

Question no.	Question	Answer
1	<p>How can the environmental dept. of Unite support the motion carried at TUC including support for increased nuclear power? It is a total myth that nuclear will curb carbon emissions. The carbon footprint from nuclear's fuel chain - including uranium mining, milling, U-235 enrichment, fuel fabrication, irradiation, radioactive waste conditioning, storage, packaging and final disposal is astronomical. Study shows nuclear carbon footprint to be 10-18 times greater than renewable energy tech.</p>	<p>Question 1. Unite policy agreed at conference is to support all forms of low carbon energy as it is needed. Natural gas represents over 38% of the electrical generation capacity. This not only needs to be replaced but supply needs to be enhanced by many times to replace fossil fuels. Nuclear is not zero carbon but then again nor is wind due to the concrete and steel needed to produce them. Similarly the creation of solar panels, tidal barriers etc.</p>
2	<p>Good morning and good to be with you all. Can we have an agenda please?</p>	<p>Question 2. A Conference agenda can be emailed to you. It is also posted on the following website: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a></p>
3	<p>Will Unite be supporting Insulate Britain?</p>	<p>Question 3. This decision will be taken by the Unite Executive Council.</p>
4	<p>Hi Jim Its simply great to connect with you and thank you so much for reaching out. Can we have some short courses in the climate or energy field?</p>	<p>Question 4. The Unite Education department is producing a portfolio of courses linked to the Climate Crisis. Please contact your Regional Education Organiser for more information on these. You can also look on the following website: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a></p>
5	<p>How can our union position on Heathrow expansion be compatible with necessary radical action on climate emergency? is it time to move quicker on a Just Transition?</p>	<p>Question 5. It is the Unite policy to support the Civil Aviation sector who is addressing the challenge of climate change and through pressure via our membership along with other groups on Sustainable Aviation's Advisory Board, we have a commitment to bring aviation emissions down to zero. There is already a drive to replace fossil fuels with sustainable alternatives and airlines are investing in methodology to remove CO2 from the atmosphere. We are a trade union that represents members in airlines and in airports and under those circumstances we need to support their jobs but find a way, to do so in a way that will drive down emissions. There is already legislation that requires aviation in the EU to have an increasing level of emissions from sustainable fuels. Consequently, there will be an industry that should mean a decline in emissions, hopefully to net zero. The building of a new runway will also end the idiotic situation where aircraft are going round in circles going nowhere. We can legally control the number of flights in and out of the airport so the creation of a runway does not mean an automatic increase in emissions.</p>
6	<p>It's good to hear Ed say this but why does the Labour leadership seem to have dumped the Green New Deal?</p>	<p>Question 6. This question would need to be taken up with the Labour Party.</p>

7	Given the broken pledges of Stammer, how can anyone believe the claims for future Labour legislation to support workers? Words are cheap. I see staff laid off at Labour HQ, then rehired on worse contracts! Sharon Graham is leading the way, distancing from a corrupt party.	Question 7. This question would need to be taken up with the Labour Party.
8	How many are watching?	Question 8. We can confirm that we had approximately 2,000 participating via Zoom and other social media applications.
9	Why is not the GLA making all houses being built in London up to Passivhaus standards?	Question 9. This needs to be addressed with the GLA.
10	Will we do anything to change climate change when the UK emissions are only 1% of a emissions .	Question 10. Unite's position on tackling the Climate Crisis has been addressed in its Environment Charter. The Charter can be accessed through: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment">www.learnwithunite.org/environment</a>
11	The recent vote at the TUC conference that endorsed the continued use of gas and nuclear was supported by Unite. Many of us as members of the union are deeply unhappy about this, it seems like a step backwards from the 2019 TUC position which supported the young people in the climate strike movement.	Question 11. Unite's support of policy initiatives at the TUC Conference are undertaken through democratic decision making within Unite. These decisions are agreed upon through the structure of the Regional and National Industrial Sector Committees and the National Executive Council.
12	Are we planning actions to support Global Climate Strike on 24th Sept and during COP26 between 31 Oct and 12 Nov?	Question 12. The Unite Environment Taskforce has formed links with other trade unions and climate change organisations linked to the labour movement to support and organise events around the COP26 Conference in Glasgow. These include events in Glasgow and regional events across the UK. Please contact your Unite Regional Office for further information.
13	Does Unite speak to other organisations, that are not labour organisations?	Question 13. Unite speak to a range of organisations that are not labour organisations. These would include employers, political parties, local authorities and special interest groups, amongst others.
14	Will Unite encourage branches to be part of the national COP26 climate protests? My town suffered severe flooding last year. Workers will suffer loss of livelihood and homes unless we act soon.	Question 14. Refer to the answer for question 12.
15	Electrification is the future! What is the panels view on battery technology and the potential for surplus out of date batteries in the future.	Question 15. This question is particularly pertinent to the Automotive and Transport sectors within Unite. Please read the following link: <a href="https://www.edfenergy.com/electric-cars/batteries">https://www.edfenergy.com/electric-cars/batteries</a> for information on the environmental impact of Electric Car batteries.
16	Does Unite still back a third runway at Heathrow and if so, how can that possibly align with a sustainable future given that increasing flights is incompatible with reducing the country's emissions?	Question 16. Please read the following link for Unite's position on a third runway at Heathrow Airport: <a href="https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2020/february/heathrow-appeal-court-decision-government-must-act-to-preserve-jobs-and-the-environment/">https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2020/february/heathrow-appeal-court-decision-government-must-act-to-preserve-jobs-and-the-environment/</a>

17	How can we use our power as a union to not only push for our workplaces to do more, but to push for national policy change to help our workplaces and the places where we live make the changes we need to see? National policy is hugely lacking in this space and not moving anywhere near fast enough.	Question 17. Unite's position on tackling the Climate Crisis has been addressed in its Environment Charter. The Charter can be accessed through: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment">www.learnwithunite.org/environment</a>
18	I think a very important issue is public transport. In rural areas workers are either forced into a car or they cannot actually work. We need a public transport system for the working class to not only reduce carbon from single passenger vehicles but also to allow people to access good work.	Question 18. The Unite Passenger Transport sector is calling for investment in new electric bus fleets, and the restoration of bus routes to create an affordable and accountable integrated public transport service which is sustainable.
19	Is the Unite video on Environment available for sharing? How do activists get involved in the environment task force? Will a summary of this webinar be publically available for activists to share?	Question 19. There is a link to the Unite Environment film on the Unite Environment Taskforce website: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a> . There will be a report produced on the Conference to share, and activists can make contact with the Unite Environment Taskforce through the above website.
20	Education is the key in getting the message out. Does our Education department have the resources to give our members the skills, knowledge and understanding of the green agenda? Barry partly answered the question. It needs to be more than just add-ons to current Education courses and has to be integral to future activity.	Question 20. The Unite Education department is producing a portfolio of learning materials on the Climate Crisis / Environment. These will range from 1,2,3 & 5 day courses and learning sessions to our members on Regional and National Industrial Sector Committees. The core education programme will also include sections on the Climate Crisis.
21	How can members of Unite get involved in shaping this agenda within the union?	Question 21. Members should initially approach their branches and Regional Education Organisers for more information on how they can become involved in helping to tackle the Climate Crisis in their workplaces and local communities.
22	Action by Local Authorities will be essential to address issues such as transport, housing and services in the climate transition. How can Unite work better through its own regional offices to achieve worker-led planning for green jobs locally?	Question 22. The Unite Environment Taskforce is beginning to work with some Regional Officers to develop 'cluster groups' within selected regions to drive forward Unite's Environment Charter. Yorkshire, North East and Humberside and the South West are two regions where this has begun. The plan would be to expand this initiative throughout Unite's other regions and tackle the climate crisis through worker-led changes in the workplace.
23	Not a question, but Greetings, Colin!	Question 23. Was not a question.

24	Is the idea of mass use hydrogen or carbon capture or electric cars not false solutions? if every petrol car shift to electric, it will still use too many resources and create too many emissions. also hydrogen is only a solution if green hydrogen (opposed to blue hydrogen) but can't be apply to everything so need to be saved for Kelly productions like steel for wind turbines.	Question 24. Unite supports all forms of Green Hydrogen production, and some forms of Blue Hydrogen production. Unite has serious concerns over some forms of Blue Hydrogen regarding gases released which are not fed into a CCUS network. Unite has called for waste gases from the steam methane reforming (SMR) process to be recycled and any greenhouse gases to be captured. In principle, Unite supports hydrogen use in steel and as a replacement for gas boilers for retrofitting if there are limited supplies of hydrogen and plentiful power. Unite also supports the replacement of natural gas with 100% hydrogen if there is a limit on electrical supplies but limitless hydrogen. There are many ways to generate electricity and many ways to hydrogen. Depending on what emerges from government policy, Unite sees different outcomes.
25	There has to be a just transition for people who rent. We won't have much of a say about boiler replacements or retrofitting. The decision lies with the landlords, so there have to be incentives for landlords to transition rented homes.	Question 25. The Unite Environment Charter states that a just transition should be worker-led, and this includes workers who rent. The Unite Publication 'Manufacturing Matters' highlights Unite's commitment to investing in nationwide retrofitting programmes with appropriate insulation, triple glazing, heat pumps and building more homes and the removal of domestic natural gas on pages 12-13: <a href="http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf">http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf</a>
26	All housing needs retrofitting. Not just social housing.	Question 26. Please refer to the answer for question 25.
27	Developers are continuing to build and sell houses with gas-fired boilers. What can we do - and what can Unite do - to stop the installation of gas-fired boilers in new construction NOW?	Question 27. The Unite Publication 'Manufacturing Matters' highlights Unite's commitment to investing in nationwide retrofitting programmes with appropriate insulation, triple glazing, heat pumps and building more homes and the removal of domestic natural gas on pages 12-13: <a href="http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf">http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf</a>
28	What provision is in place to dispose electric cars batteries which is more hazardous when it's fully in use across countries. Is this the right solution will it solve our climate crisis?	Question 28. A Unite National Officer in the Automotive sector has confirmed that this is something that has been raised and is being looked at, in terms of recycling and reuse. The car batteries would need to be taken apart and the raw materials reused, which is entirely feasible, or used for power storage. The metals in the batteries remain valuable and battery makers will still want to use them, but putting a scalable business in place is not going to happen until the batteries / cars allow for this to be profitable. It will also hopefully mean less mining in the future and transport materials by boat across the world.

