

Choose to Remove Single-use BBQs



A campaign to reduce the environmental impacts of single-use barbecues

Litter Free Dorset, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

August 2025

Dear Retailers,

New law: Lighting of fires - including barbecues - prohibited across many parts of Dorset.

I am writing to make you aware that Dorset Council has issued [Extended Public Spaces Protection Orders](#) which prohibit the lighting of fires – including barbecues – on areas of open land across large parts of Dorset (open link to view locations).

This move is fully supported by organisations including Dorset Heaths and Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service, who are responding to the many wildfires, and is Dorset Council's way of taking definitive action to protect Dorset's nationally important heathland and the many green open spaces from fires, anti-social behaviour, and littering.

Wildfire incidents are increasing due to hotter temperatures, stronger winds, and more extreme weather events, and single-use barbecues have already resulted in some fires across Dorset with devastating environmental, social, and economic impact; already this year we have recorded 55 incidents of fire, affecting 27 heaths and burning an area of 64.9 hectares.

This represents a 41% increase in fire incidents compared to 2024. As a result, we need to take steps to remove some of the root causes of wildfire.

In addition, single-use barbecues:

- Are almost impossible to recycle, adding to waste in landfill or incineration.
- Contain charcoal, often from unsustainable sources, contributing to deforestation.
- Pose a safety risk to beach visitors if littered or left under the sand, causing injury.

We know sustainability is high on your agenda and there is growing consumer demand for more environmentally friendly options, so now is the time to lead the way and provide an alternative.

Retailers can help to drive the behaviour change needed and encourage customers to enjoy outside spaces with a picnic instead of a single-use barbecue. **With another hot, dry, summer upon us, will you do the right thing and remove single-use barbecues from sale?**

Please get in touch and let us know your current position on the sale of single-use barbecues and whether we can count on your support for this campaign. Equally, if you have already removed them from sale, thank you and please let us know so we can update our records.

Kind Regards,

Emma Teasdale

Litter Free Dorset Co-ordinator

Tel: 01305 224738 Web: www.litterfreedorset.co.uk