

Parish report from your District Councillors

8th June 2026

Local Government Reorganisation



The Government intends to announce its decision on the shape of Local Government Reform in Devon **before the Summer Parliamentary Recess**, which begins on **17th July**. We await with interest.

It seems likely that the Town and Parish Councillors elected in May next year will hold their seats **for five years**. This is so future elections can continue to be synchronised with elections for the Unitary Councils.

This will save Officer time and considerable expenditure. The Unitaries will also sit for five years for their first term, as for the first year (2027-28) they will be Shadow Authorities, setting up the new bodies ready to take over in April 2028. From 2032 elections for these and for Town and Parish Councils will revert to a four-yearly pattern.

Waste collection update

Residents are being encouraged to help our crews by putting their waste and recycling out slightly earlier.



Messages for residents:

- From now on, we're starting waste and recycling collections earlier for the welfare of our crew members, so they can get more of their work done before the hottest parts of the day.
- Residents are asked to support our crews by making sure that recycling containers, bin bags or garden waste bags are on the kerbside by 6 a.m. on collection day.

Renters' Rights Act



Landlords, letting agents and tenants are being urged to make sure they're aware of the major changes that have come to the private rented sector as the first phase of the Renters' Rights Act has come into effect. The Act is bringing in new rights and responsibilities across the private rented sector designed to create

more security and fairness for tenants, while setting out clear expectations for landlords.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

Upcoming Consultations

- **Taxi Fares and Taxi Policy** - June TBC: Consultation on new taxi policy and fares.
- **Local Plan** - 16 July to 24 September 2026: Scoping consultation to understand the challenges and opportunities that the next local plan will need to consider. A chance for parishes to express their views on the planning issues in the SHDC area and on what's important to them.

External grant funding



Please find a selection of external grant funding which may be useful for your communities:

- [Morrisons Foundation](#) - set up by Morrisons supermarket chain which makes grants to registered charities undertaking projects that improve people's lives.
- [Supporting Communities/Grants Online](#) - a range of different funding opportunities.