currently working on a PhD on human same-sex competition in different ecological environments in the UK and Kyrgyzstan.

Alice Ferguson worked in the environmental charity sector and ran her own organic food shop, before co-founding Playing Out CIC. She is now its Managing Director, focusing on street play and children’s independent mobility.

Graça Fonseca is a former researcher, politician and Minister of Culture in Portugal. She co-founded and is CEO of the impact agency Because Impacts, committed to the development of social and environmental projects.

Leila Fortunato is a humanities teacher and community worker. She is founder of Black British Studies, an organisation offering online courses on black British history and bespoke anti-racism workshops aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion.

Alexis Frasz is a researcher, writer, strategist, programme designer and founder of Helicon that advises partners in the cultural sector: philanthropy, and the environmental sectors how to work towards a more just and regenerative future.

David Garrido is a sports broadcaster with 25 years’ experience. He is an expert in the crossover between sport and sustainability, an award-winning documentary maker and host of the podcast, Playing for the Planet.

Tim Gill is a global advocate for children’s outdoor play and mobility, an independent scholar, writer and consultant. He is a Design Council Ambassador and founding patron of the UK Forest School Association.

Ed Gillespie is a self-described ‘recovering sustainability consultant’ and Director of Greenpeace UK. He is also a facilitator at the Forward Institute on responsible leadership and an investor/mentor of numerous ethical environmental start-ups.

Sarah Gillespie is an artist specialising in drawing and printmaking, with a primary interest in the fragile life of our fellow sentient beings. Her work is held in collections internationally and her Moth mezzotints are displayed at the V&A.

Robbie Gillett works on Possible’s Badvertising campaign against ads for high carbon products such as polluting cars, SUVs, airline flights and fossil fuel companies. He also works at Adfree Cities, a project creating community arts alternatives to corporate advertising.

Marie Godart works in the field of theatrical creation, climate change and facilitating the imagination. She is founder of MUE that supports communities and citizens in realising their ideas with a systemic approach rooted in life.

Katie Gilmartin is a college professor turned printmaker, who teaches at Chrysalis Print Studio at SOMArts. She is also a creator of art for faux novels, a writer of actual novels and co-founder of the Queer Ancestors Project.

Georgia Gould was elected a councillor for Kentish Town at the age of 24. She became council leader in 2017 and has since made tackling injustice and inequality of wealth, income and influence the focus of the council’s work.

Graham Goulden is a retired police officer who specialises in tackling all forms of men’s violence delivering leadership and bystander training internationally.

Joanna Grover is a board-certified coach who has worked with Olympic athletes and top leaders, and is the first in the US to offer Functional Imagery Training.

Mike Grenville is an independent funeral celebrant and Dying Doula. He has been an active member of the Transition Movement, editor of The Transition Network newsletter and currently works with Sustainable Frome.

Staci K. Haines is an author and leader in the field of Somatics, trauma healing and transformative justice, specialising in the intersections of personal and social change.

Nameerah Hameed is the founder of Women in Energy Pakistan (WIE), a network for women working in energy, climate, and power. She is also Advocacy Manager at Climate Outreach that places people at the heart of climate action.
Shasta Hanif Ali is a writer, poet and anti-racism campaigner, nominated as one of Edinburgh’s 100 trail blazing women past and present.

Rosemary Harris is a Just Transition Campaigner for Platform, where she has worked for the last 2 1/2 years. She currently focuses on just transition for offshore oil and gas workers in the North Sea and co-authored the report, Our Power.

Paul Hawken starts ecological businesses, writes about nature and commerce, and consults with heads of state and CEOs on climatic, economic and ecological regeneration. He has written nine books and is the founder of Project Regeneration, the world’s largest listing of climate solutions.

Dr Penny A. Hay is an artist, educator and researcher. Reader in Creative Teaching and Learning and Research Fellow at Bath Spa University, and Director of Research, at The House of Imagination.

Michael Hines is a London-based strategy director and writer working in the creative industry with some of the world's most interesting brands. He is an active member of Purpose Disruptors working to accelerate the climate transition.

Jennifer Hinton is a systems researcher, an activist in the field of sustainable economy and author of the book How on Earth. She is a researcher at Lund University, in Sweden, and a senior research fellow at the Schumacher Institute.

