

Above Derwent, Borrowdale, Buttermere, and Keswick Community Inquiry April – June 2026



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Authorship

This report has been produced by ACTion with Communities in Cumbria (ACT) as the facilitators of this Community Inquiry process. The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the process and the recommendations produced. A separate evaluation report will be published. The recommendations are reproduced here as they were voted on by the Group. Any comments on these recommendations come from members of the Inquiry. The views expressed in these recommendations and associated comments are those of the Inquiry Group and its individual members and do not necessarily reflect the views of ACT.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank:

- The Sortition Foundation for their support with recruitment.
- Jenny Willis for acting as our Independent Learning Partner.
- Members of the Oversight Group for their contributions and support.
- All of the commentators for their inputs at Inquiry sessions.
- All of the Inquiry members who were part of this process.

About ACTion with Communities in Cumbria

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria is the rural and community development charity for Cumbria. We champion community and rural issues and support communities to take

effective action on the things that matter to them.

Contents

The Aim of this Inquiry	3
What is a Community Inquiry?	3
What do we mean by community power?	3
Who took part in the Inquiry?	4
How was the question decided?	4
The Oversight Group	5
What happened at the sessions?	5
Sessions 1 & 2: Setting priorities....	5
Commentator Inputs.....	6
Recommendation setting.....	6
Recommendation Ranking	7
Vision Statement.....	7
Overarching Statements	8
Recommendations.....	11
Thank you	22
Appendix A	23
Appendix B	30



The Aim of this Inquiry

This Inquiry brought together 22 people who live and/or work in either Above Derwent, Borrowdale, Buttermere, or Keswick Parish to consider the question, “Is this a good place to live and work? How could it be better?”.

The Inquiry was facilitated by ACTion with Communities in Cumbria who, after having successfully facilitated similar process in the Wasdale Valley, were asked by the National Trust and Lake District National Park Authority to consider working across the four Parishes included within this Inquiry. While these four Parishes are distinct areas geographically, together they are viewed as an important collective voice by the National Trust and Lake District National Park Authority, particularly when thinking about future strategic plans (e.g., Valley Plans).

An overarching aim of this process was to explore how members of a community can take power and gain a sense of influence over decisions which affect their local area. The National Lottery Community Fund provided funding for this Inquiry as part of a national pilot looking at community power initiatives. As one of two pilots working within rural communities, this process sought to investigate what community power looks like in a rural context, with different power structures, funding pressures, and ways of living, compared to urban settings. If you want to know more about the national pilot, you can contact info@cumbriaaction.org.uk.

What is a Community Inquiry?

A Community Inquiry is about local people taking power and shaping the future of their area. Inquiry members are chosen from volunteers in the community to form a group who broadly reflect the types of people who live in that geographic area.

Over a series of sessions, Inquiry members engage in a Citizens’ Panel style process of deliberation on a specific question or issue. Throughout, commentators are invited to help the Group to develop their ideas around a particular issue. At the end of the process, Inquiry members agree a set of recommended next steps or actions which they feel could address the issues identified. These recommendations are then presented to key decision makers with the aim of encouraging these ideas to be adopted and taken forward.

Alongside the group of residents making up the Inquiry Group, a Community Inquiry also recruits an Oversight Group which is comprised of relevant decision-makers and authority bodies. Throughout the process, members of the Oversight Group use their expertise to provide guidance and oversight of the process, including feedback on any draft recommendations, and suggestions of commentators who may provide useful inputs to sessions.

What do we mean by community power?

Defining community power is not without its challenges. The National Lottery defines community power as, “Communities being able to influence and change: places they live, services they use, and decisions which affect their lives. It requires a shift



towards equitable power-sharing between institutions, organisations and local people and shifting economies towards community ownership and stewardship of assets and services". Throughout this process, our focus has been on what power community members feel they have currently, and the power they would like to have. At the start of the Inquiry, many Inquiry members gave reasons for joining which related to community power, including wishing to understand and influence local decision making, wanting to feel heard, and wanting to make a difference in their local area.

Who took part in the Inquiry?

In February 2026, an invitation to take part in the Inquiry was sent to every household and business in the four Parishes. The invite explained the process and invited people to register to take part. ACT staff also visited businesses in the four Parishes and advertisements were shared on social media and via the Oversight Group and their networks.

A total of 65 people expressed an interest in taking part from which 25 Inquiry Members were selected. The selection process was undertaken by the Sortition Foundation who use algorithms to create a group whose characteristics broadly reflect the proportions of these different characteristics within the wider county population. Given the rural nature of this work, some slight adjustments were made to the selection criteria prior to selection taking place in order to ensure voices from smaller communities (i.e., Parishes outside of Keswick) were fairly represented in the conversation where differences in population would have led to only one individual from these areas being selected. In addition, as community power was a focus throughout this process, residents were asked to indicate whether they felt they could influence local decision making with the aim of selecting a group which varied in their level of agreement with this statement.

Three people withdrew from the process ahead of the initial session. Overall, 21 people attended nearly all sessions (one further member withdrew half-way through the process).

How was the question decided?

Given the geographic area covered by this Inquiry and the focus on community power, it was decided to keep the question deliberately broad in order to provide Inquiry members with maximum scope to take the process in the direction they wished to. As people who lived or worked in the area could be recruited, it was deemed important to ensure the question reflected this. Furthermore, as the Inquiry process is about celebrating what is good about the area, as well as what could be improved/different, the question was worded to encourage these positive reflections. The final question therefore was:

"Is this a good place to live and work? How can it be better?"



The Oversight Group

For this Inquiry, an Oversight Group was formed which included representatives from Cumberland Council, Lake District National Park Authority, the National Trust, Keswick Tourism Association, the University of Lancashire, and all four Parish Councils. Also in attendance at each meeting was an Independent Learning Partner who provided impartial feedback to ACT on the process. Oversight Group members were given the opportunity to speak with the Independent Learning Partner privately to provide feedback at any point throughout the Inquiry. During the process, a special meeting was also convened between the Independent Learning Partner and Parish Council members to explore their views about the process in more depth.

The Oversight Group met five times. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the progress of the Inquiry, gather suggestions for commentators for upcoming Inquiry sessions, and consider the Group's proposed recommendations. Feedback on the recommendations was taken back to the Group for them to consider ahead of these finalised.

At the end of the process, Oversight Group members and other stakeholders were invited to a presentation evening. At this event, Inquiry members presented their recommendations and had the opportunity to discuss these in more depth with those in attendance.

What happened at the sessions?

Sessions 1 & 2: Setting priorities

The Inquiry began with an introductory session on the evening of Wednesday 15th April 2026. During this session, the Group heard from a member of the Cumbria Climate Change Assembly about their experience of a Citizens' Panel process and a representative from Cumberland Council who spoke about how they would like to work with the Inquiry. Reflections on why members joined the Inquiry were also captured.

In the second session on Saturday 18th April, Inquiry members identified themes, or priority areas, they would like to focus on during the Inquiry. To do this, they engaged in activities including using maps and wider discussion to establish the positives and challenges of living and working in their place. The Group then voted on which challenges were priorities for them, with the top four being taken forward as focus areas for the Inquiry. These were:

- **Transport, Travel & Highways**
- **Impact of Visitors**
- **Rural Depopulation**
- **Climate & Environment**

After establishing these priority areas, the group then created 'problem trees'. This involved identifying specific issues within each priority area and using 'why'



questioning to get to what some of the 'root causes' of these issues may be. Issues identified were then used to help guide topics for discussion at the commentator sessions.

Commentator Inputs

Over four sessions (sessions 3,4,6 and 7), Inquiry members heard from commentators with expertise on key issues they wished to explore. A separate session was arranged for each of the chosen priority areas. In each commentator session, Inquiry members heard from 3 commentators, each speaking for around 7 minutes. Following this, the Group were given the opportunity to ask the commentators questions. Any questions which were not asked in the room were followed up by email. We are grateful to all commentators for their inputs:

Transport, Travel & Highways:

- Roger Clarke (Hope Valley Climate Action)
- Alistair Kirkbride (Low Carbon Destinations)
- Karl Melville (Assistant Director for Highways & Transport, Cumberland Council)

Climate & Environment

- Angela Wakefield (Catchment Co-ordinator, Environment Agency)
- Bethany Berry-Henshaw (Cocker Management Group, West Cumbria Rivers Trust)
- Maddy & Danny Teasdale (Ullswater Catchment Management CIC)

Impact of Visitors

- Michael Hill (CEO, Friends of the Lake District)
- Peter Walter (Member, Lake District National Park)
- Georgina Wrathall (Wasdale Action Group CIO)

Rural Depopulation

- Chloe Swift (Strategy Planner, Lake District National Park Authority)
- Louise Dunn (Chair, Keswick Town Council)
- Benita Laphorne and Peter Toes (Secretary and Chair, Keswick Community Housing Trust)

Recommendation setting

Sessions 5, 8, 9, and 10 were focused on moving towards and finalising a set of recommendations:

- In Session 5, the Group started to think about their vision for their place to help frame their recommendations. During this session, Inquiry members also learned

about local power structures to help them to understand who may have influence over key issues they may wish to address in their recommendations.

- In sessions 8 and 9, the Group developed their ideas into a set of recommendations. The Group then voted on the recommendations so that these could be produced in priority order (see below for more information on this).
- In Session 10, the Group finalised their recommendations and vision statement and prepared for the presentation evening.

At the presentation evening on 24th June 2026, the Group presented their final set of recommendations to an audience of key decision makers which included the Oversight Group and wider bodies. After the presentation, the Group then had the opportunity to discuss the issues raised with the decision makers present.

Recommendation Ranking

For each theme, Inquiry members developed an overarching statement outlining the change they would like to see, followed by a series of recommendations which provided suggestions of ways this could be achieved. Inquiry members voted individually for each statement and set of recommendations on a scale of “*Strongly Agree*” to “*Strongly Disagree*”. Votes were worth the following points:

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
+2	+1	0	-1	-2

The points for each recommendation and statement were totalled and ranked in order of priority (higher points = greater priority). Recommendations and statements were ranked separately.

During the prioritisation rating, Inquiry members were also encouraged to provide any comments they may have. Comments received on the statements are recorded in Appendix A while comments on the recommendations are provided in Appendix B.

Vision Statement

The below statement reflects the Inquiry Group’s vision for their place. To view comments on this statement, go to Appendix A, or click the link at the bottom if viewing digitally.

“We live in four rural Parishes in the Lake District, a special and beautiful part of the world that we want to look after. As a group, we believe strongly that local community should be front and centre in decisions about our area. We want to be able to influence strategies and policies that affect where we live. Until we joined this Community Inquiry many of us did not know how we could do this.

We’ve talked about the things that will make our places better to live and work in. Our recommendations cover complicated things about which we are learning and do



not have all the answers or agree on everything. But our experiences of living and working here are important.

We'd like to see:

- A clean and cared for countryside everyone can enjoy, where visitors are welcome, nature is respected and farming is sustainable.*
- Decision making based on clear information, where everyone's needs are taken into consideration; there is an opportunity for everyone to take part in a way that they find interesting and enjoyable.*
- Fewer cars on our roads with public and community transport that is reliable and connected and gets us to where we need to be, with much better provision for walking and cycling safely.*
- Affordable housing for all generations of people who live here, and controls on the rise of homes that are not lived in permanently.*

We hope this process is just the start of greater community involvement in the decisions which affect us."

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
11	5	2	2	1

Overarching Statements

Each overarching statement has been listed below in order of priority ranking. The ratings given by Inquiry members and the overall score can be seen below the statement. Comments on each of these statements are provided in Appendix A. If you are viewing this report digitally, you can view the comments for a particular statement by clicking on the link below the statement.

#1 Housing Statement

Affordable housing in this area is still out of reach for many local people. A better understanding of what is affordable in our local context is important.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
14	7	1	0	0	35

#2 Community & Cost of Living Statement

It can be a challenge to raise a family and have a good quality of life in the area because of higher housing prices, lower salaries and poor access to services.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
13	7	2	0	0	33

#3 Impact of Visitors Statement

In ten years' time we want to see less traffic on Lake District roads, with the area being quieter and cleaner, with more cyclists and walkers, frequent bus services for locals and visitors, and residents being able to get where they need to. It feels like if we don't shout about what is needed in our area, nothing will be done.

We need a balanced and sustainable visitor economy; we are not anti-visitor, we want good visitors and to discourage bad behaviour, letting people know there will be consequences for the bad behaviours.

Our communities need permanent, skilled employment for local people with opportunities for progression and local businesses benefiting from the visitor economy (e.g., accommodation using local businesses for repairs).

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	7	2	0	1	30

#4 Communication & Local Democracy Statement

During the Inquiry we heard from people who are working hard to make Cumberland and the Lake District good places to live. We also heard from people outside the County. The Inquiry has given us some awareness we did not have before and has raised questions about how residents and visitors find out about what's going on and who can help when things are not right.

Many people don't know about local government structures, who makes decisions that affect them and why this matters. From Parish and Town Councils to the Mayoral Combined Authority, awareness in communities is very low about who is working for them. We have been told that 'there is no money'. We believe that citizens want to help make their places better by doing things they care about, as

volunteers and organized groups, and by working with authorities who share their concerns.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
10	8	4	0	0	28

#5 Business & Economy Statement

Investing in local businesses helps to keep money and investment in the area and can help to reduce environmental waste. If we can use local services and businesses, we should.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
9	10	2	1	0	27

#6 Climate & Environment Statement

The Lake District National Park is in a unique position with the land, and the opportunity, to make an impact on climate change and nature. We should lead the way on protecting and preserving our natural environment, growing biodiversity, and mitigating the climate crisis.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
10	8	1	1	1	25

#7 Digital Connectivity Statement

Poor digital connectivity (digital) makes it challenging for people to work from home and access services.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
10	4	8	0	0	24

#8 Transport & Highways Statement

We are lucky to live in such a special place. We welcome all visitors to share our unique landscape. However, the present situation is not sustainable and action needs to be taken to preserve our National Park.

[Click to view comments on this statement](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	4	2	3	1	23

Recommendations

Each recommendation has been listed below in order of priority ranking. The ratings given by Inquiry members and the overall score can be seen below the recommendation.

Comments on each of these recommendations are provided in Appendix B. If you are viewing this report digitally, you can view the comments for a particular recommendation by clicking on the link below the recommendation.

#1 Clear consequences for people who drive or park illegally

Theme: Transport & Highways

- Clear designated parking spaces and clear passing places.
- Issue in Buttermere, Newlands Valley, Cat Bells, as well as other places, where there is no designated parking, so people park all over the roads.
- Reduce the speed limit on the A66 between Thornthwaite and Keswick

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	6	1	0	0	30

#2 Building communities

Theme: Community Life and Cost of Living

- We'd like to see how income from a visitor levy could be invested into community owned businesses and services (e.g., childcare, youth provision, energy provision, housing etc.)

