County & District Councillor's Monthly Report Cllr. Jacqi Hodgson - Date: October – November 2026
Devon County Councillor for Totnes & Dartington
Cabinet Member for Climate & Biodiversity (incl. Public Transport)
(division incl. Harberton, Harbertonford, Staverton, Landscove & Bridgetown part of Berry Pomeroy)
South Hams District Councillor for Dartington & Staverton - SHDC Chairperson

Devon County Council (DCC) key issues:
Local Government Reorganisation. Latest updates;
A Mayoral Strategic Authority

Councils at both DCC and SHDC submitted their responses to the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (DTCCA) consultation on future devolution arrangements for Devon. The response came in the Chancellor's Autumn budget last week, when he announced the intention to create new mayoral strategic authorities (MSA), including one for Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.

The details are yet to be confirmed, but it appears that the process will include Plymouth joining the combined county authority which will then transition to the new MSA. This is subject to consideration of the consultation findings and formal decisions being taken about expansion of the current Devon & Torbay Combined Authority by Devon County, Plymouth and Torbay Councils later this calendar year. The final process will require parliamentary approval, but it is anticipated that the MSA could be in place from autumn 2027, with the first mayoral elections in May 2028.

Proposed new Unitaries and Warding arrangements

Further to the announcements in the budget and the responses to the earlier new Unitary and Warding proposals for Devon, a letter was issued to Principal Local Authorities last week dated 29th October 2026, signed by Jim McMahon OBE MP, Minister for Local Government, Devolution and Reorganisation. These are the key points:

- He recognises the significant commitment that Councils have made, time, effort and resources in developing options
- The government remains committed to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)
- Along with a number of other Local Authorities in nine areas, they have withdrawn the decision for Devon announced in July 2026.
- The review of the submissions remains ongoing: all options and proposals in each areas will remain under consideration as part of the review
- Every area will have an outcome announced by early next year
- Elections previously scheduled for May 2027 (i.e. including District and City Councils), will go ahead
- The government intends to proceed with local government reorganisation with elections to new shadow authorities in May 2028 (potentially coinciding with elections for a directly elected mayor) with a vesting day of 1 April 2029.
- For areas where new unitaries were previously announced, they will pay 50% of the £900,000 transition
- support per new unitary, based on the number of new unitaries in the initial announcement. This funding
- is guaranteed and will be paid in the coming weeks. It is not contingent on the outcome of the Review.
- When final decisions are made, they will pay the balance of the £900,000 transition support per each new unitary, taking account of funding already paid to its area, as well as £150,000 of supplementary funding per new unitary for Leadership Capacity and Continuity in Children's Services, Adult Social Care and Public Health.

DCC Return to Business as Usual? Rewiring

Further to the announcements about LGR being paused, DCC Cabinet and Senior Leadership Team had a number of meetings, including a wider members day to discuss a return to our regular work, focussing back on DCC strategic priorities.

My requests under my cabinet role were:

- DCC setting up significant **Renewable Energy projects** in Devon seeking investment DCC Pension funds and other partners. DCC Environment team are now drawing up business case and investigating this.

- Establishing **DCC 20mph Support team** to assist Town & Parish Councils that wish to investigate a non-priority based T&PC funded 20mph scheme in their parishes. I have requested budget support at DCC for this.
- **Heatwave adaptation provision** needs to be investigated and prepared for next year. I have asked the Public Bus services team to look into modifications, e.g painting clear roofs white or replacement bus shelters to prevent over-heating. There is some grant funding available that Town & parish council's can apply for.
- **Emergency Planning for floods and heatwaves:** looking at water attenuation opportunities to slow down surface water flooding and provide a supply of water for drought condition and fire risk. I am hoping to help people access water butts (possibly spare brown wheelie bins that can be converted with taps)

