

Accountants, actuaries and climate change

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I took part in a discussion organised by Anglia Ruskin University, the Institute of Actuaries and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales on those professions and climate change yesterday.

I will not report the detail: that's not mine to do. And I would stress, the Chatham House rule applied. But two quotes are worth repeating. The first was this:

What would accountants do if they joined Extinction Rebellion?

The second was from an actuary:

I'd love to think there'll be a planet for those I am investing for to live on

The overall conclusion that I heard was stark: it was that within their current frameworks these professions cannot think about climate change. It's a conclusion I tend to agree with.