- Community spaces should be encouraged. Multi-use buildings, where there are shops, houses and community spaces would be good to see. The Pencil Factory in Keswick is something we have identified as a real missed opportunity.
- Under-utilised/unused buildings should be used to create houses, flats and apartments, for people who choose that type of accommodation.
- Poor public transport makes it difficult for people to get into the area to work; this creates problems for some of our essential services such as childcare. We'd like to see this improved so people can get here in a timely and affordable way. Lack of affordable childcare is cited as a real barrier to raising a family in the area.
- There needs to be greater emphasis on building supportive communities and working towards supporting the needs of all members of our community. This is especially important for families and young people to encourage people to grow up and stay here.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	6	3	1	0	29

= #3 Effective use of laws

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

Where laws have been made through democratic process, we want to see them used effectively to protect our environment and community from damage. We have been told that there is no money for proper enforcement of things from illegal parking and fly-camping to illegal fox-hunting and water pollution, illegal use of local occupancy housing and ignored development policy. We want to support meaningful enforcement action against illegal activity, by helping to set priorities for police and civil enforcement.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	6	4	0	0	28

= #3 Members of the public, including visitors, should be inspired to get involved and grow efforts to protect our natural environment and promote biodiversity

Theme: Climate and Environment

- Leaders from within a community (e.g., Ullswater Catchment CIC) should be supported to inspire change. Local examples of good practice have impact because they are led by people we can relate to.
- Encourage residents to contribute to environmental change with existing local groups/organisations, like SusKes, Friends of the Earth Cumbria, Extinction Rebellion Cumbria, West Cumbria Rivers Trust.
- The public should be made aware of opportunities to get involved with monitoring activities as a way of kick-starting interest in further action. This includes encouraging visitors to get involved with efforts like citizen science or reporting environmental damage.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
13	4	3	0	1	28

= #3 Improve public transport reliability for residents and workers

Theme: Transport & Highways

- For commuters/workers/shoppers for locals it's a different need- reliability and connectivity on key transport routes between towns where people live and work in Cumbria.
- We'd like the new Mayor to use all their optional powers and fundraising abilities (e.g., car tax) to maximise funds that can be re-invested in transport.
- Use bus lanes/gates on busy roads like the Booths roundabout in Keswick, at peak times
- Improve information

[Click to view comments on this recommendation](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	8	0	0	2	28

= #3 An Information campaign that builds on the Countryside Code to encourage positive behaviours and using social media for reach

Theme: Impact of Visitors

- Farmers and accommodation providers could be involved in sharing and reinforcing clear, simple messages
- Better toilets, with those that have been closed re-opened and more in pressure spots. Pop up campsites need to provide WC facilities. This is a health and safety issue.
- Bigger litter bins and more regularly emptying

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
12	8	0	0	2	28

= #4 Examples of good environmental land management (e.g., case studies) need to be more accessible.

Theme: Climate and Environment

- Emphasise how supporting nature through good land management can be economically viable/profitable.
- Understanding fell farming through speaking to farmers about their work, including practices they engage in to protect the landscape.
- Raising awareness of the next generation of land users/owners to promote generational changes in practices.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
8	11	2	0	0	27

= #4 Accessibility for all

Theme: Transport and Highways

- An app or website that details accessible routes and where dropped kerbs, ramps, steps etc., are.
- Information that assists mobility aid and pushchair users to get around more safely.

- Ensure buses have audible and visual stop notifications.
- Support from the Council to make buildings more accessible to all.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	7	2	2	0	27

= #4 Improve digital coverage so that we can benefit from good digital and online services. (e.g., support Connecting Cumbria to reach remaining not-spots)

Theme: Digital connectivity.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
10	7	5	0	0	27

= #5 Better traffic management- parking, enforcement, double yellow lines

Theme: Impact of Visitors

- A Towing campaign (e.g., You will be towed- “Tow the Line”) for places like Cat bells, Portinscale, Borrowdale Rd.
- More places to park, pop up parking, a Park & Ride from Penrith
- Visitor car contribution, both a levy and parking income – ANPR in hot spots, to pay for better buses and cycle routes, improved road surfaces and infrastructure in hot spots
- Electric bikes available to hire, like the Lime Bikes scheme
- Walks could start at boat landings, bringing different transport options together- using social media to encourage shift through integrated transport.
- Designated parking for motor homes and free/fly camping like the Loch Lomond scheme, at £10 per license.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
10	9	0	1	2	26

= #5 Build a better connected active travel network for cyclists and pedestrians

Theme: Transport and Highways

- Money raised through enforced parking and parking fines is ring fenced to improve transport infrastructure (possible car tax/toll).
- Better connectivity linking different areas of the park, including footpaths, cycle routes, and buses. E.g, By St Herbert's School.
- Park and ride schemes, locally and outside the area – Penrith.
- Using education to make everyone feel they are stakeholders in this vision.
- Connect bus routes to footpaths
- Link up routes for cycles e.g. to Keswick School

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	6	4	0	1	26

= #6 Use good information to make everyone feel they are stakeholders in this vision

Theme: Transport and Highways

- Our areas are different, solutions in Keswick will not necessarily work in Buttermere or Borrowdale
- Explore Mini Switzerland for the Lake District – get beyond our current reactive travel policy
- More transparency on who holds the budget for these areas and who decides how it is used
- 'I Get Around' work done in Staveley would be good to try in Keswick?

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	6	4	1	1	24

= #6 Support a 'Citizens' Clearing House'

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

- A one-stop shop, to help people find out who can help them with a particular local matter. This could be an online resource where people can get information about statutory bodies and what they are responsible for, to deal with specific problems, or to help with specific opportunities.
- A Clearing House could include a range of other organisations active in the County to support community activity and engagement from residents in the plans that affect them.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
8	9	4	1	0	24

= #6 Better Communication

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

- We know that communication is hard, but feel there are too many expectations that residents and visitors will know how to find reliable information across the range of organisations involved in planning for the future of our communities.
- We would welcome creative dialogue and consultation that builds on what's important to us in our parishes. Communication should be varied (e.g., print, social and public meetings) regular to build familiarity and relationships, and locally relevant. For example, the Citizens Assembly on Climate Change sets out some Principles for Good Engagement which are relevant for communication on anything.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
7	10	5	0	0	24

= #7 Housing and Planning Regulations

Theme: Housing

We feel that planning regulations can prevent local housing needs being met. We'd like to see a forum in which Housing developers, Planners/LDNPA and interested

community members can have conversations to agree on how we can increase the number of residential dwellings to meet local needs.

This would be an opportunity to see if any of the planning regulations (about building size, materials and appearance, for example) can be flexed to make it more affordable to create high quality new dwellings. We'd like to challenge the regulations around preservation of 'a look' and have more emphasis on the area being lived in and worked in.

- Quotas for second homes/holiday homes would be a solution to many of the local housing challenges. This is particularly an issue in smaller, more rural parishes, like Buttermere where the proportion of second homes needs to be reduced, and new development is not being planned.
- Quality housing that meets future community needs. Housing stock needs to be high quality and energy efficient, to make it sustainable, have a minimal environmental impact on the area, and affordable to live in. Overall, our housing stock must meet the changing needs of families, older residents and workers.
- Community Led Housing. The Keswick Community Housing Trust model is a real benefit to Keswick. This should be supported and drawn upon more.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	2	4	1	1	21

= #7 Land within the Lake District National Park should be prioritised for nature; this can and should include consideration of sustainable agriculture, timber, and tourism.

Theme: Climate and Environment

- A map of how land is used in the National Park and what land users/owners are currently doing on the land to protect nature (including changes to farming practices) should be developed
- National laws on hunting, land management and protection of nature should be consistently enforced
- Methods of measuring biodiversity should be developed and clearly described. Changes to biodiversity should be reported each year and shared publicly
- The National Trust need to support tenants to manage their land for the protection of nature and the resilience of local species

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	4	3	1	2	21

= #8 Don't re-invent the wheel

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

- Authorities, communities, organisations and activists are tackling similar challenges to us and making amazing change across Cumbria, elsewhere in the country, and internationally. We should be keen to learn from them.
- Examples of activism and partnership making change are Save Windermere (now working alongside United Utilities to improve water quality) and Hope Valley Climate Action (who secured huge investment with partners to pilot a 'mini-Switzerland' rural public transport provision in the Derbyshire Peak District).

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
8	7	5	1	1	20

= #8 Reduce traffic and create safer roads for everyone.

