

# The Knowledge



Listed building – Luton, Payhembury  
Photo: - Ray Steer Kemp

## This week in The Knowledge

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18 January 2008

## Lottery helps to shrink carbon footprint

A multi-million pound scheme to help communities become more energy efficient and ease the financial impact of rising energy costs has been announced by the Big Lottery Fund.

Big's award of £10.1 million to renewable energy specialists Building Research Establishment (BRE), will enable communities across England to reduce their carbon footprint. BRE will manage the Community Sustainable Energy grant scheme to help local organisations tackle pivotal environmental issues by becoming more energy efficient.



Groups can apply for grants to install small-scale energy efficient technology such as wind turbines or solar panels on sites including village halls, visitor centres or schools. Funding to improve building insulation will also be offered.

Coupled with those objectives is the drive to inform and raise public awareness of climate change and how altering building methods and adopting energy efficient practices can reduce it. Development grants are also available to help community organisations research new technologies that will benefit them most.

Full details of the Big Lottery Fund programmes and grant awards are available on the website at [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)



Council Offices  
Knowle  
Sidmouth  
Devon  
EX10 8HL

[www.eastdevon.gov.uk](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk)

## Update on Devon Primary Care Trust (PCT) for health

Kevin Snee, the Chief Executive of the PCT, visited the Knowle to meet Mark Williams and Peter Jeffs last week, to start a more regular dialogue. We discussed a range of current issues, and have arranged for him to attend one of the future Executive Committee meetings to discuss the PCT's Strategic Review (how the PCT proposes to develop further) and to answer Members questions.

A number of matters were briefly discussed at the meeting including:

- ❑ Local concerns over upper gastro-intestinal cancer treatment services and future access. (The intention is that though specialist treatment may be based in Plymouth a significant amount of treatment may also be available in future at local community hospitals).
- ❑ The importance of East Devon patients and relatives being able to easily travel for health care services; and recent changes to patient transport.
- ❑ Proposals for the PCT to appoint a local Assistant Director of Public Health.
- ❑ The opportunity for EDDC to be involved in local GP health consortium working.
- ❑ The need for the PCT to link to EDDC on Local Development Frameworks and section 106 funding bids for Planning gain resources.
- ❑ The continuing provision, better use, and development of community hospital services in East Devon.
- ❑ Need for a greater emphasis on preventative health working.
- ❑ GP drug prescribing costs are well controlled.
- ❑ PCT finances are now returning to a balanced position.
- ❑ PCT to further explore opportunities at a proposed 'care village' development in Exmouth.
- ❑ Intended PCT HQ to move from Dean Clarke House (to County Council Offices if possible).



Peter Jeffs (Corporate Director)  
Tel: 01395 517452 (or Ext 2652) Email: [pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk)

## Translation guidance

New guidance has come out for Public Services on translation of documents into different languages. This essentially advises that we should be quite discerning about those documents that we do and do not translate.

Essentially it is felt that translations may be necessary where:

- ❑ the document is guidance on access to essential and basic services
- ❑ enabling the democratic process (registering to vote, or take part in local consultations)
- ❑ where specific work is being aimed at new migrants, or non-English speaking communities
- ❑ law, local rules, and customs are being explained
- ❑ where there might otherwise be disadvantage in accessing services.

Bad practice was highlighted as

- ❑ automatic translation of background reference documents, which are not necessarily in general circulation
- ❑ complex issues where merely signposting to a service would be better (maybe talking via an interpreter instead)
- ❑ automatic translation without consideration of the likely audience for the document.

This, of course, does not mean that large print options, and 'plain English' documents are no longer required, nor does it mean that we do not need the standard preface in appropriate documents (in a number of relevant languages) explaining what to do if the document cannot be read.

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Tel: 01395 517452 (or Ext 2652) Email: [pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk)

## Funding

**Comic Relief** operates a number of grant schemes through its Red Nose Days funding programme and has announced that the next application deadline for grants over £5,000 is 29 February 2008. Grants are available through 6

programme areas. These are: Young people; Older People; Mental Health; Refugees & Asylum Seekers; Domestic Violence; Disadvantaged Communities. The grants programme is open to registered charities and constituted community and voluntary groups and grants. For more information, visit [www.comicrelief.com](http://www.comicrelief.com)

**Esmée Fairbairn Foundation** has launched a new funding approach - in which they expect to fund a wider range of work than before, although their core interests remain in the fields of culture, education, environment and social development. Visit <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk> for more information.



**Terrence Higgins Trust** is to allocate funds for sex and relationship education projects. The Trust is looking for 13-19 year olds to come up with innovative and creative ideas about how to educate their friends. The aim is for young people to educate their peers so all the projects funded will be created and run by other teenagers. For more information visit the website: <http://www.tht.org.uk>

**Free Outward Bound Courses** – The Sir Francis



Chichester Trust is once again offering young people (16-24) from Devon, including Plymouth and Torbay, free places on Outward Bound courses over the summer holidays. The closing date for applications is 10 March. For

more details and an application form email: [info@chichestertrust.org.uk](mailto:info@chichestertrust.org.uk) or visit the website: [www.chichestertrust.org.uk](http://www.chichestertrust.org.uk)

