

# Cllr Steve Keable

October 2025

## County Councillors Report - Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe for:

Bickleigh • Brushford • Cadbury • Cadeleigh • Chawleigh • Cheriton Fitzpaine • Coldridge • Cruwys Morchard • Down St. Mary • Eggesford • Kennerleigh • Lapford • Morchard Bishop • Newton St. Cyres • Nymet Rowland • Poughill • Puddington • Sandford • Shobrooke • Silverton • Stockleigh English • Stockleigh Pomeroy • Thelbridge • Thorverton • Upton Hellions • Washford Pyne • Wembworthy • Woolfardisworthy • Zeal Monachorum

## Mid Devon Councillors Report - Taw Vale for:

Chawleigh • Lapford • Nymet Rowland • Wembworthy

*Links are embedded into electronic version or search on the subject name*  
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## New homes levee increases to benefit new school places

Developers building new homes across Devon will now have to increase their education contributions by a fifth to support the delivery of more school places. This reflects the cost of providing new school places being up 21% since 2021.

A larger proportion of the contribution – a Section 106 Agreement – will go towards supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and nursery places. This policy ensures that we can continue to meet our statutory duties and deliver high-quality inclusive education for Devon's growing communities.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/news/developer-education-and-send-contributions-to-increase-to-reflect-rising-cost-of-new-school-places/>

## Strategic Plan sets out vision for a Devon where “everyone thrives”

The Strategic Plan for 2025-2029 has been developed with input from County Councillors, the Devon Youth Council and interim findings from the New Devon survey which has been running since July to ask people for their views on local authority services.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/strategic-plan-sets-out-vision-for-a-devon-where-everyone-thrives/>

## Link of the month:

**Flooding & blocked drains**, standing water, flooded property, impassable roads

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/maintaining-roads/managing-the-network/flooding-and-drainage/report-standing-water-flooding-or-blocked-drains/>

If you are reporting an emergency that is very likely to present an imminent threat to life or serious injury or serious damage to property please instead call **0345 155 1004**.

## Pothole repair trial starts in Devon

Action to improve the conditions of our road was promised together with doing things in a different and more effective way. The aim will be to establish the implications of taking a more proactive approach to fixing potholes before they become “safety defects”.



Under this October's trial, when highway safety inspectors investigate potholes reported by the public they will be asked to record all other potholes within 500 metres in each direction, or to the nearest highway junction. Repair teams will then fix those recorded potholes within their traffic management set-up at the same time. Depending on the size of potholes, different teams may be needed where different types of repairs are required.

Cllr Dan Thomas, Cabinet Member for Highways said, “We're woefully underfunded by central Government so we have to try something different, and with more miles of roads than any other authority in the country it's no easy task.

Depending on the results of this trial it could be rolled across the county, but we would need to establish the benefits in terms of efficiencies, value for money and if it improves the county's road network.”

See how its done: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/pothole-repair-trial-starts-in-devon/>

## Schools to me more inclusive

The council wants to improve inclusivity in mainstream schools, and with the right support enable more children with SEND to attend their local schools alongside their friends and peers. That means making sure schools have the resources, expertise and capacity they need to provide the additional support required to meet pupils' needs.

But mainstream schools across the country are facing the same significant challenge: rapidly growing numbers of young people identified with SEND year on year; insufficient funds nationally to meet needs; and more expectation on them to support pupils with SEND without the finances to do so.

Devon County Council is working with the Special Partnership Trust (SPT) to create additional resource and capacity in the county to support pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

SPT, working with a number of multi-academy trusts, will develop SEN hubs in partnership with Devon County Council, in East and Mid Devon this academic year.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/news/additional-support-to-help-mainstream-schools-be-more-inclusive/>

## Mid Devon District News

### Recycle MORE and save money

We need to recycle everything we can including cardboard, paper, plastic, tins, cans, glass and put them into the right containers! The more we recycle the greater we reduce our carbon footprint but also the Council receives more income (£1m) which helps us deliver the service at a cheaper cost. We also keep our beautiful district clean and tidy.

Research has found that if residents move a few kilograms of their waste into their recycling collection every year, it raises our recycling rate by 1%. This helps bring in additional funding to the Council which we can then reinvest back into our services to make them even better. We can all become recycling champions and help raise our recycling rate.

Please email us at [bin-it123@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:bin-it123@middevon.gov.uk) or call 01884 255255 for any more recycling containers needed and advice on how to recycle more.

**Household Support Fund** To help support those who are struggling to afford food and energy bills apply here for assistance:

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/do-it-online/benefits/household-support-fund/>

## Devon launches new wave of funded training to power the region's future

Backed by government funding as part of the national Skills for Life initiative, this latest wave of Train4Tomorrow will deliver high-quality, employer-designed training across key growth sectors; from construction trade skills, HGV driving, EV charger installation, AI and data skills and early years education.



Courses are available to adults aged 19 or over in Devon, and for those looking to move into new employment, there is a guaranteed job interview on completion. Training is tailored to meet current local vacancies, giving participants a fast track to employment in future-facing industries.

With courses worth up to £3,500, fully funded for individuals, Train4Tomorrow is open to people from all backgrounds; including those returning to work, changing careers, the self-employed, or currently unemployed.

The training is typically designed to be flexible and accessible, delivered over 5–30 hours per week, for up to 16 weeks, in formats including online, blended and in-person.

For Devon residents wishing to explore the courses or register and employers wishing to find out more, please visit [www.train4tomorrow.org.uk](http://www.train4tomorrow.org.uk)

## Mid Devon District News

### Pots and Pans Collections Have Started!

Following a successful three month trial of collecting old and unusable pots and pans earlier this year in Willand, Uffculme and the surrounding rural communities the collection of old and unusable pots and pans will become a permanent recycling fixture across the district with effect from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September.