



Town Council Offices
Maison Dieu House
Biggin Street
Dover
CT16 1DW

DATE OF ISSUE:
29th January 2025

DOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Dear Councillor

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a meeting of the COMMUNITY & SERVICES COMMITTEE will be held at the Town Council Offices, Biggin Street, Dover Kent CT16 1DW on Wednesday 5th February 2025 at 6.00pm when the business shown on the agenda below will be transacted.

Any member of the public who requires further information, wishes to make representation to the Committee or has any special requirements in respect of this meeting please contact, Land and Communities Officer, on 01304 242625.

Allison Burton
TOWN CLERK

The Press and Public are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence. Prior to a meeting Councillors' apologies, with a reason for absence from that meeting, should be submitted to the clerk of the Committee.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary and/or other interests as required by law. (*Guidance for Councillors concerning disclosable pecuniary and/or other interests is attached for your information*).

3. MINUTES

To note the approved Minutes of the Community & Services Committee held on the 4th of December 2024 as resolved in Minute No.193 at the Town Council Meeting held 15th January 2025. (Copy attached)

4. BUDGET

To consider latest out-turn against the Committee's 2024/25 budget (copy attached).

5. ALLOTMENTS

To note WCCP's update report regarding progress on High Meadow (copy attached)

To note clerk to committee's report regards allotment update (copy attached)

6. TOWN REGENERATION

To consider Councillor Shreads Report regarding Motion for the Ocean (copy attached)

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

To receive any items of information regarding the Committee's responsibilities

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

To consider a motion under Standing Orders 1C for the exclusion of the public and press for the remainder of the meeting due to the confidential nature of business to be discussed

9. COMMUNITY SPACES

To consider Chairpersons Report regarding Community Spaces in Dover (copy attached)

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 2nd April 2025 at 6pm

NOTE: A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT IN LARGER TYPE MAY BE OBTAINED ON REQUEST FROM THE COUNCIL OFFICES, MAISON DIEU HOUSE, BIGGIN STREET, DOVER.

COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS MENTIONED IN THIS AGENDA ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9.30AM – 4.30PM. COPIES MAY BE REQUESTED GIVING 1 WORKING DAY'S NOTICE AND WILL BE CHARGED AT £1 PER BLACK & WHITE COPY £2 PER COLOUR COPY.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)

Where a Member has a new or registered DPI in a matter under consideration, they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest' explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter they should declare the interest immediately and subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting. Members should remember that a finding of a breach of the law with regard to DPI's carries a fine of up to £5,000 and a criminal record.

Other Significant Interest (OSI)

Where a Member is declaring an OSI they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

Voluntary Announcement of Other Interests (VAOI)

Where a Member does not have either a DPI or OSI but is of the opinion that for transparency reasons alone they should make an announcement in respect of a matter under consideration, they can make a VAOI. A Member declaring a VAOI may still remain at the meeting and vote on the matter under consideration.

Notes:

Situations in which a Member may wish to make a VAOI include membership of outside bodies that have made representatives on agenda items; where a Member knows a person involved, but does not have a close association with that person; or where an item would affect the well-being of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc. but not his/her financial position. It should be emphasised that an effect on the financial position of a Member, relative, close associate, employer, etc OR an application made by a Member, relative, close associate, employer etc would both probably constitute either an OSI or in some cases a DPI.



DOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITY & SERVICES COMMITTEE held on Wednesday 4th December 2024 at 6.00pm at the Town Council Offices, Maison Dieu House, Biggin Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1DW.

PRESENT

Councillor Bedi	Councillor Jones (Chair)
Councillor Biggs	Councillor Lamoon
Councillor Bird	Councillor Sawbridge
Councillor Calder	Councillor Shread
Councillor Collor	Councillor Verrill
	Councillor Wanstall

172. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Councillor Brivio, Kember & Mrs G Wanstall due to personal commitments and Councillor Dawes due to ill health

173. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors present made no declarations for interest

174. MINUTES

Committee noted the approved Minutes of the Extraordinary Community & Services Committee held on the 17th October 2024 as resolved in Minute No.147 at the Town Council Meeting held 13th November 2024.

