

TDC report Nov 2016.

Beaches

Swimming spots in Teignbridge have reached bathing water quality standards with six 'excellent' ratings and one rated as 'good'.

The results are based on weekly water sampling by the Environment Agency who visit each bathing water beach from May to September every year to see what levels of bacteria are present in the water.

In Teignbridge the classifications are as follows:

Dawlish Warren; Dawlish Town; Dawlish Coryton Cove; Teignmouth Holcombe; Shaldon; Ness Cove all excellent; Teignmouth Town good

The bathing water quality standards are based on guidelines produced by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and were translated into UK law in 2015.

Housing

The Council's Executive has agreed to invest £20million to help build new affordable homes across the district.

The Executive agreed to set up a joint venture housing company to primarily develop rented homes, something that will help local people find an affordable home that suits their lifestyle and budget, but will also generate a financial return for Teignbridge over time.

The joint venture housing company will be between Teignbridge and registered provider partners. A management board with representatives from each partner will oversee the day-to-day running of the company and report back to Overview and Scrutiny, Executive and Full Council.

Like many councils, Teignbridge has needed to respond to the pressure of reduced central funding and achieve a sustainable financial position in the future.

The Council has a proven track record in meeting and delivering new and varied housing needs. Examples include reducing the number of empty homes annually, providing pitches for travellers, a temporary accommodation centre in Newton Abbot and working with Christow Community Land Trust, Teign Housing and Dartmoor National Park Authority to provide 18 new eco-homes in Christow.

With an up-to-date adopted Local Plan, Teignbridge has enough land identified to meet housing targets but the authority wants to take greater control of house building and deal with challenges around the supply of affordable, rented properties.

Award

The Council has been shortlisted for a top national award by the Local Government Chronicle (LGC), one of the country's leading local government journals.

In a record year for entries, Teignbridge has been shortlisted in the Innovation category and are recognised for leading the way in a self-build revolution. The winners will be announced in March next year.

Fulfilling a commitment to provide much needed homes for local people, 2016 has already seen Teignbridge crowned the 'Best Council for Self/Custom Builds' at the annual Build It awards. In addition, leading Council representatives were invited to last week's National Housing Taskforce inquiry to help unlock the building potential of small, community-led and self-builders as well as being invited to an event in Scotland to talk publicly about Teignbridge's innovative and ground-breaking work.

Delivering on its promise to help people design and build their own dream home, Teignbridge became the first council to adopt a policy on self-build homes, known as the Custom and Self Build Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Recycling

A new recycling campaign aimed at improving street cleanliness and reducing the number of items blown out of boxes has been launched by Teignbridge District Council.

Called 'Operation Stack', the campaign gives residents who stack up their recycling boxes on collection days the chance to win a recycling prize in a monthly draw.

Operation Stack has been launched in response to feedback received last winter when particularly windy weather caused recycling to be blown from boxes when not weighted down by stacking. By encouraging residents to stack boxes, this provides a practical and simple solution to help improving cleanliness and reduce the need for additional street sweeping.

Throughout the campaign, running through November to March 2017, members of the waste and cleaning team will record properties where boxes are stacked as they are out and about in the District. Five monthly draws during the campaign will see one property drawn at random each month to receive a recycling goody bag prize.

Teignbridge is committed to creating clean and green communities, playing an active role in recycling. This scheme supports the Council's Ten Year Strategy which aims to increase recycling rates to help make the district an even cleaner, greener place to live, work and visit.

Executive

On 6 December the executive is being asked to consider a proposal that seeks to make changes to the Council Tax Reduction scheme. Teignbridge are one of few councils that still operate such a scheme where those people receiving certain benefits pay a reduced amount of Council tax – some pay nothing at all.

They will also be considering the quarterly budget report.

Overview and Scrutiny

On 9 January the Overview and Scrutiny committee will be considering the Budget Consultation and Waste & Recycling. The following review groups have been set up and will be reporting back: -

- Car Parks – work ongoing
- Railway – work ongoing
- Enforcement – update in 6 months
- Outside Bodies
- Flooding Resilience
- Sickness Absence

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