29	How are we going to overcome the selfish Nimbyism?	Question 29. The Unite Environment Charter provides an outline of Unite's policy on tackling the Climate Crisis. The Charter can be located on pages 5-6 of Issue 4 of the Unite Environment Quarterly: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment">www.learnwithunite.org/environment</a>
30	Central to any shift to a sustainable future has to be a direct state intervention the average cost of retro fitting housing to carbon neutral is estimated at six thousand this can only be done by the establishment of a green new deal based on an alternative economic policy. Does the panel feel that the current political leadership of the labour party is prepared to make that shift in economic thinking.	Question 30. Awaiting response from our Political Department.
31	In November 2019 my branch NE/GEO/12 passed a motion concerning retrofitting of housing. That has now been accepted by EC How are we going to get the appropriate finance available, the trained staff to work in the public sector to ensure the insulation work and heat pumps are dealt with properly to avoid the risks of private profiteering?	Question 31. The Unite Publication 'Manufacturing Matters' highlights Unite's commitment to investing in nationwide retrofitting programmes with appropriate insulation, triple glazing, heat pumps and building more homes and the removal of domestic natural gas on pages 12-13: <a href="http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf">http://unitetheunion.org/media/3196/9121_manufacturing-matters-strategy_final.pdf</a>
32	Hello I am a Unite member in the NFP sector. Opening we're talking about our work interests -fly, transport, build extract.. and I would like to ask how the necessary international approach will look at so-called transition minerals-how they are extracted & under what conditions. Here's a London Mining Network report - my workplace- <a href="https://londonminingnetwork.org/reports/">https://londonminingnetwork.org/reports/</a> A Material Transition which looks at what's involved.	Question 32. Here is a link to a much shorter report on Transition Minerals. It provides an international / human rights analysis of the issue: <a href="https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/files/Transition_Minerals_Tracker_-_Overall_v2.pdf">https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/files/Transition_Minerals_Tracker_-_Overall_v2.pdf</a>
33	The number of Billionaires has increased and expanded their wealth in this crisis, so we know the money is there for a Just Transition but we have to fight for it. Nuclear power is too destructive and dangerous and fossil fuels should stay in the ground. Important we demonstrate on 6/11/21 - How does Unite intend to build for this? Thanks.	Question 33. Unite is committed to a Just Transition and a balanced energy policy which includes the use of safe nuclear energy and renewable energy. Unite also supports the gradual decline in the use of fossil fuel energy. Unite is supporting initiatives around the COP26 both in Glasgow (the host city) and regional events. Contact your regional office for further information.
34	There will be nothing more disruptive than climate breakdown. As Siobhan is saying need investment to reduce emissions and to create new jobs to change every aspect of life to remove carbon. Lots of opportunities for workers and better jobs. Recommend Jonathan Neale's Fight the Fire. How will Unite support workplaces develop New Lucas Plans?	Question 34. Unite have supported Lucas Plan initiatives in Rolls Royce, Airbus & GKN in 2020/21. The Unite Education department has produced education materials relating to the original and new Lucas Plans. These can be accessed from: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a> and in Issue 2 of the Unite Environment Quarterly.

35	Yes, it will be disruptive and require change: but all of life is disruptive and involves change, surely? Man's nature is to want to improve - i.e. change - the environment to our benefit. The real question is whether we wish to leave the leading of the change to profiteering big business and corrupt tory government, or is there a way for leadership of the change to be taken on by the People and the Workers, to improve for All, rather than just for the rich?	Question 35. Please read Issue 4 of the Unite Environment Quarterly for an understanding of what Unite is planning to do to address the Climate Crisis. This includes a copy of the Unite Environment Charter. You can access Issue 4 from: <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a>
36	Shouldn't Unite be funding the Green Party rather than support a Labour Party Shadow Cabinet that supports what the UN describes as the racist and apartheid state of Israel?	Question 36. Awaiting for a response from the Political Department.
37	What is the Biggest Cause of global warming.	Question 37. Green house gas emissions from transport and energy generation are two of the prominent causes.
38	My question was intended for Ed but in his absence can this be tackled -- what is a green job? Clive Lewis was asked this on Any Questions about a month ago and replied by saying care home jobs could be described as a green jobs. Quite rightly that was ridiculed. So, please can we have examples of current, and future, green jobs please.	Question 38. One definition of green jobs is 'economic activity that deliver goods and services that are likely to help the UK generate lower emissions of greenhouse gases, predominantly carbon dioxide': <a href="http://ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/methodologies/thechallengesofdefiningagreenjob">http://ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/methodologies/thechallengesofdefiningagreenjob</a>
39	Jim: Question I got asked yesterday by an Aussie union comrade was : does anyone think carbon capture & storage is a viable technology I certainly think so. But it is interesting that it is being asked by a senior trade union guy.	Question 39. This quote comes from an article in Forbes magazine in 2021, 'Carbon capture isn't new. ... For this and other reasons, for the first time in history, carbon capture is not only technically feasible, but also commercially viable. Today, humankind captures only 40 million tons of carbon dioxide per year': <a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/honeywell/2021/06/08/why-carbon-capture-can-help-solve-climate-change/">https://www.forbes.com/sites/honeywell/2021/06/08/why-carbon-capture-can-help-solve-climate-change/</a>
40	Will we push for cancellation of Trident and just transition from Nuclear power?	Question 40. As you appreciate Unite policy is for a mixed fuel solution for decarbonisation of electricity generation. And this fuel mix includes a nuclear element. So too with our policy on Trident: we have demanded a 'Just Transition for all those whose jobs are at risk in the Defence Industries. Unite recognises the need for a balanced energy programme with safe nuclear power making a fundamental contribution in a low carbon balanced energy mix. As members of Trade Unionists for Safe Nuclear Energy (TUSNE), Unite campaigns around the single aim of the well-being of the nuclear industry and its employees -our members.Of course we have our Policy Conference in October and you will have an opportunity to challenge/change/adapt any and all of our existing policies.

41	Great to see this conference organised. How will Unite differentiate it's environmental strategy in Ireland, North and South, from that in Britain?	Question 41. Thank you - we have factored in the different circumstances in each jurisdiction: and policy will be determined by each according to the circumstances, in all of the separate parts of our union.
42	Are Rolls Royce still planning to move development of electric aero engines to Singapore and if so shouldn't Unite make this a major campaign?	Question 42. Having spoken to the Rolls Royce shop stewards it seems 'unlikely' that the development of electric aero engines will be in the UK. I shall follow this up with Mark Porter our senior steward in Rolls Royce and the National Official Rhys McCarthy and get back to you.
43	Firstly, we must acknowledge climate change is 'real' this is a vital question for unite members, however, we must not patronise workers this is about education and working with Unite members working in fossil fuel industries for e.g. that divestment in these areas is feasible via investment in possible green technology. More Unite involvement in COP26 and climate change protests.	Question 43. That is exactly what we in Unite are doing.
44	I agree with a fellow contributor. Two years ago at TUC congress Unite called for solidarity with school students and the Global Climate strike. The TUC resolution is major move away from that movement. As one TUC delegate said - we talk about a just transition - but backing nuclear and gas is just not a transition. There can be a just transition - there needs to be a radical shift to renewables. Unite needs to have a much more transformative and radical vision because the climate crisis requires it. There are no jobs on a dead planet.	Question 44. As we are a solid lay-member democracy your views and arguments can be aired at our Policy Conference next month, debated and decided by members like yourself.
45	Jackson mentioned a protests map for COP26, could someone post a link in the chat please?	Question 45. We had advertised the details of the demonstrations targeting COP26, they are: Friday 5th November - STUC Event, Saturday 6th November - Glasgow demo TU section, Tuesday 9th November - Unite Hospitality.
46	Is there an intention to produce bargaining/negotiating materials for just transitions in the workplace?	Question 46. As we detailed in the conference we have designed, and are delivering education sessions for a 45 minutes event, 2 hour, 1/2 day, 1 day, 3 day and 5 day courses on the Environment and Just Transition. Please contact your Regional Education Organiser and the Learn with Unite website for specific details of our Environment courses.

47	As well as the carbon footprint of nuclear, it is a dangerous energy source for workers and communities, Fukushima, Three Mile Island, etc., and its funding, development priorities etc. is massively tied to the defence industry. How can this match up with Unite's aims and values? There must be ways to transform jobs in this industry into positive impacts on society?	Question 47. We as a democratic organisation, our members determine our Policy. Our Policy has a nuclear component within our fuel mix.
48	To what extent has Unite engaged with environment organisations on this issue? I work for an environmental NGO in NI and believe the just transition is a crucial part of our move to net zero. Btw, a fellow contributor is absolutely right. Apart from all the other problems it creates, the carbon footprint of nuclear is massive yet it is completely unrecognised. Unite needs to be consistent. If you want green jobs you must have criteria to help you define what you mean by green jobs and I don't think that would include nuclear power which would also divert investment from renewables. Could Unite explain this?	Question 48. This is ambiguously stated in our Unite Energy Policy with a nuclear component. And yes we are in close co-operation with International Organisations; indeed this internationalism was concretely demonstrated in our conference with contributions from Trade Union for Energy Democracy based in New York and the Food Workers international in the form of the General Secretary Sue Longley who is based in Switzerland, plus many more.
49	We have to deal with this climate emergency globally, It is not always smart or green or fair for some industry and agriculture to be done in UK , can be greener for some things to be done in Global south, what is panels view on this?	Question 49. Excellent point, which we support as Sue Longley of the International Union of Food workers (IUF) from Geneva ably confirmed.
50	Ed Miliband talked about workers and unions being at the centre of the transition. In 2008 whilst in government he supported the call for legal rights for worker reps on climate issues. Do speakers think that we need to push hard for a new legal framework that places duties on employers and gives statutory backing for union engagement around transition plans including skills?	Question 50. Yes, we are arguing for the legal recognition of Environment Reps with statutory regulations for paid time off for them to o their jobs, and paid educational leave for training.
51	Can local councils be involved to control roll out big multinational corporations are profit motivated .councils will be around for back up and maintenance . Good jobs good wages and conditions.  Also profits can be channelled into the local community not for some billionaires to go on a jolly into space.	Question 51. We are working with local councils, John especially Labour councils and Labour Mayors in the Metropolitan areas. So we agree with your sentiments.