175. BUDGET

Committee noted the latest out-turn against the Committee's 2024/25 budget.

Committee noted the 2025/26 budget process is underway. Members wishing to make representations should contact the Chair of the Committee. The Town Council budget will be resolved at the Full Town Council meeting on Wednesday 15th January 2025

Chairperson

176. ALLOTMENTS

Committee noted WCCP’s update report regarding progress on High Meadow

Committee considered chairpersons report regarding the management of allotments

RESOLVED: That the revised allotment tenancy agreement be adopted subject to the wording on clause 21 being amended to read “tenants must take responsibility for safe guarding and protection of children under the age of 18 and any adults they invite onto the sites” making it effective for all new and renewing tenancies starting April 2025;

The Committee noted the provisionally agreed rent increases which will apply from 1st April 2025; and thanked the Council Staff engaged in managing the allotment sites for their care, exceptional hard work & good humour.

177. TOWN REGENERATION

The Committee considered Chairpersons Report regarding Greening Dover expansion.

RESOLVED: That a budget of up to £14,000 be allocated to deliver the Biggin Hall Community Green Pilot. Costs will be met from the Town Regeneration budget 2024/25 held within the Community & Services Committee. Delegated to the Proper Officer in consultation with the Chairperson of this Committee.

178. INFORMATION ITEMS

Committee noted Urgent Decision UD-002 regarding cancellation of Community & Services Committee that was due to be held on 30th October 2024.

The Town Clerk advised committee that a visit to Canterbury Bike Project at Betteshanger will be arranged in the new year and asked councillors to advise council of dates in which they would be available & whether they can offer shared transport for other committee members.

179. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the date of the next meeting will be 5th February 2025

Meeting closed at 7.00 pm

CHAIRPERSON
Councillor S Jones

Chairperson

Chairperson

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>Community and Services</u>							
<u>304 Tourism</u>							
4338 Destination Dover Project	33,859	0	(33,859)		(33,859)	0.0%	34,852
Tourism :- Indirect Expenditure	33,859	0	(33,859)	0	(33,859)		34,852
Net Expenditure	(33,859)	0	33,859				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	34,852	0	(34,852)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	993	0	(993)				
<u>305 Dover Cycle Scheme</u>							
4340 Dover Cycle Scheme expenditure	2,615	0	(2,615)		(2,615)	0.0%	
Dover Cycle Scheme :- Indirect Expenditure	2,615	0	(2,615)	0	(2,615)		0
Net Expenditure	(2,615)	0	2,615				
<u>401 Community Projects and Support</u>							
4401 Horticultural	9,123	22,500	13,377		13,377	40.5%	
4422 Town Regeneration & Developmnt	27,652	60,000	32,348	45,558	(13,209)	122.0%	20,400
4427 Public Conveniences	6,107	8,000	1,893	1,775	118	98.5%	
Community Projects and Support :- Indirect Expenditure	42,881	90,500	47,619	47,333	286	99.7%	20,400
Net Expenditure	(42,881)	(90,500)	(47,619)				
6000 plus Transfer from EMR	20,400	0	(20,400)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(22,481)	(90,500)	(68,019)				
<u>402 Allotments</u>							
1080 Allotments	15,560	15,000	(560)			103.7%	
Allotments :- Income	15,560	15,000	(560)			103.7%	0
4430 Allotments maintenance	12,311	15,000	2,689		2,689	82.1%	
Allotments :- Indirect Expenditure	12,311	15,000	2,689	0	2,689	82.1%	0
Net Income over Expenditure	3,250	0	(3,250)				
<u>403 Town Open Spaces</u>							
1050 Misc Income	3,595	0	(3,595)			0.0%	
Town Open Spaces :- Income	3,595	0	(3,595)				0

