Claim No: QB-2022-001236

Filed on behalf of the Claimant
Steven Maxey
8th Witness Statement
7 October 2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
KING'S BENCH DIVISION
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT REGISTRY

B E T W E E N:

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Claimant

-and-

(2) THOMAS BARBER
and others

Defendants

EIGHTH WITNESS STATEMENT OF STEVEN MAXEY

I, STEVEN MAXEY, OF THE COUNCIL HOUSE, SOUTH STREET, ATHERSTONE, CV9 1DE, SOLICITOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICER, WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I am employed by North Warwickshire Borough Council ("the Council") as its Chief Executive. In addition to being the Council's statutory Head of Paid Service, I am the Council's representative on the Strategic Coordinating Group of the Warwickshire Local Resilience Forum. I am duly authorised by the Claimant to make this statement on its behalf.

2. Save where the source of my knowledge is expressly stated, the facts set out in this witness statement are from within my own knowledge and are true. Where they are outside my direct knowledge, they are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

3. This statement reduces to writing the oral evidence that I gave to the Court on oath at the review hearing on 7 October 2026.

4. Ahead of the hearing, I reviewed the Just Stop Oil website (https://juststopoil.org) to see if there had been any relevant updates which needed to be brought to the Court's attention.

5. Just over halfway down the homepage, to the right of the heading " In spite of the risks WHY TAKE ACTION?" and under the subheading "Action" the website now reads as follows:

> "We will not just sit around and wait while everything we love is being destroyed. So once again we are putting our bodies on the line, risking arrest and even imprisonment. We do not consent to plans that will result in 3C of warming and mass death. If you feel the same, now is the time to resist. Don't wait for others to lead the way. We are all Just Stop Oil now.
>
> **Register to join our next online call 10am, 17th October 2026**"

I exhibit a screenshot of the relevant page as **SM/1**.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed:

Name: ___Steven Maxey_____

Position: ____Chief Executive_____

Date: ____7th October 2026_____

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SM/01

Exhibit SM/01 - Screenshot of the Just Stop Oil Homepage, 7 October 2026

In spite of the risks

WHY TAKE ACTION?

TRUTH

The first duty of government is to keep citizens safe, but this government has no plan. Prioritising more oil and gas, more growth and more wealth for billionaires over the survival of billions of people is not a plan. The government needs to come clean and admit to the public how bad our situation is. We need an emergency response to cut oil and gas demand and improve our resilience paid for by the fossil fuel companies and the rich, not by ordinary people.

COMMUNITY

Every one of us feels alone and powerless in the face of this global insanity. They want us to believe resistance is futile, that change is impossible, that we can't stop oil no matter what we do. But we know there is massive political and public support for our demand and when we come together we are powerful and we can win.

ACTION

We will not just sit around and wait while everything we love is being destroyed. So once again we are putting our bodies on the line, risking arrest and even imprisonment. We do not consent to plans that will result in 3C of warming and mass death. If you feel the same, now is the time to resist. Don't wait for others to lead the way. We are all Just Stop Oil now.

Register to join our next online call 10am, 17th October 2026

I WANT TO KNOW MORE