

Thu 20/10/2022 09:05

Dear Colleagues,

Words fail me when it comes to current political events, so straight onto our own news:

### **Ten Year Plan**

As promised in a previous catch up, the full Ten Year plan and additional background materials are now available on the [Staff News](#) page of the intranet. You can find the full version, a shorter version and a copy of the presentation that will form part of the planned SLT visits to centres and business units in the coming weeks. Seeing these in advance so that you have time to think about any questions or discussion points will, I hope, make the meetings more useful.

As I mentioned on that news page, we reviewed the plan and decided that some key elements might need a little more unpacking and explanation and so we did this via some short video clips. It's also another way in which you can put names to faces. The handy noise suppression option has helped reduce the background countryside noises of poplar trees, helicopters and tractors and kicks in close to the start of my first clip. Filming as well as teaching in the outdoors always adds an extra level of the unknown.


### **Understanding Climate Change**

We launched our ambitious [Carbon and Nature Recovery action plan](#) last year which is founded on:

- Becoming Carbon Net Zero by 2030
- Managing Field Studies Council's estate to aid nature recovery
- Demonstrating sustainability and championing it among our staff and visitors

We want all staff to have a good understanding of why we're taking these steps. Sam Thurston, our Sustainability Manager is keen to find out if staff are interested in learning more about climate change and why we've committed to reducing our carbon emissions. To help Sam find out what this could look like he's created a very short survey. It should take no more than 2 minutes to complete. Please [click here](#) and do your best to complete the survey before Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October. Sam would like to hear from staff from across the charity, so if there are members of your team who might not be able to access the survey via the link, please email Sam to chat about the best way to reach everyone [s.thurston@field-studies-council.org](mailto:s.thurston@field-studies-council.org)

### **Westfield Rewards and Westfield Health**

In times of economic turmoil, phrases like "every little helps" can underplay the situation. However, as in one of last month's catch ups I'd like to flag up again the [Westfield Reward](#) site (which has discounts all year round especially in time for Christmas, such as: reloadable store cards and % off offers from a big range of retailers) and the  [Westfield Health](#) plan for staff that helps pay towards a number of health appointments and treatments. This includes regular items such as dental check ups and treatment, optician's appointments, new spectacles/contact lenses and a large range of therapeutic treatments.

The cover runs on a calendar year basis so now is a good time to use up what is left of your 2022 allowance. New staff awaiting their pack in the post from Westfield but wanting to make a claim, can always contact them direct and explain that your membership is pending.

### **BBC Radio 4 Any Questions?**

Next week's programme on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October will be broadcast live from Rhyd-y-Creiau. Any Questions? is broadcast live on Radio 4 on most Friday evenings after the 8pm news. The programme is repeated on Saturday lunchtimes at 1.10pm and is followed at 2pm by the Any

Answers? phone-in which gives listeners a chance to offer the nation the benefit of their opinions. As hosting venue, we do get a mention in the intro and the trails.

The panel -often announced at the very last minute even in “normal times” - never see the questions in advance. I’m told that being in the live audience is noisier than is picked up on the microphones. Free tickets for this event are [available from Eventbrite](#) or from the office at Rhyd-y-Creiau. Doors open from 6.45pm and tea/coffee will be available. Bed & breakfast accommodation is also available at the centre, from £48pppn. Please contact [enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org](mailto:enquiries.rc@field-studies-council.org) if you would like to make a booking.

### **Coming up: our regular Staff Pulse Survey**

Look out for the latest Staff Pulse Survey which should drop into your inbox on the morning of Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October. The email will also include a QR code for colleagues to share with those who do not regularly log into their emails and have access to a Smart phone. It is very short with the same 3 questions as the April’s survey, which will provide us with a like for like comparison. It should take less than 1 minute to complete.

### **Special Mention**

Chris Price in the Finance Team has been nominated as someone who goes the extra mile on a regular basis “nothing is ever too much for him and he will always try to help” is just one of the many comments received. He also makes excellent coffee which is no small thing at Head Office. Thanks Chris.

### **Welcome to Field Studies Council:**

New Hospitality and Catering Assistants Erica Deadmarsh at Juniper Hall, Lauren Darbyshire at Slapton and Steph Young at Preston Montford  
Deane Boggis is our new Casual Gardener at Flatford Mill.

Mark