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 27/01/2025

Month No: 10

Committee Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual	Variance Annual	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
4408 High Meadow maint/dev	28,431	30,000	1,569		1,569	94.8%	
4411 Western Heights Amenity Field	825	1,000	175		175	82.5%	
Town Open Spaces :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>29,256</u>	<u>31,000</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>94.4%</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(25,661)</u>	<u>(31,000)</u>	<u>(5,339)</u>				
Community and Services :- Income	19,155	15,000	(4,155)			127.7%	
Expenditure	120,922	136,500	15,578	47,333	(31,754)	123.3%	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(101,766)</u>	<u>(121,500)</u>	<u>(19,734)</u>				
plus Transfer from EMR	55,252	0	(55,252)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(46,514)</u>	<u>(121,500)</u>	<u>(74,986)</u>				
Grand Totals:- Income	19,155	15,000	(4,155)			127.7%	
Expenditure	120,922	136,500	15,578	47,333	(31,754)	123.3%	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>(101,766)</u>	<u>(121,500)</u>	<u>(19,734)</u>				
plus Transfer from EMR	55,252	0	(55,252)				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>(46,514)</u>	<u>(121,500)</u>	<u>(74,986)</u>				



High Meadow Local Nature Reserve

Report for Dover Town Council

Nov 24 -Jan 25

Site Management

Scrub clearing has been the main focus for us over the winter. We have had more contractor work in Phase 2, with more set to start 20 January ready for the reptile translocation from the Barwick Rd development.

The volunteers and ranger have been working on the ride across Hospital Down, making good progress and opening up a wide corridor for wildlife, as well as for the ponies to graze along when they return in the spring. Due to consecutive cutting in consecutive years, these areas have been easier to manage, with brambles being less dense and more desirable grasses and plants growing in their place.



Figure 1 Part of the ride across Hospital Down, clearing through scrub towards Prospect and St Radigund's Fields.

Clearance has also started on the lower pathway between Poulton roundabout and Whinless Rd, trying to widen it as much as possible to improve access and biodiversity. The ponies will hopefully be able to keep on top of this too and keep any regrowth down.

Community Engagement

Students from Dover Technical College joined us for a morning in January to get some practical conservation experience. They helped to rake up arisings from contractor work on Phase 2, as well as using hand tools to clear dogwood from one of the lower pathways. A very successful morning, with many students interested in returning to volunteer with us in the future.

WCCP will be attending the upcoming Community Engagement Day hosted by the Tower Hamlets Community Forum in February half-term. We're hoping to recruit some more volunteers and give out information about the works onsite as well as the site itself.



Figure 2 Before and after clearing scrub along the pathway between Whinless Rd and the Poulton roundabout.

Looking Forward

We will continue to clear scrub until the end of February, cutting and expanding areas cleared last year, including around the proposed gateway to the Mel Wrigley Volunteer Hub, where we will install steps to improve access.

On 3 February we have a taster task for 16–24-year-olds, explaining the reasons for and techniques needed to manage chalk grassland habitats, including a basic introduction to scything.

In February we are meeting with UK Power Networks regarding access to pylons on Hospital Down – they need to clear vegetation and want to put down a track for access. We are attending to make sure any works where possible are sympathetic to, or benefit, the nature reserve, or to ensure appropriate compensation if necessary.

Infrastructure checks will take place in March across the site.

COMMUNITY & SERVICES COMMITTEE

Report as of 21st January 2025

ALLOTMENT REPORT

ALLOTMENT SITES	NO OF PLOTS	VOID	LET	VACANT	WAITLIST
Maxton	68	0	68	0	39
Pilots Meadow	22	0	22	0	6
Pretoria	76	0	76	0	26
Prospect Place	43	0	43	0	6
Astley Avenue	75		75	0	
TOTALS	284	0	284	0	77

INCOME

The cost of an allotment per year currently is.

