



# Town & Parish Briefing

Edition 9 | 10 January 2023



## People urged to have a say on budget

*Cllr Malcolm Longley, Cabinet Member for Finance*

We are asking people to have their say on how our Council has balanced its budget amid continuing financial pressures.

The Council initially faced a predicted budget shortfall of almost £60 million for the next financial year due to a range of factors including high inflation, which is driving up running costs, and a significant increase in service demand.

Our Cabinet has proposed a range of saving and efficiency proposals which will allow the Council to meet that shortfall, while protecting vital frontline services, including:

- Increasing fees and charges for services such as garden waste collections and car parking, aligning them with the national average to fairly reflect today's operating costs, and allowing the Council to meet the demand in critical services protecting vulnerable adults and children.
- Reviewing services to make them more efficient while saving hundreds of thousands of pounds. The proposals include reviewing the policy, processes and systems for the Home to School Transport service to reduce running costs, and the introduction of three-weekly bin collections in South Northants and some parts of Northampton, to bring it in line with the Daventry area.
- Raising Council Tax by 4.99%, in line with the Government's allowance, generating additional funding of around £11.5 million - with 2% of the increase going towards adult social care.
- Restructuring service areas within the organisation and introducing new, more efficient ways of working to make back office savings without impacting on how services are delivered to residents.
- Investing significant extra funding to meet the increasing demand for adult and children's services, providing more cost effective and better preventative care for vulnerable residents.

During the next financial year we plan to carry out a capital investment programme of more than £12.2 million to improve local roads, and public health funding will be used to improve residents' wellbeing, reduce health inequalities and support communities through this period of high inflation.

We will also continue to drive economic growth in West Northants, with further progress expected on the multi-million-pound regeneration of Northampton through the Government's Towns Fund.

The challenge of bridging the £60 million funding gap left us with some very tough decisions, so we have produced a set of proposals that address the pressures we are under, while allowing us to continue to protect the most vulnerable in our society, and deliver services to residents across our communities.

### How to provide feedback on our proposals

The quickest and easiest way for most people to have their say is to [complete the survey on our Consultation Hub](#)

Those without access to the internet can complete the online survey for free at libraries across West Northants. Alternatively, people can request a copy in another format by emailing [haveyoursay@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@westnorthants.gov.uk) or by phoning 0300 126 7000.

We are promoting the consultation on our website and across our social media channels, so you can help us by sharing those messages across your own channels.



# Exceeding transformation target for taxpayers

*Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of the Council*

I am proud of the good progress we have made in our first two years towards transforming and improving public services for our residents, so it is great to see that we are on course to exceed our targets for making efficiencies and savings, as part of the local government reform programme.

A [report which went before our Cabinet in December](#) highlighted how our new unitary authority has exceeded the original savings target we inherited when replacing the former Daventry, Northampton, South Northants and County councils on 1 April 2021.

Savings of £84m were estimated from merging the eight councils across Northamptonshire into two new single-tier authorities, with £49m of these delivered before the abolition of the legacy councils prior to vesting day.

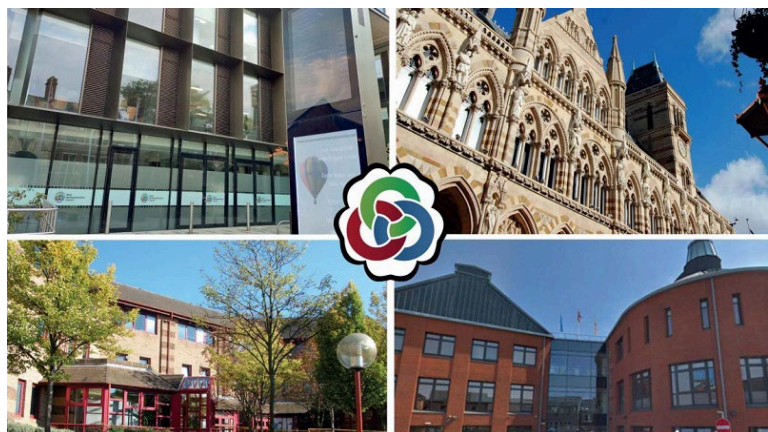
This left our Council and our neighbouring new authority North Northants Council a requirement to deliver the remaining savings of £17.5m each in our first few years.

