

# South Hams Overview and Scrutiny Committee



<b>Title:</b>	<b>Agenda</b>										
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Thursday, 14th March, 2024</b>										
<b>Time:</b>	<b>2.00 pm</b>										
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Council Chamber - Follaton House</b>										
<b>Full Members:</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chairman</b> Cllr Hawkins <b>Vice Chairman</b> Cllr Cooper</p> <p><i>Members:</i></p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Cllr Dennis</td> <td>Cllr Lawford</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Dewynter</td> <td>Cllr Munoz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Dommett</td> <td>Cllr Penfold</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Edie</td> <td>Cllr Presswell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Jackson</td> <td>Cllr Steele</td> </tr> </table>	Cllr Dennis	Cllr Lawford	Cllr Dewynter	Cllr Munoz	Cllr Dommett	Cllr Penfold	Cllr Edie	Cllr Presswell	Cllr Jackson	Cllr Steele
Cllr Dennis	Cllr Lawford										
Cllr Dewynter	Cllr Munoz										
Cllr Dommett	Cllr Penfold										
Cllr Edie	Cllr Presswell										
Cllr Jackson	Cllr Steele										
<b>Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation:</b>	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.										
<b>Committee administrator:</b>	Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk										

**1. Apologies For Absence**

**2. Minutes**

**1 - 4**

to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Committee held on 8 February 2024;

**3. Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members are invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Interests and Non-Registerable Interests including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting;

**4. Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

To consider those items which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered by the Meeting as matters of urgency

**5. Public Forum**

**5 - 6**

A period of up to 15 minutes is available to deal with issues raised by the public;

**6. Executive Forward Plan**

**7 - 12**

**7. Devon Building Control Partnership**

**13 - 22**

**8. Sustainable South Hams**

**23 - 56**

**9. Quarter 3 - KPIs**

Report to follow

**10. Task and Finish Group - Verbal Updates**

- a) EA and SW Water Research Task and Finish Group
- b) Fusion Task and Finish Group
- c) Local Lettings Policy

**11. O&S Annual Work Programme**

**57 - 58**

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE,  
Held in the Council Chamber, Follaton House, Totnes, on  
THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2024**

<b>Panel Members in attendance:</b>			
* Denotes attendance    Ø Denotes apology for absence			
*	Cllr B Cooper (Vice-Chairman)	*	Cllr S Jackson
*	Cllr S Dennis	*	Cllr L Lawford
*	Cllr A Dewynter	Ø	Cllr P Munoz
*	Cllr N Dommett	*	Cllr S Penfold
*	Cllr T Edie	*	Cllr A Presswell
*	Cllr J Hawkins (Chairman)	*	Cllr M Steele
*	Cllr Oram (substituting for Cllr Munoz)		

<b>Other Members also in attendance either in person or via Teams:</b>
Cllrs Taylor, Abbott, Brazil and Hodgson and Cllrs Hopwood, O'Callaghan and Long (on MS Teams)

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Minute Ref No below refers</b>	<b>Officers in attendance and participating</b>
All		Director of Customer Service and Delivery, Director of Strategy and Governance, Assistant Director of Strategy and Organisational Development (on MS Teams), Senior Leisure Contracts Officer and Senior Democratic Services Officer

**O&S.23/23 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 21 December 2023 were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following change – Cllrs Long and Taylor were in attendance and to invite SWW and EA to overview and scrutiny in 12 months' time.

**O&S.24/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members and officers were invited to declare any interests in the items of business to be considered during the course of the meeting, but there were none made.

**O&S.25/23 PUBLIC FORUM**

In accordance with the Public Forum Procedure Rules, the Chairman informed that no questions had been received for consideration.

**O&S.26/23 EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN**

It was highlighted that the Fusion Contract would be going to the next Executive meeting.

**O&S.27/23 LEISURE CONTRACT – FUSION ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

The Chair welcomed Rob Taylor (Fusion Regional Manager) and Jon Parkinson (Senior Leisure Officer) and Clare Bill (Fusion Development Manager) on MS Teams to the meeting and provided a presentation to the committee.

In response to questions raised, it was reported:

- A Business Plan has been provided to the council on solar panels to be agreed by Executive.
- With regard to Totnes active discussions were taking place on redevelopment plans but had been put on hold. They were using a Leisure Consultant for further advice on the plans to check for robustness and affordability.
- There were staffing issues at Dartmouth and were finding it difficult to recruit.
- They have offered to train up a person as a lifeguard for free but were unable to find anyone.
- They actively advertise for staff, hold community open days and use social media and current staff were multi-skilled. Their longest serving members of staff started out as apprentices.
- They have limited resource to offer outreach work for Woolwell but were happy to meet and discuss with the Ward member.
- Concerning cleanliness at the leisure centres they undertake deep cleans at the centres and the Council undertake ad-hoc visits.
- They liaise with schools and provide PTA's raffle prizes to increase engagement.
- Swimming Pool Support Fund would be announced shortly.
- Support Fund Round 2 would be announced shortly.
- They were trying to ensure leisure centres were sustainable despite the rising costs.
- Parking fees would need to be addressed by the council.
- They encourage residents to attend 'Meet the Manager sessions' to provide feedback and highlight any concerns.

It was then:

**RESOLVED**

That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the contents and progress of Fusion's Annual Report for 2023 and proposals for 2024.

**O&S.28/23 SOUTH DEVON AND DARTMOOR COMMUNITY SAFTY PARTNERSHIP**

The Chair welcomed Ian Luscombe (Head of Environmental Health and Licensing) and Claire Birch (Senior Environmental Health Officer) to meeting. Cllr Dewynter as Lead Member introduced the report.

In response to questions raised, it was reported:

- With regard to drugs and knife crime they were ensuring that they had good intelligence to act upon. This intelligence was driven by

members representing the communities highlighting the issues. At the next priority setting meeting they would be looking at the wider issues and allocate resources.

