



Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

Issue 9. Friday 21 November 2025. Featuring: Festive parking arrangements. Warm spaces – Helping our communities stay warm this winter. North Northamptonshire Active Communities Awards 2025.

Top story

Festive parking arrangements in North Northamptonshire

North Northamptonshire Council is helping residents enjoy the festive season and support our local high streets with special parking arrangements.

Parking will be free in all Council pay-and-display car parks in Kettering and Corby town centres (excluding Corby railway station car park) on Saturday 6, Saturday 13 and Saturday 20 December.

The Commercial Way multi-storey car park in Wellingborough will remain open until 10pm from Monday 1 December through to the end of the pantomime season at the Castle Theatre.

Parking arrangements remain unchanged in all other car parks across North Northamptonshire.

Latest news

Warm spaces – Helping our communities stay warm this winter

This winter, the Council is coordinating a network of warm spaces to support anyone struggling to heat their home. Community groups, voluntary organisations and other not-for-profit partners are opening their doors to provide a safe, welcoming place to keep warm, enjoy a hot drink, and connect with others.

- [Find a warm space](#): View locations on our Support Offer page.
- [Register a warm space](#): Do you have a community building that could help? Join the initiative and make a difference.

If you know someone who might benefit but doesn't have internet access, please share details of their nearest warm space.

North Northamptonshire Active Communities Awards 2025

North Northamptonshire Council proudly hosted the annual Active Communities Awards this week.

The awards reflect the incredible dedication and passion within our communities, from grassroots sport and community-based physical activities to elite athletes.

They celebrate the power of movement and sport to bring people together, improve wellbeing, and create opportunities for everyone, regardless of age or ability.

Congratulations to all nominees and winners - and thank you for playing a vital role in making North Northamptonshire a more active and healthier place to live.

Please visit the [Active Communities Awards](#) website for more information.

Celebrate Small Business Saturday with Hi Street

Saturday 6 December marks [Small Business Saturday](#), a national campaign that encourages everyone to shop local and support independent businesses.

North Northamptonshire Council is proud to take part through our [Hi Street! campaign](#), which will:

- Spotlight inspiring stories from local business owners.
- Run a festive giveaway on social media.
- Promote business support services, including advice and funding opportunities.

Plus, keep an eye out for our brand-new Christmas advert: "What does Christmas mean to you?" Launching in early December, it invites everyone to experience the magic of the High Street and give the gift of local.

Christmas art competition for children

The Council is inviting children to get creative by drawing or painting an A4 winter scene that features their favourite place in North Northamptonshire.

There are three age categories:

- Reception to Year 2, Year 3 to Year 6, and Year 7 to Year 11.

There will be a £20 voucher for each age category winner (£50 for the overall winner). The overall winner will also receive a framed print of their design. Winning artwork will be shared on our web page and social media channels.

Entrants must live in North Northamptonshire. The closing date for entries is Friday 5 December, with winners announced on Monday 15 December. Please email entries to competitions@northnorthants.gov.uk or drop them at the Municipal Offices (Bowling Green Road) reception.

Full details, including terms and conditions, can be found on our [Christmas art competition](#) web page.



King's Award for Voluntary Service – Celebrating local heroes

Congratulations to Voluntary Action in Oundle and Off The Streets NN CIC in Wellingborough. Both organisations have received the King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) – the highest national honour for volunteer groups in the UK.

Often described as the MBE for voluntary organisations, this prestigious lifetime award recognises the incredible dedication, compassion, and commitment of volunteers who make a real difference every day. From providing transport to essential appointments to offering friendship that tackles loneliness, these groups help create a stronger, kinder community for us all. Congratulations to every volunteer involved – your impact is immeasurable.

NHS mobile vaccination van – No appointment needed

The NHS mobile vaccination van is visiting North Northamptonshire offering Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations, blood pressure checks and other health services.

- Opening times: 10am to 4pm.
- No appointment needed.
- ID is helpful but not essential.

For upcoming dates and locations, please visit our [Mobile vaccination van](#) web page.

Have your say on funding for local police and fire services

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Danielle Stone, is seeking views on the council tax precept – the part of your bill that funds local police and fire services. These services rely on a mix of government grants and the precept, which accounts for around 18% of a council tax bill.

A consultation is now open to ask how much residents are willing to pay in 2026/27. Current proposals suggest an increase of £14 a year for policing and £5 a year for fire for a Band D property. The Commissioner says these changes are needed to balance budgets and invest in vital services.

The [Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Public Consultation: Precept and Public Confidence Survey 2026/2027](#) runs until midday on Monday 5 January 2026.



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

- **NEW:** [Public Spaces Protection Order Extension - Laxton Close, Corby - Consultation 2025](#) – Closes 15 December 2025.
- **NEW:** [Term Dates for North Northamptonshire schools for the 2027-28 academic year](#) – Closes 31 December 2025.

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



More to explore

Stay informed with our latest press releases

- [Toothbrushing packs for vulnerable people and families at foodbanks across North Northamptonshire to continue](#)
- [South Midlands Growth Hub launches £1.8 million Growth Grant Programme](#)
- [Consultation on proposed school admission arrangements](#)
- [New school guidance on exclusions aims to 'change the narrative'](#)
- [Special event celebrates contributions of young people](#)
- [North Northamptonshire Council and campaigners united on working together on historic land contamination issue](#)
- [Serving up community spirit: tennis courts and pavilion revitalised](#)
- [North Northamptonshire Powering Change support programme helps organisations cut carbon and save costs](#)
- [First pilot sites selected for Neighbourhood Care and New Models Programme](#)

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 2025



**North
Northamptonshire
Council**