

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Malaysia returns 42 containers of waste to the UK:** The environment minister for Malaysia has told reports that the South East Asian nation will not become the 'world's dumpster' and has returned containers containing 'plastic waste imported illegally' to various predominantly rich countries. (telegraph.co.uk 20/01/2020)
- **Half of UK universities have committed to divest from fossil fuel:** 78 of the 154 universities have joined the campaign to withdraw from the fossil fuel industry, causing the loss of hundreds of millions for fossil fuels. (theguardian.com 13/01/2020)
- **Using frozen air to store renewable energy:** British company, Highview Power, have found a novel solution of a storage system that uses renewable energy to freeze air into a liquid state. Once warmed gaseous air is then expanded so quickly it has the power to spin a turbine for a generator. (scientificamerican.com 02/01/2020)
- **Luton Borough Council has declared climate emergency:** The council have been working alongside the extinction rebellion to compile a plan. They aim to become carbon neutral by 2040 and hope to cut emissions from homes, cars and Luton Airport. (bbc.co.uk 14/01/2020)
- **Sadiq Khan pledges to make London carbon neutral by 2030:** Labour politician pledges that if he is re-elected as mayor, he will make London carbon neutral by 2030. He has said he wants to make the capital the 'greenest city in the world'. (independent.co.uk 19/01/2020)
- **Climate crisis may have triggered faster wind speeds:** Windfarms may be able to generate more energy due to the phenomenon. The world's shifting ocean circulation patterns have increased the wind speed over the last 10 years. (theguardian.com 18/11/2019)
- **Clean energy to power all new Welsh homes from 2025:** All new homes in Wales will only be heated and powered by clean energy under new Welsh Government plans. This will mean more energy efficient housing that is cheaper to run and produce up to 80% less CO₂ emissions. (bbc.co.uk 09/01/2020)

and finally.....

- **Trump tells American's to use mops and buckets for those threatened by rising seas:** Donald Trump has launched an attack on proposals to build a sea wall around New York as a protection against rising oceans, urging the city's residents to use 'mops and buckets' to cope with the climate change disaster instead. (independent.co.uk 19/01/2020)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Following over 25% higher than average rainfall in the southwest of the UK in December, Aardvark EM's Environmental Management team has been working hard to maintain water levels at a local flood defence scheme, as part of the delivery an operational and maintenance contract for the site. During the recent period of high rainfall we have been undertaking preventative measures to ensure it continues to operate effectively including debris removal, monitoring of telemetry data and additional site attendance and observational checks. We continue to monitor water levels via the data collected via a telemetry system provided by the Environment Agency. For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

Click [HERE](#) to view the list of Aardvark technical services and team contacts.

