



Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

Issue 14. Friday 6 February 2026. Featuring: An update on childhood cancer rates in Corby. Potholes – A long-term issue requiring long-term solutions, investment and innovation. And more...

Top story

An update on childhood cancer rates in Corby

I understand how deeply worrying it has been for families in Corby who have had concerns about childhood cancer, and I want to thank those residents who spoke up and shared their experiences.

Your voices mattered and helped ensure these concerns were taken seriously.

Two independent analyses have now been completed, and both found no evidence that childhood cancer rates in Corby are higher than elsewhere locally or nationally. These findings have been carefully reviewed by national health experts and will be reassuring for many families. We have published the full findings on our website so residents can see the evidence for themselves: [Analyses of childhood cancers in Corby](#).

We will always take concerns about public health seriously, and I want to reassure residents that we remain committed to being open, listening carefully, and responding with clear, independently verified information.

Latest news

Potholes – A long-term issue requiring long-term solutions, investment and innovation

Earlier this week, Councillor Chris McGiffen, Executive Member for Highways and Travel, spoke to BBC Radio Northampton about the ongoing challenge of potholes across the county.

Councillor McGiffen explained that potholes are a long-term issue that requires long-term solutions, sustained investment and innovation.

He highlighted that Northamptonshire faces a particular geological challenge, with large areas of soft clay making roads more vulnerable to damage and deterioration.

Councillor McGiffen also drew attention to the fact that years of under-investment, along with increasing levels of traffic, have put extra pressure on the road network. While the council is continuing to prioritise repairs and maintenance, he acknowledged that tackling potholes properly and at scale would need significant, long-term funding.

Listen to the full interview on [BBC Sounds - Annabel Amos - 4 February 2026](#) (from 2:09:11).

To report a defect:

Please use North Northamptonshire Council's [Highways Online Reporting Tool](#) (HORT) instead of a third-party app like FixMyStreet.

HORT has several advantages:

- Reports go straight to the Highways Team.
- Easy to use – Pinpoint the exact location with what3words, drop a pin on the map and upload photos.
- Track progress updates on your report.
- Report a wide range of issues, including potholes, drainage problems, broken streetlights, damaged signs, traffic light faults and more.

To report an emergency such as flooding, fallen branches or trees, or sinkholes:

Please call us so we can investigate immediately:

- 0300 126 3000 – 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.
- 01604 651074 – Outside of office hours.

Together, we can help keep North Northamptonshire's roads safe.

Consultation on proposed vehicle gating for Hillside Road, Little Harrowden

A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is a legal power under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 that enables councils to introduce restrictions in specific public areas to prevent anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.

The Council, working with Northamptonshire Police, is proposing a PSPO for Hillside Road, Little Harrowden, Wellingborough. The road runs parallel to Kettering Road (A509) and has been affected by fly-tipping, littering, anti-social behaviour and crime.

The proposed PSPO would be in place for three years. It would authorise the installation of vehicle restriction barrier gates and prohibit certain activities within the area to help reduce crime and disorder.

You can view the survey and have your say online via the [Gating PSPO](#) consultation.

Responses must be submitted by 1 March 2026.

Landlord Forum – Free event for local landlords

The Council is inviting local landlords to our Landlord Forum – an event offering practical advice, updates and opportunities to connect with fellow landlords and council housing teams.

The forum will include guidance on the Renters' Rights Act, alongside discussion and shared experiences for both new and experienced landlords.

The event will take place from 7pm to 9pm on Monday 23 March in the Council Chamber at The Cube in Corby.

Attendance is free but advance booking is required via: [Eventbrite – Landlord Forum](#).

For further information, please email privatesectorhousing@northnorthants.gov.uk.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Watch upcoming Executive and Full Council meetings

You can watch upcoming Executive and Full Council meetings live or on catch-up on our official [Democratic Services YouTube](#) channel.

Meeting dates, agendas and papers are available on our [ModernGov](#) meetings portal, where you can also browse upcoming sessions.

Upcoming sessions:

- **Budget Executive:** Tuesday 10 February from 10am.
- **Executive:** Tuesday 17 February from 10am.
- **Budget Council:** Thursday 19 February from 10am.



Community matters

Something for everyone at our leisure facilities

The Council has launched a new campaign to encourage residents to enjoy the wide range of activities available at local leisure facilities year-round.

The campaign highlights inclusive options for all ages and abilities, including walking sports.

Information is being shared across council channels and leisure venues to help more people get involved.

Please visit our website to find a local group or venue: [Walking sports](#).

Keeping children active this February half-term

This February half-term (Monday 16 to Friday 20 February), families across North Northamptonshire can enjoy a wide range of fun and active opportunities for children of all ages.

Activities include swimming, giant inflatables, sports, holiday camps and outdoor adventures.

One-to-one intensive swimming lessons will be available at local pools, helping children build confidence and essential life skills.

View the full programme and book online at: [Half term for children](#).

Global Community Engagement Day – Listening, learning and working together

The Council recently marked Global Community Engagement Day, recognising the vital role local communities play in shaping council services.

True engagement is about listening, learning and working together to build a stronger North Northamptonshire.

Thank you to all residents, partners and organisations who have shared their views.

Community voices help improve services and ensure we focus on what matters most to local people.

We remain committed to strengthening these partnerships and meaningful engagement in the year ahead.



Your Voice Matters

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

- [Raunds and Stanwick Children and Young People Activity Survey](#) - Closes 13 February 2026.
- [North Northamptonshire's Empty Homes Strategy](#) - Closes 1 March 2026.
- **NEW:** [Potential Tree Removal: 65 Roche Way, Wellingborough](#) - Closes 1 March 2026.

View all consultations and engagement activities online at: [Your Voice Matters](#).



More to explore

Stay informed with our latest press releases

- [A43 road safety improvements undertaken near Easton-on-the-Hill](#)
- [A boost for local biodiversity: North Northants Council secures grant funding for hundreds of new trees](#)
- [Innovative project to improve access to council information](#)
- [Council offers free family Xplorer events – diary dates for parents and carers](#)
- [New analyses find no evidence of higher rates of childhood cancer in Corby](#)
- [Invitation to join panel to consider school admissions](#)
- [Call for young people to help beat the criminals](#)
- [North Northants Council Leisure campaign offers something for everyone](#)

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

© North Northamptonshire Council 2026



**North
Northamptonshire
Council**