The figures shared at the Cabinet meeting show we are on course to have exceeded these savings by the end of 2025/26, including an additional £16.4m as part of the transformation journey to bring together and improve services from the four legacy councils.

Since being established less than two years ago the Council has faced significant challenges, bringing together multiple systems, processes, service functions and finances across 3,000 staff, 800 systems, four main office buildings and thousands of inherited contracts. Ongoing work to transform and improve services, as well as identifying savings and efficiencies, is based around the following themes:

- Looking at where services can be reorganised or shared and internal departments working more closely together to reduce resource and operating costs and improve service
- Investing in 'preventative' services to reduce or slow demand for other services and reduce costs
- Exploring ways of buying services differently and reviewing and combining contracts from the legacy councils to save money
- Aligning fees and charges originally set by the old councils, generating new income streams and accessing external grants and funding
- Bringing IT systems together and using digital innovation and automation to reduce service costs
- Centralising back office systems and processes to making them more efficient, benchmarking them against best practice and looking at national policies that enable the capitalisation of costs or use of grants.

We know there is still more work to do, and this is all being done against the backdrop of continued challenges around the cost of living, inflation, and financial pressures resulting from the rise in demand for services. However we have made a strong start, as we continue to build upon our clear vision for making West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive.



## Police, fire and crime budget consultation

The Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold has launched a consultation on the level of council tax precept for policing and fire and rescue services in the county next year

For policing, there is a proposed increase of £15 a year for an average Band D household – 5.3% or 29p a week. For fire and rescue, the proposed increased is £5 a year for an average Band D household – 7.3% or 10p a week. People can have their say until 4pm on 17 January by [completing the online survey](#)

# Bus fares reduced as part of national scheme

*Cllr Phil Larratt, Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport, Highways and Waste*

Many bus fares across West Northamptonshire are being reduced for the first three months of this year as part of a Government's scheme to provide more affordable public transport.

Operators including Stagecoach and Uno have capped single fares at £2 from this month through to the end of the March.

This will mean a reduction of more than 60 per cent in the cost of the fare on the longest routes.

The scheme seeks to get more people to travel by buses and help to reduce emissions by taking an estimated 2 million cars off the roads during this period.

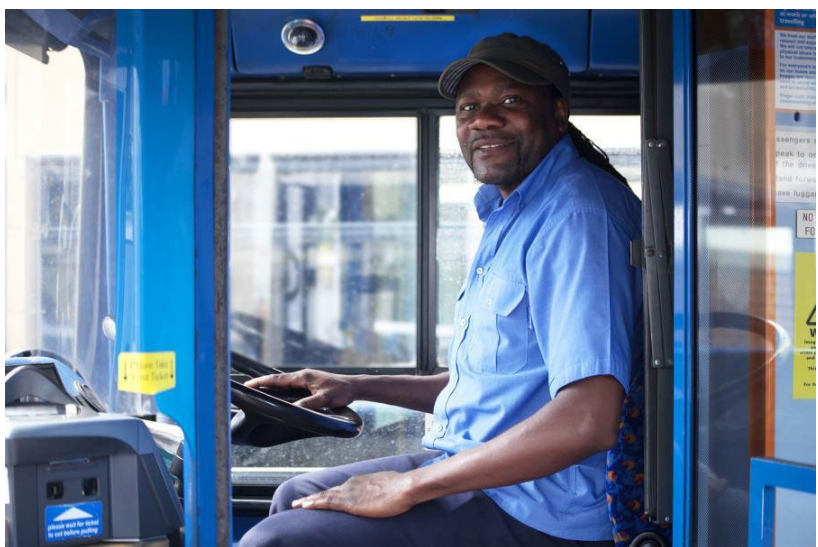
We welcome this initiative in West Northamptonshire, and hope that it will encourage more people across the area to make the most of bus services during the first three months of 2023 at this fantastically reduced rate.

At a time when costs are impacted by inflation, the bus industry has faced a challenging time.

Not only will the discounted fares enable people to save money it will help to reduce emissions across the area, supporting our objective of West Northants becoming net zero.

The bus operators who have confirmed they are participating in the scheme across West Northamptonshire include:

- Arriva the Shires
- Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council (The Village Hopper service)
- Stagecoach East
- Stagecoach Midlands
- Stagecoach West
- Uno Bus



# Survey seeks to review support for carers

Our Council is working with the NHS, North Northamptonshire Council and voluntary sector organisations to support carers of people with a learning disability and/or autism in a more joined-up way.

To do this, feedback is sought from carers to understand the service provision needed to better meet the needs of those with a learning disability and/or Autism, to help shape future plans for services going forwards.

The survey asks unpaid carers in Northamptonshire with lived experience of caring for a loved-one with a learning disability and/or autism to share their views on what support they feel they need or what would help carers planning in the future.

It is really important that we hear people's views to ensure we better understand needs and highlight opportunities for more integrated ways of working between services and organisations.

[Please encourage people to complete the survey by 31 January here](#)

# Fly-tipping scheme to help private landowners

*Cllr David Smith, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Engagement, and Regulatory Services*

We would like to call on Town and Parish Councils to help us raise the profile of a funding scheme to help private landowners tackle fly-tipping.



As you will be aware, when fly-tipping takes place on public land, the taxpayer pays for the removal and disposal of the waste. However, if a fly-tip occurs on private land, the landowner pays for the clean-up and removal.

Under this scheme, landowners across West Northamptonshire can apply for funding to clear and prevent fly-tipping on their land.

The scheme was initially launched as a pilot last year by Stephen Mold, the Police, Fire, and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire, and was extended in October for a further 12 months.

Private landowners are able to apply for a grant of up to £1,500 towards the cost of having the fly-tipped waste cleared away and to support them in establishing prevention measures which will make the land less vulnerable to fly-tippers in the future. Funding is only available for private landowners who are unable to access other sources of public funding.

Town and Parish Councils are not eligible to receive funding, however I would like to encourage you to share information about this funding with private landowners in your local area.

[Apply for a grant to remove fly-tipping on private land](#)

# New Partnership will help with event planning

Is your council planning an event this year? Please ensure you make good use of the Event Safety Partnership (ESP), set up by our Council in consultation with colleagues at the police, fire and rescue and East Midlands Ambulance Service.

The ESP receives applications for events on behalf of all partners and deposits the information on Resilience Direct – a secure repository that blue light services and selected Council colleagues can access.

Our Council has a duty of care to ensure that any events held on our land are compliant with current legislation but above all are safe and legal. Any event that is not on our land but in the WNC catchment area will still be subject to scrutiny from partners, for example:

- Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue service will want to see a risk assessment for anything fire or firework related
- Environmental Health will want to inspect catering outlets, inflatables and fairground rides
- Licensing will ensure people have the correct licensing arrangements in place
- The police joint operation team will want to know about large gatherings of people so they can allocate resource effectively

The ESP is also able to advise on anything event related, so groups planning an event can be provided with templates and guidance for event management plans, risk assessments, food safety, inflatables, counter terrorism and more.

If you or groups in your area are planning an event, you can [access support by completing the application form here](#) The partnership can also be contacted on [esp@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:esp@westnorthants.gov.uk)

# Armed Forces Covenant support for Warm Spaces

Warm Spaces across West Northamptonshire have been issued with an Armed Forces Resource Pack, thanks to our Armed Forces Covenant.



The pack includes information, guidance and contact details for a range of Armed Forces support partners across Northamptonshire, including the Department for Work and Pensions, Veterans Community Network, SSAFA (Soldiers', Sailors' & Airmen's Families Association) and Project Nova, to name just a few.

