

Okehampton Town Council
Full Council 26th February 2026
Meeting Report

Date:	13 th February 2026
Name:	Emma James

10. Projects and Consultations

10.1 Local Government Reorganisation

a) To consider any updates or further information received

DCC have responded to the questions posed by the Council about their unitary proposal:

1. How will the Neighbourhood Committee be made up, will parish representatives be invited from local councils, or from other organisations?
2. The Council has heard that Neighbourhood Committees will not come into fruition if this option is progressed. Can the situation regarding this be clarified?
3. How will local assets be managed, and when will DCC engage with local councils in relation to their disposal?

Our business case for local government reorganisation proposes a Devon Unitary Council covering the 8 district and county council area, working with unitary councils on their current geography in Torbay and Plymouth. Our proposal would establish neighbourhood area committees (NACs) within localities, broadly aligning to health and care neighbourhoods, recognising the significant links and collaboration with health services and those delivered by local government. We are very much supportive of establishing a network of NACs, and hope this addresses the second point in your email.

The exact number, and role of NACs will be developed further, and co-designed with local councils and other partners to bring together key organisations that can respond effectively to local priorities identified within each locality. The membership of NACs we have outlined in our proposal would include representatives from local councils, alongside neighbourhood police, fire and rescue services, elected unitary councillors from the area, VCSE organisations, health partners, business and where appropriate national parks authorities. I hope this addresses your first question.

Assets currently owned by the County Council will form part of planning for the new single local government structure that Government determines for Devon. Where a multiple unitary council structure is established a process and set of decisions will need to be taken, by the new shadow authority structures out into place to determine how the county council's asset will be transferred into the new single unitary council structure. Our financial assessment in the business case submitted to Government has assumed that assets would be placed within the unitary council where they are currently located.

Legislation currently limits the role of NACs to an advisory role, and our proposal sets out a firm commitment that NACs have responsibility for key functions, decisions and services and receive devolved budgets to undertake these roles. Local Councils can own and manage local assets already, and part of the transition planning for the new structure would include engagement with town and parish councils on how any transfer of assets and associated budgets can be designed. We have committed to

work with DALC on considering new operating models and principles to guide this work. I hope that this answers your final question.

In summary, our proposal places communities and local decision making at the heart and we have proposed the NAC model as the best way to establish this. We are committed to work with local councils, DALC and other organisations to plan transitional arrangements that are fair and equitable. We would welcome the opportunity in the coming weeks and months to discuss our approach further and address any further questions you may have.

b) To consider correspondence from WDBC in relation to the potential acquisition of assets

WDBC have advised:

Since we met, we have been looking in more detail at how best to serve the communities and Parish / Town councils in the light of LGR and the number of other similar requests to yours for asset transfers.

To that effect we are looking at bringing in a more streamlined approach to how we consider, process and deal with Asset transfers.

Once I am able to share with you further detail, then I will of course do so but in the meantime I suggest that we note your request as below and then I can engage with you (happy to meet). I am envisaging that this is a relatively short process timewise and please bear with me on that.

It is understood that WDBC Hub Committee will be considering an Asset Policy on 3rd March.

c) To consider a response to the Government Consultation which closes on 26th March 2026



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

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Tell us about yourself

1. What is your name?

(Required)

2. Are you responding as an individual or providing an official response on behalf of an organisation?

(Required)

- Individual
- Official response on behalf of an organisation
- Member of Parliament

3. Are you providing the official response from a named consultee?

(Required)

- Yes

No

▶ Am I a named consultee?

4. In which council area is your address? (if you are responding as an individual this is your home address. If you are responding as an organisation this is your organisation address)

(Required)

- Devon County Council
- Plymouth City Council
- Torbay Council
- Outside the affected area

5. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please let us know the organisation's name:

Organisation

6. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please let us know your position within the organisation:

Position in organisation:

7. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please select the type of organisation from the options below:

- Local government - principal council within the invitation area
- Local government organisation - neighbouring council
- Strategic Authority
- Local government - parish/town council
- Local government - other
- Other public sector
- Business
- Education
- Health
- National body
- Police and Fire
- Voluntary sector
- Other

8. What is your email address?

Email address:

Continue >

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[View saved responses to this consultation](#)

Community Survey - Home



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

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Consultation on the Proposal from Devon County Council.

Consultation for 3 unitary councils:

- **Devon Unitary Council:** East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, North Devon, South Hams, Teignbridge, Torridge and West Devon
- **Plymouth** to remain unchanged
- **Torbay** to remain unchanged

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

-- Please Select --

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

-- Please Select --

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

-- Please Select --

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

-- Please Select --

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

-- Please Select --

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements?

-- Please Select --

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

-- Please Select --

8. If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on the proposal.

9. I confirm that I have not provided any information that identifies an individual in the free text box.

Yes

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Citizen Space from Delib



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

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Consultation on the Proposal from South Hams District Council, Teignbridge Borough Council, and West Devon Borough Council

Consultation for 3 unitary councils:

- **Exeter and Northern Devon Unitary:** East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, North Devon and Torridge
- **Plymouth** to remain unchanged
- **Torbay and Southern Devon Unitary:** South Hams, Teignbridge, Torbay and West Devon

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

-- Please Select --

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

-- Please Select --

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

-- Please Select --

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

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5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

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7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

-- Please Select --

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Yes

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Citizen Space from Delib



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

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Consultation on the Proposal from East Devon Borough Council, Mid Devon District Council, North Devon Council, and Torridge District Council

This proposal is accompanied by a request for boundary change to split existing districts between new unitary councils. Please answer the questions on the proposal including the modifications. We will also ask you an additional question on whether you think there is a strong justification for these splits.

Consultation for 3 unitary councils:

- **Exeter and Northern Devon Unitary:** East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, North Devon, and Torridge
- **Plymouth Expanded:** parts of the parishes of Bickleigh, Brixton, Shaugh Prior and Sparkwell from the neighbouring district of South Hams
- **Torbay and Southern Devon Unitary:** South Hams, Teignbridge, Torbay and West Devon

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

-- Please Select --

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

-- Please Select --

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

-- Please Select --

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

-- Please Select --

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

-- Please Select --

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements?

-- Please Select --

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

-- Please Select --

8. If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on the proposal.

9. This is a proposal that is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary change or that affects wider public services. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change?

-- Please Select --

10. If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.

11. I confirm that I have not provided any information that identifies an individual in the free text boxes.

Yes



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

This service needs [cookies enabled](#).

Consultation on the Proposal from Exeter City Council and Plymouth City Council

This proposal is accompanied by a request for boundary change to split existing districts between new unitary councils. Please answer the questions on the proposal including the modifications. We will also ask you an additional question on whether you think there is a strong justification for these splits.

Consultation for 4 unitary councils:

- **Devon Coast and Countryside:** The rest of Devon
- **Exeter:** plus 15 parishes from within Teignbridge District Council, 28 parishes from within East Devon District Council and 6 parishes from within Mid-Devon District Council.
- **Plymouth:** plus 13 parishes from South Hams
- **Torbay:** plus 22 parishes from within Teignbridge District Council and South Hams District Council.

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

-- Please Select --

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

-- Please Select --

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

-- Please Select --

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

-- Please Select --

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

-- Please Select --

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements?

-- Please Select --

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

-- Please Select --

8. If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on the proposal.

9. This is a proposal that is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary change or that affects wider public services. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change?

-- Please Select --

10. If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.

11. I confirm that I have not provided any information that identifies an individual in the free text boxes.

Yes

Continue >

Save and come back later...



Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay

Closes 26 Mar 2026

This service needs [cookies enabled](#).

Consultation on the Proposal from Torbay Council

This proposal is accompanied by a request for boundary change to split existing districts between new unitary councils. Please answer the questions on the proposal including the modifications. We will also ask you an additional question on whether you think there is a strong justification for these splits.

Consultation on 4 unitary councils:

- **Exeter Council:** plus 15 parishes from within Teignbridge District Council, 28 parishes from within East Devon District Council and 6 parishes from within Mid Devon District Council
- **Plymouth Council:** plus 13 parishes from South Hams
- **Rural Devon Coast and Countryside Council:** The rest of Devon
- **Torbay Council** to remain unchanged

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

-- Please Select --

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

-- Please Select --

3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

-- Please Select --

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

-- Please Select --

5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

-- Please Select --

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements?

