
NEWSLETTER

Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community



It has been a really positive month in terms of the DSPOC team talking to people – the [fabulous Bridport Food Festival](#) adopted the theme of ‘Reducing Food Waste’ this year and is estimated to have welcomed well over 5,000 people through its gates. Whilst I certainly didn’t talk to everyone there, I certainly talked to hundreds, spreading the word about the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community, why we shouldn’t boycott palm oil, what businesses can do to ensure they are not responsible for deforestation in their supply chain, and telling everyone about the wonderful businesses who have pledged already.



MONTHLY UPDATE

This month, I have had a LOT of “potentials” – businesses who have said yes, but haven’t quite got around to signing the pledge yet. I am hoping many, if not all of them, translate into pledged champions – that would be phenomenal. If any business would like to commit to only using sustainable palm oil, the first thing to do is to [sign up here](#).

We would love to have some workplaces of over 20 people join us (or less) – you don’t have to have a canteen, as if you just get biscuits for the office, you could join! Contact me for more information.

We have 29 champions and 11 ambassadors in 11 towns in Dorset and 6 villages, and although we cover much of the entire county, we are still missing businesses from Sherborne, Lyme Regis, Charmouth, Wool, Wareham and Swanage. So please spread the word, ask your café, restaurant if they use palm oil, and get them involved – we support all our businesses completely free of charge.



MONTHLY UPDATE

Our biggest champion yet signed up – Compass Group UK & Ireland are the UK and Ireland's top contract catering, hospitality, and business support services provider to over 6,000+ locations, and have not only signed up with Dorset SPOC, but are also signing up with Oxford, Newquay, Plymouth and Saltash, so will have a big impact on all of our communities! Compass Group as a whole operates in around 45 countries, is a British multinational contract foodservice company and is the largest contract foodservice company in the world employing over 600,000 people. They are an [RSPO member](#). Welcome Compass Group.



David Matthews of Upton Beach Consulting Limited and Maia Growth Partners became our latest Ambassador. Ambassadors are individuals, businesses or groups that don't serve / use / sell food products, but want to show their support to the campaign to make Dorset the world's first sustainable palm oil county. David has already supported and promoted the campaign in many ways, spreading the news of our campaign, setting up meetings and introducing us to lots of people. Thank you David.

This month, another of our pledged champions became a fully-fledged champion! Just1Swap has been proactive from the first day of joining, and I am delighted to announce they have checked not only all the food products in their shop in Boscombe, but all of the cleaning products too. They put the Community logo on their homepage, which leads to their [SPO policy on their website](#) and have worked with their suppliers to ensure that where palm oil is present, it is only certified sustainable palm oil.

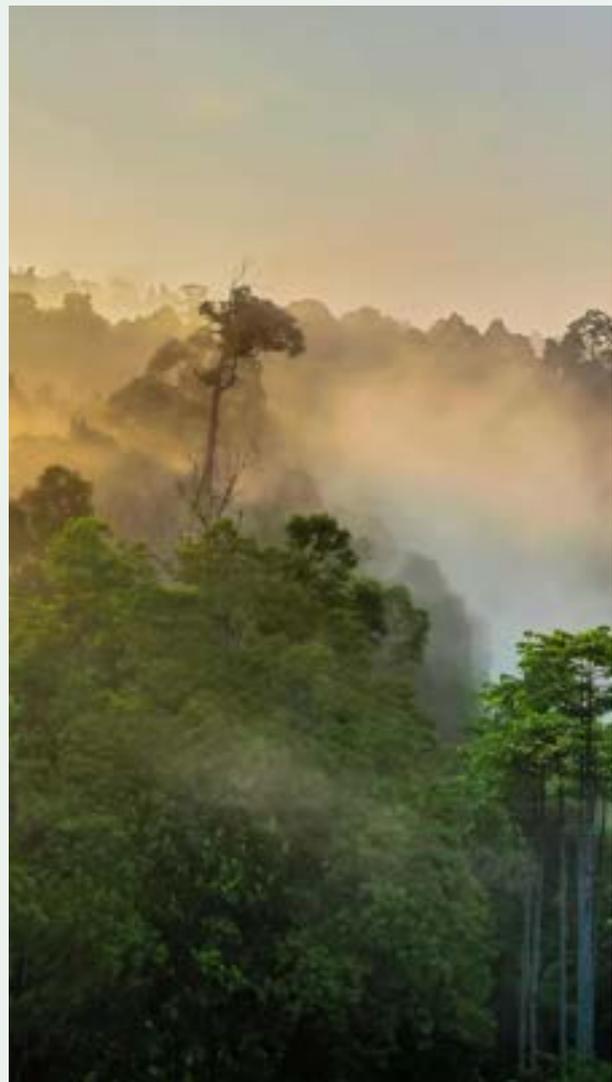


MONTHLY UPDATE

Our fully-fledged champion, St Mary's Catholic First School had an absolutely fantastic day when they celebrated Laudato Si Day in May. There were lots of wonderful things going on: the school came together and made a huge waste plastic jellyfish (which you will see if you pass the front of the school as it's hanging from the large tree at the front), a mural showing their new eco code and lots of planting. They also learnt about palm oil, with one year making some sustainable palm oil posters and other years using the [learning resources on Chester Zoo's SPO educational activities pages](#). They finished the day with a whole school sustainable palm oil conga round the grounds. How fantastic does that sound!



We were delighted to read the Mayor of Bridport's speech in the [Bridport Nub News](#) announcing the challenge of Bridport becoming a Sustainable Palm Oil Town "as part of the drive to make Dorset the first county [in the world] to become a sustainable palm oil community."



NUMBER OF THE MONTH

Number of the month: 71%. The UK imported 465,000 metric tonnes of palm and palm kernel oil in 2020. Of this volume, at least 71% can be reported as certified sustainable. Both the total and certified sustainable import volumes represent a continuation in the static trend observed over recent years. However, progress has been made by industry in other areas beyond the purchasing of certified material. A further 12% of the total volume was imported under an No Deforestation, No Peatland, No Exploitation (NDPE) policy, which is an important volume to give recognition to, due to the growing prominence of NDPE policies and their verification tools (source: [UK Roundtable on Sourcing Sustainable Palm Oil: Annual Progress Report for 2020](#) (published Nov 2021), written by Efeca).

We also still need more hospitality businesses and workplaces with more than 20 people before we can call ourselves the world's first sustainable palm oil county, so please get in touch if you are interested in finding out more. If you have any questions about joining our campaign and [becoming a Champion](#) or an Ambassador, please email me. Alternatively, if you know of anyone who might be interested in finding out more about the campaign to become the world's first sustainable palm oil county, please pass on this newsletter to them, or suggest that they contact us (contact details below).

