

01 July 2024

Attn Chair & Councillors of the North Devon Council
North Devon Council
PO Box 379
Barnstaple
EX32 2GR

Dear Councillor Helen Walker,

Letter of Support – Recommendation to Approve and Endorse the “North Devon & Torridge Clean Maritime Growth Vision”

In my role as Director of Seiche Group and the acting Chair of the recently formed **North Devon and Torridge Maritime Network**, I am writing to express my strong support for the "North Devon & Torridge Clean Maritime Growth Vision." This strategic initiative is not only crucial for the sustainable development of our maritime sector but also aligns with broader environmental and economic goals for our region.

The "Clean Maritime Growth Vision" represents a forward-thinking approach to harnessing our region's maritime potential while committing to sustainable and environmentally friendly practices. This initiative will position North Devon and Torridge as leaders in the clean maritime sector, fostering innovation, economic growth, and job creation, all while ensuring the protection of our invaluable marine ecosystems.

Key reasons for endorsing this vision include:

1. **Environmental Stewardship:** The vision promotes the adoption of clean technologies and practices that will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of maritime activities. This is in line with national and international efforts to combat climate change and protect our oceans.
2. **Economic Growth:** By fostering a clean maritime industry, we can attract new investments and create high-quality jobs in the region. The initiative will stimulate local economies and provide opportunities for businesses to innovate and expand.
3. **Community Benefits:** Sustainable maritime practices will ensure that our coastal communities can continue to thrive. The vision includes plans for community engagement and education, ensuring that local residents are informed and involved in the transformation of our maritime sector.
4. **Strategic Leadership:** Endorsing the Clean Maritime Growth Vision will position North Devon and Torridge as leaders in the transition to a sustainable maritime future. This leadership will attract national and international attention, further enhancing our region's reputation and influence.



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In conclusion, the "North Devon & Torrridge Clean Maritime Growth Vision" is a comprehensive and well-considered strategy that promises substantial benefits for our environment, economy, and communities. I strongly urge the local council to approve and endorse this visionary plan, setting a precedent for sustainable maritime practices that can serve as a model for other regions.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. I am confident that, with your support, we can achieve a brighter, cleaner, and more prosperous future for North Devon and Torrridge.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Burnett
Director, Seiche Group
Acting Chair, North Devon and Torrridge Maritime Network