We would like to thank Town and Parish Councils which have come forward to provide Warm Spaces, offering safe and welcoming places where people in West Northamptonshire can come together to stay warm, and perhaps enjoy a hot meal or a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Members of the Armed Forces community in need of some advice – or anyone else who would benefit from a Warm Space - can find out more details on the locations and opening times of our Warm Spaces using the [directory on our website](#)

For more information on the support available to the Armed Forces Community in Northamptonshire, please contact [Covenant.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Covenant.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk)

Town and Parish Councils, and any Community or voluntary organisations who would like to receive one of the resource packs, are also encouraged to email the team.

## Community Hub dates for 2023 are released

The Armed Forces Covenant Northamptonshire have now finalised the dates and locations for their [Armed Forces Community Hubs for the first quarter of 2023](#)

The Community Hubs are an informal and welcoming space for any members of the Armed Forces community - they are a great source of advice and support, as well as being a friendly place to go for a chat.

There is no need for people to pre-book, just drop in to one of the locations on the date listed and say hello to one of the friendly team.

If you feel your town or parish area could benefit from a drop-in hub, or if you would like any further information, please contact [Covenant.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Covenant.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk)

## Marking Holocaust Memorial Day in our area

Our Council will mark [Holocaust Memorial Day](#) on Friday, 27 January, as we remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi persecution and in the genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

The theme of the event this year is 'Ordinary People', highlighting that those who are persecuted have committed no crime, but are persecuted simply because they are ordinary people who belong to a particular group.

To mark the day community groups and dignitaries will come together for a ceremony at the Guildhall in Northampton from 1pm to 2.30pm. Residents are invited to commemorate the day through a minute of silence at 11am.

# Boxing club is fighting back thanks to grant

*Cllr David Smith, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Engagement, and Regulatory Services*



A boxing academy which gives focus to challenging young people is fighting on thanks to a helping hand from our Council.

The Weedon Boxing Academy, based in the village's historic Royal Ordnance Depot, has a 20-year-long track record of providing young men and women a safe place to train and learn the discipline around boxing.

Like many sports clubs and voluntary sector organisations, the club went through a bit of a challenging time during lockdown, but I was very pleased to help facilitate a £1,000 Councillor Covid Support Fund grant, which paid for some much needed equipment.

You can [watch a video about the club on the Council's YouTube channel](#)

Since the launch of the Councillor Covid Support Fund, our members have made more than 300 awards to local voluntary and community groups across West Northants, to the value of £170,000.

Town and Parish Councils can learn more about the funding available to voluntary and community groups on our [Community Funding Grants page](#)

# Launch of Inspirational Women Awards

Women who are the cornerstone of West Northamptonshire communities and businesses are to be recognised in the 11th Inspirational Women Awards.

Organised by our Council's Women's Forum, the awards aim to publicly recognise and promote those women who inspire and have a real impact on the lives of others in the community or the workplace.

Members of the public are being asked to get their thinking caps on and nominate women in their lives who inspire them.

There are two categories for the 2023 awards:

- Business Award
- Community Award



Nominations close on Monday, 6 February 2023, with the shortlisted finalists being announced in the week beginning 20 February 2023.

The awards will be presented at the International Women's Day event at the Guildhall on Saturday, 4 March 2023. International Women's Day falls on 8 March every year, and this year's theme is #EmbraceEquity.

[Nominate an Inspirational Woman](#)

# New Winter Wellbeing support available

*Cllr Matt Golby, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health*

We have launched a new Winter Wellbeing webpage, bringing together local advice, top tips and guidance to help people stay safe and healthy over the winter period.

The page, at [westnorthants.gov.uk/winter-wellbeing](https://westnorthants.gov.uk/winter-wellbeing) includes a range of information to help people look after themselves and those around them, from tips on eating and sleeping well, to hand hygiene, keeping the bugs at bay and reducing falls

It also includes advice for people setting goals and achievements for the New Year – whether it be to stop smoking, move more or improve their mental wellbeing.

We know the winter months can present some tough challenges for people, looking after their health and wellbeing as viruses spread, and financial pressures increase. This, combined with the fact that the festive season can be difficult and lonely time for many, meaning it's often easy to neglect our own personal wellbeing.

