



West Devon

What do I get for my money?

How your money is spent
on local services

West Devon Borough Council **Devon County Council**
Devon & Cornwall Police Authority **Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority**



Working save you

Providing better-value quality services

All public services have to make big savings over the next few years. At the same time we must continue to provide vital local services and support the most vulnerable in our communities.

This means working harder than ever to cut costs and get the most from every penny we spend. By working together in partnership, we can use our budgets more effectively and deliver better value for money for everyone.

This booklet explains what services we provide and how much they cost.

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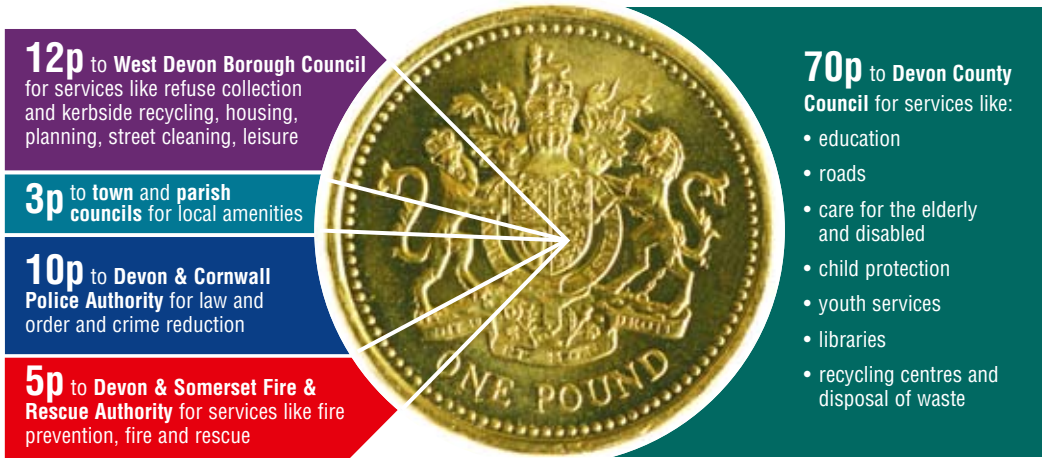
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together to money



Every £1 of council tax you pay is shared in the following way for services:



This year for an average band D property your council tax will be **£1,601.20**. It is divided up like this:

Who gets your money? Your bill is divided up like this (band D)	Council tax £ (subject to rounding)	Increase this year
Devon County Council	1,116.36	0%
West Devon Borough Council	196.95	2.5%
Devon & Cornwall Police Authority	159.73	2%
Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority	73.92	3%
Town/parish councils *	54.24	14.77%

*The figure for the town/parish council is an average. What you pay will depend on your own town or parish council precept.

Council tax help and advice

Are you paying too much council tax? Don't pay more than you have to!

Discounts and exemptions

A full council tax bill is calculated on the assumption that there are two people over the age of 18 living in the property. If you are the only adult living in the home then the bill will be reduced by a quarter (25%).

Even if you do not live on your own, you may still be entitled to a discount because some people living with you may be exempt, for example full time students, patients resident in hospital or people being looked after in care homes.

If either you or someone who lives with you has a disability, and your home has been adapted to meet this need, you may qualify for a reduction in your council tax bill.

In some circumstances, council tax may not be payable at all. These include properties where ALL occupiers are students or have a severe mental impairment or are under the age of 18. Also if your property is unoccupied and unfurnished, it may qualify for up to six months exemption.

If you need further advice, please contact us on **01822 618800**.

Aged 60 or over?

Care Direct can also provide advice on whether you are receiving the help you are entitled to. Contact them on **0845 155 1007**.

On a low income or you have children?

Your bill may be reduced if you have a low income. To find out if you qualify and how we can help please call us or visit our website, see box below.

If you have children you might be eligible for tax credits. To find out more contact the tax credit helpline on **0345 300 3900** or visit **hmrc.gov.uk/TAXCREDITS**

Housing Benefit changes

From January 2012, if you are under 35 and in rented private accommodation (not Housing Association), there are important changes to the amount of benefit that we can pay you.

For more information about the changes and how they may affect you, please contact West Devon Borough Council's Benefits Team on **(01822) 618888** or email: **rev.ben@westdevon.gov.uk**

Contact us

Phone: **01822 618800**

Email: **rev.ben@westdevon.gov.uk**

Or visit us online: **westdevon.gov.uk**



Working together for local communities

Your councils, police and fire service are working together with local communities to create more efficient services, boost economic regeneration, and care for vulnerable people.

Making a difference in Okehampton

Work on regenerating Okehampton is already making a difference to the town and its area. While things continue to be tough for those affected by the closure of three key firms in the town last year, West Devon Borough Council is working alongside Devon County Council, Okehampton Town Council, local businesses and community groups to help the area recover.

Nearly half of those made redundant have now found alternative work and two of the factories have re-opened, although staffing levels are much lower.

The County Council has coordinated a number of longer-term initiatives and has recently bought the town's 36-acre 'Opportunity Okehampton' employment site in partnership with the Borough Council. It includes land for new businesses and a rail station. The County Council has also set up the Okehampton Works hub for training, skills and employment advice.

An Enterprise Club has been established, a Work Club has been maintained and local businesses are driving forward a Business Improvement District with support from the Borough Council.



Investing in faster broadband to boost growth

Devon and Somerset County Councils have won more than £30 million from the government to roll out superfast broadband across the two counties. Devon County Council is contributing capital funds to that sum and is working to secure private sector investment, aiming for an extra £100 million from the industry which will contribute to the infrastructure delivering superfast broadband.

Businesses and communities are being asked to register their interest in receiving improved broadband connectivity, to show the private sector that there is real demand and to secure investment. This is our one big opportunity to shape the future of our digital communications; it's vital everyone gets involved, registers their interest and helps get us connected and up to speed.

To find out more about getting connected visit: connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk
Or you can call the survey hotline on:
0844 4636887

New 101 number for police

Devon and Cornwall Police has introduced **101**, a new telephone number for non-urgent crime, as part of an ongoing commitment to make it easier for the public to get in touch. The public can call **101** when a crime has already happened, to give information about a crime, or to speak to a local officer.

Members of the community who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech impairment can textphone **18001 101** to contact the police in a non-emergency.

The number, which replaces **08452 777444**, can be called from anywhere in the country.

Voice for our communities

West Devon Borough Council has started an innovative project to help local communities have a greater voice in the work of the Council and in the decisions affecting their local area.



Over the last year, the Council has targeted its 'Voice' campaign in three particular areas – the business community, town and parish councils and the voluntary sector. By working with these key groups and listening to their views we're forging a stronger understanding between us which is helping to influence and shape the work of the Council.

In the coming year, we will be looking at how we can work more effectively with the wider public and young people.

Appeal for retained firefighters

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service is urgently seeking to recruit retained firefighters who will be available for calls during the daytime in Chagford.

In the event of additional firefighters not being found, there may be occasions in the future when appliances from other stations have to attend incidents in those areas.

Applicants must be at least 18 and physically fit. They need to be available Monday–Friday and in particular during the

daytime. Successful applicants will have a chance to attend first aid courses and LGV driving courses. For more information, contact the Service on **01392 872331**.

£12 million in extra support for vulnerable people

Devon residents will benefit from an additional £12 million to provide extra support for vulnerable people living in their own homes.

Preventative services that help people avoid the need for hospital admission or more intensive care at a later date will receive a cash boost.

The County Council is expanding its social care reablement service, which provides short-term support to help people regain skills and manage tasks on their own, reducing the dependence on more regular or longer-term social care.

In addition, investment in new technologies and equipment will help vulnerable people with basic tasks so that they can continue to live a fuller life at home.



How your council tax is spent

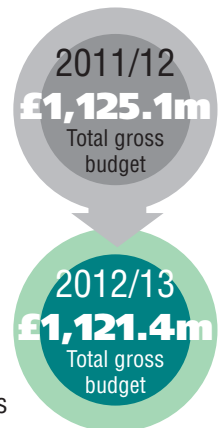
by Devon County Council 2012/13

Devon County Council plans to spend £1,121.391m (gross) this year on providing services to over 750,000 people in Devon. £795.202m (£800.974m 2011/12) of this comes from income we receive from government grants, fees and charges which leaves a council tax requirement of £326.189m (£324.1m 2011/12).

Within these figures is £0.282m (£0.256m 2011/12) relating to the Environment Agency Flood Defence Levy. This levy supports gross expenditure of £13.547m (£15.964m 2011/12). The change in the gross expenditure and levy is due to the Government Spending Review and national priorities of some projects. The total Local Levy raised has increased by 10%.

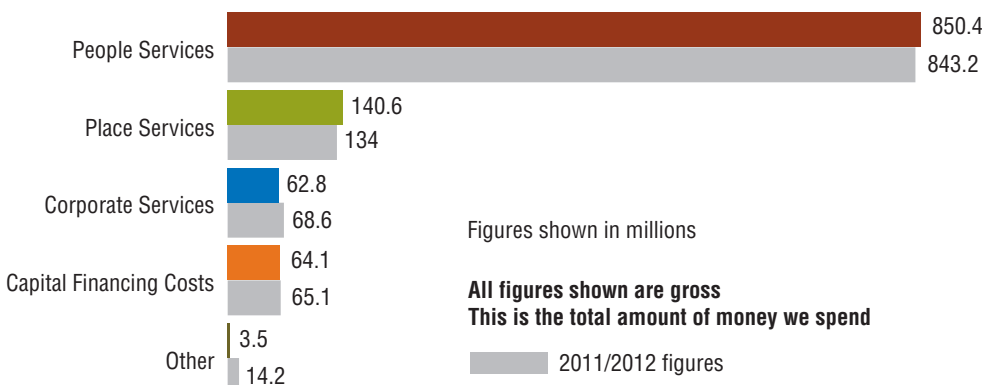
Changes in spending

The continued reduction in government funding means a further drop in financial resources from last year. However a one-off £8.2m grant from the Government to fund the council tax freeze will allow extra investment in care for the vulnerable and vital road maintenance. The council tax will remain frozen for the second year running which means a 0% rise in council tax and Band D remains unchanged at **£1,116.36**.



How does this compare to last year?

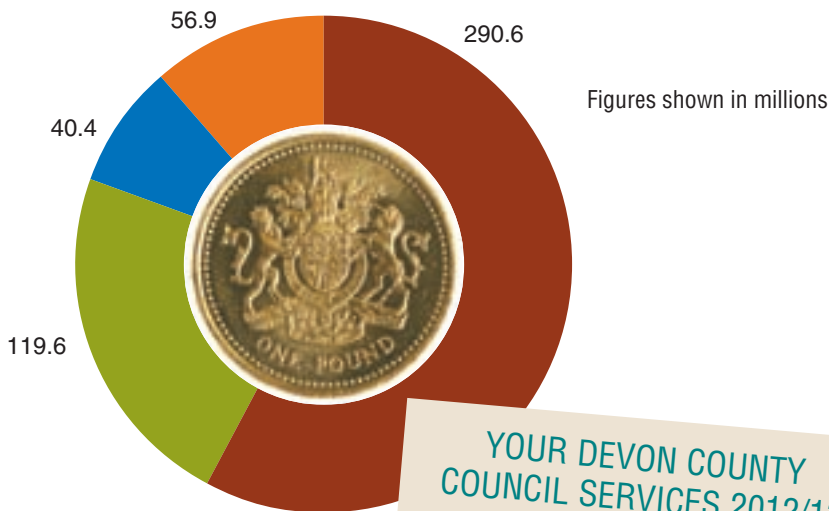
The graph below shows how our gross spending plans for 2012/13 compare to 2011/12.



Spending plans 2012/13

This page shows how we are planning to spend our budget this year on services covering the whole of Devon.

The chart and receipt below illustrates our spending in net figures. Net figures differ from gross figures because the net budget is the amount we spend, less any income from certain grants, charges and fees.



The decrease in this year's budget is due to:

- Reduction in funding from government
- Cutting back office and management costs
- Rationalisation of buildings and office space

YOUR DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES 2012/13	
Item	£M
People Services	£290.6m
Including: education, care for the elderly and disabled, child protection and youth services	
Place Services	£119.6m
Including: libraries, roads, recycling centres and waste disposal	
Corporate Services	£40.4m
Other	£56.9m
Total for services	£507.5

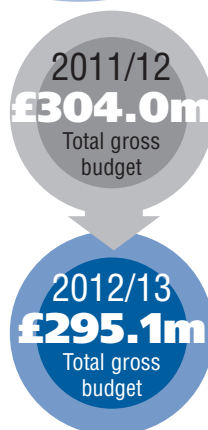
For more details: devon.gov.uk

How your council tax is spent

by Devon & Cornwall Police Authority 2012/13

The part of the council tax that covers police services will increase by 2% in 2012/13. As there was no rise in 2011/12, this increase means that, for a Band D property, the police element of the annual council tax bill will increase by £3.13 from £156.60 in 2010/11 to £159.73 in 2012/13. As most properties in Devon are Band C or below the majority of taxpayers will pay no more than £3 extra for policing in 2012/13.

Spending Plans	2011/12 (£ millions)	2012/13 (£ millions)
Gross Expenditure	304.0	295.1
Funding other than council tax		
Central government funding	-203.2	-190.2
Other income	-5.1	-6.6
Council tax requirement	95.7	98.3



2012/13 is the second year of a four year plan to reduce our spending by almost £50 million. This plan is based on a reduction in the number of police officers, as they retire or move to other forces. It also includes significant reductions in overheads and fewer police staff.

For 2012/13 the government offered the Police Authority a one-off grant of £2.9 million, equivalent to a 3% increase in council tax, to allow it to freeze the council tax. However the grant was for one year only.

With the existing requirement to save £50 million in mind, the Authority looked very carefully at the impact of losing this grant in future years. It concluded that it would seriously impact on the Force's ability to respond to calls, investigate crime and carry out local policing across all parts of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

In order to minimise the future impact on policing services provided to local communities the Authority decided to decline the grant and raise the police precept by 2%, which is equivalent to a rise of six pence per week for a Band D property.

On 15 November 2012 you will be able to vote for your first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). This single directly elected individual will replace the Police Authority. Until then the Authority continues to influence the way Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are policed. Find out more about PCCs and the preparation work on our website.

The Local Policing Plan will be available from 31 March on the Police Authority website:
dcpa.police.uk

How your council tax is spent

by Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority 2012/13

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority is responsible for the governance arrangements for Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service.

Spending Plans	2011/12 (£ millions)	2012/13 (£ millions)
Gross expenditure	79.6	82.2
Income from specific grants, fees and charges	(3.4)	(3.5)
Council tax freeze grant	(1.1)	(1.1)
Central government funding	(30.9)	(31.5)
Council tax requirement	44.2	46.1



Changes in spending

In 2012/13 the spending requirement for the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority will be £2.4m more than in 2011/12. These changes are a result of the following:

Classification of Spend	Changes to expenditure (£ millions)	Changes to income (£ millions)
Contractual pay and price increases	1.4	(0.1)
Invest to save incentives & services/essential spending pressures	3.8	-
Budget savings	(1.2)	(0.4)
One-off provisions included in 2011/12 budget	(1.1)	-
Total changes	2.9	(0.5)

The Authority requires a council tax level of £73.92 for a Band D household. This represents an increase of 3% compared to the 2011/12 figure.

Changes to the Fire Service

Whilst the Fire Service grant allocation for 2012/13 has seen a small increase, the Government has announced more severe reductions in 2013/14 and 2014/15. For more information on how the Authority intends to deliver significant reductions by those years, view our Draft Corporate Plan at dsfire.gov.uk

How your council tax is spent

by West Devon Borough Council
2012/13

West Devon Borough Council plans to spend £26.7m (gross) this year on providing services. £22.6m (£22.6m 2011/12) of this comes from income we receive from grants and fees and charges which leaves a council tax requirement of £4.1m (£4.0m 2011/12).

Changes in spending

In order to secure the future of council services to the public and ensure they are not put in jeopardy, the Council is increasing its share of the council tax by an extra 9 pence per week (band D). The charge will be £196.95 a year (band D) for the services provided by the Borough Council.

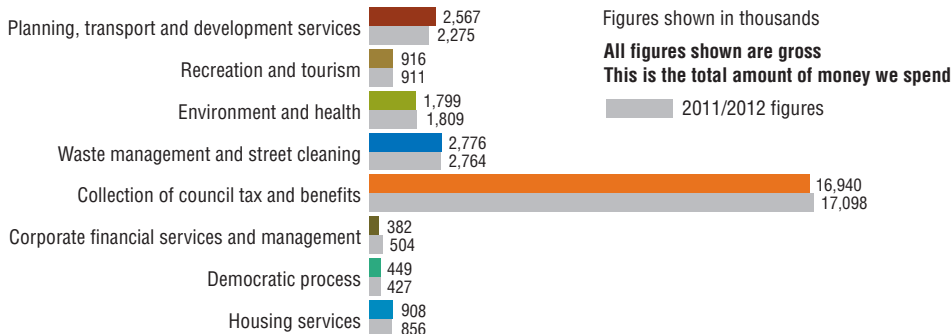
The Council's net budget has decreased from £7.8m (2011/12) to £7.5m (2012/13) due to:

- A £430,000 cut in grant from the Government, as well as the effects of inflation on contracts, goods and services, being offset by the Council achieving £470,000 of efficiency savings.
- The Council is saving £600,000 per annum through sharing staff and reducing management costs with South Hams District Council.



How does this compare to last year?

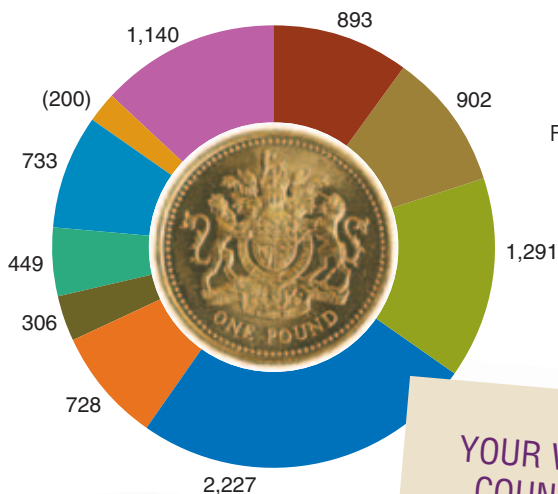
The graph below shows how our gross spending plans for 2012/13 compare to 2011/12.



Spending plans 2012/13

This page shows how we are planning to spend the budget this year on local services. This includes money we collect for parish and town councils in the area for services they provide.

The chart and receipt below illustrates our spend in net figures. Net figures differ from gross figures because the net budget is the amount we spend, less any income from fees, charges and certain grants.



YOUR WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL SERVICES 2012/13	
Item	(£000)
Planning, transport and development services	893
Recreation and tourism	902
Environment and health	1,291
Waste management and street cleaning	2,227
Collection of council tax and benefits	728
Corporate financial services and management	306
Democratic process	449
Housing services	733
Contribution from reserves	(200)
Parish precepts	1,140
Total for services	8,469

For more details: westdevon.gov.uk

Budgets for town councils

with expenditure of over £140,000

West Devon has 2 large town councils with budgets over £140,000. Below is a table showing how much they intend to spend this year compared to last year.

Okehampton Town Council	2011/12 Gross Expenditure	2012/13 Gross Expenditure	2011/12 Net Expenditure	2012/13 Net Expenditure
Supplies and Services	80,106	79,201	12,345	(54,105)
Contributions and grants	21,500	25,800	21,500	25,800
Professional and support services	10,050	9,500	10,050	9,500
Employees	135,007	130,172	135,007	130,172
Capital spend	6,540	46,300	6,540	46,300
Maintenance - Civic buildings	8,065	4,750	(31,963)	4,750
Maintenance - Simmons Park	26,571	39,199	2,721	36,319
Contribution towards reserves	38,800	0	38,800	0
Total	326,639	334,922	195,000	198,736

Town Clerk: Mr Don Bent. Address: Town Hall, Fore Street, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 1AA.
Tel: 01837 53179. Email: townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk. Website: www.okehampton.gov.uk

Tavistock Town Council	2011/12 Gross Expenditure	2012/13 Gross Expenditure	2011/12 Net Expenditure	2012/13 Net Expenditure
Corporate Management and Democratic	251,689	321,459	223,824	298,509
Cemeteries	38,851	56,594	12,741	29,381
Grants	103,114	40,190	103,114	40,190
Car Parks, Lights and WCs	15,374	39,839	(7,926)	12,489
Town Hall	186,439	175,085	103,389	100,485
Property	115,574	79,798	(318,398)	(355,402)
Open Spaces, Play Parks and Goose Fair	450,034	468,943	389,577	403,639
Pannier Market	265,708	246,645	(166,982)	(222,355)
Capital Projects	28,861	61,264	28,861	61,264
Contribution to/from Reserves	50,000	150,000	50,000	150,000
Total	1,505,644	1,639,817	418,200	518,200

Town Clerk: Mr Carl Hearn. Address: Tavistock Town Council Offices, Drake Road, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 0AU.
Tel: 01822 613529. Email: tavistocktc@aol.com. Website: www.tavistock.gov.uk

Parish precepts and council tax

Parish	2011/12 precept £	2012/13 precept £	2012/13 band D tax £
Beaworthy	1,166	1,166	13.94
Belstone	1,100	1,137	9.41
Bere Ferrers	49,889	62,639	53.97
Bondleigh	200	200	3.36
Bradstone	200	-	-
Bratton Clovelly	3,000	3,300	18.67
Brentor	7,000	10,773	56.40
Bridestowe	5,125	5,640	24.97
Broadwoodkelly	1,750	2,250	22.04
Buckland Monachorum	34,212	37,932	22.41
Burrator	4,250	4,250	6.26
Chagford	29,500	32,000	43.14
Dartmoor Forest	12,725	17,725	44.33
Drewsteignton	12,513	13,100	35.63
Exbourne & Jacobstowe	5,145	5,145	24.21
Germansweek	1,412	1,383	18.52
Gidleigh	0	0	0.00
Gulworthy	3,900	3,900	20.01
Hatherleigh	20,500	20,500	32.84
Highampton	2,200	2,700	23.64
Horrabridge	16,050	23,160	29.48
Iddesleigh	1,300	1,400	15.44
Inwardleigh	2,500	2,700	15.00
Kelly	450	450	8.33

Parish	2011/12 precept £	2012/13 precept £	2012/13 band D tax £
Lamerton	4,750	5,000	16.23
Lewdown	3,100	3,100	9.25
Lifton	10,500	11,000	25.34
Lydford	6,300	6,300	33.91
Mary Tavy	12,670	14,740	40.36
Meeth	1,000	1,000	15.51
Milton Abbot (Grouped)*	4,000	4,200	11.29
Monkokehampton	950	1,300	24.41
Northlew	7,900	7,800	26.33
North Tawton	49,750	64,187	94.22
Okehampton Hamlets	7,000	7,350	31.92
Okehampton Town	195,000	198,736	77.66
Peter Tavy	12,000	7,500	55.60
Plasterdown	2,375	2,375	8.37
Sampford Courtenay	7,027	6,758	27.67
Sourton	4,250	4,250	25.05
South Tawton	11,800	12,000	25.09
Spreyton	1,800	1,800	10.15
Sticklepath	3,352	3,352	20.29
Stowford	1,850	1,850	15.51
Sydenham Damarel	450	450	4.06
Tavistock	418,200	518,200	110.17
Throwleigh	3,250	3,318	21.65

* includes Bradstone 2012/13

West Devon Borough Council

01822 813600

 services@westdevon.gov.uk

 westdevon.gov.uk


 Customer Services, West Devon Borough Council, Kilworthy Park, Tavistock PL19 0BZ

Devon County Council

0845 155 1015

 customer@devon.gov.uk

 devon.gov.uk

 The Information Centre, Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QD

 Follow us on Twitter
twitter.com/devoncc

Devon & Cornwall Police Authority

Police non-emergency: **101**

(Textphone 18001 101 if you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired)


 devon-cornwall.police.uk

Spending and budget enquiries:

01392 225555

 dcpa.police.uk

 polauth@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk


 Devon & Cornwall Police Authority, Endeavour House, Woodwater Park, Pynes Hill, Exeter, EX2 5WH

Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority

01392 872200

 comments@dsfire.gov.uk

 dsfire.gov.uk

 Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority HQ, The Knowle, Clyst St George, Exeter EX3 0NW

**This booklet is available on request
in large print, Braille or audio.**

If English is not your first language, we can also arrange for it to be produced in another language.

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