

County Council
Thursday, 27th May, 2021



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DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

To: Members of Devon County Council

County Hall
Exeter
EX2 4QD

19 May 2021

Your attendance is requested at the Meeting of the Devon County Council to be held at Sandy Park, Exeter on Thursday, 27th May, 2021 at 2.15 pm.

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Election of Chair**
3. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**
4. **County Returning Officer's Report** (Pages 1 - 6)

To receive the County Returning Officer's return of persons elected as County Councillors at the election held on 6 May 2021.

5. **Appointment of Leader of the Council**
6. **Appointment of Deputy Leader of the Council**
7. **Appointment of Cabinet Members and Allocation of Remits**

The Leader of the Council to move:

"that the Council note that members shown in the Appendix circulated at the meeting will be appointed to hold office until the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022 together with the remits shown therein."

8. Minutes

To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2021 (previously circulated and available to view [here](#)).

9. Chair's Announcements

10. Items Requiring Urgent Attention

11. Appointment of Committees

Councillor Hughes to move:

(a) that in accordance with Standing Order 21 the County Council appoints those Committees, Joint Committees and Working Parties/Panels as shown in the Appendix circulated prior to the meeting and uploaded to the website with terms of reference set out in the Council's Constitution or set out therein for the period expiring at the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022;

(b) that, as required by section 16(1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, Members of the Council be appointed as voting members to those Committees, Joint Committees, Joint Consultative Committees and Working Parties/Panels referred to at (a) above in accordance with the names notified to the Chief Executive by each of the Political Groups represented on the Council, to give effect to the proposed allocation of seats as between political party groups and set out for the time being in the Appendix circulated prior to the meeting and uploaded to the website;

(c) that, as in accordance with the Council's Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the County Council appoints the total numbers of voting (v) or non-voting (nv) members to those Committees, Joint Committees and Working Parties/Panels referred to (a) above as thus denoted in the Appendix (the Council's voting scheme) circulated with the agenda for the period expiring at the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022;

(d) that the Chief Executive be authorised to approve such changes to membership of the above bodies detailed in the Appendix circulated as may be notified from time to time by the relevant political group to which those seats have been allocated by the Council; and

(e) that additional Members of Scrutiny Committees, Highways and Traffic Orders Committees, the Standards Committee and the Farms Estate Committee as detailed in the aforementioned Appendix (or to be nominated by those bodies listed thereon) be appointed for the period expiring at the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2022 or as otherwise shown (subject to any change

notified by the nominating body) or, in the case of parent governor representatives on the Children's Scrutiny Committee, following a ballot of eligible parent governors.

12. Appointment of Chair's and Vice-Chair's of Committees

Councillor Hughes to move:

'that Members shown in the Appendix circulated prior to the meeting and uploaded to the website be elected Chair and Vice-Chair of those Committees as indicated therein to hold office until the date of the Annual meeting of the Council in 2022'.

13. Appointments to Outside Bodies

Councillor Hughes to move:

(a) that members shown in the Appendix circulated prior to the meeting and uploaded to the website be appointed to those outside bodies listed to hold office until the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2025 or such other date as indicated therein;

(b) that the Chief Executive be authorised to approve such changes to representation on the above bodies detailed in the Appendix circulated as may be notified from time to time by the relevant political group to which those places have been allocated by the Council.

14. Petitions from Members of the Council

15. Public Participation: Petitions and Representations

Petitions or Representations from Members of the public in line with the Council's Petitions and Public Participation Schemes.

OTHER MATTERS

16. Devon County Council Constitution

The Leader of the Council to move:

"that, subject to necessary amendments to reflect the foregoing, the Council adopt formally the existing Devon County Council Constitution (previously circulated on email) and accessible here - [Constitution - Democracy in Devon](#).

NOTICES OF MOTION

17. Speed Limits - Deaf Academy and Wider Devon

Councillor Dewhirst to move:

Background to the Motion

The Deaf Academy has been providing education and support for deaf young people in Devon since 1826. In September 2020, they relocated from Exeter to Exmouth to a new campus at the old Rolle College Site at Douglas Avenue.

