

Report to: Council



Date of Meeting 6 December 2023

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Motions on Notice

Report summary:

The constitution provides that members of Council may submit written notice of motions for debate at Council. A motion must be signed by the proposer and seconder and submitted not later than 10 clear days before the date of the meeting.

Motions must be about matters for which the council has a responsibility, or which affect East Devon District Council.

Motions for which notice has been given will be listed on the agenda in the order in which notice was received unless the member giving notice states, in writing, that they propose to move it to a later meeting or withdraw it.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

That the Motions on Notice set out in this report are debated and determined by Council.

Reason for recommendation:

The constitution makes provision for motions on notice to be debated and decided by Council.

Officer: Andrew Melhuish, Democratic Services Manager (andrew.melhuish@eastdevon.gov.uk)

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergency Response
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Communications and Democracy
- Economy
- Finance and Assets
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities
- Culture, Leisure, Sport and Tourism

Equalities impact Low Impact

The impact is low as this report is dealing with the submission of motions on notice. Any work undertaken following the consideration of the motions on notice would be subject to an equalities impact assessment being undertaken.

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; A risk assessment would need to be completed on any works or further investigations resulting from the motions of notice.

Links to background information N/A

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- Better homes and communities for all
 - A greener East Devon
 - A resilient economy
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Report in full

Motion 1: Coach Tourism in East Devon District

Motion Proposed: Cllr Derek Haggerty and seconded by Cllr John Heath

Motion signed: Cllrs Brian Bailey, Jenny Brown, John Heath, Bethany Collins and Ian Barlow

Increasing coach passenger visitors to East Devon including Exmouth, Budleigh, Sidmouth, Beer, Seaton, Honiton, Colyton, Axminster, Ottery St Mary plus, any other town or village who wishes to take part.

Many towns and city councils in the UK are turning away coach tourism, causing a loss of £millions of group tourism income, to attractions businesses and the local economy. Covid has only just allowed things to start returning to a more normal growth in coach tourism, possibly now, coaches are one of the greenest forms of transport.

2024 onwards this EDDC council could step up again as leading first choice coach tourist area, attracting more UK and incoming tourists from all over the world into the East Devon District, already 2024 is looking buoyant for coach tourism with a predicted 30% + more visitors to the UK. East Devon stepping forward now, would attract a lot more coach tourism.

Recommendation Motion 1

What is required for this to happen in each destination?

1. Improved signage for attractions, coach & car parking, town centres toilets. TIC.
2. Free coach parking facilities in East Devon, (not bus parking)
3. Designated drop off and pick up points for coach passengers.
4. Coach driver facilities (driver break stop, where the driver can use toilet & get snacks)
5. Meet and greet service possibly linked with TIC, towns & attractions (this could be funded by the visitor).
6. this project means everyone working together as one East Devon Team improving the tourist footfall, aimed at working for our district as voted,

As councillors working together as one EDDC team, we can improve consistently for our towns, all businesses, attractions and hotels, and all future council administrations.

This ongoing incentive would bind together all high street businesses, attractions, all types of accommodations including holiday parks, taking groups of all sizes from around the world.

EDDC could have its own coach friendly programme, working free with CPT, confederation of passenger transport. This project would reach every visiting coach and holiday operator competing with every other holiday destination around the country, but first we must agree to step forward accepting one of the greenest forms of transportation in today's tourism marketplace, this project will grow into a consistent source of revenue for tourism in our East Devon District.

I am more than happy to work with each town to help reach our ongoing goals.

Motion 2: Government Planning Policies

Motion Proposed: Cllr Jess Bailey and seconded Cllr Bethany Collins

Motion signed: Cllrs Peter Faithfull, Vicky Johns and Melanie Martin

Background

As a result of Conservative government planning policies, EDDC planning officers are under considerable pressure to recommend approval of totally inappropriate, highly unpopular, and very damaging planning applications such as that for land east of Sidmouth Road, Ottery St Mary and Land at Eastfield West Hill.

East Devon is being penalised by the government due to its lack of '5 year land supply' despite an excellent track record in recent years. 9,000 new homes have been delivered over the past decade in East Devon and more than 4,000 houses are set to be delivered in the next 5 years.

This Council is fully committed to ensuring homes are delivered for residents - particularly those who are younger and less well off. However, this Council believes that harm will be caused to the countryside and communities of East Devon under the government's approach.

Recommendation Motion 2

That this Council therefore agrees to urgently instruct a senior planning barrister at KC level to review the position of EDDC and provide EDDC with advice (including by reference to case law) how best to robustly resist speculative development and uphold EDDC local plan and neighbourhood plan policies in order to protect the countryside and communities of East Devon.

Motion 3: Public Convenience provision

Motion Proposed: Cllr Ian Barlow and seconded Cllr Peter Faithfull

Motion signed: Cllrs Jenny Brown, Sarah Chamberlain, Ben Ingham and Daniel Wilson

With the state of our housing stock, with about 25% of our 4,177 Social houses failing to meet the decent homes standard, can we justify spending £5 million on upgrading our 15 toilet blocks across East Devon or £333,000 on a survey to look at how to decarbonise three swimming pools.

Recommendation Motion 3

We would suggest that a working group urgently looks at the plans for our toilet provision and the estimated cost before this council's reputation is further damaged in the eyes of its residents, as we would be spending more on 15 toilets than the annual planned improvements to our 4,177 properties.

Financial implications:

To be confirmed.

Legal implications:

The motions on notice have been submitted in accordance with the Part 4 of the Council's Constitution – Rules of Procedure 10.1 Notice: Except for motions which can be moved without notice under Rule 11, written notice of every motion, signed by at least 5 members, must be delivered to the Chief Executive not later than 10 clear days before the date of the meeting.