

REPORT FROM CORNWALL COUNCILLOR – LOOE EAST & DEVIOCK

I know from my workload that the cost of living and housing crisis is putting much pressure on many families. It has also hit local businesses with raises in energy costs of between 170% and 300% which is pushing prices to maintain financial stability. These are tough times with Rates and business rates raising about 5%, household energy bill rising the list goes on. My wish is that you will support local businesses and trades to help them through these troubled times.

As you will already know new car parking charges are being considered with both Looe and Seaton being in Band A which means the doubling of some charges. This will hit residents and visitors alike and my fear is that many will park in residential areas causing many more problems. A consultation will be carried out from the 2nd March to the 23rd March 2023 by Cornwall Council on these proposals. I will make sure that when the consultation starts it will be on all the local social media sites, all I ask is that you make your feelings known either for or against.

Currently on the best information I can find there are about 600 residents travel from the Liskeard Looe area to work in Plymouth daily. The costs recently went up to use both the Bridge and Ferries to cross the Tamar by 30%. It is now further proposed to ask government about raising these charges yearly by RPI. With much of our health needs delivered in Derriford these extra charges hit us all. I would appreciate your comments on this proposal as it is important to get residents and councillors views.

The debate on whether Cornwall should have a Mayor was debated at the Hannaford Point last Monday. With the leader of the Council Linda Taylor and the Chief Executive in attendance. About 25 local residents attended and after a presentation those attending got to ask one question each. From those questions asked it is clear that the majority in the room were against having a Mayor. The cost and benefits were the main points especially the disconnect from what happens in Truro and the benefits to this area. It is clear that local people from the conversations I have had are clearly against this idea and I will vote accordingly in support of their views.

Councillor Armand Toms
Looe East and Deviock
17TH February 2023