



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough

Youth Climate Summit & Plastic Free Update

Environment Scrutiny Committee – 26 April 2022

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Setting the Scene-TWC's Youth Climate Summit 2022

Date: Wednesday 6th July 2022 **Venue:** Enginuity Ironbridge **Audience:** Year 9 to 10s

This is the first summit of its kind for the Borough and only the 4th in the country

Aims:

- To educate, empower and mobilise young people in Telford & Wrekin
- To provide them with key climate change knowledge and practical actions they can take to mitigate against it
- To provide resources and connect them with others that have the same goals
- To get participants views on the Borough Climate Change Action Plan
- To encourage young people to pledge and take action following the event

Schools Attending

Date: Wednesday 6th July 2022 **Venue:** Enginuity Ironbridge **Audience:** Year 9 to 10s

- Telford Priory School
- Wrekin College
- Charlton School
- Newport Girls' High School
- Haberdashers Abraham Darby
- Ercall Wood Academy
- HLC

Format of the Day

- Speakers from University of Wolverhampton, University of Birmingham, Harper Adams and Veolia to deliver presentations on topics including climate science, sustainable food and plastic pollution;
- Interactive activities that allow the students to voice their opinions, ideas and questions;
- A workshop that divides the borough action plan into sections, allowing groups of students to analyse their section and suggest what is missing and what could be improved.

Stalls

We will also set up stalls for the students to browse and chat to stall holders to make the day more informative and educational.

Possible partners for these stalls include:

- Zaptech UK (EV charging points)
- Lyreco
- Smallwoods
- Veolia
- A dedicated plastic free stall

Call for Action

Whilst this is an awareness raising and educational session, we also want this to lead to positive change amongst our schools and young people. Therefore at the end of the event, we will be asking all participants to:

- To make a pledge indicating up to 3 changes they can make in their own lives.
- Encourage schools/ teachers to actively engage with the climate change agenda, for example, becoming a plastic free school, setting up an environmental group, volunteering etc
- Sign up to our Sustainable TW newsletter

TWC Youth Climate Summit 2022

Any suggestions on how we could encourage other young people to get involved in the climate change agenda locally in future?

Any Questions for me?

Plastic Free Taskforce Update

Background:

- The Council has made a commitment to remove all single-use plastic from the Council's operations and activities, replacing them with sustainable alternatives by 2023.
- Alongside this, the Plastic Free Taskforce is working to become a plastic free community by 2023 through the charity Surfers Against Sewage.
- The taskforce, which the Council is a part of, is a partnership consisting of educational establishments, local businesses, community organisations and town councils all working together to achieve this.

Plastic Free Taskforce Update

Continuing to work with the taskforce, meeting bi-monthly to monitor progress against the 5 key objectives for achieving community status:

- **Objective 1: Governance.** The local council is required to pass a resolution, supporting the journey to plastic free community status.
- **Objective 2: Local businesses.** We require a minimum of 42 businesses to be signed up across the borough, based on our population.
- **Objective 3: Plastic Free Allies.** Inspiring the wider community to sign up, and help spread the plastic free messages across our borough.
- **Objective 4: Community actions and events.** Each community signed up is required to hold at least 2 local events each year and made open for all to attend.
- **Objective 5: Steering group.** Each community signed up must form a group of local stakeholders and meet at least twice a year.

Plastic Free Taskforce Update

Good news updates:

- Educational visit to AO recycling plant in Sep 2021, another planned with more comms for July 2022
- Mossy.life (online green directory for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin) is now a key partner- we have a TWC page on their website
- Very successful Ocean Fish Project- including 2 events to promote COP26
- Plastic Free Pledge 2022

Ocean Fish Events

Mid November 2021
TWC's Ocean Fish project shown at
LGA stand at COP26

September 2021
Ocean Fish Trail art installation at Telford Town Park



June 2021
Children start
designing & painting
the fish



August 2021
Fish on parade during the Telford Balloon Festival



Early November 2021
Fish visit the Arthog centre and local
schools for assemblies on plastic
pollution to celebrate COP26

Plastic Free Taskforce Update



The banner features the Telford & Wrekin Co-operative Council logo and tagline at the top. Below it, the text 'Plastic Free Pledge 2022' is written in a playful font, accompanied by illustrations of various plastic items like a water bottle, a cup, and a carton. The main text reads: 'Your fourth and final plastic free challenge – time to celebrate!'. Below this is a 'BEFORE' and 'AFTER' comparison. The 'BEFORE' side shows a birthday party with plastic cups, glittery wrapping, and plastic decorations. The 'AFTER' side shows the same party with sustainable alternatives like cardboard cups, paper wrap, and natural decorations. A central 'SWAP!' bubble connects the two sides.

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Plastic Free Pledge 2022

Your fourth and final plastic free
challenge – time to celebrate!

BEFORE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SWAP!

AFTER

Glittery wrapping paper, plastic party cups and decorations...

can be swapped for cardboard cups, paper wrap and sustainable décor.

Can you help?

- Sign up to our Sustainable Telford & Wrekin Newsletter to keep up to date
- Help us spread the word through your contacts
- Help us identify local schools, community organisations and businesses in your wards to sign up

Plastic Free Taskforce Update

Any Questions?

You can email me at: lauren.hands@telford.gov.uk