- Email (HTML)
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From: Devon Climate Emergency <DevonClimateEmergency@public.govdelivery.com>
Subject: April Newsletter

Devon Climate Emergency | April 2022

Welcome to our April newsletter!

Welcome to this month's edition of the Devon Climate Emergency newsletter.

Released yesterday, the latest IPCC report (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) is a "final warning" for governments about the threat of the climate emergency, stating that it's '"now or never" for world leaders to make immediate changes to cut carbon emissions. This report provides crucial insight into how we can mitigate the worst effects of climate change, and keep within 1.5 degrees of global warming. As always, the IPCC report is an important reminder that all and every action to reduce our carbon footprints is essential, no matter how seemingly small or inconsequential.

The report states that it's not too late to remain within 1.5 degrees and avert the worst effects of climate change, but achieving this requires a combination of strong leadership and policy, as well as a cultural shift towards sustainable lifestyles. The Devon Climate Emergency website has a wide range of advice and resources to help you reduce your personal carbon footprint, as well as tackle eco-anxiety. We are also in the final stages of completing the Devon Carbon Plan, which, once adopted, will pave the way to rapidly decarbonising all sectors of Devon's society by 2050 at the latest.

There are many actions already taking place across Devon that are successfully reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and implementing the Interim Devon Carbon Plan. Here are our picks for the month.

Free energy advice for North Devon residents

In light of rising fuel poverty, advice on how to save energy at home is becoming more important than ever. Residents in North Devon will now be able to access energy advice through their local council. Local Community Energy Company 361 Energy have partnered with the council to offer energy-saving tips, as well as advice on how to access financial help for energy-efficient home improvements. Residents can also access free energy saving measures, such as LED lightbulbs, draught proofing for doors and windows, and heat reflectors for radiators.

Broadband network upgraded on Dartmoor and Exmoor

The broadband network on Dartmoor and Exmoor is

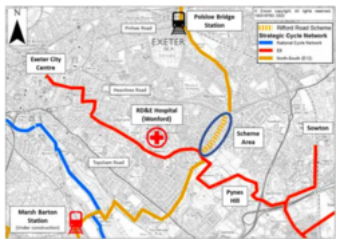
being upgraded to continue providing super-fast internet access to residents in the area. The improvements include installing lithium-ion batteries on masts, improving mast radios, as well as linking to the existing fibre network. These measures will help to relocalise internet services, facilitating home working and reducing the need for local residents to commute.

Exeter City Council offering affordable loans for Home Improvements

Residents in Exeter who are interested in renovating their homes will be able to take advantage of low-cost loans to help make urgent improvements and install energy-efficiency measures.

Exeter City Council has teamed up with Lendology CIC, a social enterprise lender. Improving the energy efficiency of properties in Devon is crucial to tackling the climate emergency, as greenhouse gas emissions from our buildings are responsible for 42% of carbon emissions. Lending council funding means that, once repaid, the capital can be lent to new residents repeatedly, ensuring a lasting cycle of home improvements in the area.

Residents invited to comment on plans for new cycle route in Wonford, Exeter



Residents in Exeter are invited to comment on a new cycle route that has been proposed between Ludwell Lane and Honiton Road. This 700 meter section will complete the E12 cycle route that links the city from north to south, meaning residents will be able to cycle safely between Whipton, Heavitree and Wonford to schools, workplaces, parks, shops and leisure centres as well as the River Exe and the Exe Estuary Trail.

This consultation is a fantastic opportunity for local residents to show their support for safe, low-carbon alternatives to private car use. Residents have until Friday 22nd April to respond to the plans.

400 Trees planted at at Jawbones Field in celebration of Queen's platinum Jubilee and the 50th Anniversary of the Woodland Trust

400 trees have been planted at Jawbones Field in Dartmouth as part of an ongoing campaign funded by the Woodland Trusts' Emergency Tree Fund. Facilitated by a partnership of local councils, the Woodland Trust, schools and community groups, around 4,000 trees have been planted in total across Devon as part of this campaign. Increasing tree cover in Devon will not only help with carbon sequestration, but also support nature recovery and increase biodiversity in the southwest.

Join the Great British Spring Clean!

Running from the 25th of March to the 10th of April, the Great British Spring Clean is back for its seventh year. This year, Keep Britain Tidy (the campaign organisers) are running a #bigbagchallenge, challenging residents to pick up as many bags of litter as possible before April 10th. You can make a pledge to pick up a certain number of bags on the Keep Britain Tidy website.

This is a fantastic opportunity to take advantage of the spring weather, help out your local community, and do something positive for the environment!

Plymouth, South Hams & West Devon want to hear from you!

Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon local authorities are keen to hear views on their draft Climate

authorities are keen to hear views on their draft Climate Emergency Planning Policy and Guidance for Plymouth and South West Devon. This consultation runs to 21st April and asks a range of questions such as:

- Should we restrict all connections to the gas grid?
- Should development use locally sourced materials?
- How should we calculate embodied carbon in demolition?
- What are the challenges to delivering net zero development?

Click here to watch the CEPPG video, read the factsheets and find out how to respond.

Devon County Council trialling new treatment for cycle paths during cold snap

Devon County Council is working with Exeter City Council to trial a new method of treating cycle paths in order to make it possible to use them during cold and adverse weather. As part of their commitment to encouraging active travel and reducing carbon emissions, Devon County Council hopes that the new measures will enable people to continue commuting by bicycle around Exeter city centre as a low-carbon alternative to private car use.