Vicki Hird is the Head of the Sustainable Farming Campaign for Sustain and she also runs an independent consultancy. She is an experienced and award-winning campaigner and writer working with food, farming and environmental policy.

Leila Hoballah is a Colombian, Lebanese and French organisation designer, community builder, facilitator and coach based in London. She focuses her work on social innovation and movement building and is the co-founder of malesense.org.

Clover Hogan is a young climate activist and researcher on eco-anxiety. She is founding Executive Director of Force of Nature, a youth non-profit mobilising mindsets for climate action, and is Director and host of their podcast.

David Holmgren is the co-founder of the permaculture concept, a renowned environmental educator, ecological designer and author of many books including the recent Retrosuburbia: The Downshifter’s Guide to a Resilient Future.

Rob Hopkins is the co-founder of the Transition movement, author, public speaker, artist, Time Traveller and host of the From What If to What Next podcast.

Anna Hughes is an author, flight-free adventurer, and Director of Flight Free UK, with a background in sustainable transport campaigning and behaviour change.

Jo Hunter is the former Head of Strategic Development at Battersea Arts Centre and the co-founder and CEO of 64 Million Artists that work collectively to catalyse the creativity of everyone in the UK.

Ben Hurst is Beyond Equality’s Head of Facilitation, working with young boys and facilitators helping them navigate complex issues like consent, gender-based violence and healthy relationships.

Yumna Hussen is a student, campaigner, writer, poet and public speaker, who uses creative approaches to generate change. Previously the Youth MP for Birmingham, she works to ensure that young people’s voices are embedded in governance.

Nancy Iraba is an award-winning marine scientist. She is co-founder and CEO of the Healthy Seaweed Company, a social enterprise working with women farmers that produces diverse, nutritious and affordable seaweed-based products in Tanzania.

Tim Jackson is an ecological economist and writer, and Director of the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity at the University of Surrey, where he is also Professor of Sustainable Development.

Aban Jain is an award-winning designer, filmmaker and futurologist, who imagines and builds future worlds. He is also co-founder of vanguard film studio Superflux and Professor and Program Leader at at of Applied Arts, Vienna.

Dr Lyla June Johnston is an Indigenous musician, scholar, and community organiser of Diné (Navajo), Télèphéhâshëwëse (Cheyenne) and European lineages. Her messages focus on Indigenous rights, supporting youth, traditional land stewardship practices and healing inter-generational and inter-cultural trauma.

Chris Jones is a trained police officer, forester, farmer and Director of Beaver Trust. He co-founded Transition Ladock and Grampound Road and help set up community owned renewable energy coop, Low Carbon Ladock.

Christian Jonet is co-founder of Liege en Transition and the founder of Belgium’s Liege Food Belt, a bold project to relocalise food systems.

Dr Melanie Joy is a Harvard-educated psychologist, celebrated speaker, and author. She has received numerous awards for her work on global nonviolence and is the founding president of the non-profit organisation, Beyond Carnism.

Mariame Kaba is an author, organizer and educator who is active in movements for racial, gender and transformative justice. She is the founder and director of Project NIA, an abolitionist organisation with a vision to end youth incarceration.

Shayda Kafai is an author and Assistant Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies in the Ethnic and Women’s Studies department at California State Polytechnic University, focusing on reclaiming bodyminds from systems of oppression.

Stefanie Lynn Kaufman-Mthimkhulu is a writer and a Disability Justice and Mad Liberation educator. They are the founding Director of Project LETS, that specialises in building non-carceral, peer-led mental health care systems.

Farzana Khan is a writer, director, cultural producer and award-winning arts educator. She is the co-founder and Director of Healing Justice London and curator of the Black Cultural Activism Map.

Rita J. King is an author, organiser and educator who is active in movements for racial, gender and transformative justice. She is the founder and director of Project NIA, an abolitionist organisation with a vision to end youth incarceration.

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Anthea Lawson is a campaigner and author of The Entangled Activist, who has worked in various charities to shut down tax havens, prevent banks from facilitating corruption and environmental devastation, and control the arms trade.

