

Parish report from your District Councillors

10th March 2026

Battery fire awareness campaign

We have teamed up with Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service to encourage West Devon residents not to throw away items containing lithium-ion batteries, following a rise in fires linked to damaged batteries. Cllr Brazil met with D&S Fire and Rescue staff at Torr Quarry to discuss the issues surrounding lithium-ion batteries.



Messages for residents:

- Lithium-ion batteries are found in everyday items such as vapes, phones, laptops, e-scooters and bikes, and children's toys. When thrown in general waste, they can be crushed or punctured during collection.
- This damage can cause short-circuiting and overheating, triggering thermal runaway - a chain reaction where a battery releases energy uncontrollably, resulting in fires that burn at extremely high temperatures.
- Fires from batteries have been recorded inside collection lorries and at recycling and waste centres.
- [Find out more on our website.](#)

Garden waste subscriptions

A reminder that it's time for residents to renew their subscription to the garden waste subscription service.

- Early bird renewal costs £70 if subscribed before 1 April 2026.
- The price from 1 April will be £73.
- The new subscription year runs from 1 April 2026 until 31 March 2027.
- Renew subscriptions by card payment on [our website](#).
- The annual cost applies for fortnightly collections, excluding the weeks over the Christmas period when the service is suspended.



- If you have decided not to renew this year, you will no longer receive garden waste collections from 1 April 2026.

Consultations

- **LGR: 5 February - 26 March.** Government run consultation on Local Government Reorganisation proposal(s) for Devon. www.DevonLGR.co.uk
 - **Local Plan:** Engaging with statutory consultees to formally announce our intention to start a new local plan followed by a 6 to 8 weeks engagement process. Waiting for Government information.