Size	Price	Water	Total cost per allotment
Up to 125 msq	£40.00	£14.50	£54.50
125 - 249 msq	£65.00	£14.50	£79.50
250 - 400 msq	£93.00	£14.50	£107.50

(Keys for each site are purchased £5 per key (maximum of 2 keys per plot) and are fully refundable upon termination of license and keys handed back)

Total amount collected (Allotment Rent & Water)

£15,305.50 - 2024/25 income

This report is an overview of what has occurred since the last Community & Services Committee Meeting, up to the present day.

Since the adoption of the new allotment management strategy at the recent community & services meeting, significant progress has been made in optimising allotment distribution and accessibility for Dover residents. The following actions have been implemented:

1. Multiple plot holders have been formally notified to relinquish excess plots within a 3-month timeframe, allowing for the removal of personal items.
2. Non-Dover residents currently holding allotment licenses have been informed that their tenancies will not be renewed after March 31, 2025, prioritising local community members.
3. The waiting list for allotments has been substantially reduced to a more manageable size, though it continues to fluctuate.
4. New allotment licenses are scheduled for distribution in early February 2025, in preparation for the commencement of annual tenancies on April 1, 2025.

These measures align with Dover Town Council's aim to provide efficient administration and improve allotment accessibility for local residents

The reorganisation of plot allocation is expected to create more opportunities for Dover residents to engage in sustainable gardening practices and community partnerships

Committee is asked to note this report

Statutory power SHAA 1908 s29



DOVER TOWN COUNCIL

Report to: Community & Services Committee
Meeting date: 5th February 2025

From: Cllr Nick Shread

Date written: 23rd January 2025

Subject: Motion for the Ocean

1. INTRODUCTION

The "Motion for the Ocean" initiative, developed by the Coastal Councils Network in England, is gaining momentum among local governments committed to addressing marine environmental challenges. Coastal towns such as Falmouth, Seaham, Isle of Wight, and Canterbury City Council have recently adopted this motion, demonstrating a growing recognition of the urgent need for ocean recovery.

As a coastal town with a rich maritime heritage, Dover is uniquely positioned to join this movement and lead by example in protecting and enhancing marine environments. Adopting the "Motion for the Ocean" would align well with Dover's existing environmental commitments and strategic objectives

2. INFORMATION

The Motion for the ocean was adopted by the Local Government association on 29th September 2022. The Motion was originally developed by LGS Coastal SIG, Ocean Conservation Trust and the University of Exeter (details outlined in appendix A)

The "Motion for the Ocean" framework is designed to encourage councils to:

Recognise the ocean as a key stakeholder: By adopting the motion, the council would formally recognise the importance of the ocean as an integral part of our community and environment. This acknowledgment would strengthen our commitment to marine conservation and sustainable development.

Commit to specific actions: The initiative encourages councils to embed ocean recovery in their policies, establish measurable goals, and promote education and engagement around marine issues. This could include:

Supporting clean-up initiatives along Dover's coastline.

Partnering with local schools and organisations to increase awareness about marine conservation.

Reducing pollution through responsible waste management policies and promoting renewable energy.

Advocate for systemic change: The motion encourages councils to work collaboratively with other authorities and organisations, advocating for national and global policy changes that protect marine ecosystems.

Enhance tourism and local economy: Healthy marine ecosystems attract tourists; boost recreational opportunities, and support local businesses. Dover's coastal identity can be further enhanced by actively promoting environmental stewardship.

Adopting this motion aligns with Dover Town Council's broader goals of sustainability, community engagement, and economic growth. The initiative also complements existing projects, such as our efforts to reduce single-use plastics and support biodiversity on council-managed land.

3. DECISION

The Committee is asked to Resolve to Recommend to Council to adopt the "Motion to the Ocean" and write to the Government asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030.

