

Report from your District Councillors

September 2025

LGR Update

The recent announcement that the Government is to review Local Government Reorganisation plans in Devon is being welcomed by the Council. South Hams District Council's Leader, Cllr Dan Thomas said: "I'm pleased that Government has listened. I wrote to MHCLG urging them to reconsider the decision and to arrange an urgent meeting with Devon's political leaders to discuss the implications for our residents, businesses and communities.

"We recognise the Government's plans to simplify local government and supports ambitions for devolution. However, the decision to expand the boundaries of Plymouth, Exeter and Torbay to form new unitaries, while placing the remainder of the county into a vast Devon Council, has caused deep disappointment and serious concern across our rural towns, villages and coastal communities."

Heritage at Risk



The Heritage Team is working on a Heritage at Risk Register.

This will identify and collate a list of Listed Buildings that are at risk due to their condition or by being empty. It will also highlight the need for urgent action and inform enforcement where relevant.

Messages for Members:

- You are welcome to suggest a building for the Heritage Team to survey by clicking below.
- You can confirm if a building is listed using the [Historic England website](#).

South Hams Heritage At Risk Survey 2026



We're sharing advice on behalf of Devon & Cornwall Police on highlighting the importance of reporting heritage crime.

The South Hams is rich in heritage which is important to protect – this includes reporting incidents to the police.

Heritage Crime is any offence which harms the value of heritage assets and their settings.

Some heritage assets are protected by specific legislation to prevent harm caused by damage or unlicensed alteration.

Some examples of heritage assets include:

- Listed buildings
- Scheduled monuments
- World Heritage Sites
- Protected marine wreck sites
- Conservation areas

Messages to Residents:

- Report all incidents expeditiously, utilising the words “heritage crime” and ideally a description of the asset e.g. “listed building”.
- Sign up to Devon and Cornwall Alert for community messaging.
- Pass on any community intelligence to police that may assist with identifying individuals involved.

Devon Local Nature Partnership seeking Chair



As Devon moves into the delivery phase of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), Devon Local Nature Partnership (LNP) is looking for a new Chair.

Messages for Members:

- The Chair will work closely with the LNP Board, Vice-Chairs and Secretariat, playing a key role in representing the Partnership, chairing meetings and events, and helping to strengthen Devon's collective response to the nature and climate emergencies.
- Applications close at **midnight on Tuesday 13 October 2026**.
- Anyone interested in the role should submit a statement, no more than two sides of A4 explaining their interest, experience, and suitability for the position, ideally supported by a CV.
- The statement and CV should be emailed to Beth.Bird@devon.gov.uk
- An online open-call event for prospective applicants will be held on **Thursday 17 September at 4:00 p.m.**, providing an opportunity to learn more about the role and ask questions.

Details on the role and
application process

Online open-call event
registration