



**NO FOOD ON A DEAD PLANET**  
Dover Port Blockade / March 30th 2019 / briefing pack



**Extinction Rebellion plans to spotlight the fragility of the UK's food security and its vulnerability to climate change by blocking major roads leading out of Dover Eastern Docks.**

**Those blocking the roads expect to be arrested;** but they are willing to sacrifice their freedom to deliver this warning about the impacts of climate breakdown and the food shortages it will cause.

**The purpose of this action is not to cause serious disruption.**

**THIS TYPE OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE WILL ESCALATE OVER THE COMING WEEKS, AND CONTINUE UNTIL OUR DEMANDS ARE MET.**

**THIS ACTION IS PART OF A CONTINUING CAMPAIGN TO PRESSURE OUR GOVERNMENT INTO ACTING ON THE BREAKDOWN OF OUR CLIMATE WE CAN ALL NOW SEE.**

**Changes in weather are already affecting our food supply.** Unless we act now, the ecological disaster we have created may well lead to **human extinction.**

**NEARLY 33% OF THE PLANET'S ARABLE LAND HAS BEEN LOST TO EROSION OR POLLUTION IN THE LAST 40 YEARS**

Soil loss: an unfolding global disaster 2015

**CLICK ME FOR MORE**

**BY 2050 CROP YIELDS ARE EXPECTED TO REDUCE BY 10% GLOBALLY, AND UP TO 50% IN SOME PARTS OF THE WORLD.**

The assessment report on land degradation and restoration-Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 2018



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### 1. Why are we blocking the roads?

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The purpose of the Dover action is to provoke an emotional reaction and open up a debate about what the media does not want debated: does the British public want to send its children into a world of destruction and death as a global warming spirals out of our control, food supplies collapse and society slides into chaos?

Our action, this blockade, should be too big to miss.

We are saying WAKE UP and start talking about the danger facing life on this planet – and if that takes some symbolic disruption for a day at Dover then so be it.

XR is not about playing it safe; it is about taking risks and getting the truth out there – we are in an absolute ecological crisis.

The action is designed to shake people out of their denial of the gravity and immediacy of this existential threat. It may upset a lot of people, but it is through that upset that people will stop and engage with the gravity of the situation – it will move them from **denial** to a form of **engagement**.

Our tone should be respectful towards people who are upset by the action while sticking to the principle of telling the truth.

#### WHY DOVER?

Because it's a place we'll be seen; it is the gateway from our own country to the rest of the world, and it is a symbol of our connection to our fellow man.

Dover is how we feed ourselves and get our medicine. It is where we look out onto the migrant crisis in Calais, and it is where the world points to when it looks back.

Recent flows of migrants have been fleeing from hunger and from wars caused by climate change. Hunger on our own soil is not far behind.

The action is intended to bring attention to the vulnerability of the U.K.



*Some facts...*

The U.K. has more supermarkets per head than anywhere else in the world. Supermarkets keep very little in stock and rely on overnight deliveries.

**About 40% of these deliveries arrive via Dover.**

Any actual disruption caused by this action will be minuscule compared to the horrors ahead.

The public need to be prepared for imminent chaos and can view this action as a dress rehearsal.

### **WHY NOW?**

For the past two years, our media and government have been disproportionately focused on Brexit.

The issue we are highlighting goes beyond politics and beyond the media.

We are staging this action at this time to demonstrate that the breakdown of our planet's ability to support human life is a far bigger issue than Brexit.

We are calling on the government and the media to treat it as such.

Once people understand the extent of the danger we are facing, they will see the stupidity of current politics.

### **SOME RESPONSES TO THE ACTION**

#### ***Will it stop food supplies getting through?***

This is a symbolic blockade that will probably be ended swiftly, but may last up to 4 hour at most. It could cause delays, but nothing critical.

Climate change is already causing much worse disruption.

For example, on 13<sup>th</sup> March this year, yet another storm, ("Gareth"), stopped crossings at the port of Dover for hours.





The result was predictable:



Increasingly violent weather is just the tip of a global emergency. We need to take control of our destiny. Direct action by Extinction Rebellion aims to draw attention to this emergency.

***The message is confused. What are you saying?***

Our message is clear:

**'Wake up! Very soon we could have major food shortages because of climate breakdown. This is the biggest and most urgent threat we are facing'.**

**We are prepared to be arrested** and go to prison to get this crisis discussed, to get the media and the government to tell the truth. That is our message, **WAKE UP.**

***The media may tear you apart...***

Great, let them, because that will give us the publicity we want. A time of reckoning is coming. This is real. It is not a game. We are blocking Dover to get our message across.

We are speaking the truth whatever the consequences, regardless of what is "credible" and "appropriate". We will not keep quiet.

