

Report to Saltash Town Council July 2026

Cllr. Hilary Frank

Representing Saltash Essa, *Konseler Kernow Essa*



TAMAR VALLEY MANAGEMENT PLAN, 2026 -2031

The new Tamar Valley National Landscape Management Plan was formally adopted by Cornwall Council's Cabinet in June. Many people will know the area by its former designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, but in 2023 all AONBs were renamed as National Landscapes to better reflect their importance not only for their beauty, but also for wildlife, heritage and the wellbeing of local communities.

From Churchtown Farm to places such as Cotehele and Kit Hill, the Tamar Valley is a landscape shaped by generations of stewardship, particularly by the farmers and landowners whose work has helped shape and care for the landscape we value today. Over the last thirty years, the Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership has helped secure more than £19 million of investment and supported over 340 projects across the Valley. The Plan sets out a shared vision for how we can continue to care for and enhance this remarkable landscape over the next five years.

As Vice Chair of the Tamar Valley National Landscape Partnership, I was pleased to speak in support of the Plan when it came before Cabinet. I would also like to acknowledge Saltash Town Council's continued support for Churchtown Farm through its annual grant. That investment helps support public access and community engagement, contributing to the wider aims of the Tamar Valley National Landscape.

[Management plans - Tamar Valley National Landscape Tamar Valley National Landscape](#)

YOUTH STRATEGY

Cornwall Council is developing a new Youth Strategy to help make Cornwall a place where young people can grow up happy, healthy and able to succeed, wherever they live. As Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Schools, I am keen to make sure that the Strategy reflects the experiences of young people in communities such as Saltash and that it builds on the excellent work already taking place locally.

Saltash Town Council has a strong track record of supporting young people through its financial investment in local youth organisations and activities. I am particularly pleased that the Mayor has chosen Saltash Youth Network as his charity for the year.

As part of the development of the Strategy, we have launched a survey to gather feedback from elected members about the challenges and opportunities facing young people in their communities. I'd be very grateful if Town Councillors could take a few minutes to complete the survey using the link below. In particular, we are keen to hear whether the issues identified reflect what is happening in Saltash, what changes you have seen over time, whether there are challenges or opportunities we may have overlooked, and what should be prioritised in the years ahead.

The survey closes on 6 July. [Cornwall Youth Strategy Development | Let's Talk Cornwall](#)

SEND REFORM PLAN

We've now submitted Cornwall's SEND Reform Plan to Government. I'm pleased that the Plan keeps the focus on something I've consistently argued for: getting support to children earlier, before needs escalate and families find themselves having to fight for help. It also places a strong emphasis on making mainstream schools more inclusive and improving access to specialist advice and support closer to home.

Developed with schools, academy trusts, health partners, parent carers and young people across Cornwall, the Plan is about improving the way we support children locally. Our ambition is simple: to help children and families get the right support at the right time, in the right place, so that more children can thrive close to home.

The Government's national SEND consultation closed in May, and Ministers are currently considering the responses before deciding if any changes should be made at a national level. Our local Plan sits alongside that process and focuses on what we in Cornwall can do now to improve support for children and families.

ADDITIONAL CABINET ROLE: VETERANS AND VETERANS FAMILIES

I was honoured that the Leader of Cornwall Council recently asked me to take on additional responsibility for veterans and veterans' families alongside my existing portfolio.

As part of this role, I was proud to attend the flag-raising ceremony at Lys Kernow marking the start of Armed Forces Week, where the Leader also signed Cornwall Council's Armed Forces Covenant. The Covenant is a national pledge that those who serve, or have served, in the Armed Forces, together with their families, should be treated fairly and should not face disadvantage as they access public and community services.



I was particularly pleased that Saltash Town Council was one of only two town councils represented at the ceremony and signed its own Armed Forces Covenant, demonstrating its commitment to supporting members of the Armed Forces community here in Saltash.

I'm looking forward to working with schools and veterans' organisations to help young people understand the contribution of our Armed Forces, strengthen links between schools and the Armed Forces community, and ensure that children from Armed Forces families feel recognised, supported and able to thrive.

DENTISTRY SUMMIT, 17th JULY

Access to NHS dentistry has been a regular topic of discussion at meetings of the Saltash Health Action Group because so many local families continue to struggle to find an NHS dentist. I'd like to thank everyone involved in the Group for keeping the issue firmly on the agenda and working constructively to improve healthcare in our community.

During her year as Mayor, Cllr Julia Peggs and I completed oral health training. Now, as Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Schools, I'm working to see more primary schools benefit from initiatives such as supervised toothbrushing. That's why I'm particularly pleased that the Leader of Cornwall Council has brought partners together for a Cornwall Dentistry Summit on 17th July. Many of the issues are national rather than local, but that doesn't mean we should stand still. By bringing together everyone involved, we have a real opportunity to focus on practical steps we can take to improve oral health and access to dental care, and at the same time highlight the case for the wider changes that are needed.

Here is a link with more information, which will include details of how to watch the Summit live: [Cornwall Dentistry Summit | Let's Talk Cornwall](#)

TAMAR TOLL ACTION GROUP AGM

I was pleased to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Tamar Toll Action Group, which continues to campaign for fairer toll arrangements on the Tamar Crossings. I've been actively involved with the Group since its formation, and was delighted to congratulate Scott Slavin on his election as the new Chair. I'd also like to pay tribute to outgoing Chair Mel Priston, whose determination and leadership were key to establishing the Group and building it into a respected voice for communities on both sides of the Tamar. I look forward to continuing to work with the Group as it takes forward the next stage of its campaign.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



I was pleased to take part in the Town Centre audit of Fore Street, walking with Highways Manager Will Glassup to identify maintenance issues and discuss opportunities for improvement. My thanks to Will for his constructive approach, and to Cllr Bickford for organising the audit. As I walked home afterwards, I noticed the old Cornwall College sign at the entrance to Victoria Gardens, still there years after the College had closed. I sent an email to the Highways team, and it was great to see the sign removed within a week - it had outstayed the college it was pointing to!

WARFELTON

Along with many residents, I was pleased to see the installation of bollards at Warfelton to help prevent unauthorised encampments. I have since received an update from Cormac confirming that the key clamps for the side along Warfelton Crescent (in blue below) are due to be installed in the week beginning 29th June. Cormac is still waiting for a delivery date for the vehicle gates but is continuing to press the manufacturer, recognising the importance of completing the work as soon as possible. I will continue to monitor progress and keep you updated as the remaining work progresses.



ROAD CLOSURE

Location: Lower Port View, Higher Port View and Culver Road, Saltash
 Timing: 3rd August 2026 to 21st August 2026 (24 hours)
 Contact: Customer Services at Wales and West Utilities - Tel: 0800 9122 999,
 email: enquiries@wwutilities.co.uk
[Causeway one.network](http://Causewayone.network)

