

Subject: Fwd: The North Devon & Torrridge wind energy development consultation
From: CPRE Devon Secretary (secretary@cpredevon.org.uk)
To: secretary@cpredevon.org.uk;
Bcc: brentorpc@yahoo.co.uk;
Date: Monday, 29 February 2016, 23:00

Dear Town/Parish Council

RE: Second Consultation on 'North Devon and Torrridge Local Plan: Proposed Policy - Wind Energy Development'

You may be aware that North Devon & Torrridge District Councils have a second round of public consultation currently underway on this important document on wind energy development, as part of their new Local Plan.

In brief, North Devon & Torrridge District Council are proposing that the whole of North Devon and Torrridge will be designated as suitable for wind energy development, albeit with the usual planning constraints (heritage, noise, landscape etc).

Like a great many local people in all our communities, CPRE Devon are extremely disappointed about this proposal and we will be submitting comments that we disagree. We believe that if this proposal were to be included in the Local Plan documentation, it could have far reaching implications for us all in the future.

Currently no area is designated for wind energy development and we see no reason to change this status, particularly bearing in mind the number of wind turbines which have already been constructed. The following points also need to be borne in mind:

- a) The Planning Minister has confirmed that the Local Plan doesn't have to identify any areas.
- b) We are aware of many other Local Authorities who have not included any such designated areas in their Local Plans. So why should North Devon & Torrridge? If the proposed wording were to be included in the Local Plan, we could be one of the few areas in the country with such designated areas and we could be a hostage to fortune if Government policy changed.
- c) We do not trust the usual planning constraints to work (ie noise, landscape, heritage) as