- There was an opportunity for Members to feed into priority setting meetings which has huge representation from the police and community police.
- ASB Officer works in the community and working alongside the police on neighbourhood issues.
- They attend fortnightly meetings with the police and discuss high risk cases.
- If a person breaches a Community Protection Warning they could then serve a notice and if that was breached, then a fixed penalty or criminal prosecution.
- Next Priority Setting Meeting taking place in early March.

It was then:

### **RESOLVED**

That the Committee:

1. Acknowledge the work of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).
2. Encourages Members to take part in the annual priority setting process to reflect the priorities in their communities.
3. Invite the police to attend a future meeting with the CSP.

#### **O&S.29/23 TASK AND FINISH GROUP UPDATES**

Membership and meetings to be set up for Fusion Task and Finish and Housing Lettings Task and Finish.

EA and SW Water Research Task and Finish Group to meet to discuss next steps.

To look at Care Leavers Task and Finish raised at the last Executive meeting.

#### **O&S.30/23 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24**

The Committee agreed the following items for the work programme:

- Homelessness and housing
- Move the 2 May meeting to 9 May 2024

(Meeting started at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.46 pm)

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Chairman

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## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

There is a period of 15 minutes at meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee during which members of the public can ask questions about items on the agenda.

Any member of the public who wants to ask a question should ensure that the question:

- a) is no more than 50 words in length;
- b) is not be broken down into multiple parts;
- c) relates to an item included on the agenda; and
- d) is suitable to be considered. A question will not be suitable if, for example, it is derogatory to the Council or any third party; relates to a confidential matter; it is about a specific planning matter; or it is substantially the same as a question asked in the past six months.

Questions should be sent to Democratic Services ([Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk)) by 1.00pm on the Monday before the meeting (the deadline will be brought forward by a working day if affected by a bank holiday). This will allow a detailed response to be given at the meeting. If advance notice of the question cannot be given the Chairman of the meeting has the discretion to allow questions on matters that are felt to be urgent;

For any further advice on questions to the O&S Committee, or to request a copy of the full Public Questions Procedure Rules, please contact Democratic Services ([Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@swdevon.gov.uk))

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# Executive Leader's Forward Plan

## About the Forward Plan

This is the Leader of Council's provisional forward plan for the four months starting March 2024. It provides an indicative date for matters to be considered by the Executive. Where possible, the Executive will keep to the dates shown in the plan. However, it may be necessary for some items to be rescheduled and other items added.

The forward plan is published to publicise consultation dates and enable dialogue between the Executive and all councillors, the public, and other stakeholders. It will also assist the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in planning their contribution to policy development and holding the Executive to account.

Local authorities are required to publish updated forward plans on a regular basis. The Plan is published on the Council's website ([www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk))

## About the Executive

The Executive consists of eight Councillors. Each has responsibility for a particular area of the Council's work.

- Leader of the Council with specific responsibility for Waste and Recycling; Strategic Planning; Finance and Communications – Cllr Julian Brazil
- Deputy Leader of the Council with specific responsibility for Planning; Corporate Performance Oversight; Organisational and Community Development – Cllr Dan Thomas
- Lead Executive Member for Climate Change & Biodiversity – Cllr John McKay
- Lead Executive Member for Economic Development; Commercial Strategy; and Governance – Cllr John Birch
- Lead Executive Member for Housing; Environmental Health & Licensing – Cllr Denise O'Callaghan
- Lead Executive Member for Community Services & Operations – Cllr Victor Abbott
- Lead Executive Member for Waste & Community Composting – Cllr Jacqi Hodgson
- Lead Executive Member for Service Quality – Cllr Nicky Hopwood

Further information on the workings of the Executive, including latest information on agenda items, can be obtained by contacting Democratic Services on 01803 861105 or by e-mail to [democratic.services@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@swdevon.gov.uk)

**All items listed in this Forward Plan will be discussed in public at the relevant meeting, unless otherwise indicated with \***



