

Devon Health and Wellbeing Board – Strong, Safe and Supportive Communities Panel

Simon Kitchen, Head of Communities, Devon County Council

Simon joined the Council in 2006 having worked previously in the private sector and civil service including the Met Office. Simon's current remit includes the co-ordination of the council's work and policies around communities and community development; the commissioning of a range of community based services and support; the lead for community safety, Prevent and Channel; and in coordinating support to vulnerable groups including refugees, gypsies and travellers and victims of hate crime. Simon is board member of Active Devon and Programme Lead for Integrated Care Exeter. In his hometown, Crediton, Simon is a girl's rugby coach and board member of small educational trust, having previously served for 8 years as a school governor.

Jim Gale, Partnership Superintendent, Devon and Cornwall Police

Jim joined Devon and Cornwall Police in 1992 as a Special Constable, has now has over twenty years' experience as a regular officer with the force, mainly in operational or strategic roles, and has been a firearms commander for the last six. He holds a doctorate from Exeter University for a thesis which linked neighbourhood policing with counter terrorism, a project which he completed part-time alongside his full-time job. In his spare time, he is a trustee of Broadclyst Primary School, and the South West Police Heritage Trust, and invents match reports for his son's football team! His current policing role is focused on building strong relationships with partners in pursuit of better services for communities in Devon, a significant shift from his previous role in which he led the delivery of a core IT system for the force.

Fiona Carden, Director Learning & Innovation at CoLab Exeter

Fiona Carden has worked as an educationalist for over 20 years. Starting in education and research at Exeter University Fiona's early career saw her work as an education consultant for BT, Fujitsu and ICL working in some of the most deprived areas of the UK. Fiona managed nationwide innovative projects researching the impact of cutting edge technology in improving educational attainment for socially disadvantaged communities.

Fiona completed a degree in adult and community learning with a focus on education as tool for social change and has worked across the region designing and delivering a range of adult and community learning provision. In the last 5 years Fiona has worked in management and strategic development of learning and innovation in the VCSE and is now Director of Learning and Innovation at CoLab.