

Hi Paul, please see my report for this evening's meeting (27/07/2020)

Kind regards

Claire

Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP)

A draft policies and site options document for the GESP, which is being overseen by Devon County Council and which proposes significant development up to 2040, **is set to be publicly consulted on from 21 September to 16 November.**

Devon County Council says not all the site options will be required and therefore some will drop away as the GESP moves towards further consultation in future.

East Devon District Council **rejected** the GESP at its strategic planning meeting last week and will be preparing its own Local Plan instead.

Exeter City Council and Teignbridge Council have approved the document for consultation.

The draft policies and site options document, which has been prepared for approval by local councils has a link here <https://www.gesp.org.uk/consultation-phases/stage-two-policy-and-options/>.

The document sets out draft policies on various themes (e.g. climate change, prosperity, housing, nature, transport, infrastructure) and a series of strategic development site *options* for housing, employment and mixed uses.

Subject to city and district council approval, the **public consultation** will take place for **8 weeks from 21 September.**

The ECC Executive will be the first to consider the consultation document on 7 July.

Following ECC's Executive, the report will be taken to the following Committees:

- TDC Overview and Scrutiny: 14 July
- MDDC Overview and Scrutiny: 20 July
- TDC Executive: 21 July
- ECC Council: 21 July
- EDDC Strategic Planning Committee: 23 July
- MDDC Cabinet: 6 August

More information is available here. (<https://www.gesp.org.uk/>).

It will, of course, be vital to comment on the plans during the public consultation phase in September.

My blog on the GESP after talking to strategic planning officers at EDDC and DCC
<https://claire-wright.org/proposals-for-thousands-of-houses-in-east-devon-as-part-of-new-plan-to-2040/>

Harpford Bridge

Almost 2500 online signatures have been gathered in favour of DCC repairing this bridge urgently. Val and I launched the petition following a site meeting with DCC officers. The

threat is that the bridge will be probably closed later this year without urgent repair work. I am awaiting a response from Nigel Laws, the relevant DCC officer who has a remit for bridge safety and construction. Val and I will keep you posted! It's really positive that we can demonstrate huge and widespread community support for the bridge's retention!

Four Elms Hill speed reduction

I have contacted highways officers asking for an update on when this work will be carried out. It was set to be carried out a few weeks ago, but things were delayed unfortunately! I have chased it again and will forward any response to you as soon as I receive it.

Devon County Council, Education Portfolio holder, sends an email to Government, asking for clarity on school return

The final paragraph of the letter states: *“That requires you as Education Secretary to give our schools clear and urgent guidance on exactly how you propose they welcome back our children in September and the measures - including financial support - that you propose to put in place so that we can begin the long road back to normality and restore the terrible loss of learning that our children have suffered as a result of this crisis.”*

Devon Libraries phased reopening

Libraries across Devon are reopening in a phased way across the county, with social distancing in operation at four 'pilot' libraries. This includes Honiton in East Devon.

Exeter Library reopens on 27 July and other libraries will follow this.

Mobile libraries started up again on 13 July. Attached is more detail on the plans to reopen Devon libraries.

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