

West Devon Household support fund:

A new allocation of funding has now been provided by DCC. This money will be spread out between cares and other organizations plus those most in need around WD.

Devolution Act:

This has now been passed by the Government and there is a report available for those who want to try to understand exactly how all this is going to work.

Ongoing consultations

Local Government Reorganisation

Everyone across West Devon is being invited to help shape the future of Devon: www.westdevon.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation

Parking fine text scam

We've been made aware that some residents are receiving scam text messages about supposed outstanding parking fines.



Messages for residents:

- These messages may look official, but they are not from the council
- The web addresses in the texts are fake
- The payment amounts are often incorrect or suspicious
- Do not click on any links or provide any personal or payment details
- If you're unsure whether a message is genuine, please contact us
 - www.westdevon.gov.uk/parking

Please share this to help protect others.

National Local Government changes.

A consultation was held virtually last week to provide Town and Parish Councils an update on where WD is with their proposals. If you did not attend, I will send you a copy of the presentation as and when I receive it.

WD JLP:

The existing JLP will stay in force until new plans have been developed. This could take 2.5 years and will certainly not include Plymouth this time round, and there are thoughts that we may have our own stand-alone plan.

Police open door meetings.

I attended one of these last week and Inspector Jones went through the four Police priorities that they intend to work on this year, one of which is speeding. He would like residents to send in their concerns about areas where vehicles speed. He does however want very specific information when doing so. Link for this below.

Please encourage your people to report speeding to us, but with specific time/date/locations to maximise our resource capability.

[Something you've seen or heard | Devon & Cornwall Police](#)

Fusion and Parklands:

Fusion has given WD their yearly report on how things are going. From what has been said, their membership and activities have now returned to pre Covid numbers, and they now have new management and staff. There are still issues that must be resolved, but overall, things are certainly getting better.

Junior Life Skills, that WD has run for many years now, will now be organised through Fusion this year. The basic programme and venues will be like other years, but it is hoped that with fresh eyes, the events can be given a bit of a facelift!

Meet the Community Development Team

- Our Community Development Team sits under the wider Strategy and Organisational Development service and consists of me; Susannah Hunter, Community Development Manager (that's me pretending to be a sheep!) Senior Community Development Officers Dil Lord and Luke Rees and National Graduate Development Programme officer - Ella Peters.



The Community Development Team's aims are to work with our communities, supporting them to develop existing community strengths and aligning the aims and ambitions of the Council to support local priorities. In simple terms, our team are 'community connectors' - connecting and building trusted relationships with our community partners, stakeholders, community groups, community organisations and residents, and connecting with you our South Hams and West Devon colleagues and our elected members, helping to 'join the dots' wherever possible between our communities' ambitions and our Council priorities.

Our team has adopted an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach when working with our communities - which is a 'strengths-based' rather than a 'deficits-based' approach to community development - i.e. looking at 'what's strong' in our communities rather than 'what's wrong'.

The following came with a short video, but it contains advertising, which I do not think is the right place for such things. You can look this short cartoon up if you would like to see it.

- 'The Parable of the Blobs and the Squares' - is a great example of how not to do community development!
- **Susannah Hunter | Community Development Manager**

Cllr Tony Leech