-- Please Select --

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

-- Please Select --

8. If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on the proposal.

9. This is a proposal that is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary change or that affects wider public services. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change?

-- Please Select --

10. If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.

Free text box for answer to question 10.

11. I confirm that I have not provided any information that identifies an individual in the free text boxes.

Yes

Continue >

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10.2 Community Governance Boundary Change – To consider any updates or further information received

- a) The final version of the leaflet to be included with the Council Tax letters follows.
- b) WDBC have confirmed that they are in receipt of all required information from both OTC and OHPC and that the Order can be Made at anytime with an effect from date.
- c) It has been confirmed that all properties within a parish are legally required to be charged the same council tax in accordance with their banding. Therefore, incremental increases over a number of years cannot be levied to properties transferring to OTC.

It is possible to undertake some financial modelling to ascertain what the fees might be for both new and existing properties and this will be carried out over the next few months.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council officially writes to WDBC requesting the Order to be Made within a timescale, for example by May 2026.



Okehampton Town Council and Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council Boundary Change



The eastern boundary between the two councils is changing in 2027

Okehampton Town Council and Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council are working closely together and will keep you informed as plans progress.

These changes will only affect the eastern side of the town (the new developments), which will transfer from Okehampton Hamlets to Okehampton Town Council. It does not include Brightley, Meldon or Southcott which will remain within the Hamlets. The properties within the new town council area will come under the town council from 1 April 2027.

The precept amount within your total Council Tax Bill will be affected as a result of this change. This is the

portion of the whole bill which you currently pay to either Okehampton Town Council or Okehampton Hamlets Council. Payments to other organisations like the Police, Devon County Council and West Devon Borough are not affected by the Boundary Change. We will share with you what those precept changes will be later on.

The map overleaf shows the existing and new boundary for the town council.

Please follow the links below for up to date information and FAQs or by contacting the clerks.



www.okehampton.gov.uk



www.okehamptonhamlets-pc.gov.uk

10.4 Lloyds Bank Closure – To consider any updates including correspondence from Sir Mel Stride MP

An acknowledgement from Sir Mel Stride MP as below was received on 27th January. To date no further communication has been received.

Thank you for your email and letter regarding the closure of Lloyds Bank in Okehampton.

I have continued to correspond with Lloyds Bank on behalf of constituents who have shared concerns, who have repeatedly pointed to the report by LINK. I have therefore, made representations on your behalf to LINK and will let you know once I have received a response.

10.5 Allotments – To consider an update in relation to the lease and other arrangements

A draft lease for consideration is awaited. Enquiries from the Solicitor in relation to costs have been made for its review. Once received the working group will be convinced to consider the content and make recommendation to the council

10.6 Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – To consider a response to the Community Risk Management Consultation which closes on 9th April 2026.



**DEVON &
SOMERSET**
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Service Headquarters
The Knowle
Clyst St George
Exeter
Devon
EX3 0NW

Understanding risk in our communities – a request for information

I'm writing to seek your views and support to help us to understand the current and future risks our communities face.

Like many organisations, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service has a range of statutory responsibilities we need to undertake in order to manage the risk to our communities.

At the same time, we have broadened our offer to partners wherever we can as we recognise that there are some complex issues, such as reducing the impact of mental health, that require leaders to work together.

As such, we are undertaking our regular strategic review of the risks that we might face in the future and what the future landscape might look like in terms of infrastructure as well as societal trends.

This will be reflected in our Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP), which will run from April 2027 until 2032. You can see our current plan [on our website](#).

As part of developing our draft CRMP, we are gathering views from people and partners across Devon and Somerset. These views, alongside our incident data and risk analysis, will give us an understanding of what you and residents feel are local risks that we need to consider as well as perceptions of the fire and rescue service and its role within our counties.

We are capturing this through an online survey, as well as through focus groups with specific audiences. It would be helpful if you could arrange for this to be completed and shared as a higher number of contributions will give more insight to check we're aligning our future plans with the communities we serve.

You can access the survey from the home page of our website – dsfire.gov.uk - or following this [link to the online survey](#).

The survey is also available as a paper copy, which can be requested by emailing CRMP@dsfire.gov.uk or calling 01392 261287.

We will publish the findings reports from this engagement on our website as it may support your own risk planning approach.