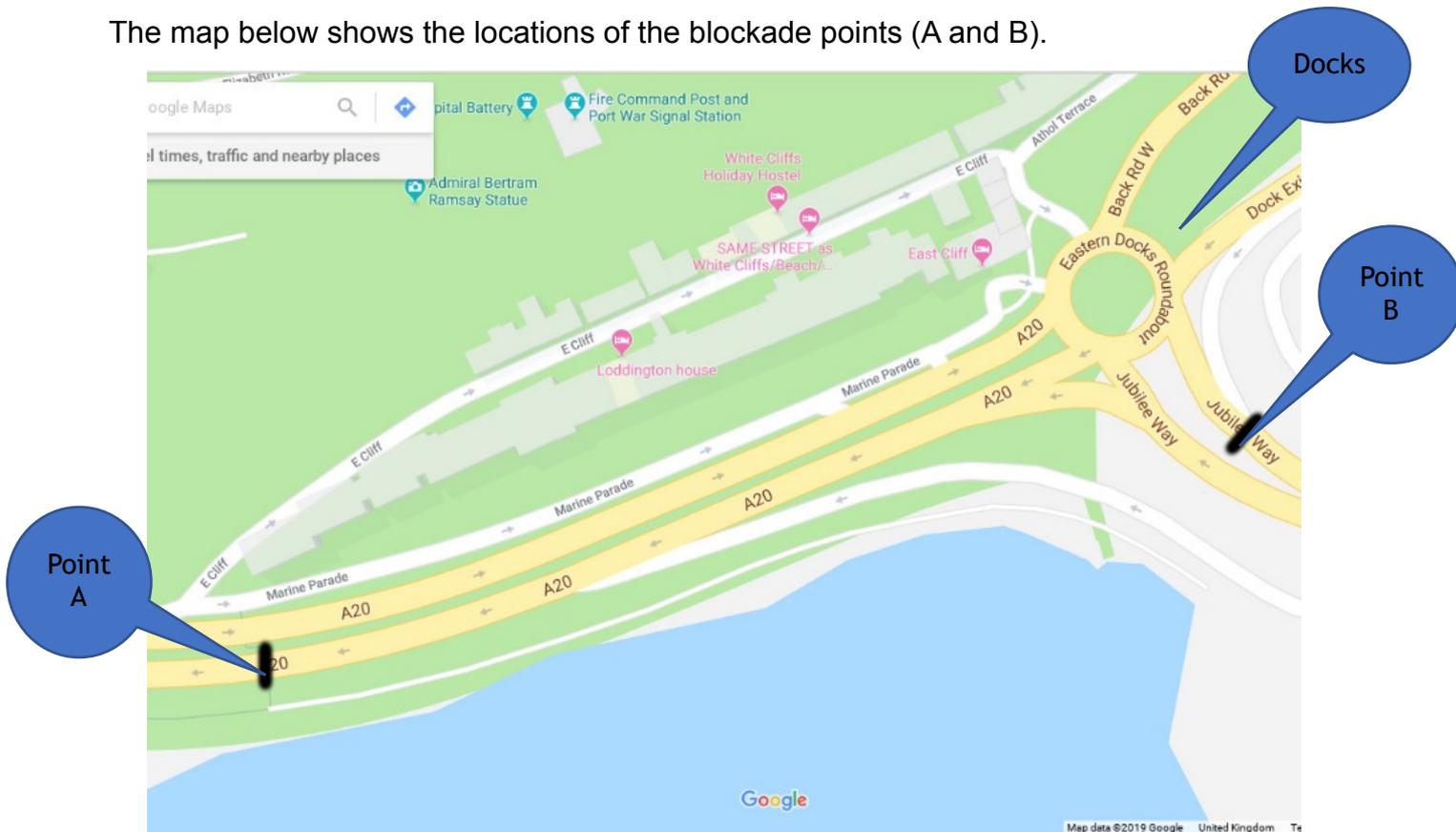
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## 2. Logistics- where, when, how?

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Saturday 30th March between 10am and 3pm in Dover.

The map below shows the locations of the blockade points (A and B).



**The blockade points will be occupied simultaneously**

### **Please note**

Police have been informed and the safety of all activists and public has been prioritised.

There will be first aiders, welfare officers and legal advisers present.

A large press presence is predictable and coverage of this event will be used to highlight and document the non-violent tactics Extinction Rebellion adhere to.

Non-violent and peaceful direct action lies at the heart of Extinction Rebellion.



### Blockade point A

**On the pedestrian crossing on the A20, approximately 200 metres from the Eastern Docks roundabout. We will take advantage of the pedestrian crossing to safely move our volunteers on to the Westbound carriageway when the traffic light turns red.**

The blockade will be a fixed occupation. It will not be a swarm and we will occupy the road until the end of the action (3pm).

The picture below shows the view from the crossing back towards the Eastern Docks roundabout.



### Blockade point B

**The blockade will occupy the Eastbound carriageway, of the A2 (Jubilee Way), about 10 metres from the Eastern Docks roundabout, between the central reservation and the edge of the road. There is no pedestrian crossing at this point.**

The blockade will be a fixed occupation. It will not be a swarm and we will occupy the road until the end of the action (3pm).

The picture below shows the view from the blockade towards the Eastern Docks roundabout.





