

## Quick links

- LocalGov.co.uk
- LG Improvement & Development
- South West Councils' News
- District Councils' Network
- Grants and funding
- Rural Services Network
- East Devon AONB
- Blackdown Hills AONB
- Exe Estuary Partnership
- EDDC Countryside Service
- Jurassic Coast
- Jurassic Coast Trust
- Campaign to Protect Rural England: Devon
- THG (Thelma Hulbert Gallery)
- Devon & Cornwall Police Authority
  - Authority Matters e-newsletter – Jan 2012
- Police & Crime Commissioners
- EDVSA (East Devon Volunteer Support Agency)

## EDDC News

- Please put all landfill waste inside your wheeler bin!



Contact us:  
knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk

### Democratic Services Officers

Diana Vernon 01395 517541  
 Christopher Holland 01395 517543  
 Chris Lane 01395 517544  
 Debbie Meakin 01395 517540  
 Alethea Thompson 01395 517525  
 Hannah Whitfield 01395 517542

## Meetings

Please note meetings shaded pink are **NOT** open to the public

Where ➤ is shown - click the name of the meeting to link to the agenda

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 7 February	09:30	Council Chamber
<a href="#">Development Management Committee #</a>	CEH	Tuesday 7 February	14:00	Council Chamber
Asset Management Forum	CL	<b>Thursday 9 February</b>	09:30	Room One
Sheltered Housing Task and Finish Forum	AT	Friday 10 February	10:00	Committee Room
Exmouth District Councillors to discuss Exmouth Regeneration	-	Monday 13 February	18:00	Exmouth Town Hall
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 14 February	09:30	Council Chamber
Recycling and Refuse Partnership Board	HW	Wednesday 15 February	10:00	Committee Room
Planning Training – Open Evening	DV	Wednesday 15 February	*	Planning Offices
Planning Inspections Committee	CH	Friday 17 February	TBA	Council Chamber

# Development Management Committee meeting will be preceded at 12 noon with a training session for members of the Committee – a working lunch will be provided.

\* Councillors attending this training will have booked a session time – 17:00, 18:00 or 19:00

## Cabinet decisions

Members are notified of decisions from the Cabinet meeting held on 1 February 2012. Please click on the following link to read the minutes of the meeting:

- [http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/cabinet\\_mins\\_010212.pdf](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/cabinet_mins_010212.pdf)

Cabinet decisions will become effective on **9 February 2012** at 9.00am unless “called in”. The published procedure for a “call in” is on pages 137-139 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation. Recommendations by Cabinet to Council are not subject to “call in”.

## Guide published for local authority members on meeting local housing demand

On 23 January 2012, the Local Government Association (LGA) and Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) published a guide for elected local authority members on how to meet local housing demand in view of the proposed changes in planning, housing finance and social housing. The guide includes a useful summary overview of finance, housing and planning policy issues. View the guide [here](#).

## Free Family Animation Workshop for Half Term

The Thelma Hulbert Gallery are running a free family animation workshop called 'Flip It!' on Wednesday 15 February. The gallery is open to all Devon residents.

No need to book, just drop in anytime between 10.30am and 4.30pm and join in the fun. Admission is free; any donations you can contribute will help to keep future workshops free too.

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult who is willing to get involved.

For further details call 01404 45006 or email [info@thelmahulbert.com](mailto:info@thelmahulbert.com).

## Housing Seminar

EDDC, Town and Parish Councillors are invited to attend a Housing Seminar on **Wednesday 29 February 2012**, 6 – 9pm, in the Council Chamber, Knowle, Sidmouth. This Seminar will cover an overview of the Housing Service, impact of welfare reform, Home Safeguard and will include an opportunity for you to put questions to a panel of experts.

Parish and Town Councils are invited to send 3 delegates, including the Clerk.

Please advise Diana Vernon if you are able to attend on ☎ 01395 517541 or email [dvernon@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:dvernon@eastdevon.gov.uk).

## Information Hub for you people

A new drop-in centre for young people aged 16 – 24 years olds living in the Axe Valley has opened at Long Ragg Court, Lyme Close, Axminster. The centre is open each Friday 1.30pm to 4.30pm and advice will be available on housing, education, employment, legal issues, volunteering, health and financial issues.