Once our draft CRMP is produced, we will consult with you and our communities on the content to check whether the understanding we've captured through our engagement work and data mapping has been accurately represented in the plan.

Thank you for your support. Your feedback and support will ensure that we can continue to provide an effective, efficient and inclusive fire and rescue service, preventing incidents from happening and with the right resources in place to respond to an emergency when required.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Ellis', is written over a dark, rectangular redacted area.

Chief Fire Officer

11. **Okehampton Castle** – To note that from 1st April 2026 the Castle will be open to the public for free entry Wednesdays to Sundays 10am to 4pm, and guided tours will be available to book between April and October.

Good afternoon and thank you for your continued interest and support of Okehampton castle. Please see an update below.

Okehampton Castle open for free entry

English Heritage is delighted to confirm that, from 1st April 2026, Okehampton Castle will be open to the public for free entry Wednesdays through to Sundays, from 10am to 4pm.

Volunteer-led guided tours will be available on the first full weekend of every month between April to October and will be available to book onto in due course, via the English Heritage website.

The annual Bluebell Sunday event will also take place at Okehampton Castle on Sunday 17th May 2026 – further details to follow.

This new opening pattern is being supported by a team of passionate local volunteers.

13. **Devon Town Champion Programme** – To consider an invitation from Visit Devon for the nomination of an individual (Councillor or member of the public) to become an Okehampton Town Champion

I am reaching out because of your connection to the local Devon community. We are currently looking for passionate individuals to join us as "Town Champions" for our local news and tourism website. Our goal is to provide a platform for the people who know their area best to share insider knowledge, local news, and hidden gems with visitors and residents alike.

Being a Town Champion is a flexible, voluntary role designed for someone who already loves being out and about in their community. Whether it is a review of a new local bistro, news about a town festival, or a spotlight on a community group, your voice would help showcase exactly what makes your part of Devon so special. In return, you will have a dedicated profile on our site and a digital badge to recognise you as an official local voice, all while retaining full ownership of your stories.

If you know someone in your organisation or town who would enjoy sharing their local passion with a wider audience, or if you are interested yourself, we would love to hear from you. You can find more details right here: [Town Champion Programme](#)
I hope my message can be shared within your organisation to find the right person - maybe it's even you?!

14. **Wider Okehampton Cluster Group Meeting** – To receive an update from the meeting of 14th January and consider agreement of the Terms of Reference

Wider Okehampton Cluster Group - Terms of Reference

The aim is to create an opportunity for councils in the Okehampton area to get together to share ideas and concerns; for example, the upcoming Local Government Reorganisation,

opportunities arising and to see how councils local to Okehampton can better work together and support each other.

The group has been created by Okehampton Town Council under the name of the Wider Okehampton Cluster Group as a semi formal opportunity for town and parish councils in the area to get together periodically to discuss matters which are of common concern.

The group will aim to meet quarterly with Councils taking it in turn to host the meeting, prepare an agenda and issue notes afterwards. Timing of meetings may vary between evening and daytime to maximise attendance. Refreshments will be provided by the host Council.

Meetings are open to the Clerks and Chairs of the respective Councils. It will normally be incumbent on the clerk of the hosting council to gather ideas for the agenda and issue the paperwork. At the end of each meeting, it will be agreed who is going to host the next meeting and the date.

Town and Parish Councils in the area surrounding Okehampton have been invited to attend/join the group.

The group may invite, where appropriate and agreed:

- Other Councils with mutual concerns to consider issues jointly
- Groups or organisations in accordance with matters to be considered
- District, Borough or Unitary Councillors or Officers in relation to matters to be considered

The group will:

- Consider applying to DALC and other sources for funding to support group activities, where appropriate
- Consider opportunities for joint local training to gain economic benefits
- Hold an annual meeting for all Councillors within member groups as a social/networking opportunity
- May in the future consider other joint working arrangements including the potential for sharing contracts for work such as public toilet cleaning.

15. Okehampton College All Weather Pitch – To consider correspondence from Okehampton Hockey Club requesting council support for resurfacing of the pitch

My name is [REDACTED], and I had the pleasure of briefly speaking with you both last Friday, January 30, at the Okehampton Round Table charity evening. You both kindly expressed interest in learning more about the challenges facing the All-Weather Pitch at Okehampton College and suggested we might meet at the Hockey Club to explore potential ways to help.

