

The Knowledge



Celandines at Colyford
Photo: - Diana Vernon

1 February 2008

Sustrans Volunteer Rangers

Sustrans is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity. Their vision is a world in which people can choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. Every day the charity is working on practical, innovative ways of dealing with the transport challenges that affect us all.



There are two events coming up to which anybody is welcome to attend.

Ranger Day – Bristol 8 March



This is an opportunity to network with volunteer Rangers who help Sustrans to monitor and maintain the National Cycle Network. The day usually starts with a bike ride and is

followed up with presentations and workshops in the afternoon.

For more information, please call 0117 9150136 or email: tony.ambrose@sustrans.org.uk

Signs of Spring: Ranger signing month - April

Volunteer rangers help to maintain signing on the National Cycle Network and April is the month for ensuring that all routes are continuously signed. Many groups organise local signing rides. Please contact Tony Ambrose to see whether there is a ride in your area.

More information regarding all aspects of Sustrans may be found at: www.sustrans.org.uk

This week in The Knowledge

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Executive Board: 30 January 2008 Members are notified of the following decisions:

	Item	Decision
138	Minutes of the Housing Review Board (10 January 2008) and the Joint meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committees	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the recommendations of the Housing Review Board at minutes 52 and 54 be approved and the recommendation at 55 be referred to the Council for approval, 2. that the recommendations of the Joint Meeting of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committees be considered when the Service Plans and Revenue and Capital Estimates were being considered later in the meeting.
140	Revenue and Capital Monitoring Report – month nine 2007/08	that variances identified as part of the Revenue and Capital Monitoring process for month 9 of 2007/08 be noted, including the effect of the Council's Reserves and Balances.
142	Cash Collection Contract	that the Council awards its cash collection contract for the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2011 to Contract Security Systems, with the possibility of a mutually agreeable extension clause of 2 years.
143	Performance Monitoring report – November & December 2007	that the performance and proposed remedial action against key performance indicators for the months of November and December 2007 be noted.
144	Community Enforcement contract (Community Wardens) and Neighbourhood Assessments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the Neighbourhood Assessments Scheme continues on the basis outlined in the report, 2. that a community enforcement team (comprising 2 full time equivalents) be set up with the Corporate Director (Peter Jeffs) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder – Communities being given delegated authority to determine the most appropriate means of staffing the team, either by direct employment or through an external contractor, bearing in mind the specialised skills required to effectively fulfil these roles.
145	Midweek Herald – Back to Basics Campaign on Public Conveniences	that, where there is a need identified or requested by a Town or Parish Council, East Devon District Council will procure public conveniences through the planning process and / or sponsorship subject to the District not being obliged to meet costs out of its revenue and / or capital finance budgets.
146	Bus Station and Lorry Park – Exmouth – request for authorization to enter into exclusive negotiations	that, subject to legal advice, Officers be authorised to enter into an exclusivity agreement with ASM Properties to facilitate negotiations on the delivery of a supermarket development on the Bus Station/Lorry Park Site, subject to ASM meeting the costs of undertaking various necessary actions, including preparation and submission of a planning application, negotiation with other landowners and those with other legal interests in the site and commissioning various reports and surveys.
147	Public Liability Insurance for Boats and Winches on Beaches	that the level of public liability insurance for boat owners and winch owners using East Devon District Council owned beaches be set at £3m.

Executive Board: 30 January 2008 (Cont'd)

	Item	Decision
148	Establishment of Exmouth and Seaton Regeneration Programme Boards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that subject to the consideration and endorsement by Devon County Council and Exmouth Town Council/Seaton Town Council, Regeneration Programme Boards be established for Exmouth and Seaton 2. that the Exmouth Joint Forum be abolished, 3. that the terms of reference detailed in the report be approved, 4. that the proposed membership of the Boards be approved subject to the inclusion of one seat for a representative of the Primary Care Trust 5. that the proposal to appoint an Independent Chairman for the initial three years of the Boards be put to the other participating Councils for their consideration, 6. that the Regeneration Programme Boards meet once a quarter.
149	Outsourcing of Beach Lifeguard Service	that delegated authority be given to the Head of Streetscene Services, to enter into an agreement with the RNLI lifeguard service, subject to nothing in the agreement conflicting or contradicting with current Council policies, to provide the life guard service at Exmouth commencing from April 2008 for a minimum period of 5 years.
151	Seaton regeneration project, development at the Underfleet and Harbour Road	that Sainsburys be advised of the Council's decision to allow them 2 months to prepare their case for the proposed development in Seaton whilst the Council continues to negotiate with Tesco in respect of the redevelopment of land at The Underfleet and Harbour Road, Seaton with the issue being considered at the meeting of the Executive Board on 30 April 2008.
152	Dennedene Farm, Marley Road, Exmouth	that EDDC enter into an agreement with the landowner identified in the report which could then trigger completion of the transfer of land subject to the planning process
153	Permission to seek a proposed change of use for land to a Nature Reserve within the Axe Wetlands project area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the Council makes a planning application for the land known as Sheep's Marsh for change of use to a Nature Reserve for determination by the Development Control Committee. 2. that the Council makes a planning application for the land identified in the report at Appendix A, for change of use to a Nature Reserve subject to the outcome of the negotiations for the purchase of the land.
154	Proposed Marina and Ham Redevelopment, Sidmouth	that the report be considered by the Board at its meeting in February with Karime Hassan, Corporate Director being asked to meet with the Sidmouth Vision Group and the Town Council in advance of the meeting so that their views can be assessed and if appropriate incorporated into the revised report
155	Request for exemption to standing orders	that exemption to standing orders be approved to allow the Council to employ the services of Vanguard Consultancy to bring systems thinking skills into the Council's services.

The above decisions will become effective on Thursday 7 February 2008 at 9.00am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call in" is on pages 133-135 of the Council Constitution (as amended at the Annual Meeting of the Council), or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation. Recommendations by the Executive Board to Council are not included above, as they are not subject to "call in".

Budleigh Music Festival secures three year sponsor



The fourth Budleigh Festival will take place between July 25 and August 2nd with highlights including a concert by famed clarinet player Emma Johnson and pianist John Lenehan, a piano recital by the critically acclaimed Mark Bebbington and a hugely popular return visit by the Cornish Male Choir from Mevagissey and Budleigh Salterton's very own prize-winning choir.

Richard Hedger, the managing partner of the Festival's sponsors, Michelmores, (Sidmouth office) said: "As a firm, we are very keen to support worthwhile local initiatives and the Budleigh Festival has been growing in stature year on year as witnessed by the superb programme of performances arranged for 2008. We are delighted to be associated with this event and to support it over the next few years."



Festival Chairman Roger Bowen added: "From a tribute to Duke Ellington and the New Devon Opera's production of Verdi's Rigoletto to a home grown Balalaika band, some Taiko drummers and a Steel Band ensemble, we have something for everyone. There will also be a visit by the Henschel Quartet justly celebrated as one of Europe's finest. Appearances by James Bowman, Nicholas Clapton, John Turner in "Sound the Trumpet" complete the programme.

"For many, the highlight will be Walton's "Façade" with Stravinsky's "The Soldiers Tale" which features TV personalities Richard Baker and Katie Derham as reciters. This will present a great opportunity to compare two compositions from the 1920s. We present a local virtuoso violinist in a performance of the Vivaldi "Four Seasons" with the Festival Orchestra and Chorus.

"This will be our most ambitious Festival yet and so we are particularly indebted to Michelmores for their sponsorship which greatly contributes to our ability to deliver such a diverse range of performers of the highest quality."

Michelmores is known for its support of community based cultural and sporting events and has pledged £3000 each year to support the Festival which attracts local and regional performers as well as those of international acclaim.

More information about the Budleigh Salterton Festival of Music and the Arts 08 is available by visiting www.budleigh-festival.org.uk or by calling Roger Bowen on 01395 442360

MSC Napoli Update - Details of Napoli Inquiry to be released

Devon County Council's Executive Committee will be asked next week (5 February) to agree the terms for an independently Chaired, inquiry in public into the beaching of the MSC Napoli in Lyme Bay last year, and subsequent events. The Council believes that a local inquiry will, through the process of investigation, help authorities learn lessons and inform future local and national contingency plans to minimise the potential for an incident similar to the Napoli occurring.

The inquiry will consider:

- ❑ To what degree the environmental sensitivity of the coastline should be a factor in determining places of refuge for shipping in emergencies
- ❑ Whether the UK coastline, marine and estuarine environment is adequately protected under existing legislation
- ❑ Whether international shipping conventions are rigorous enough and fully supported internationally
- ❑ Whether the statutory powers in respect of salvage of goods are sufficiently clear and robust and the relative responsibilities of agencies sufficiently well defined and understood to prevent public disorder.

The inquiry will also take into account the impact of the Napoli incident on the local economy, environment and well-being of local communities. It will consider the effectiveness and inter-relationship of the various agencies, and identify any constraints such as resources, communications, command and control systems and training. The findings will be made widely available to the public. If endorsed next week by the County Council, the preliminary evidence gathering will start in February.

Local authorities, Government departments and agencies, businesses and landowners, communities, their elected representatives, environmental and conservation bodies, the general public and any interested party will be invited to contribute their views prior to the inquiry throughout the Spring.

The County Council's website will include a dedicated webpage to provide an opportunity for submissions to be posted online.

Inquiry response packs will also be made as widely available as possible from, for example, libraries, local government offices, schools, town and parish councils and local Members, for anyone who wishes to make a submission in writing.

The Council's Community Roadshow vehicle, which attends local events, will provide another opportunity for people and organisations to submit their contributions to the Inquiry.

Councillor Brian Greenslade, the Leader of Devon County Council said: "We said last year that in the absence of a Government-backed Public Inquiry, that we would conduct an Inquiry, just as we did successfully following Devon's Foot and Mouth outbreak in 2001. The recent 'near-miss' with the cargo ship MV Ice Prince serves to illustrate the ongoing risk to our coastlines, and the need for all agencies to learn any lessons. A local inquiry would provide a structured and reassuring opportunity for communities to record their experiences, questions and concerns."

Devon County Council's Executive Member for Environment, and local Branscombe resident, Cllr Margaret Rogers, said: "Doubtless, the bravery, intensive and dedicated hard work of the salvage crews in those early days and months to remove first the oil and then cargo has to be acknowledged. And we must remember those who worked tirelessly to clean up and keep the beaches clean, often not returning home for weeks on end."

Work to remove the stern section of the vessel is currently on hold throughout the Winter, and will resume again in the Spring.

Mike Bomford, Devon County Council Tel: 01392 382173. email: mike.bomford@devon.gov.uk

First Great Western reply to criticisms of service

The Chairman of First Great Western, Charles Howeson, has issued a statement in response to criticism of the service operated by this train operator.

He is quoted as " I have to agree with the recent comment on our operational performance which is completely unacceptable to myself and to my Board of Directors. After all the main purpose of the railway is to get you from A to B on time and one ought to be able to rely on that at least nine times out of ten! ... if we don't get Performance and Punctuality right, we are letting everybody down... I am determined hence forward that FGW treat each and every one of our customers (passengers) just as if they were the Company's own Shareholders. That represents a major shift of emphasis.

We will now be recruiting additional train crews and tackling those engineering issues that lie at our door with the utmost urgency so that we do our best to run a 'zero failure logistics' operation from this point onwards, and in doing this we will necessarily have to put our own commercial considerations second. That will I believe put all the performance issues right at our end...

We will work closely with Network Rail on a daily basis to make sure that their infrastructure gets repaired with minimum disruption to the service and our customers...All of us in FGW want to run the very best railway in the Country for you, and for our regional economy... The climb back to us all having a real pride in what we do at all levels of the Company has already started.

Housing revenue account – subsidy payment

During this year's budget process we were identified of a significant increase in our Housing Revenue Account subsidy payment. This is a payment we make to government each year from our rental income. The payment for 2008/09 will be £5,358,400, which is a 14% increase on this year, and represents 40% of our income.

We are so concerned about this subsidy that I wrote to the Director General of the Communities and Local Government Directorate outlining our position and seeking advice. In my letter I state that

"We fundamentally disagree with the principle of negative subsidy payments for Council's and for us this is further exacerbated by the fact that this level of increase is far in excess of that predicted in our HRA Business Plan produced as part of the housing stock options appraisal. We produced what we thought was a robust model of future income and expenditure with your colleagues and Tribal using your model. This was comprehensively tested during the options appraisal project.

You will appreciate that subsidy increase significantly in excess of inflation will severely impact on our ability to deliver service improvements and improvements to tenants' homes. We simply cannot sustain this level of subsidy increase in future years. I am aware of discussions on possible changes to the subsidy system, and we commented on the Housing Green Paper Homes for the Future: More Affordable, More Sustainable, about the negative effect on the Housing Subsidy system and in support of a change to the current scheme.

I urge you to reform this inequitable subsidy system, which will impact directly on our tenants and make it increasingly difficult for this Council to meet government targets and implement Audit Commission recommendations. Our Business Plan will be adversely affected and the Council forced to consider alternatives to retaining management of the stock in-house. If I were cynical I might have thought this to be deliberate.

I read in the housing press this week that the Minister dislikes the subsidy system and I would urge early reform before further financial damage is done to those local authorities in a negative subsidy position."

I sent a copy of our draft budget to demonstrate the effect of the subsidy payment. I have copied the letter to our MPs and await a response

John Golding, Head of Housing & Social Inclusion
Tel: 01395 516551, Ext 2364 Email: jgolding@eastdevon.gov.uk

Jurassic Coast arts project funding news

The Creative Coast Group have received official notification that their Grants for the Arts application has been successful and that a grant of **£150,000** has been awarded to them subject to the usual conditions.

The grant will be managed by the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Team and I take the project forward from April 2008 to April 2011. The Jurassic Coast Arts Strategy will now commence implementation around the following Key strategic themes:

Arts and Science
Celebration of Stone
Sounds of the Coast
Site Specific Arts
The Jurassic Coast Fellowship
Carnival

Projects, events and programmes arising from these themes will be overseen by a newly appointed Arts Coordinator (full time post) line managed by Sam Rose of the World Heritage Coast Team. It is planned that the new post-holder will commence work in the Spring. The post will be advertised nationally at the end of January. In addition to the above a small project seed corn budget will assist in the development of added value events which fit within the arts protocol and take place along the length and breadth of the coast. Through this mechanism they will support and encourage a range of projects in partnership with RFO's, arts organizations, community groups and cross sector partners. It will also provide leverage for additional funding from external sources. The Creative Coast Group will also continue to work closely with Team South West, the Creative Programmer (SW) and other regional partners on plans for London 2012 and the Cultural Olympiad.

Ishbel Ramsay
Arts Development Officer (01395 517466)

Cycle training provision for half a million children by 2012

A record £140million Government investment in cycling, announced by Ruth Kelly, Secretary of State for Transport today, is set to help half a million children cycle safely and generations of adults rediscover their bikes.

This ambitious new drive to boost cycling will help to tackle road congestion and improve air quality as well as create more opportunities for exercise. It fulfils a commitment to increase investment in sustainable transport initiatives, outlined in the recent strategy document, 'Towards a Sustainable Transport System'.

The money will be invested over the next three years and forms part of the Government's forthcoming strategy to tackle obesity.

The six-fold increase in funding will:

- * allow an extra 500,000 10 year-olds across England to take part in Bikeability cycle training by 2012, equipping them to cycle safely and responsibly
- * build another 250 Safe Links to Schools, connecting around 500 more schools to the National Cycle Network. Many schools with links have already doubled the number of pupils cycling to school.
- * create up to a further 10 Cycling Demonstration Towns in England, as well as the first large Demonstration City. This will mean nearly 3 million people will have the chance to benefit from best practice and promotion of cycling.

(DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT News Release (005) issued by The Government News Network on 21 January 2008)

Licensing Policy 2008/11 - Liquor, entertainment & late night refreshments

The Licensing Act 2003 requires that the Licensing Authority review its Statement of Licensing Policy every three years.

The Statement of Licensing Policy for 2008/11 came into effect on the 7 January 2008 and a copy can be accessed by clicking the link below

http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/licensing_policy_08_-_11-2.pdf

Forthcoming meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 4 February	9.30am	Council Chamber
Rates Consultation	Simon Davey	Monday 4 February	6.30pm	Not required
Scrutiny Committee	Debbie Meakin	Wednesday 6 February	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing and Enforcement Sub B	Chris Lane	Monday 11 February	9.30am	Council Chamber
Development Control Committee	Christopher Holland	Tuesday 12 February	2.00pm	Council Chamber
Local Joint Panel	Rachel Perram	Wednesday 13 February	9.30am	Council Chamber
Special Meeting of the Executive Board	Diana Vernon	Wednesday 13 February	6.00 pm	Committee Room
Capital Programme Taff	Diana Vernon	Friday, 15 February	4.30 pm	Council Chamber

Would Councillors please pass their apologies to Democratic Services whenever they are unable to attend a meeting so that post can be sent or withheld as appropriate.

