

# Dart Valley Systems pave the way for a “new normal” with outdoor sanitiser stations around Torbay



Areas around Torbay have recently been provided with outdoor sanitiser stations in the hope to encourage hand hygiene for shoppers in the high streets.

[TDA](#), Torbay Council's economic development company, contacted Dart Valley Systems on behalf of Torbay Council to provide a bespoke solution for the surrounding areas to encourage “safe shopping” during and post-pandemic. Their requirements included a robust, vandal resistant and hygienic solution for passers-by of the surrounding towns. In total, Dart Valley provided 12 sanitiser stations around Torquay, Paignton and Brixham which were strategically placed around the towns in highly populated areas.

Dart Valley, the southern division of Franke Water Systems UK, are specialists in hygienic solutions and adapted one of their current [stainless steel hand sanitising stations](#) to provide a bespoke solution for Torbay. The technical and design team at Dart Valley were proud to be part of a local project and spent a significant amount of time designing the bespoke sanitisers to ensure all requirements were met.

The finished product was a touch-free, automatic free-standing sanitiser station, manufactured from 2mm grade 316 stainless steel, which is weatherproof and an ideal solution for an outdoor product. 316 stainless steel contains an addition of molybdenum that gives it improved corrosion resistance, a key design factor for an outdoor product in a seaside town.

Stainless steel is robust and vandal resistant, meaning it can withstand such heavy use and help prevent any potential damage. The robust body of the sanitiser station also features a maintenance hatch with high-security tamper-resistant screws, so that the stations can be regularly refilled. The touchless dispensers exceed the design of those seen in most supermarkets and stores, which can often be found grubby with overspilling. Such design considerations as touch-free and using easy to maintain materials should be at the forefront of any hygienic product, particularly in busy areas.

Dart Valley also offer maintenance packages, and once the sanitisers had been installed, they cleaned and maintained them twice a week for around four weeks. This provided support and ensured a smooth transition to the maintenance company who now manage the sanitisers, ensuring that they are functioning properly and are clean for members of the public. The sanitisers are electronic and operated by batteries which allow around 40,000 uses before they need to be changed, offering a minimal maintenance and low-cost solution.

[TDA](#) commented “We had specific requirements in mind for this project and Dart Valley helped ensure that they were met. The finished product is excellent, and we hope this will encourage people to return to Torbay's high streets to shop safely. We hope the sanitiser stations, along with a number of other initiatives to support the reopening of the high streets, will encourage shoppers to support local high street businesses.”

These robust sanitisers may be a thing of the future and the “new normal” around towns and cities, as excellent hand hygiene will remain paramount and should be encouraged post-pandemic. Hygienic hand washing and sanitising solutions could also be considered when venues reopen for outdoor events and leisure activities.

If you would like further help and advice from Dart Valley or Franke Sissons on specifying bespoke products for a project, please feel free to contact a member of our team to find out more information or discuss any requirements you have!

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