As a quick recap and to provide some context ahead of any meeting: The All-Weather Pitch (a sand-based astro-turf surface) is located on the Okehampton College site, owned by the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust (DMAT), and is operated in partnership with the Okehampton Community and Recreation Association (OCRA) for extensive community use. It is in urgent need of resurfacing due to wear and safety concerns, with OCRA leading a fundraising campaign targeting approximately £250,000.

Unfortunately, DMAT have other capital buildings and facilities that would require funding ahead of the All-Weather pitch, however this facility is a vital community asset, heavily used for hockey, football, rugby training, matches, and general

recreation—especially valuable in our variable weather. For Okehampton Hockey Club, of which I am Chair, it is our only suitable surface; without it, the club faces the real risk of folding, which would impact members of all ages and remove a significant regular revenue stream for OCRA, which in turn I feel will impact them significantly.

We are actively working collaboratively with OCRA and DMAT on solutions, including exploring grants from Sport England, potential crowdfunders for match funding, and other opportunities.

I am hoping that your local insight, support, or advocacy could make a tremendous difference—whether through advice on funding streams, a letter of endorsement for applications, or helping raise the profile of this community priority.

I would be delighted to host you both at the Hockey Club for a short site visit and discussion at a time convenient to you. Please let me know your availability over the coming weeks, or if there's a preferred point of contact in your offices to coordinate.

Thank you again for your interest and for the work you both do for Okehampton and Central Devon. I look forward to hearing from you.

21. Civic

21.3 Annual Report for 2025/26 - To resolve to approve the format of the draft 2025/26 annual report as available to date

Councillor Attendance (14th May 2025 - ????)

	Colman	Bird	Tolley	Leech	Yelland	Cummings	Fisher	Hart	Holt	Ireland	McNeill	Marsh	Richards	Weekes
	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Property Committee	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	9	1	-	2	-	4	-
	attended													
Policy & Resources Committee	13	13	13	13	13	13	10	6	4	-	10	8	10	10
	Meetings													
	attended													
Planning Committee	7	8	9	10	10	9	-	-	-	12	9	-	12	-
	attended													
Parks Committee	6	6	6	6	6	6	4	4	1	5	6	4	-	3
	Meetings													
	attended													
Full Council	13	13	13	13	13	13	10	13	4	13	13	9	13	13
	attended													
attendance percentage	69.39	65.31	81.63	87.76	79.59	83.33	57.86	40.74	27.27	77.42	62.50	72.41	86.67	34.48
Personal	12.50	54.55	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	23.08	13.33	50.00	50.00	100.00	0.00	12.50
Work	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Prior Approval	25.00	45.45	33.33	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	23.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Illness	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Absent	62.50	45.45	66.67	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Absences	8	11	3	2	2	2	4	13	15	2	6	3	0	16



BMX Pump Track Upgrade

Cllr Richard Colman- Mayor of Okehampton

Annual Report 2025-2026

Okehampton Town Council

01837 53179

www.okehampton.gov.uk



Okehampton Town Council
Town Hall
Fore Street
Okehampton EX20 1AA

Budget and Precept 2026/27

The budget is the total amount the Town Council is expecting to spend during 2026/27. The budget process commences with each committee reviews its current years spending and considering future projects before making decisions about the coming year.

The precept is the difference between the budget requirement and expected income and is included within your Council Tax bill. Details of how the money collected is distributed are included within the bill, e.g. Devon and Cornwall Police, Devon and Somerset Fire, Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council and Okehampton Town Council.

The Town Council's requirement for 2026/27 is:

Budget	£650,944
Less Income	£175,671
Precept	£475,273

This is an increase of 1.88% or £3.77 per year, 7p a week, for a Band D dwelling. For houses with a lower banding the increase will be less.