Theme: Transport and Highways

- Engage by survey specific user groups (e.g., commuter cyclists, commuter walker, mobility (wheelchair users), to create a to-do list of the top 100 tiny improvements where 'dots' can be joined up to make better active transport network, eliminating the small 'hiccups' (i.e., not big infrastructure changes)
- Assess the capacity of our areas for traffic. How many cars fit into Keswick or Buttermere, for instance. This information could lead to better management.
- Investigate Access passes for visitors and residents as used in other countries Only allow private vehicles into the Park who have secured designated parking
- Only allow electric vehicles into the Park, and increase the number of charge facilities. Offer electric car hire for travel around the Park.
- Grants for residents to own electric vehicles
- Electric shuttle buses
- A Transport hub where people can leave their cars and feel confident that there is an infrastructure for excellent connectivity, including shuttle buses, electric bikes, electric cars to hire and better paths (more visible).
- Incentivise and increase car sharing. Invest in Community Car Clubs



[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
5	12	4	0	1	20

= #8 Chamber of Commerce

Theme: Business and Local Economy

The development of a Chamber of Commerce would enable better support between businesses and make it easier for them to operate at a scale. There is currently no business forum in Keswick, but there are around 26 local businesses that would like there to be one established. Cockermouth is a great example; they have a vibrant local independent business sector and high street. We'd like to see something similar in this area.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
9	5	6	1	1	20

#9 The Lake District National Park Authority can join up national policy with local campaigns to protect this special place.

Theme: Climate and Environment

- National Parks across the country should be working together on these issues and engaging in joined-up decision making and environmental leadership.
- The Lake District National Park should be respected by law (Rights of Nature Framework).
- The Lake District National Park and partners should engage more with local activist groups in a manner which fosters collaboration, without political agenda.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
7	8	4	1	1	19

= #10 Pollution should be addressed in Windermere

Theme: Climate and Environment

- This should then be used as a model for addressing pollution in other waters which are under pressure, like Derwentwater.
- Addressing pollution in Windermere will help to improve confidence in the local community that something is happening to protect the environment.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
11	4	2	0	4	18

= #10 Management of big events – phase them over the year with licensing and pre-information and using social media to ask for good behaviours

Theme: Impact of Visitors

- Like the Eden Project in Morecambe, support car free visiting
- If doing the Lakesman and other major events, require parking at a hub in Penrith
- Self-driving vehicles could be used when there are events (LDNP had a pilot)

[Click to view comments on this recommendation](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
4	10	8	0	0	18

#11 Decision-makers at all levels need to demonstrate a sense of urgency towards tackling the climate crisis. There should be more constructive dialogue with land owners and land users so they understand the positive impact they can have on our natural environment. This includes homeowners.

Theme: Climate and Environment

- The incoming Mayor should commit to leading on addressing the climate crisis and work with other regional Mayors to do this. This could include holding public meetings setting how what they plan to do to address the climate crisis; a clear ambition and accountable timeline.
- All future decisions about land use should consider nature and past decisions should be reviewed to assess their impact. This includes considering how to

manage the resilience of nature in the face of a changing climate (e.g., species migration with temperature changes).

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
8	6	3	3	1	17

#12 Attract visitors in the off season

Theme: Impact of Visitors

- Stretch the numbers and impact of the visitors our local businesses' needs
- Promote more overnight and long stay visitor opportunities and offer incentives-free travel with no car use.

[Click to view comments on this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE
5	3	11	3	0	10

Thank you to the supporters of this Community Inquiry

Oversight Group:

- Above Derwent Parish Council
- Borrowdale Parish Council
- Buttermere Parish Council
- Keswick Town Council
- Cumberland Council
- Keswick Tourism Association
- National Trust
- Lake District National Park Authority
- University of Lancashire

Funders:

- National Lottery Community Fund
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation



Appendix A

Comments on overarching statements

If you are viewing this digitally, you can go back to the statement by clicking the link at the bottom.

Comments on Vision Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *"Not sure about word 'clean' I know we need to reduce litter and fly tipping but somehow this isn't right phrase Fewer petrol/diesel cars and vehicles eg wagons, motorhomes not just cars"*
- *"Housing costs should be tied to wages not affordable being a percentage of market rate."*

Agree:

- *"It is not clear whether this statement is suggesting that our group, or some successor group of "the local community" should continue to exist, to influence policy, or whether people should be encouraged to use the mechanisms that are already available through local councils, voluntary organisations and pressure groups. I favour Occam: 'Entities are not to be multiplied beyond necessity.'"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

"All of the above"

Disagree:

- *"Where farming and other industries are RESPECTED and a commitment made to understand them and their importance. How can you talk as if food production isn't critical infrastructure?"*
- *"Needs to say "live and/or work" (two of us don't live here but do work here)"just the start of greater community involvement" comes across as a proposal to do more projects like this one we're taking part in which I do not think is the way forward, I'd rather its said something like "We hope this process inspires improved ability for communities to become better engaged in what's going on around them"*

Strongly Disagree:

- *"We need more info & we need more help. The local council needs to be more proactive and not sit on their hands. They need to have more of a backbone and have respect for the towns they say they love"*

[Click to go back to statement](#)

Comments on Housing Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *“And what about a rental market? Houses for rent are so rare they disappear faster than you can find them. How could long or even short term lets be incentivised for landlords?”*
- *“The legal definitions are one thing, the reality is another. So being pragmatic and working out what price for a 1,2,3,4 bed house is actually affordable and then working out how to build at that price would be a good thing.”*
- *“Many 'affordable' homes aren't really affordable for (low waged) people working within LDNP, and yet developers continue to build them”*
- *“Hospitality industry often does not pay high enough wages that will enable a working family to buy/rent a house near their work in LDNP”*
- *“Yes , but the value of the "low cost property must not be an average of the existing housing stock”*

Agree:

- *“We need Home Group/Castles & Coasts to work with the council and LDNP to build new houses for this. The land is there for the taking - this is not MAYFAIR”*
- *“Not sure what we mean by certain needs?? can we tighten this up? Statement needs to be ambitious - Going forward affordable and local occupancy housing will be prioritised over and above the profits of developers”*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
14	7	1	0	0	35	#1

Comments on Community and Cost of Living Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *“We should acknowledge though that this is partly because we are rural, and is the flip side of all the benefits we get of being rural.”*
- *“This also to do with transport and services eg mobile signal that limits connectivity for rural communities.”*
- *“All of the above.”*
- *“This statement goes to the heart of why we fear our communities are unsustainable.”*

Agree:

- *"We need a swimming pool!!!" "Agree."*
- *"Cost of living in Keswick is shocking. It's not Mayfair; we is Old Kent Road. We pay extra for simple things because of tourists."*
- *"Not everyone is raising a family! Single people find it almost impossible to find anywhere to rent to be able to live and work locally as often in poorly paid hospitality jobs"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"This isn't really a recommendation. It feels like we are asking for the end of poverty. As much as I'd like it to be eradicated, demanding it won't get it done I'm afraid."*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
13	7	2	0	0	33	#2

Comments on Impact of Visitors Statement**Strongly Agree:**

- *"I agree with each item"*

Agree:

- *"Not sure how we word this but not all bad behaviour is by visitors eg littering and disrespectful parking"*
- *"Less Traffic": I think traffic on roads is only an issue in very specific places and at specific times. Mostly the roads in the Lake District are quiet or even empty. BUT the rest of this statement is fine."*
- *"All of above."*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"I would prefer there is an appetite to promote understanding of how this area works. How and what is farmed landscape (eg, almost all of it), NOT wilderness, and is a work site that people have a privilege to explore."*
- *"I find "We need a balanced and sustainable visitor economy; we are not anti-visitor, we want good visitors and to discourage bad behaviour, letting people know there will be consequences for the bad behaviours." very patronising. I don't like the term "good visitor""*

Strongly Disagree

- “We want it 5 years not 10. We need the council to pull their finger out and sort how they can do that but they won't. They do not care is my point.”

