



After selling Exeter International Airport last year for £60 million, Devon County Council has made available £48 million to enable hundreds of projects to take off. Here, *DevonTalk* features some of the initial beneficiaries from one-off cash grants in South Devon...



### Skate park project given the go-ahead

A NEW skate park at Newton Abbot can now be built thanks to a £50,000 grant from Devon County Council. The town and district councils, with the help of fundraising from young people, had already raised £143,000 towards the cost of the project.

# Soccer club nets big cash aid

Ivybridge Town FC will be celebrating after £85,000 was awarded to pay towards an upgrade to their football ground.

Following promotion to the South West Peninsula League, the club was given two years to upgrade their ground. Requirements included floodlights, covered seating for spectators and suitable changing facilities. If these requirements were not met then the club faced relegation.

Planning permission has been obtained and the money will go towards paying for floodlights, a perimeter fence on all four sides of the pitch, a 100 seater spectator stand, shared standing and refurbishment of the changing facilities and club house.

Over 250 young people are on the club's books from Ivybridge and the neighbouring divisions. The club also supports 14 teams across all ages including a ladies side. Local Councillor Roger Croad, said: "Improving the facilities will not only promote the football club, but also encourage more young people to participate in exercise and team building"

Bill Wakeham, Chairman of the club said: "The people of Ivybridge and surrounding areas will benefit greatly from Devon County Councils investment."

It is also planned for the newly refurbished club house to be used as an alternative venue for the many sports and social clubs in the Ivybridge area.



Junior footballers at Ivybridge celebrate news of the financial support from Devon County Council along with, back row left to right, Under-13s Coach Mark Hunter, Club Chairman Bill Wakeham and Club President Peter Kingwell

### Shopmobility in Dawlish

A TRANSPORT Association will now be able to operate a Shopmobility scheme from new premises at Barton Hill car park in Dawlish thanks to an award of £25,000. The association currently operates from the Manor House in Old Town Street providing community/hospital transport but there is insufficient room to expand to provide Shopmobility.

### Boost for Flavel Centre

THE Flavel Centre at Dartmouth has been allocated £10,000 to improve its facilities, including new furniture, a moveable stage, illuminated posters for the reception area to advertise events, as well as improving the acoustics and the storage facilities.

### New bus for community

TOTNES Community Bus has received £16,500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle. The volunteer service is extremely well used and has carried more than 110,000 passengers in the past six years.

### Sensory room

IVYBRIDGE school has been awarded £5,000 to create a sensory room with a stimulating and challenging environment to help in the education of pupils with autism.

### Botanical gardens boardwalk access

A PROJECT to build a pedestrian and disabled access to the Shaldon Botanical Garden has been awarded £25,000.

The boardwalk – similar to the one pictured right – will cross allotments linking a footway to the garden paths, creating a safe pedestrian route along the busy Torquay Road.

The walkway, with fantastic panoramic views of the Teign Estuary, will be part of a circular walk.



Photograph courtesy of www.greenspace.co.uk

## £2.5 million will fund new sports hall

A £2.5 million grant will ensure a new sports hall will be built on the campus of Teignmouth Community College, one of only two schools in Devon without a sports hall.

The new hall will ensure all students have access to at least 2.5 hours high quality physical exercise each week without time being lost in travelling to the Broadmeadow facility.

Teignmouth County Councillor Chris Bray said: "I am really pleased that the college is to get its much-needed sports hall.

"I am delighted that now that funds have become available, the County Council has allocated sufficient money for the college to have a purpose-built sports hall for the first time.

"If talks continue to progress with Teignbridge in the positive way that they have started, a new facility will also be available for local residents.

"This is an outcome that a number of us have been working on for a long time so to see it happen will be very pleasing."