

## Report to Saltash Town Council June 2026

Cllr. Hilary Frank

Representing Saltash Essa

*Konseler Kernow Essa*



### **CORNWALL COUNCIL AGM**

At the Annual Meeting of Cornwall Council on 19<sup>th</sup> May, councillors voted for Councillor Leigh Frost to continue as Leader of the Council for a further year. Following his reappointment, Leigh asked me to continue serving as Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Schools.

I am delighted to have been asked to continue in this role. Supporting children, young people and families was one of the reasons I first stood for election, so it remains a real privilege to help lead this work on behalf of communities across Cornwall. The coming year will bring some significant challenges and opportunities, including implementing SEND reforms, shaping the new Families First arrangements, and working with partners to develop a sustainable future for youth services. I look forward to continuing this work alongside schools, families, communities and partner organisations across Cornwall.

### **OFSTED/CQC SEND INSPECTION**

The recent joint inspection by OFSTED and the Care Quality Commission looked at how effectively education, health and care services work together to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) across Cornwall. Inspectors recognised a number of strengths, including effective early identification of need in the early years, strong support for many children and young people with Education, Health and Care plans, and the commitment and professionalism of staff across education, health and social care.

The inspection also identified areas where further improvement is needed, including reducing waiting times, improving communication with families, ensuring greater consistency in Education, Health and Care plans, and improving access to suitable placements. Cornwall Council and its partners are developing a joint action plan to address the issues identified and improve outcomes.

The findings come at a time of significant reform of the SEND system, and the inspection provides a clear and independent assessment of where we need to focus our efforts. Alongside the SEND reforms, it gives us a strong foundation for driving improvements and ensuring that children, young people and families receive the support they need.

### **SPEEDWATCH**

Residents often tell me that speeding traffic is one of their biggest concerns. Enforcement is a matter for the police, but Community Speedwatch gives residents a chance to play a positive role in encouraging safer driving and highlighting problem areas.

We are currently looking to recruit more volunteers for Speedwatch in Saltash. Having a larger team would help spread the workload and mean we could have more Speedwatch sessions taking place across the town. Following a recent Facebook post, I am pleased to say that a few residents (and a couple of councillors...) have expressed an interest in getting involved.

## DETERRENTS AT WARFELTON

Cornwall Council has been in liaison with the police about the installation of deterrents on Warfelton to prevent unauthorised encampments. We initially looked at boulders, but the size needed to stop the boulders being moved was huge and would have looked very unsightly, especially as we would have needed one every 1.5 meters.

We are therefore going to install gates with padlocks and the wooden bollards that are used at many of our Cornwall sites to prevent unauthorised access. Funding and plans are in place, and consultation has been held with Saltash Football Club. Work should be completed by the end of June at the latest.



The blue line at the south of the field represents a single rail of key clamps with gaps every 3m for pedestrian access.

## SALTASH LEISURE CENTRE

Cornwall Council is investing just over £1.8 million in the refurbishment and transformation of Saltash Leisure Centre. The dry/gym changing rooms are due to be complete by the end of June, and the final part of the poolside changing area is already complete, offering:

- 3 cubicle showers
- 7 communal/open showers
- 18 additional lockers
- 3 additional changing rooms

Work on the Safe and Wellbeing Hub has been delayed slightly and is now expected to be completed by the end of July, with an anticipated launch in mid-September.

## KERNEWEK

After the dedication of volunteers in keeping Cornish alive throughout the 20th Century, the publication of the First Cornish Language Strategy in 2004 was a milestone. There are now around 500 speakers with advanced proficiency in Cornish, and over 200 adult learners attending classes.

We are currently drafting the third strategy, which will span 2026 – 2036, and inviting residents to give their views. The survey closes on 19<sup>th</sup> June and can be found here: [Cornish Language Strategy 2026-2036 - Strateji an Yeth Kernewek 2026-2036 | Let's Talk Cornwall](#)

The final version will be brought to Cabinet for approval on 29<sup>th</sup> July.

