



Saltash Town Council Report

July 2nd 2026

Cllr Keith Johnson – Cornwall Councillor, Saltash Tamar Ward

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Date: July 1st 2026

Report to Saltash Town Council

From Cornwall Councillor Keith Johnson

Report:

Chair and Members,

Saltash Town Council Report

Question to Cabinet – SEND Strategy

At the recent Cabinet meeting, I welcomed the ambition of Cornwall Council's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategic Plan and expressed my support for the principles of earlier intervention, stronger inclusion and better outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

However, I made it clear that Cabinet was being asked not simply to endorse a vision, but to approve the document that will now be submitted to Government in response to the significant challenges facing SEND services in Cornwall.

I stressed that the success of this Plan will not be judged by its aspirations alone, but by tangible improvements for children and families. This means ensuring children receive support earlier, reducing waiting times, lowering exclusions and rebuilding confidence in the SEND system.

I also raised concerns that have been expressed nationally regarding SEND reforms, particularly whether parents could lose some of the statutory protections currently provided through Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). I asked Cabinet Member for Children and Families, Cllr Hilary Frank, to provide reassurance that Cornwall's approach would not weaken parents' rights to secure appropriate support for their children, challenge decisions where necessary, or access statutory protections where their child's needs require them.

Given that the recent Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspection highlighted concerns around communication, consistency of provision and delays in accessing support, I questioned what assurances Cabinet could give families that their legal rights and protections would remain fully safeguarded throughout the reform programme.

Finally, I requested that Cabinet commits to bringing a progress report back to elected members within 12 months so that we can assess whether the reforms have delivered measurable improvements, including reduced waiting times, improved outcomes for children, greater confidence among families and the continued protection of parents' legal rights.

As Shadow Cabinet Member, I will continue to hold the administration to account to ensure that every child with SEND in Cornwall receives the support they deserve and that parents retain the protections they rightly expect.

Treledan Expansion Consultation – Proposed Development of a Further 156 Homes

Report by Cllr Keith Johnson, Cornwall Councillor

I wish to make Members aware that a public consultation is currently underway regarding proposals by Bloor Homes to construct a further 156 dwellings as an extension to the existing Treledan development.

This consultation provides an important opportunity for residents, stakeholders and local organisations to review the proposals and submit their views before any planning application is determined.

The consultation documents and feedback form can be accessed here:

<https://bloorhomesexeter.com/treledan-new-homes/>

Whilst there is an acknowledged need for new housing, it is essential that any further development is supported by the infrastructure required to meet the needs of both existing and future residents. The consultation raises a number of significant considerations, including:

- The capacity of local schools to accommodate additional pupils.
- The impact on GP surgeries, NHS services and wider healthcare provision.
- The effect of increased traffic on the local highway network and congestion.
- The protection of green spaces, biodiversity and the surrounding environment.
- The adequacy of drainage, utilities and other essential infrastructure.
- The provision of community facilities necessary to support a growing population.

Saltash has already experienced substantial housing growth in recent years. It is therefore important that future development is properly planned, with supporting infrastructure delivered alongside new homes rather than following behind.

I encourage Saltash Town Council, residents and community groups to engage fully with the consultation, review the proposals in detail and ensure their views are submitted within the consultation period. The planning process is strengthened when it reflects the knowledge and experience of those who live and work in the community.

As Cornwall Councillor for Saltash, I will continue to listen to residents' concerns and representations and will ensure these are raised through the appropriate planning processes.

I commend this report to the Town Council for information and encourage Members to promote awareness of the consultation within the community.

Road Safety Concerns – New Road, Saltash

Report by Cllr Keith Johnson, Cornwall Councillor

Following concerns raised by local residents and members regarding road safety and vehicle speeds on New Road, I have been in correspondence with Cornwall Highways seeking an urgent review of the issues.

I have now received a response from the Highway Manager, confirming that Cornwall Highways will undertake a comprehensive, evidence-based assessment of the location before determining whether any engineering or traffic management measures are appropriate.

- The review will include:
- Liaison with Cornwall Council's Road Safety Team to obtain specialist advice and oversight.
- Engagement with Devon & Cornwall Police to review any enforcement history and current concerns.
- Analysis of historic speed data collected from the existing Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS).
- Assessment of current vehicle speeds using available telematics data.
- Examination of recorded collision data covering the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2025, which represents the available dataset provided through the Police and Vision Zero.

This work is intended to establish a clear understanding of traffic conditions on New Road, distinguishing between perceived and actual vehicle speeds, analysing driver behaviour and considering the history of recorded collisions. The findings will help determine whether measures such as additional signage, traffic calming or other highway improvements are justified and likely to improve road safety.

Whilst the Highway Manager has acknowledged the urgency of the concerns, it has also been noted that this work must be prioritised alongside enquiries across 29 Town and Parish Councils within South East Cornwall.

I will continue to monitor progress closely and will keep Saltash Town Council informed once the assessment has been completed and Cornwall Highways has advised on any recommended next steps.

I commend this report to the Town Council for information.

Tamar Tag Administration Fee Proposal

Report by Cllr Keith Johnson, Cornwall Councillor

I am pleased to report that the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee has decided not to proceed with the proposed increase in the Tamar Tag administration fee following an extensive public consultation.

Earlier this year, I raised concerns regarding the proposal, recognising the potential impact it would have on many residents of Saltash and South East Cornwall who rely on the Tamar crossings for work, education, healthcare and everyday travel.

The consultation attracted a significant public response, with 82% of respondents opposing the proposed increase. The outcome demonstrates the importance of public engagement in the decision-making process and reflects the strength of local feeling on this issue.

Whilst I welcome the Committee's decision, the financial challenges facing the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry remain. It is therefore likely that further discussions will take place regarding the long-term funding and financial sustainability of the crossings.

I will continue to monitor these discussions closely and will represent the interests of Saltash residents by advocating for fair and sustainable solutions that recognise the essential role the crossings play for local communities and businesses.

I believe it is important that any future proposals are subject to meaningful public consultation and that the views of those who depend on the crossings every day continue to be fully considered.

I commend this report to the Town Council for information.

Cllr Keith Johnson

Saltash Tamar