Brendon Parish Council

County Councillors Report

November 2026

Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution for Devon update

Devolution; Chancellor John Healey confirmed in his Budget that the Government was minded to approve a bid for a Mayoral Strategic Authority for Devon, Torbay and Plymouth. Devon's first Mayor, in Spring 2028, will have devolved spending powers to shape transport, housing, training and planning policies.

The new authority would represent a population of 1.25 million people with an economy worth over £33.1 billion. It would give the region more powers, more investment and a stronger voice nationally, alongside England's other mayoral areas.

This link is a helpful explainer **https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/budget-2026-document/budget-2026-html#growth-in-more-places**

Local Government Reorganisation- the recent announcement by the minister said that Devon Torbay and Plymouth is one of the nine areas that will have the proposal reconsidered, the decision announced in July is withdrawn.

He said;

'I can now set out the plan for the final phases of the review. The review will now focus on those 15 areas that are due a "minded-to" decision. Those are, in no particular order:

• The nine areas I just mentioned. (Devon is in this group)

• The four areas with decisions withdrawn in September.

• Cambridgeshire & Peterborough; and

• West Sussex

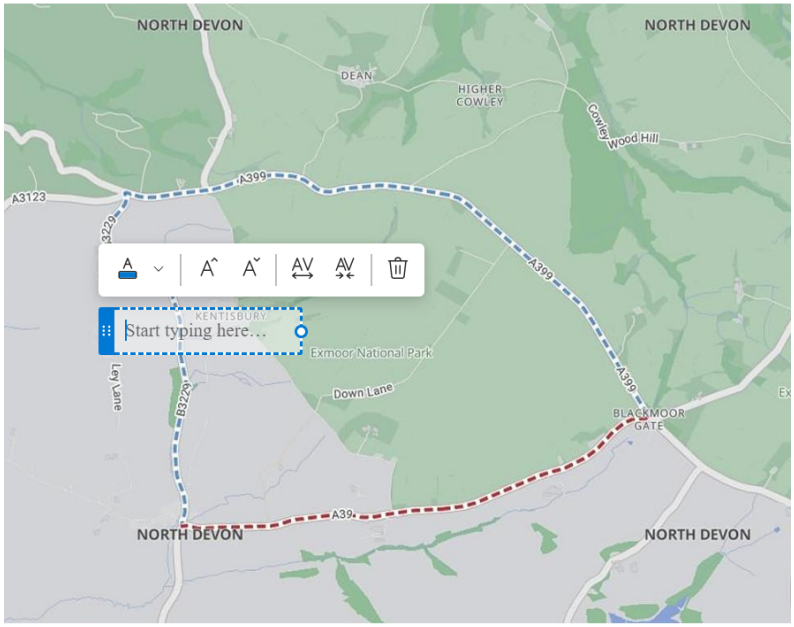
To be clear, all options and proposals in these areas will remain under consideration and I will approach all decisions with an open mind. As such it should not be assumed the same proposal will automatically be selected. It is important the process is allowed to run its course and allow full and proper consideration. We will move faster where we can and some of the remaining areas may receive an outcome before others. I commit to coming back to this House with updates for another set of areas by Christmas – and every area will have outcomes by early next year.

Turning to local elections, as we set out in September, elections scheduled for May 2027 will now go ahead to existing councils. This means that elections to new councils will be May 2028, followed by vesting day in April 2029. This is for all areas, apart from Surrey. '

A39 Kentisbury Ford to Blackmoor Gate - Monday 23rd - Thursday 26th November 2026 07:00 - 18:00

Resurfacing works on the A39 between the Kentisbury Ford junction to Blackmoor Gate junction, these works will be taking place between Monday 23rd - Thursday 26th November 2026. During these dates the road will be closed between the hours of **07:00 - 18:00**

Prior to these works there will be gully cleaning, I don't have a date for that but it will only require some temporary stop start boards.



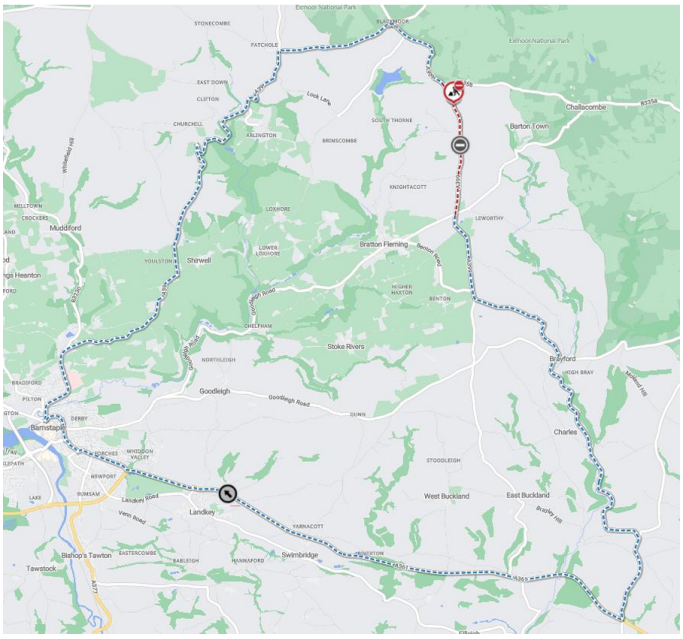
A399 from the Friendship Farm junction to Knightacott Cross. Monday 14th - Monday 21st December 2026. 07:00 - 18:00

Kennford Tarmacadam, on behalf of Devon County Council, will be carrying out work to the A399 from the Friendship Farm junction to Knightacott Cross.

These works will be happening from **Monday 14th - Monday 21st December 2026**. The highway requires maintenance and these essential repairs will help restore the surface and improve safety. The road will be closed between these dates from **07:00 - 18:00**.

Access queries should be directed to the Contractor or an operative on site who will be glad to assist. Access for emergency vehicles will always be maintained.

Map: Please see the road closure and work area highlighted in red on the map below. The signed diversion route is shown in blue. Drivers with local knowledge may use alternative routes but these will not be advertised for safety reasons. Any changes to the start date or duration will be shown on advisory signs on site.



Storm Season is Here…….

Many residents only need these numbers occasionally, but when flooding, fallen trees or dangerous road conditions occur, having them readily available can save valuable time.



Andrea Davis

County Councillor

Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk