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DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

To: Members of Devon County Council

County Hall
Exeter
EX2 4QD

28 September 2022

Your attendance is requested at the Meeting of the Devon County Council to be held at County Hall, Exeter on Thursday, 6th October, 2022 at 2.15 pm.

Chief Executive

AGENDA

5. Public Participation: Petitions, Questions and Representations (Pages 1 - 2)

Petitions, Questions or Representations from Members of the public in line with the Council's Petitions and Public Participation Schemes.



QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC Thursday 6 October 2022

1. **QUESTION FROM MARILYN SPUR (In Attendance)** **Re: Painting over mural near Lympstone**

A mural was recently painted on a retaining wall just south of Lympstone on the cycle track going towards Exmouth. It replaced some very old and scruffy tags. The mural showed distances and cycling times to various destinations along the track. It also pointed out that all these communities were at risk due to rising sea levels caused by climate change. The mural was very finely executed. It has been painted over and fenced off.

Councillor Richard Scott explained that any such political messages would always be removed immediately. Can you reassure me that such information is not considered controversial and therefore political by DCC given that you have declared a climate emergency?

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HUGHES

There is a project to add murals to both walls on the cycle track near Lympstone. A local artist has worked with Devon County Council and Lympstone Primary School to create themes that will be in-keeping with the area and non-controversial. The person or persons who created the mural you refer to did not seek permission from the owners of the wall, if they had they would have been made aware of the school project and also advised that political statements in a public area such as this should be avoided as it invariably attracts complaints, unwanted tagging and vandalism.