We want residents to know that they are not alone and there is a brilliant range of cost of living and mental health and wellbeing support in West Northamptonshire on offer, to help our residents through these difficult times.

Often, one of the challenges is finding this support and we hope that this webpage, where we have brought everything together in one place, will help.

Please visit [westnorthants.gov.uk/winter-wellbeing](https://westnorthants.gov.uk/winter-wellbeing) and follow our new Wellbeing social media accounts on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)



## Say hello to our customer service team

*Cllr Mike Hallam, Cabinet Member for HR & Corporate Services*

Our Customer Service Teams visit locations across West Northamptonshire on a monthly basis, offering advice and guidance to residents on a range of issues.

The locations are being expanded all the time, with a new hub taking place in Crick on 19 January.

We are grateful for your support in promoting these events to residents, but Town and Parish Council Clerks, and your local councillors, are also very welcome to attend for help with any casework or other queries you may have.

### Sessions coming up over the next month include:

- **Brackley Library** (Manor Road, NN13 6AJ): Fri 27 Jan from 10am to midday.
- **Crick Old School** (Church Street, NN6 7TP) Thurs 19 Jan from 10.30am to 12.30pm.
- **Doddridge Centre** (109 St James Road, NN5 5LD) Weds 11 Jan from 3-5pm
- **Hunsbury Library** (Overslade Close, Northampton, NN4 0RZ): Thurs 12 Jan 1-4pm.
- **Moulton Library Plus** (Moulton Reedings, NN3 7AX): Fri 27 Jan from 10am to midday.
- **Weston Favell Library** (Weston Favell Centre, NN3 8JZ): Fri 20 Jan from 12.30pm to 3pm.

[View listings for all of the drop-in sessions on our website](#)

# Further advice to keep winter illnesses at bay



Residents are being urged to take some simple yet crucial steps to protect themselves, families and friends from an increased risk of flu, Covid-19 and Scarlet Fever currently circulating communities across Northamptonshire.

Winter illnesses are continuing to spread countywide following the Christmas break, with local health services under significant pressure due to a rising demand for emergency care.

Public Health officials at West and North Northamptonshire Councils are encouraging residents to follow national health guidance help reduce the risk of infection by taking the following steps:

- They may seem obvious, but the simplest, most effective ways to avoid catching and spreading viruses is regular handwashing and covering your nose or mouth when you sneeze or cough. [Wash hands thoroughly](#) with soap using running water then dry them.
- If your child is unwell and has a fever, you are advised to keep them at home until the fever has passed and they feel better. During this time your child should avoid attending school, nursery, a childminder or having contact with any other person outside the household.
- If you are feeling unwell and have a high temperature and do not feel well enough to carry out normal activities, try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people, until you no longer have a high temperature (if you had one) or until you no longer feel unwell.
- If you have been asked to attend a hospital, GP or dental appointment in person, contact your healthcare provider and let them know about your symptoms before attending. Please do not attend a high-risk setting such as a care home or nursing home until you no longer feel unwell.
- If a person needs to leave the house whilst they are unwell, UKHSA recommends a face covering is worn at all times to help reduce the spread of infections. Read further [advice on the guidance for people with symptoms of a respiratory infection or a positive test result](#)
- Vaccination is the best protection against any avoidable illness such as [Flu](#) or [COVID-19](#) and residents are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated if eligible. Children are also eligible for a free flu vaccination including those aged 2 and 3 (*on 31 August 2022*), all primary school-aged children and some secondary school-aged children. Find out [more information on getting your child vaccinated against the Flu](#)



Anyone with a health concern that is not an emergency, is urged to seek advice from NHS 111 in the first instance and consider all options before attending A&E.

Further information on symptoms and advice can be found on the links below:

- [Scarlet Fever](#)
- [Flu](#)
- [COVID-19](#)



# Council successful in securing £5.4m funding

*Cllr Dan Lister, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Town Centre Regeneration and Growth*

Our Council has been granted more than £5.4m in funding from the Government to boost the local economy over the next three years.