Boundary Change

Grants Awarded

RBL	£ 50.00
Okehampton United Ecclesiastical Charity	£ 1,000.00
Museum of Dartmoor Life and Tourist Information	£ 3,500.00
Oke District Community Transport	£ 1,500.00
Oke Fairtrade Group	£ 90.00
Oke Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club	£ 300.00
Okehampton Hamlets PC	£ 200.00
All Saints Church Hall	£ 300.00
Hospiscare	£ 800.00
DYS Space (Room 13)	£ 300.00
Tor Support Services	£ 5,000.00
Ockment Centre	£ 4,000.00
Oke Carnival	£ 75.00
ORIG	£ 700.00
Oke Womens Institute	£ 500.00
OCRA	£ 455.60
Parkrun	£ 420.00
Okehampton Memories	£ 500.00
Citizens Advice	£ 5,000.00
Oke College PTFA	£ 300.00
Who Let the Dads Out	£ 500.00
	£ 25,490.60

Grants Received

Rural England Prosperity Fund WDBC	£10,000
S106 BMX Track	£38,907.59
	£48,907.59



Contact Us – 01837 53179

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townclerk@okehampton.gov.uk

Abi Horn, Assistant Clerk

admin@okehampton.gov.uk

Tracey Bryant, Finance Officer

accounts@okehampton.gov.uk

Rosi Willis, Facilities Officer

facilities@okehampton.gov.uk

James McGahay, Park-Keeper

parks@okehampton.gov.uk

Your Councillors

Cllr Richard Colman (Town Mayor)

Cllr Laura Bird (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr Terry Cummings

Cllr Allenton Fisher

VACANCY

Cllr Carole Holt

Cllr Dr Michael Ireland

Cllr Tony Leech

Cllr Christine Marsh

Cllr David McNeill

Cllr Mark Richards

Cllr Bob Tolley

Cllr Simon Weekes

Cllr Julie Yelland

Contact details available from the website

or council office

21.5 2026/27 Meeting Dates – To resolve to approve the schedule of meetings for 2026/27

DRAFT Schedule of Meetings and Civic Events Dates for the 2026/27 Council Year

2026	Meeting/Civic Event
13 May (Wednesday)	Award Presentation and Mayor Choosing/Annual Council Meeting
18 May	Parks Committee
25 May	BANK HOLIDAY
1 June	Trustees (6.30pm) followed by Full Council
8 June	Policy & Resources Committee (Grants only)
15 June	Planning Committee (Assistant Clerk)
22 June	CLERK HOLIDAY
29 June	Full Council
6 July	Policy & Resources Committee
13 July	Property Committee
20 July	Parks Committee
27 July	Full Council
3 August	Planning Committee
10 August	CLERK HOLIDAY
13 August (Thursday)	Okehampton Show
17 August	NO MEETING
24 August	NO MEETING
31 August	BANK HOLIDAY
7 September	Policy & Resources Committee
13 September (Sunday)	Civic Service
14 September	NO MEETING
21 September	Full Council
28 September	Parks Committee
5 October	Property Committee
12 October	CLERK HOLIDAY
19 October	Planning Committee
26 October	Trustees (6.30pm) followed by Full Council
2 November	Policy & Resources Committee
8 November (Sunday)	Remembrance Sunday
9 November	NO MEETING
16 November	Property Committee
18 November (Wednesday)	Annual Allotment Holders Meeting (TBC)
23 November	Parks Committee
30 November	Full Council
3 December (Thursday)	Edwardian Evening TBC
7 December	Committee Budget Meetings
14 December	Full Council
21 December	NO MEETING
28 December	BANK HOLIDAY
2027	
4 January	NO MEETING
11 January	Policy & Resources Committee
18 January	Full Council (Budget & Precept)
25 January	Planning Committee
1 February	Property Committee
15 February	Parks Committee
22 February	Full Council
1 March	Policy & Resources Committee
8 March	Commonwealth Day Annual Town Assembly
15 March	Planning Committee
22 March	Trustees (6.30pm) followed by Full Council
29 March	BANK HOLIDAY
5 April	Property Committee

12 April	Parks Committee
19 April	Planning Committee
26 April	Policy & Resources Committee
3 May	BANK HOLIDAY
6 May (Thursday)	LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS – TBC
10 May	Nominations Meeting – TBC (informal – closed to the public)
17 May	Mayor Choosing run through (informal – closed to the public)
19 May (Wednesday)	Award Presentation and Mayor Choosing/Annual Council Meeting – TBC

Council meetings generally commence at 7pm in the Council Chamber located in the Town Hall. Additional meetings may be called by the Clerk as required including for the consideration of planning applications.