DCC Cabinet Meeting – 14th October '26

a). The **Director of Public Health's annual report 2025/26** was presented. This focuses on Youth People and carries recommendations that a Report be brought to Cabinet in December 2026 with a timeline and action plan on the implementation of the Devon 'Youth Matters' Strategic Plan.
I raised my Concerns about young people's mental health and pointed out that:

- Devon Youth Council had stressed that it was vital for children to have 'places to go' and 'things to do'.
- The National Youth Council report had stated that 4pm to 6pm (post-school hours) is a time of heightened vulnerability for many young people who perhaps being unable to go straight home, could therefore be at risk, for instance exploitation or bullying.
- To provide places of refuge and activity in young peoples' local communities was therefore vital,
- alongside focused work on strategic integrated transport to ensure young people could actually access available provisions;

Questions were raised about the potential barriers to implementation of the Annual Report's recommendations. The Director of Public Health was of the view that there should not be any obvious barriers except the Council's own aspirations – there was a need to lean-in and be proactive in implementing the recommendations.

The Public Health Annual Report for 2025/26 can be found online at: https://www.devon.gov.uk/public-health/about-public-health/annual-public-health-report/annual-public-health-report-2026/.

b). **A report on the impact of Bluetongue on the Farming Community and Reinstatement of Rural Support & Wellbeing programme** was discussed. Further to which Cabinet resolved that :
(a) the significant economic, animal welfare and wellbeing impacts of the 2026 Bluetongue Virus Serotype 3 (BTV-3) outbreak on Devon's farming community be noted;
(b) the recommendation from Scrutiny at its meeting on 9 October 2026 be noted;
(c) the reinstatement of a three-year Rural Support and Wellbeing Programme and approve expenditure of up to £180,000 over three years be supported (subject to confirmation by the Director of Finance and Public Value that an appropriate and lawful funding source is available within the Council's approved budgetary framework);
(d) delegated authority be given to the Director of Public Health and Communities, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Public Value and the Cabinet Members for Assets and Resources and for Rural Affairs and Broadband, to finalise and implement the programme, including its detailed delivery plan, staffing arrangements and partnership working;
(e) the programme be required to include clear outcomes and performance measures relating to engagement, access to support, early intervention, farmer wellbeing, animal welfare and business resilience, with progress reported to the relevant Cabinet Members after 12 months and at the conclusion of the programme; and that
(f) the Council be requested to continue to work with government, the Animal and Plant Health Agency, health partners, farming organisations and voluntary sector partners to work towards a long-term strategy for Bluetongue, including the consideration of funded or subsidised vaccination schemes, improved surveillance and improved communication to affected rural communities.

The report presented is at this link: Impact of Bluetongue on the Farming Community and Reinstatement of Rural Support and Wellbeing Programme PDF 111 KB

c) Investment into Highways Resilience

This was a top up to the current Highways budget for this year. The report outlined the need to prepare for adverse weather which could accelerate the deterioration of road surfaces and increase the likelihood of hazards. The Council already had a plan of seasonal highway maintenance and emergency response activity. It was being proposed to increase the highway maintenance budget by £4.5 million in 2026/27 for targeted resurfacing of three major routes, and the expansion of Rapid Response Teams.

Cabinet resolved that:
(a) an additional £4.5 million for the 2026/27 highway maintenance programme to improve the resilience of key diversion routes and expand both the scope and capacity of the Council's Rapid Response Team trial be approved;
(b) the £4 million increase to the 2026/27 capital programme, to be funded from borrowing as set out in Section 7 of the report be approved; and that
(c) the £500,000 for highway maintenance revenue works, to be funded from the Council's outturn position, subject to the final year-end financial result, be approved (noting that should insufficient resources be available, the funding requirement would be met from reserves).

GWR – will become a Nationalised railway on 13.11.26. This will include new branding – at the sad loss of the much loved GWR 'Enid Blyton' type portrayed. A smooth transition is expected.
A lot of work is going on at a strategic level to try to improve rail resilience during adverse weather, including drought and severe flooding. This includes improving the resilience of the rolling stock, many of the more recently purchased trains have proved less than reliable and a number have been taken out of services for repairs. A consignment of additional refurbished trains have been brought into services to assist with improving reliability and few breakdowns.



