

DDC Report for August 2026

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Could local council please email or call with any work they would like us to uptake.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Government has now confirmed its decision on Local Government Reorganisation in Devon. Mid Devon has published information for residents, including a postcode checker which allows people to see which future authority area they will fall within. This remains a significant area of work for the Council and I continue to support efforts to keep town and parish councils informed throughout the transition process.

The Government has also now confirmed the official names of the four new unitary authorities. These will be Exeter Council, Torbay and South Devon Council, Greater Plymouth Council and Devon Council (incorporating most of Mid Devon). While the names differ from those used in earlier announcements, the areas covered remain unchanged. As more information becomes available, I will continue to share updates and support parish councils through the transition.

Residents can find further information about the changes and use the postcode checker on the Mid Devon Local Government Reorganisation webpage. [Local Government Reorganisation in Devon - Future Devon](#)

LGR Consultation Findings

The Government has published its analysis of consultation responses relating to Devon's reorganisation proposals. The report shows mixed views across the county, with significant concern expressed about some of the proposed four-unitary models, particularly regarding financial sustainability, rural representation and service delivery. The consultation highlighted the importance of maintaining strong local engagement and ensuring rural communities continue to be effectively represented during and after reorganisation. [Devon, Plymouth and Torbay: Summary and analysis of consultation responses](#)

Road Warden scheme and call for volunteers

I would like to become a road warden myself and get out and start fixing potholes. To do this I need a parish council to sign up to the road warden agreement and name me as a RW. I can then do the courses. If interested in having me on your RW team please email me and also email communityselfhelp@devon.gov.uk With the support of local volunteers, this would allow us to carry out certain minor works, including:

- Repairing potholes that do not meet the formal safety-defect criteria.
- Cleaning signs.
- Clearing gullies.
- Cutting back limited vegetation and overgrowth.

The scheme can operate on roads with 20mph, 30mph or 40mph limits and on unclassified rural lanes. Safety defects must still be reported through Devon County Council's normal reporting system so that they can be assessed and repaired by the highway authority.

I will not be able to repair every pothole across twenty parishes personally. However, by working with parish councils and small teams of volunteers, I believe we can tackle many of the irritating minor defects that might otherwise remain for a long time or develop into more expensive problems.

This scheme is not a substitute for Devon County Council properly funding and maintaining its highway network. Volunteers should not be expected to take responsibility for dangerous defects, structural failures, or work that ought to be completed professionally.

However, it does provide communities with another tool for dealing with smaller problems. It may also allow us to prevent minor surface damage becoming a much larger and more expensive repair.

Locality Budget

My Locality Budget remains open for applications, although a significant proportion has already been allocated or discussed with community organisations.

I am particularly interested in projects that support children and young people, reduce isolation, protect community facilities, improve access to nature, or strengthen local resilience. Parish councils and community groups are welcome to contact me before submitting an application so that we can discuss eligibility and the information required.

Fostering in Devon

Our new, more open approach to recruiting foster carers in Devon is beginning to make a difference, with more people coming forward to find out about how they could change a child's life.

We've shifted towards honest conversations and real-life experiences is helping more people take that first step to explore fostering.

If you think you have what it takes to make a real difference to the lives of our most in-need children, or know someone who might, please consider fostering. There are some friendly and informal fostering information events soon. Please follow link to find out more.

[Events Archive - Fostering South West](#)

Cllr Cathy Connor
Whimble and Blackdown
03/08/2026