

## Quick links

- LocalGov.co.uk
- SW Councils news
- Rural Services Network news
- Grants and funding
- East Devon AONB
- Blackdown Hills AONB
  - May/June E-news from the Blackdown Hills AONB
- Exe Estuary Partnership
- EDDC Countryside Service
- Jurassic Coast
- Jurassic Coast Trust
- THG (Thelma Hulbert Gallery)
- Devon & Cornwall Police Authority
- District Councils' Network
- **EDDC News**

## Chairman's engagements

### Thursday 19 May

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend the President's Lunch at the Devon County Show 2011

### Friday 20 May

Vice Chairman to attend the Devon NFU County Chairman's Breakfast Reception at Devon County Show

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

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Welcome / Refresher Day	DV	Tuesday 17 May	10.15am – 4.00pm or 5pm – 8.50pm	Council Chamber
East Devon Business Forum	CL	Wednesday 18 May	6pm	East Devon Business Centre
ICT Workshops / Surgery	ICT	Thursday 19 May	4.30pm (Security Briefing) 6pm (Workshop/Surgery)	Council Chamber
Chief Executive briefing prior to annual meeting of the Council	DV	Wednesday 25 May	5.30pm	Council Chamber
<b>Annual Council</b>	DV	Wednesday 25 May	6.30pm	Council Chamber

## LG Knowledge

### ➤ **Healthy Communities: quick guide to local government**

The LG Group has just published a quick guide to local government. This handy document, written in consultation with NHS Alliance, is designed to help those new to the local government sphere. If you've recently transferred from the NHS, access the guide and find out how local government is organised, what councils do and how decisions are made.

### ➤ **Integration this time? Liberating the NHS and the role of local government**

'Integration this time?' is a publication that sums up the findings of arrangements and experiences of joint working between local government and the NHS since the latter's creation in 1948. Read the publication, which has generated ten principles for integration and examined risks including the wider arrangements for commissioning and accountability in the NHS.

### ➤ **Markets: drivers for change and community cohesion**



Markets not only bring money into an area, keep towns and villages vibrant, but also help to strengthen community cohesion. Find out how in the 21st century markets can still thrive even in the face of increased supermarket competition. Explore the added value they provide in terms of health and community wellbeing.

### ➤ **Annual conference blog launched**

As part of this year's LG Group annual conference (28-30 June) a blog was launched to discuss hot topics leading up to the event. Current posts include a roundup of last year's conference and an item about the AV referendum by the MJ's Mike Burton. Future posts will include an update on this year's Local Government Challenge and contributions from the LGA political group heads. Visit the dedicated conference website to read the latest posts.



### ➤ **Scrutiny of health inequalities: 'Peeling the Onion'**

The Centre for Public Scrutiny has today launched a new health inequalities publication 'Peeling the Onion', designed to provide councils with the help, support and advice needed to tackle local health inequalities using the scrutiny process. The publication follows ten Scrutiny Development Areas and passes on the learning, tips and tools developed so that councils can guide themselves through a review of their own health inequalities.

## New documents in the Members' Area

Bicton College Annual Report 2009-10 'New Beginnings'. Also available [online](#)

Devon Association of Local Councils – May/June newsletter

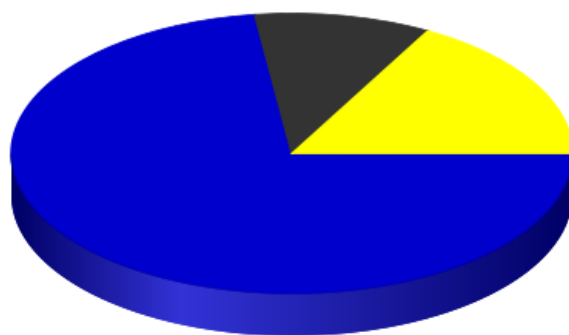
Clerks & Councils Direct – May newsletter

## Contract awarded

Central heating contract KW11-1: Upgrade to communal boiler room at Powell Close, Seaton

The Council accepted the lowest tender received from Westford Mechanical Ltd in the sum of £26,026 excluding VAT dated 21 April 2011

## Election results



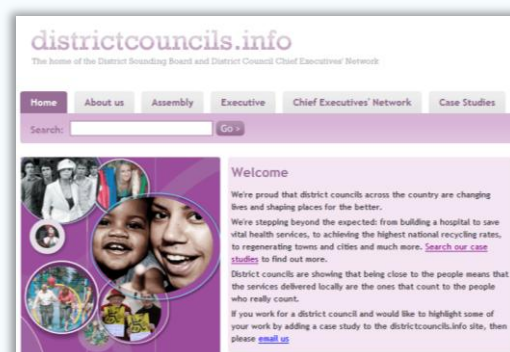
- Conservative Party 43 - overall control
- Green Party 0
- Independent 6
- Labour Party 0
- Liberal Democrats 10
- UK Independence Party 0
- Undeclared 0

> [Click for detailed results of elections to East Devon District Council](#)

## District Councils' Network

We have a new *quick link* (top left); the **District Councils' Network** is:

- A member led network of 170 District Councils
- A Special Interest Group of the Local Government Association (LGA)
- A single voice for district councils within the LGA.
- An informed and representative advocate for districts with Government and other national bodies.



## HM Courts & Tribunals Service – Proposed bench mergers in Devon & Cornwall

Proposals to merge the 6 benches and local justice areas in Devon & Cornwall into 3 new benches and 3 new local justice areas have received Ministerial approval. The Local Justice Area Order 2011 has been signed and will come into force on 19 May. This will provide for the new local justice areas and benches to be created as of 1 January 2012, as well as setting out transitional provisions which will permit shadow meetings, elections and so on to take place during 2011. Further details of the merger are available in the Members' Area.

## Do you live in the Devon community of the year?



This is a new annual award from the Community Council of Devon and is open to any Devon group, town, village or society that thinks and acts like a community and has worked to improve their physical or social environment. £500 prize for the winner plus two special awards of £250. Deadline **30 June**. Each Councillor has a competition leaflet waiting for them in their pigeon hole. Enter online at: [www.devonrcc.org.uk](http://www.devonrcc.org.uk)

## NHS reforms - latest management developments

It has been announced that NHS Plymouth, Torbay Care Trust and NHS Devon will retain their statutory powers and obligations but will work together from 1 June as a 'cluster' under a single Chief Executive – Ann James: "The clustering of the three trusts in Devon will help us to support the transition to GP-led healthcare while at the same time making changes to the NHS to improve care – and cut management costs... The new clusters are not statutory bodies but are necessary to support the transition process and deliver the new healthcare landscape set out in the Government White Paper – Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS." A formal letter from Ann James, giving more details of this announcement, is available in the Members' Area.

## In the national press

### Library cuts 'lead to poor exam scores'



Closing libraries will lead to a reduction in children's exam grades because they will fail to develop a love of learning, according to researchers. A study by researchers in the US found that reduced levels of spending on libraries could reduce students' reading and writing test scores by up to 13%. Telegraph 9 May p6

### Beaches blighted by sewage

One in ten of Britain's beaches are predicted to fail new bathing water directives unless water quality improves. Tests carried out last year show that many are being blighted by raw sewage from storm overflows and other pollutants. Councils have said they are concerned they may have to put up signs advising visitors not to bathe. Times 8 May p12

### > 50,000 allotments sold off while demand soars



A Government survey shows that town halls have sold off or redeveloped more than 50,000 allotments in the past 15 years. Planning Minister Greg Clarke made the figures public while making an announcement to give communities powers to identify new sites and protect existing plots, which will be introduced in the Localism Bill. There are reportedly 59 people waiting for every 100 plots, up from 4 for every 100 plots in 1996. People may have to wait up to 10 years to get to the front of the queue.

### > Cuts protests begin in courts and on streets

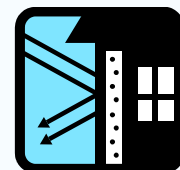
Disabled people are using the courts to challenge multi-million pound spending cuts which they say will hit them hardest. They have launched a number of legal actions against council plans to slash vital support services after cuts in Government funding.

### > Disabled demonstrators take to London streets to oppose cuts

Three thousand protestors angry at cuts in mobility and disability living allowances and concerned by the possibility of further service cuts have protested in Westminster. Richard Hawkes, Chief Executive of charity Scope, said: "We know there's a deficit, but the Government has said we're all in this together. Taking away the DLA mobility allowance for people in residential care, which means they can't go out, is not a sign that we are all in it together."

### > Households offered £10,000 to improve energy efficiency

Up to 14 million families will be able to apply for £10,000 grants to make improvements to their properties like installing new boilers, insulation and central heating. The proposals being put forward as part of the Energy Bill will also create powers to allow councils to insist landlords improve the energy efficiency of the worst-performing homes.



### > Weathermen failed to help country prepare for snow

The Met Office's seasonal forecasts failed to help Britain prepare for the coldest start to winter in 100 years, according to MPs. The transport select committee recommended investing an extra £10m in the Met Office and also criticised Heathrow airport for failing to prepare for snow last December.

### > Council fraud costs £2bn a year

Figures from the Department for Communities and Local Government have revealed that fraud against councils cost taxpayers more than £2 billion a year. Baroness Margaret Eaton, Chairman of the Local Government Association was quoted: "Local authorities work hard to clamp down on unscrupulous fraudsters. It is more important than ever that they track down those trying to steal money intended for the sick and the elderly."

### > Radical overhaul of adult social care

Older people will be guaranteed a minimum level of council help under new radical plans. A new national system would set out the basic support that every council in England and Wales must offer after a two-year inquiry by the Law Commission.