Unpacking Environmentalism

Location: Manchester  
Venue: Exchange 2 & 3 Combined, Manchester Central (inside the secure zone)  
Date: Monday 30 September  
Time: 08.15 – 09.30am  
Refreshment: Breakfast provided

Polling has shown that the environment is one of the issues that voters care about most, particularly younger voters. What is less well understood is what people think about when talking about the environment. In order to address environmental concerns, we must provide some context to the debate. What do most people believe should be the priority for government action on the environment, and how should the Conservatives address these challenges over the rest of this Parliament?

CHAIR: Abi Kay @FGAbiKay

Abi took up the post of Chief Reporter at Farmers Guardian in 2016 after a stint working for the NFU as part of its government affairs team. Prior to that, she spent five years in Parliament as an assistant to a rural MP.

SPEAKER 1: George Eustice MP

George is the Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. He was elected as the Conservative MP for Camborne and Redruth in 2010. George comes from a farming background, his family still run a fruit farm, restaurant and farm shop in Cornwall where they also have a herd of South Devon cattle and the country’s oldest herd of the rare breed of pig, the British Lop.

SPEAKER 2: Neil Parish MP @neil_parish

Neil is the MP for Tiverton and Honiton and is Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee. Neil has set up three farming APPGs – Lamb APPG, Eggs Pigs and Poultry APPG and the Dairy APPG. He has managed the family farm since he was 16.

SPEAKER 3: Tim Bonner @CA_TimB

Tim is Chief Executive of the Countryside Alliance. He used to farm in the West Country and joined the Countryside Alliance as a press officer in 2002 at the time of the Liberty and Livelihood March which brought 400,000 people to London to protest against the hunting ban.

SPEAKER 4: Johnny Heald @ORB_Johnny

Johnny is the Managing Director at ORB International. He has more than 15 years experience in Countering Violence Extremism research. Johnny has also provided private polling to the Conservative Party during the 2005 and 2010 UK general elections.

SPEAKER 5: Guy Miscampbell @guymiscampbell

Guy is a Senior Research Fellow with Onward. He is also a senior consultant at WPI. He has previously worked for the Ontario Public Service, Policy Exchange, the Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance, and in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Take part in the debate on Slido – visit the website https://www.sli.do and enter the event code: #CAFringe1 to ask questions and take part in live polls.

Please note that this event is being recorded and live streamed on social media.