

**COUNCILLOR ARMAND TOMS  
LOOE EAST AND ST MARTINS WARD  
COUNCIL REPORT FOR LOOE TOWN COUNCIL  
JULY 2019**

**MOTION TO COUNCIL - FISHERMENS LIFEJACKETS WITH PLBs**

Back in 2017 I put a motion to Cornwall Council after listening to the helm of the Looe Lifeboat Clive Palfrey about his experience in searching for missing fisherman. The fact that the local RNLi team had self launched to search for missing men finding two on an upturned hull of a trawler. Three had sadly lost their lives as people did not know they were missing until it was too late. The lifejackets are not only a buoyancy aid but have a built in personal location beacon in them, this aids in the search for people in the water. Plymouth City Council had completed a similar exercise for their local fleet and this motion was to do the same for fishermen across Cornwall. The lifejackets are being made available in the near future and already over 100 fishermen have expressed an interest in the lifejackets.

**MOTION TO COUNCIL - BRANDJACKING**

Tomorrow I am taking a further motion to Cornwall Council, the aim of the motion is to stop money from local businesses being diverted to businesses outside Cornwall. The process of Brandjacking is where Online Travel Agents colonise the top space of search listings expressly to divert bookings which may otherwise come direct to the companies. This was brought to my attention by a local business but is a national problem as agents can take as much as 15% of a booking as a fee. When you consider that much of the local economy is built on holiday accommodation you can see that there is a lot of money to be made with this type of manipulation.

**LOCAL REPRESENTATION**

I have had a number of conversations in recent weeks over the neighbourhood plan with local residents. Whilst many understand the need for new homes the impact on areas such as the Barbican need to be considered. Many complain about the single road into the area servicing the two schools, Children's Centre, Care Home and the largest population in the town. Over the last five years the Looe East ward has had all the local development and provided 81 affordable and social houses for the town. I will be looking at the plan to see what can be done.