

## People's Assembly for Nature Weekend 1 Overview

### Friday Evening

#### Welcome

- A general welcome to the assembly
- An overview for attendees of what to expect from the assembly process.
- An explanation of the wider impact of the People's Plan for Nature process.
- An opportunity to explore the exhibition space which included illustrations of ideas from the People's Plan for Nature National Conversation.
- Dinner and a chance to people to get to know one another



### Saturday Morning

#### Topic: What is nature and why should we protect it?

- Introductory video by **Sir David Attenborough**
- **Professor Nathalie Seddon: 'What is nature and why should we protect it?'**  
This talk provided an overview of what 'nature and 'biodiversity' are, and why they are important from a scientific perspective. She also highlighted that how nature is perceived and valued varies in space and time, and among different cultures.
- Time for discussion and reflections
- **Tony Juniper, Chair of Natural England: 'What has nature ever done for us?'**  
This talk gave an overview of why nature is important and how we rely on it in the UK, covering both the material and security cases.
- **Dr Radhika Borde: 'The intangible value of nature-spiritual, religious and cultural significance'.**  
This talk discussed the intangible value of nature, both in the UK and globally, with a particular focus on its spiritual, religious, and cultural significance.
- Discussion and Q&A



# People's Plan for Nature

## Topic: How have we ended up here?

- **Sir John Lawton: 'The current state of nature and how we have ended up here'**  
Discussed the main drivers of biodiversity loss globally, focussing on how these have impacted nature in the UK.
- Discussion



## Saturday Afternoon

### Topic: Who is responsible for these challenges?

- **Ruchir Shah, Director of External Affairs Wildlife Trust: 'Who's responsible for addressing these challenges'**- This talk gave a brief overview of the different actors, helping participants understand the range and scale of actions the assembly could recommend and ensure they are targeted appropriately. Actors include:
  - UK Government and Devolved Administrations
  - Local Authority
  - Businesses/ Industry
  - Wildlife and Environmental NGOs
  - Communities/ Citizens
- Discussion, Q&A and initial visioning exercise



## Sunday Morning

### Topic: Setting the scene for visioning

- **Ella Saltmarshe: 'Long-time thinking and being a good ancestor'**. This talk introduced the concept of environmental stewardship and its role in addressing the nature crisis.
- **Professor Bill Sutherland: 'The nature crisis is solvable, but we must use evidence'**. This talk highlighted that the nature crisis is solvable and demonstrated that we have a toolbox of solutions which must be deployed at scale, using evidence to guide decisions.
- **Talk by Dr Radhika Borde, from the University of Leeds**, to highlight that assembly members must consider fairness, equity and a just transition as they deliberate on potential actions. Looking at the UK context, issues such as access to nature, equity within decision making and ensuring a just transition (where traditional livelihoods might be at risk from proposed changes) will facilitate discussions throughout the assembly.
- Discussion, Q&A, Visioning exercise, wrap-up, and next steps.