The funding, provided by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), is the largest allocation in the South East Midlands and will be used to improve people's life chances, increase skills, create stronger communities, and support local businesses.

We [submitted our investment plan back in September](#) and this was subject to a robust consultation process which involved engaging with stakeholders to identify priority areas that would benefit most from a share of the funding.

Some expected outcomes from the funding include:

- New and improved cycleways and paths, resulting in increased active travel
- Funding for volunteer and social action projects
- Measures to reduce the cost of living, improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change
- Decarbonisation and improving the natural environment
- Support for new business start-ups and continued support at all stages of development
- Driving employment growth, with tailored support and training to help people into work.

An additional £1.9m has been secured as multiply funding, which is specifically targeted at improving adult numeracy to advance people's chances of progressing their careers.

We have also been allocated a further £1.367m from the Government under the Rural England Prosperity Fund, which is a top-up of the UKSPF and aims to support small business and community infrastructure specifically in rural areas.

Final approval for this element of funding is expected in the New Year, with funded programmes to commence in April 2023.



## Real Christmas trees are being collected

Our waste and recycling crews will be collecting real Christmas trees between 9 and 20 January.



Residents in the Daventry and South Northants areas should put real Christmas trees out on the day that garden waste is due to be collected in their area. You do not need to be a garden waste service subscriber to take advantage of this service.

In the Northampton area, real trees should be put out next to recycling bins, and those on sack collections can present trees beside their recycling boxes and green sacks on their collection day.

People are asked to ensure that all decorations are removed, and that any trees over 6ft tall are cut in half, so they will fit into the lorries safely.

Garden waste subscribers are also reminded that the service will resume from the week beginning 6 January, following the Christmas break.

# Fresh campaign to promote debate not hate

*Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of the Council*

As local councils, we are at the centre of local democracy, and I am sure all of my fellow councillors at Town and Parish Councils across West Northamptonshire will agree - it is a privilege and responsibility to be elected to public office.

As you will be aware, the vulnerability of elected representatives has been at the forefront of the political sphere in recent years with high profile incidents like the murders of Jo Cox MP and Sir David Amess MP.

The most recent Local Government Association Councillor Census revealed 7 in 10 councillors reported experiencing abuse and intimidation within the last 12 months and one in 10 experienced abuse frequently.

Rights to object and constructive challenge are both key components of democracy, and on the whole we receive fantastic levels of support from our communities.

However, it cannot be ignored that increasing levels of toxicity in public and political discourse is having a detrimental impact of local democracy and that prevention, support and responses to abuse and intimidation of local politicians must improve to ensure councillors feel safe and able to continue representing their residents.

That is why I was very pleased recently [to add my signature to the Local Government Association's Debate Not Hate campaign](#)

This campaign aims to raise public awareness of the role of councillors in local communities, encourage healthy debate and improve the response to and support those in public life facing abuse and intimidation.

By signing up to it, we agree to challenge the normalisation of abuse against councillors and officers and uphold exemplary standards of public and political debate in all it does.

I would like to encourage all of you to [sign-up to the campaign by visiting the LGA website](#)

The [website includes a toolkit for councillors](#), featuring email footers, posters, social media assets and even a virtual meeting background, so you can help share the message with others.

It also includes the [LGA's rule of engagement](#) and other resources to help us promote the principles of healthy and respectful debate in our interactions with the public and council colleagues.

Please join me in standing up against abuse and working to promote positive, constructive public and political debate within our communities.



# Strong demand for electric vehicle charge point



An electric vehicle charge point installed in Welford is experiencing a strong increase in demand.

In the last three months the unit charged more than twice the number of vehicles it charged in its first three months of operation.

It was installed in West Street in July as part of our Council's ongoing work to support more sustainable modes of transport.

The project was delivered in partnership with Connected Kerb with help from a grant from the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles through the On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme. Find out [more information about electric car charging units in West Northamptonshire](#)

# Thank you for your ongoing support

Thank you for taking the time to read this latest edition of the Town and Parish Briefing, bringing you a round-up of news, activities and information about West Northamptonshire Council.

We hope you found this briefing informative, and we encourage you to share it widely within your organisations. You are also welcome to share any of the information contained within this briefing with local residents.

Do you have a story to share with us and your fellow parish and town councils? We would welcome your submissions for future editions.

Perhaps you would like to highlight an innovation that has proved particularly beneficial? Shine the spotlight on a new scheme you are developing? Or share news and photos from an event you have organised?

If you have ideas and suggestions for future content, please email us at [communications@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westnorthants.gov.uk)

We have also launched a new e-newsletter with the aim of keeping residents informed of news and updates about our Council.

Issued fortnightly, the newsletter sits alongside our other key communications channels to keep people informed about the services we provide, from bin collections to highways, environmental health to housing, schools and education, to health and wellbeing.

People can [sign-up via our online subscription portal](#)



## This week

### Tuesday 10 January

1pm – West Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Board

5pm – Northampton Local Area Planning Committee

### Wednesday 11 January

1pm – Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

### Thursday 12 January

2.15pm – South Northamptonshire Local Area Planning Committee

6pm – Democracy and Standards Committee

## Next week

### Monday 16 January

6pm – Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee

## Dates for your diary

### January's meeting schedule

[View the meeting calendar in full online](#)

### Tuesday 17 January

6pm – Cabinet

### Wednesday 18 January

2pm – West Shared Services Joint Committee

## Later this month

### Monday 23 January

2pm – Strategic Planning Committee

### Wednesday 25 January

6pm – Audit and Governance Committee

### Thursday 26 January

2pm – Local Pension Board

6pm – Full Council

### Monday 30 January

6pm - Co-ordinating Scrutiny and Overview Group

### Tuesday 31 January

6pm – Planning Policy Committee

# Our Council in the news

Here's a roundup of the news releases and updates published by our Council during December.

Don't forget you can keep up-to-date with these and search the news archive by [visiting the News section of our website](#). You can also [sign-up to receive our newsletter](#)

## In the past month, we issued press releases on:

- [A group of professional dog walkers invited to talks over new rules](#) – Dec 1
- [Exceptional numeracy course providers sought](#) – Dec 2
- [Showcase event demonstrates how digital technology can be used to improve lives](#) – Dec 2
- [West Northamptonshire Council sets out to tackle environmental crime](#) – Dec 5
- [Sepsis awareness this winter](#) – Dec 5
- [Highways contract sees improvements in West Northamptonshire's communities](#) – Dec 6
- [Partners come together to create a bright future for Northampton](#) – Dec 7
- [Plans to recommission and procure new contracts for Care Quality Commission \(CQC\)](#) – Dec 7
- [Northampton Museum and Arts Gallery regains Arts Council accreditation](#) – Dec 8
- [Homes for Ukraine 'thank you' payment increased to £550](#) – Dec 8
- [New 'Ranges' for children and young people with SEND](#) – Dec 12
- [West Northants successful in securing £5.4m funding from UK Shared Prosperity Fund](#) – Dec 13
- [Council seeks views on draft 2023/24 budget proposals published today](#) – Dec 13
- [Council exceeds transformation target for taxpayers](#) – Dec 13
- [Councillors to discuss proposed changes to housing rents in Northampton](#) – Dec 13
- [Explore West Northants app gets Christmas makeover](#) – Dec 14
- [West Northants Council Launches Winter Wellbeing Webpage](#) – Dec 15
- [Residents urged to stay warm in one of our Warm Spaces this winter](#) – Dec 16
- [Boxing academy fighting back after Covid-19](#) – Dec 16
- [More Northampton fly-tippers ordered to pay total of £4,560](#) – Dec 16
- [Vulcan Works prepares for 2023 opening](#) – Dec 19
- [Calling all unpaid carers: Learning Disability & Autism: Review of Carers Support](#) – Dec 19
- [Reminder of Christmas arrangements across West Northants](#) – Dec 19
- [Your checklist to food safety this Christmas](#) – Dec 20