Make your Mark is one of the top means for Devon young people to have their say on a countywide level and it will be running throughout the month of **November**. Make Your Mark - Children, families and education. We are really hoping your youth groups will participate in this again this year. Last year we received over 7,000 votes – we would love to aim for 10,000 this year, which would represent 10% of the youth population of Devon.

In preparation for the vote, we are sending out the attached posters which highlight the impact from last year's vote on the 'Places to Go, Things to Do' campaign; and also this video made by Devon Youth Council: Make Your Mark 2026 | Devon Youth Council which can be shared to raise awareness of the ballot before it lands.

Dartmoor Partnership Plan 2027–2032 public consultation
"We'd really appreciate your support in sharing the consultation within your organisations and wider networks and encouraging colleagues and contacts to have their say." Please use these links to find information on the public consultation of the Dartmoor Partnership Plan:

- Read the draft Partnership Plan
- Complete the online consultation questionnaire
- Visit the Your Dartmoor consultation webpage

Water resilience and preparation for potential drought conditions post heat waves:
A number of high level DCC Cabinet and SLT meetings took place over the past few weeks when there was a real threat of an emergency drought being called. There would have needed to be a 21 day formal notice, but this could have been a serious emergency by the end of November'26, had the rainfall have not replenished the main reservoir in North Devon.

Devon County Council DRIP conference – was hosted at Exeter University in September by DCC's Flood and Coastal Risk Management & Environmental Sustainability Group. This focussed on water resilience in Devon, in particular flood resilience. The Devon Resilience Innovation Project (DRIP) newsletter special edition focuses on the WATER conference we held in September, and features new research insights, updates from the River Culm catchment, and resources from Flood Action Week.: Resilience in Focus: WATER 2026 Special Edition

Local Emergency Planning

Devon · Cornwall · Isles of Scilly
L R F
Local Resilience Forum

supported by **Devon Communities Together (DCT)** (with DCC funding)

A Local Community Resilience Forum was held in Totnes on 22nd October '26

Devon Community Resilience Forum *"is a partnership between Devon Communities Together, Devon County Council, Environment Agency and South West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee. We support communities to develop their community emergency plan (CEP); a document that guides community response in an emergency and helps communities to prepare. Community emergency plans are also uploaded to a secure website where they can be viewed by the emergency services, if there is an emergency in your community they will be able to view your plan and understand how the community may already be responding, where there is high risk, and what resources the community has.*
Alongside supporting plan development we run twice yearly forum events to help increase your local resilience and network with other communities (the spring/summer event will be in-person and the winter event online), as well as issuing quarterly newsletters to members."

Community groups engaging with DCT at these Forum events and individual meetings in local areas are able to gain advice and support with developing local Emergency Plans. The support includes templates for plans and small grants to assist with setting up Emergency kit that can be availed of locally for community self-help during a severe incident when emergency services may be stretched or unable to arrive very quickly.

This is DCT website for information and contact details:
https://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/projects/devon-community-resilience-forum

Water Butts: They might be old-fashioned, but a water butt can be a real benefit in both stormy and dry weather. Excess surface water running off roofs contributes to the waters that can end up flooding homes, streets etc. A water butt can hold this excess water while the storm rages, slowing the potentially damaging impact of the heavy rainfall. A water butt fitted with a tap can also provide free water for gardens and be an important supply of (non-drinking) water to flush loos during a drought when everyone will need also be much more frugal with water. **Sustainable South Hams has information on their website about converting unwanted Brown wheelie bins. https://www.sussh.org/inspiration/resources**
Fun Fact: the average use of water by a single person household in the UK is 141 litres per day. In Denmark that same size household uses just 80 litres. Trying to reduce your water usage could reduce your bills and help the reservoirs manage better during heatwaves.

