SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE ('CLIMATE CHANGE' VERSION[1])

[1] Two versions of the postal survey were used: one referred to 'climate change' and the other to 'global warming'. This split-survey design exposes where responses differ according the terminology used.

Section 1. General environmental concerns

1. Please look at the following list of environmental issues, and **circle** the **three** issues that **concern** you the most. *Please only circle **three** issues from the list:*

Air pollution
Pollution of rivers and seas
Flooding
Litter
Poor waste management (e.g. overuse of landfills)
Traffic/ congestion
GM food
Climate change
The hole in the ozone layer
Using up the earth's resources
Extinction of species
Radioactive waste
Overpopulation (of the earth by humans)

2. In your view, has air pollution ever affected your health?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

3. Has air pollution ever affected the health of any of your family or friends?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

4. **Apart from effects on people's health**, are you aware of any other effects of air pollution?
- ☐ Yes (go to question 5)
- ☐ No (go to question 6)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 6)

5. If yes, what other effects are you aware of? _____

_____

6. Have you, **in the last 5 years**, experienced any form of flood damage (including to your home, garden or vehicle)?
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

7. Do you feel the pattern of weather is generally changing?
- ☐ Yes (go to question 8)
- ☐ No (go to question 9)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 9)

8. If yes, why do you think this might be? _____

_____

Section 2. Global environmental issues

9. Have you heard of "climate change"?

- ☐ Yes (go to question 10)
- ☐ No (go to question 25)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 25)

10. What do you know about it? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

11. Where have you heard about climate change? *Tick as many as you feel apply:*

Television	☐	Government agencies/ information	☐
Radio	☐	Public libraries	☐
Newspaper	☐	Friends/ family	☐
Internet	☐	Local council	☐
Specialist publications/academic journals	☐	Energy suppliers	☐
Environmental groups (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature)	☐	Other	☐
School/ college/ university	☐	(*Please write in* _____)	

12. By **ticking one box on each row** please indicate **how much you would <u>trust</u> information about climate change** if you heard it from...

	A lot	A little	Not very much	Not at all	Can't choose
A family member or a friend	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
A scientist	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The government	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
An energy supplier	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
An environmental organisation (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
The media (i.e. television, radio, newspapers)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

13. How important is the issue of climate change to you personally?

- ☐ Very important (go to question 14)
- ☐ Quite important (go to question 14)
- ☐ Not very important (go to question 15)
- ☐ Not at all important (go to question 15)

14. Why is it important to you? _____

_____

_____

15. What do you think **causes** climate change? _____

_____

_____

16. What **impacts**, if any, do you think climate change may have? _____

_____

_____

17. Do you think climate change is something that is affecting or is going to affect you, personally?

- ☐ Yes (go to question 18)
- ☐ No (go to question 19)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 19)

18. If yes, in what way(s) is it affecting you, or is it going to affect you? _____

_____

_____

19. Do you think anything can be done to tackle climate change?

- ☐ Yes (go to question 20)
- ☐ No (go to question 22)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 22)

20. If yes, what do you think can be done to tackle climate change? _____

_____

_____

21. Who do you think should have the **main** responsibility for tackling climate change? ***Please tick one box only:***

- ☐ International organisations (e.g. the UN)
- ☐ The national government
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ Business and industry
- ☐ Environmental organisations/ lobby groups (e.g. Worldwide Fund for Nature)
- ☐ Individuals
- ☐ Other (*please write in*: _____)

22. Have you ever taken, or do you regularly take, any action out of concern for climate change?

- ☐ Yes (go to question 23)
- ☐ No (go to question 24)
- ☐ Don't know (go to question 24)

23. If yes, what did you do/ are you doing? _____

_____

_____

24. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about **climate change** by **ticking one box on each row**:

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
a. We can all do our bit to reduce the effects of climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. Climate change is inevitable because of the way modern society works	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. People should be made to reduce their energy consumption if it reduces climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. Climate change will improve the British weather	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. Climate change is just a natural fluctuation in earth's temperatures	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. I would only do my bit to reduce climate change if everyone else did as well	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
g. The government should provide incentives for people to look after the environment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
h. It is already too late to do anything about climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
i. Human activities have no significant impact on global temperatures	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
j. Climate change is something that frightens me	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
k. Developing countries should take most of the blame for climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
l. I am uncertain about whether climate change is really happening	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
m. Radical changes to society are needed to tackle climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
n. People are too selfish to do anything about climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
o. The evidence for climate change is unreliable	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
p. The United States should take most of the blame for climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
q. Claims that human activities are changing the climate are exaggerated	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
r. If I come across information about climate change I will tend to look at it	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
s. There is too much conflicting evidence about climate change to know whether it is actually happening	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
t. Leaving the lights on in my home adds to climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
u. Climate change is a consequence of modern life	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
v. The effects of climate change are likely to be catastrophic	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
w. Nothing I do makes any difference to climate change one way or another	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
x. Pollution from industry is the main cause of climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
y. I tend to consider information about climate change to be irrelevant to me	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
z. Recent floods in this country are due to climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
aa. It is too early to say whether climate change is really a problem	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
bb. The media is often too alarmist about issues like climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
cc. Flooding is not increasing, there is just more reporting of it in the media these days	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
dd. There is no point in me doing anything about climate change because no-one else is	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ee. Experts are agreed that climate change is a real problem	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ff. Nothing I do on a daily basis contributes to the problem of climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
gg. Industry and business should be doing more to tackle climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
hh. For the most part, the government honestly wants to reduce climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ii. I do not believe climate change is a real problem	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
jj. The government is not doing enough to tackle climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
kk. I feel a moral duty to do something about climate change	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Section 3. General views about the environment

