

## APPENDIX 4

### Report from Committees - Super-Link Meeting 7 December

Only 36 attendees, most of which seemed to be County and District councillors.

You can watch video of the session here -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwN40WZeqFA>

Neil Jory covered WDBC 20 Year Strategic Plan and 3 year delivery plan.

<https://westdevon.gov.uk/plan-for-west-devon>

WDBC aim to set balanced budget 022/23, but have a £40k gap at present.

John Hart covered DCC 4 year Strategic Plan.

Expects DCC overspending year on year to continue – total of £80M over 3 years. Will need to make planned draw on reserves to set budget 2022/23. Limited to 2% council tax rise on general costs, but only 1% on care services. No cash from National Insurance increase for 2 years. Seeking Cornwall style top-up settlement base on levels of deprivation in 6 Districts. Household support grants delegated through District councils to partner organisations for delivery (eg CAB, Devon Food Action etc).

76% budget going on Adult Social Care and Children's Services. Demand led, statutory requirement and demand continuing to rise. There are about 2,000 adult social care workers short across Devon.

DCC trying to integrate care services across NHS, DCC & plethora of provider businesses.

Second climate emergency consultation expected late spring 2022. DCC bought land to plant new 'small forest' in West Devon. Site not specified.

Housing – DCC trying to work with District and Unitary Councils on strategy for 'affordable' rentals and sales. Changing houses to holiday rentals flips them to business rates so also significant loss of income to Councils (plus holiday rentals get automatic £10k Covid-19 small business grants). No powers to stop it happening. West Devon seen highest % price rises in Devon, average house price in West Devon now 10x average salary.

Potholes reduced from 70,000 to 40,000 by double shift working with 'dragon' teams. About 5,000 of 8,000 miles of road have no proper foundations so increased traffic will perpetuate problems.

Devon has been shortlisted as one of 5 pilots in England for greater autonomy council grouping. No information yet of level or area of new powers. DCC will push hard.

NKT