Long Ragg Court is a Supported Housing project for Young People.



## In the national press

### ➤ Carers 'missing out on support' says charity

People looking after someone with cancer are missing out on "vital support and benefits", a charity has warned. An Ipsos MORI survey of 386 carers for Macmillan Cancer Support suggests 49% have no support of any kind. Just 5% have had a carers' assessment by their local authority to see what assistance they could get. David Rogers, Chair of the LGA's Community Wellbeing Board, said: "As this report highlights, the sad reality is that many carers don't recognise themselves as such and fail to seek the support to which they are rightly entitled, and which is widely available through their local authority."

### ➤ Cornish party sees future in black and white

Mebyon Kernow (MK) – the Party for Cornwall – now has five seats on Cornwall Council. They are leading a campaign for a referendum on a Cornish assembly, and have called for a meeting with David Cameron and Nick Clegg. 50,000 local people have also signed a petition, which represents a tenth of the Cornish adult population. Plaid Cymru has laid down an early-day motion in the Commons supporting the motion.

### Local authorities warn of backlash over deep cuts to council tax benefit

Councils have warned the Government it faces an angry public backlash when more than 1 million people see deep cuts to their council tax benefit under imminent reforms to the system. There could be a wave of people taken to court or even imprisoned for failure to pay their full council tax as a result, some have forecast. *Financial Times 02/02/12*

### ➤ Save our cyclists

The Times launches a campaign calling on authorities to make roads safer for cyclists.

## Box Office records broken!

The professional Ballet Company, Ballet Theatre UK, who will be appearing at the Manor Pavilion Theatre for one night on the 16 April with a production of Sleeping Beauty, have broken all Box Office records at the venue by selling over 100 tickets in 24 hours!

Never before has a show sold so quickly, with sales of this kind normally associated with much larger venues. Nationally theatre ticket sales are down by 20%, however the Manor Pavilion Theatre has seen an increase of 15%. There are few dates remaining for hiring and events for this year, with all Friday and Saturday nights already fully booked.

The few tickets remaining for the production of Sleeping Beauty are on sale from the Box Office: Mon – Sat 10am – 2pm ☎ 01395 514413

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.

## STAR survey promotion

East Devon District Council's Housing Service has commissioned *BMG Research* to conduct a tenant satisfaction survey.

A random sample of EDDC general needs and sheltered tenants will be sent a questionnaire through the post to complete as well as all leaseholders. The survey is an opportunity for EDDC tenants and leaseholders to give their views so that improvements to housing services can be made. The questionnaire includes questions about satisfaction with the home, the neighbourhood and with the services provided by EDDC. Other questions ask about; contact with EDDC, repairs and maintenance, communication from EDDC and anti-social behaviour.

### Who is BMG Research?

- ❖ BMG Research is a long established provider of surveys and it has conducted similar surveys on behalf of many Councils and other landlords. It is a Company Partner of the Market Research Society and works within the MRS Code of Conduct. BMG Research is registered with the Information Commissioner and has strict procedures in place for handling data and personal information.
- ❖ BMG Research carried out EDDC's last tenant satisfaction survey (STATUS) in 2008.
- ❖ None of the answers given by customers on the questionnaires they fill out will be passed on to EDDC by BMG Research, unless permission is granted by the respondent to do so.
- ❖ Respondents' names and addresses and other details will not be passed on or sold to other organisations and companies by BMG Research.
- ❖ In terms of reporting BMG Research will only pass on 'aggregated data' to EDDC. This means the survey is totally confidential.

The questionnaire will arrive on Saturday 18 February and needs to be returned to BMG Research by **Friday 2 March**. A pre-paid envelope will be provided for completed questionnaires to be returned in.

### If people need help to complete the survey or have questions

- ❖ You can call the BMG Research Helpline on 0800 358 0337. This number is free from landlines, but charges apply if called from a mobile. Alternatively customers can call 0121 333 6006 (charges may apply) and ask to be put through to the BMG Research Helpline.
- ❖ The helpline is staffed during office hours and has an out of hours answer phone service.



Photos by Peter Vernon