

The Knowledge



19 June 2009

This week in The Knowledge

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Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 23 June	9.30am	CANCELLED
Assessment & Hearings Sub/ Review Sub Committee	TBC	Tuesday 23 June	10.00am	CANCELLED
Leader's Service Transformation Group	CL	Tuesday 23 June	5.30pm	Council Chamber
Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board	RP	Wednesday 24 June	9.30am	Room 1
Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee	RP	Wednesday 24 June	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Audit and Governance Committee	DV	Thursday 25 June	3.30pm	Committee Room
East Devon Business Forum	CL	Thursday 25 June	6.00pm	East Devon Business Centre
Housing Review Board	AT	Thursday 25 June	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Leader's Service Transformation Group	CL	Monday 29 June	5.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing and Enforcement Sub	CL	Tuesday 30 June	9.30am	CANCELLED
Development Management Committee	CEH	Tuesday 30 June	2.00pm	Council Chamber
Exeter Airport Consultative Group	CL	Wednesday 1 July	2.15pm	Exeter Airport
Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	DM	Wednesday 1 July	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Leader's Service Transformation Group	CL	Thursday 2 July	5.30pm	See 29 June



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Knowle
Sidmouth
EX10 9BL

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Democratic Services Officers:

Diana Vernon 01395 517541	Christopher Holland 01395 517543	Hannah Jarvis 01395 517542	Chris Lane 01395 517544	Debbie Meakin 01395 517540	Rachel Perram 01395 517542	Alethea Thompson 01395 517540
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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. Please don't forget to check your pigeon holes whenever you are visiting Knowle.

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).

Click [here](#) to view agendas and minutes on the Council's website. Click [here](#) to view planning applications online.

Find out more about funding

Money for horticulture



The Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust has grants of up to about £10,000 available to support amenity horticulture and education for amenity horticulture. Projects could

include; training schemes for gardeners, restoration of historically important gardens and development of new facilities in a garden already open to the public. Any individual, organisation or institution is eligible to apply. The next deadline is 15 August 2009. For more information phone Dr James Cullen (mornings only) on ☎ 01223 336299

▶ Arts funding

The Fidelio Charitable Trust has funding available for the dramatic and operatic arts, music, speech and dance. Institutions, colleges, arts festivals and other arts organisations can apply, along with selected individuals (who are not seeking support for themselves).

Jamie Buckley (Engagement & Funding Officer) ☎ 01395 517569 (or Ext 2769) jbuckley@eastdevon.gov.uk

▶ Musicians



The Musicians Benevolent Fund has grants of between £200 and £1,000 available to young musicians under the

age of 19. Awards are made to those with a high level of talent and a financial need.

Money for the Arts

The Garrick Charitable Trust has grants of about £2,500 available to support institutions that work in the areas of dance, theatre, music or literature. For more information: ☎ 02078 361737

Armed Forces Day



Sidmouth's Branch of The Royal British Legion will be holding an event to help celebrate and honour our Armed Forces on Saturday 27 June from 2.00pm at Ham Green, Sidmouth. All are welcome to attend, with stalls and activities for all ages, including a BBQ, cake stall, face painting and model railway.

A parade through the town will be led by Sidmouth Town Band to Ham Green for a drumhead service at 3.00pm.

To find out more about the national event click on the link below:

www.armedforcesday.org.uk/Raising-the-Flag.aspx

Chairman's engagements

Saturday 20 June

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend the High Sheriff of Devon's garden party at Fursdon House.

Monday 22 June

Armed Forces Day – Raising the Flag ceremony at 10.30am, Council Offices, Sidmouth followed by tea/biscuits in the Members Area.

Tuesday 23 June

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend the ED Scouts AGM, Blue Ball Public House, Sidford from 8.30pm.

Saturday 27 June

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend a Eucharist on the Cathedral Green at 11.30 to celebrate the 1100th Anniversary of a Diocese for Devon.



News from the Rural Services Network (RSN)

▶ Rural post offices dubbed 'second class'



Replacement post office services in rural areas are unsatisfactory, a consumer champion has warned. Concerns about part-time and mobile "outreach" post offices in rural areas are highlighted in a report by Consumer Focus. Outreach post offices - such as mobile vans or postal counters

in village pubs - are seen as essential where permanent post offices aren't viable.

▶ Minister puts faith in 'people power'

The Government has pledged to strengthen ways local people can improve public services. The Communities secretary MP said he wanted to re-examine the relationship between central and local government. The MP appointed to his new position this month, said he was committed to helping local people shape their communities.

▶ Rail links to reconnect rural residents?



Campaigners have welcomed plans that could reconnect rural areas to the rail network. Researchers have identified opportunities to benefit 1m people by opening 14 new lines and up to 40 new stations. The Connecting Communities study was undertaken by the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC).

