

Scrutiny Officer update 18th June 2018

1. Road Maintenance and repairs in Mid Devon

Correspondence from Andy Cole, Devon County Council's Highway Safety Inspection and Reactive Engineer was received on 15th May indicating the questions asked by the Scrutiny Committee would require 'a multi team response'. It was also requested that an officer attend a Committee meeting to respond personally however this has yet to be confirmed.

At the time of writing this update no further correspondence has been received.

2. Anaerobic Digestion Working Group

Review and consultation is still ongoing. It should be noted that the report concerns the process, regulation, health impact and business of anaerobic digestion and is not a report focussing on any specific concerns raised by residents around slurry pits which has been dealt with in a number of previous reports to the Scrutiny Committee.

3. Community Engagement Working Group

This working group held its first meeting on 6th June 2018. Regular updates will be provided to the Committee as to the progress of their work. A draft scope has been circulated to the working group.

4. Homelessness Working Group

This working group was formed in July 2017 and met most recently in May 2018 at which Neil Parish MP attended. The working group's scope is to consider the likelihood that homelessness could increase and what MDDC could do; to look at existing service provision; to identify funding and look at how best to use it; and whether the services provided meet the needs of the homeless. Current legislation from 1996 and amended in 2002 stated that anyone could approach the local authority for advice if homeless and if in a priority group (such as vulnerable young/old, medical issues, dependent children) had to be provided with accommodation. Those not in a priority group did not have to be provided with accommodation.

At the May meeting a number of lines of enquiry were being looked at including the New Homes bonus, impact of the proposed Tiverton Town Centre redevelopment on HMOs in Fore Street, and private sector housing brought back into use.

5. Leader project report

More details of the Leader Project, mentioned in the Partnership Report, were requested by Scrutiny at the May meeting. Chris Shears, Economic Development Officer, has provided a response to Members regarding the Leader project which was sent by email and marked confidential/sensitive.