

**Buckerell 17th<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Leader Councillor Brazil said:**

“Westminster continues to underfund local government.

“More and more of the funding relies on council tax, a regressive tax that does not reflect ability to pay.

“Multi-millionaires in London pay half the amount of council tax of local people in Devon!

“We will continue to call for fundamental reform.

“From adult social care to children’s services, especially services that support children with special educational needs and disabilities, central government ducks the issue.

“If they want growth then they need to fund our crumbling road network.

“We keep hearing about tough decisions, but these seem to centre around the most vulnerable in our society. It’s incredibly disappointing from a labour government.”

**The Strategic Plan was passed at Full Council.**

Strategic Vision of the Strategic Plan

Building a positive future for Devon where everyone thrives

We want every child, every person, every family, and every community in Devon to live well - with access to opportunity, services that improve, and a future shaped by aspiration, fairness, and resilience

The full plan is available on the DCC website.

**Launch of the project to trial fixing all potholes in an area.**

['Common sense' approach to fixing potholes to be trialled in Devon - North Devon Today](#)

### **Smartphones in schools.**

[Devon County Council backs proposal for smartphone ban in schools from 2026](#)

[Asylum seekers should be treated with 'compassion' says council leader - DevonAir Radio](#)

[Blood pressure monitors at East Devon libraries | Midweek Herald](#)

[New grant fund aims to enrich the lives of Devon's young people - DevonAir Radio](#)

### **Local Government Reorganisation**

Devon is undergoing a major transformation in how local government works.

The number of Devon councils is due to be reduced as part of UK Government proposals to create 'empowered, simplified, resilient and sustainable' unitary authorities. This means that the current district and county council model will be replaced by a unitary council, responsible for delivering all services within a particular area; a new Devon.

We'd like to hear about what's important to you and how you think Devon's councils and services could be structured to ensure the best services for all people in Devon.

[Complete our survey and have your say on our future >](#)

[Join us at one of our events across Devon >](#)

Survey closes on 14th October 2025

Cabinet decisions.

Growing Futures: Homes for children and young people in care in Devon

In a decisive shift from previous policy, the Council will move away from largely commissioning residential care and instead invest £156 million into directly delivering services, including the creation of 12 new children's homes, 20 specialist foster placements, and up to four new therapeutic schools across the county.

[www.themoorlander.co.uk/news/home/1835053/devon-county-council-unveils-156-million-plan-to-transform-care-for-vulnerable-children.html](http://www.themoorlander.co.uk/news/home/1835053/devon-county-council-unveils-156-million-plan-to-transform-care-for-vulnerable-children.html)

DCC will be working with Barnardos to create 'Gap' homes for care leavers. See news article.

[www.creditoncourier.co.uk/news/devon-county-council-backs-barnardos-in-new-homes-for-care-leavers-815500](http://www.creditoncourier.co.uk/news/devon-county-council-backs-barnardos-in-new-homes-for-care-leavers-815500)

A new Devon strategy for young people not in education, employment or training.

[www.creditoncourier.co.uk/news/strategy-aims-to-create-brighter-futures-for-young-people-in-devon-815499](http://www.creditoncourier.co.uk/news/strategy-aims-to-create-brighter-futures-for-young-people-in-devon-815499)

The management plans for both The East Devon and Blackdown Hills National Landscapes have been approved.

