

District Councillor Helen Parr Report 18 Jan 23

Draft Budget-

There were 2 joint meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees last week to discuss the Draft Budget and make recommendations to Cabinet and thence Council.

In earlier versions of the Budget, it was advised that an estimated £434k would have to be taken from the Medium Term Risk Reserve to balance the Budget.

However, the recently announced Local Government Finance Settlement was higher than expected, and EDDC has been allocated an additional £349k. As result, **thanks to the Government, only £85k will be required to be taken from the Reserve.**

Draft Local Plan Consultation-

The Consultation which ended 15 Jan, was an invitation to comment on the Draft LP document, which will shape Development and guide Planning in East Devon over the next few years-

- how much building will take place and where;
- delivering housing to meet the needs of local residents;
- where are the proposed strategic sites for building around our towns and area centres;
- employment and supporting town centres;
- where should a second new town be located?

You can find the Draft Local Plan and read the responses on the EDDC website, or use this quick link

<https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/dOfwCVQ52s2LJM0UQwHCg?domain=eastdevon.gov.uk>

All comments will be taken into account, along with recent government announcements of reforms to planning policy eg. the method of calculating local housing requirement.

Appropriate amendments will be made to the Draft Local Plan over the next months, before it is presented again.