

Dear Councillors,

Here is my report for December.

Much has been discussed about the housing crisis North Devon is facing and I am pleased to say that after four general meetings the following is being hurried forward:

- bring more empty homes into use
- provide more housing for people who are working in North Devon or want to move to the area for work
- develop a place-based approach for providing more housing options for people in Ilfracombe
- use Community Land Trusts to boost the supply of affordable housing
- reduce the 'loss' of affordable housing resulting from viability challenges
- improve the process for dealing with planning applications
- improve home energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty
- enhance the council's homelessness prevention service
- provide more suitable and affordable temporary accommodation
- improve housing standards in shared housing and provide opportunity to people who are socially marginalised

The time has come with the dark mornings and nights for the phantom dog walker to roam without picking up. Please encourage residents to use the online recording system on the NDC website as it now allows you to pinpoint on a map where the offending and persistent cases are located.

Another joint workshop put on in conjunction with Torridge District Council to allow councillors from both sides of the water to start inputting high level ideas into the revision of the Local Plan.

Frank and I have attended a Ward member briefing on Yelland Quay, much of which is confidential, but we know the barristers and consultants from NDC will be supporting our refusal and working on our behalf. The inquiry will take place at the Barnstaple Hotel for 8 days starting on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

I have also raised my continued concern to Planning over 73749 Penhill which I know is not in our Ward but the developers are alternating between Fremington and Bickington Ward, one or two dwellings at a time and thus avoid any community contributions. Most are being used as holiday lets.