Statutory Powers/Standing Orders: LGA 1972 s145

November 2023

3page briefing: Motion for the Ocean (Coastal Council, England)

The Local Government Ocean Recovery Declaration

Dr Pamela Buchan¹, Emily Cunningham² and Nicola Bridge³

A model motion to help local authorities play their part in realising a clean, healthy and productive ocean and all of the direct economic, health and wellbeing benefits it will bring



What is the Motion for the Ocean?

Local authorities are working hard to bring about a brighter future for the communities we serve. We work to boost local economies, improve community health and wellbeing, and to protect and enhance local biodiversity. We know that the health, wellbeing and prosperity of coastal, estuarine and maritime communities is dependent on a clean, healthy and productive marine environment – yet too often we consider these issues separately, rather than thinking about it in a joined-up way.

Developed by leading ocean experts, Dr Pamela Buchan, Emily Cunningham and Nicola Bridge, the #Motion4TheOcean has been created to enable local authorities to tackle these potentially competing ambitions of economic development, community health and wellbeing, and a healthy marine environment in a more holistic way. The motion aims to help councils and the communities we serve to "think ocean" and ensure the development of the blue economy delivers the recovery of our ocean and reducing socio-economic inequality in our coastal, estuarine and maritime communities.

The motion aims to help councils embed this new way of thinking at the highest levels of local decision-making, so it is not the responsibility of one team, but of the whole council. Councils of all tiers in England and Wales, along with the Local Government Association, have declared an urgent need for ocean recovery using a locally adapted Motion for the Ocean as can be seen on the dedicated webpage: [Motion for the Ocean](#) (see Appendix I). We look forward to seeing which council will be next.

Why is it important for councils to pass a Motion for the Ocean?

We recognise that our ocean and climate are in a state of emergency and that the communities we serve are on the frontline. An ocean in crisis is not only bad news for our climate, but also for our fishing, tourism, and marine industries, and for the health, wellbeing, and prosperity of our coastal, estuarine and maritime communities. There are many opportunities for economic development in the marine environment, but these must be harnessed in a regenerative, rather than damaging, way.

Delivering the pledges set out in the Motion for the Ocean would yield new jobs and opportunities, more resilient coastal economies, and happier, healthier people; as well as a cleaner, healthier and more productive natural environment. A healthy ocean is an essential ally in our fight against climate change and blue carbon could play an integral role in helping us meet our net zero targets.

We have developed a Model Motion for the Ocean for inland councils which should be considered as a template to be adapted to local circumstances. We encourage local councils to adapt the pledges and wording, with the caveat that the ambition must not be reduced. **We are happy to support in this process.**

For any support, please contact: [Pamela](#) | [Emily](#) | [Nicola](#)

¹ Dr Pamela Buchan, marine social scientist and former Plymouth City Councillor

² Emily Cunningham, marine and coastal expert and formerly led the LGA Coastal Special Interest Group

³ Nicola Bridge, ocean literacy specialist and Head of Advocacy and Engagement at the Ocean Conservation Trust

Glossary

A **Blue Economy** is one which uses ocean resources sustainably or even regeneratively whilst improving community wellbeing and social equity. It is not simply marine or maritime economic activity or "blue growth".

Ocean literacy is where a person understands the ocean's influence on them and their influence on the ocean. For example, an understanding that the ocean stores carbon and an understanding that what they put down the drain can impact on ocean health. It can also include learning how to be an active marine citizen.

Marine citizenship is exercising the right to participate in the transformation of the human-ocean relationship for sustainability. This means taking individual and collective responsibility to consider one's own and society's impacts on the ocean; and exercising rights as a marine citizen, e.g. writing to a local Councillor to ask them to take action for ocean recovery; or promoting or making local, national or international policy changes.

Example context

The health of our ocean is inextricably linked with our climate and with human health, wellbeing and prosperity. A healthy ocean is fundamental in regulating the global climate system and is an essential ally in our fight against climate change. The ocean absorbs more than 90% of the excess heat in the climate system as well as absorbing around 20% of annual carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions generated by human activity.