Individual applications for property resilience grants can be requested via DCC Website at this link: https://www.devon.gov.uk/floodriskmanagement/flood-resilience/property-flood-resilience-funding-scheme/

Local Issues

Exeter Women & Girls safety pilot project

Women and girls who live, work, study in and socialise in Exeter are invited to share their views and insights into how they experience the city through an online map-based survey and public pop-up events. The study focuses on experiences related to public transport, walking, wheeling, and cycling.

The map-based online survey can be found at https://exetersafety.commonplace.is/ and will be open for eight weeks from 2 November 2026 – 28 December 2026. It asks women and girls to identify places in the city and share their experiences and perceptions of safety at each location. Opinions are welcomed from a wide range of people, so that the findings can lead to meaningful, long-term changes to create a safer and more inclusive city.

The findings from the map and events will be analysed to understand what changes could be made to improve the everyday experiences of women and girls across Exeter. People will be asked about locations, routes, travel patterns and how they move through the city, and any experiences that influence feelings of safety.

Local Waiting and Parking restrictions programme for 'Tranch 4' 2027/2028

The following requests that I have received have been forwarded for consideration:

- **Follaton Oak** (residential estate), Totnes (West) TQ9 5FX.

An extension to the previous double yellow lines at the entrance to the estate has been requested by the resident's association: They need to be on both sides and long enough to prevent obstructions to entry into the estate.

- **Follaton Road**. Higher numbers near the cemetery

Double yellow lines outside some of the houses so that they can see oncoming fast moving traffic from Totnes,

- **Meadowside Estate,** (Ashburton Road, Totnes), Dartington.

Residents Association has requested consideration of a residents parking scheme.

- **Swallowfields Estate**, Ashburton Road, Totnes.

I have been approached for another review of preferences for a residents parking scheme as non-local parking (for station and riverside access) has become a problem again. I have requested investigation.

- **Bus Turning Circle at Harberton** (end of village).

Double yellow lines required to prevent obstructive parking.

- **Cott Road, south of The Cott** (pub & BnB) up to the bend opposite the old farm.

Double yellow lines requested by various local residents over the years. Excess parking along this stretch of road for the Cott obstructs vehicles and makes the bend in the road dangerous.

Safer Streets measures for St John's School, Bridgetown, Totnes,

Remain under investigation. Locations for Wig-wags (flashing lights at school entrances), plus School Street road closures, and alternative parking for children being dropped off remain currently under discussion and consideration. DCC highways, the school and parents association have been very helpful in taking this forward.

Meeting to address noise from National Grid Transmitters at Abham, Staverton.
Further to many complaints from a wide spread of residents across Staverton, The Parish Council organised a meeting with Representatives from National Grid. I attended this meeting. Local Councillors and residents had pursued these reports of low frequency noise, further to which National Grid had investigated and carried out monitoring. National Grid agreed that there was noise from what is an older transmitter. It was further agreed that this noise could be attenuated to a very acceptable level with acoustic shields.

National Grid outlined their schedule of upgrades that would include installation of acoustic shields around the transmitter providing substantial reductions to the noise, however, they could not confirm that these would be carried out any time soon, possibly as late as 2032. The NG reps informed the meeting that the grid has to be switched off to install these barriers and that is very disruptive.

This was considered unacceptable to the parish Councillors, the residents present and myself. I pointed out that since they at National Grid had carried out monitoring and accepted unacceptable levels of noise pollution from their transmitter that they could remedy with acoustic barriers that they use at every new installation, then they have a duty of care under their corporate responsibilities to install these barriers without further delay. It was pointed out that the grid has to be switched out sometimes when there is s storm so why not to carry out these repairs to alleviate the suffering that could be damaging people's heath and wellbeing I also pointed out that wildlife as well as humans are being affected by these noises. We all have a duty of care to wildlife too. I suggested that they have a responsibility to carry out these remedial measures without further delay and requested that the matter is escalated to the senior team at National Grid.