Have your say this spring!

There's still time to take part in our public consultation about the actions developed following the Devon Climate Assembly, which took place in summer last year. This consultation is running until the 14th of April and is **your last chance** to comment on **Devon's top climate issues** before we release the **final Devon Carbon Plan.**

Assembly members were asked to consider the role of **onshore wind, building retrofit and transport** in Devon. They came up with fourteen resolutions attended by conditions.

The Devon Climate Emergency partnership has since worked hard to transform these resolutions into actions, updates, and areas of exploration to include in the Devon Carbon Plan.

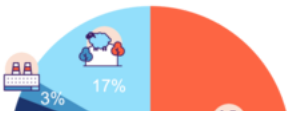
Now we're asking: **Have we responded fairly and correctly to the Devon Climate Assembly?**

This consultation will help to make sure that the actions are fair, democratic and help us achieve net-zero. If you wish to participate, you can either read the documents and complete the questionnaire online, or head to your local public library.

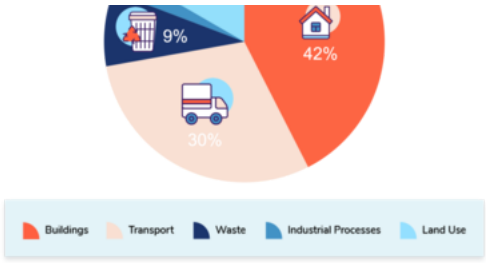
To keep up to date with the latest news on the consultation, take a look at our website, and follow @devonclimateemergency on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Read our latest greenhouse gas data

You can now read the latest Greenhouse Gas data on the Devon Climate Emergency website. Each year the University of Exeter calculates Devon's carbon footprint based on national data sets that are published two years after the emissions have been released. Therefore, the latest available carbon footprint is from 2019.



In 2019, Devon's area emissions dropped by 2.6% from 2018, and 18% since 2010. The pie chart shows the various sectors



shows the various sectors responsible for Devon's carbon footprint. The largest portion of our emissions are produced by transport and buildings. Transport is now responsible for 30% of Devon's carbon emissions, and our built environment is responsible for 42%.

The Devon Climate Assembly discussed both building retrofit and transport, to try and decide on viable ways to reduce carbon emissions from these sectors. Our current consultation gives you the opportunity to decide how you think the Devon Carbon Plan should tackle emissions from building retrofit and transport in Devon.

Creative Commissions Launched!

Community groups involved in the Net Zero Visions project have now passed on their ideas to the commissioned artists, so that they can be realised in a range of exciting media.

So far, three of the commissioned creatives have begun work on their community visions.

Ashley Potter and his team of animation students have received ideas from each of the communities, and have begun to develop storyboards.

Mural artist and scientist Kate Crawfurd has created a draft design for a mural in Ashburton, working with the ideas she received from the Ashburton community. Kate will continue to meet with the community to develop the idea further.

Illustrator Phillip Harris has started working on two large illustrations for Wembury - one town in the Five Parish Alliance. Each town will receive an individual illustration by the end of the creative commission process.

What's next for the Net Zero Visions project?

The commissioned creatives will continue working to complete the Net Zero Visions, before presenting them to the communities later in the year. There will be an opportunity to display all of the artwork in an open gallery space, for the benefit of the public. Each work will also be printed into a book, which will be available to read in local public libraries.

If you've got a 'Vision' for net zero where you live, please don't hesitate to get in touch! **If you have created a piece of art, shot a video, or even recorded a podcast exploring net zero in your area, you can submit it to be shown on our website.** Send an email to the project organisers for the chance to see your Vision featured in our online gallery.

You can find the latest updates and information about the Net-Zero Visions project on the Devon Climate Emergency website, as well as our social media channels.

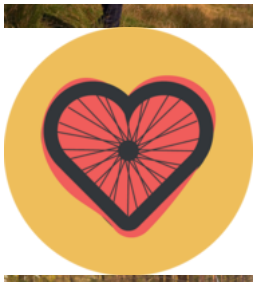
Dates for the Diary

World Health Day, 7th April

The theme of this year's World Health Day is 'Our Planet, Our Health'. Designed to focus global attention on urgent actions needed to keep humans and the planet healthy, as well as foster a movement to create societies focused on wellbeing.

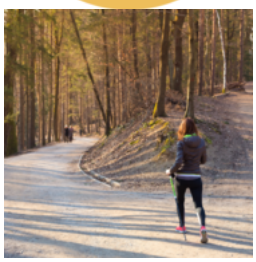
Onshore Wind in England - a Renaissance?, 27th April

Between 10:30 and 11:30AM, Regen is holding an online event looking into the possibility of reviving onshore wind projects in England in response to the climate emergency. Decarbonising our energy supply is crucial to securing net zero emissions by 2050, and onshore wind provides the cheapest form of renewable energy. Sign up here.



It's Bike Month this May!

Next month, Love to Ride are running a Bike Month campaign to try and encourage more people than ever to switch to active travel. You can create a team and earn points for every mile you and your team cycle throughout May. The more points you earn, the more likely you are to win a prize. Keep an eye on our social media channels for more information.



Naturally Healthy May

May is Naturally Healthy Month. The Naturally Healthy campaign is all about using the power of nature and physical activity to improve our health and wellbeing, and May is a fantastic time to head outside and enjoy some fresh air and Spring weather. Keep an eye out for more activities and opportunities on the Devon Local Nature Partnership website and social media.

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Header Devon Climate Emergency Newsletter [https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/]

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