Dr Priscilla Layne is Associate Professor of German and Adjunct Associate Professor of African Diaspora Studies at the University of North Carolina. She is also an essayist and author of the book, White Rebels in Black.

Panthea Lee is a strategist, curator, organiser, and facilitator working for structural justice and collective liberation.

Sam Lee is a musician, activist, founder of the Nest Collective, co-founder of Culture Declares an Emergency, and lover of birdsong.

Sophie Leguil is a freelance botanical consultant, writer, nature tour leader and founder of More Than Weeds, that aims to change perceptions of urban flora.

Jeremy Lent is an author, speaker and founder of the non-profit Liology Institute. His work investigates the underlying causes of our civilization's existential crisis and identifies pathways toward a life-affirming future.

Almee Lewis Reau is an edgy and reverent contemplative, healer, and yogainstructive movement instructor. She is the co-founder of the Good Grief Network and the heart behind the 10 Steps to Resilience & Empowerment in a Chaotic Climate programme.

Katrien Ligt is a senior creative producer and organiser of events in the field of architecture, currently working to bring vibrancy and culture to the rooftops of Rotterdam and Hamburg.

Looby Macnamara is a writer, teacher and pioneer of personal and social permaculture. She co-runs the Applewood Permaculture Centre in the UK and is a partner of the European Mother Nature Project.

Tomi Makanjola is an award-winning vegan chef, writer and content creator who runs The Vegan Nigerian, a platform dedicated to making Nigerian cuisine and the vegan lifestyle accessible to members of her community and beyond.

Nonhlanhla Makuyana is a multidisciplinary artist, community organiser and educator. They are also a Co-Director of Decolonising Economies, focusing on researching economic liberatory practices within racialised communities.

Mahfam Malek has worked as a trainer, facilitator, somatic coach, writer and stand-up comic in social justice movements in the US, and they are currently Training and Operations Director at the Chicago Torture Justice Center.

Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan is an educator, writer and poet from West Yorkshire, whose work disrupts and interrupts questions of history, race, knowledge and power.

Natasha Marin is an antiracism consultant and conceptual artist from Seattle, specialising in community building. She is the curator of the book Black Imagination: Black Voices on Black Futures and of viral web-project Reparations.

Eliza Marshall is an award-winning flautist and soloist who is a founder member of acclaimed alt-folk band Ranagrig. Her recent project Freedom to Roam fused film, music and visual art to represent topics like climate change, migration and empathy.

Dr Rupa Marya is a physician, activist, writer, mother, composer and Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of California, who works with climate, health and racial justice. She has toured internationally with her band, Rupa and the April Fishes and is co-founder of the Do No Harm Coalition.

Sarah McAdam worked in the UK civil service before joining the Transition Movement as a Transition Network trustee and staff member. She also stewards the UK Transformational Governance project and mentors various organisations.

Alastair McIntosh is an author, human ecologist, leading environmental campaigner and pioneer of modern land reform in Scotland. He guest lectures on nonviolence at military staff colleges and is an honorary Professor at the University of Glasgow.

Elaine McMillion Sheldon is an Academy Award–nominated, Peabody-winning, and two-time Emmy-winning documentary filmmaker from Tennessee. Her latest feature-length documentary, King Coal premiered in 2023 to wide acclaim.

Lisa Merrick-Lawless is co-founder of Purpose Disruptors and has over 20 years' experience in the advertising communications industry. She launched Good Life 2030 at Cop26 to explore how people in advertising can envision sustainable living.

David Micklem is a writer, arts consultant and theatre producer. He is co-founder of 64 Million Artists which campaigns to unlock our individual and collective creative potential and he advocates for theatre’s civic role in society.

Todd Miller has researched and written about border issues for more than 15 years, the last eight as an independent journalist and writer. He is the author of four books including Build Bridges Not Walls and his work appears in publications worldwide.

Catriona Milligan co-founded High Rise Bakers, a community bakery in Gorbals, Glasgow which brought together locals and refugees to make and sell nutritious real bread to their neighbours.

Sherrri Mitchell is a Native American lawyer, activist, author and teacher. She is Executive Director of the Land Peace Foundation and has won various awards in recognition of her human rights work.