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
12	7	2	0	1	30	#3

Comments on Communication and Local Democracy Statement

Strongly Agree:

- “I agree with this item”
- “The monies raised from car parking fees and fines should be ring fenced and only used with in the national park. As residents of the new combine authority we should all pay the same parking charges as for example If I park in Workington I pay £2.50 for 4 hours whilst in the national park up to £6.00.
- This is a fair system for residents.”

Agree:

- “Agree.”

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- “There is money, they just will not spend it Keswick. We the people want what everyone else has but the town Council is full of OAP's and don't want new things. That it needs reshaping. They is the big problem for Keswick. We is dying for a McDonalds the public wants it.”

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
10	8	4	0	0	28	#4

Comments on Business & Economy Statement

Strongly Agree:

- “Agree wholeheartedly. Some incentivisation to use local business does exist and could be expanded. Tesco and Sainsbury's vans delivering to holiday lets is a sign the money isn't staying in the community, eg.”



- *"We're in a remote part of the UK and those businesses that we have here need our extra support to be able to compete with their equivalents in areas with higher economies of scale."*

Agree:

- *"Would like to see a campaign around using and encouraging local businesses. I'd also like to see quotas for chain shops in the town centre, this would also encourage local businesses"*
- *"Are business rates at a level to keep local businesses going in Keswick? Cockermouth still feels like a real town Keswick increasingly dominated by gear shops and cafes"*
- *"Affordability for many residents does affect use of local services etc Rates might sit behind this?"*
- *"What's environmental waste?"*

Disagree:

- *"Screwfix and the Local Chinese been shut down."*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
9	10	2	1	0	27	#5

Comments on Climate and Environment Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *"Need to stress that this is now urgent who is leading on this in every agency The science is clear we have to Act Now Ecosystems to be treated at Government and Park level as part of National Infrastructure. Ecosystems provide food and water and once they collapse none of the rest of this will matter!"*
- *"If we don't there will be no park at all"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"All of the above."*

Strongly Disagree:

- *"They have too much power and have done nothing with it. They have money to sort this out but won't do anything."*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
10	8	1	1	1	25	#6

Comments on Digital Connectivity Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *"I agree, but I think these solutions are already underway with state mobile services."*
- *"All of the above."*

Agree:

- *"It's shocking. 21st Century and no internet/wifi. It's not hard to put the wires in the ground."*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"I don't think this is a problem"*
- *"Yes. But, it is a double edged sword."*
- *"Connectivity in Keswick is good. We need information about connectivity elsewhere in our area."*
- *"Let's be clearer than this. There is extensive fibre network built/being built, and the EE network is pretty good in general, the problem is actually more specifically: - the other mobile networks - all mobile networks in some of the mountainous areas, including Borrowdale."*
- *"I think enough progress has been made in this area for this to be less of a priority."*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
10	4	8	0	0	24	#7

Comments on Transport and Highways Statement

Strongly Agree:

- *"I feel the lake district is getting too overcrowded, not getting the peace and quiet it used to be"*
- *"The very nature of our park is under threat"*

- *“There are increasing pressures on daily life for those who live and work in the LDNP. Examples of these pressures: transport/commuting/highway maintenance, housing, low skilled/poorly paid employment, litter and environmental damage/pollution.”*
- *“In Buttermere valley on busy days, number of cars exceed parking capacity. Visitors are stressed as not able to park, 'quiet enjoyment' for visitors and locals is destroyed, emergency vehicles and buses struggle to get through, roads and verges are damaged.”*
- *“We do not want the status quo to continue. Radical targeted areas required.”*

Agree:

- *“It needs to stress the need preserve and regenerate the natural environment of the Park whilst also developing it as somewhere to live and work”*
- *“It's not just about "preserving the National Park"; it's also about protecting communities; traffic jams and inconsiderate parking are regular features that impact everyday life and potentially can endanger life if emergency vehicles are unable to get through.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Preserve it for whom? I agree it isn't sustainable, but I prefer to see different language: eg., inclusive of prioritising the people who rely on the park to work and live already, and who keep the community and economy going. Less about preserving a museum and more about defending existing livelihoods and future generations. Eg, the people who create and maintain access to this landscape. Farmers, foresters, etc.”*
- *“I don't think we can say that the present situation is "not sustainable" without saying why. The National Park will not disappear if action is not taken.”*

Disagree:

- *“Although I'd agree with the first part, and agree many things can be improved, I don't agree that the current situation isn't sustainable.”*
- *“I think that the big question remains unanswered by both our group and the organisations that work in this area - which is do we want more tourists or do we want fewer? This then would inform so many decisions. Tourist bodies like Cumbria Tourism would want more, but locals, especially those in honeypot locations, want fewer. So it's not possible to say that we welcome all visitors, because some people/group do, and some don't. I also think that people exaggerate the issues, so whilst there are certainly bottlenecks in Buttermere and Borrowdale, they are not every day and all of the time but occasional. I heard that people think even the A66 is a busy road but it simply is not.*
- *Clearly action needs to be taken to preserve our national park - by definition it won't preserve itself - I don't see this part of the statement adding anything. As I*

mentioned to Fran, I don't think this opening statement is necessary at all. The only thing I would introduce the whole output with is something factual, such as: "We are an assorted group of people all of whom live and/or work in the area and were attracted by the idea of being able to become more involved and engaged in the things that go on around us, but did not know how to make that happen."

Strongly Disagree:

- *"Too many visitors. They up the price on day to day items. No money comes back to Keswick."*

[Click to go back to this statement.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
12	4	2	3	1	23	#8

Appendix B

Comments on recommendations

If you are viewing this digitally, you can go back to the recommendation by clicking the link at the bottom.

Clear consequences for people who drive or park illegally

Theme: Transport & Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *"Yes improving these things would be great. I would change the wording of the last one to urgently review traffic management between thornthwaite and keswick and address, speed could be one fix, but also better road markings another."*
- *"Tow the the *****! Simple. There is money in the pot for that. It would deter bad drivers."*
- *"Provide clear alternatives so that people don't choose to drive or park illegally: allowable parking places and effective public transport."*
- *"The solutions such as farmers being able to add parking in fields on the known days/times and in the known places is already working as far as I can see and should be encouraged. Those who say it only increases the amount of traffic that will then come should be ignored, as their concern is better tackled by simultaneously doing the other things that encourage public transport us"*
- *"I agree that there ought to be 'consequences' for motorists who flout parking regulations, though surely these already exist? It seems (to me) that these 'consequences' are not designed to educate/change behaviour, (there is no*

signage at the usual hotspots for example) rather, the 'consequences' seem to be a revenue generator (see: parking charges from Catbells last year)"

- *"And people who don't park in designated places should be towed away"*
"Perhaps illegal parking should mean not only a fine but points on your driving licence where the offences are committed in the national park. Pop up car parks are not the answer. Proper purpose built car parks with proper WC's. Yes reduce the A66 speed. But the road signage needs to be cleared of overgrown tree's ect."
- *"So a significant issue in the Borrowdale Valley; has been partially alleviated by use of double yellow lines."*

Agree:

- *"Fund more parking enforcement officers and implement towing away vehicles. Double Yellow lines in all the honey pot areas"*
- *"Agree with all apart from reduced speed limit - too specific and don't see relevance to the enquiry"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"Not sure about a reduced speed limit? Would that help congestion?" "Strongly agree with all except changing the speed limit which strongly disagree with."*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
12	6	1	0	0	30	#1

Building communities

Theme: Community Life and Cost of Living

Strongly Agree:

- *"I'd suggest a hotel tax for the town, charging a minimal amount per night in tax that would go directly back to the town, even 1-2£ per night would add up quickly. I don't like the idea of taxing people to enter Keswick etc."*
- *"I don't agree with sub-point 5, it's only fluffy and non-specific." "Absolutely agree with each item"*

