

**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.