

Item 6

Dear all,

The consultation of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan is nearly live! We would love as many people in Devon to be excited about the launch of the consultation and share their views once the plan is live – we would really appreciate your support spreading the word.

If your parish council is on social media there is some graphics, photos and videos which can be shared. We have also designed some posters and drafted a press release (suitable for parish council magazines/ newsletters **after 07/12/20** once the consultation is launched). All of which can be viewed here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13e9ZFWEt3OqA_9n--NFUY4bA4waVx82. Please see the attached word document for some guidance and more information on how you may want to use the provided material.

We appreciate you may not be able to share everything but if possible please may you ensure the following is shared:

- **The [consultation launch video on 07/12/2020](#) – if your parish has a social media account.**
- **The [press release \(with quote from member etc\) w/c 07/12/2020](#) once consultation is live – suitable for parish newsletters after 07/12/20.**
- **Promote the [webinar series](#) and encourage people [to sign up](#) – either through social media or print the posters.**

Member communications

- Beyond the public webinars (which we encourage everyone to sign up to!), there is a **member only zoom webinar 07/12/2020 at 16:00**. Please encourage your councillor to sign up here if it is of interest:
 - o https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvfu-oqDsoGNRckRLEGBeQ_IAKIZsXJcsl

If you have any questions, please get in touch with myself (up until 20/11) or my colleague Emily Reed (emily.reed@devon.gov.uk -Climate emergency project manager) after this date.

With best wishes,
Ellie

Ellie Rowlands

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Join the Conversation: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Linked In](#)

I am trying to reduce the carbon footprint of my emails and reduce unnecessary emails being sent so please do not be offended if you do not receive “thank you” emails from me. Find out more [here on the World Economic Forum](#).

Dear all,

In addition to the press pack sent on the 18th Nov, we have composed a **pre-launch** press-release for any Parish Magazines that will be published at the start of December before launch of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan (7th December). Please see below for suggested messaging, a shorter version can also be found in the word document attached.

The consultation of the Interim Devon Carbon Plan will be going live on the 7th of December! Residents will have the chance to shape the county's roadmap to creating a net-zero Devon, where people and nature thrive.

The consultation, which opens on Monday 7th December and runs for 10 weeks, allows the public to offer their thoughts and feedback on the plan. This is the chance for residents to have their say on Devon's collective response to the global climate emergency and help create a fairer, healthier and stronger Devon.

The Net-Zero Task Force (a group of fifteen experts in areas including renewable energy, transport, planning and the built environment) has been developing the plan for creating a net-zero Devon. The consultation follows a series of hearings chaired by experts and an evidence gathering stage of more than 893 submissions of ideas and evidence by the public. This is the pivotal next step towards producing the Final Devon Carbon Plan, which will follow the Citizens' Assembly, now in 2021 due to Covid-19.

The Devon Climate Emergency (DCE) partnership, which is made up of 25 organisations, wants to hear your views on the key actions in the plan that are deemed necessary to create a thriving net-zero Devon.

All the actions are based on the latest evidence and address the suggestions from the public call for evidence.

The topics range from active travel, renewable energy, and improved air quality to better insulation and warmer homes, reduced fuel poverty and eating more balanced diets. These actions will help to create a fairer, healthier and stronger Devon.

Additionally, they highlight issues that are more challenging to implement. These will be prioritised for discussion at the Citizens' Assembly in 2021 to ensure the recommendations in the Final Devon Carbon Plan reflect the views of Devon's citizens.

The more people who take part in the consultation, the stronger our argument becomes, the more momentum we create and the more likely we are to realise our goals. Together, we can build back better and create a net-zero Devon where people and nature thrive.

From December 7th, have your say at

www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/interimcarbonplan or request a paper copy and consultation questionnaire from your local library from January 1st.

We have also updated the post-launch (after 7/12/20) press release in the word document attached to inform the public how they can read and respond to the Interim Devon Carbon Plan if they do not have access or are unfamiliar with computers. To reach the offline audience we would also like to encourage you to print the consultation and webinar posters (attached and on the google drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1HYqrT5AQ5j_iIh3P7qFelw80P-vBo_b) and distribute them to residents and parish news boards wherever possible. You will be sent printed copies in January, but please feel free to print your own copies and distribute as you see fit.

Item 7

Dear Fremington Parish Clerk

I am writing to ask Fremington Parish Council to support our campaign to remove, from retail sale, cheap polystyrene bodyboards in North Devon by passing a motion of support. We would also like to request your help in gaining support from our district councillors by inviting them to do the same.

Annually, hundreds of thousands of low-cost body boards are discarded on beaches across the world. Keep Britain Tidy estimates that 16,000 cheap polystyrene bodyboards end up discarded on UK beaches every year. Hundreds of these “sub £10” brightly coloured boards, known to break easily often after only one or two uses and are invariably discarded on North Devon beaches.

These 16,000 single use boards create a large amount of waste in the UK and create a huge carbon footprint. These boards, made from a block of standard polystyrene wrapped in brightly printed nylon cloth, are sourced from China, transported thousands of miles only to snap within minutes of use. Standard polystyrene is fragile and crumbles easily posing danger to sea and shore life alike as animals mistake these small white nuggets for food - ‘polystyrene popcorn’. In the ocean, algae and small organisms grow on crumbled polystyrene or ‘polystyrene popcorn’ adding weight causing the nuggets to sink and present themselves as food to fish. The human health threat from polystyrene comes from one of its building blocks styrene. In 2018, the World Health Organisation reclassified styrene from a “possible carcinogen” to a “probable carcinogen” – a probable cause of cancer.

We, Plastic Free North Devon, are campaigning to encourage local retailers not to offer block polystyrene bodyboards but to offer bodyboards with higher grade expanded polystyrene core board (EPS). This material is far more resilient when used and is repairable should a board become broken. With Covid impacting the supply of cheap polystyrene bodyboards, local retailers reported stronger summer sales of the EPS core boards but many are considering reverting to the cheaper polystyrene boards for sale next summer. As with plastic straws, these cheap boards are often usable for a short time period defining them as single use, poor value for money and a threat to our natural environment.

This year we launched a pilot project to tackle this issue giving beach goers the opportunity to rent wooden Bellyboards at Saunton Beach. This project was successful at raising awareness but is unable to tackle the root cause of the problem and doesn't even touch the surface of the damage that these polystyrene bodyboards cause. We need to turn off the tap. You can read more about this in our [blog](#).

It is nearly two years since North Devon Council unanimously voted through a motion supporting the Surfers Against Sewage Plastic Free Coastlines campaign along with many parishes in the area. Can we count on your support to vote through a motion to support removing from sale cheap polystyrene bodyboards?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards

Claire Moodie
CEO Plastic Free North Devon

Plastic Free North Devon