Tijay Mohammed is a Ghanian-born artist based in New York, who has exhibited internationally. He has received numerous awards and residencies, and organises workshops and projects within diverse communities.

Dr Masum Momaya has worked extensively at the intersection of arts, culture and social justice in the US as an educator, museum curator, writer and activist. She is founder of consulting practice, Curating Words, Strategies and Sights for Justice and Rights and a Fellow at Open Society Foundations.

Dr Eduard Müller is the founder and rector of the University for International Cooperation. He is globally recognized for his work in regenerative development in leading the Regenerate Costa Rica initiative.

Dr Jane Myat is a London GP and advocate of patient-centred approaches. She is founder of the Listening Space, set in a community garden in her practice.

Mary Nally trained and worked as a nurse before founding Third Age that seeks to harness the talent and experience of older people in Ireland.

Chloe Naldrett has worked in theatre for 20 years and is currently Executive Producer at Birmingham Rep. She is also an activist working with Extinction Rebellion, XR Bristol Families and Culture Declares Emergency.
Lucy Neal is a theatre-maker, author and educator, interested in how celebratory events can catalyse change. She was Co-founding Director of the London International Festival of Theatre and is a Creative Associate with Encounters Arts.

Zach Norris is Executive Director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and co-founder of Justice for Families that works to end youth incarceration in the US.

Dr Patricia Ononwau Kaishian is the Curator of Mycology at the New York State Museum, Professor of Biology with Bard Prison Initiative, and author of Forest Euphoria: a Queer Bestiary.

Rhiannon Osborne is a student doctor, climate & health justice activist, and researcher in health inequalities. She organises with the People’s Health Movement and is co-founder of the People’s Health Hearing where frontline communities give testimony on the impacts of extractivism, colonial violence and the climate crisis.

Agamemnon Otero is CEO of Energy Garden, and co-founder of Repowering, Brixton Energy and Community Energy England. He has been named a London Leader and has been awarded an MBE for services to community energy.

Ash Perrin is the founder and CEO of The Flying Seagull Project, a UK-based charity that works around the world to bring happiness to children who are marginalised or suffering.

Jane Perrone is a freelance journalist, presenter and producer of indoor gardening podcast, On The Ledge.

Robert Philips was a celebrated PR consultant, writer, keynote speaker and founder of Jericho—a consultancy built on principles of activism, accountability, participation and dissent.

Bianca Pitt is an activist, advisor, campaigner, and an environmental funder. She is the founder of the Women of the Environment Network, co-founder at SHE Changes Climate, and steward of a regenerative farming venture in West Sussex.

Al-Jen Poo is an award-winning organiser, author, and a leading voice in the US women’s movement. She holds various roles including Executive Director of the National Domestic Workers’ Alliance and is an expert on elder and family care.

Hilary Powell is co-creator of The Bank Job, a feature film, book and art project in London that took on an unjust financial system, by printing its own bank notes and selling them to fund local charities and abolish local debt.

Paul Powlesland is a barrister specialising in upholding the rights of environmental activists to protest and protect the natural world. He is the co-founder of Lawyers for Nature and regularly gives talks and workshops on the rights of nature.

Kevin Quashee teaches black cultural and literary studies and is Professor of English at Brown University. He is the author or editor of four books, including the award-winning Black Aliveness.

Susan Raffo is a is a bodyworker, cultural worker and writer, working with ways of healing generational and historical trauma.

Belina Raffy is an author, improvisational collaboration consultant, experiential workshop designer and facilitator, and a ‘compassionate comedy’ teacher for individuals and organisations around the world.

Kavita Ramdas is an American feminist, activist and a recognized global advocate for gender equity, having served as the Director of the Women’s Rights Program at the Open Society Foundations and CEO of the Global Fund for Women.

Ana Rausch has been Vice President of Program Operations at the Coalition for the Homeless in Houston since 2013. Originally from Belém, Brazil, she has worked in the non-profit sector for over 20 years.

Ben Rawlence is an activist and author of three books including Treeline: The Last Forest. He is founder and director of Black Mountains College, an experimental college in Wales devoted to climate action and adaptation.

Kate Raworth is an economist, lecturer, best-selling author of Doughnut Economics, and co-founder of the Doughnut Economics Action Lab that works to turn radical doughnut ideas into action.

