

CHANGING THE SYSTEM - what can we do?

The Coronavirus Pandemic has exposed the fragility of our economic system and how vulnerable it leaves so many people. It has also highlighted how quickly ordinary people can respond positively to looking after each other and meeting local needs in a crisis.

Can we take this opportunity to reflect on what is actually important for our wellbeing, on what sort of future we want to create?

Where we are now

We have an old system that is failing

Policies, taxes, laws and regulations that keep the old system going

Industries that take, make and waste

Mindset - that economic growth is always good

Mindset - that wellbeing comes from material consumption

Mindset - that nature is for material consumption

A Just Transition

For a just transition from the old to the new, we must -

Develop policies, taxes, laws and regulations for a just transition

Ask - growth of what?

And for whose benefit?

Involve people in shaping a new system that works for all

Make choices today that will shape our society, economy, health and climate for decades to come

Ask: what parts of the old system are worth keeping?

Where we want to be

We need a new system that works for all

Policies, taxes laws and regulations that underpin a system that works for all

A circular economy

Mindset - that growth in human and ecological wellbeing is always good

Mindset - that wellbeing comes from social connection

Mindset - that humans are part of nature

The old system makes it difficult for us as individuals to change the way we live



We can talk to people - most people are more influenced by friends, colleagues and neighbours than by distant events



We can develop and share our practical skills



We can deepen our understanding and connection to nature

Photo by Carey Douglass- Carnegie

We can hold and share a positive vision of the sort of world and the sort of places we want to create for ourselves and future generations

By working together we can build the new system we want from bottom up



We can celebrate creativity

Photo by Susie Goodwin

We can support each other, especially those let down by the old system

And together we can withdraw our support from the old systems that are poisoning the air, land and sea: that are destroying people's health and driving inequality, here and across the world