



Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

Issue 31. Friday 2 October 2026. Featuring: A national voice for North Northamptonshire. Major A45 clean-up removes 2.4 tonnes of roadside litter. Northamptonshire Day. Community grants.... Our Support Offer: Here to help. Get winter-ready with your flu and Covid-19 vaccinations



Top story

A national voice for North Northamptonshire

I was delighted to be appointed recently as a Vice-Chair of the [County Councils Network](#) (CCN), the national body representing England's county councils and larger unitary authorities.

As a council that delivers vital services including adult social care, children's services, public health and highways, North Northamptonshire has much in common with authorities across the network. My appointment was confirmed at the CCN Annual General Meeting, where local government leaders discussed key issues including devolution, public service reform, economic growth and council funding.

I am proud that North Northamptonshire will now have an even stronger voice in these important national discussions.

As Vice-Chair, I will work with colleagues from across the political spectrum to help shape the network's response to major policy issues and ensure councils like ours are heard when important decisions are made. This role provides an opportunity to share our experiences, learn from others and champion the needs of our residents, communities and businesses. I look forward to bringing North Northamptonshire's perspective to the national stage and helping shape the future of local government.



Latest news

Major A45 clean-up removes 2.4 tonnes of roadside litter

I am delighted by the success of a major partnership operation that removed 2.4 tonnes of litter from sections of the A45. Working alongside National Highways and Amey, council teams collected 420 bags of waste over 12 overnight shifts during August and September.

Keeping North Northamptonshire clean and tidy is a priority, and this operation demonstrates the value of partnership working. By coordinating the work with planned road closures, crews were able to safely access areas that are normally difficult to reach while minimising disruption to road users.

The volume of litter collected highlights the importance of disposing of waste responsibly. I would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work in helping to improve the appearance of this key route and protect our local environment.

The countdown is on for Northamptonshire Day 2026

Northamptonshire Day 2026 is fast approaching, with Kettering set to host a county-wide celebration of everything that makes Northamptonshire special on Sunday 25 October.

The event will bring together communities from across the county for a day of heritage, culture and entertainment, with activities taking place throughout the town centre, as well as at Wicksteed Park and Kettering Leisure Village. Visitors can enjoy heritage displays, live performances, children's activities and family-friendly attractions, while heritage bus services will help connect key locations.

Food and drink lovers will be able to explore a range of local vendors on Church Walk, showcasing some of the very best produce Northamptonshire has to offer.

This year's celebrations also coincide with the full reopening of the Alfred East Gallery, providing another opportunity to enjoy one of the county's most treasured cultural attractions.

Whether you're interested in local history, looking for a great family day out, or simply want to celebrate Northamptonshire pride, there's something for everyone.

Find out more on our website: [Northamptonshire Day 2026](#).



Community matters

Community grants now open for 2026/27

Community and voluntary organisations across North Northamptonshire can now apply for grants of up to £5,000, with £90,000 available in the latest funding round.

The funding will support projects that improve residents' quality of life, increase community involvement and help deliver the council's Community, Family and Prosperity priorities.

As a council, we really value the work of community and voluntary groups, especially those that support the key themes of our [Corporate Plan](#).

Full details, eligibility criteria and the application form are available on our website:

[Community grant funding](#). For more information, please email communityfunding@northnorthants.gov.uk.

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 26 October.

Our Support Offer: Here to help

As we move into the colder months, I'd like to remind colleagues and residents about the help available through our [Support Offer](#).

Whether it's advice on energy costs, financial support, housing, health and wellbeing, or other services, our Support Offer brings together a wide range of information in one place.

I encourage anyone who may need support, or who knows someone who does, to take a look.

Get winter-ready with your flu and Covid-19 vaccinations

The NHS mobile vaccination unit will be visiting locations across North Northamptonshire throughout October, including Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough, making it quick and convenient for eligible residents to get vaccinated. No appointment is needed.

Please visit our website to check your eligibility and find details of mobile and walk-in clinics: [Winter flu and Covid-19 vaccination campaign](#). Alternatively, you can speak to your GP practice or local pharmacy for more information.

Vaccinations remain one of the most effective ways to protect yourself and others from serious illness during the winter months.



Your Voice Matters

View and respond to current consultations, and take part in engagement surveys and discussions

- [Children and Young People Long-Term Condition Survey](#) – Closes 23 October 2026.
- [Wilbarston Neighbourhood Plan: Regulation 16 Consultation](#) – Closes 28 October 2026.
- [Little Addington Neighbourhood Plan: Regulation 16 Consultation](#) – Closes 13 November 2026.
- [We want to hear about your views on Day Opportunities for Adult Social Care users](#) – Closes 22 November 2026.

Please visit the [Your Voice Matters](#) hub for further information.

Please share with family, friends, or others in your networks who may be interested in contributing their views.



More to explore

Keep up to date with our latest press releases

- [Home is where the art is... Alfred East Gallery set to fully re-open](#)
- [Discover Northamptonshire Tourism Conference to supercharge Visitor Economy](#)
- [The Quit Hub launches ahead of Stoptober to help North Northamptonshire residents quit smoking](#)
- [New suicide prevention bench unveiled at the Embankment, Wellingborough](#)
- [Join the autumn book bingo challenge](#)

View all council news and updates on our website at: [News](#).



Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to read my newsletter. If you have any questions, please email executive@northnorthants.gov.uk.

Kind regards,

Cllr Martin Griffiths

Leader of the Council



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