

Overview Committee

Scope of work:

Broad topic area:	Vitality of High Streets and Town Centres
Specific areas to explore within topic area:	<p>Current health of each of the high streets/town centres in the District;</p> <p>Consideration of current planning policy for shop type location, termed as “primary” and “secondary” and if still relevant for the current high street context;</p> <p>Cost to businesses, such as rent and rates</p> <p>Cost to the customer, such as car parking charges</p> <p>Impact of online shopping and out-of-town shopping centres</p> <p>Suggestions for attracting additional footfall to high streets/town centres that are experiencing a significant downturn.</p> <p>Impact of street trading on high street and town centre shops</p>
Areas NOT covered by the review:	<p>General regeneration of wider town areas;</p> <p>Crime and disorder aspects;</p> <p>Location and or desire for additional car parking.</p>
Desired outcomes of the review:	<p>An understanding of the current “health” of each High Street/Town Centre;</p> <p>Recommended measures to assist areas that are experiencing a significant downturn.</p>
Who should be consulted to obtain evidence (e.g. Ward Member, officers, stakeholders)	<p>Chairman and Town Clerks of main towns</p> <p>Ward Member local knowledge</p> <p>Chamber of Commerce of main towns</p> <p>Landlords of retail premises</p> <p>Customers and potential customers of high streets</p> <p>Licensing</p>
What evidence already exists (consultation, good practice examples)	<p>East Devon Retail Needs Study – Original study 2008 and Update 2011 for Local Plan</p> <p>The Portas Review</p> <p>Understanding and supporting the resilience of market towns 2009</p> <p>Number/percentages of vacant premises in retail areas</p> <p>Previous review undertaken by EDDC in 2012</p> <p>More recent evidence needs to be located.</p>

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What experts are needed to help with the review:	Relevant Lead Councillors Portfolio Holder Strategic Development Economic Development Manager Planning Policy – Retail needs study/Local Plan Town Managers
What other resources are needed:	
Undertaken by the Committee or is a TAFF required:	Task and Finish Forum
Timescale including start date:	
Who are the recommendations being reported to:	Overview Committee