Jonathan Rhodes is a British psychologist, researcher and lecturer who helped develop Functional Imagery Training by raising performance levels of athletes.

Andrea Ritchie is an activist, writer and police misconduct attorney from the US who is focused on women of colour and LGBTQ women of colour that have been victims of police violence.

Cassie Robinson is Deputy Director of Funding Strategy at The National Lottery Community Fund where she oversees the Climate Action Fund amongst others.

Favianna Rodriguez is an interdisciplinary artist, cultural strategist, and activist based in Oakland, California. She is co-founder and president of The Center for Cultural Power and creator of bold works of art that confront social injustice.

Nick Romeo covers policy and ideas for The New Yorker and teaches in the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California, Berkeley.

Erika Rushin has over 35 years of experience in supporting communities and creative enterprises to create, grow, occupy and reinvent their own economies. She is an award-winning leader, mentor, lecturer, and Director of Creative Economist.

Ruth Sapsed is Director of Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination, an arts and well-being charity that cultivates creative communities in Cambridgeshire and beyond.

Otto Scharmer is author of several books including Theory U: Leading from the Future as It Emerges, and is an action researcher who co-creates pathways of transformation for individuals, institutions, and larger systems.

LaUra Schmidt is a truth seeker, community builder, cultural critic, trainer, and facilitator. She is the founder of the Good Grief Network and the brain behind the 10 Steps to Resilience & Empowerment in a Chaotic Climate programme.

Bushra Schuitemaker is the former vice-chair of the British Ecological Society’s REED Ecological Network, an award-winning communicator and radio presenter, and a PhD student focusing on poultry health and welfare.

Dr Ann Seide is a medical doctor with 25 years of experience working as a hospitalist and palliative care physician. She is also a healer who believes that relief from suffering is best achieved through relationship-centred, whole-person care.
Jared Seide is an author, and founder and Executive Director of Center for Council, where he has developed and shepherded training programs to promote health, relationality and compassion for incarcerated individuals and professionals.

Nadia Shaikh is a naturalist, ornithologist and land justice activist. She works for the Right to Roam campaign and is founder The Raven Network, working with people of colour in conservation organisations to explore how to decolonise conservation.

Matt Shardlow is a former Guardian columnist and Chief Executive of Buglife, Europe’s only organisation committed to saving all invertebrates.

Nandita Sharma is an author, activist-scholar and Professor of Sociology at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa whose research interests include human migration, migrant labour, nation-state power, ideologies of racism, sexism, and nationalism.

Zena Sharman is a writer, speaker, strategist and LGBTQ+ health advocate. She’s the author of three books, including The Care We Dream Of: Liberatory and Transformative Approaches to LGBTQ+ Health.

Aisha Shillingford is Artistic Director at Intelligent Mischief and an anti-disciplinary artist, designer and cultural strategist originally from Trinidad & Tobago. Her work includes themes of black utopias, abolition and dreamspace.


Professor Sunny Singh is an acclaimed novelist, public intellectual, Professor of Creative Writing and Inclusion in the Arts at the London Metropolitan University. She is also founder of the Jhalak literary prize and a champion of decolonisation and inclusion.

Andrew Skeoch is an author, naturalist, environmental thinker, and one of Australia’s best-known nature sound recordists. Over thirty years, he has documented the sounds of wild environments around the planet and published them through his label Listening Earth.

Chris Smaje is an author and small-scale farmer from Somerset. He is currently a director of the Ecological Land Co-op and was a founding member of the Land Workers’ Alliance.

Atossa Soltani is a long-term global campaigner for tropical rainforests and indigenous rights, founder and board president of Amazon Watch and Director of Global Strategy for the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Initiative.

Kate Soper is Emerita Professor of Philosophy at London Metropolitan University, a translator and author of several books, including Post-Growth Living.

Johannes Strippel is an Associate Professor in Political Science at Lund University, Sweden, researching the governance of climate change. He has also worked on various initiatives that imagine possible fossil-free futures.

Kate Swade is Co-Director of Shared Assets and the Digital Commons Cooperative, working to make the invisible infrastructure needed for a more just world.

