

LETTER TO POST – MARK GLOVER

An example for all MPs MP Alan Simpson is to be congratulated for truly putting his money where his mouth is and converting a derelict building into a house that is to be a net producer of energy (Post, January 3).

Climate change is not a theory, it is fact. Four years ago the United Nations issued a comprehensive report forecasting a rise in the Earth's temperature over the next 100 years that will be greater than any change in the last 10,000 - the time of the last ice age.

No other event in history will have as damaging an impact. The recent tsunami provides us with a salutary foretaste of what is likely to happen - and the poorest nations will be hit hardest. Vast areas of countries such as Pakistan and the Maldives will be lost as sea levels rise, causing migration and competition for basic resources on an unprecedented scale.

Already, it is estimated that 100,000 people have died from disease and extreme weather caused by climate change.

The impact on the world's wildlife is incalculable but hundreds, even thousands, of species will be lost.

Here in the UK insurers estimate that by 2050 claims resulting from bad weather will quadruple in extreme years to £30bn.

Experts say climate change is now a greater danger than terrorism.

The response from governments around the world is woefully inadequate. And we, as individuals, can all play our part however to stave off this disaster. Organisations such as Friends of the Earth have been warning of the consequences of our consumer society for many years and have the solutions. Now is the time to act.

Alan Simpson is taking a stand and showing that things can be different. It is a shame other political representatives do not do the same.

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