

The Department

Two Units handle planning issues within the District:

Planning Policy –

- Responsible for Planning Policies, the District Local Plan, and overall architectural, urban and landscape design advice.

Development Control –

- Registering and processing of planning applications, handling of Appeals, enforcement, and countryside issues.

How to contact us

The Planning reception is located on the 4th Floor of the Civic Centre, North Walk, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1EA.

The reception is open Mon – Fri between 9:00 – 13:00, and 13:30 – 16:45.

You can also contact us by telephone:

Planning switchboard – 01271 388288.

Council switchboard – 01271 327711.

Each Planning Officer has a direct dial telephone number. These are detailed opposite.

You can contact us by fax:

Planning fax – 01271 388293.

Main Council fax – 01271 388451

Contact by e-mail:

planning@northdevon.gov.uk

enforcement@northdevon.gov.uk

Via the web site:

www.northdevon.gov.uk

We also hold planning ‘surgeries’ on a Thursday (9:00 – 12:00) at the South Molton Community Office and Thursday (14:00 – 16:00) at the Ilfracombe Community Office.

You can just drop in to see the Planning Officer, or you can pre-book an appointment by phoning the Community Office at least 2 days beforehand.

South Molton: 01769 573302.

Ilfracombe: 01271 863601.

Planning Policy

Craig Dryden	Planning Policy Manager	01271 388392
Andrew Austen	Senior Planning Policy Officer	01271 388409
Mark Alcock	Planning Policy Assistant	01271 388409
Graham Wood	Technical Officer	01271 388302
Christopher Notley	Programme Officer	tba

Development Control

Switchboard		01271 388288
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Senior Managers

Malcolm Easton	Planning Manager
Mike Kelly	Deputy Planning Manager

Planning Officers

Alan Barnett	Lead Planning Officer (Barnstaple / Fremington)	01271 388286
Don Smith	Senior Planning Officer (B’staple / South Molton)	01271 388437
Sarah-Jane Allin	Planning Assistant	01271 388785
Emma Tucker	Planning Assistant (casual basis)	
Jean Watkins	Lead Planning Officer (South Molton)	01271 388224
David Heard	Senior Planning Officer (B’staple / South Molton)	01271 388411
Joe White	Planning Assistant	01271 388775
Keith Bines	Lead Planning Officer (Ilfracombe)	01271 388287
Graham Townsend	Planning Assistant (Ilfracombe / North Rural)	01271 388416
Bob Pedlar	Lead Planning Officer (North Rural)	01271 388438
Mary Pool	Senior Planning Officer (North Rural)	01271 388285
Roger Bagley	Planning Assistant	01271 388393

Enforcement / Countryside

Lewis Andrews	Planning Officer – Monitoring & Enforcement	01271 388879
Daniel Rance	Enforcement Officer (Barnstaple / South Molton)	01271 388348
David Cook	Enforcement Officer (Barnstaple / North Rural)	01271 388289
Andrew Tucker	Landscape & Countryside Officer	01271 388290

Support Staff

Anthony Dart	Planning Administrator	01271 388295
Planning Technicians		01271 388296
Registrations		01271 388291
Administration		01271 388292/4
Dave Smart	Customer Care Officer	01271 388329

In addition to the advice and guidance provided by the Planning staff, the Unit has information available in print form and on the Council web site. It is also possible to obtain a large amount of information from other web sites such as the following:

The Planning Portal
www.planningportal.gov.uk

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
www.odpm.gov.uk

The Planning Inspectorate
www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk

Government Information and Services
www.open.gov.uk or www.ukonline.gov.uk

Her Majesty's Stationery Office
www.hmsso.gov.uk

Dept for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
www.defra.gov.uk

Local Government Ombudsman
www.lgo.org.uk

The Countryside Agency
www.countryside.gov.uk

Devon County Council
www.devon.gov.uk

If required, appointments can be made to see a Case Officer or other Planning Officers. We like to have 2 working days notice of any request so that we can have the appropriate files available.

A Duty Officer is also available between 9:30 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 16:00 each working day to answer enquiries of a more technical nature than can be answered by the support staff.

Advice offered by Planning staff through informal discussion, particularly if it is not related to a specific application, is not binding on the Council. It is advisable to request specific advice in writing.

Tree and Countryside enquiries

Should you have any enquiries regarding trees / hedgerows, countryside landscaping, conservation, or other such planning related matters, we have an officer who can assist you, or a considerable range of information leaflets available through our reception (we hope to have this information available on the web site shortly).

This Unit also works closely with other sections of North Devon District Council and other Agencies and Government Departments, particularly regarding conservation, heritage, and considerations of biodiversity and sustainability.

Other areas of work covered by Development Control

The Planning Unit is responsible for a few areas of work which are not generally publicised. These include:

- ❑ Street / House naming and numbering. The naming and numbering of new developments is recorded through Planning, as are any changes to individual property addresses. We liaise with the Post Office Address Management Centre, utility companies, Land Registry and emergency services.
- ❑ Goods Vehicle Operator Licensing. We receive details of applications made by companies to operate or store Goods Vehicles within the District. We consider planning issues such as visual,

environmental, social impact, highway safety, etc. We liaise with the Transport Commissioner office, the County Council, other NDDC Units, and other Agencies.

Planning Unit

An information guide to Planning



Photograph by John Peacham

