

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**1. QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR HANNAFORD**  
**Re: Appledore Shipyard Update**

Can the Cabinet Member update Members on the situation at Appledore Shipyard to include issues such as the ongoing negotiations led by the South West Business Council, Business plan and future work programme of the potential new owners (Santos Marine), the role of Central Government in terms of leadership and funding, the role and responsibilities of the Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership and expected reopening date.

**REPLY BY COUNCILLOR GILBERT**

We continue to work closely with all interested parties (including South West Business Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership and Government) around the reopening of Appledore Shipyard, seeking a sustainable and viable future for the yard and securing long-term employment and economic benefits for the local area.

Officers have worked extremely hard with the proposed operator, local partners and Government over recent weeks to facilitate next steps, with talks ongoing over how a public investment might be best secured to support the re-opening of the yard. This is however a complex process, led by Government, requiring significant legal and financial rigour.

With regards the plans and work programme for the site, the Council isn't currently able to comment on this in detail due to the commercial nature of elements of the plan received from the operator. With regards roles, responsibilities and opening dates, Devon County Council continues to engage with Government and the operator over next steps.