However, decades of irresponsible marine exploitation and pollution have led to significant levels of degradation, and this together with the detrimental impacts of our changing climate on marine ecosystems has led to national and global recognition that the world ocean is in crisis. An unhealthy ocean does not absorb or store carbon as effectively as a healthy one, further worsening the impacts of the climate crisis.

The UK government's recent Marine Strategy assessment confirms that our marine environment is not healthy. An ocean in crisis is not only bad news for our climate, but also for our local fishing and tourism industries and for the health, wellbeing and prosperity of our coastal communities.

Along our United Kingdom coasts, like in the rest of planet, we are witnessing the ocean crisis first-hand. Fish stocks continue to collapse from permitted and illegal overfishing and poor water quality is impacting seafood and safe bathing. Our beaches are covered in litter with each tide, much of it plastic, though this is just the tip of the iceberg of the amount of litter in our oceans. Marine microplastics have been found in all marine environments and in the bodies of many species, including humans and the species of fish we regularly eat.

Our residents are on the frontline of climate change and are being disproportionately impacted relative to inland communities. The impact of the climate crisis on the ocean is profound, from rising water temperatures and changes in ocean chemistry, to sea level rise and increased storminess, including in our local waters. This is changing what seafood is caught locally, accelerating the erosion of our coastline - increasing the risk to infrastructure and properties, and increasing the risk of flooding and storm damage.

Urgent action is needed to halt these devastating changes and recover the health of our ocean to enable it to deliver the full range of benefits, including climate regulation, carbon storage in estuarine, coastal and marine habitats, coastal protection, a thriving local economy, clean safe recreation and happy, healthy coastal, estuarine and maritime communities. We must play our part in recovering the health of the ocean.

In the United Kingdom, the ocean is at the heart of our heritage and economy. From the maritime and marine expertise around the [Name of] Port, to the millions of visitors who come to our coasts to experience the sight, sound and feel of the ocean. The ocean can play a vital role in our economic recovery, and we must strive to develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers both ocean recovery and local prosperity. We must ensure that ocean recovery is embedded in our relevant strategic decision-making, policymaking and budget-setting; as well as being considered in future strategies and plans, including those seeking to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents.

At present, not everyone has the opportunity or means to access and enjoy the ocean. Even within coastal areas, there are people of all ages who have never experienced the joy of our ocean. First-hand experience of the ocean is essential if people are to be motivated to play their part in protecting it, whether that is through disposing of their litter responsibly, recycling what they can or volunteering in ocean conservation with local organisations. Helping individuals develop their ocean literacy (understanding of the relationship between people and the ocean) is an essential part of this motion, as is individual and collective marine citizenship (promoting and demanding an ocean recovery through local, national and international policy changes).

Local authorities cannot solve the ocean crisis alone, but we can – and must – play our part.

Appendix I

Councils that have passed a Motion for the Ocean as at November 2023 with links to their Motion wording.

- [Plymouth City Council](#), 22 November 2021
- [Falmouth Town Council](#), 10 January 2022
- [South Tyneside Council](#), 13 January 2022
- [North Norfolk District Council](#), 9 February 2022
- [North Devon Council](#), 23 February 2022
- [Monmouthshire County Council](#), 3 March 2022
- Seaton with Slingley Parish Council, 16 March 2022
- [Seaham Town Council](#), 22 March 2022
- [Torridge District Council](#), 11 April 2022
- [Portsmouth City Council](#), 17 May 2022
- [Devon County Council](#), 27 May 2022
- [Blandford Forum Town Council](#), 25 July 2022
- [Teignbridge District Council](#), 26 July 2022
- [Blackpool Council](#), 20 November 2022
- [Isle of Wight Council](#), 19 July 2023
- [Canterbury City Council](#), 20 July 2023
- [North Somerset Council](#), 19 September 2023
- [Havant Borough Council](#), 20 September 2023
- [Newark & Sherwood District Council](#), 17 October 2023
- [Lewes District Council](#), 20 November 2023
- [Cornwall Council](#), 28 November 2023
- Nottingham City Council – 15 January 2024
- [Colwick Parish Council](#) – 16 January 2024
- [Worthing Borough Council](#) – 6 February 2024
- Walmer Town Council – 8 February 2024
- Swanage Town Council – 28 February 2024
- Brandon and Byshottles Parish Council – 15 March 2024
- Stafford Borough Council – 31 May 2024