25. Now please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following **general statements** by **ticking one box on each row:**

	Agree strongly	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
a. Jobs today are more important than protecting the environment for the future	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. I am unwilling to make personal sacrifices for the sake of the environment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. If my job caused environmental problems, I'd rather be unemployed than carry on causing them	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. Having a car is part of having a good lifestyle	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. Humans have the right to modify the natural environment to suit their needs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. Humans are severely abusing the planet	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
g. Plants and animals have the same rights as humans to exist	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
h. Nature is strong enough to cope with the impact of modern industrial nations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
i. Humans were meant to rule over the rest of nature	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
j. The balance of nature is very delicate and easily upset	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

26. The following is a list of activities that you may do. For each one **that you do <u>regularly</u>**, please indicate **your reason or reasons** for doing so. *Tick as many as you feel apply:*

	Convenience	To save money	To protect the environment	For my health	Habit	Moral obligation	Another reason (please write in)
Walk or cycle to work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Use public transport	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Turn off lights I'm not using	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Buy energy efficient light bulbs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Buy organic food	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Recycle glass	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Recycle other items	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____
Take part in a campaign about an environmental issue	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	_____

27. How would you rate the quality of public transport in your local area?

- Excellent ☐
- Good ☐
- Average ☐
- Poor ☐
- Very poor ☐
- Don't know ☐

Section 4. About you

Finally, just so that I can compare the views of different people, please could you tell me about yourself:

28. Are you…

- Male ☐
- Female ☐
- Prefer not to say ☐

29. Please indicate the age bracket you are in:

- 16-24 ☐
- 25-34 ☐
- 35-44 ☐
- 45-54 ☐
- 55-64 ☐
- 65-74 ☐
- 75-84 ☐
- 85 or over ☐
- Prefer not to say ☐

30. What is your highest qualification?

- No formal qualifications ☐
- GCSE/ O-Level ☐
- A-Level/ Higher/ BTEC ☐
- Vocational/ NVQ ☐
- Degree or equivalent ☐
- Postgraduate qualification ☐
- Other (*please write in:* _____) ☐

31. What is your highest qualification in a **science-related subject**?

- No formal qualifications ☐
- GCSE/ O-Level ☐
- A-Level/ Higher/ BTEC ☐
- Vocational/ NVQ ☐
- Degree or equivalent ☐
- Postgraduate qualification ☐
- Other (*please write in:* _____) ☐

32. Which political party are you **most likely to support**? *Please tick one box only:*

- Labour ☐
- Liberal Democrats ☐
- Conservative ☐
- Other (*please write in:* _____) ☐
- None/ would not vote ☐
- Prefer not to say ☐

33. Do you own (or regularly drive) a car/ van?

Yes (go to question 34) ☐
No (go to question 35) ☐

34. If yes, roughly how many miles do you drive (per year)?

_____ miles per year

35. Please indicate your approximate income per annum (before tax)?

Up to £9,999 ☐
£10,000 - £14,999 ☐
£15,000 - £19,999 ☐
£20,000 - £24,999 ☐
£25,000 - £29,999 ☐
£30,000 - £39,999 ☐
£40,000 - £49,999 ☐
£50,000 or more ☐

Prefer not to say ☐

36. Which of these newspapers do you read regularly? *Tick as many as you feel apply:*

Sun/ News of the World ☐
Daily Mail/ Mail on Sunday ☐
Daily Telegraph/ Sunday Telegraph ☐
Times/ Sunday Times ☐
Express/ Sunday Express ☐
Guardian/ Observer ☐
Independent/ Independent on Sunday ☐
Daily Star ☐
Financial Times ☐
Mirror/ Sunday Mirror ☐
Local newspaper ☐
Other (*please write in:* _____) ☐

None ☐

37. Are you a member of any environmental organisations (e.g. Friends of the Earth, Worldwide Fund for Nature)?

Yes ☐
No ☐

38. Would you be willing to take part in a brief interview (either in person or over the phone) to discuss these issues further? **As with this questionnaire, interviews will be strictly confidential.**

Yes ☐
No ☐

If yes, please could you write your full telephone number here: _____

If you would like to receive a copy of the results of this research, please enter your postal/ email address here:

If you have anything to add about the issues raised in this questionnaire or any comments about the questionnaire itself, please write them here:

Thank you for giving up your time to complete this questionnaire. It is very much appreciated.

SURVEY COVERING LETTER

[University of Bath letterhead]

September 2003

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Survey of environmental concerns

My name is Lorraine Whitmarsh and I am currently working on a research project about environmental concerns funded by the University of Bath. Most of this research is being carried out in the Portsmouth area, and your address has been selected by a scientific sampling method to ensure a representative picture of people's views. Your help and assistance in completing the enclosed questionnaire will be invaluable for the study.

If you agree to participate, **all the information you provide will be completely anonymous and confidential.**

The questionnaire starts by asking you about a range of environmental issues that may affect you and moves on to ask you how you feel about global environmental problems. If you don't want to answer all of the questions, you don't have to - please just do what you can. It shouldn't take long to complete, and I hope you'll enjoy it.

Once you've completed the questionnaire, please could you return it to me in the enclosed stamped, addressed envelope.

At the end of the project, key findings from the survey will be sent to organisations like Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and the Environment Agency. This survey will provide a valuable insight into how people like you feel about certain environmental problems and how you feel they should be tackled.

Should you have any queries or concerns about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact me on the address above.

Thank you very much for your help.

Yours faithfully,

Lorraine Whitmarsh