

What do Devon Highways  
currently do to support  
Community Resilience?

# Who are Devon Highways?

- Made up of many different teams covering variety of responsibilities:
  - Traffic Team
  - Asset Management Team
  - Neighbourhood Team
  - Services and Support Teams



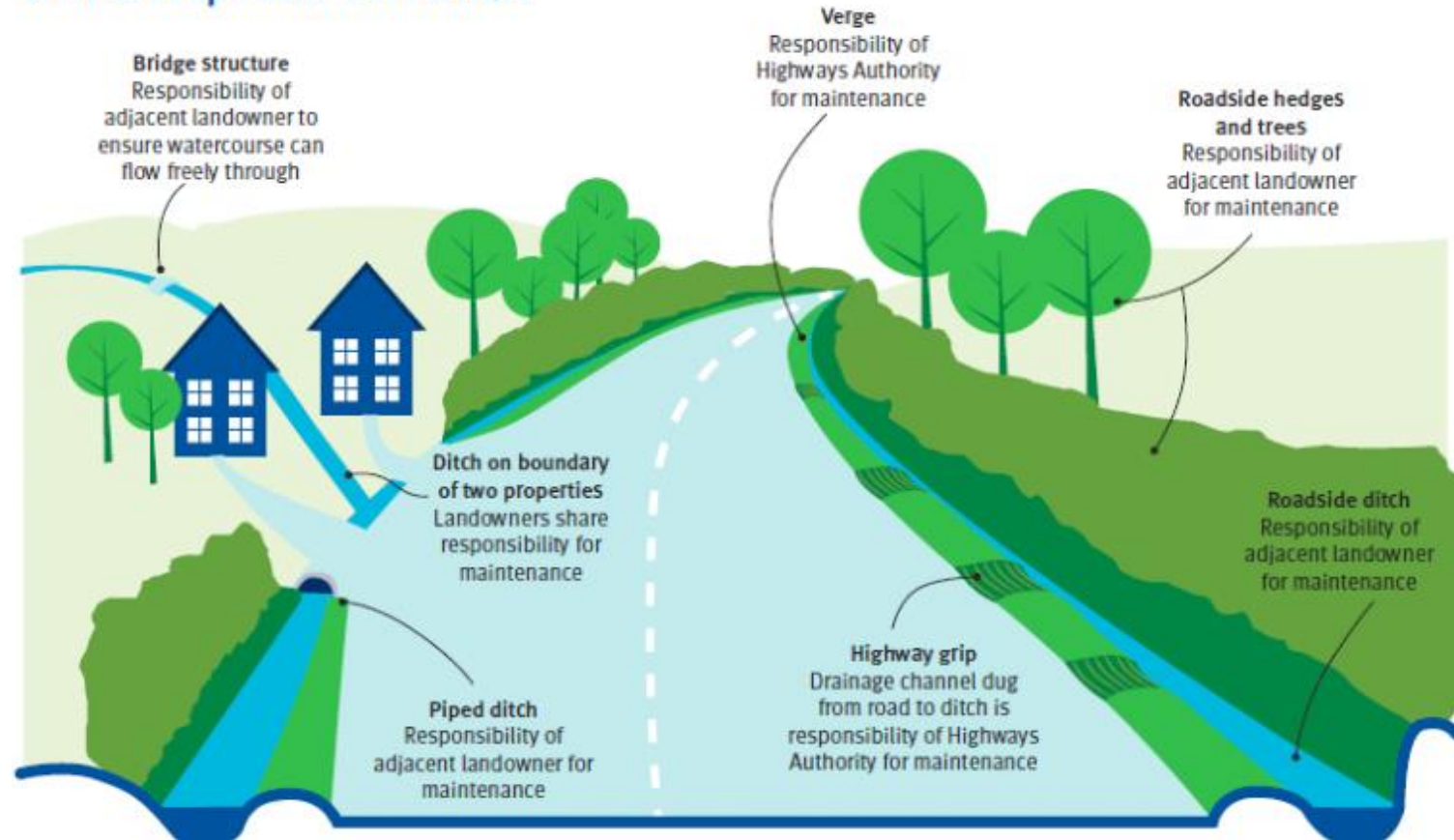
# What do we do?



- Devon Highways are responsible for maintaining over 8000 miles of road in the County along with a large number of footways, cycleways and verges. This is the largest network in England.

# Flooding & Blocked Drains

## Who is responsible for what?



# Flooding & Blocked Drains

- We are responsible for maintaining around 180,000 gullies and many more drainage features such as buddle holes, grips and easements.
- In severe weather the capacity of the drainage system can be overwhelmed by the amount of water trying to run off from the road and flooding can occur.
- In 2022 Devon Highways received 4823 reports of flooding and blocked drains. In 2023 this rose to 7836.



# What Action can we Take?



- Empty Urban gullies (within 30mph limit) with sumps at least once every 3 years
- Empty rural gullies with sumps at least once a year
- Flush gullies without sumps at least once a year
- Respond to reports of blocked drains that are causing standing water or flooding

# Other Forms of Drainage

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- We also have about 40,000 open drains or holes in the verge, hedge or bank that permit the water to drain from the road.
  - easements and 'buddle holes' – a hole or pipe that carries water through a hedge or bank
  - 'grips' – a ditch across the verges which drains water into a back ditch
  - ditches – a dug out channel adjacent to the road
- We aim to clean these systems on an annual basis in problem areas



# What Help can we offer Communities?

- Road Warden Scheme
  - A formal agreement, between Devon County Council and a town or parish council, which enables them to deliver minor works in or around the public highway.
  - DCC provide third party insurance for any works.
  - Free training on DCC arranged courses.
  - Priority status for Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund (HMCE) Fund applications.





# Further Information

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- [www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport](http://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport)
- Customer Service Centre: 345 155 1004
- County Council
- Parish/Town Council



Any Questions?

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