

## SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL APRIL 2022 REPORT FROM ROSEMARY ROWE.

We have been working on quite a lot of projects and updating to take issues forward into the coming year.

Our Housing team have been working to assist Ukrainian Refugees and some have been welcomed and assisted with accommodation here in the South Hams .To date our housing department has Assisted 51 persons to settle here in our area.

The Council has started a project to build 8 affordable homes on a site at St.Annes Chapel, Nr. Bigbury on Sea. They will be eco friendly, energy efficient which will mean they will be low cost to heat and run. They will have connection to Air Source Heat Pumps. This is the first time for at least 25 years that The Council has embarked on its own housing project. There will also be three open market houses on site to help fund the project.

There has been a review of the Leisure centres with Fusion.ref.the need to promote the number of persons using them

We have reviewed Taxi fares. There has been no increase in fares since 2016 and given the increase in running costs for the trade an increase has gone out to consultation with the owners/drivers.

The £150.00 Council Tax rebate promised as Payments to be made to those Households in Band A/D Properties .S.H.D.C. has so far made 9,000 payments to those who are eligible through Direct Debit. And arrangements are being made to pay those not on the on line payments system

Watch out for scammers' .cold calling and asking for Bank details to make payment into your Bank Account.S.H.D.C. Would never do this. If not eligible but you are struggling to pay your Council Tax contact S.H.D.C. as the Council may be able to help you.

There is a household Support grant being rolled out .Not sure how it will work yet .It is connected to D.C.C. More details on the South Hams website under council tax.

Locality Officers are out and about for the summer season, focusing on:

Dogs, Beaches, General Litter, Checking Toilets,

Street Cleaning, Anti Social behaviour. Amongst other things.

The Council has been working in junction with The Woodland Trust and Devon County Council on a tree planting project .Some weeks ago we took part in a tree planting session at Jawbones field and planted some 400 whips as part of the planting for The Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

The Health and Wellbeing Centre is coming on really well. With a topping out ceremony having taken place .Cllr. Hawkins and myself attended The Council of Governors For TSDHCT meeting recently and mentioned about having a bed unit there for care and also a minor injuries unit.

Meanwhile enjoy the lovely sunshine whilst we have it. Take care and stay free from Covid.

Best wishes, Rosemary.