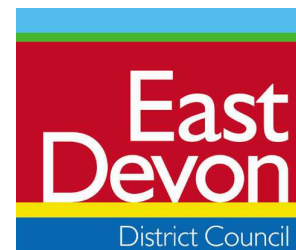




INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



News Service

19 September 2007

Council is asked to help save regional TV channel

FOLLOWING reports that ITV is planning to reduce its regional news service operation in 2008, Members of East Devon District Council are to be asked to help save the local Westcountry channel.

Communications Portfolio Holder, Councillor Stuart Hughes, is asking the next meeting of EDDC's Executive Board to make representations to Ofcom, the Local Government Association and to ITV, with the following message:

"We deplore the proposal to close ITV's news operations in Plymouth and Exeter and to operate a regional service from Bristol, with the inevitable impact this will have on an important communications channel for residents of Devon, Cornwall and several other western counties.

"This is especially lamentable at a time when the Government is seeking to give local communities more say in their own affairs, with the need for as many news outlets as possible. We consider that ITV is failing in its responsibilities to Public Service Broadcasting and should reconsider this decision".

The notice of motion will be presented to EDDC's Executive Board on Wednesday 26 September.

Ends

For further press information please contact:

Nick Stephen, Communications Officer, on 01395 517 559

East Devon District Council, Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HL
www.eastdevon.gov.uk