52	The challenge for the union is in demanding more urgent action to tackle high-carbon industries without the certainty of alternative green jobs which we don't see enough of right now - how will the union balance the recognition that the climate change unfolding right now will hurt the working classes hardest (globally and in the UK) with the reality that many members jobs are currently in polluting industries?	Question 52. This is the real challenge to bridge the gap between workers being abandoned and being dovetailed with low (lower) carbon work.
53	Is Colin Potter going to be speaking again because I'd like to know what he's going to say to the UN meeting.	Question 53. Colin will be reporting to the Unite Environment Taskforce, the relevant NISCs and our Executive Council, all of which will be directing Colin at COP26.
54	Do you think that the government is really taking climate change seriously? I do question Bumbling Boris and his ability to be effective in this area.	Question 54. Your expressions of scepticism are shared, by all of us.
55	Do we have a date when we can start to book on to the courses available back in a classroom environment.	Question 55. We shall be returning to classroom teaching as soon as it is safe to do so. My estimate is January 2022.
56	Will we be developing a strategy of building turbines and other machinery necessary, in coastal towns and cities throughout the UK rather than building these in Asia and transporting to the UK.	Question 56. We are organising and fighting for the whole supply chain to the design, built and put to use in engineering 'decarbonisation' of our industries. We have a strategy and policy to achieve your ambitions.
57	Will it be discussed that there will be reassurance to those in 'high-carbon' jobs, that they will not be suddenly eradicated, but to move our dependency on them to more sustainable resources and jobs, maintaining employment for those with specific skills. Same could apply to jobs in alcohol and cigarette industries, that the skills ARE transferable.	Question 57. You have articulated our Just Transition convictions. We need to build power to achieve our aims.
58	Local councils have millions of pounds in pension funds. A lot of this money is invested in fossil fuel companies. How can these councils change their investments to green industries without risking the future of their pension funds?	Questions 58. In the past and today trade unions have exploited pension fund leverage with local authorities and companies to ensure their investments are not in 'Sin Stocks', or green washing companies but, arguing (demanding) investment in 'Green Stocks'.
59	What Green plans are in place for Unite as an organisation to reduce its carbon footprint - i.e. buildings to retrofit - as in doing this we could create the blueprint for skills and good jobs.	Question 60. Reported (by me personally) to our Executive Council we do have to - as a matter of priority - plan to ensure that we as Unite as an employer become carbon neutral as soon as possible with the ambitions to become 'Carbon Zero' by 2030. So we are planning to reduce our carbon footprint in our National Conference and Education Centre in Birmingham - and systematically retrofit all our properties. Politically, this is a crucial commitment if we are to persuade, negotiate, force employers to go 'green'. That way is an Eldorado of good skilled jobs.

60	I want to offer people the possibility of a coach to COP26 on the 6th November. Can I get money to help pay for this from Unite?	Question 60. Please raise that with your Regional Secretary and your branch to find out what your district are doing to get to COP26. Do note that there will be local activities that you may wish to participate in
61	I have just posted info about groups in my locality I have linked with, is there similar groups that Unite suggest activists/ branch join in their localities?	Question 61. Thanks. Hopefully others will do the same as you to ensure maximum attendance in Glasgow and other cities during COP26.
62	We need a transformation to an economy that is based on a environment that enriches all, education is priceless. we need to get away from an economy that is based on profit and endless growth that is killing our planet as well as ourselves.	Question 62. We all agree with you. It's obvious that the 'market system' cannot solve our existential crisis.
63	Yes definitely DLOs for retrofitting. Householders need to be able to trust the quality of work as retrofitting can be damaging to buildings if done wrong.	Question 63. Thank you - that is exactly how we all feel - and fear.
64	We must emphasise public ownership of energy companies! Nobody owns as far as I'm aware the sea, wind and air. I know we have nuclear power we must defend these jobs. However, if we envisage transition to renewables these workers must be first-in-line to move to greener jobs. And it is about CLASS!!	Question 64. Your predicament is acknowledged and we recognise what has to be done. Our work in 'Free Ports - to Green Ports' is critically important.
65	The governments Green Agenda is being pushed on Teesside with the UK's first Hydrogen Hub. However, it is being facilitated by BP with Government grants, so only the Multinational local Companies can buy in which makes the Green Agenda a Green PLC. The supply lines are not local but international, and the Green Jobs are behind a Freeport Fence so barring the Unions from the conversation and transformation. We have mobilised locally with a Unite Hub but we need Green Deal from the Labour party and there appears to be only warm words but no policy.	Question 65. By this time next week, the Labour Party will have a clear concrete 'New Green Deal' Policy - etc..Unite delegation will champion this The Labour Party Green Policy will be determined by your union.
66	Why did Unite back a motion at the TUC which promotes blue hydrogen when the greenhouse gas footprint of blue hydrogen is more than 20 percent greater than burning natural gas or coal for heat and some 60 percent greater than burning diesel oil for heat? Going down the road of this 'techno fix' wont protect jobs or communities. There are no jobs on a dead planet!	Question 66. Democracy often creates confusion and contradictory positions as compromise often has to be acknowledged. We often as I said in my introduction, we have to confront uncomfortable alliances in the Environmental campaigns. The jury is currently 'out' on all the different colours of Hydrogen. We continue to argue and debate on fuels.
67	Why is the TUC supporting nuclear power?	Question 67. The TUC supports nuclear energy because its members voted for that policy.

68	How do we diversify well paid unionised Unite jobs in the arms/aerospace industries so that there is a green transition to jobs that contribute to a sustainable future.	Question 68. That's the real ask which faces us. We need to detail not just 'Why?' but 'How?' we achieve a Just Transition.
69	What about developing Hydrogen as a fuel source at all coal and oil power stations? These stations are usually located on costal sites which are ideal locations for Hydrogen generation, which is a zero carbon fuel.	Question 69. The debate on hydrogen is awash with 'pros' and 'cons' depending on what type of hydrogen we create and use. Certainly your observations are being factored into the debate.
70	Thanks for putting this event on and great to see Unite highlighting that the climate emergency is a class issue. Clean air is a real example of this, but there are concerns about low traffic neighbourhoods from people who need to drive for work. Will work be done on how to bring communities with us amongst the Unite Councillors network? Thank you.	Question 70. Yes, we are implementing your suggestions already. And your comments reinforce that this 'green debate' is three-dimensional. For Unite we do have to ensure <u>all</u> our sectors get involved in our debate and policy formation.
71	I find that there is a rush to zero carbon, just transition means it will take time to change, members have to accept it will not happen tomorrow. This means changing the ways we work, we must bring the workers with us.	Question 71. We utterly agree with your comments - and our conference this forenoon is a testament to that intension.
72	Retrofit army great idea - with former UCATT members we should have good shop stewards to organise. But perhaps too many potential workers in this potential sector will be self-employed. How will Unite take this on board?	Question 72. This is a dilemma facing not only our Construction National Industrial Sector Committee. Millions of women and men will need to be upskilled to meet demand. And we need to work out ways of unionising (and perhaps even training) those workers.
73	Throughout planetary history there has been climate change but we are no longer a mobile society so we cannot move to compensate for climate change. We have to actively intervene not just on a national level but globally. Unions have to push and it's going to be expensive. At ground level could the unions combine a membership drive with a climate change initiative?	Question 73. Enormous migrations of people are 'on the move' today as a result of climate change, because of wars and consequences of ethnic cleansing. So climate change is a global and a class issue - as reflected in the choice of speakers at our conference. Plus it gives us a super recruiting and organising opportunity.
74	Supplementary to Colin: How can Unite support new nuclear given the extreme health risks to workers involved in the uranium supply chain? Nuclear power was developed in order to create plutonium for nuclear weapons. How can this possibility be eliminated in the development of new nuclear? How can new nuclear safely dispose of radioactive materials, given their extremely long half-lives, without endangering the environment?	Question 74. This is a perennial concern to many of our members, and for safety reasons our unions and specifically our shop stewards and safety representatives in the nuclear industries successfully campaign for higher standards in Health and Safety. We in Unite support 'New Nuclear' as a result of democratic decisions at our Policy Conferences and at TUC and Labour Conferences too.

75	Does Unite accept the term 'net zero' and what is its view on the carbon offsetting aspect - my concern is that some carbon offsetting is not effective in the time needed to mitigate climate change as it can include methods such as carbon sequestration that reabsorbs carbon at a lower rate than is required to reduce emissions. Bearing in mind even if emissions are offset, workers would be affected by emissions that do occur in cities etc. and affect air quality and health. Would be grateful for clarification of Unite's position on this.	Question 75. Yes we accept and recognise 'Net Zero' as a stepping stone to decarbonisation of our and other economies. And we appreciate the limitations of many of the so-called solutions to the problems of climate change. Air Quality is a real killer to our members and their families. We are working with others such as local authorities and the Metro-Mayors and other green organisations.
76	Are Unite pressing Labour to ask the government how are they going to replace the money they will lose when fuel revenue goes.	Question 76. I don't know but I shall find out from our colleagues in our Political Department.
77	Will Unite provide a positive programme for Environment Reps, and a suitable network of Environment Reps that can share best practice on Fair Transition? Alternatively, can we bring on H&S Reps to get involved if branches are struggling to attract Environment Reps?	Question 77. Yes, we can and we are actually doing what you suggest: Specifically we are offering <u>all</u> Unite Health & Safety Reps an additional 5 day course on the environmental issues. This is on top of the 20 days of education which we offer all our Health and Safety reps.
78	Extinction Rebellion is leading the way on climate campaigning does the union liaising with any existing campaign groups?	Question 78. Yes we liaise with dozens of environment groups in the country and globally, that will manifest itself in the demonstrations at (and heading up to) COP26 in Glasgow in November.
79	As an ex member of the Lucas Aerospace Combine Shop Stewards Committee I have the experience of a worker led initiative back in the 70s with our Alternative Plan which advocated switching from armaments to socially useful production. Looking back I feel we would have been successful if Industrial Democracy had been in place giving us the same rights as Shareholders. Question - Will a future Labour Government legislate the introduction of Industrial Democracy?	Question 79. Thank you for your question and for all the work you have been involved in for DECADES. We have written up the Lucas Shop Stewards Plan in our Unite Environment Quarterly, and we are sharing your film on our courses. Again our thanks.
80	With regards to Just Transition there seems to be a major difference in dialect from, the powerful and rich who's main interpretation is " how do they make more money for shareholders from renewables rather than fossil" They show no interest in workers or environment. However we need to be pragmatic ourselves, We need to have fully operational greener jobs ready and waiting to support workers.	Question 80. Your analysis is spot on; and we are doing our utmost to do as your question advise. Unite must explore Just Transition as a 'principle, process and practice' so we can make the case, provide the alternative and represent members to ensure they are appropriately trained and transition into available green jobs.
81	Are Electric vehicles really a practical solution.	Question 81. Yes. They are a viable option. We need to explore their use as part of a solution in terms of mixed vehicle/passenger transport possibilities.

Refer to Pol. Dept.

