

OurDevon 2006-2011 a focus on the future



Devon
County Council 

an excellent authority



audit commission



Coming soon...
myDevon:
services at your fingertips
See page 28

A county to be proud of

This booklet gives you a quick guide to our priorities for Devon over the next 5 years

A focus on the future

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For more details about our plans and how we intend to achieve them see back page.

Cover picture shows detail of our new £4.2m Wynstream Primary School, Exeter. Picture courtesy of Express & Echo.

Devon County Council delivering for you 24/7 all year round

We serve over 700,000 people across Devon and are responsible for services such as schools, youth clubs, libraries, care of the elderly, adult education, and the disposal and recycling of waste. We also look after the county's roads, footpaths and countryside facilities.

Top performing council

We are a top performing council with a four star ranking – the top mark possible – from the Audit Commission. We get good marks for our careful use of resources and providing value for money.





What the County Council does for Devon

Did you know?

- We run 367 schools teaching 96,500 young people
- We provide school transport for 22,000 children every day
- We run 56 local libraries and our 11 mobile libraries visit over 1,300 community stops per year
- We look after 600 vulnerable children
- We provide residential care for 4,500 people and support another 13,500 in their own homes
- We maintain 7,900 miles of roads, 3,200 miles of public rights of way, and over 3,500 bridges
- We run 19 local recycling centres and eight rural skips.

Our aim is to improve the quality of life for all and this plan is based on what you've told us

We all want the best possible public services in Devon that meet local needs in a cost-effective way. We also want Devon to be England's greenest county where young people have a good start in life and there is independence and choice for all.

We invest £1 billion a year in the local economy including £125 million on building new schools, libraries, recycling centres and care facilities.





Making Devon Greener



We have a duty to protect our precious environment not only for ourselves and visitors but also for future generations.

87% of you are satisfied with Devon as a place to live – the highest rating of any local authority area

Source: MORI Quality of Life survey, 2002

We're listening to you! You're at the heart of everything we do.



Based on what you tell us, these are the most important things for us to do:

- Help children and young people be healthier and achieve more
- Help disadvantaged communities to create jobs and wealth
- Reduce waste and recycle more
- Tackle traffic congestion and pollution
- Help more elderly and disabled people stay safe in their own homes*

*Source: OurDevon consultation carried out in autumn 2005 based on a random sample of 5,000 local residents.

In these pages we set out our priorities for the years ahead. These are based on what you say and we will keep listening to make sure we stay focused on the things that matter most to Devon.



The best possible start in life

Our children deserve the best possible start in life.
This means helping our children and young people:

- Be fit and healthy
- Stay safe from harm and protected from abuse
- Enjoy learning and achieve the best they can
- Be valued members of the community who contribute positively
- Find a job and provide for themselves

Our targets for 2008:

- Better examination results
- Less truancy and fewer pupils excluded from school
- More pupils doing at least two hours PE and sport a week
- Every child at risk supported by an allocated social worker
- Quicker access by young people to mental health services
- More 16-18 year olds in work, education or training
- More young people involved in service development

Healthy school dinners now on the menu

Our primary schools now serve healthier meals. The new menus feature more locally sourced food, freshly prepared to provide a healthy balanced meal for children.



