

I'm concerned that the psychological impact of fields of black solar panels, and their cost to people's health, the NHS, and social services are not being taken into consideration.

Counsellors tell those who are depressed to wear bright colours to cheer themselves up, not black or grey as they are depressing. It's widely recognised that the countryside has a positive impact on people's mental health and this is, in part, because of the colour of fields. Even car insurance companies know that some colour cars have a higher incidence of accidents than others because of colour psychology. It's been known for years that colour impacts our psychology. Yet, colour psychology is not being taken into consideration when planners are considering fields of black solar panels and the loss of green and golden fields that are calming on the mind. What's more, the NHS picks up the cost of people needing medical help for depression, and social services pick up the cost if people are depressed and can't work. I'm concerned that these costs are not being factored into the cost-benefit analysis of the Mallard Pass project.

I'm also concerned that fields of solar panels are detrimental to epileptics travelling past at

speed in the car or by train. Travelling past rows of solar panels reflecting the sun creates a strobe light effect and strobe lighting causes seizures. Even on a dull day, travelling past rows of silver frames has a flashing light effect that can trigger seizures. And planting trees around the site would not resolve the problem. The panels would simply flash between the tree trunks.

I'm also concerned for the health of people who need to walk daily to keep on top of fragile joint- or heart-health.

If those currently using the footpaths that will be impacted by Mallard Pass are not able to maintain their mobility by taking their usual stress-free walk through the fields during the construction of the project, they could potentially end up disabled or dead of a heart attack – and 8 days is enough to make a big difference as I know from personal experience having been fully mobile prior to 8 days in hospital last year.

Finally, **I'm concerned that this area will lose agricultural land and its benefits unnecessarily** if

Mallard Pass goes ahead. If other projects currently in the 10–15-year queue to go on the national grid elsewhere in the country were all fully operational, and those on it didn't have to be turned off when the grid can't cope with a surge of power because it's too wet or windy, the country would have more than enough net-zero energy. Parts of the country that are reliant on providing hydro and wind power are suffering economically from loss of income when what they provide has to be turned off and this is having knock-on effects for social services and the NHS. It's the grid that needs updating to benefit them rather than agricultural land lost here.

Please take into consideration the wide range of health issues that could be incurred, as well as the costs to the NHS, and social services, here and elsewhere in the country, if Mallard Pass goes ahead.