82	<p>While I understand that it's "Unite policy to support the Civil Aviation sector", does that mean that the union has to support an _increase_ in jobs in that sector, given that it is an extremely carbon intensive industry and there are no realistic ways of reducing that intensity? Additional flights means additional effort required to then suck that carbon back out of the air (at £1000's per ton).</p>	<p>Question 82. Aviation is an important sector for Unite. Depending on advances and the progress of alternative fuel sources developments, many new jobs can be greener jobs. Carbon emissions from aviation accounted for about 2.5% of global emissions (pre-pandemic). Fuel-efficient planes, sustainable aviation fuels and carbon offsetting remain the most feasible environmentally-friendly options.</p> <p>Despite trending global movements to get individuals to reduce air travel, the onus is still on the aviation industry and governments to evolve greener options.</p>
83	<p>Is Working From Home more climate friendly than working in an office?</p>	<p>Question 83. Research by environmental experts at management firm WSP found that working from home can help to reduce your carbon footprint, but only in summer! Working from home instead of the office during summer saves the typical British commuter around 400kg of carbon emissions each year (5% of their annual carbon footprint). This is because the carbon emissions produced by commuting exceeds those you'd create by simply using energy at home.</p> <p>However, working from home all year round isn't so environmentally-friendly. WSP researchers found that if the typical British commuter worked at home throughout the year, their carbon footprint would be 80% higher than the average office worker because of the huge carbon emissions produced by central heating in colder months.</p>
84	<p>A "retrofit army" is not just a great idea, it's essential to bring about the Low Carbon Transition, and housing one of the biggest contributors to carbon emissions. But most public/community housing is controlled by Housing Associations. How do we persuade them to collaborate on (say) a five year national retrofit programme?</p>	<p>Question 84. For social housing in the UK, the cost to decarbonise all homes is likely to be in the region of £104bn by 2050! (Source Inside Housing, March 2021). The first port of call is inevitably government. Government in England has said it will put in place a £3.8bn Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. Funds are also being made available in Scotland &amp; Wales. In England, minimum energy efficiency standards will be included as part of the new Decent Homes Standard. However, ultimately Landlords are also going to have to put their hands in their pockets too!</p>

85	How safe a electric vehicles in the event of accidents, floods and emergencies.	Question 85. Electric vechiles electrical components, in particular those in the high voltage sections of the motor, speed controller and battery, are rated to IP66 or better. A 6 for water entry means ‘protected against strong jets of water’. (BTW: an ‘8’ is the highest water entry rating and is basically the water entry rating you would want for a submarine!). If undamaged an Electrical vechile is floating down a flooded road or river, its electrical components are well sealed and extremely unlikely to provide an electrical hazard to its occupants or bystanders. In the event of a crash, automatic disconnection of the high voltage electrics occurs through an impact sensor (which exists in all modern cars); thereby limiting the presence of high voltage to within the battery only. Key issue is to evacuate the car asap to avoid being drowned!
86	New technology will be part of climate emergency solution, new technology needs trained workers especially in STEM subjects, how is Unite helping with apprenticeships?	Question 86. Unite has a rich tradition of developing, supporting and assisting with the training of apprenticeships across all industries. Unite supports apprentices needing to develop their english, maths or digital skills in order to complete their apprenticeship. Unite has also developed an online training portal - <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/</a> through which Apps can access a vast range of extra training – often it’s completely free to union apprentices. Trade unions support and represent apprentices in a number of ways, from recruitment and organising, to pay bargaining, learning and skills, equality and diversity and health and safety. Unite have worked closely with the TUC and unionlearn to bring you this essential resource for use by Unite negotiators, officers, workplace and learning reps, all of whom play a key role in UK workplaces, including advocating for the provision of high-quality Apprenticeships, workforce education and training, and the creation of meaningful employment opportunities for young people.
87	What happens to the used up batteries, how environmental is disposal and manufacturing.	Question 87. There are a variety of batteries from lithium, solar, lead-acid etc. Whatever the chemical or source power it is better to have the recycling cost included in the purchase price and saved and reinvested in a fund to pay for future recycling. In Canada and the United States, for example, lead-acid batteries have a 98 to 99% recycling rate because lead is infinitely recyclable without any degradation. There is a market for 2nd use batteries and much of the valuable battery resources can be re-used or repurposed effectively.

88	This is where is really important to be clear about the definition of Green New Deal. It includes Climate Jobs - the ones that do the work to cut carbon - AND New Deal Jobs - the ones that invest to over come the economic crisis, inadequate health and other public services and apply good pay and conditions. Together they make a Green New Deal.	Question 88. Agreed! We need to be radical and imaginative in our strategic development of future Green Deals and ensure they serve our class, members and communities whilst developing our economy.
89	Is there a risk that unions will turn a blind eye to corporate greenwashing practises, in order to keep workers in their current jobs?	Question 89. No! We cannot afford to pretend that greenwashing is going to solve climate change problems. It is essential unions play their role in policing and making government and companies accountable.
90	Colin Potter, do we have a set of demands for Just Transition for every sector that is being pushed with employers? If so can they be shared with Officers so they can be pushed at the negotiating table?	Question 90. We have developed the Unite Environment Charter which positions our general approach to just transition but it is also anticipated that our Reps and Officers across all our industries will help develop just transition sectoral strategies. See pages 5-6 for Unite Environment Charter here: <a href="https://learnwithunite/environment">https://learnwithunite/environment</a> and <a href="https://unitelive.org/climate-change-is-a-class-issue/">https://unitelive.org/climate-change-is-a-class-issue/</a>
91	Were can the Unite Environmental Charter be obtain?	Question 91. The Unite Environment Charter can be obtained at the following website: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a>
92	Thumbs up to supporting only sustainable hydrogen. We need to produce steel by electrolysis, not a new coal mine. All future investment must be zero carbon.	Question 92. Indeed!
93	CO2 is not the only green house gas, for example from BBC Sulphur hexafluoride, or SF6, is widely used in the electrical industry to prevent short circuits and accidents.  But leaks of the little-known gas in the UK and the rest of the EU in 2017 were the equivalent of putting an extra 1.3 million cars on the road.	Question 93. Point well made.

94	<p>Not sure my question got through, so here it is again with apologies if I'm repeating:</p> <p>Not every one on this call will know that Labour leader Keir Starmer has set up a Just Transition Working Group and that Jim Mowatt is a member.</p> <p>I'd like to know a little more about it please Jim -- how often it meets, what aspects it's discussing, and when it's likely to make a public report for example. Also, looking at the membership I'm concerned that it seems to be narrowly focussed on domestic energy policy, and that the emergency services unions and transport unions are under represented.</p>	<p>Question 94. Please see: <a href="https://labourlist.org/2021/05/exclusive-labour-launches-just-transition-climate-working-group/">https://labourlist.org/2021/05/exclusive-labour-launches-just-transition-climate-working-group/</a> and <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai6jbGtbYdY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai6jbGtbYdY</a> Should you require any further information about Unite role please contact Jim Mowatt directly.</p>
95	<p>Should Unite have a structured policy on the major areas of the economy that Government should be investing in with appropriate costs and timescales to help develop a high wage high skills economy?</p>	<p>Question 95. Unite is developing a range of industrial, political and economic strategies to leverage, lobby and encourage government and private sector investment in the manner suggested.</p>
96	<p>What role will pension funds have in the just transition? Many of them are still investing in fossil fuels, but collective pressure could be used to get them to change?</p>	<p>Question 96. Climate change has the potential to be the biggest threat to the stability of the systems on which pension savers depend for access to their savings at the end of their working lives. At the start of 2021, a parliamentary group launched an inquiry ('Responsible Investment for a Just Transition') into how institutional investors such as local authority pension funds can help drive a 'just transition' to a net zero economy. If you are interested in exploring this topic further there was an interesting TUC supported piece: Investing in a just transition in the UK. How investors can integrate social impact and place-based financing into climate strategies. <a href="https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Investing-in-a-just-transition-in-the-UK.pdf">https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Investing-in-a-just-transition-in-the-UK.pdf</a> Another excellent resource is: <a href="https://www.workerscapital.org/just-transition">https://www.workerscapital.org/just-transition</a></p>
97	<p>Meat and dairy production are major contributors to greenhouse gases (agriculture is responsible for up to 40% of all greenhouse gas emissions, with livestock production the most significant contributor to this) - however the elephant in the room is that these intensive, industrial systems provide jobs for our members in meat and dairy production. How do we convince our members that a move away from these intensive systems isn't a case of turkey's voting for Christmas?</p>	<p>Question 97. Convincing members will be easier when we have the alternative jobs, occupations and work for them to transition to across the food/meat and alternative dairy products. This isn't just about jobs its about education of the nations eating habits and requires government to encourage a diet-shift to support such developemnts.</p>



98	Retro fitting and circular economy has to be done with care, so even making energy green has risks. What is the panels view on this?	Question 98. Both retrofit and circular economy initiatives have to be considered taking into account both a risks assessment approach and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the work being conducted. Over time, equipment, materials and their application will develop and improvements will be introduced as technologies improve and these are utilised to achieve best results. However, the bigger risk is doing nothing.
99	Given the discussion so far, would the reintroduction of clause 4 and the re-nationalisation of industries and green industries by the Labour Party address many of these issues?	Question 99. Historically, Clause IV set out the aims and values of the party and officially stated its socialist identity - one on which when Tony Blair ditched in an attempt to increase appeal among middle-class voters. Given the trajectory of Kier Stammers leadership of the Labour Party it is unlikely we will see the reinstatement of Clause IV anytime soon, but the nationalisation of industries (as we are seeing with some rail routes being brought back under government control) may happen without the resurrection of Clause IV.
100	Youth Strike 4 Climate change are restarting their Friday Strike days from 24th September. Can Unite support them by encouraging members in Community branches to support and publicising to other Unite members who might be able to organise to join?	Question 100. Unite called on trade unions to back the school climate change strikes at the TUC congress in Brighton in 2019. The TUC also support trade union solidarity action with young people striking on climate change issues. All members and branches can raise the profile of such activity and support such activity at local level.
101	Jim can you repeat where to find the resources please, I didn't catch what you said, TU?????	Question 101. Follow this link: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a> and see: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/unite-environment-quarterly/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/unite-environment-quarterly/</a>
102	Its hard to find support in these hard times I'm currently the Unite Environmental Officer at Gatwick Airport for Branch 6105 we lost half of our workforce through Covid we are currently still in talks to stop further Job cuts come the end of furlough the Crawley area has been decimated jobs wise over the last 18 months. Gatwick has just announced their plans for a new to upgrade there for a new Northern Runway.	Question 102. Times are indeed difficult as we experience the impact of CV-19 and the airline industry has been hit particularly hard. We assume you are already aware of support being provided through the <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/gatwick-hub/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/gatwick-hub/</a>
103	Question for Sean, Has he worked with Earth Institute / Climate school at Columbia Uni NY?	?
104	If the GND is to be worker led what support would Unite give to a multi union/ multi site i.e. Combine initiative like the Lucas Workers Alternative Plan of the 70s if one emerged along similar lines?	Question 104. Going forward Unite will explore support for combine initiatives similar to the Lucas Workers Alternative Plan. Our General Secretary has expressly committed to supporting a wide-range of combine initiatives in her manifesto. These kind of initiatives will need to be developed, supported and explored as part of Unite's Just Transition activities.

105	<p>What about peat extraction? Peatlands in the UK lock in £3.2 BILLION tonnes of carbon in the UK alone, and as it continues to form it continues to capture carbon released through human activity.</p>	<p>Question 105. Large amounts of carbon, fixed from the atmosphere into plant tissues through photosynthesis, are locked away in peat soils, representing a valuable global carbon store. Peatlands are highly significant to global efforts to combat climate change, as well as wider sustainable development goals. The protection and restoration of peatlands is vital in the transition towards a low-carbon and circular economy. Global efforts can build on the work of those countries which have taken steps to reverse the decline of peatlands. The United Kingdom, for example, is establishing a strategic peatland action plan to support the UK's climate mitigation plans and international biodiversity targets.</p>
106	<p>Methane, although not so long lasting, is a far more powerful greenhouse gas than Co2. Agriculture and the meat processing sector in particular, is a major contributor to methane levels. I'd be interested in how Unite is seeking to address the climate effects of our currently highly industrialised agriculture sector?</p>	<p>Question 106. Food production accounts for one-quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and takes up half of the planet's habitable surface. The mass of animals raised for slaughter on Earth now outweighs wildlife by a factor of 15-to-1. For example, for every person on the planet, there are approximately three chickens. If the world is to meet its target of limiting global warming to "well below" 2C, some degree of diet shift will be necessary. Unite is starting a journey to learn about alternative approaches, technologies and production but it is a combination of the industry, scientists, consumers, education and government that will shape the transition to alternative food sources. Where appropriate Unite will play its part in supporting workers, protecting jobs and developing strategies to support our member sin the transition to a more sustainable food industry.</p>
107	<p>localism and cooperative working can have a contribution to make to a sustainable future. Does Unite have any education or advice programmes that would inform discussion on this approach, i.e. worker control of local initiatives through cooperatives?</p>	<p>Question 107. UNITE education will continue to do what we have always done – design and deliver relevant courses to meet our members needs. Historically, unions have delivered courses on the cooperative movement but these declined as the presence of the cooperative model in industry faded. It may well be time to revisit such initiatives again as part of our just transition initiatives. Contact the Education Department and if we can secure enough interest to make a course viable we will endeavour to explore such a request.</p>

108	How does the panel see the training in retrofitting of housing will be rolled out, will it be local community based training the local workforces? will existing houses be utilised as training hubs?	Question 108. We really need a strategic plan around retrofitting which should include local, regional and national initiatives. Government need to support major training initiatives for apprentices developing a range of training pathways across various trades and occupations. FE Colleges need to be supported to enable them to offer a plethora of courses to support retrofit, grey-water harvesting and various alternative energy topics. Local Authorities, Housing Associations and community-based organisations will also have to play their part in developing a UK-wide retrofit army - decent work and sustainable jobs. At present the UK is only installing 6% of the heat pumps needed by 2028, less than 3% of loft insulation and less than 2% of solid wall insulation so the jobs are available.
109	Can we have a link to Unite's Hospitality Charter please?	Question 109. Please visit <a href="https://www.unitehospitality.org/fairhospitality">https://www.unitehospitality.org/fairhospitality</a> and <a href="https://www.unitehospitality.org/">https://www.unitehospitality.org/</a> and <a href="https://www.facebook.com/UniteHospitality/">https://www.facebook.com/UniteHospitality/</a>
110	The planned expansion of Heathrow (and other airports) requires more than just addressing C and noise emissions, but loss of natural environment and damage to habitats - not just the runways but all the attendant development - hotels, car-parks, etc. - that expansion would require. Surely we should be supporting the transition towards dialling down airport growth?	Question 110. The airline industry, scientists and government need to work together to identify alternative fuel sources for the sector. Damage to natural environments should obviously be kept to a minimum as much as possible but the sector and associated industries are important for jobs and the economy. our aspiration should be to protect the environment, reduce or eradicate pollutants whilst supporting jobs and future employment. There are tensions within this debate for Unite and others but with education, training and the right approach it should be possible to find the right path and balance.
111	Peat is harvested and used as a planting medium for horticulture and domestic use. People are starting to make more peat free choices but what can Unite do to help workers who harvest peat and encourage employers to change this. Gov has targets but we need to make sure workers are protected.	Question 111. This debate, along with many such others, will be predicated on how effective our just transition strategies; re-training and alternative job creation measures are in such situations. Exploring alternative peat-free materials, moving away from 'extractive' approach to our finite resources and education is essential.
112	Jobs are needed in the Crawley and Gatwick area so we need a balanced approach.	Question 112. Agreed. Imperative that we strike the balance between industrial/economic, political and climate change strategies so we avoid the experience suffered by the minning industry and communities in the 1980s. Just transition has to be managed so we ensure no-one is left behind.

113	<p>The government could immediately pass legislation to say that all new build homes have solar panels and air heat pump heating. the technology exists. they wont because the building lobby is so strong. We need a fight in the industry which fights both the climate emergency and creates new jobs for our members. Have we any plans to do this.</p>	<p>Question 113. There is a need for the UK house-building sector and the wider construction industry to radically change its approach. The building lobby is indeed strong and influential but construction is one of the key sectors that can be repurposed and used as a tool to effect real improvements similar to those you reference. National government and Local Authorities will have to ensure that proposed house-building and retrofit strategies require the industry to improve. It will require pressure but building companies will ultimately shift because it is the transition that will ultimately generate their profits. Unite's Environmental Taskforce is already engaging with our Construction NISC's and RISCs and with the Building Workers International (C40 Cities initiative) to raise awareness about clean and sustainable construction in advance of COP26. Unions are also engaging construction companies to ensure our voice is heard and using their leverage to press companies to play their part in the transition of the sector.</p>
114	<p>The International Energy Authority has said that all investment in new fossil fuel projects must be stopped yet the Government is backing a new coal mine in Cumbria and the Cambo oil field off Shetland. What can we in Unite do to oppose these?</p>	<p>Question 114. Unite is pressing for a sustainable and balanced energy pathway in the transition to a greener economy. If we are to reduce our dependence on extracted fossil fuels and other finite resources we need to ensure we invest in wind, wave, solar and other alternative fuel/energy technologies. Unite will be front and centre of this debate to protect and transition our members jobs and support approaches which protect the planet whilst protecting the livelihoods and communities.</p>
115	<p>I am confused. Unite's policy appears to be contradictory. On the one hand we are saying we want a Just Transition and concrete actions to decarbonise to prevent climate change - and on the other hand we seem to support increased use of gas and nuclear, and expansion of airports. I do not think we are treating the crisis with the urgency it requires. I agree with Sean Sweeney. We need radical demands, like nationalisation, and we must back it up with real mass action. There are no jobs on a dead planet.</p>	<p>Question 115. There will be inherent tensions in the unions approach over time as we cannot 'flick a switch' to close one industrial sector or industry and overnight begin another. Much as though this may be desirable it is unrealistic to expect that we can transition in a heartbeat. Unfortunately, transition will take time (and time is at a premium) as we need to train, retrain, repurpose, recycle, retrofit, build and grow. In part we have to re-engineer whole swathes of our economy and 'design-in' measures to tackle waste, water, and energy issues where the science is still developing. We need to ensure there is a greater synergy between our industrial, political, economic and climate change strategies but this is a 'lived experience' where inherent contradictions and tensions have to be resolved as we transition to a greener future. Sometimes we can develop adaptations and mitigations rapidly but if the fallout of these impacts detrimentally on some sectors and communities more than others we need to ensure we have the necessary social protection in place to support workers and communities. We agree radical strategies</p>

116	Really important we absolutely stand with those like Mexiso taking this action - the global powers will probably move against them. We have to be ready to stand with them absolutely.	Question 116. Indeed.
117	Re-nationalise the utilities in the UK, I have said this for years.	Question 117. Unite policies and strategies support this aspiration.
118	Oil and Gas companies say they will continue pumping fossil fuels into the atmosphere till 2070 according to Occidental petroleum CEO Vicki Hollub. should the unions and climate have a demand that these criminals destroying the planet be jailed, their assets seized and these companies nationalised to finance a just transition? the American fossil fuel industry made around \$130 billion in 2018. this money should be seized off these criminals.	Question 118. You make your point passionately. Supporting the polluter pays principle is indeed something which should be adopted to bring companies to account. Unfortunately, as we are aware, oil and gas companies exert a controlling influence upon many countries in both the developed (and so called developing world). As we have the concept of 'crimes against humanity' it maybe that where such companies are culpable there may be a growing demand for legal sanctions for these types(wilful pollution, leaks and spillages) of criminal/negligent acts. We may, possibly, be able to influence the nationalisation of such companies in the UK in the future but it is unrealistic to expect that we could table such a demand and deliver it as it would require an overhaul of the legal system on a global scale.
119	The Union was able to find millions to develop a conference centre. Has anyone thought of buying strategic share holding sin companies where we want to bring about change?	Question 120. Unite has explored such initiatives and adopted this strategy in various trade group sectors as part of our organising, recruitment, campaigning and leverage initiatives. It may well be a strategy and approach we engage with on a more regular basis as we endeavour to both respond and be proactive in our strategies to manage change.

120	<p>There is a recommendation for large business to engage with stakeholders (employees are the most important shareholders). Is this the opportunity it seems to get the worker voice to the board for just transition and could this be strengthened and pushed further from a complete ESG perspective?</p>	<p>Question 120. Possibly in some circumstances. However what this does mean in all cases is that we are able to get the issues on the bargaining table. This is our unique position as trade union. Indeed. The Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) along with other opportunities provides the space for unions to lobby and use our leverage to ensure that workers voices are heard at the workplace, in the Boardroom, at local authority level and across both the public and private sector. We need to recalibrate the Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) matrix to ensure it reflects social value, social protection and worker-centered just transition principles. At present, TCFD/ESG is an evaluation of a firm's collective conscientiousness for social and environmental factors compiled from data collected surrounding specific metrics related to intangible assets. The problem is that there is often little uniform and companies have different metrics. Unions need to press for standardisation, accountability and transparency in these areas whilst demanding involvement in the process and voice platforms to contribute, monitor and evaluate reporting process to avoid 'greenwashing'. Central to such activity is the issue of workers pensions, investment in green and sustainable opportunities. Useful models are:  <a href="https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Investing-in-a-just-transition-in-the-UK.pdf">https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Investing-in-a-just-transition-in-the-UK.pdf</a>  Another excellent resource is: <a href="https://www.workerscapital.org/just-transition">https://www.workerscapital.org/just-transition</a></p>
121	<p>How will the union approach the issue of air travel workers?</p>	<p>Question 121. We have clear policies around civil aviation and fully support members in this area in relation to the numerous challenges facing the industry.</p>
122	<p>How can we as trade unions be thinking internationally, so we ensure that the transition we're calling for in our own countries doesn't have negative impacts in the global south, e.g. electric cars require massive amounts of rare metals that would cause devastation?</p>	<p>Question 122. We work closely with sister unions around the world and through international trade federations. Unite is committed to a global approach, recognising that our movement sees no borders.</p>
123	<p>Colin Potter which events? What links with other organisations? How can members be involved? I understand that we will all be kept some 3 miles away from the politicians. How can we influence?</p>	<p>Question 123. Members can be involved through existing union structures, by keeping in touch with the website <a href="http://www.learnwithunite/environment">www.learnwithunite/environment</a> through attending courses and conferences and by getting speakers to branch meetings.</p>
124	<p>Unite has working from Home working information and home working agreements, part of that looks at the costs of being in office compared to working at home!</p>	<p>Question 124. Yes we do have these agreements.</p>

125	How can we, as members of Unite, collectively influence Government Policy on environmental issues?	Question 125. We can use traditional methods of lobbying on a local and national basis, we can shape union policy via Unite conference motions and engage with the union's political agenda.
126	Then we will get nowhere.	Question 126 is a statement not a question.
127	Fuel Poverty Action has been for 10 years pressing for retrofits with non-flammable insulation and accountability to the people who do the work and the people who live there - + fair pricing and public ownership. Many unions supported our SCIN campaign - Safe Cladding and Insulation Now. We're still unfunded and hoping to survive more years with union support. Please see our model motion here: <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bjf06AFnyoKn3MDy-lbKtp5cjZ-VLL-O/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=113551431671154327158&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bjf06AFnyoKn3MDy-lbKtp5cjZ-VLL-O/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=113551431671154327158&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a>	Question 127. Provided information to the audience. Thank you for this.
128	Would Unite consider making a positive statement agreeing with the urgency of the Insulate Britain demands - could disassociate from the actions - although some industry experts even support the campaign in its entirety <a href="https://www.insulatebritain.com/breaking-industry-experts-back-insulate-britain-s-demands">https://www.insulatebritain.com/breaking-industry-experts-back-insulate-britain-s-demands</a> )	Question 128. Insulating homes would be a major step forward, we have a Policy Conference in a few weeks time in Liverpool and it is very likely that there will be emergency motions along these lines, considering the public focus on this campaign.

129	<p>Question for Sean, what do you know about Soil erosion and climate change?</p>	<p>Question 129. We do not know about “soil erosion”, but there are a lot of studies on soil carbon sequestration.</p> <p>Some recent data indicate that – in the U.S. – biological methods of carbon sequestration, such as reforestation, wetlands restoration, regenerative farming, etc, are already sequestering almost a billion tons of co2 per year in the U.S. alone, and that with reforestation of a very small amount of US land (1.5% of US land area) and some improved practices on existing farmland and wetlands, we could bring that to 2 billion tons of co2 sequestration per year. These data/findings are not published yet.</p> <p>But the bottom line is – soil and plants are the most effective, efficient and least expensive “systems” for doing “carbon drawdown” and CO2 sequestration.</p> <p>The main danger is that market solutionists have launched carbon “offsets” and carbon “credits” programs that supposedly pay for carbon removal. But these are invalid schemes that allow eco-sinners with money to buy these carbon “indulgences” and salve their consciences and get good PR while they, themselves, continue with their emissions.</p>
130	<p>The 1974 Lucas Aerospace workers Alternative Corporate Plan - that produced concrete plans to make wind turbines, hybrid cars and energy efficient housing, instead of military hardware - not only prefigured the Green New Deal as a way to create more and better jobs but showed that it’s workers who have the interest to lead the way in developing socially useful production that benefits communities rather than large corporate interests.</p> <p>The Lucas workers have made a film that not only tells their inspiring story but focuses on all the issues that they faced from the neo-liberal policies that were then emerging and that the struggle for a just transition still has to face today.</p> <p>It is freely available for anyone to use.</p> <p>Trailer:  <a href="https://vimeo.com/274898766">https://vimeo.com/274898766</a>  30min Film:  <a href="https://vimeo.com/305253552">https://vimeo.com/305253552</a></p>	<p>Question 130. We have included details of the outstanding work of the Lucas Aerospace workers and the films are in our useful resources to help capacity build reps learning. Thanks.</p>
131	<p>Shall we support Townsend Theatre who are putting on a play reminding us of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders struggle, as referred to by Sean.</p>	<p>Question 132. Yes we support all the Townsend productions and continue to advertise this and their other plays</p>



132	Water shortage will be a huge issue. Floods in some area and drought elsewhere causing crop failure, mass migration, food shortages and societal breakdown. Watch H2o the molecule that made us.	Question 132. We recognise this yes, a very important element of this issue.
133	It would be great to hear from comrades what they are doing to build for the global climate strikes on Friday 24 September and Friday 5 November. Sharon Graham attended the COP26 Coalition TU General Secretaries meeting. What comes next? This is a golden opportunity while the COP26 talks are in the UK to get our members and banners out on the street to protest our government's false promises and intransigence. They brought in the PCSC to protect COP. Kill The Bill and protest during COP. Please can you tell us what Unite is doing for this?	Question 133. Some branches, in particular retired and community branches, are planning to join these protests and as a union we are also heavily involved with COP26 fringe events in Glasgow and across the country.
134	How can employees of the large energy companies and their downward supply chains collectively use smart meters to make a difference ?	Question 134. This is an interesting point which could be raised on a wider level, not just energy members but Unite members across sectors.
135	Lots of members were distressed by the regressive policies passed at TUC supporting nuclear and gas, partly on the basis of the need to balance the grid - moment by moment as well as accounting for daily and seasonal peaks and troughs. There are solutions available that are not being widely enough spoken about, invested in or campaigned for. It will take an integrated publicly owned energy system including generation, grid, storage, housing and other dispersed sources of demand reduction, load spreading, generation and storage. These "radical" demands are the only thing that can reflect the urgency if the situation. Anything less is selling workers down the river too - pushing sectors that cannot be sustainable and denying opportunities to push for support for transitioning into the desperately needed work roles.	Question 135. We have our own policy conference in October and these areas will be discussed at that event and Unite policy will be updated accordingly. We do need to be cognizant that we are the union representing thousands of workers in these sectors.
136	How will this global pandemic affect global efforts for a new green deal to tackle climate change?  How can Trade Unions like Unite the Union could adapt in the event of more pandemics affecting the planet because of climate change?	Question 136. There are some positives in relation to hybrid working which come out of the pandemic, including initiatives within Unite. We need to assess the positive and negative aspects of such change and ensure its driven by workers.
137	How will Unite use leverage and building workers power for a programmatic solidarity across the movement in UK and globally as Sean describes?	Question 137. This is central to our approach to trade unionism and internationalism. We believe in building power from the workplace and supporting workers in other parts of the world do the same via our international links.

138	<p>We should think about a campaign for the Government to take the effects of climate change seriously. Many areas of the country will be under water or threatened by 2100.</p> <p>1 metre of sea level rise has been locked in even if we do transition.</p> <p>In Norfolk there is no Plan to prepare for sea level rises in a area of the country which is "reclaimed land" . For example, UEFA has publish a report of football clubs under threat from Climate change and sea level rises. Norwich City, Arsenal, Chelsea, Newcastle &amp; Liverpool are all effected. This could be a powerful campaigning tool to argue for the adaptations we will have to do.</p> <p>Climate change and sea level rises don't stop at 2100. They continue for thousands of years. Even if we hold the Earths tempreture below a rise 2 degrees celcius.</p> <p>If we aren't prepared working class and poor people will pay like they did in New Orleans during Hurrricane Katriana.</p>	<p>Question 138. This is why we have the Unite Environmental taskforce which brings together all areas of the union and wider movement to examine such challenges and find ways of addressing them. We recognise equality factors play a huge part too.</p>
139	<p>Whilst agreeing that we must find a better way to power our vehicles I am worried that the transition to electric cars, vans etc. can also pose a danger to disabled people who are blind as they will not hear a vehicle coming before it is too late. Also our National Grid and local distribution is not up to coping with the drain on the supply.</p>	<p>Question 139. Clearly any major change like this will have wider considerations and you have highlighted two important issues which need to be campaigned upon.</p>
140	<p>Thank you Unite for holding such an informative event.</p>	<p>Question 140. This is not a question.</p>
141	<p>Does the panel know about the Unite new technology agreements?</p>	<p>Quetin 141 Yes the agreements are used widely.</p>
142	<p>Tech question: "Chat" seems to go only to hosts and panelists?</p>	<p>Question 142. Comment not a question.</p>
143	<p>1. Can Tories be trusted on climate change issue especially when they've received throusands and millions in donations from the fossil fuel industry?</p> <p>2. How can we influence recently industrialised countries towards decarbonisation ? How can we support workers led climate change movements there?</p>	<p>Question 143. In simple terms no Tories can't be trusted in any sense, but we will attempt to hold them to their commitments in this area and we will continue to build strong links globally with sister unions and other like minded organisations fighting for this cause.</p>

144	Using an international example; the Cuban attempt to shift away from an oil based economy to one which has a degree of food security and some of the lowest carbon emissions in the world, as an island economy is secure in its energy needs. Would the panel agree that this is an example we can emphasis in our discussions and debates in the union, particularly in education?	Question 144. There are examples from around the world of organisations and governments taking progressive steps to drive climate initiatives and we will always identify those on education courses and in our materials.
145	Excellent discussion and content .....The government recently announced a £270m green heat network fund to help increase the interest and use of heat pumps and other green technologies.... this seems a drop in the ocean ...shouldn't more funding be ring fenced for re-training? the government places a high tax take and green levies on electricity consumer bills .... should more pressure be applied to government to use these monies received from these to fund interest free loans to consumers so to help them adopt low carbon alternatives?	Question 145. We would agree with all the points you make and are lobbying around these areas.
146	When we talk about insulation can we change it to be hand in hand with ventilation. We are finding people in highly insulated homes who are scared to even put their washing machine on due to mold issues etc caused by condensation.	Question 146. This is a good point and ties in with our policy on decent housing which is fit for purpose in every way.
147	Innovation being open, how ideas happen, there has been unions part of working on this, World Engineering conference Tokyo does panel know of this?	Question 147. We can look into this, our colleagues in the relevant sectors may well be aware of this.
148	Thank you Lynette	Question 148. Not a question.
149	Does Unite (or other contributors) have a view on the deep sea mining of metallic nodules? On one side of the debate proponents argue that they could save us from global warming by using them in electric cars, wind turbines, solar panels etc to replace carbon emitting sources - on the other side of the debate the arguement is that it could be catastrophic for oceans and eco systems.	Question 149. Unite has not made any decisions to support or object to this process as the majority of the evidence is based on what has been called simulated mining by opponents. Equally commercial efforts have repeatedly failed for a variety of reasons, notably the huge up-front costs. Eventually we will run out of the rare earth materials that are needed in things like batteries, wind turbines and solar panels. Recycling will help but we need so many more of these devices to power CO2 extraction devices for example so that we can undo some of the damage we have done, the trick is to see if these materials can be extracted whilst doing the minimum amount of damage to the environment.
150	Conference UNi Engineers Tokyo 2015	Question 150. Was a statement not a question. Thank you.

