Dear Derek Thomas

My name is **\*\*insert your name \*\*** and I live in your constituency covering St Ives, Penzance, Helston and the Isles of Scilly.

I have seen your commitment to a [Greener, More Sustainable West Cornwall](http://www.derekthomas.org/greener-west-cornwall-scillyscilly)  and that you host regular Climate Focus Events, which are open to the public to find out more and raise local issues. Thank you for acknowledging the issue and responding to the need to take action as a community and at parliamentary level.

However, I am increasingly concerned over the speed of climate and ecological breakdown, and the lack of action on what is **really** needed to avert the worst of the looming crisis we face here in Cornwall, across the UK and across the globe. I am also aware that you have [consistently voted against measures to prevent climate change](https://www.theyworkforyou.com/mp/25440/derek_thomas/st_ives/divisions?policy=1030)

We are facing the biggest threat to life on earth ever known. The recent IPCC Reports and the [UN’s Adaptation Gap Report](https://www.unep.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report-2022) have been the starkest warning yet that [climate change is widespread, rapid and getting worse.](https://www.ipcc.ch/2021/08/09/ar6-wg1-20210809-pr/)

The Climate and Ecological Crisis has already led to the loss of lives, homes, livelihoods and ecosystems for indigenous communities and the poorest and most marginalised across the world. Plant and animal species face extinction as habitats, temperatures and conditions change rapidly. We see horrendous floods in Pakistan, 40 degree temperatures in London, devastating forest fires and hurricanes across the globe – and a rise in climate refugees.

No one can eventually escape the impacts of the climate crisis, but those who have done least to cause them suffer the most. From coastal villages in Norfolk where sea-defences are eroding faster than ever, to the entire population of Tuvalu whose country may be underwater by 2050, the poorest people and communities of colour too often face the worst of the challenges.

Here in West Cornwall, rising sea levels in Penzance alone threaten hundreds of homes and businesses. West Cornwall is also home to some of the poorest families in Europe, who will bear the brunt of the economic and social impact of environmental breakdown. The cost of living crisis is intensifying this suffering.

We are living through a period of multiple breaking points - from climate to Covid to racism. We know that these crises not only overlap, they share the same cause. Our political and economic system is built on inequality and injustice. For centuries, rich governments and corporations have been exploiting people and the planet for profit, no matter how much it harms the rest of us.

You are in a position to change this. You already see that there’s an issue. Now please be part of the solution. Building more roads and houses will not solve the problems we face, nor will investing in exploitative or green-washed solutions, issuing more licenses for oil and gas, or opening up new oil fields like Rosebank. Please help our community to choose more sustainable and regenerative ways of living and doing business. Please use your position in government to stand up for what is fair and right not just in the UK, but around the world.

As a local constituent I urge you to:

1. Say no to fossil fuels, net zero and false solutions. We cannot innovate, build or offset our way out of this.
2. Work to rewire the system. The current economic system got us into this mess and needs rebalancing to put people and planet first.
3. Fight for Climate Justice. Work on building resilience and solutions in our community to help protect it, especially the poorest and most vulnerable.

Please make Cornwall’s voice heard at COP27 - and help us to put people and planet before profit.

I look forward to hearing your response.

Thank you,

**\*\*Add your name\*\***

**\*\*and address/email if you would like a reply\*\***