

MDDC Report for December 2025

For regular updated news please follow

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/news-items/>

Could local council please email or call with any work they would like us to uptake.

Update on Local Government Reorganisation

On Friday 28 November MDDC joined six of Devons 11 councils submitting to government our proposal for how local government should be reorganised. The document outlines MDDC preferred model for the future. Link here to read the proposal submitted [Home | Reimagining Devon](#)

Reimagining Devon: Believe in Better – 451 proposal:

two **new** unitary councils that combine existing areas as follows:

- A **new** unitary council combining the South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon areas with Torbay;
- A **new** unitary council including East, Mid and North Devon alongside Torridge District and the City of Exeter; and
- The **retention** of Plymouth City Council as a unitary

This proposal has come to be known as the 4-5-1 proposal given the groupings as outlined above, it groups the existing principal authorities into three unitary councils without any changes to existing district or borough council boundaries.

What follows now?

- 28th November – Council submit proposal to government.
- Spring/summer 2026 – Government decides which proposal to implement.
- May 2027 – Elections to new councils, this then runs as a shadow authority with existing councils.
- 2028 – Existing councillors stand down and councils dissolved and new authorities take over.

Household Support Fund Open

Mid Devon District Council has been given funding from the UK Government to help support those who are struggling to afford food and energy bills this summer/winter. When our allocated fund has been spent the scheme will close. This fund will run from the 18th July 2025 to the 31st March 2026 or earlier if the funds run out. PLEASE NOTE: You can only apply once per household for the above fund.

Link here for distribution - [Household Support Fund - MIDDEVON.GOV.UK](#)

Funds Still Remaining in the Business Refresh Grant Scheme

The business refresh grant scheme offers independent small and medium-sized businesses operating within our district, town or village centres being the priority, the chance to apply for a one-off capital grant, covering up to 80% of eligible costs (up to £2,500). The funding is to assist the refresh and enhance the look of their premises internally and improve the customer experience. The scheme is now live and open for applications on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested businesses are encourage to apply promptly while funding remains available. Link below.

[Business Refresh Grant Scheme Guidance - MIDDEVON.GOV.UK](#)

Applications for Warm Home Grants Now Open

Mid Devon Council, in partnership with Devon County Council and other local authorities in Devon, is proud to deliver the Warm Homes Local Grant, a government-backed scheme designed to make homes across Devon warmer, greener, and more affordable to heat.

The scheme offers fully funded energy efficiency upgrades for eligible households, including measures such as cavity wall and loft insulation, double glazing, air source heat pumps, solar panels and insulated doors. These improvements not only reduce energy bills but also cut carbon emissions, supporting Devon's commitment to a sustainable future.

To qualify, homes must have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of D or below, and must either receive certain benefits or meet the specified low income criteria. Landlords can also apply, with one property fully funded and contributions required for additional homes.

Applications are opening in phases across Devon districts, and funding is limited, so early registration is encouraged. This initiative prioritises households most at risk of fuel poverty, ensuring that those who need help the most receive it. Link below.

[Warm Homes: Local Grant DCC - Energy Saving Devon](#)

Kind Regards
Cllr Cathy Connor
Lower Culm Councillor
01/12/25

