

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT JANUARY 2026 -

FROM EDDC 09/01/2026: Our Repairs Team has contacted Streetscene regarding the Ash tree and requested a quote for the necessary works. Once we receive the quote, it will be reviewed by the team for consideration.

From Asst Director of Housing (Regulatory Services) 16/12/2026: This is regarding a resident's defective windows in a social housing property in Beer which has been ongoing for several years.

I just wanted to reach out to say that I have seen the below and the other emails relating to this case. My apologies, I have just come back from some time off.

I have picked this up with the team today and asked some probing questions and made some suggestions as to how we can move forward to resolve the issue for the customer. If you could allow me a couple of days to get things in order, then I will be able to provide you with a more informed and concrete update on what the plan of action is.

Thanks so much in advance for your patience

I have written to the Asst Director this week to remind him of the need to respond to me with an update on his investigation and analysis and have spoken directly with him today/ He will update me as to the outcome of their investigations within the next few days.

RESPONSE TO RESIDENT'S ENQUIRY: On 13/01/2025 I sent a councillor's referral to the Arborist's Dept EDDC regarding an unsafe tree adjacent to the Beer – Seaton Road which may, if there is a further storm, fall onto the road. I received a response today 14/01/2026 stating that the verge was the responsibility of DCC Highways so I have sent a request to DCC asking for them to investigate the unsafe tree and I have received a reply stating that an investigation will be carried out by 06/02/2026.

VACANT SOCIAL HOUSING PROPERTY IN BRANSCOMBE

Councillor Enquiry 14/01/2026: Following a conversation with the Director of Housing at Blackdown House this morning I am requesting an update on a vacant social housing property in Branscombe, namely 7 Hillside. This property has been vacant since April 2025 so for 10-months when the target date for the turnaround of empty properties into habitable rented accommodation is 70-days or just over two-months. Is there a logistical problem as to why this property has taken so long to be reconstituted i.e. repaired and renovated when there are families in the area that are desperate for family sized social housing dwellings.

Expected outcome: An update and clarification as to why 7 Hillside has been vacant for such a length of time. If the officer responding wishes me to maintain confidentiality towards

residents making enquiries about the empty social housing property providing, I know about any issues I can provide an holding response stating 'logistical issues are impacting on the time line for repairs and renovations.

Address: 7 Hillside , SEATON, EX12 3BQ.

Response from Housing: Thank you for your enquiry.

I believe this query was raised in late November 2024.

I did at the time respond that we would clear the gardens, and I will make enquiries as to whether this was completed.

Regarding, the works to the property, the property has been put forward for consideration for disposal, due to the extensive works required to the property.

I don't believe a decision has been made on this. I will see if I can get some feedback on the likely outcome, together with some timescales.

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM A RESIDENT REGARDING SUPPORT FOR HER FAMILY TO BE FOUND SUITABLE SOCIAL HOUSING IN BEER 14/01/2026

I have written to EDDC Housing Allocations Dept through a Councillor Enquiry Form to support a local mother who with two children who was brought up in Beer and is currently living in private rented accommodation in Seaton. She works in hospitality in Beer. The family is due to be evicted on 8 April. I am supporting her to be rehoused in a vacant social housing property in West Underleys close to her mother, the children's grandmother who provides direct support to her daughter and assists in childcare. The applicant is registered with Devon Home Choice.

X: I have proposed a motion to be heard at full council about whether EDDC should stop using X for its allowance in generating inappropriate sexualised images of women and children on its AI generated bot, Grok. The government is considering through Ofcom what action should be taken.

DC John Heath

14/01/2025