151	<p>Hi,</p> <p>The need for a zero-carbon legal framework is an essential measure for any Government that is serious about workers' rights and a just transition. Voluntary 'targets' for employers aren't working. The Greener Jobs Alliance has just published policy paper arguing for new legislation to enact a Climate Change and Just Transition at Work Bill.</p> <p>Its two key demands are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Employers have a duty to publish a Climate and Environment Response Policy.</li> <li>2. Workers and their unions have the right to information, consultation and negotiation on the measures employers will take.</li> </ol> <p>Does Unite have a list of employers where it has an environmental response, just transition agreement or similar?</p> <p><a href="https://www.greenerjobsalliance.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Outline-Legal-Framework-Final.pdf">https://www.greenerjobsalliance.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Outline-Legal-Framework-Final.pdf</a></p>	<p>Question 151. We work closely with the Greener Jobs Alliance and in relation to a list of employers engaging on the green agenda, this is a work in progress. Work in this area is being undertaken in South West and a number of agreements may soon be announced.</p>
152	<p>Why have governments allowed industries which once were nationalised be owned by foreign companies?</p>	<p>Question 152. Obviously Unite have a strong commitment to public ownership and are opposed to such policies within successive governments</p>
153	<p>It's brilliant that union is a member of the COP26 Coalition and active in it. I can't see there's a link to their amazingly organised website <a href="https://COP26coalition.org/">https://COP26coalition.org/</a> from Unite's website <a href="https://www.unitetheunion.org/">https://www.unitetheunion.org/</a> ? If not, please would you all ask for it to go on the first page? I'll ask Sharon too. Thank you.</p>	<p>Question 153. It's a good idea to put a link on our site. We may do this on our <a href="http://www.learnwithunite.org/environment">www.learnwithunite.org/environment</a> site which is our environmental hub for resources.</p>
154	<p>Just a few observations for the Construction industry &amp; barriers for transition . Many local</p>	<p>Question 154. This question was incomplete therefore it was not a question.</p>
155	<p>So good to hear about so many great initiatives. Is central government listening / responding?</p>	<p>Question 155. We continue to lobby central and local government and the devolved assemblies on these issues.</p>
156	<p>Over geological time climate change can mean lower temperatures, not just higher temperature and higher humidity, scientists say we are in an interglacial, so could green house gases be needed as part of global climate control?</p>	<p>Question 156. Whilst it is true that over geological time the planets temperature fluctuates but from things like ice cores that can record global vegetation growth and atmospheric data, scientists have yet to find a time when the temperature changes so swiftly. Yes we need some greenhouse gasses, Ozone for example, but the last time CO2 levels where this high was in the Pliocene era five million years ago when the poles were up to 10 degrees Celsius hotter than today. see:- <a href="https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/7/graphic-carbon-dioxide-hits-new-high/">https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/7/graphic-carbon-dioxide-hits-new-high/</a></p>

157	<p>In anyone wants to get involved in the COP26 coalition trade union caucus please email <a href="mailto:cbarbagallo@waronwant.org">cbarbagallo@waronwant.org</a>, one of the coalition coordinators. Next meetings 6th October. All welcome. Can also find more info on the #WeMakeTomorrow website: <a href="https://www.wemaketomorrow.org/organisation-sign-on">https://www.wemaketomorrow.org/organisation-sign-on</a></p>	Question 157. Thank you.
158	<p>Thanks to all that have organised today, great to be part of this conversation. There are a couple of us today on the call who work at C40 Cities - we support megacities around the world to decarbonise &amp; align with the Paris Agreement, as well as delivering actions that are inclusive and equitable.</p> <p>We've also done a considerable amount of work to address the organisation's environmental impact. Whilst there is always room to improve and learn, we'd love to share some of these insights with other Unite members.</p> <p>How can we join the task force? happy to have follow up conversation if easier to reply in that way.</p> <p>Many thanks.</p>	Question 158. Thank you feel free to email to let us know your thoughts as we would be interested to hear your thoughts and learn from your experience in this area <a href="mailto:barry.faulkner@unitetheunion.org">barry.faulkner@unitetheunion.org</a>
159	<p>I'm a newly elected environment officer for my branch. Is there anywhere to get advice and share ideas with comrades around greening the workplace in a way that benefits members? Especially - blended working policies, greening offices and transitioning fleet vehicles to electric</p>	Question 159. It's great to hear that, please get in touch with us at <a href="mailto:barry.faulkner@unitetheunion.org">barry.faulkner@unitetheunion.org</a> and we can point you in the right direction.
160	It was short sighted.	Question 160. If you are referring to your last question (#152) it was.
161	<p>As ex chairman of the Lucas Aerospace Combine I have the experience of creating a worker led plan back in the 70s which failed because we didn't have the equivalent power as management. It's no good going into negotiations without the leverage of equal power and the wholehearted support of the Official Movement which we didn't have! Without that worker led initiatives will fail no matter how sound their arguments are. The FTOs have to equip and support their shop stewards without question!</p>	Question 161. Unite should not discourage worker led initiatives especially in the area of tackling Climate Change as on this subject it would be a very foolish management who ignores the opportunity to save money by not burning through their carbon credits. Should the management of the company ignore such savings then I am sure the shareholders will wish to know why. The Environment is one subject where the trade unions and employers should be on the same page as we both face the same enemy.

162	Brilliant contribution, Tony. Are you available for speaking?	Question 162. Please contact Tony.Devlin@unitetheunion.org for availability.
163	Local authorities are redeveloping their Town centres. However they almost always look to demolish existing structures then rebuild creating huge amounts of carbon both in the demolition and re-construction phase. Will we be supporting retaining existing buildings (Many have heritage value) along with Retrofit? Will we see our Climate agenda used as a Trojan horse to gain access to non-union workplaces in the Construction industry? Do we have plans to get Unite elected members in local authorities to support more car electrification antistructure which is not presently in place?	Question 163. The simple answer is there is no existing policy on these points as each building will need to be judged on its merits. Some homes are just a shell comprising of a rendered single layer of brick (with no cavity) put up just after the war to solve the housing crisis, making it very difficult given the space constraints to insulate them. Others carry historical value which depending on their condition should be saved if they can and retrofitted. Unite will try and organise workers wherever it can, especially where that workforce are being exploited. The Climate Agenda is not a Trojan horse, but it is something that may open doors. Unite already supports candidates standing for election in local authorities if help is requested and if the candidate shares the beliefs of Unites political agenda. The infrastructure to support electrification of vehicles is something Unite supports the growth of. This includes the work needed to allow more than two or three cars in a road to be charged at the same time without blowing the fuse at the local power station.
164	Lucas Plan posed the question of how to move production for the arms industry to production for social need . What is Unite's strategy for members working in the arms industry and developing a Lucas-style strategy?	Question 164. Unite has been calling for the development of workplace environmental reps, trained as part of their role within Health and safety to find ways to work with employers to reduce a companies carbon footprint. Despite campaigning there is no provision in law that gives a rep the legal right for facility time to conduct environmental surveys and make recommendations to employers. Unite has therefore developed the idea of using health and safety reps facility time to assist in such an endeavour. Accordingly unite now has modules and training programmes to assist members who are interested in conducting such a role and share ideas of how a company could decarbonise, become more financially stable and hopefully reward staff for their efforts in saving the business money.
165	We should campaign to get Unite support and a presence with branch banners on the student climate strikes. In Glasgow on Friday 24 September at 11am school students on strike are assembling at Kelvingrove Park to march to George Square. Wherever these events take place we should try to make sure there's a local Unite presence.	Question 165. Noted but it sadly was too late in the day to organise much of an additional presence. Instead Unite is supporting the march and trade union activity at the COP26 in Glasgow in November.
166	Sean was speaking about Hurricane Sandy, does he know of the sea wall/ tunnels being engineered to deal with sea level issues and some have said this work is already not enough, so question for Sean Sweeney?	Question 166. The question has been sent to Sean for comment.