### Forward Plan from March 2024

Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / SLT Lead / Report Author	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Waste and Community Composting	<b>Title: Waste Services Update</b> <b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides a service update on Waste.	CLlr Hodgson / Steve Mullineaux / Sarah Moody	Report of the Deputy Chief Executive	7 March 2024	
Deputy Leader	<b>Title: Joint Local Plan Review</b> <b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides an update on the Joint Local Plan.	CLlr Thomas / Chris Brook	Report of the Director – Place & Enterprise	7 March 2024	
Climate Change & Biodiversity	<b>Title: Climate Change &amp; Biodiversity Emergency Update – Standing Agenda Item</b> <b>Purpose:</b> To enable the Committee to receive an update from the lead Member for Climate Change & Biodiversity that will include consideration of the draft Climate Adaptation Strategy.	CLlr McKay / Drew Powell / Adam Williams	Report of the Director for Strategy & Governance	7 March 2024	
Housing, Environmental Health & Licensing	<b>Title: Progress Update on Housing Projects</b> <b>Purpose:</b> To enable the Committee to receive an update from the lead member for Housing.	CLlr O’Callaghan / Chris Brook / Issy Blake	Report of the Head of Housing	7 March 2024	
Service Quality	<b>Title: Discretionary Housing Payments Policy</b> <b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that seeks approval of a revised Discretionary Housing Payments Policy.	CLlr Hopwood / Steve Mullineaux / Geni Hotchkiss	Report of the Head of Revenues and Benefits	7 March 2024	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / SLT Lead / Report Author	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Service Quality	<p><b>Title: Housing Benefit War Pension Disregard Policy</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that seeks to recommend to Council approval of a Housing Benefit War Pension Disregard policy.</p>	<p>CLlr Hopwood / Steve Mullineaux / Geni Hotchkiss</p>	<p>Report of the Head of Revenues and Benefits</p>	<p>7 March 2024</p>	
Community Services & Operations	<p><b>Title: Fusion Update</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides an update on Fusion.</p>	<p>CLlr Abbott / Chris Brook</p>	<p>Report of the Director – Place &amp; Enterprise</p>	<p>7 March 2024</p>	
Leader	<p><b>Title: Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to Month 10</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that presents the Council’s Revenue Budget Monitoring position to Month 10.</p>	<p>CLlr Brazil / Lisa Buckle / Pauline Henstock</p>	<p>Report of the Section 151 Officer</p>	<p>7 March 2024</p>	
Leader	<p><b>Title: Capital Programme Monitoring Report to Month 10</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that presents the Council’s Capital Programme Monitoring position to Month 10.</p>	<p>CLlr Brazil / Lisa Buckle / Pauline Henstock</p>	<p>Report of the Section 151 Officer</p>	<p>7 March 2024</p>	
Community Services & Operations	<p><b>Title: Dartmouth Health Hub Off-Street Parking Order Amendment and Park and Ride Contract Award</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that presents the results of a six-month review into the Dartmouth Health Hub Off-Street Parking Order amendment and that seeks to</p>	<p>CLlr Abbott / Chris Brook / Emma Widdicombe</p>	<p>Report of the Principal Assets Officer – Buildings, Parking and Public Conveniences</p>	<p>7 March 2024</p>	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / SLT Lead / Report Author	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
	award the Park and Ride Contract				
Deputy Leader	<p><b>Title: Conservation Area Appraisal – Dartmouth</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that seeks to adopt the proposed new Conservation Area Appraisal for Dartmouth.</p>	Cllr Thomas / Drew Powell / Ali Wagstaff	Report of the Assistant Director: Planning	7 March 2024	
Deputy Leader	<p><b>Title: Conservation Area Management Plan: Totnes</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that seeks to adopt the proposed new Conservation Area Management Plan for Totnes.</p>	Cllr Thomas / Drew Powell / Ali Wagstaff	Report of the Assistant Director: Planning	7 March 2024	
Leader	<p><b>Title: Brixton Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides a progress update on the Brixton Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Cllr Brazil / Drew Powell / Graham Swiss	Report of the Senior Strategic Planning Officer	7 March 2024	
Leader	<p><b>Title: Staverton Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides a progress update on the Staverton Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Cllr Brazil / Drew Powell / Graham Swiss	Report of the Senior Strategic Planning Officer	7 March 2024	
Economic Development; Commercial Strategy; and Governance	<p><b>Title: Freeport: Progress Update</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> In accordance with the Council resolution, to consider a quarterly progress update on the Freeport project.</p>	Cllr Birch / Chris Brook	Report of the Director of Place & Enterprise	18 April 2024	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / SLT Lead / Report Author	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Climate Change & Biodiversity	<p><b>Title: Climate Change &amp; Biodiversity Emergency Update – Standing Agenda Item</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that enables the Committee to receive an update from the lead Member for Climate Change &amp; Biodiversity.</p>	Cllr McKay / Drew Powell / Adam Williams	Report of the Director for Strategy & Governance	18 April 2024	
Housing, Environmental Health & Licensing	<p><b>Title: Progress Update on Housing Projects</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To enable the Committee to receive an update from the lead member for Housing.</p>	Cllr O’Callaghan / Chris Brook / Issy Blake	Report of the Head of Housing	18 April 2024	
Economic Development; Commercial Strategy; and Governance	<p><b>Title: UK Shared Prosperity Fund Updates</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report the provides a progress update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund</p>	Cllr Birch / Chris Brook / Chris Shears	Report of the Head of Economy and Place	TBC (Summer)	
Climate Change & Biodiversity	<p><b>Title: National Landscapes Project Update (AONB)</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that provides a project update from the National Landscapes Unit.</p>	Cllr McKay / Chris Brook / Roger English	Report of the National Landscapes Manager	TBC (Summer)	
Leader	<p><b>Title: Revenue and Benefits Service: 12 Month Review</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that presents a 12 month review into the Revenue and Benefits Service.</p>	Cllr Brazil / Steve Mullineaux / Geni Hotchkiss	Report of the Head of Revenues and Benefits	TBC (Summer)	



Portfolio Area	Report Title and Summary	Lead Member / SLT Lead / Report Author	Documents to be considered in making decision	Date of Decision	Consultees and means of consultation
Housing, Environmental Health and Licensing	<p><b>Title: Alcohol Public Space Protection Orders</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report that seeks adoption of a series of Alcohol Public Space Protection Orders in the District.</p>	CIlr O'Callaghan / Chris Brook / Ian Luscombe	Report of the Head of Environmental Health	TBC (Summer)	

# Devon Building Control Partnership Updates



The main purpose of the Partnership is to ensure that the Building Control functions for Teignbridge District Council, South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council can meet their statutory and regulatory duties in respect of building control matters



The Partnership is a Joint Committee Model, operating under a Partnership Agreement, governed by a board made up of elected members of the constituent councils, whereby both operationally and strategically the Head of Service reports. Teignbridge Council employs the staff and provides support services on its behalf. The service must be self-financed.



The service has two elements which are described as fee earning and non-fee earning work. The building regulation aspect of the service is income generating and operates in accordance with The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 and CIPFA accounting requirements.



The fee-earning part of the service operates by charging for Building Regulation Applications.



The non-fee earning part of the service is funded by the council taxpayer and includes dangerous structures, enforcement, demolitions, safety advisory group and consultancy services to other council services.



It is a statutory service, which administers legislation relating to the built environment and operates in such a manner as to establish and maintain a high reputation for both it and the partner councils.

# Strategy Map For Service Delivery







Currently each constituent Council pays for the non-fee earning proportion of the overall costs which amounts to approximately 19%



The Partnership has maintained a market share over the last 3 years of approximately 88% which is higher than the national average.



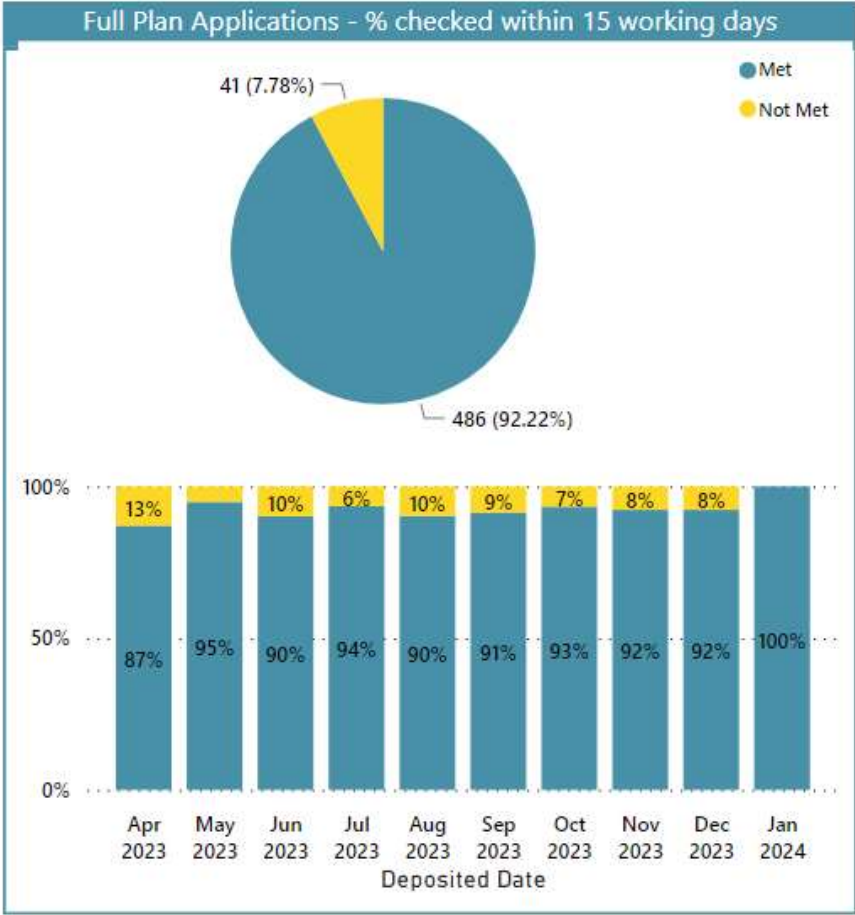
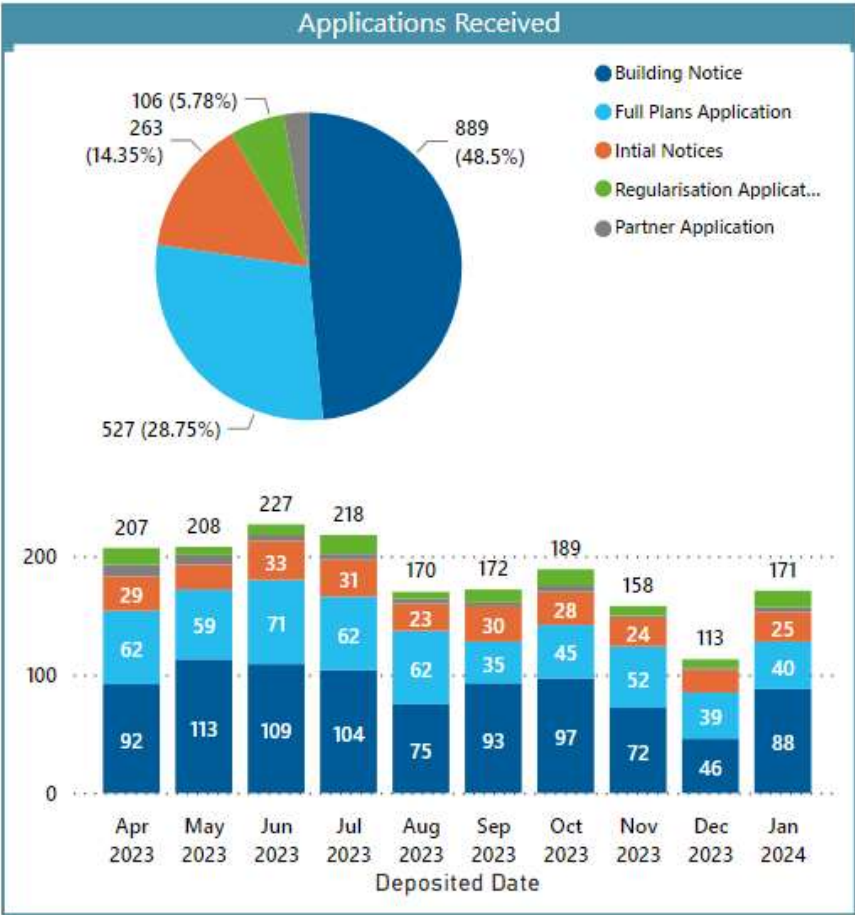
Local authority building control is subject to competition from private sector building control bodies (approved inspectors or AI's) operating both regionally and nationally. This competitive scenario is applicable across all developments including domestic extensions, new housing, and commercial developments. This gives all applicants a clear choice between the Local Authority Building Control Service (LABC) and private sector building control Approved Inspector (AI) services.



Despite this choice, the Local Authority retains a statutory duty to enforce the building regulations in its geographical area and is considered as a service of 'last resource'. Approved Inspectors are not able to perform this function and sites which cannot be signed off by AI's revert to Local authorities for enforcement. Thus, irrespective of workload and income, all councils must retain a Building Control Service at some cost to the Authority.

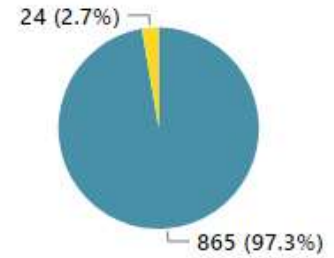
Total Applications	Firmstep	Emailed application	Telephone	Planning Portal	Not Stated	Paper Forms
1833	41%	32%	19%	4%	3%	0%

Year	Quarter	Month
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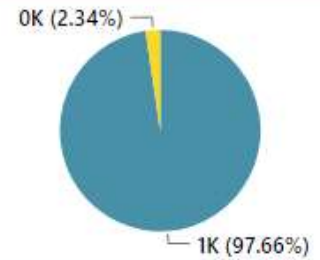
### Building Notices in 2 Days

● No ● Yes ● Target - 99%



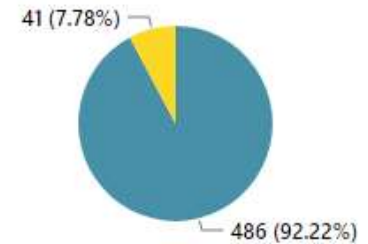
### Completions in 7 Days

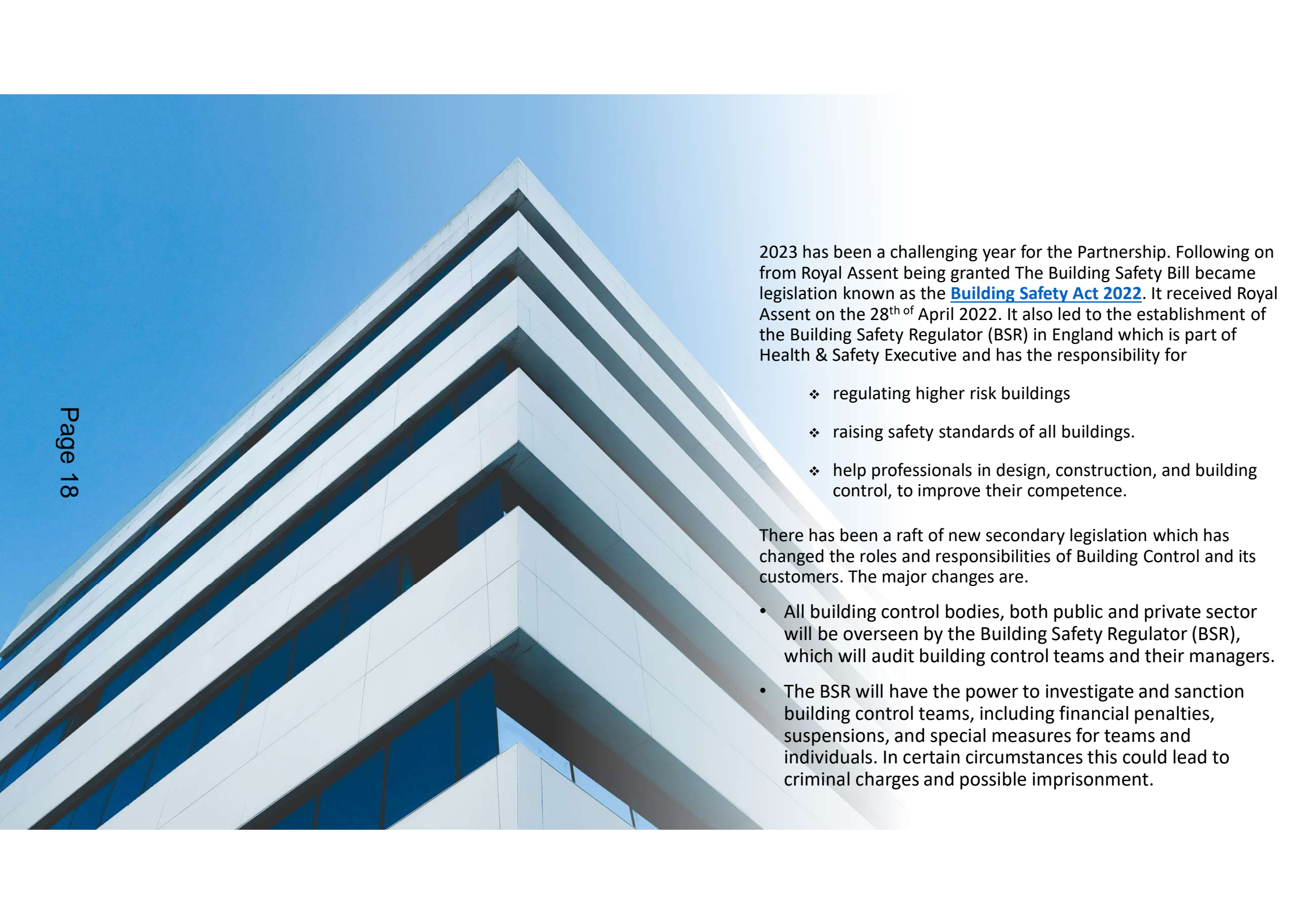
● No ● Yes ● Target - 85%



### Actioned or Determined in 15 Days

● No ● Yes ● Target - 85%





2023 has been a challenging year for the Partnership. Following on from Royal Assent being granted The Building Safety Bill became legislation known as the [Building Safety Act 2022](#). It received Royal Assent on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. It also led to the establishment of the Building Safety Regulator (BSR) in England which is part of Health & Safety Executive and has the responsibility for

- ❖ regulating higher risk buildings
- ❖ raising safety standards of all buildings.
- ❖ help professionals in design, construction, and building control, to improve their competence.

There has been a raft of new secondary legislation which has changed the roles and responsibilities of Building Control and its customers. The major changes are.

- All building control bodies, both public and private sector will be overseen by the Building Safety Regulator (BSR), which will audit building control teams and their managers.
- The BSR will have the power to investigate and sanction building control teams, including financial penalties, suspensions, and special measures for teams and individuals. In certain circumstances this could lead to criminal charges and possible imprisonment.



- Extensive new powers relating to enforcement, including stop notices and substantial fines. Increasing the timescales for enforcement action either by or on Building Control from 12 months to 15 years.

Part 3 of The Building Safety Act 2022 (“BSA”) which came into force on 28 October 2023 applies to **all buildings**.

Two sections within Part 3 aim to increase and improve building safety.

- The first introduces accountability for ensuring that Building Regulations are adhered to so that buildings will be safe (by introducing a duty-holder regime not unlike that which applies in respect of health and safety *during* construction).
- The second aims for increased industry competence on the part of those duty-holders and reflects Parliament’s desire for a change in attitudes to responsibility for delivering buildings that will meet new regulatory requirements post-Grenfell.

In addition, all building control professionals will have to register with the BSR, not just those working on high-rise or high-risk buildings.

Any restricted activity, from inspecting plans to site inspections, will have to be conducted by a registered professional who will be known as Registered Building Inspectors.

To achieve registration and validation and then be licensed, surveyors need to submit evidence of their experience which if accepted permits them to take the relevant competency exams.

Any existing surveyors who don't gain such a validation and who are not licensed/registered at the appropriate level by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, will, in effect, be terminating their contract and will not be able to practice.

The Partnership's surveyors have all submitted their evidence and the majority have sat the examinations for which they are awaiting results.

Unfortunately, 2023 has seen a downturn in application numbers and therefore income. This is due to financial uncertainty generally and rising costs within the construction industry.

Currently we are approximately 19% below the previous 4 years average which means it is likely that we may need to utilise 'earmarked reserves'

Market share remains higher than the national average at 83%, with all Key Performance Indicators being achieved.

Staff retention and recruitment remains an issue in gaining experienced and qualified staff both regionally and nationally. This will increase with a considerable number of staff within the profession, who are 55 or over, retiring as they do not want to go through the process of proving competency as mentioned previously.

We also had the sad passing of Mike Evans who had been a very popular surveyor for over 20 years within the Partnership and Teignbridge District Council previously.

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# Our progress so far



Jane Nichols — Director



Our purpose

**Inspire, connect and support**  
local nature and climate action



# How we help



We work with **community** and **group** leaders  
to **share knowledge** and **create connections**

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Website



Assemblies




Events



Mentors


# ☐ Focus topics


## Primary

 Nature

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Share, Repair, Reduce,  
Reuse

 Food, Land and Water

 Education & Engagement

## Secondary


 Energy & Buildings

 Business, Goods and Services

 Declarations & Actions plans



## In development

 Wellbeing

 Travel & Transport

# How We Work



We focus on skills sharing and project management

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We work with local groups to get projects implemented



Lots of the people we work with are at the start or end of their careers

Brainstorm

Scope

Pilot

Scale

# Plan for 2023–24

## SHDC Grant £40k



Develop website, comms & social media

Page 28



Monthly Changemakers meetings



Field trips + events



Follow up on Rivers



Trial Mentoring support



Create one new assembly

# Plan for 2023–24



## Website and Comms

### Results so far:

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✓ Rebuilt website and updated parishes

✓ Special Interest Groups

✓ Weekly Blog

✓ Monthly newsletters

### Next steps:

Social media strategy




# Website

Visit site



Page 30



Home

**My Area**

Inspiration

Groups

Projects

Support

Topics

About us

Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube icons

Log In Register

### What's happening near you?


See if your area has declared a climate and nature emergency and if there is a plan that helps to address this.

Understand your area's carbon footprint, discover local climate and nature groups and find out what your community is up to.

[Click map to explore](#)

Missing or incorrect information?

[Update your area](#)



Climate and nature activity: ● High ● Medium ● Low

Map labels: Holne, Buckfastleigh West, Staverton, Littlehempston, Marldon, Torbay, Berry Pomeroy, Dartington, Rattery, South Brent, Dean Prior, Harford, Cornwood, Bickleigh, Shaugh Prior, Sparkwell, Ivybridge, Ugborough, North Huish, Diptford, Harberton, Ashprington, Stoke Gabriel, Plymouth, Brixton, Yealmpton, Errington, Modbury, Loddiswell, Woodleigh, Blackawton, Cornworthy, Halwell & Moreleigh, Dittisham, Kingswear, Dartmouth, Stoke Fleming, Slapton, Strere, Ringmore, Bigbury, Churchstow, Kingsbridge, Frogmore & Sherford, Buckland-Tout-Saints, East Allington, Aveton Gifford, Thurlestone, South Milton, West Alvington, Charleton, Stokenham, South Huish, Salcombe, South Pool, Marlborough, East Portlemouth, Chivelstone.



# Where we've made the most difference



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+ Specific support from SusSH

# Plan for 2023–24



## Social Media Strategy

### Key messages:

Inspire, connect, support

### Target Audience:

Existing change-makers, lonely voices, younger people, people who want to make a difference but don't know where to start

### Tactics:

Celebrate success, lead by example, mentor showcase, sustainability top tips, What If...



# Plan for 2023–24

## Changers

Results so far:

- Page 33 ✓ 3 Share, Repair, Reduce Reuse (1 brainstorming + 2 scoping on compost) ✓ Rivers
- ✓ Education Assembly (1 brainstorming + 2 scoping) ✓ Thermal Imaging Cameras
- ✓ SHDC Strategy consultation ✓ Christmas - Sharing Success ✓ Adaptation

**Next steps:**

Resilience and Adaptation - scoping

What Next?



# Plan for 2023–24



## Changemakers- numbers


Date	Topic	People	Groups/ organisations
Apr	Follow up from Rivers	10	9
May	Brainstorming - Share Repair, Reduce Reuse	15	11
Jun	Scaling up Composting	17	13
Jul	Starting/ Developing Your Group	21	18
Sep	Back to school - initial consultation for Education Assembly	10	9
Oct	SHDC Climate and Nature Strategy feedback session	30	29
Nov	Community composting - scoping	9	7
Dec	Celebrating Success	18	13
Jan	Thermal Imaging Camera - Lending processes	27	12
Feb	BLC adaptation scoping	40	30

# Plan for 2023–24

## Field trips and events

✓ Community Fridge Tour (7/6)

✓ Field Trip - Yealm Estuary to Moor (13/12)

✓  Workshop: Starting or developing community Group (21/18)

✓ Education Assembly consultation events (8/5)

### Next steps:

Education Assembly

What Next ? Nature mentor?

Numbers in brackets = attendees/ groups



# Current Plan for 2023–24



## Field trips and events - Outcomes

Page 36

IvyFridge now open

✓ > 25 volunteers signed up as CSI samplers

✓ Collaboration with CAG Devon and DCC in progress

✓ Education Assembly scoped and collaborators identified and engaged

✓ Compost pilots scoped and sites identified

? Not sure what other projects we have influenced or how

# Plan for 2023–24

## Follow up on Rivers

### Results so far:

- Page 37
- ✓ Field Trip YEM Project
  - ✓ South Devon River Champions formed
  - ✓ > 25 new CSI
  - ✓ Avon River Champions formed
  - ✓ Sewage Scrutiny Group - Ivybridge upgrade
  - ✓ WATER Group formed for Erme
  - ✓ Friends of Salcombe Kingsbridge Estuary

### Next steps:

- Involvement with Education Assembly
- No other action planned - yet



# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support Brainstorm **Scope** Pilot Scale



Mike Hodges  
Renewable Energy



Martin Fodder  
Sewage Scrutiny



Stuart Saunders  
Composting



Dan Parnell  
Thermal Imaging



Rosa Hannaford  
Education and  
Engagement



Ben Bryant  
Composting

### Next steps:

Formalised mentor pilot

Social Media Campaign

Recruit Rainwater and Nature  
mentors




# Plan for 2023–24

## Mentoring Support



Mike Hodges  
Renewable Energy

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- 
- Developed links with National Grid
  - Developed tools for identifying site grid connectivity
  - Kingwear PC - siting new community renewables
  - Ermington - potential solar array on Church
  - Malborough - potential solar array and EV charging points
  - Ugborough PC and GUP - potential renewable sites

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support

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Sune Nightingale  
Parish Councils and Energy

- Visited parish councils to share knowledge around climate and nature action including Holne, Kingswear, Slapton and Halwell/Moorleigh
- Helped liaison between local groups and these parish councils especially around funding
- Advised on local production of Gardening for Wildlife Booklet (distributed to approx 10000 homes across South Hams)
- Supported Energy Efficiency in 4 churches and E bike trial in Dartmouth

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support

Page 41



Ben Bryant  
Compost Mentor

- Developed compost project to pilot stage by trialling multiple events
- Networked with existing and potential composting groups
- Built relationship with SHDC: advised on community composting needs
- Established relationships with national composting innovators
- Supported establishment of Marldon composting
- Radio Devon Toby Buckland Show
- Championed needs of existing sites such as South Brent and Ashprington

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support

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Dan Parnell  
Thermal Imaging Mentor

- Developed process for training and loaning cameras for South Brent
- Run changemaker event in January '24 (attended by 26 people)
- Trained a further 7 groups on how to use and interpret thermal images
- Build a network of interested people and organisations (inc Cumbrian Sustainability Group)
- Career opportunities have opened for Dan and have led to a part time job

# Plan for 2023–24



## Mentoring Support

  
page 43



Rosa Hannaford  
Education and Engagement

- Brings postgrad learnings in climate adaptation and behaviour change into our skillset
- Working with SusSH gives Rosa practical hands on application of academic learning.
- Presently working on Education Assembly
- Networking widely with organisations such as Network Environmental Educators, Let's Go Zero, Devon Wildlife Trust

# Plan for 2023–24 Education Assembly



## **Purpose**

2023-24  
To connect, support and inspire community groups and education services to collaborate for climate and nature

## **Deliverables**

180 group, community and project leaders sharing ideas, case studies and best practices.  
Inspiring and informative speakers  
Spotlight sessions

## **When**

20th April Kingsbridge Community College, 9.30-3.00 pm

## **Who**

Community Groups, Parish councillors, educators, youth services, young changemakers



# Plan for 2023–24

## SHDC Grant £40k



Page 45

 Develop website and comms

✓

 Follow up on Rivers

 Monthly Changemakers meetings

✓

 Trial Mentoring support

 Field trips + events

=

 Create one new assembly

# Bonus Projects (from Jun'23)



Projects we did not have funding for but that we wanted to do

## Launch Pilots

Page 46

Composting package

Scope rainwater harvesting

Scope retrofit programme

## More Assemblies

Education

Food and land

Retrofitting and energy saving

Scope Parish and Town council support package

Improve project templates



# Bonus Projects - Progress



## Launch Pilots

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✓ Composting package

Rainwater harvesting project

✓ Retrofit programme

## More Assemblies

✓ Education

✓ Food and land

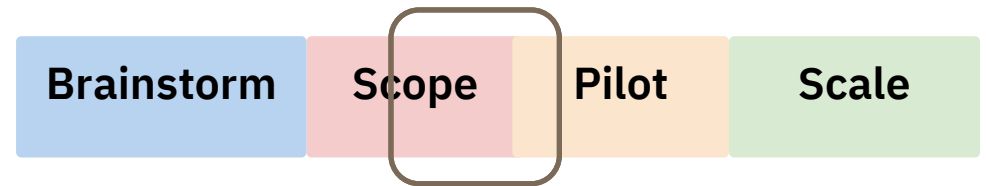
Retrofitting and Energy Saving

Parish and Town councillor support package

Improve project templates

# Bonus Projects

## Compost Pilots



### Current status

Page 48  
Delivery team recruited and 4 pilots starting:

#### Community composting support

Marldon up and running  
Compost masterclass training April '24

#### Brown Bin Conversion - research commenced.

Train the trainer event planned May and June

#### Home composting

Demo site commenced at South Brent  
Roadshow - Materials in development pending report

#### Street level composting - research commenced

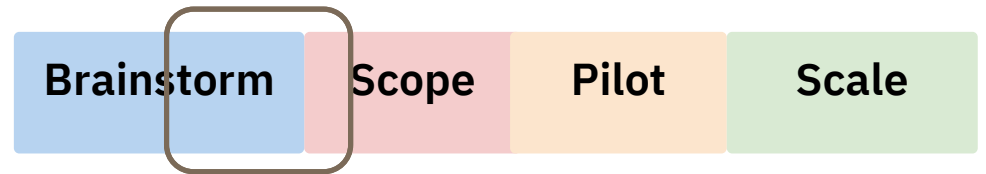
### Funding

£3k scoping from £40k grant  
Extra £21.2k from SHDC 04/24



# Bonus Projects

## Retrofitting and Energy Saving



Page 4

### Current status

Scoping team recruited

Working with Kingsbridge District Groups

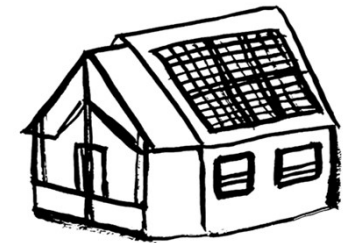
5 initial household surveys conducted

Different engagement methods trialled  
(Posters, Letterbox fliers, WOM)

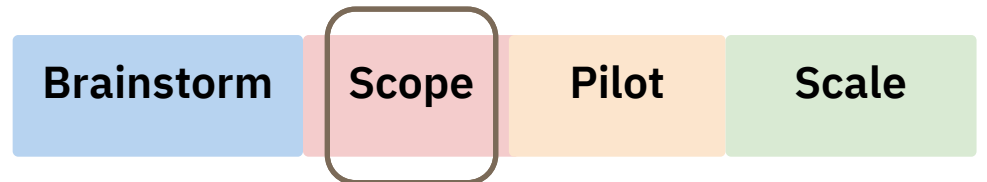
### Funding

£2k scoping from £40k grant

Extra funding for pilots tbc



# Bonus Projects - Food and Land Keep It Local Symposium



**Purpose** To understand:

What stops producers growing and selling more locally ?

What can SHDC do to help?

## Deliverables

[View mind map](#)

[View report](#)

- Clear building blocks for a strategy
- Network of engaged contacts wanting to help

## Funding

Extra £4.8k from SHDC  
Pilot funding tbc

## When

10th November 2023 Follaton House

## Who

[40 food producers, distributors, software specialists and marketeers](#)

# Summary of Deliverables



Budget £40k + £4.8k Keep It Local

## Plan Projects 2023–24

## Bonus Projects

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Develop website and comms



Follow up on Rivers

✓ Composting Scoping



Monthly Changemakers meetings



Trial Mentoring support

✓ Retrofitting Scoping



Field trips + events



Create one new assembly

✓ Keep It Local Symposium

# Learning and Challenges



Page 52 **Fluid human resources:** high turnover which has meant spending and delivery lumpy

**Scoping work:** resource scoping work and test practicalities in order to specify pilots.

**Measuring impact:** we sow seeds but don't know if they germinate

**Financial year end:** break timing challenging



# The Bigger Picture 2024-25 plans



## DCIOS Adaptation Strategy

## SHDC Corporate Strategy

(For Climate and Nature)

River and surface water flooding

Reduce carbon emissions 12% pa

Sea level rise with coastal flooding + erosion

Increase biodiversity 5.5% pa

Temperature change with both extreme heat and cold

Form adaptation plan to mitigate climate change

Reduced summer water availability

Become an exemplar region

Compounded impacts

# 2024 - '25 Projects - ideas being discussed



## Business as Usual



Website and comms



Changemakers meetings



Field trips + events

## To complete



Composting pilots



Education - follow up

## To Start

Scope councillor support package

Adaptation Assembly

Rainwater harvesting pilots

Energy efficiency and retrofit pilots

Keep It Local pilots

Improve project case studies

## To Scale

Composting projects





Sustainable  
South Hams

Thank you!

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Jane Nichols  
[jane@sussh.org](mailto:jane@sussh.org)



# Councillor Support Pack 2024-25



**Why:** Help Councillors identify as being changemakers and enablers of climate and nature action

**Who:** District, Town and Parish Councillors

**Collaborating with:** Bioregional Learning Centre, DCT,

**What:** Inspire, connect and support action for Climate, Nature and Adaptation

**How:**



Context	Objective	Tools - examples
Support Learning	<i>Establish a baseline level of confidence</i>	Carbon Literacy, <a href="#">Learning Journeys</a> , Bioblitz training, Climate Fresk, Impact tools, Videos
Connect Communities	<i>Support councillors to collaborate and engage with their communities</i>	<a href="#">Travelling exhibition</a> , Community challenges, Videos, Social media and newsletter articles for PC's
Inspire Action	<i>To tell the story of positive action on climate and nature across the South Hams</i>	Videos, social media and SusSH blogs Changemaker events, Project showcasing
Operational Tools	<i>Embed climate and nature action within the culture of the councillor brief</i>	Standing agenda item, named contact, templated declarations, support to create plans

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### INITIAL DRAFT ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME PROPOSALS – 2023/24

Date of Meeting	Report	Lead Exec Member/Officer
2 May 2024 – Move to 9 May 2024	Homelessness and Housing	Cllr O’Callaghan and Issy Blake
	Quarter 4 – KPIs	Cllr Hopwood / Neil Hawke
	Task and Finish Group Updates <i>(if any)</i>	Democratic Services
	O+S Annual Work Programme	
	Executive Forward Plan	
<i>To be scheduled</i>	South Hams Community and Voluntary Service	
	Citizens Advice	
	South Devon AONB	
	Livewest / Other social housing providers	
	EA and SWW	December 2024

DRAFT

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