

County Councillor, Ugborough West and Ivybridge – Victor Abbott
13th August 2025

Help Shape the Future of Local Government

We've launched an online survey, and we're arranging engagement events in towns across Devon to seek people's views. You can [read more in the story on our website](#).

[Please take part in our online survey](#)

Council leaders across Devon have joined forces to call for the creation of a South West Peninsula Mayoral Strategic Authority (MSA), representing 1.2 million residents and an economy worth over £25 billion a year.

The Leaders of Devon County Council, Plymouth City Council, Torbay Council and district councils across Devon have written jointly to Government ministers to further develop enhanced powers and funding for the whole county of Devon through a comprehensive devolution agreement.

The proposed South West Peninsula Mayoral Strategic Authority would replace the existing Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority and create what the leaders describe as an “economic powerhouse” capable of accelerating the Government’s growth mission.

[Read more](#)

The closest venue in the face to face consultation will be at Ivybridge Market, Glanvilles Mill Car Park (the lower car park at the public loos) - Thursday 21 August,

Councillors concerned about plans to replace paid co-responders

Our health scrutiny committee has expressed ‘concerns’ about plans to replace paid co-responders with trained volunteers across Devon and has asked the ambulance service to ‘pause’ and provide more information within four weeks.

The Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee on Monday heard from Dr John Martin, the Chief Executive of the South Western Ambulance Trust (SWAST).

[Read more](#)

Safety Warning

The government's UK Health Security Agency and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) are urging people to stop using certain non-sterile alcohol-free wipes and to dispose of them, as they may be contaminated with *Burkholderia stabilis*.

The following products have been found to be affected:

- ValueAid Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes
- Microsafe Moist Wipe Alcohol Free
- Steroplast Sterowipe Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes
- Reliwipe Alcohol Free Cleansing Wipes

[Find out more](#)