If you would like a copy of the papers relating to any of the above meetings, please contact the relevant Democratic Services Officer. (All the above meetings are at Knowle, unless otherwise specified).

To view agendas, reports and minutes on the Council's website, choose Quick Links (Committee Papers) on the front page of the website.

To view planning applications online, choose Planning on Quick Links, then click the Planning Online logo.

Diana Vernon 01395 517541	Christopher Holland 01395 517543	Chris Lane 01395 517544	Debbie Meakin 01395 517540	Rachel Perram 01395 517542
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Portfolio Holders decisions

Decisions by Portfolio Holder

Members are notified of the following decisions

Communities (Miss J Elson) and Economy & Regeneration (P Halse)	Increase in Charges for Knowle, Sidmouth; Elizabeth Hall, Exmouth; Town Hall, Seaton and Mackarness Hall ,Honiton Agreeing that the proposed increase in charges for 2008/09, subject to the charges for the Elizabeth Hall being frozen at the current rate, with the officers being requested to review relevant policy in respect of cost of hire over a bank holiday and period of notice for cancellation.
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The above decisions will become effective on 6 February 2008 at 9.00 am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call in" is on pages 133-135 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation.

New documents in the Members' Area

Feedback from outside bodies

Devon County Council

Health and Adults' services overview/scrutiny committee – Briefing before Budget meeting on 21 January 2008

The above document is in the 'Feedback from Outside Bodies' file on the bookcase in the Members' Area for your information.

News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

LAAAs: effective partnerships and improved outcomes

Effective partnerships are crucial to the success of the new LAAs currently being developed and negotiated. This series of case studies demonstrates how successful partnerships between councils and local organisations have delivered improved outcomes for residents.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/9383/86948/1865/0/>

Skills development for councillors

In Thurrock, the council recognised that councillors face increasing demands to keep pace with new policy, rules and regulations. Find out how the council developed a member-led training programme to equip councillors to deal with the demands of modern local government.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/9383/86948/1866/0/>

Lightening the load: obesity toolkit

The toolkit 'Lightening the load: tackling overweight and obesity' was updated and newly published in 2007. It underlines the key role that different partners can play, and describes different types of obesity intervention and the evidence for the effectiveness of each.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/9383/86948/1456/0/>

Sustainability: as easy as ABC?

How well is your council performing on sustainability? Hampshire County Council provides a good example of how to measure your council's performance. It has abolished its annual sustainability report and placed a sustainability performance measurement framework at the heart of the authority.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/9383/86948/1867/0/>

Improvement Express: January 2008 edition

Lucy de Groot pinpoints the salient themes for the year ahead in local government. Share your ideas on new performance approaches in a post-CPA environment. Access LAA-focused learning in the IDeA's new case study resource. Plus read 'Getting better all the time?', an independent assessment on the last ten years of local government improvement.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/9383/86948/1145/0/>

In the press

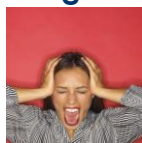
Cost of migrants to local councils

A letter from Cllr David Ashton, Deputy Leader of Harrow Council writes about the costs of immigration. He writes 'migrant skills are always welcome, and we consider diversity to be strength. But we need to underline that there is a cash cost for the local authorities which are on the front line of caring for those populations. Until the government grant settlement recognizes these seismic change, we will all strain to cope.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/01/24/nmigrants124.xml>

Councils swamped with meaningless targets

Local councils will offer better value for money if central government stops imposing pointless targets and complex performance measurements - much of which cost the taxpayer a great deal of money, according to a letter in the Express. Express p42 (25.01.08)



Pothole Britain

It would take 11 years to fill in the potholes in Britain's roads, with councils failing to repair almost a million in the last year, according to the AA. The Local Government Association said that it would take an extra £200m a year to reach repair targets by 2010. Cllr David Sparks from the LGA was quoted: "We haven't got enough money to solve the problem."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=EWO5T3IAYHN1JQFIQMGSGGAVCBQWIV0?xml=/news/2008/01/27/nroad127.xml>

Village school closure threat

Hundreds of village schools risk closure despite government pledges to maintain education in the countryside. Campaigners have warned that a worst case scenario could see up to 1,000 schools close. Les Lawrence from the LGA was quoted: "It is no use ministers making high-flown statements and expecting others to pick up the tab."

<http://observer.guardian.co.uk/politics/story/0,,2247751,00.html>

Bin men kidnapped

Angry residents in Hyde, Manchester, kidnapped a bin lorry after dustmen refused to take their street's backlog of Christmas rubbish. Sun p38, Express p31 (25.01.08)

Schooling to age 18 'will damage economy'

Teenagers could be left without jobs under government plans to increase the leaving age to 18 which could also damage the economy, according to the Policy Exchange think-tank.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=NKBMBD1HYIFYFQFIQMGCF4AVCBQUIV0?xml=/news/2008/01/29/nedu329.xml>

Hidden salt that could harm kids

Children are being put at risk of suffering high blood pressure and strokes in later life by the hidden salt content of many popular foods. Most worrying is the high level of salt present in sweet food.



Daily Mail p8, Independent p10-11, Guardian p4 Express p32

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-drink/features/a-killer-on-the-shelves-the-shocking-truth-about-childrens-food-774855.html>

Estates with gates are out of bounds for planners



A number of councils have refused planning permission for walls, fences and gates around residential developments after CLG said they should be used only as a last resort. The guidance says councils should use the planning system to reduce social inequalities.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=510742&in_page_id=1770

Council tax rebates for armed services extended

Council tax rebates are to be extended from service personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan to all those serving overseas, the defence minister has said. The scheme will be worth around £140 to servicemen and women on a six-month tour of duty.

In the press (continued)

Education class gap widens

A report by the Institute of Education says the educational gulf between rich and poor has widened over the last 20 years as more middle-class teenagers go to university.

Telegraph p10

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml;jsessionid=P31NLKETNOOFFQFIQMGCFGGAVCBQIIV0?xml=/news/2008/01/29/nedu129.xml>

Council's 'Blue Sky' idea

Brighton and Hove City Council has been praised for coming up with an innovative idea for tackling anti-social behaviour on one of its toughest housing estates. Since the council emblazoned images of summery skies across the boarded-up windows of a derelict pub, residents claimed there's been a marked decrease in problem behaviour there.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/topstories/2008/01/30/blue-sky-thinking-89520-20302915/>

Homecoming parade success

Thousands of cheering people lined the streets to pay tribute to returning troops from Afghanistan and Iraq as part of the Hampshire Homecoming parades set up by Hampshire County Council.

Mirror p28, Express p8

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.html?in_article_id=511098&in_page_id=1770

Maternity units struggle with rise in birth-rate among foreign-born mothers



Britain pays £350 million a year to provide maternity services born to mothers outside the country, according to BBC analysis. The birth-rate at its

highest level for 26 years, with almost one in four babies born to foreign-born mothers.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/global/main.jhtml;jsessionid=YDL5ZDPG3KJCTQFIQMGSGFFWAVCBQWIV0?xml=/global/2008/01/30/noindex/nhealth430.xml>

Sex education to be compulsory

Schools may be forced by government to introduce compulsory sex education to cut teen pregnancies as it struggles to meet a self-imposed target to cut under-18 conceptions by half by 2010, according to Beverley Hughes, the minister for children. Only basic biological facts about sex are compulsory at present.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/01/30/nsex130.xml>

Pub landlord fails smoking ban legal challenge

Pub Landlord nick Hogan was fined £10,000 after losing legal challenge against smoking ban. He was charged after ejecting local authority inspectors from his pub in Bolton. p33 Express

Please note that links to some websites will only work correctly if you have Adobe PDF Reader Version 7 or 8 on your computer. You can download this free from the Adobe website:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readmain.html>

If you require further assistance please contact Democratic Services on 01395 517546.

You can access press items by going onto the secure Members' web page of EDDC's website and clicking on the 'In the Press' link. This is updated every Saturday.

Please note that the Express & Echo web site for press coverage is: www.thissexeter.co.uk

For Western Morning News stories the web site is: www.thissdevon.co.uk

For Archant news stories the web site is www.devon24.co.uk

Production Information

The Democratic Services team produces this weekly information sheet every Friday for Members of East Devon District Council. Please contact Diana Vernon if you have any comments about the newsletter. **If you wish to reproduce any of the images used in The Knowledge, please contact the editor who will seek permission from the contributor.**

Telephone: (01395) 517541 or Extension: 2741. Email: dvernon@eastdevon.gov.uk

Submissions: If you have items that you wish to be included in the next issue, please contact Democratic Services.

Telephone: (01395) 517542 or Extension 2746. Email: knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk