
NEWSLETTER

Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community



It has been an AWESOME few months at the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community.

I am so excited to announce that Co-op has become the first national retailer to join the Sustainable Palm Oil Communities project! Co-op have become champions country-wide in Dorset, Chester, Blackpool, Hull & East Riding of Yorkshire, Oxford and Newquay - this is a big moment for the umbrella communities project and for the sustainable palm oil mission! That means at least 34 different Co-ops throughout Dorset are now officially part of our campaign and are ensuring that all of their own brand goods will only contain certified sustainable palm oil. We are delighted to have them on board!

If your business wants to be part of this initiative, come and join the Dorset Sustainable Palm Oil Community - [click here](#) to sign up.



MONTHLY UPDATE

We had a spectacular day when we got **4 new sign ups in Bridport** in just one day! Huge thanks to Ian Bark, Deputy Mayor of Bridport, and Sue Hasell for all their help bringing those businesses on board.

The first business to sign up on this day was **Green Yard Cafe**, a fabulous hidden gem of a cafe just off East Street in Bridport. Thank you Mike!

Our second pledged champion, **Aleksandra's Chocolate Cafe** on Bridport East Street, makes handmade chocolates and truffles, as well as novelty creations. They source their chocolate from the finest Belgian suppliers, with amazing local dairy creams and other ingredients found through local providers. I am so pleased that Aleksandra's has decided to ensure that they will only use certified sustainable palm oil in all of their food.

Another of the four businesses to sign up on the same day in Bridport is **Market House Inn**, a dog friendly Palmers Brewery pub on West Street. So pleased that they are one of our hospitality businesses!

Fruits of the Earth in Bridport, a wonderful wholefood shop with a large range of mainly unprocessed food and organically produced food much of which is grown locally, was our third business to sign up that day. They use an ethical co-operative wholesaler who double-check things like 'GMO free', sell a lot of loose and bulk food including oats, muesli, pulses, lentils, whole grains, rice, dried fruit and nuts, seeds, teas, coffees, herbs and spices and also have some surprising sauces... (just ask). Thank you Mike and Sue for joining!



MONTHLY UPDATE

SOBO Sweet Stuff Cakes, a cake company in Bournemouth that specialises in making 'wow factor' sensationally scrumptious illusion & custom cakes has also joined DSPOC. Welcome Aisha!

We met Matt from **DURO Insight**, a Bournemouth software company who use AI-backed intelligence to provide media monitoring and crisis management tools for not-for-profits, at the **Big Sustainability Expo** in Southampton in October. He was so taken by the narrative of DSPOC and what we are trying to do - raise awareness around certified sustainable palm oil - that he signed up DURO Insight, that very evening.



Urban Garden, our Christmas lunch venue and generally lovely restaurant right in the centre of Bournemouth has also joined DSPOC. I met Katie just before the summer when we played a guessing game to illustrate the different yields of 6 vegetable oils per hectare of land. She was astonished and took the game to play with her colleagues. If anyone wants me to send the game to you, please just email me.

Finalist of the Environmental Impact Dorset Business Awards 2023, **Suttles**, which includes Suttle Piling, Suttle Stone Quarries, Suttle Purbeck Stone and Suttle Projects signed up to DSPOC last month, pledging to ensure that all food, including biscuits in their offices will contain certified sustainable palm oil only. Suttles has joined us as one of our workplace businesses - thank you Georgina and welcome Suttles!



MONTHLY UPDATE

The last workplace business to sign up this quarter was ourselves! We realised that **Efeca** hadn't officially signed up to DSPOC, so it was an easy decision to do so. Every time we buy biscuits, cakes or any other food that contains palm oil, we check the labels, but to show how easy it can be, if you buy biscuits for the office, if you buy own brand biscuits from well-known grocery retailers such as Tesco, Aldi, Lidl, Waitrose, Sainsburys, Morrisons, M&S and Asda, they will only have sustainable palm oil in them. As we have put the policy on our website and the team know what to check for, we are now officially a fully fledged champion!

Another business that has become a fully-fledged champion is SW Coast Refills, an amazing zero waste shop in Weymouth. If you are local and haven't been, definitely pop in as they have all sorts of lovely ideas of Christmas presents as well as soup kits, groceries, home and garden things and lots more! Check out their [palm oil policy here](#).

All of our pledged champions are doing so well and making great progress working through all the steps required to become a fully-fledged champion. **The Prince of Wales First School** in Dorchester has become yet another one of our fully-fledged champions – they have checked with their supplier, told their students and parents / carers about the initiative and put their sustainable palm oil policy on their website. Thank you Mr Spracklen and POWFS.

Sherborne based **Red Panda** is an eco shop full of plastic free, sustainable living goods. They became another one of our fully-fledged champions as they put their policy on their website!

The last champion to do all of the steps and become fully-fledged was **Olive Tree** restaurant in Bridport. Check out the DSPOC logo at the bottom of their website which links directly to our website.



MONTHLY UPDATE

We have had a few events including attending (and sponsoring) the **Dorset COP** (Dorset's own opportunity to have its say on the climate and ecological crises) on 9th September in Dorchester. Huge thank you to organisers **Sustainable Dorset, Zero Carbon Dorset** and **DorsetCAN** who brought together a wide cross section of individuals and community-based groups from across the county in a phenomenal day.

We also attended the **Big Sustainability Expo** in Southampton at the beginning of October and were a finalist of the SME of the Year for the **Big Sustainability Awards!** A huge thank you to Lynda and Anita for all your support.

Number of the month: 4

To celebrate the fact that in just one day, we got 4 new sign-ups, the number of the month has to be 4.... How did we do that? Two of our incredible Ambassadors, Sue Hasell and Ian Bark, and myself went around Bridport talking to businesses about DSPOC.

