

DCC Report for May 2026
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Could parish council please email with any work they would like me to uptake.

Libraries:

We were really pleased to successfully receive grant funding from central government to support modernisation of many of our libraries. The £200k from central government was match funded with £100k from DCC and £100k from Libraries Unlimited

[Funding awarded to upgrade technology in Devon's Libraries - News](#)

The results of the extensive library consultation are currently being considered and a report will be going to cabinet 21st May where decisions will be made on the future of the service.

Train 4 Tomorrow:

More funding has been secured to deliver skills bootcamps across Devon. This opens up such fantastic opportunities for people looking to upskill or change career. Please do spread the word. [Extra funding will help more adults access Train4Tomorrow Skills Bootcamps - News](#)

Local councillor grants:

Our locality budget is being increased to £10,000 this year which is great news for local communities. Please get in touch if there is a project or organisation which you feel could benefit from some funding.

[Almost £400,000 went to community projects, local events and good causes last year - News](#)

Highways:

Looking ahead, my focus will be on continuing to support highways improvements as new funding is rolled out, progressing the work through HATOC to better understand and respond to traffic concerns, and continuing to ensure that the voices of our communities are clearly represented in decision making at County Hall.

Maintaining Devon's roads is essential for residents, businesses and rural communities who rely upon them every day. From this April the good news:

- £36m for highway maintenance, 20% up on last year
- £100m capital investment for preventative highway maintenance
- £4m additional for drainage, gully clearance, ditching, & vegetation management
- £0.5m to strengthen highways inspection. Tackling climate change effects and protecting Devon's communities

SEND:

The Government's announcement to fund much of the SEND deficit support for children who need support at school with medical challenges is welcomed with much relief. Search: Devon SEND On the rise: the number of young people requiring support has doubled in the last 1 years. Government has proposals for change

Fostering Devon Team Covers 810 Miles to Highlight Urgent Need for Foster Carers

Our Fostering Devon team has completed an ambitious 810-mile challenge this month to shine a spotlight on the urgent need for more foster carers and to raise vital funds to support children in care.

Ten members of staff from our Promoting Stability Team have been walking, running and cycling the equivalent distance from Devon to the Scottish Highlands throughout March.

Their final miles were completed today, Tuesday 31 March, as they arrived at Princesshay in Exeter, marking the end of the challenge. The challenge distance was chosen deliberately as there are currently 810 children and young people in care in Devon who need stable and loving homes. If you or anyone you know might be interested in fostering please follow the link below to find out more.

[Change a young person's life and consider Fostering Devon](#)

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government asked Devon County Council to work with other councils in the area to develop a proposal for local government reorganisation.

Devon County Council engaged politicians, businesses, emergency services, health services, educators and other representatives of local communities to gain insight into potential options and submitted a report to ministers back in November 2025.

Ultimately the decision for which model for the restructure of local government in Devon is in the hands of central government and a decision is expected on this in mid July. At the moment, on LGR, no news is no news.

Cllr Cathy Connor

Devon County Councillor

Whimple & Blackdown Division

03/05/26