It was agreed that a map of locations in Staverton where the noise has been experienced will be drafted and forwarded to the National Grid reps.

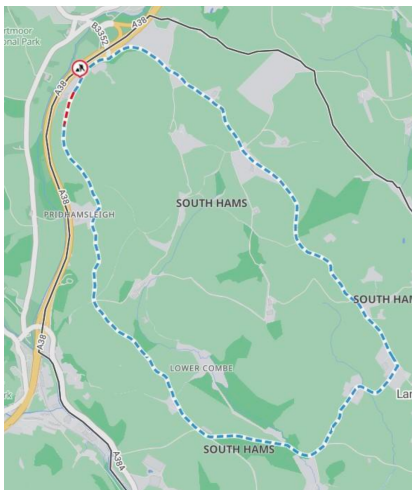
20mph speed reductions in Totnes – The draft proposals have been approved for public consultation. No further updates as yet

Totnes Old Bridge – options to improve safety. DCC Has provided traffic count data and information about potential bus service disruption if there were changes to access of the Old Bridge. These will inform the options to be considered. Proposed tenders have been received for carrying out works to provide clear options that could be taken forward to improve pedestrian and cycling safety on the Bridge

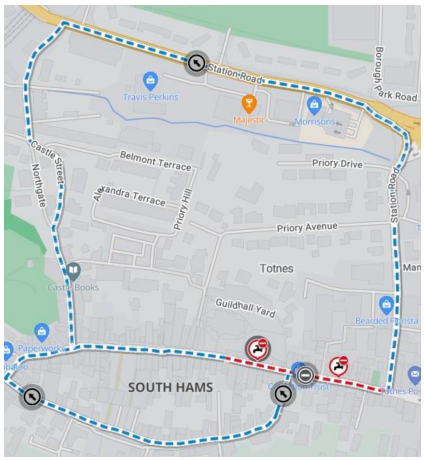
Pedestrian Crossing with traffic lights at top of Bridgetown Hill. The design proposal that includes changes to the location of the North side bus stop has been agreed by DCC and funding for works was approved at last week's Highway & Traffic Orders committee (HATOC). The works are likely to take place mid/late next year.

Natural Flood Management (NFM) works in Harberton & Harbertonford. Updates on funding awaited

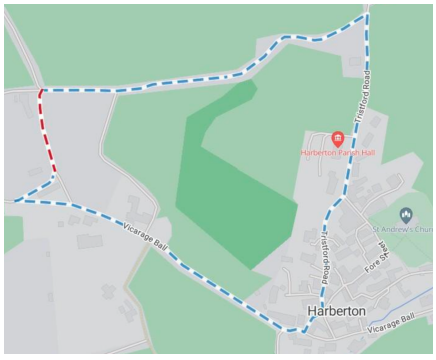
Road Works:



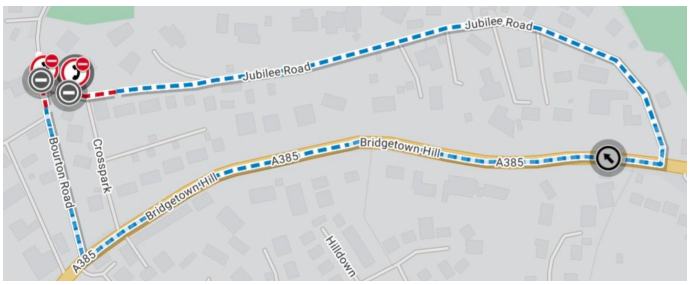
Temporary Traffic Notice - CABBAGE HILL TO PRIDHAMSLEIGH COTTAGES, Staverton (TTRO2670029) TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING. DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that: On WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2026 for a maximum of 5 days. Anticipated Finish WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2026 Between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed or wait on the sections of Affected Roads.Roads affected - CABBAGE HILL TO PRIDHAMSLEIGH COTTAGES, ASHBURTON. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - CABBAGE HILL, CHULEY CROSS TO PARKFIELD CROSS.. PARKFIELD CROSS TO THORNECROFT CROSS. CHURCH CROSS TO MEMORY CROSS
CHURCH CROSS TO WASH CROSS. HIGHER BEARA CROSS TO WASH CROSS. HIGH BEARA TO HIGHER BEARA CROSS. FIVE LANES CROSS TO HIGH BEARA. PRIDHAMSLEIGH COTTAGES CROSS TO FIVE LANES CROSS CABBAGE HILL TO PRIDHAMSLEIGH COTTAGES & VICE VERSA. This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable - POLE REPLACEMENT For additional information contact: BARR ON BEHALF OF (CIRCET UK/ OPENREACH). Telephone: 07985 746402



THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (HIGH STREET AND FORE STREET, TOTNES) NOTICE 2026 TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that: From MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2026for a maximum of 5 days Until TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2026 (both dates inclusive) Between the hours of 18:30 and 07:00 No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed on the sections of Affected Roads. Roads affected -HIGH STREET AND FORE STREET,. TOTNES, OUTSIDE NO. 50 FORE STREET TO OUTSIDE NO.14 HIGH STREET. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via – DIVERSION 1: STATION ROAD, A385, CASTLE STREET, HIGH STREET.
DIVERSION 2: SOUTH STREET. This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable - REPAIRS TO DEFECTIVE COVER. For additional information contact: SOUTH WEST WATER. Telephone: 03443462020



THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (MILL CROSS TO TRISTFORD FARM, HARBERTON) NOTICE 2027 TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PARKING. DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that: From WEDNESDAY 6 JANUARY 2027 for a maximum of 5 days Until FRIDAY 8 JANUARY 2027 (both dates inclusive) Between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00 No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed or wait on the sections of Affected Roads. Roads affected - MILL CROSS TO TRISTFORD FARM, HARBERTON. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - MILL CROSS TO TRISTFORD FARM, LEIGH BRIDGE TO BROADPARK STILE, FORE STREET, TRISTFORD ROAD, MILL CROSS TO GILLS CROSS & VICE VERSA. This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable - EXCAVATE TO INSTALL DUCT AT POLE BASE. For additional information contact: CIRCET UK. Telephone: 0800 085 9194



Temporary Traffic Notice - JUBILEE ROAD and BOURTON LANE, Totnes (TTRO2673593) THE COUNTY OF DEVON (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) (JUBILEE ROAD AND BOURTON LANE, TOTNES) NOTICE 2026
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL hereby give NOTICE that: From MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2026 for a

maximum of 5 days Until WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2026 (both dates inclusive) Between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to proceed on the sections of Affected Roads. Roads affected - JUBILEE ROAD AND BOURTON LANE, TOTNES. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - JUBILEE ROAD, BRIDGETOWN HILL, BOURTON ROAD AND VICE VERSA. This temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable - LAYING DUCT For additional information contact: CIRCET UK Telephone: 0800 085 9194

South Hams District Council matters

I recently attended **the celebration of the very old veteran oak tree at Longcombe**. Children from Berry Pomeroy School attended and planted a number of new trees near to the veteran tree which sits in a dip next to the River Dart where it has lived for well over 200 years.

Last month SHDC launched a new **water monitoring project** that is being carried out in conjunction with the University of Plymouth. This involves telemetry with custom made sensors that will inform a digital dashboard with real time information on what is happening in the water. Phone apps can access the data which can also be used to be report pollution incidents to the Environment Agency. . Skentel Real-Time Water Quality Dashboard.

Work continues with the **review of the South Hams and west Devon Local Plan**.

Totnes rural Area Youth Engagement (TRAYE) Project. The project continues to thrive and provide very popular youth sessions and events in ten locations across the South Hams. This year, to enable the project to cover the rising costs of food (which is a very important component of the sessions) and to afford the increases in employment costs that will apply from next April, TRAYE needs to ask for a small (5%) rise in the annual contribution from Parishes for its fortnightly sessions. The request is for this to increase by £200 to £4,200. We hope that this will be acceptable to all our participating Town and Parish Councils.