▶ Migrants 'crucial' to rural economy

Migrant workers play a crucial role in the rural economy, says a report. Rural businesses would face significant risks if migration declines, according to research from the IPPR think-tank. Tim Finch, IPPR head of migration, said: "Migrants have made an important contribution to rural economies by filling skills gaps and labour shortages.

▶ Phone tax to pay for rural broadband



Telephone lines will be taxed under proposals to bring superfast broadband to the countryside. A monthly 50p levy will be imposed on fixed telephone lines under government plans outlined on 16 June. The tax, equivalent to an annual levy of £6 per household,

would pay to speed up the internet where doing so commercially is unviable.

▶ Rural-watchdog backs taxi campaign

The Government's rural watchdog has backed a campaign for shared taxis to be used as rural public transport. Shared taxi schemes could provide subsidised travel for rural residents, said the Commission for Rural Communities. A decline in rural bus provision as operators focused on lucrative urban markets had compounded rural isolation, the commission said.

Note: Members of RSN (which includes Councillors and Council staff) can gain free and full access to RSN Online by [registering](#).

News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

▶ Year of Healthy Communities Calendar – June entries



In this month's collection of stories, discover how health trainers are tackling health inequalities in Cornwall, explore how a magazine in Manchester is seeking to radically change the region's health and find out

how firms in Brighton and Hove are benefiting from free health checks for their staff.

▶ A steps approach to infrastructure and delivery

Are your capital infrastructure schemes working? Do you know what your partners are delivering? Ever seen their capital spending plans? How can you work more effectively using the limited resources you all have available? Read 'A steps approach to infrastructure and delivery' – and start finding out!

▶ Cultural change: preparing for the future

Cultural change is a vital, but often overlooked, aspect of sustainable service transformation. This new resource defines what cultural change really means, its relationship with strategy and performance, and the essential ingredients for a successful cultural change programme. We also offer learning and good practice through case studies, video clips and a new publication, based on interviews with nine chief executives on how they are creating the right organisational culture for the future.

▶ Jonathon Porritt talks to the IDeA

After nine years as Chair of the Sustainable Development Commission, Jonathon Porritt talks to the IDeA about the comprehensive area assessment (CAA), political instability and the importance of leadership for sustainability in local government. Drive the debate and add your comments to the piece.

▶ Climate change self-evaluation guide



This new guide, which builds on IDeA and LGA locality guidance, is designed for councils and their partners. It will help you assess your approach

to climate change adaptation and mitigation, plan improvements, and prepare well-argued evidence for CAA inspectors.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the South West delayed

The Secretary of State planned to publish the final version of the RSS at the end of June. However, on 20 May, the High Court gave an oral judgment that the published RSS for the East of England failed to meet certain requirements of the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive in respect of policies relating to three towns. The Government Office for the South West is currently considering the potential implications of this for the RSS for the South West, but has indicated it will not be able to reach a clear view until the written judgement is issued by the Court. Government Office for the South West (GOSW) also state that it is not possible to set a new timetable for issuing the RSS, until the implications of the judgment have been clarified, and what action is required, if any.

John Maidment (Policy and Conservation Manager)

☎ 01395 517483 (or Ext 2683) jmaidment@eastdevon.gov.uk

In the press

▶ **LGA research reveals big local differences in impact of recession**

Research published by the Local Government Association (LGA) shows that the largest rise in blue collar workers is coming in the West Midlands, Yorkshire and South Wales, whilst London and the South East in being affected to a much greater extent by white collar job losses. The LGA warns that a national blanket policy to deal with the recession doesn't work because each part of the country is affected differently by the recession. Sir Jeremy Beecham, Vice Chairman of the LGA is quoted: "The needs of leafy middle class suburbs are poles apart from the action that needs to be taken in more deprived inner-city areas. An unemployed factory worker from Barnsley or Birmingham needs to be retrained very differently from a City financial analyst".

▶ **School-leavers face toughest time looking for employment in 15 years**

The figures are set to balloon further over the summer as students leaving school and university struggle to find work.

▶ **£72BN for more council homes**

Gordon Brown is poised to free-up billions of pounds to tackle Britain's council house crisis. Just 400 local authority homes were built in 2007, despite a waiting list which may grow to five million by 2011. Now, following calls from the LGA, the Prime Minister is considering letting councils keep profits from rents and right-to-buy schemes instead of passing them to the Treasury. This could unlock £72 billion to build 300,000 homes over 10 years. LGA Chairman Cllr Margaret Eaton is quoted: "Allowing councils to keep the rent they collect and the proceeds from sales would be a huge boost to the economy."

Production information

Democratic Services 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:**

☎ (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, contact Democratic Services:

☎ (01395) 517542 or Extension 2742. Email: knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk