

NORTHERN DEVON TO 2026

A CORE STRATEGY

Richard Clark writes

Those of us who get a copy of Admart magazine delivered will have had a flyer inside, called Northern Devon to 2026. Just in case you didn't get a copy or didn't appreciate its significance, selected parts of it are reproduced in the next four pages, in our coverage of this hugely important topic. In my humble opinion this is one of the most crucial and significant issues on the table for Shebbear and its environs for years.

It was the formation of the current local plan and the limited amount of public response to it that ended up with the policies we have had for the last ten years, more and more houses and few employment opportunities.

I think it is vital that anyone who plans to live here for a few more years yet, actually takes on board what is written in this draft document and delivers their comments. This is the consultation phase where your views are awaited.

CONSULTATION TIME

North Devon Council and Torrridge District Council are working together to prepare a joint 'Core Strategy' that will determine how, where and when our community's future needs will be met.

This important document, that will eventually replace the Torrridge District and North Devon Local Plans, will establish the vision for the areas future and set delivery objectives for the next sixteen years.

In January 2010 the Councils invited all interests to comment on plans to deliver more homes, jobs and improved infrastructure across northern Devon. The draft Core Strategy is subject to public consultation for a six-week period commencing on 21st January 2010. It is vitally important that everyone with an interest in the area's future shares their views on the Council's draft proposals and submits comments to either Torrridge District or North Devon Council by 4th March 2010. The draft Core Strategy is available on the Council's websites: www.torrridge.gov.uk/ldf and www.northdevon.gov.uk/corestrategy, at Council offices and in local libraries.

Some of the proposed developments include:

- New schools and health centres
- New sports provisions and open space
- Tackling climate change
- New transport infrastructure
- 21,600 houses - 10,700 houses in Torrridge, 10,900 houses in North Devon
- 13,000 new jobs - supported by 35 hectares of employment

land in Torrridge and 85 hectares of employment land in North Devon

PROGRESS SO FAR

The Core Strategy has been developed as a result of evidence gathering including considerable consultation. The first consultation began in 2006 to identify key planning issues. Results were reflected in the Core Strategy Issues and Options Report that was subject to consultation during November 2007 - January 2008. Since then wide-ranging engagement has taken place with local communities, key organisations and service providers. Comments from these consultations have been taken into consideration in preparing the draft Core Strategy.

CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION - From the 21st January 2010 to 4th March 2010

As part of the Core Strategy consultation, the following exhibitions have been arranged in Torrridge.

| Date | Time | Venue |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Tuesday 26th Jan | 14:00 - 20:00 | Village Hall, Halwill |
| Wednesday 27th Jan | 14:00 - 20:00 | Clinton Hall, Merton |
| Thursday 28th Jan | 14:00 - 20:00 | Town Hall, Bideford |
| Tuesday 2nd Feb | 14:00 - 19:00 | Village Hall, Woolsery |
| Weds 3rd Feb | 14:00 - 19:30 | Howe Hall, Torrington |
| Thursday 4th Feb | 14:00 - 20:00 | Market Hall, Holsworthy |
| Tuesday 9th Feb | 14:00 - 20:00 | Windmill Lane, Northam |

Additional events will be held in North Devon at South Molton (21st Jan), Fremington (25th Jan), Barnstaple (29th Jan, 5th and 20th Feb) and Ilfracombe (6th and 21st Feb).

Further information on the progression of the Core Strategy, including consultation arrangements and other issues related to the Torrridge and North Devon Local Development Frameworks are presented in a "LDF Newsletter". The newsletter, which is published periodically, is available on the Torrridge Core Strategy website: www.torrridge.gov.uk/ldf

If you have any questions about the Core Strategy or the Torrridge Local Development Framework please contact us:

Email: corestrategy@torridge.gov.uk
Telephone: 01237 428700
In writing: LDF Team, Torrridge District Council,
Riverbank House, Chanters Road, Bideford,
Devon, EX39 2QG

All published information relating to the Core strategy will be made available through the Council's websites: www.torrridge.gov.uk/ldf and www.northdevon.gov.uk/corestrategy.

Turn the page to find out why this document is so important