

When I was a student in early 70s I read Limits to Growth which highlighted that the earth is not an infinite resource to be plundered with no regard for the future.

It predicted that continued economic and population growth could not be sustained much beyond about 50 years.

We have had accelerated growth over that time with no real instances of control on consumption nor population.

We are now at a stage where opportunities to say no to further growth of activities which make a known long term contribution to climate change must be grasped.

It will have to happen in the future, which hopefully will not be too late, so why not here and now.

The expansion of the Airport to 12m represents an increase of 33% over its highest ever passenger figure. That means a third more emissions from car journeys

and aircraft, a third more traffic on inadequate local roads, and a third more disruptive noise to local residents.

I want to be able to say to my grandchildren that I helped save their environment and planet for them to enjoy.

What I want to see is that decision makers also want to be able to sit comfortably in the future. Rather than have to admit that they contributed towards further degradation of local, national and global environments.

Whatever beliefs we have we are all, whether we are a huge multinational or an individual, stewards of this planet and therefore have a responsibility to secure it's future.

George Monbiot recently wrote the following
If Earth systems cross critical thresholds, everything we did and everything we were will be reduced to a layer of rock. It's not a

smooth and linear transition we need. It's a crash course.

It is crucial to set a precedent by saying no to the expansion, not only to support a decision made by a democratically elected body, but so that others can confidently follow by also saying no before we follow the fate of the dinosaurs in an environment of our own making.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you.