



To All Credition Town Councillors

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Planning and Town Strategy Committee meeting**, which will be held on **Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 19:00 at Old Landscore School, EX17 3LP**

This meeting may be livestreamed via Facebook in order to allow Members of the Public to watch the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to transact the following business.

**Rachel Avery FSLCC**

**Town Clerk**

**Wednesday, 28 February 2024**

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Please note that:

- Members of the Press & Public are invited to attend under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address councillors in attendance as part of the agenda.
- Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, any members of the public or press are allowed to take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on all public sections of the meeting.
- Under the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972 Sch 12 10(2)(b), Credition Town Council is unable to make any decision on matters not listed within the agenda.
- Credition Town Council will always attempt to record and livestream meetings to Credition Town Council's social media platforms.

## **AGENDA**

### **105 - Welcome and Introduction**

Opening of meeting by the Chair and councillor introductions

### **106 - Public Question Time**

To receive questions from members of the public relevant to the work of the council (a maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for this item; verbal questions should not exceed 3 minutes)

### **107 - Apologies**

To receive and accept Town Councillor apologies (apologies should be made to the Town Clerk)

### **108 - Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

To receive declarations of personal interest and disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI's) in respect of items on this agenda

To consider any dispensation requests (requests should be made to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting)

### **109 - Climate Emergency**

To note that decisions will be made with the climate emergency at the forefront of decision and policy making

### **110 - Order of Business**

At the discretion of the Chair, to adjust, as necessary, the order of agenda items to accommodate visiting members, officers or members of the public

### **111 - Chair's and Clerk's Announcements**

To receive any announcements which the Chair and Town Clerk may wish to make (for information only)

### **112 - Planning and Town Strategy Committee Minutes**

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 06 February 2024, as a correct record

### **113 - Mid Devon District Council Planning Applications:**

[MDDC Planning Public Access Portal](#) - Mid Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Town Council on the following planning applications:

Ref: 24/00208/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension

Location: 62 Tuckers Meadow, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 24/00235/HOUSE

Proposal: Installation of dormer window in west elevation

Location: 43 Meadow Gardens, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/01674/HOUSE

Proposal: Replace door with window on ground floor and re-positioning of window on first floor and 4 replacement windows on east elevation

Location: 63 East Street, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/01675/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent to replace door with window on ground floor and repositioning of window on first floor and 4 replacement windows on east elevation and internal alterations to ground and first floor

Location: 63 East Street, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 24/00286/HOUSE

Proposal: Conversion of existing garage to granny flat, to include replacement of flat roof with pitched roof, erection of store and porch

Location: Trebah, Alexandra Road, Crediton

Ref: 24/00338/CAT

Proposal: Notification of intention to crown lift 1 Yew tree to 15m, reducing side branches by 3.5m and remove overhanging branches over garden from 1 Ash tree within a Conservation Area

Location: The Beeches, Old Tiverton Road, Crediton

#### **114 - Mid Devon District Council Planning Decisions:**

Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following applications with conditions as filed:

Ref: 22/00067/MFUL

Proposal: Conversion of farmhouse and buildings to 17 dwellings, the erection of 14 dwellings and erection of 2 commercial buildings (Use Classes B8, E, Sui Generis)

Location: Wellparks, Exeter Road, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/01923/FULL

Proposal: Construction and operation of a micro energy storage facility

Location: Land at NGR 282446 100921 (Playing Field) Avranches Avenue, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 24/00103/CAT

Proposal: Notification of intention to fell 3 conifer trees in a Conservation Area

Location: 15 Exeter Road, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3BH

Ref: 24/00008/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension

Location: 10 Wentworth Gardens, Crediton, Devon, EX17 3FJ

Ref: 23/01789/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of a log cabin for ancillary residential accommodation to replace existing summerhouse

Location: The Cottage, Old Tiverton Road, Crediton, Devon

**115 - Devon Devolution Deal**

To receive the report and associated paperwork regarding the proposals and to consider representation for Full Council approval

**116 - Crediton Cluster Meeting**

To receive and note the minutes from the meetings held in January and February

**117 - Crediton Community Conversation - 23 March 2024**

To receive an update

**118 - Christmas in Crediton Sub-Committee**

To consider the dissolution of the Christmas in Crediton Sub-Committee with immediate effect

**119 - Date of next meeting**

To note that the date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 02 April 2024

**120 - Reports Pack**

**Attachments**

[AI 112 - 2024-02-06 - Planning and Town Strategy Committee - Minutes.pdf](#)

[AI 116 - Minutes - Crediton Cluster 11 January 2024.pdf](#)

[AI 116 - Minutes - Crediton Cluster 19 February 2024.pdf](#)

[Devon and Torbay's deal - Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal \(devontorbaydeal.org.uk](#)

[Devon and Torbay Devolution deal - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[AI 115 - Devon Devolution Deal.pdf](#)



**Minutes of the Planning and Town Strategy Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 19:00 in the Old Landscore School, EX17 3LP**

**Present:** Cllrs L Brookes-Hocking, J Harris, G Fawssett, G Cochran and P Perriman,

**Apologies:** Cllrs S Huxtable and N Letch

**Minute Taker:** Emily Armitage

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## MINUTES

### 87 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

It was noted as no members of public were present an introduction was not necessary.

### 88 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME To receive questions from members of the public relevant to the work of the council (a maximum of 30 minutes is allowed for this item; verbal questions should not exceed 3 minutes).

No members of public present.

### 89 APOLOGIES To receive and accept Town Councillor apologies (apologies should be made to the Town Clerk).

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs Huxtable and N Letch both for personal reasons.

### 90 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS To receive declarations of personal interest and disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI's) in respect of items on this agenda.

To consider any dispensation requests (requests should be made to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting).

Cllr Cochran declared that as a member of more than one authority, any views or opinions expressed at the meeting would be provisional and would not prejudice any views expressed at a meeting of another authority.

No dispensation requests.

- 91 CLIMATE EMERGENCY** To note that decisions will be made with the climate emergency at the forefront of decision and policy making.

Noted.

- 92 ORDER OF BUSINESS** At the discretion of the Chair, to adjust, as necessary, the order of agenda items to accommodate visiting members, officers or members of the public.

There was no requirement to change the order of business.

- 93 CHAIR'S AND CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** To receive any announcements which the Chair and Town Clerk may wish to make (for information only).

There were no announcements.

- 94 PLANNING AND TOWN STRATEGY COMMITTEE MINUTES** To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 02 January 2024, as a correct record (minutes will be issued with the agenda).

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes. (Proposed by Cllr Cochran)

- 95 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** [MDDC Planning Public Access Portal](#) - Mid Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Town Council on the following planning applications:

Ref: 24/00008/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension

Location: 10 Wentworth Gardens, Crediton, Devon

It was **resolved** to recommend no objection. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Ref: 24/00103/CAT

Proposal: Notification of intention to fell 3 conifer trees in a Conservation Area

Location: 15 Exeter Road, Crediton, Devon

It was **resolved** to recommend objection, as there is no plan showing the position of the trees to be felled nor detail explaining why they need to be felled. There are no proposals on the plans for re-planting. (Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Ref: 23/01789/HOUSE (Revised drawings)

Proposal: Erection of a log cabin for ancillary residential accommodation to replace existing summerhouse

Location: The Cottage, Old Tiverton Road, Crediton, Devon

It was **resolved** to recommend, no objection in principle, but members were not happy with the choice of roofing material: as this will be a large permanent dwelling it should be in harmony with surrounding buildings and more appropriate to the conservation area.  
(Proposed by Cllr Brookes-Hocking)

Ref: 24/00149/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for replacement of lintels and stabilisation of wall

Location: 5 Cockles Lane, Crediton, Devon

It was **resolved** to recommend approval. (Proposed by Cllr Harris)

#### Withdrawn

Ref: 23/01592/FULL

Proposal: Construction and operation of a micro energy storage facility

Location: Land at NGR 282430 100940 (Playing Field) Avranches Avenue, Crediton

**Noted.**

## **96 MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS:** Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following applications with conditions as filed:

Ref: 23/01700/LBC

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for removal of ground floor furniture, internal IDM machine, external ATM and replacement with secure partition, removal of external lettering and advertisement signs, sealing of letterbox and all external glazing at low level to be obscured with white vinyl (applied internally)

Location: Lloyds Bank Chambers, 30 High Street, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/00932/ADVERT

Proposal: Advertisement Consent to display 2 fascia signs, 3 booth lettering signs and 1 digital booth screen, all illuminated

Location: Land at NGR 284600 099535 Joseph Locke Way, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/00929/ADVERT

Proposal: Advertisement Consent to display 1 illuminated totem sign

Location: Land at NGR 284600 099535 Joseph Locke Way, Crediton, Devon

Ref: 23/00933/ADVERT

Proposal: Advertisement Consent to display site signage including, 4 illuminated freestanding signs, 2 illuminated banner units and 20 DOT signs

Location: Land at NGR 284600 099535 Joseph Locke Way, Crediton, Devon

The decisions were **noted**.

- 97 CREDITON MASTERPLAN** To consider and agree the response regarding the Masterplan document, for submission to Mid Devon District Council.

It was agreed for the following points to be fed back to Mid Devon District Council:

- The plan is disappointing given the work already done on planning for the town centre by Crediton Town Council through the NP and the Traffic and Urban Realm Study, neither of which is built on or complemented by this new plan. There has been a lack of community involvement in the devising of the brief and the initial consultation resulting in proposals that do not originate in community aspirations. As the document will be an SPD, this is of concern.
- The plans for the train station have not taken into account the extent of parking that currently exists on the north side of the road. If there are plans to control the amount of parking, they are not shown. If there are plans to control the drop off parking, they are not clear. At present, all available spaces to leave a vehicle are in use for the majority of the time. Visual improvements should take that into account.
- The trees are a welcome addition to the High Street so long as the same or nearly the same number of parking spaces are retained. Crossing points that are also pinch points are useful in slowing traffic but any changes should retain the current opportunities to cross anywhere along its length.
- A crossing point is needed for the south entrance to Newcombes Meadow
- Plans for enhancing the St Lawrence Green area are sadly lacking. It is not a pedestrian friendly area and this has not been addressed.

Four Mills Lane and Dean Street have been identified as potential pedestrian routes and a discussion could be had about 20mph speed restrictions in these areas. It was noted that the pavements along Dean Street are extremely narrow and do not offer full pedestrian use as they are.

Cllr Brookes-Hocking advised that comments can be made individually up until 26<sup>th</sup> February and that a second consultation was taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> February at the Boniface Centre. It was agreed for the Administrative Officer to email the link for members to comment.



**98 SPRING FORWARD PLANNING CONSULTATION** To receive a verbal update.

A meeting has been arranged for Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at the Boniface Centre and is open to all interested in forward planning. Four councillors will be in attendance, members of the past Neighbourhood Plan Steering group and Sustainable Crediton. It may be possible to invite landowners of potential development sites. A representative from the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission may be able to attend to talk about the Land Use Framework principles. Written reports will be provided to keep the committee updated and the Administrative Officer will support members.

**99 COMMUNITY LAND TRUST** To receive a verbal update on the Zoom meeting with Middlemarch Housing Association.

Several members had held a zoom meeting with Middlemarch Housing Association to discuss the potential for a Community Land Trust in Crediton. Middlemarch are working with Devon Housing Commission and have experience of CLTs in large communities. Cllr Brookes-Hocking advised that another meeting could be arranged, and she would report back to the committee.

**100 ORCHARD LAND AT WELLPARKS** To receive an update regarding the possible acquisition of orchard land at Wellparks and agree any action.

Cllr Cochran advised that land at Wellparks was back on the market at £1.2 million and it was agreed for the Administrative Officer to make enquiries about what was included. She advised that she had received communication that Cllr Cochran would be contacted but he confirmed he had not been.

**101 CREDITON FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL ON 8TH JUNE 2024** To receive an update on plans for the Food and Drink Festival.

The Administrative Officer reported that stallholder bookings were now open through the town council website and the Projects Officer has received nine/ten bookings so far. She is working on the budget and looking to get more funding. British Sign Language will be present, and she is working closely with the Turning Tides Project to make the event more accessible. There will be a bigger marquee this year and several demos have been lined up. Members were advised to contact the Projects Officer Jo Davey if they could help.

**102 BONIFACE BASH ON 9TH JUNE 2024 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS** To receive a report on the Boniface Day celebrations and linked towns and agree any recommendations therein.

A report had been issued with the agenda and members agreed with the proposals within it.

**103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING** To note that the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting was noted as Tuesday 5 March.

The meeting closed at 20.10.

**104 REPORTS PACK**

Signed .....

Dated.....



## Credition Cluster Meeting

Thursday 11 January 2024 – 10.00, Old Landscore School, Greenway, Credition

### AGENDA

#### 1. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves:

Richard Ward – Chair of Sandford Parish Council

Edna Beasley – Member of Credition Hamlets Parish Council

Liz Ouldrige – Vice Chair of Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Guy Cochran – Member and Vice Chair of Credition Town Council and member of Mid Devon District Council

Rachel Avery – Town Clerk to Credition Town Council.

#### 2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Graeme Barnell (Chair of Newton St Cyres Parish Council,

Malcolm Vallance (Clerk of Credition Hamlets Parish Council) and Liz Brookes-Hocking (Chair/Mayor of Credition Town Council).

#### 3. Scope and attendance of Cluster meetings

It was noted that these cluster meetings aim to enable closer working relationships and collective influence.

#### 4. Town/Parish Council relationship with District and County Council

##### - Service delivery and budgets

The Road Warden Scheme is working well in Newton St Cyres.

Community led development rather than developer-led development.

##### - Collective next steps to ensure communication and relationship building

Pressures on service delivery from high level authorities was discussed, noting that town and parish councils would likely have to take on. A brief discussion took place regarding the new pilot Community Self-Delivery Scheme being rolled out by Devon County Council. Whilst in principle, this idea was positive, concerns were raised around the responsibility and cost to town/parish councils.

#### 5. Joint/partnership working

##### - Areas for shared delivery

There was a general consensus that working together would enable stronger relationships within the locality and create a stronger voice when communicating with other levels of authority.

- **Close working relationships in locality**

There was a discussion around shared service to enable value for money to residents.

**6. Crediton Masterplan update**

It was noted that the date of public meeting is Wednesday 17 January 2024 between 16.00 and 19.00, with all in attendance being asked to attend to understand the document and plans for the centre of Crediton. The prominence of Crediton as a rural hub to all villages was highlighted.

**7. Future agenda items**

Any future agenda items should be sent to the Town Clerk by Friday 09 February 2024.

**8. Date for next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 19 February at 10.00, at the Council Offices, North Street, Crediton.



## Credition Cluster Meeting - Notes

Monday 19 February 2024 – 10.00, Credition Town Council Offices, North Street, Credition

### NOTES OF MEETING

#### 1. Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves:

Liz Brookes-Hocking – Chair/Mayor of Credition Town Council

Richard Ward – Chair of Sandford Parish Council

Edna Beasley – Member of Credition Hamlets Parish Council

Graeme Barnell – Chair of Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Liz Ouldrige – Vice Chair of Newton St Cyres Parish Council

Guy Cochran – Member and Vice Chair of Credition Town Council and member of Mid Devon District Council

Steve Huxtable- Member of Credition Town Council

Rachel Avery – Town Clerk to Credition Town Council.

#### 2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

#### 3. To receive notes of the last meeting

The notes of the last meeting were noted.

#### 4. Town/Parish Council relationship with District and County Council

##### - MDDC State of the District event

The date of the event was noted, with three officers/members being allowed to attend on behalf of the council. The agenda was shared and discussed. It was agreed that RA would email MDDC regarding the breakout sessions and asking attendees to choose three rather than for all to rotate.

##### - DCC Community Self Delivery

There was discussion around the devolution of street work as proposed by DCC through this scheme. Concerns were raised regarding the legal responsibility of the highway authority, costs incurred by parish and town councils and the general lack of working relationship in deciding the proceed with the scheme without consultation. It was agreed that RA would invite a DCC representative (Tom Vaughan) to attend the next meeting of the cluster.

##### - Devon Devolution Deal

It was noted that the consultation and associated papers had been advertised. There was a general discussion about what a Combined Authority could look like, and all in attendance were urged to respond to the survey.

**5. Joint/partnership working**

- **Areas for shared delivery**
- **Close working relationships in locality**

The agenda items were taken together. It was generally agreed that there were areas for shared delivery and for closer working relationships.

It was agreed that RW and SH would meet to draft Terms of Reference for the Cluster group, for further consideration at the next meeting.

**6. Crediton Forward Planning**

- **Forward Planning event**
- **Housing and Economic Development**

The agenda items were taken together.

LBH explained the intentions of the Forward Planning event, due to be held on 23 March 2024. The themes would include food security, land use, agriculture and biodiversity. All neighbouring parishes would be invited to attend.

- **Crediton to Exeter cycleway update**

It was agreed that GB would contact DCC requesting an update and further meeting regarding proposals.

**7. Future agenda items**

Any future agenda items should be sent to the Town Clerk by Friday 08 March 2024.

**8. Date for next meeting**

The next meeting would be held on Monday 18 March at 10.00, at Crediton Town Council Offices, North Street, Crediton.



## Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal Consultation

**Report by:** Town Clerk  
**To:** Planning and Town Strategy Committee  
**Date:** For consideration on 05 March 2024

### **Recommendation**

To consider the consultation documents regarding the Devon Devolution Deal and to:

- a. Note report content and decide consultation response as a body corporate, for recommendation to Full Council
- b. Note that members can respond individually
- c. Consider making no response to the consultation.

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report sets out information relating to the Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 A devolution arrangement differs from local government reorganisation (the last Devon reorganisation included the abolishment of Rural District Councils, resulting in the formation of Credition Town Council in 1974).
- 2.2 Devolution differs from local government reorganisation:
  - Local government reorganisation involves merging existing authorities into new unitary ones to improve efficiency and representation
  - Devolution typically involves existing two-tier authorities forming an additional statutory body called a Combined Authority. This allows access to increased powers and funding from the government in certain areas, while authorities continue in their current form.
- 2.3 This deal is Level 2 (The other levels of Devolution are Level 1 - informal joint working between authorities, Level 2 – a single institution without an elected Mayor (as evidenced in this consultation). The most local example of an operating Level 2 Devolution deal can be seen in Cornwall, and Level 3 - a form of local Government reorganisation creating a single institution with a directly elected Mayor (such as seen in the case of existing Metro/Mayors).

### **3. Proposals**

- 3.1 The proposals for the Devon and Torbay Devolution were announced in January 2024. The public consultation runs until 24 March 2024.
- 3.2 The deal involves:
  - Forming the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA), with a leadership group and nominated chair, to provide vision, accountability, and value



- New skills powers including the Adult Education Budget to shape training to meet economic needs
  - £16 million funding for housing, net zero, and business transition
  - Collaboration with Homes England on affordable housing and regeneration
  - New transport powers including bus franchising
  - Shared Prosperity Fund planning/delivery role potential from 2025/26
  - Integrating the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) functions into the CCA but retaining an independent business voice
  - Cooperation with the Police and Crime Commissioner
  - A clear resilience and emergency planning role.
- 3.3 This initial deal is seen as a starting point with potential for evolution over time.
- 3.4 The governance arrangements for the CCA includes:
- Devon County Council and Torbay Council as constituent members
  - 3 elected members per constituent council, including Leader
  - 4 non-constituent district council members
  - 2 associate business/skills members
- (Note: district councils cannot be constituents, the Chair of the CCA will rotate every two years and the Chair has no casting vote).
- 3.5 Joint Team Devon committee will replace the LEP, with county, districts, national parks, DALC etc, providing a voice and collective position.
- 3.6 Constituents have overall responsibility and voting rights. Decision-making split between reserved/general matters.
- 3.7 Possible advisory boards will be created such as Growth, Skills, Housing which will be formalised but will have no decision-making powers.
- 3.8 Separate overview/scrutiny and audit committees required.
- 3.9 Central funding guaranteed initially but constituent contributions may be needed after 2026/27.
- 3.10 An outline of the questions asked within the consultation are in Appendix A of this report.

#### **4. Officer comments**

- 4.1 This is not devolution to town/parish level and therefore does not address the issue of service/asset/liability transfer to our sector.
- 4.2 There is insufficient project funding (£16m) for long term sustainability and does not address the current financial issues faced by DCC and district councils.
- 4.3 The town and parish council sector needs a clear and consistent outline of principal authority statutory functions for effective engagement/communication in the future.
- 4.4 Clarification needed of DALC role and capacity given the large number of councils in Devon and the wide variety of needs/challenges.





## 5. **Conclusion**

- 5.1 Credition Town Council has a right to respond to the consultation as a corporate body, and recommendations made through this committee and the Council Affairs and Finance Committee will be provided at the Full Council meeting on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

### NOTE:

Consultation Link: [Devon and Torbay's deal - Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal \(devontorbaydeal.org.uk\)](https://devontorbaydeal.org.uk)

Government Policy Paper: [Devon and Torbay's deal - Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal \(devontorbaydeal.org.uk\)](https://devontorbaydeal.org.uk)



## Appendix A

### **Consultation questions**

Councillors are asked to consider the questions highlighted if they wish to submit a corporate response.

#### **What is the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?**

On 25 January 2024 the Government announced the potential for a devolution deal for Devon and Torbay. Devon County Council and Torbay Council have produced a draft proposal (the 'Proposal') and have agreed to consult on the Proposal to create a new entity called the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA). The proposed CCA is a legal requirement to oversee new powers and funding devolved from Government for a range of local priorities including housing, jobs and training, and transport.

If the Proposal is implemented, existing funding and powers will move from central government to Devon and Torbay, with further powers also being available to the CCA. This will enable local voices to play a greater role in decision-making in the area to secure more investment and deliver better outcomes for local communities.

The Proposal would not mean removing or merging local councils. Each council would continue to exist and would still be responsible for public services in their area. Funding to establish the CCA would be provided by the Government.

#### **Maximising our economic potential**

We will make sure we have the skilled workforce our local economy needs for the future. We'll work to secure new investment to help create additional high value jobs.

- The Deal would devolve the budget for adult education to the Devon and Torbay CCA. The CCA would be responsible for making funding allocations to adult education providers meaning we would have the flexibility to tailor provision to local needs and priorities.
- Funding for Free Courses for Jobs will also be devolved and ring-fenced.
- The CCA will work with the Devon and Plymouth Chamber of Commerce providing input to and supporting the development of the Local Skills Improvement Plan for the area. The Plan will help build a stronger and more dynamic partnership between employers and further education providers.
- The Department for Education will continue to work with Devon and Torbay to commission a local programme of Skills Bootcamps.
- We want to ensure that we retain a shared focus on careers education and advice for young people. The Government will work with the CCA and other partners to continue the work within the Careers Hub.



- The Department for Work and Pensions, through the Job Centre Plus and the Partnership teams, will work with the CCA on shared strategic priorities recognising the crucial link between local skills, education, health and workforce development.
- The CCA will take on the relevant functions and roles of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) in line with published guidance. We will work together so that the business voice is represented with Devon and Torbay.
- The Government will work closely with the CCA to make it easier for businesses to access the information, advice and support they need. This will draw on the Department for Business and Trade's global and sector offer.
- With the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and UK Research and Innovation we will explore opportunities for closer long-term collaboration to strengthen Devon and Torbay's research and innovation capacity.
- We will look to make the most of the opportunities for further joint working around farming, fishing and coastal matters, building upon local good practice and programmes around farm resilience, aquaculture and renewable energy policy and practice.
- Exploratory conversations will be held between the CCA and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and its Arms Length Bodies on the region's appetite and capacity for partnership working across the culture, heritage, sport, communities and visitor economy as applicable.
- We will have regular engagement with the Government on the digital connectivity delivery plans for the region, particularly where they involve hard to reach rural and coastal areas.

## 2.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to maximise our economic potential through the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to maximise our economic potential, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

### Addressing our housing pressures

In partnership, we will deliver additional investment in affordable housing schemes for local people, reducing homelessness. Greater Community Land Trust-led delivery will support rural and coastal affordable housing delivery.

- The CCA will work with Homes England, with the support of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, to combine our skills and capacity to reduce the barriers to affordable housing delivery, regeneration and wider housing growth. We



will develop a shared development pipeline which will be underpinned by a clear action plan.

- There will be potential investment through current and future funding streams, including the Affordable Homes Programme and Brownfield, Infrastructure and Land Fund.
- The CCA will explore, collectively with Homes England and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, how wider measures, such as facilitating greater Community Land Trust-led delivery, could better support our plans to increase much needed rural and coastal affordable housing delivery, especially across small sites.
- Part of the Government's capital commitment to the CCA will be available to support the development of a small sites Green Homes investment programme.
- The Government has recognised the differentiated nature of local housing markets across Devon and Torbay and work that is underway by the Devon Housing Commission.
- The CCA will have access to additional land assembly powers for housing, regeneration and economic purposes. It will work in partnership with the Government on additional solutions for individuals who are homeless and on the challenges around second homes and holiday lets.

### 3.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to address our housing pressures through the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to address our housing pressures, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

### Improving local transport

We will strengthen our joined-up approach as equal partners, helping to improve the efficiency and co-ordination of public transport. Shared responsibility for strategic transport will support economic growth.

- The CCA will become the Local Transport Authority for Devon and Torbay taking on the strategic coordination role and accountability for the associated responsibilities and local public transport powers



- As the Local Transport Authority, the CCA will develop an area-wide Local Transport Plan. The Department for Transport will use this Plan as a basis for future local transport investment
- The CCA will design and deliver a pipeline of transport interventions which align with Devon and Torbay's wider priorities including local growth, improving transport user experience, decarbonisation and reducing environmental impact.
- The CCA will be accountable for the receipt and allocation of Government local transport funding to Devon County Council and Torbay Council, whilst highways funding will go directly to those councils as highways authorities. The operational responsibility for highways will remain with constituent councils.
- Peninsula Transport Sub-National Transport Body (STB) will develop its Regional Centre of Excellence, which will offer bespoke capability and tools to support to all LTAs in the STB area.
- As the Local Transport Authority, the CCA will be responsible for:
  1. Bus Service Improvement Plans
  2. Enhanced Partnerships
  3. Subsidised bus services
  4. Concessionary fare schemes
- Where practical, the CCA will work towards streamlining Devon and Torbay's engagement with commercial bus operators and coordinate existing separate arrangements into a single Enhanced Partnership. If the CCA considers that bus franchising is likely to deliver better outcomes, Government will consider conferring franchising powers to the CCA.

**4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to improve local transport through the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?**

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to improve local transport, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Meeting our net zero ambitions**

We will unlock Devon and Torbay's huge green economic potential, with more investment in green business growth and attracting inward investment to the area. Our transition to a net-zero economy will be accelerated, capitalising on our area's world-leading expertise in green science and technology.



- Part of the Government's capital commitment to the CCA will be available to support business to invest in green business transition activity. This will offer Devon and Torbay's business community an opportunity to both modernise and decarbonise activity at a faster rate.
- The capital commitment will also enable the CCA to support the development of green skills capacity building within the further and higher education sector.
- The CCA will work with Government on planning our future energy system for net zero.
- The CCA will become the heat network Zoning Co-ordinator, playing a key role in the delivery of heat decarbonisation infrastructure. The Government will support the CCA to take forward heat network zoning in collaboration with the private sector to utilise all available low carbon heat sources.
- The CCA will work with the Government to explore the benefits of and design options for a place-based approach to delivering retrofit measures.
- We will be provided with opportunities to work with the South West Net Zero Hub to explore sources of funding for projects within our area.
- The CCA will work with Government on local environment policies to support the delivery of England's new Environmental Improvement Plan. Devon and Torbay will be considered as a test-bed geography for future policies such as new carbon codes for soils and the restoration of marine habitats.

**5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to meet our net zero ambitions through the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?**

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to meet our net zero ambitions, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Delivering investment in Devon and Torbay**

There will be local democratic accountability for big investment decision in the local economy. Business and skills representatives will have a strong voice and a direct route to locally-elected decision-makers.

- From 2025/2026, the CCA could have delivery responsibility for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (or its successor). In doing so, the CCA will engage with constituent councils, district councils and other local partners to make sure that the needs of residents can be effectively addressed.



- £16 million of capital funding will be provided to the CCA from the Government to support local priorities. This will accelerate Devon and Torbay's transition to a net-zero economy. It will help us to capitalise on our expertise in environmental science and technology, with a focus on new green jobs, homes, skills and business growth. Alongside this we will seek to attract additional private sector investment into these areas.
- The CCA would have direct control over £11 million per year of funding for adult education until 2030. This will enable us to create up to 50,000 new training and re-training opportunities.
- There will be democratic control of Local Enterprise Partnership assets and funding.

**6.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal to deliver investment in Devon and Torbay through the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?**

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to deliver investment in Devon and Torbay, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

**Creating a strong and sustainable local economy**

We will support high growth business sectors such as marine engineering, defence, photonics and digital, as well as our traditional strengths of tourism, agritech and food production. Through creating a strong and sustainable local economy, we can increase productivity and pay across Devon and Torbay.

- Part of the Government's capital commitment to the CCA will be made available to enable the development of crucial coastal and marine energy infrastructure to allow for the transition to low carbon shipping. This will complement existing planned Levelling Up investment in Northern Devon and Torbay.
- The CCA and VisitEngland will work with the accredited Local Visitor Economy Partnership for the region to help further develop the region's visitor economy, harnessing the region's potential to grow domestic and international visitor spend and encouraging visits throughout the year.
- The Government and the CCA will seek to maximise the impact of our core sectors through:



1. Aligning activity around our High Growth Opportunities including marine manufacturing, specialist innovation assets and the photonics sector;
2. Maximising opportunities linked to Floating Offshore Wind development;
3. Fully realising opportunities within the Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing sector;
4. Working closely with the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs around the agritech and fishing sectors;
5. Exploring the potential of the small but nationally significant health and life sciences cluster

**7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal that it will support industries that are important to Devon and Torbay?**

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the proposal to create a strong and sustainable local economy, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

## **Delivering Our Ambitions**

We will implement streamlined management and decision-making arrangements with a strong business and skills voice to address the big opportunities and challenges for Devon and Torbay. These arrangements will need to accord with the provisions of the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023.

In order that powers and funding are available, suitable management and decision-making arrangements must be put in place. These arrangements provide the Government with assurance that funding will be spent appropriately, and statutory functions will be delivered effectively and efficiently.

To achieve this, our proposals include the integration of the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (insofar as they relate to Devon and Torbay) with wider structures and the formation of a new Devon and Torbay Growth Board. There will also be a Skills and Employment Board created. This will help ensure there continues to be strong and independent local business and skills voices that inform local decision-making and strategic economic planning.

The governance model proposed would build upon existing structures and recognises the significant role for the eight district councils (who would be able to nominate two representatives to the proposed CCA alongside the creation of a Team Devon Joint Committee to further strengthen local partnership working arrangements).





8.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed delivery arrangements for the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority?

*(If you have any comments you would like to make around the delivery proposal, you will have the opportunity at the end of the questionnaire.)*

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

## **Your comments**

9.If you have any comments you would like to make about the proposals for the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority, please tell us using the space below.