COMMUNICATIONS (TORBAY AND SOUTH DEVON NHS FOUNDATION TRUST) Healthy Futures

These sessions complement our core Let's Talk Teenagers, Pre-Teens, Primary and SEND programmes. They provide parents, carers and professionals with deeper insight into some of the most pressing issues affecting children and young people today.



https://letstalksaferfamilies.org/events/

12 November, 7pm | Understanding Child Criminal Exploitation: *Grooming, Risk and Prevention*

19 November, 7pm | Masculinity, Belonging and Exploitation

26 November, 7pm | Teenage Relationship Abuse: *Early Warning Signs and Support*

Book your place at one of our upcoming FREE events

Read more at Healthy Futures – October 2026 – Healthy Futures

Green Party Motion – my statement read out at DCC Cabinet in response to a request on my position
The 'Zionism is Racism' motion that was passed at Green Party Autumn conference on October 4th has raised many concerns and has been widely reported on as very controversial. Further to which all 5 Green Party MPs and the Party Leader Zack Polanski issued a joint statement which I support, as follows.

I want to reassure all interested those who are concerned about this motion, fellow Green members and voters, that as Greens:
We will always uphold universal human rights.
We will never tolerate any form of discrimination or harassment.
We will continue to stand in opposition to genocide, ethnic cleansing, apartheid and the illegal occupation.
We will continue to call out the heinous crimes of the Netanyahu government.
And we will continue to work to ensure that the Green Party is an anti-racist party in every way.
We know there is no conflict between supporting the rights of Palestinians and the rights of Jewish people.

To Jewish members of the Green Party: The motion proposers made clear in the debate that they have no intention for Jewish members to feel targeted for their beliefs or associations.

Elected representatives and members within the Green Party are not required to agree to all Green Party policies in order to be members or to be involved in activities: only that we share Green Party values that underpin all our policies.

While there are many parts of the motion and its intention to end the genocide in Gaza I do agree with, there are some parts that I do not, and as such I would not have voted in favour of the motion. Just 1,022 individuals, or 0.45% of Green Party Members voted in favour of the motion. 813 voted against the motion.

The rapid rise in membership numbers in the Green Party, from ~75,000 to over 220,000 in less than a year, has created a need for greater capacity in conference voting systems, especially on motions that can become policy. This issue, to improve democracy in internal voting procedures and accommodate our much larger membership is being looked at within the Green Party.

Green Party councillors are committed to represent all our residents regardless of their views. We work to protect and improve local services, push our council to protect our local environment, and work hard to combat all forms of racism and discrimination in our areas. We value working with local community and faith-based organisations for the good of local people, regardless of the religious views of members or organisers.

Funding opportunities:

Community and Wellbeing
NEW FARMER WELFARE GRANT – DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD & RURAL AFFAIRS – Applications open 6 August
Through the Farmer Welfare Grant, £1.5 million will be available over three years to support farmer mental health and wellbeing. Rural and agricultural charities and organisations across England will be able to apply, enabling support to be delivered by groups that already know and work closely with farming communities. The funding will support targeted interventions that improve farmers' personal wellbeing and business resilience, while giving organisations flexibility to provide help suited to the people they serve.
https://defrafarming.blog.gov.uk/2026/07/16/introducing-farmer-welfare-grant/

Children and Young People
NEW THE BLUE SPARK FOUNDATION – Applications may be made at any time
Grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 are available to charitable organisations in England, including schools, for the education and development of children and young people.
https://www.bluesparkfoundation.org.uk/

Heritage
NEW THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES: COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT GRANTS – Applications in by 16 November 2026

Grants of up to £30,000 are available for practical, creative and developmental work that strengthens relationships between UK galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAM) organisations and the communities they serve.
https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/professional-guidance-and-services/grants-and-funding-for-archives/our-grant-programmes/community-hub/grant-programmes/project-grants/

Arts
NEW THE MUSIC GROWTH FUND (ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND) – Applications in by 26 November 2026
Grants of between £1,000 and £40,000 are available to UK music support organisations and music creators to support the growth of new music across the UK.
https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/music-growth-package

NEW THE ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND: NATIONAL PORTFOLIO ORGANISATIONS FOR THE PERIOD 2028–2033 – Applications in by 15 December 2026
Multi-year grants, starting at £50,000 per year for up to five years, are available to England-registered arts and cultural organisations, accredited museums, statutory public libraries, as well as partnerships and consortiums. The funding aims to provide greater financial stability, enabling organisations to plan ahead, strengthen their resilience and deliver lasting benefits for people and places across England.
https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/NationalPortfolio28

NEW THE THEATRES TRUST SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME – Applications in by 15 January 2027
Capital grants of up to £7,500 are available to theatres across the UK that are operated by registered charities and not-for-profit groups for essential capital works that will enable them to be more accessible, viable and able to thrive.
https://www.theatrestrust.org.uk/smallgrants

Sports
NEW THE BRITISH DODGEBALL COACH TRAINING FUND – Applications in by 21 December 2026
Funding is available for coaches in the UK who have—or are actively setting up—a group to coach dodgeball, particularly with underrepresented groups and within disadvantaged communities.
https://britishdodgeball.org/

NEW THE ANGLING TRUST'S GET FISHING FUND 2027 – Applications in by 31 December 2026
Grants of up to £750 are available to charities, schools, local authorities, fisheries and angling clubs in England to deliver angling events and activities that will get more people into fishing and retain them within the sport.
https://anglingtrust.net/funding/get-fishing-fund/

Grants that Cover a Wide Range of Needs
NEW THE LLOYD'S REGISTER FOUNDATION: SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME – Applications in by 14 December 2026
Revenue grants of up to £10,000 are available for charitable organisations and universities in and outside the UK for projects that aim to make the world a safer place, particularly where this relates to transport, engineering research and education.
https://www.lrfoundation.org.uk/news/small-grants-programme-2026

NEW THE BALON FOUNDATION – Applications may be made at any time
Small grants are available to UK registered charities working in the UK and/or overseas in the field of education.
https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/5056526/charity-overview?_uk_gov_ccew_onereg_charitydetails_web_portlet_CharityDetailsPortlet_organisationNumber=5056526

NEW THE FORTE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION (PREVIOUSLY THE TRUSTHOUSE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION) – Applications may be made at any time
Small grants of up to £10,000 and Large Grants of up to £50,000 are available to UK registered charities with an annual income of under £500,000 that are working to strengthen the most disadvantaged and marginalised

communities in the UK and provide support for families. Grants are available for core costs, salaries, running and project costs.
https://www.fortecharitablefoundation.org.uk/

NEW THE TRUELIGHT TRUST (PREVIOUSLY THE TRUEMARK TRUST) – Applications may be made at any time in writing
Grants, normally for between £2,000 and £10,000, are available to small UK registered charities working to address all types of disadvantage, with a particular interest in neighbourhood-based community projects and innovative work with less popular groups.
https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/5231509/charity-overview?_uk_gov_ccew_onereg_charitydetails_web_portlet_CharityDetailsPortlet_organisationNumber=5231509

Environment and Sustainability
NEW THE ERNEST KLEINWORT CHARITABLE TRUST SMALL AND MEDIUM GRANT PROGRAMMES – Small Grant applications may be made at any time; Medium Grant applications in by 12 November 2026
Grants of up to £20,000 are available for UK registered charities working in the UK and/or internationally in wildlife and environmental conservation, and internationally in reproductive health. The Trust also makes grants to Sussex charities in a range of other areas. Small Grants of up to £10,000 may be applied for at any time.
https://ekct.org.uk/