In addition to the local Councils who have individually declared, the Local Government Association also got behind the Motion for the Ocean on 29th September 2022. [LGA Ocean Recovery Declaration](#)

The Motion for the Ocean is supported in kind by the University of Exeter, LGA Coastal SIG, and the Ocean Conservation Trust.



University
of Exeter



Dover Town Council declares an urgent need for Ocean Recovery.

We recognise that Dover is on the coast with many homes, organisations and businesses, located close to sea-level and, like similar parishes in East Kent, we need ocean recovery for the well-being of current and future generations, we need to meet our net zero carbon targets, and we need net zero carbon to recover our ocean.

Dover Town Council pledges to ask **Dover District Council** (our Local Authority) and **Kent County Council** (responsible for Kent-wide resilience) to:

1. Report to Full Council within 12 months on the actions and projects that will begin an ocean recovery in Dover district, and in East Kent.
2. Embed ocean recovery in all strategic decisions, plans, budgets, procurement and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning, regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements, and considering ocean-based solutions in our journey towards a carbon neutral and climate resilient future.
3. Ensure that local planning supports ocean recovery, working closely with the Marine Management Organisation to embed strong links between the Local Plan and the Dover district Marine Plan to support ocean recovery.
4. Ensure that our nature, biodiversity and climate strategies, such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, recognise how land and rivers connect to and impact the ocean and strive to support ocean recovery through a source-to-sea approach.
5. Work with partners locally and nationally to deliver improved water quality and increased sustainability in marine industries, and to develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers ocean recovery and local prosperity; including the local fishing industry and the vital work of Kent & Essex Inshore Fishing and Conservation Authority, (IFCA).
6. Grow ocean literacy and marine citizenship in Dover district, including:
 - a. Ensuring all pupils are given the opportunity to experience the ocean first-hand before leaving primary school - striving to include home-schooled children
 - b. Promoting sustainable and equitable access to the ocean through physical and digital experiences for all residents.
 - c. Through these actions, embed understanding of the "source-to-sea" approach and how all people, wherever they live, impact and are impacted by ocean health.
7. Use the Council website and other communication channels to update on ocean recovery progress, and signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities and marine citizenship pledges.
8. **Dover Town Council** will write to the **Government** asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by:
 - a) Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.

- b) Working with coastal, estuarine and maritime communities to co-develop marine policy to ensure it delivers equitable and sustainable outcomes in local placemaking.
- c) Appointing a dedicated Minister for the Coast.
- d) Embedding ocean and civic literacy into the national curriculum.
- e) Stopping plastic pollution at source by strengthening the regulations around single-use plastics and set standards for microfibre-catching filters to ensure that all new domestic and commercial washing machines are fitted with a filter that captures a high percentage of microfibres produced in the wash cycle and support the solutions needed to address the threat posed by historic coastal landfill sites.
- f) Improving the water quality of our rivers, estuarine and coastal waters leading to the ocean to benefit nature and the health and wellbeing of all UK residents, including by stopping the regular pollution of our rivers and seas.
- g) And by listening to marine and social scientific advice to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will:
 - i. Enable the recovery of marine ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
 - ii. Consider levelling up, marine conservation, energy, industrial growth, flood and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests.
 - iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
 - iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits of ocean recovery, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing.

ENDs