

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR HALL SEPTEMBER 2019 REPORT TO SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING OF AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

<https://www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/research/read-vsg> a fascinating and helpful read where much of what it details our local communities are already doing in terms of community resilience and long term sustainability; a really good reference tool where one of more things might resonate in terms of improving quality of life, but clearly one size won't fit all.

### **R. D. & E. NHS Hospital Trust**

The provision of healthcare is a highly complex and challenging environment this year there has been little difference for the R, D & E between winter pressures demand and any other time of year where e.g. June was a highly challenging month with what is called Operational Pressure escalation Level (OPEL) being declared on all 30 days of the month due to capacity issues.

There was high demand for emergency cardiology procedures and an increase in the number of patients in acute hospital beds waiting for transfer to psychiatric units adding to pressures on bed capacity. Due to a highly challenging environment in the domiciliary and home markets, 'Delayed Transfers of Care (DTOC)' for patients who were 'green to go' contributed to the pressure on hospital beds.

Parking remains a major issue at the R. D. & E. with new dedicated Park and Ride being made available to staff at Digby, and a further one for patients and visitors at Sowton. In my view all the more reason for more treatment taking place locally in mothballed 'fit for purpose' hospital buildings. A review of the R, D & E requirements of what space is needed going forward is currently taking place and due for completion towards the end of the year.

What is certain is that demand for services is only going to go up and the new 'MyCare' and EPIC IT platform due to go live in July 2020 (currently on time) can only improve working efficiencies for everyone's benefit

### **Schools funding**

Whilst the devil will clearly be in the detail the recent news from Government of £7bn pounds over the next three years towards the funding of schools is clearly welcome

### **Climate Emergency update**

Devon County Council takes its responsibilities to addressing the climate Emergency very seriously and attached is a briefing for members issue on the 2nd of September 2019 and attached for your information, where DCC is part of a much larger task force with multiple partners and stakeholders which include local authorities, Parish Councils and individuals. You may also find this link useful

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/energyandclimatechange/devon-climate-emergency>

I have been asked by people as to what they can do at an individual level and a really good example of where to begin is to measure your own carbon footprint at take the WWF carbon measure at <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/> as the beginning of what you can do today to reduce it. Clearly this is intended at an individual level, rather than industrial but it really does make you think!

IAN L. HALL

### **Data Protection**

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