## TIMELINE

**10am** - Meeting point, Marine Parade, south of A20 (Matthew Webb statue). 15 mins walk from Dover Priory railway station.



When we are at the Matthew Webb statue we will divide into groups and roles.

There are toilets and refreshments at Pebbles Kiosk and Facilities, a few metres from the Matthew Webb statue.

**11am** - One group will blockade at Point A and one group will blockade at Point B.

Stewards will lead the way to the blockade points.

Legal observers and wellbeing supporters will be with you all the time.

When you are given the signal you will move into the road and sit down.

**3pm** – The action will stop and we will walk back to the Matthew Webb statue for a short debrief and to make sure that everyone is safe and well.

You will be able to go home after that although you are, of course, free to leave the action at any time.



## SAFETY AND WELLBEING

Wellbeing supporters will be with you at all times but you need to take responsibility for your own comfort.

We recommend that you [dress up warmly](#). We will be on the seafront at Dover and it can get pretty cold so make sure that you bring [waterproof clothing and footwear](#). Wear [lots of layers](#) that you can take off if it warms up.

You may be sitting on tarmac so a waterproof sheet, space blanket, roll-mat or similar would be a good idea.

Bring food and drinks for the day.

Make sure that if you need to take medication, that you bring it with you.

Prescription drugs or pills should be carried in the same packet that they were prescribed in, with the printed chemist's label showing your name. In the event of an arrest the police may take from you any medicine that does not have that label on it.

## POLICE RESPONSE

We are in close contact with the police and there will be police liaison representatives from XR at all times. We will work very closely with the police to make sure that everyone is safe at all times.

We will be causing traffic disruption and that may lead to a more determined police response, which may include arrests. The action will fall within the physical boundaries of the 'Brexit Public Order Command' (a designated section of the Kent police department).

More information is included in the legal brief below.

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### 3. Roles

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If you are not going on the roads then please consider being a volunteer in another capacity. We need:

**Wellbeing Supporters** – as a wellbeing supporter you will make sure that everyone is comfortable and safe.

**Stewards** – stewards will lead the road teams on and off the road and between locations.

**First Aiders** – if you have a knowledge of first aid, please let us know.

**Legal Observers** – legal observers monitor the police response. If anyone is arrested you will try to find out where the arrestee is being taken and observe arrests.

**Arrestee Supporters** – meet arrestees after they are released from the police station. This can be late at night, but it is an incredibly crucial part of the action.

Please get in touch through [doveryr@protonmail.com](mailto:doveryr@protonmail.com) if you would like to take on one of these roles.

All of these roles will have briefings.



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## 4. Legal information

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XR note:

**As a mutually supporting network we are all responsible for ourselves, and while we support each other as best we can, your actions are your own.**

It's important to prepare yourself for all eventualities before attending an action (it isn't possible to predict whether you will be arrested or not).

The **document attached below** is an overview, and is to be seen as a gateway to further reading. Further links are listed at the bottom of each section within the document.

**Please read the legal briefing document for further information**

Legal Briefing Document: <https://bit.ly/2T7ITvF>

**For further information visit**

<https://greenandblackcross.org>

or download the "Know Your Rights" pack from the Facebook Page

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## 5. Transport and Accommodation

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You are responsible for making your own way to Dover.

We are looking into hiring a mini bus from London. Please let us know via email if you are interested.

Train connections from London are frequent, though not as fast as similar distances in other parts of the country.

Time	Origin	Destination	Arrival	Duration	Stops	Details	Status	Fare	Buttons
07:40	London Charing Cross [CHX] Platform 4	Dover Priory [DVP] Platform 1	09:33	1h 53m	0	<a href="#">Details</a>	✓	<b>£11.00</b>	Buy now Advance Other tickets
07:42	London Victoria [VIC] Platform 6	Dover Priory [DVP] Platform 3	09:39	1h 57m	0	<a href="#">Details</a>	✓	<b>£11.00</b>	Buy now Advance Other tickets
08:07	London St Pancras International [STP] Platform 13	Dover Priory [DVP] Platform 1	09:33	1h 26m	1	<a href="#">Details</a>	✓	<b>£33.80</b>	Buy now Off-Peak Other tickets
08:37	London St Pancras International [STP] Platform 12	Dover Priory [DVP] Platform 1	09:41	1h 04m	0	<a href="#">Details</a>	✓	<b>£13.60</b>	Buy now Advance Other tickets



We are unable to arrange accommodation on your behalf but there are a number of hotels and B&B sites in Dover.

For example:

- Dover Adventure Backpacker Hostel (great for groups): <https://bit.ly/2XXMekD>
- Dover Backpackers: <https://bit.ly/2TDqn3x>
- There are also several rooms on Airbnb that are between £20-£40 for the night.

We are considering hosting a briefing in London on the Friday night (29th).

If you need a place to stay on the 29th in London, please get in touch.

**Please contact us if you have any difficulty in attending this action or booking accommodation/transport, and you will be supported by XR in any way possible.**  
[doverxr@protonmail.com](mailto:doverxr@protonmail.com)