Agree:

- *"If we can tax then do it, but we need the money in return."*
- *"During Covid many villages and streets developed Whatsapp groups that kept the community informed and connected. Initiatives like this and people willing to be identified as community enablers can help to build a sense of community"*



- *“This is a lot of varied statements to strongly agree on all at once”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Great but more investigation would be required.”*

Disagree:

- *“Agree but visitor levy doesn’t need to be a part of this recommendation - it seems to be in almost all and what (if it comes in at all) income it generates will be limited.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
12	6	3	1	0	29	#2

Effective use of laws

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

Strongly Agree:

- *“I'm frustrated with seeing the area in which I live being disproportionately and negatively impacted by the illegal behaviour of the few.”*
- *“This includes work of eg the Environment Agency, wardens from National Trust and LDNP rangers- more investment in staff who 'know their patch' and work with locals and visitors to protect it.”*
- *“All of the above.”*

Agree:

- *“We'd need to agree what we were proposing to deprioritise too though”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“The police are out in force for illegal hunting - the result of which is currently going through Parliamentary consultation- and even the perfectly legal hound parade on Boxing Day (riot police, no less). So I disagree with that part. I do agree they do not turn put when sabs assault the trail hunt attendees, however. So, less partiality would be nice.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
11	6	4	0	0	28	=3

Members of the public, including visitors, should be inspired to get involved and grow efforts to protect our natural environment and promote biodiversity

Theme: Climate and Environment

Strongly Agree:

- *“A clearing house of how to help would be very helpful”*
- *“I do think that better enabling citizens to be eyes and ears on the ground/citizen scientists is an excellent and relevant idea”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“All of above”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“This enquiry has become a cover for environmental activism which has not yet demonstrated to me any understanding of the farms in this parish work, how and why food production matters, nor how upland farming supports wildlife and the natural environment, nor shown the qualifications to make such statements. These statements sound like soundbites based on headline activism. So no, complete disagreement. Has anyone surveyed the Derwent fells (I have, through the SFI) Anyone else?”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
13	4	3	0	1	28	=3

Improve public transport reliability for residents and workers

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *“Local MP/councillors should have more care and do the job they're voted in for but no-one knows who they are.”*

- *“As a business owner, the availability and reliability of buses is the number 1 problem for recruitment. The last buses from Keswick are pathetically early, and buses often do not appear at all. None of our staff use the buses because they can't rely on them, though all of them could do in theory as they all live on the X4 or X5 bus routes. We have to recognise that we are mostly a group of residents, and haven't had the same focus on the needs of businesses as we might have therefore, but I would consider the output of the group to be stronger if it were clear to the new mayor in 2027 that this group thought that they should make the urgent implementation of a car tax their top priority and invest the money in sorting out public transport.”*
- *“Workers have to use cars at present as public transport is unreliable and not frequent.”*
- *“Much better to put resources into shared and public transport than to encourage private electric vehicles.”*

Agree:

- *“Increase investment in public transport from national government monies. Keep the current subsidy”*
- *“Bus lane? A nice idea, but I wonder about the viability of bus lanes (even at busy times) surely there isn't space for this? (Perhaps my criticism is too specific?)”*
- *“Our New Mayor must ring fence any monies that are raised in the national park to invest in transport within the national park as a whole.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Again nothing mentioned about very rural roads which get disproportionately clogged up.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“I strongly disagree with the car tax, as I think it could damage economy. I'm ok with the other ideas”*
- *“Again as I strongly disagree with a car levy I must strongly disagree with all of the above”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
12	8	0	0	2	28	=3

An Information campaign that builds on the Countryside Code to encourage positive behaviours and using social media for reach

Theme: Impact of Visitors

Strongly Agree:

- *“Tv cartoon on national tv. Showing the code of practices. Our grandchildren would be pulling us up for breaking the rules. Many accommodation providers have given up offering advise.”*

Agree:

- *“In part.”*
- *“Need signs about new Countryside Code in all parking areas, in all the shops, schools, laybys etc Also is countryside education happening in schools?”*
- *“As a group we might say that more and better worded signage for the country code principles is desired. There are people who say there should be no signs in the countryside as it spoils the look, but is our group saying we think this consideration should be overridden - if so that then helps the authorities to tackle the counter argument to it. Toilets are not free to build and run though so we can send a message that we'd like to see more of them, but don't we as a group need to consider how they might be funded?”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“This has gone“*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
12	8	0	0	2	28	=3

Examples of good environmental land management (e.g., case studies) need to be more accessible.

Theme: Climate and Environment

Agree:

- *“Who is raising awareness with the next generation? And what is their expertise and understanding of how individual farms work?”*
- *“Needs to be more info”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"I believe this is already happening, which is good, so saying we want more of this isn't necessary."*
- *"All of above."*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
8	11	2	0	0	27	=4

Accessibility for all

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *"In some buses there no indication of what the next stop going to be. Example Carlisle bus from Keswick"*
- *"Bus stops with shelters - poor weather puts people off using a bus." "All the above are great ideas."*

Agree:

- *"Keswick pavements and roads do need attention these are several dangerous pavements or lack of in Keswick. I'd also argue for them to be beautified at the same time"*
- *"No comment to add."*
- *"Access needs to be a thread through all the sections"*
- *"I'm sure that any disability aid for residents and tourists is welcome"*

Disagree:

- *"It's there for everyone already. We have more problems."*
- *"I can't argue against making things better but I don't think this is a priority"*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
11	7	2	2	0	27	=4

Improve digital coverage so that we can benefit from good digital and online services. (e.g., support Connecting Cumbria to reach remaining not-spots)

Theme: Digital Connectivity

Strongly Agree:

- *“Yes the government grants seem to have missed the mark, Keswick has received fibre, but the small villages have been a flop.”*

Agree:

- *“To an extent, still thinking about it.”*
- *“Yes just build it. The tunnels there already to do it.”*
- *“But we need to be more honest here as a group, we know that the mobile companies have been refused permission for masts that would have solved this based on local opposition, so what's the point in our group saying we want better signal unless we say we think such local opposition should be overruled.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Yes good but when. Is there a targeted plan.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
10	7	5	0	0	27	=4

Better traffic management- parking, enforcement, double yellow lines

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *“I think we should certainly send the signal that we'd be happy for the authorities to be more assertive in this area than they may feel is appropriate or reasonable, but I understand towing is not physically possible”*

Agree:

- *“Ok but I can see the Lime Bikes working in town only. Deep rural is so hilly, I can see them being dumped and causing obstructions.”*
- *“If can be put in place then do it, but Cumberland Council is not interested” “All of the above.”*

Disagree:

- *“Penrith is too far. Designated parking will only work if enforced.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“I agree apart from the motor homes. The law as-is is sufficient and problems should be addressed under existing parking laws”*
- *“Again I agree with most recommendations but must strongly disagree due to inclusion of car levy.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
10	9	0	1	2	26	=5

Build a better connected active travel network for cyclists and pedestrians

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *“Connecting the dots is one thing that Mayors have been doing around the UK since being appointed and finally our mayor has the opportunity to do the same.”*
- *“I agree with each item for point 4”*

Agree:

- *“I like this one a lot, with the exception of the park and ride”*
- *“It is annoying waiting for a bus and it doesn't come. Tourists must feel the same”*
- *“Free or subsidised hire bikes both pedal and electric. Let's go like the Dutch”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Once again I agree with ring fencing money raised from car parking fines within the national park. But not the whole statement.”*
- *“Yes but see above comments re car levy”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“Better things to do with money The economy is not nice at the moment. Get a car. If Keswick had all the shops then yes, do this, but at the moment NO!!!!”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
11	6	4	0	1	26	=5

Use good information to make everyone feel they are stakeholders in this vision

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- *"I agree with each item for point 6."*

Agree:

- *"More active use of social media and continue bringing young Influencers on board to get a consistent message out"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"I don't see how the points link up to the recommendation."*
- *"I don't know the Staveley reference and I think the proposals in points 2, 3 and 4 are more specific and tangible than these ones."*
- *"Good ideas that will need more investigating."*

Disagree:

- *"Sorry I just don't think the Switzerland idea would work and I prefer the previous item about small improvements on the current roads and paths. My favourite idea is to connect all villages with cycle paths (off road) like Keswick to Threlkeld"*

Strongly Disagree:

- *"They need to see the difference between Keswick and Buttermere. The councils need to talk better simple as."*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
11	5	4	1	1	24	=6

Support a 'Citizens' Clearing House'

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy



Strongly Agree:

- *“In the end, even if all the bodies were good at engaging the public, there are so many of them that the public would find it difficult to know which to approach. Such a clearing house might be an efficient way to empower the public and generate the public input each authority/group claims it would like to have”*

Agree:

- *“Agree.”*
- *“All of the above.”*
- *“It has been clear throughout this process that some people had not previously seen the need to find out about these structures and what is happening in their locality; perhaps through a lack of time, curiosity or research skills. This is why I proposed the Clearing House; a one-stop shop to simplify the process as much as possible is more likely to be used than if people have to educate themselves about who does what and therefore who to approach.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“This will never happen. Keswick Council will not allow this they don't want to have people being better/stronger than them.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
8	9	4	1	0	24	=6

Better Communication

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

Strongly Agree:

- *“An example - There is a road closure this week but the council don't disclose why this is happening. That in turn screws the economy”*
- *“This community enquiry has really highlighted for me how little I understood about where to get information. I wholeheartedly agree with this item”*

Agree:

- *“Communication is a many layered ongoing process. Who does this role belong to in each of the authorities? I'm not sure it is 'hard' I think it just needs to be prioritised and structured”*
- *“All of above.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"Sounds good but not really sure what this means. (I probably missed this session)"*
- *"This is generic, impossible to disagree with but won't inspire any action"*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
7	10	5	0	0	24	=6

Housing and Planning Regulations

Theme: Housing

Strongly Agree:

- *"I think that we should also tackle the issue of targets, we need to accept that we will need thousands of new homes (to be used ONLY as a main residence) within the national park, not just a handful or even hundreds. It's not just about second homes etc, we will not solve the problem by tackling that without building more houses so there's availability and the prices drop. Are we saying that as a group we expect locals to agree to seeing so many more?" "I agree with each item, and especially the statement about KCHTrust"*
- *"A village like Buttermere cannot function as a community as so many properties are second homes or holiday homes."*
- *"All of the above."*

Agree:

- *"Yes, but, the whole point is surely there are too many houses which are technically empty. New developments will eventually become holiday lets. It's the empty homes that are the issue."*
- *"Some really good recommendations in here Very specific Need more properties/rooms to rent for single workers. Completely unaffordable at present"*
- *"Agree but most of this already happens - more an issue of communicating existing structures better rather than reinventing the wheel."*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"If one is lucky enough to own a 2nd home, fair enough, but don't take the mick. 600 homes are currently in keswick as 2nd homes or air b&b. Tax them to the hills"*

- *“The points are contradictory. You can’t ask to flex the regulations and demand high quality housing.”*

Disagree:

- *“Love the KCHT. But I’m marking as disagree because on second homes we’ve just had the double council tax come in for them, this needs to settle before further action. Quotas for holiday homes a very good idea, although this needs to be sympathetic to non houses like Shepard huts etc. I.e. we are not trying to discourage visitors, but trying to protect a good number of true homes for locals.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“There are too many different statements here, some I strongly agree with and some I strongly disagree with”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
11	2	4	1	1	21	=7

Land within the Lake District National Park should be prioritised for nature; this can and should include consideration of sustainable agriculture, timber, and tourism.

Theme: Climate and Environment

Strongly Agree:

- *“Add this does not preclude in anyway the need for local housing and improvements to transport. It a shift of focus to put the land and nature centre stage. Can we get legal status for our rivers and lakes eg Rights of the River Wye Charter and the River Ouse Rights of Nature Charter”*
- *“While supporting nature, this should avoid conflict with traditional farming practices such as hefted Herdwick sheep on the fells.”*
- *“More than rewilding is required as there is no wild left to re from. See Hawkshead project for example.”*
- *“If we prioritise nature we have to acknowledge that we won’t be able to build the houses we need. A public debate about whether or not people want more tourists would be needed if we are to prioritise nature.”*
- *“Not sure why the NT were singled out as all land owners need to protect and enhance nature”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“But if we are also calling for land to be made available for housing, this is a bit of a problem since we don't really have brownfield sites available for development.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“This smacks of ignorance. The map already exists. Farmers already farm within the confines of environmental schemes. I can see no commitment from this statement to understand farming practices. Rather, there is an assumption that they are universally bad and have negatively impacted the environment. Sorry. No. The SSSIs in this parish are on FARMS. Farmers farm within ELMS (as was) SFI and FIPL (which should say, Protecting Farming Landscapes, because that is what the majority of the Lake District is.)”*
- *“They have too much power. What clown gave them this much power? I do not know. They screw economy. They do not care for anyone”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
11	4	3	1	2	21	=7

Don't reinvent the wheel

Theme: Communication and Local Democracy

Strongly Agree:

- *“Can you include the phrase 'evidence based practice' so that we only emulate what has been proven to work”*

Agree:

- *“I am not really sure what these statements are saying. I generally agree with them but fell like 'so what”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Not sure. Is the wheel working?”*
- *“All of the above.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“I think the action should be to get all the bodies to review how they engage with public opinion and to consider this from the perspective of someone who wants to engage with them, rather than from what works for the body itself (we heard people say that they hold surgeries and not one comes, and yet here we are, a*

group of 30 or so people asking to be more involved, so there's undeniably a mismatch) I think this is about engagement: 1. I would like to see all of the bodies, authorities accept that, whilst they think they have ticked the box for public engagement and input, they really have not. They all say they invite people to come along and take part, but to be frank, none of them are succeeding in making it clear how to engage nor does it feel welcoming to the outsider. 2. There are lots of people who would happily be the eyes and ears on the ground helping the authorities with information to guide them better if they would only make it easier for that to happen"

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
8	7	5	1	1	20	=8

Reduce traffic and create safer roads for everyone.

Theme: Transport and Highways

Strongly Agree:

- "It needs this type of variety of measures but they all need to be aimed at reducing vehicles overall and eliminating polluting vehicles in the park"
- "I strongly agree with some of these suggestions: capacity assessment and tourist vehicle restrictions for example. I'm less convinced about subsidised electric vehicles for residents."
- "Buttermere would become appreciated as a peaceful and calm valley."

Agree:

- "Disagree with pushing for electric vehicles"
- "Not convinced electric cars are the environmental magic bullet. Aren't they much heavier? (Potholes?) Definitely on board with residents' priority. Also, when farmers are especially busy baling and lambing, they need special understanding and priority on the roads. March/ April, June/July. Busy roads make a very busy time even more stressful."
- "Increase investment in public transport from national government monies. Keep the current subsidy"
- "I agree with the general proposal but not necessarily with all the detailed points, some of which are alternatives."
- "Allowing only electrical cars into the national park, while reducing pollution at point of use, would not help alleviate the issues with parking and congestion on

the roads. Would be more effective encouraging visitors to not use their cars during their stay and instead use their feet, electric buses and cycles.”