The Deaf Academy is an education hub for 50 students, 30 of which stay within the residential provision on campus. Students are incredibly diverse and come from all over the country, with varying needs ranging from mobility, visual and special educational needs alongside their deafness.

Last term the Student Council started a campaign to reduce the speed limit. Other schools in Exmouth have 20 mph speed limits outside their entrances.

Unlike hearing children, deaf children cannot clearly identify cars in the distance or around corners through sound. They rely on sight and trusting the public are driving slowly in the area.

Douglas Avenue currently has a 30mph speed limit with various blind spots and does not have any targeted highway signage, traffic calming measures or crossing points near the Academy.

Consequently, the avenue poses a risk to students, staff and visitors and therefore:

Motion to Council

1. This Council applauds the Deaf Academy Student Council campaign to reduce the speed of traffic in Douglas Avenue. Council calls on our Highway Officers to urgently introduce a 20 mph speed limit in Douglas Avenue and install a zebra crossing outside the school to ensure that these children and young people can cross the road in safety, and,
2. Additionally, this Council calls on Highway Officers to bring a Report to Council before the end of 2021 on implementing 20 mph speed limits in the vicinity of all schools in Devon to ensure that all children and young people can arrive and leave their schools in greater safety.

18. Councils for Fair Tax Declaration: Standing up for Fair Tax Practices

Councillor Aves to move:

The Council notes:

That local residents are asking Devon County Council to sign up to the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration.

The Fair Tax Mark has developed the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration in collaboration with UK cities, counties and towns who believe they can, and

should stand up for responsible tax conduct. [Councils-for-Fair-Tax-Declaration.pdf \(fairtaxmark.net\)](#)

As recipients of significant public funding councils should take the lead in the promotion of exemplary tax conduct. Polls have found that 63% of the public agree that the government and local councils should consider a company's ethics and how they pay their taxes as well as value for money and quality of service, when undertaking procurement. That three-quarters of people would rather shop or work for a business that can prove it is paying its fair share of tax.

Fair Tax Mark said there was "a pressing need for action", claiming that research it commissioned had discovered that 17.5% of UK public procurement contracts commissioned by local and national government over the period 2014-19 were won by businesses with connections to a tax haven, with a combined value of £37.5 bn.

Billions are missing from our public purse because some companies choose to avoid paying their corporation tax - the same companies who have since benefited from taxpayer support through this crisis or have asked for bailouts.

This means we have less money available for the vital public services we all rely on, and that the smaller, local businesses in our county can't compete because it's not a level playing field.

That other Councils around the UK have already signed up to the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration including Peterborough City, Oxford City, Oldham, Cannock Chase, and the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

The Council believes:

Councillors across the UK work hard to serve their local communities and help direct the delivery of essential public services. The Coronavirus pandemic has exposed major weaknesses in our economy and deep-seated inequalities in our society. To Build Back Better we must tackle tax avoidance and Councils can pioneer the promotion of responsible tax conduct through:

- Leading by example on their own tax conduct
- Demanding greater transparency from suppliers

Having gone through a decade of austerity and reduced council spending caused by government reductions in grants, where funds have not kept up with demands of inflation and extra demands of new legal statutory duties, we're now living through an era of unprecedented public spending due to

the pandemic.

As a council, we have seen first-hand the challenge that a funding squeeze created for crucial frontline services. Local government has a proud history of standing up for responsible public sector conduct, ranging from paying the real Living Wage to promoting Fairtrade.

The Council resolves to:

1. Approve the Councils for Fair Tax Declaration [Councils-for-Fair-Tax-Declaration.pdf \(fairtaxmark.net\)](#)
2. Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct right across our activities
3. Require greater transparency from suppliers
4. Consider a company's ethics and how they pay their tax as well as value for money and quality of service provided, when undertaking procurement
5. Promote Fair Tax Mark certification for any business in which we have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due
6. Support Fair Tax Week events in Devon and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride
7. Demonstrate good practice including:
 - ensuring contractors implement IR35 robustly and pay a fair share of employment taxes;
 - not use of offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty,
 - ensuring that there is clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit & loss position,
 - undertaking due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates; and
 - supporting calls for urgent reform of EU and UK law to enable councils to revise their procurement policies and better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct.

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Committee Terms of Reference

For the terms of reference for any Committee, please [visit the Committee Page](#) on the website and click on the name of the Committee. Under purpose of Committee, the terms of reference will be listed. Terms of reference for all Committees are also detailed within Section 3b of [the Council's Constitution](#).

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It is to be noted that Members of the Council must declare any interest they may have in any item to be considered at this meeting, prior to any discussion taking place on that item.

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Induction Loop available



**COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT
(County of Devon, Election of County Councillors, 6 May 2021)**

Return by County Returning Officer of persons elected as County Councillors.

Recommendation

That the report be received.

Alphington & Cowick	Yvonne Atkinson	21 Belmont Road Exeter EX1 2HF	Labour
Ashburton & Buckfastleigh	Sarah Parker-Khan	Mead Alston Cross Ashburton TQ13 7LJ	Conservative
Axminster	Ian Hall	1 Cawley Avenue Axminster EX13 5EP	Conservative
Barnstaple North	Ian Roome	15 Westaway Close Barnstaple Devon EX31 1RU	Liberal Democrats
Barnstaple South	Caroline Leaver	3 South Street Barnstaple EX32 9DT	Liberal Democrats
Bickleigh & Wembury	John Hart	Bovisand Lodge Bovisand, Nr Plymouth PL9 0AA	Conservative
Bideford East	Linda Hellyer	12 Culm Close Bideford EX39 4AX	Conservative
Bideford West & Hartland	Jeffrey Wilton-Love	5 Calf Street Torrington EX38 8EQ	Conservative
Bovey Rural	George Gribble	Elgin Brimley Road Bovey Tracey TQ13 9DQ	Conservative
Braunton Rural	Pru Maskell	The Watch House 8 Pathfields Croyde EX33 2LQ	Conservative
Broadclyst	Henry Gent	Mosshayne West Clyst Exeter EX1 3TR	Green

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Broadclyst	Sara Randall-Johnson	Slewton House Talatan Road Whimble Exeter EX5 2QL	Conservative
Chudleigh & Teign Valley	Jerry Brook	Myrtle Mead Alexandra Road Credton EX17 2DZ	Conservative
Chulmleigh & Landkey	Paul Henderson	Oakbere Romansleigh South Molton EX36 4JR	Conservative
Combe Martin Rural	Andrea Davis	Southwinds Cottage Kentisbury Barnstaple EX31 0LE	Conservative
Credton	Frank Letch	2 Butt Parks Credton EX17 3HE	Liberal Democrats
Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe	Margaret Squires	Frostlands Farm Coplestone Credton EX17 5NY	Conservative
Cullompton & Bradninch	John Berry	Higher Coombelands Knowle Cullompton EX15 1PT	Conservative
Dartmouth & Marldon	Jonathan Hawkins	The Chalet Church Hill Kingswear Dartmouth TQ6 0BX	Conservative
Dawlish	Martin Wrigley	26 Cofton Hill Cockwood Dawlish EX6 8RB	Liberal Democrats
Duryard & Pennsylvania	Percy Prowse	182 Topsham Road Exeter EX2 4SH	Conservative
Exminster & Haldon	Alan Connett	8 Victoria Close Kenton EX6 8JX	Liberal Democrats
Exmouth	Richard Scott	12 Durham Close Exmouth EX8 5QU	Conservative
Exmouth	Jeffrey Trail BEM	34 Port Mer Close	Conservative

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		Exmouth EX8 5RF	
Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton Coastal	Christine Channon	12 Cricket Field Lane Budleigh Salterton EX9 6JB	Conservative
Exwick & St Thomas	Rob Hannaford	95A Cowick Street St Thomas Exeter EX4 1JF	Labour
Feniton & Honiton	Phillip Twiss	Swallowcliff Beacon Honiton EX14 4TT	Conservative
Fremington Rural	Frank Biederman	8 Broadway Fremington Barnstaple EX31 2NR	Independent
Hatherleigh & Chagford	James McInnes	West Cleave Sourton Okehampton EX20 4JB	Conservative
Heavitree & Whipton Barton	Daniel Barnes	16 Floyers Hay Court Isca Road Exeter EX2 8BL	Labour
Holsworthy Rural	James Morrish	Manor Farm Riddlecombe Chulmleigh EX18 7NX	Conservative
Ilfracombe	Paul Crabb	Claremont House Lawn Place Ilfracombe EX34 9EP	Conservative
Ipplepen & The Kerswells	Alistair Dewhirst	Waterside Dornafeld Road Ipplepen Newton Abbot TQ12 5SG	Liberal Democrats
Ivybridge	Roger Croad	Higher Newlands Godwell Lane Ivybridge PL21 0LE	Conservative
Kingsbridge	Julian Brazil	Crab Cottage East Prawle Kingsbridge TQ7 2DA	Liberal Democrats
Kingsteignton & Teign Estuary	Ron Peart	30 Longfield Avenue Kingsteignton Newton Abbot	Conservative

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TQ12 3RA

Newton Abbot North	Phil Bullivant	6 Gaze Hill Highweek Newton Abbot TQ12 1QL	Conservative
Newton Abbot South	Janet Bradford	11 Coach Place Newton Abbot TQ12 1ES	Independent
Northam	Dermot McGeough	10 Pannier Mews Bideford EX39 2DT	Conservative
Okehampton Rural	Lois Samuel	Risdon Farm Jacobstowe Okehampton EX20 3AJ	Conservative
Otter Valley	Jessica Bailey	Lark Rise Eldon Lane West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1TZ	Independent
Pinhoe & Mincinglake	Tracy Adams	8 Langaton Lane Pinhoe Exeter EX1 3SP	Labour
Salcombe	Rufus Gilbert	Washbrook Farm Dodbrook Kingsbridge TQ7 1NN	Conservative
Seaton & Colyton	Marcus Hartnell	9 Coombe Orchard Axmouth` Devon EX12 4AY	Conservative
Sidmouth	Stuart Hughes	102 Temple Street Sidmouth EX10 9BJ	Conservative
South Brent & Yealmpton	Daniel Thomas	2 Church Close Yealmpton Plymouth PL8 2HL	Liberal Democrats
South Molton	Jeremy Yabsley	15A West Street Witheridge Tiverton EX16 8AA	Conservative
St David's & Haven Banks	Carol Whitton	42 Countess Wear Road Exeter	Labour

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		EX2 6LR	
St Sidwells & St James	Su Aves	20 Clifton Hill Exeter EX1 2DL	Labour
Tavistock	Debo Sellis	46 St David's Road Tavistock PL19 0BT	Conservative
Teignmouth	David Cox	3A Bridge Road Shaldon Teignmouth Devon TQ14 0DD	Liberal Democrats
Tiverton East	Colin Slade	Bramhope 8 Blackthorn Avenue Tiverton EX16 6TY	Conservative
Tiverton West	Richard Chesterton	Merry Farm Brithern Bottom Cullompton EX15 1NB	Conservative
Torrington Rural	Andrew Saywell	Little East Badworthy Farm Shebbear Beaworthy EX21 5RQ	Conservative
Totnes & Dartington	Jacqi Hodgson	9 Argyle Terrace Totnes TQ9 5JJ	Green Party
Wearside & Topsham	Andrew Leadbetter	Robin Hill Tresillian Gardens Topsham Exeter EX3 0BA	Conservative
Whimble & Blackdown	Iain Chubb	39 Abbey Close Axminster EX13 5QU	Conservative
Willand & Uffculme	Ray Radford	1 Townsend Gardens Willand Road Tiverton EX16 7LP	Conservative
Wonford & St Loyes	Marina Asvachin	11 Kipling Drive Exeter EX2 5BU	Labour
Yelverton Rural	Philip Sanders	3 Peryn Road Tavistock	Conservative

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PL19 8LP