

**Sent:** 27 February 2020 17:34

**To:** Climate Change Planning Policy <[climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Cornwall Council Climate Change DPD

Information Classification: CONTROLLED

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wrote to you in January regarding the development of our Climate Change Development Plan Document (DPD). We are now writing to Parish and Town Councils again to share more information on the topics which are most likely to relate directly to Neighbourhood Planning (namely the renewable energy and coastal change sections) and to seek your input at an early stage.

There are currently 35 made Neighbourhood Plans in Cornwall, with many others at various stages in the process. Neighbourhood Plans form a fundamental part of Cornwall's planning policy framework and the intention is for the Climate Change DPD to provide additional support for addressing climate and resilience issues in a positive manner.

### **Renewable energy**

Some Neighbourhood Plans are supportive of renewable energy, whereas others don't touch on it. A small number are not supportive of renewable energy. We have undertaken a review of all Neighbourhood Plans that have been submitted to us and are keen to explore opportunities to work together with Town and Parish Councils to promote renewable energy through planning policy. Where Neighbourhood Plans are explicitly not supportive of wind energy, we are keen to understand whether this position may have shifted in light of recent Climate Change Emergency declarations.

The Climate Change DPD team is in the process of developing a Scoping Report to identify key policy areas that the DPD could cover. Cornwall has significant opportunity to help reduce carbon emissions through renewable power generation. As part of the scoping stage, we are undertaking a study to identify locations that might be suitable for wind turbines and other renewable energy sources (for clarification, all would still require the grant of planning permission in the normal way to proceed). This will be undertaken via a renewable energy study that maps the best areas for wind speed and then applies various constraints (including landscape sensitivity, proximity to residents and infrastructure, protected wildlife sites and World Heritage Sites) to identify broad areas for allocation. We will also take into account relevant Neighbourhood Planning policies.

We would like to ensure that our approach has community support and are keen to understand your views on:

- Whether you consider that there should be any limit to the scale/size for wind turbines in your parish and why?
- Whether there are any broad locations which are/are not appropriate in your parish?
- What policy can do to help ensure community support e.g. Community ownership/benefit/community share?
- Should the Climate Change DPD include a policy supporting community owned small-scale turbines in areas of greater landscape sensitivity, e.g. in the AONB?

**Coastal Change** (*N.B. We recognise this section will not be relevant to all parishes*)

Coastal erosion and flooding incidents are expected to increase throughout this century because of the increasing frequency and magnitude of storms and rising sea levels as a result of global warming. Changes to the shoreline threatens some coastal communities, potentially including loss of homes and businesses. These threats need to be managed through the planning process to ensure that development in areas subject to coastal erosion and flooding are sustainable and safe. There is a need to plan to ensure that coastal communities will continue to have access to facilities, services and critical infrastructure in the future.

A Shoreline Management Plan for Cornwall (link: [Shoreline Management Plan](#)) identifies areas that could be at risk and recommends action for a number of coastal communities. A small number of communities have designated themselves as a Coastal Change Management Area (CCMA) in their Neighbourhood Plan. The Climate Change DPD could help provide a more strategic approach and allocate a Coastal Vulnerability Zone around the majority of the Cornish coast and set out a consistent policy for the sort of development appropriate in vulnerable areas. Areas that could be allocated as Coastal Change Management Areas would be identified in draft, but it would continue to be most appropriate for communities working with other agencies and support to set out the detail of what needs to be done to adapt to coastal change, including planning for identifying land for changing needs.

We would like to understand the view of coastal communities on whether this approach would be helpful to you and what support should be identified as required to help you adapt to climate change.

**How to Respond**

**By email:** email us at [climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk) to share your views on our approach to wind energy and coastal change and how this relates to your parish.

**Community Network Panel meetings:** we are aware some Community Network Areas have Climate Change action groups/working groups. You may wish to discuss the Climate Change DPD with your Community Link Officer and wider Community Network Area via your action groups and/or Community Network Panel meetings.

**Climate Change Cluster Workshops:** Cornwall Council's Localism team have set up 6 Climate Change Cluster workshops across Cornwall for communities to come together and identify actions that they can take to tackle and adapt to climate change. The Climate Change DPD team will also be in attendance and will be available to answer questions and provide more information. Please see below for details:

- Liskeard - 29<sup>th</sup> February, 10.00 – 13.00
- Penzance - 17<sup>th</sup> March , 10.00 – 13.00
- Truro - 18<sup>th</sup> April, 10.00 – 13.00
- North East Cornwall (location to be confirmed) – May (date to be confirmed)
- Redruth - 16<sup>th</sup> June, 10.00 – 13.00
- Mid Cornwall (location to be confirmed) – July (date to be confirmed)

For more information and to book onto one of these sessions, please email [communitynetworks@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:communitynetworks@cornwall.gov.uk)

**Consultation on the Scoping Report:** We encourage you to engage in the formal consultation on the Scoping Report which will be undertaken in April and May 2020. The Scoping Report will cover Renewable Energy and Coastal Change as well as other topics such as Building Standards / Energy Efficiency; Transport; Natural Climate Solutions (including biodiversity net gain and Forest for Cornwall); and agriculture.

Yours Sincerely,

**Jaquie Stenson | Project Manager, Climate Change DPD**

**Konsel Kernow / Cornwall Council | Planning & Sustainable Development**  
[climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange.dpd@cornwall.gov.uk)

[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk) | 'Onen hag oll'

3b, Pydar House, Pydar Street, Truro, TR1 1XU

To keep up to date with changes in the Planning & Sustainable Development Service, please check [What's new in Planning](#)

Find out about our Climate Change DPD at:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/climatechangedpd>

Please let us know if you need any particular assistance from us, such as facilities to help with mobility, vision or hearing, or information in a different format.