- *“I agree with most of these recommendations but I think we need to be cautious about the enthusiasm for electric vehicles; while environmentally and in terms of exhaust emissions at the point of use they are certainly better than vehicles powered by fossil fuels, consideration also needs to be given to the environmental impact of EVs throughout their life cycles, to include issues such as disposal of batteries, extraction of rare minerals like lithium including possible human rights abuses and dependency/exploitation on developing countries. I don't think EV's are a panacea.”*
- *“I disagree with « Only allow electric vehicles into the Park, and increase the number of charge facilities. Offer electric car hire for travel around the Park.» because I don't think it will tackle the right issues. Developing a robust network of public transport and routes for active travel are a much more positive step in my opinion.”*
- *“I strongly agree with all points except only allowing electric cars into the park as I can't afford to buy one.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“It will only work if our Cumberland Councillors are on board which they're not. No respect for Keswick.”*
- *“Strongly agree with all, except strongly disagree with only allowing private cars/only electric cars into the park. If it was localised areas I would agree, but not the whole park.”*
- *“I agree with some of these (1,3,7,8) and disagree with the other five: 2. I think this is already known 4. I think this is a bureaucratic idea that won't work and would not be a good use of time 5. This is impractical and would exclude 80% of cars 6. This is impractical on a local scale, would not be the best use of available funds 8. This won't address the issue of visitor traffic and would be mostly a benefit to locals, and the traffic caused by locals is not a problem as there are not a lot of us”*
- *“We need these things but not to become dependent on electric vehicles. The well known delivery companies already find that electric vehicles are unreliable . Where would the visitors/ locals go whilst their on a 40 min charge? Would there be adequate off road parking at the charging sites?*
- *What would happen if a private person uses their companies vehicle to visit the park on holiday? Yes we need large out of town car parks, we shuttle buses to transport visitors around the park.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *"I strongly disagree with ' Only allow private vehicles into the Park who have secured designated parking' and ' Only allow electric vehicles into the Park, and increase the number of charge facilities.'"*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
5	12	4	0	1	20	=8

Chamber of Commerce

Theme: Business and Economy

Strongly Agree:

- *"Sounds like a good idea"*
- *"Cockermouth has done it through volunteers. Keswick has given up because of the failure of the BID system here (Booths would have had to pay most of the costs and many businesses are so small as to have been exempt)."*
- *"Businesses want to help and grow the economy here, but Keswick Town Centre is tatty and grubby and we all know it will take funds and work to sort out. Getting businesses to work together though is like pushing water uphill."*

Agree:

- *"Agree"*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *"I don't know enough to comment"*
- *"The Cumbria Chamber of Commerce covers the whole county. Cockermouth has the Cockermouth & District Chamber of Trade. And if the Keswick Reminder is to be believed, Keswick Tourism Association are looking at converting themselves into an organisation covering all businesses"*
<https://keswickreminder.co.uk/2025/12/17/bid-to-give-traders-a-voice-on-the-future-of-keswick/>

Disagree:

- *"Agree but a Keswick Tourism Association already fulfills this niche and is expanding beyond the visitor economy to become more a chamber of commerce - again we risk reinventing the wheel and devaluing the impact of the wider recommendations."*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“They have done nothing to start with they do not care”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
9	5	6	1	1	20	=8

The Lake District National Park Authority can join up national policy with local campaigns to protect this special place.

Theme: Climate and Environment

Strongly Agree:

- *“Local activist groups would welcome a seat at the table”*
- *“The lakes and north York mores are contiguous. Wildlife corridors could be established between them to reduce the risk of local extinctions”*

Agree:

- *“It is not clear what is meant by “should be respected by law”. The LDNP should make clear what its rights and responsibilities are and these should be enforced if they have legal force.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“The Lake District is largely a farmed landscape, shaped also by mining, quarrying and forestry. Why is this forgotten about? Food resilience has not been mentioned once in this discourse. Does food grow in supermarkets?”*
- *“All of the above.”*

Disagree:

- *“I think that they do this already, we heard a lot about the partnership plan and I am happy to assume that the national park leadership teams work collaboratively with each other. There's no such thing as an activist group without political agenda, this wording does not make sense.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“They do not care about Keswick at all. Their sole purpose is to destroy England they are not for us. They need displacing ASAP”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
7	8	4	1	1	19	#9

Pollution should be addressed in Windermere

Theme: Climate and Environment

Strongly Agree:

- *“Change to pollution IS now being addressed in Windermere. This is because of the commitment and campaigning of activists. Let's learn from this and get same protection for out other rivers and lakes.”*

Agree:

- *“No comment, not familiar with Windermere.”*
- *“This assumes the issues are the same between lakes”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“All above.”*
- *“Still not really understanding the focus being switched to Windermere; if we are talking about using it for pilot studies and treatments then ok but if that's the case we should say so. The people monitoring Derwentwater at present are doing so regularly but they are a paddleboard business so arguably not neutral. I would suggest we propose a collaboration with the Keswick Launch Company; it's not difficult to scoop up water samples from specific areas and maybe work with the Freshwater Biological Association (already active on Windermere) who are based at Milnthorpe on analysis and reporting.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“I'm voting for Derwent water needs tackling. Ban feeding birds consider culling them to be humane and force utilities to report sewage overflows.*
- *Not my town not my problem? Keswick is the concern*
- *Windermere is not in our area. I understand Save Windermere is a successful campaign but the recommendation should address our lakes (4 of them!)*
- *I do not understand why Windermere is included within the bounds of the enquiry given its geographic area”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank

11	4	2	0	4	18	=10
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Management of big events – phase them over the year with licensing and pre-information and using social media to ask for good behaviours

Theme: Impact of Visitors

Agree:

- *“No to self driving cars.”*
- *“More signs beforehand. Prime example - road closed this week for some triathlon - no warnings of this”*
- *“Unsure about self driving vehicles”*
- *“Agree but Cumberland already is the license provider for events and liaises with Keswick Town Council - more a communications point than reinventing existing processes.”*

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“Self driving is not quite there yet, probably less than five years. Park and ride, public transport etc needs to be in place outside of events as well so people can learn to use them all year.”*
- *“Big events are a disruption, but they are part of what goes on around here too and they are already phased as far as I can see. The big issue is the convention and the dominant impact it has in what is now three weeks of the summer school holidays (up from 2), this isn't mentioned here though. Self driving vehicles - this is a random inclusion”*
- *“I don't know enough to have a comment on this”*
- *“From my experience these events do not support local business. They charge excessive site charges and encourage business from out of the area.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
4	10	8	0	0	18	=10

Decision-makers at all levels need to demonstrate a sense of urgency towards tackling the climate crisis. There should be more constructive dialogue with land owners and land users so they understand the positive impact they can have on our natural environment. This includes homeowners.

Theme: Climate and Environment

Strongly Agree:

- *“We need to be regenerating land not preserving it as it is now. We have gone past the point of current biodiversity levels being healthy and acceptable” “Big initial change would be to hold more water higher in the catchment to reduce the effects of the predicted increases in floods and droughts.”*

Disagree:

- *“This demonstrates no clear understanding of how nature is affected by the climate crisis. And which species migration are we talking about? What does this actually mean?”*
- *“There are already a lot of environmental regulations on land use, and they drive costs up for housing. We should also consider which ones could be removed or lessened, rather than assuming we will only add to them. I don't think local bodies should spend resource on issues such as bird migration, which is at least a national issue if not an international one. This (eg the mayoral area) is the wrong geography for such considerations.”*

Strongly Disagree:

- *“This so called new Mayor should be voted in by the public not the local council people and all public info should be made via the postman etc and not kept behind closed doors as it now.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	SCORE	Rank
8	6	3	3	1	17	#11

Attract visitors in the off-season

Theme: Impact of Visitors

Neither Agree nor Disagree:

- *“We are already seeing heavier tourism in the off season in many places. “I suspect anyone in the tourist growth industry around here is already working” on ideas to do this, certainly my business does”*
- *“I'm not convinced about stretching out the tourist calendar?”*
- *“The quieter times of the year can be very pleasant for those of us that live here.”*

Disagree:

- *“We do not need them at all” “We have enough visitors as it is.”*

[Click to go back to this recommendation.](#)

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither Agree nor Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	SCORE	Rank
5	3	11	3	0	10	#12