## Forthcoming meetings

Meeting	Officer Contact	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	Chris Lane	Monday 21 January	9.30am	CANCELLED
Member Champion Network	Diana Vernon	Tuesday 22 January	10.00am for 10.30am	Council Chamber
Parish and Town Councils Celebration Event	Jill Humphreys / Diana Vernon	Wednesday 23 January	6.15pm for 7.00pm	Council Chamber
Exeter International Airport Consultative Group	Chris Lane	Thursday 24 January	2.15pm	CANCELLED
Joint Scrutiny and Corporate Overview Committee	Debbie Meakin	Thursday 24 January	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Planning Inspections Committee	Christopher Holland	Friday 25 January	2.15pm	Council Chamber
Licensing and Enforcement Sub B	Chris Lane	Monday 28 January	9.30am	CANCELLED
Culture Task and Finish Forum	Diana Vernon	Tuesday 29 January	6.00pm	Room 1
Executive Board	Diana Vernon	Wednesday 30 January	5.30pm	Council Chamber
East Devon Business Forum	Chris Lane	Thursday 31 January	6.00pm	East Devon Business Centre
Housing Review Board	Rachel Perram	Thursday 31 January	6.30pm	Committee Room
Beach Concessions Task and Finish Forum	Debbie Meakin	Thursday 31 January 2007	6.30pm	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	Jill Humphreys 01395 517408	Chris Lane 01395 517544	Debbie Meakin 01395 517540	Rachel Perram 01395 517542
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## Decision put to Portfolio Holder A decision will be published in a future edition of The Knowledge

### Economy

(P Halse)

### Boats and Winches Licences on Beaches

For 2008/09, annual boat licences should be increased from £50 to £60. Annual winch licences should be retained at £70.

**Further details:** Brian Kohl, Property Services Manager, Ext 1585

## News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

### Are we really 'Getting better all the time?'



This new, independent essay is a must-read for anyone involved in local government improvement. Prepared for the IDeA by Clive Grace and Steve Martin of Cardiff University, it aims to help inform and strengthen current discussions about the role

the sector will need to play as it takes greater responsibility for its own improvement and performance. <http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk>

### Parton hits the north in literacy push

Country music legend Dolly Parton flew in to Rotherham recently to promote literacy among five-year olds. The IDeA spoke to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to find out how the project evolved and how local children are set to benefit from this unlikely alliance.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk>

### LAAs and anti-social behaviour

This quartet of case studies highlights how LAAs (Local Area Agreements) are being used to tackle anti-social behaviour in four different areas of the country. Read how issues such as pupil exclusions from school and support for families confronting eviction are being challenged with the help of LAAs.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk>

### Linking waistlines to bottom lines



A council's staff have been in the habit of having sandwiches for lunch. But recently their diets have changed radically, thanks to the council's initiative to diversify staff eating habits to improve

health and wellbeing. Find out how staff and council alike have benefited.

<http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk>

## In the press

### Zero tolerance on knives



Anyone caught carrying a knife will be prosecuted and not be able to get off with a

caution under proposals to be set out in the Violent Crime Action Plan, to be announced by Jacqui Smith early next month.

[Times](#)

### Crackdown on knives



Pressure groups demand a shake up of prison reforms so that more violent criminals can be locked up. They are arguing that non-violent

criminals be given community based sentences freeing up over 5000 places for blade carrying criminals.

[Mirror](#)

### Regions unable to close gap with London

Business minister Stephen Timms has announced a new research centre will examine regional economic development, especially why productivity levels differ in parts of the UK. Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds have grown much faster than those in other European countries over the last 10 years - but they've been unable to keep pace with London's continued success. [Financial Times](#)

### A third of our food is thrown away



A staggering £8 billion worth of food is thrown away in Britain every year - a third of everything we buy and enough to fill Wembley Stadium 8 times, according to the Waste and Resources

Action Programme (Wrap). [Telegraph](#)

## In the press (continued)

### Local decision-making but how?

A comment piece from Steve Richards of the Independent examines all 3 main parties' commitment to giving power to the people. He says none of them have yet to address what he sees as the central question - How do we achieve local innovation and accountability when central government raises the money and has responsibility for overall standards? [Independent](#)

### Climate change snub



Nearly a third of all Britons are ignoring calls to save the planet, a new Government poll has revealed. A massive 11.5million

can't be bothered to recycle, save energy or drive less. The findings come as ministers meet manufacturers in an attempt to ban standby buttons on electrical goods. Sun 15/01/08 p2

### £700m of Olympic money will never be paid back

Nearly £700million of National Lottery cash taken by the Government to fund the 2012 Olympics may never be paid back, Olympic chiefs have admitted. [Daily Mail](#)

### Road-pricing moves forward



A series of pilot road-pricing schemes has moved forward - the Department for Transport has awarded £3.17m

in extra funding to local authorities. Greater Manchester will receive £1.5m of the new "pump-priming" funds, £1m to Cambridgeshire and £675,000 to the West of England partnership. [Financial Times](#)

### New watchdog for "annoying" health & safety laws



Ridiculous health and safety laws which see councils banning conker fights at schools and

home-made cakes not being allowed for sale at fetes are to be targeted by a new watchdog. The Risk and Regulation Advisory Council, which will replace the Better Regulations Commission, has been set up to encourage Whitehall to be less risk-averse when making policy. [Times](#)

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](http://www.thissexeter.co.uk)

For Western Morning News stories the web site is: [www.thisisdevon.co.uk](http://www.thisisdevon.co.uk)

For Archant news stories the web site is [www.devon24.co.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk)