

Axminster Division Report 6th June 2021

After a very different Devon County Council Election held in sometimes difficult and unprecedented circumstances, I am very pleased to have been returned for a second term of office as the Elected Member for the 'Axminster Division' where like you I will be working for and acting in the best interests of everyone in the Division as well as the County in a wider sense.

My responsibilities since the election have now somewhat changed at DCC to focus more on Healthcare across Devon & the Axminster Division as we emerge step by step from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Health & Adult Care Scrutiny Committee
- RD&E Foundation Trust Council of Governors
- Mental Health Act Discharge of Governors Panel

The Integrated care system for Devon or ICS is being rolled out currently and aims to provide a one stop shop from Primary Care to Acute care under one commissioning (funding) umbrella with the sole purpose of improving how healthcare is delivered in Devon.

To coin a phrase really is a 'game changer' with an emphasis on keeping people, fitter, healthier and longer, putting less pressure on to the whole Healthcare system and you can find further details on this by clicking <https://www.icsdevon.co.uk/>

Other Committees:

- Development Management Committee (V.Chair)
- Audit (V.Chair)
- Foster Panel (East)
- Minerals & Waste Framework Plans Working Group
- Axminster Leisure Partnership

New opportunities, new ways of working, fresh challenges and not re-inventing the wheel

Highways

The equal number one 'postbag' item for me is that of Highway issues, whether potholes, drainage, footways, reducing speed limits, implementation of double yellow lines, parking enforcement and many other related items. It is certainly a good idea and to save time to report any issue direct to DCC on the 'Report a problem' web site for items such as potholes (the definition of what constitutes one is shown) to defective road markings, fallen trees etc. I would emphasise that actions reported on this site are undertaken on a risk to

life, safety first policy so may not be dealt with immediately if sufficient resources are not available. The link to the site is <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

DCC has a 'framework' of contractors to undertake the various roles that maintain our highways and byways with a main one for the bulk of works and arrange of others for specific roles. A new main contractor M Group (you may know them in another iteration as utility services group Morrison's) have been appointed to take over from Skanska, where clearly more working efficiencies will be sought within the contract based on what is called the DCC 'Doing What Matters' policy.

Superfast Broadband (CDS)

Is the other equal number one in the 'postbag' and I continue to work to get this vital infrastructure implemented across the Division as soon as possible.

Climate Emergency

Devon County Council is committing significant human and financial resources in to addressing climate change issues with carbon reductions is a major part of that with DCC leading by example working with partners for all sectors and areas of life in Devon and beyond.

It is without doubt one of the biggest challenges that DCC has ever had to address and covers massive range of areas Nationally, regionally, and locally to influence change. You can read more at the specialist climate emergency web site <https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/>

Finally, please feel free to email me on ian.hall@devon.gov.uk where I can point you in the right direction if I can't offer an immediate answer.