The four work areas are Learning, Community & Culture, Status and Corpus:

Work Area	Partner	Role	Work Area	Partner	Role
<b>1 Learning</b>	<b>Kesva an Taves Kernewek</b>	Exams, teacher training, teaching resources and publications, research	<b>3 Status</b>	<b>Cornwall Council</b>	Cornish language strategy, Cornish Language Office and support for projects, facilitating use of Cornish in Cornwall Council activities. Fifth Nation Working Group strategic overview of Cornish language as a key part of Cornwall's Fifth Nation status.
	<b>Cornish language groups and community educators</b>	Adult education classes and immersion activities, provision of resources and publications		<b>Town and parish councils</b>	Use of Cornish language in signage, events and projects
	<b>GoCornish – Golden Tree</b>	Cornish language in pre-schools, schools and cultural events		<b>Businesses</b>	Use of Cornish in brand names and marketing
	<b>Cornwall Council</b>	Language planning and support for Cornish in schools, Curriculum Kernewek, WJEC assessments		<b>UK Government</b>	Signatory to international agreements and responsible for protecting and promoting use of recognised languages such as Cornish in the UK.
<b>2 Community &amp; Culture</b>	<b>An Rosweyth</b>	Umbrella group for all the Cornish language community groups – to promote and coordinate Cornish language activities and represent the community	<b>British Irish Council</b>	Network for promoting the nine recognised languages of the British Isles and sharing good practice	
	<b>Agan Tavas, Cussel an Tavas Kernowek, Kesva an Taves Kernewek, Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek, Movyans Skolyow Meythrin</b>	The Cornish language community groups – activism, activities for the language community, classes and projects.	<b>4 Corpus</b>	<b>Cornwall Council</b>	Cornish Language Office and Translation Service
	<b>Gorsedh Kernow, Cornwall Heritage Trust, Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, etc</b>	Cornish cultural and heritage groups which work to promote Cornish culture generally and include Cornish language in their work.		<b>Akademi Kernewek</b>	Research on dictionary, new and technical terms and place names and publication of online dictionary, corpus search and other online resources
	<b>Cultural organisations and creative sector</b>	Using Kernewek in performances, events, songs, films, etc.			
	<b>Cornwall Council</b>	Work with community sector to facilitate and support greater use of Cornish, work creative sector through Cultural Strategy			

My particular focus is *Dyski* (Learning), and promoting the use of Cornish in school settings.

There are currently 30 schools in the Go Cornish programme regularly using Cornish in the classroom, representing around 6,000 children per year. 11 schools have been awarded Bronze Level Go Cornish.

More information can be found here: [Go Cornish for Primary Schools - Go Cornish](#)

Cornwall Council has collaborated with the BBC on a new podcast series celebrating Kernewek. 'Learn Cornish' is presented by BBC Radio One DJ, Danni Diston, who grew up in Cornwall. It was commissioned by the BBC following the decision in December 2025 to grant Cornish Part III status under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, placing Kernewek alongside Welsh, Scottish Gaelic and Irish at the highest level of protection available under the Charter.

[Learn Cornish, Dyski Kernewek - 1. Place names: The Gateway Drug - BBC Sounds](#)

There are also classes in Cornish being held in Saltash. I started in February, and I'm really enjoying learning Kernewek. Let me know if you want to join!

### **SALTASH RED BUS**

In relation to Agenda Item 27 on the agenda, I just want to clarify that Cornwall Council has not cut or reduced any funding to Saltash Red Bus.

Through Bus Service Improvement Plan funding, we were able to launch some new, rural services with Saltash Red Bus in Spring 2023. Originally, we supported 7 services, all for one day per week and this has now been whittled down to 3 services, due to poor or zero usage.

This subsidy receives an annual CPI uplift in line with our other local bus contracts and is reviewed to reflect the services still operated. As agreed with Saltash Red Bus in Spring 2023, Service 450 has only ever been funded by Cornwall Council for one day of its five day a week operation. Beyond applying a CPI uplift to the monthly payment for the Service 450, there have been no other changes to the subsidy.

### **PROUD TO CARE AWARDS**

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Proud to Care awards, recognising the dedication and heart shown by Cornwall's care workers. There are 11 different award categories:

Newcomer of the Year	Care/nursing home worker of the Year
Community Care Worker of the year	Support Worker of the Year
Hidden Treasure	Social Care Nurse of the Year
Learning Champion of the Year	Registered Manager of the Year
Innovation in Care	Care Provider/Team of the Year
Darren Williams Award for leading System Change	

We are fortunate to have many dedicated care workers supporting people in Saltash and the surrounding area, and I hope some of them will receive the recognition they deserve. If you know of a care worker in Saltash who deserves a big 'thank you', please send in a nomination by the deadline of 30th June. The nomination process is fairly straightforward: write an account of no more than 300 words saying why your nominee should be considered. [Proud to Care Awards - Proud to Care Cornwall](#)

### **MERGER OF POLICE FORCES**

In January 2026 the Government confirmed its intention to merge the existing 43 police forces across England and Wales into larger, regional forces. Further information about the proposals is here 'From local to national: a new model for policing':

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/from-local-to-national-a-new-model-for-policing>

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly is asking residents to share their views regarding the proposals. The survey should take around five minutes to complete, and closes at 23:45 on 12 July 2026. [Survey on Police Force Mergers](#)