



## Press Release

**Lulworth Rangers at Durdle Door, Dorset, launch petition to keep our UK beauty spots beautiful.**

If you love your most beautiful countryside and coast or live or work in it, then sign this petition now to help protect it.

'Protect the UK's Countryside and Coast from post lockdown damage' is now published with the Government Petitions Committee and live to sign at:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/574972>

10,000 signatures will receive a response from Government, 100,000 will be considered for debate in parliament. The more the better!

Why we want people to sign:

Remember the almost daily news headlines and images last year of how our natural beauty spots were being abused? Mass littering, fly-camping, graffiti and fire being caused by visitors simply unaware of the impact they were having.

We are asking that the government should fund nationwide and sustained countryside public behaviour messaging and education including:

- messaging ahead of the current lockdown ending
- an ongoing campaign directed at staycationers across the UK
- a sustained education initiative, thus creating a lasting legacy

We want everyone on a trip or holiday to learn to take collective responsibility for looking after the UK's green (and blue!) spaces. From your National Park, to your local park or beach, let's get the message out there to look after these special places. Let's face it, with this week's uncertainty for any foreign holidays, it's likely we'll all be holidaying in the UK.

Why do we want this action from The Government:

- The amazing spaces that we all share are home to wildlife too. Environmental damage caused by litter and fire can destroy their homes.
- There is a subtle but silent shift of conservationists working in the countryside being drawn from their main purpose of conserving sites and species, to patrolling and litter picking.
- The emergency services are put under undue extra pressure from Police and Highways dealing with unthinking parking, NHS ambulances dealing with sensationalist stunts, the fire service being called to wildfire caused by BBQ's and discarded glass bottles, and the coastguard dealing with extra incidents too.



The extra cash announced last week that the government is giving Councils to put on extra services is more than welcome. There is no doubt extra patrols, enhanced waste collections, BBQ bans and increased communications will help with the situation but we want to address the root cause of the problem before it comes to happen. DEFRA (The Dept. for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) are currently working on a relaunch and refresh of the Countryside Code, but with over 20 million adults visiting the countryside each year messages need to be nationwide, regular and repeated throughout the summer of 2021, whilst educating the next generation of children to protect and cherish their 'Perfect Planet'.

We earnestly do not want a repeat of 2020 for the upcoming season as delicate environments cannot sustain the level of degradation they received last year.

**Join us now in this essential lobby for awareness.**

For more information please contact [media@lulworth.com](mailto:media@lulworth.com)