167	<p>What positive discussions are we having with the GMB on these issues?</p>	<p>Question 167. Unite is a member of TUSDAC (Trade Union Sustainable Development Advisory Committee) and has for years worked very closely not only with the GMB but also Prospect and other unions at the TUC on these matters. TUSDAC was once a joint union government committee which held under Labour regular discussions on these matters. Since the Conservative Government came in however that door appears to have been closed.</p>
168	<p>On the carbon intensity of the different energy sources we should agree with Tony Devlin. We are not climate scientists.</p> <p>the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) undertook a detailed and peer reviewed study on lifetime carbon emissions of all electricity generation sources - including fuel, construction and decommissioning - which demonstrated that carbon intensity of nuclear energy is the lowest of all sources of electricity alongside wind.</p>	<p>Question 168. Unite policy is to support nuclear as part of a mixed bag approach to obtaining the energy needs of the UK. Currently around a seventh of the UK power needs comes from non fossil fuel sources. If we are therefore to stop using fossil fuels this energy has to come from somewhere.</p>
169	<p>As ex chairman of the Lucas Aerospace Combine Shop Stewards Committee I think you can learn a lot from our 1970s experience because it's relevant today. See our website <a href="http://www.thelucasaerocombineshopstewardscommittee.org">www.thelucasaerocombineshopstewardscommittee.org</a> And for the film The Plan that came from the bottom up See <a href="http://theplandocumentary.com">theplandocumentary.com</a></p>	<p>Question 169. Noted :- see the answer to question 164 earlier.</p>
170	<p>Ahead of the Climate Change Summit in Glasgow, how do we ensure that the biggest polluters of the environment fuelling climate change, countries such as China, Brazil, Indonesia, US, Russia, India and others comply with the need and UN recommendations to reduce their carbon emissions to meet the target to tackle climate change?</p> <p>On Clean Growth, can we have more details on Financing the low carbon economy?</p>	<p>Question 170. Unite can campaign to erect a carbon trading barrier similar to that to be put in place in the EU. Such a trade barrier ensures that cheap imported goods into the country have to pay a carbon levy charge to take into account both the production emissions but also the emissions from the goods transport to market. As a consequence this should hopefully prevent carbon leakage or at least undermine the economics of production elsewhere. At the UN they aim to introduce a global carbon trading scheme under article 6 with sever financial penalties for breaching carbon limits. More details of financing a low carbon economy can be found in submissions to the government consultations <a href="https://www.politicshome.com/news/article/unite-responses-to-consultations">https://www.politicshome.com/news/article/unite-responses-to-consultations</a></p>

171	I fully agree with everything that has been said - it is hugely inspiring to hear about Unite's commitment to put workers' voices at the heart of the fight for climate justice. One of the things we have been trying to do in our workplace is to link just transition, climate change, and air quality to health and safety and wellbeing both as a way of educating our members and recruiting new members. Will the education courses (in particular H&S courses) developed by Unite include parts about air quality, climate change, upskilling, just transition, etc?	Question 171. Yes.
172	My earlier question has not been answered. So what can Community branches do? We are planning to support the local School Strike on 24th September, we are engaged with the COP26 Coalition and plan to take part locally on NOV 6 any thoughts from the panel?	Question 172. See the answer to question 101.
173	How do we receive Unite Environment Quarterly?	Question 174. You are now on the distribution list. Copies will also be available on the following website: <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a>
174	What's the Unite Environment Quarterly? And how do Unite Community members access that? Thanks.	Question 174. The Unite Environment Quarterly is a publication produced by Unite concerning climate change and just transitioning issues. It can be accessed through the following website <a href="https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/">https://www.learnwithunite.org/environment/</a>



175	<p>I asked 2 questions earlier but ran out of battery so can't see earlier chat so: 1. Is there funding available from Unite if we want to organise a coach to COP26 demo on 6/11. 2. Can we Colin Potter about what he is going to say to UN?</p>	<p>Question 175. You can ask for branch funds or funds from region to help organise coaches to the COP talks and public arena and attend the march. Answer from Colin Potter:-</p> <p>There are various topics of discussion that are ongoing in parallel at the UN talks including:-</p> <p>Article 6 – the enforcement measures of the Paris Agreement that have yet to be agreed which include a global carbon trading scheme where credits can be generated by carbon mitigation and sequestration techniques and technology deployment.</p> <p>The Katowice committee discussions on the impacts of climate change and mitigation which includes discussions on a 'Just Transition' of workers from polluting industries to more sustainable activities. It also includes the retrofitting of homes, flood protection etc.</p> <p>The talks on the impacts to farming and land management. – the source of around 8-10 % of all emissions globally and how this will impact workers in food production and farming.</p> <p>At any one time the conference will be simultaneously addressing multiple topics in different rooms and hence I will be part of a team calling for the rights of workers to be protected, no race to the bottom in order to achieve carbon neutrality and a scenario where nobody is left behind.</p>
176	<p>This has been a really thought provoking event - great to see links across all of our different sectors. The Women's Budget Group has done some very interesting work on how green jobs could be created in the support/social care sector. We need to invest in physical and support infrastructures, especially given demographic changes.</p>	<p>Question 176. Agree.</p>
177	<p>Thanks Stephen.</p>	<p>Question 177 is not a question.</p>

178	Solidarity with all Unite workers in struggles against outsourcing/hire and rehire, fantastic result at Baroldswick Rolls Royce saving jobs and establishing a Centre of Excellence to look at decarbonisation - and solidarity with GKN workers in Birmingham demanding UK manufacture of electric vehicles and component parts. Seeing a fellow participant's question on climate action in the workplace, are there any examples (and how do we empower reps/convenors in all unions) to wire climate justice demands into our collective bargaining, terms and conditions? E.g. upper temperatures, adaption to extreme weather, being involved in transition, training and decarbonisation plans, more leave for sustainable travel to holiday, pension divestment etc?	Question 178. Unite has a series of courses planned ranging in duration from 45 minutes to a few days.
179	This may have already been asked but what is the role of Unite Community here?	Question 179. Unite Community's role is to try and organise local pressure on politicians of all colours to do more about tackling climate change. To oppose things that are contra to unite policy like fracking and show support for more sustainable projects.
180	Crops such as almonds, soya beans cause issues such as being water intensive, Bananas normally Cavendish banana are under threat does to being a mono culture, Soil quality and erosion huge issue so some say more pasture needed and less monoculture, more biodiversity, what does panel think?	Question 180. The idea of crop rotation can replenish soils if the right crops are grown. The key is to know what crops work best in what climate to achieve this in that region.
181	Sue made some brilliant input and challenges - why am I not hearing about these initiatives Siobhan mentions, as a Unite member?	Question 181. Unite organises an excellent national women's week with courses which are designed to support activists in campaigning skills, organising, understanding your union and leadership development, you can find out more about the courses by following this link <a href="https://www.unitetheunion.org/what-we-do/equalities/sectors/women/">https://www.unitetheunion.org/what-we-do/equalities/sectors/women/</a>
182	The private motor vehicle has been sold to us as an agent of freedom, whereas it's an agent of destruction. Electrification is not the answer. Particulate deposition along in urban areas, damage health and educational opportunity.	Question 182. Electrification may be the answer just possibly not Lithium ion batteries. There are new longer lasting and lighter Silver Carbon batteries that might be a solution. Green hydrogen also offers a solution especially of fed through a fuel cell. Such fuel cells will not only outlast one vehicle but several before it would need replacing.
183	We need to develop promote public transport, active travel and better model short hire car schemes.	Question 184. Unite policy supports all forms of transport that can be proven to be developed and used sustainably.

184	Is it still the case that Unite Community does not have representation in regional equalities forums? I was Equalities Officer for my Unite Community branch and was not allowed access to those forums. If this is the case it really needs to change as Community is key in identifying equalities issues and solutions.	Question 185. This will be raised with Siobhan to see if there is a solution and to find out why you were prevented from attending.
185	It's also about recognising unwaged work as work, and that the non-recognition of this is a big part of the feminisation of poverty and the relative lack of political power women have.	Question 186. I agree.
186	The Lucas Aerospace Plan from the 1970's is absolutely inspiring and still teaches us much, but what is probably more worrying in a wider sense is that we don't have fully equivalent "workplace plans" from 1980s, 1990s, 2000s 2010s. Are there any more recent workplace plans that can be added to the Lucas lessons and if not, what is holding this back?	Question 187. Nothing - just the political will to act.
187	As a country we need to look at bringing all energy companies and providers into government control. Plan a nationwide transport policy that provides a reliable cost effective service for all users to travel at all times. The planning of new housing developments needs to be linked to the jobs available in the area, to reduce commuting long distances, or making it accessible by public transport. Where I live, we have a lot of workers that are only at home at the weekend and drive many miles (150+) to work. This will increase as the homes being built will be snapped up by more long distance commuters.	Question 188. I agree. The world of work and commuting will need to become more sustainable.
188	What can Unite do to help groups like Fuel Poverty Action? We have been for 10 years pressing for retrofits with non-flammable insulation and accountability to the people who do the work and the people who live there - + fair pricing and public ownership. Many unions supported our SCIN campaign - Safe Cladding and Insulation Now. We're still unfunded and hoping to survive more years with union support. Please see our model motion here: <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bjf06AFnyoKn3MDy-lbKtp5cjZ-VLL-O/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=113551431671154327158&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Bjf06AFnyoKn3MDy-lbKtp5cjZ-VLL-O/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=113551431671154327158&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a> Is this something Unite are able to support in some way?	Question 189. This needs to be raised through the normal branch and regional structure.

189	Why is it necessary to transport between countries when we could manufacture in this country?	Question 189. It is not necessary in every case but it economically and politically expedient to do so. We need to change this so that such economic and environmental leaks are closed.
190	Agriculture: food, production, distribution, farmers in developing countries disproportionately affected by climate change. What will be the plan to address Climate Justice at COP26 as poor women farmers have lost their jobs and livelihoods because of Climate Change?  Will COP26 address the issue of Climate Change affecting Fairtrade as we need Climate Justice?	Question 190. Yes - the issue of the payment of the promised \$100 billion per annum, and payments for loss and damage are all on the agenda at COP26.
191	Nuclear fusion still in its infancy! but very interesting debate/discussion.	Question 191. Fusion is in its infancy but the promise of limitless, safe, carbon free energy cannot be ignored.
192	Before you finish I suggest you contact your Local Authorities to see their plans for your community.	Question 192. Agreed.
193	Hinckley C is already 10 years late and may not be on stream for another 5 years and no other new nuclear plants are not even started so how is going contribute when we need alternatives by 2030?	Question 193. Hinckley C is due to open in 2027, Sizewell C is due in 2029 if we get approval and Bradwell B is then next on the agenda. The Government has also approved the construction of 16 small modular reactors that can be built far sooner as they are a tenth of the size and use the type of reactors found n nuclear submarines, providing more domestic jobs in the UK.
194	Really pleased to hear just now about the Rolls Royce Combine Workers Plan which could be something we talk about in future. Maybe there could be another conference on this when it is developed and published?	Question 194. Possibly.
195	Rolls Royce is supported by other companies and as IT support which can make significant difference in what can be done , some are Union members , is it possible and sensible for them to have input in combine?	Question 195. Possibly it would all depend on the will of the union combine.
196	How can we live well with less energy, as that reduction in energy use is essential if we are to stop the continuing global warming? Is insulation of buildings and reduction of private traffic enough ? Or can we learn, as workers and retired, to live differently, consume less energy and less of everything?	Question 196. We need to both learn to live using less energy but also produce more electricity. Fossil fuels make up around 7/8ths of all the energy we currently consume. We therefore need to eliminate the emission of CO2 and other greenhouse gasses.
197	Thanks Unite Excellent stuff.	Question 197. Thank you.
198	Thank you so much.	Question 198. You're welcome.

199	<p>In finishing I would like to quote the late Mike Cooley my comrade in the Lucas Aerospace Combine</p> <p>“We have become far too smart scientifically to survive much longer without wisdom”</p> <p>And</p> <p>“Science and technology is not given it was made by people like us. If it’s not doing for us what we want we have a right and responsibility to change it”</p> <p>Thank you -a good conference!</p>	Question 199. Thank you.
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