

# Dorset Council Climate Emergency Inquiry

Presentation  
by  
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# Pollution caused by idling vehicles

A vehicle that is left idling will fill a minimum of 150 balloons with toxic gases:

Cyanide;

Carbon monoxide;

Nitrogen dioxide;

Hydrocarbons.



## The Effects

Over 55, 000 people in the U.K. die from the effects of air pollution, as it causes illness diseases: such as heart disease, cancer and lung disease.



The most vulnerable are our children, which is why more and more of them are suffering from asthma and other breathing difficulties.

## 1 week

147 different vehicles parked  
with engines running.



76 of these vehicles were outside of schools.

2 vehicles were council vehicles.

1 of which was a dust cart, left unattended for 25  
mins.

If I can witness a 147 offending drivers,  
within one week, then how many will there  
be across the country?

If we could put a stop to this in our county alone, it would make a massive difference!

**AUTHORITY**

You have the authority to do this.

## Rule 123 Highway Code

Drivers must not leave a parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave a vehicle engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road.

Local authorities have the power

To issue £20 fixed penalties for emission offences and stationary idling under:

The Road Traffic Regulations 2002

# Chris Grayling - Transport Secretary

Chris Grayling stated in June 2019:

*We are determined to crack down on drivers who pollute our communities by leaving their engines running, particularly outside school gates where our children are breathing in this toxic air.*

*Putting a stop to idling is an easy way to drive down dangerously high levels of pollution, reducing its impact on the environment and our health.*

*The Department for Transport is looking at toughening up those powers to try and put a stop to unnecessary air pollution by increasing fines.*



# Solutions

## Neighbourhood wardens:

- ▶ Responding to anti-social behaviour incidents
- ▶ Reporting crime to the police
- ▶ Telling the council and other authorities about environmental problems
- ▶ Issuing fixed penalty notices for litter, graffiti and dog fouling
- ▶ Making sure empty properties are safe and secure
- ▶ Supporting older and vulnerable people in the area
- ▶ Getting involved in community activities
- ▶ Visiting schools and attending community and resident meetings
- ▶ Sharing information with other agencies like the police, community groups, social landlords and tenants' associations.





# Solutions

Neighbourhood wardens to start using the council's authority:

- ▶ Issue fixed penalty notices to people who cause pollution by idling vehicles;
- ▶ Talk to community groups about air pollution;
- ▶ Visit schools during parent's evenings and share information about air pollution.

The money created from the fines will more than cover the expense of these wardens.

# Trees

We need trees to breathe!

**Why are local authorities allowing trees to be cut down in their masses?**

Tree surgeons inform the council that trees are diseased when they are not.

8 protected trees have been cut down around my house.

4 from the same builder who brought 2 houses.

The council said that the trees were diseased, but they didn't check this.

Tree surgeons are finding ways around cutting down protected trees.



Scientists have said that we need to plant a trillion trees in the next 10 years.

## Solution

- ▶ Councils need to check the information they are given by tree surgeons.
- ▶ Councils to enforce that if a tree is cut down another is planted.



Thank you for considering my points