Ben Tawil is a play consultant and researcher. Working together with his colleague Mike Barclay as Lactology, they have over 40 years’ experience of working with and on behalf of playing children.

Phil Teer is a writer and creative strategist, and former co-founder of 90s creative agency St Lukes. He is author of The Coming Age of Imagination that explores how universal basic income could lead to an explosion of creativity.

Baratunde Thurston is a bestselling author, acclaimed TED speaker and creator and host of award-winning podcast, How to Citizen with Baratunde, in which he holds space for hard and complex conversations about race, culture and politics.

Phoebe Tickell is a renegade biologist, social entrepreneur and the person who designed and ran the Camden Imagination Activist training. She is also the founder of Moral Imaginations that brings together science, complexity and imagination.

Dr Vanessa Timmer is the Executive Director of OneEarth Living, a Vancouver-based non-profit ‘think and do tank’ advancing sustainable everyday living with people and organisations around the world.

Dr Katherine Trebeck is a political economist, writer, and Advocacy and Influencing Lead for the Wellbeing Economy Alliance.

Sam Tsemberis is an internationally recognised clinical–community psychologist who originated the ‘Housing First’ model on the belief that housing is a basic right. He serves as CEO of the Pathways Housing First Institute and Clinical Associate Professor at the UCLA Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences.

Daniel Christian Wahl is one of the catalysts of the rising reGeneration and the author of Designing Regenerative Cultures. He works as a consultant, educator and activist with NGOs, businesses, governments and global change agents.

Andrew Whitley started an organic bakery in Cumbria in the 1970s and has gone on to write and campaign on the importance of healthy, sustainable, locally-accessible bread. He is the co-founder of the Real Bread Campaign and Scotland’s The Bread, a community benefit society proposing a Scottish grain and bread supply.

Matt Willer is the inspiration behind the award-winning The Allotment Project and the founder of The Fauktion Project, an educational charity promoting environmental living for young people.

Lewis Winks is an educator and campaigner focused on cultural transformation and environmental advocacy. He is a partner at Lestart Environmental Education, Director of On The Hill, and an active member of Right to Roam.

Lisa Witter is an award-winning political and policy entrepreneur. She’s the co-founder and board member of Apolitical, and CEO and co-founder of the Apolitical Foundation, working to cultivate courageous politicians that inspire trust.

Sean Wood is CEO of Positive News, the reader-owned cooperative and magazine about what’s going right. He co-founded The Constructive Journalism Project and is a passionate advocate for the potentially positive impact of media.

Dee Woods is a food and farming action-ist and campaigner with a focus on good food for all.

Maryanne Wolf is a scholar, teacher, advocate for children and literacy, and author of several books exploring reading, literacy and the brain. She is also the Director of the Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners and Social Justice at UCLA.
Rebecca Wrigley is one of the founders of Rewilding Britain and is now its Chief Executive. She has worked in conservation and development for 30 years around the world and is passionate about engaging local communities in decision-making.

Dr Wanda Wyporska is a European historian, author, visiting research fellow at the University of York, Executive Director of The Equality Trust, and a regular keynote speaker.

Kwesia X grew up in inner-city London. She was invited to join the British Exploring Society’s expedition to the Peruvian rain-forest, after which she began her blog and work as City Girl in Nature, helping others connect to the natural world.

Syd Yang is a Taiwanese-American queer trans/non-binary healer, intuitive counsellor and writer who weaves together magic, possibility and intention as an energy healer in the world through their practice, Blue Jaguar Healing Arts.

Tyson Yunkaporta is an academic, arts critic, and researcher who belongs to the Apalech Clan of north Queensland. He carves traditional tools and weapons and is a senior lecturer in Indigenous Knowledges at Deakin University in Melbourne.

Alex Zamalin is Director of the African American Studies Program and Political Science at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. He is the author of six books, including Black Utopia and All Is Not Lost.

Erika Zarate is a Quechua-Canadian activist and senior consultant at ResilienceEarth, working with organisations, non-profits and indigenous communities in the fields of community resilience, governance and human rights.

Carlos Zimbrón is an architect, entrepreneur and celebrator of failure. He is co-founder and CEO of Fuckup Inc and the co-founder of cultural space, WE ARE TODOS.

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