



## Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

**Issue 27. Friday 7 August 2026.** Featuring: Working together on our financial future.  
Applications now open for our Crisis Payment scheme. Investing in Wellingborough's future.  
And more...

### Top story

#### Working together on our financial future

The Council is continuing to make the case to government for a [fair funding system](#) that better reflects the increasing demand for council services, while also working to improve our finances and modernise the way we deliver services for residents.

Our [Q1 financial report](#) shows that, like councils across the country, we're still facing significant financial pressures. We are currently forecasting an overspend of around £14.9 million this year, mainly because more people need support through adult social care, children's services and home-to-school transport. These are essential services that many residents rely on, and demand continues to increase year on year.

We're already taking steps to address these challenges by finding more efficient ways of working, making better use of technology and delivering our transformation programme to help ensure the Council remains financially sustainable over the medium term.

### Latest news

#### Applications now open for our Crisis Payment scheme

We understand that unexpected events can have a significant impact on individuals and families, leaving them struggling to meet essential costs through no fault of their own.

Our new [Crisis Payment scheme](#) is designed to provide timely, short-term support when residents face a genuine emergency, helping to protect their health, safety and wellbeing during difficult times.

A crisis may include:

- a fire, flood or serious problem in your home,

- sudden loss of access to food or heating,
- theft or fraud that leaves you without access to money,
- sudden failure of an essential item, such as a cooker or fridge, where this creates a risk to health or safety,
- emergency travel needed to keep your job, and
- a sudden health emergency or a new terminal diagnosis where urgent support is needed.

Alongside this immediate assistance, we want to help people build greater financial resilience for the future. That's why applicants will be able to access our [resilience services](#) for advice and support on areas such as benefits, budgeting and debt management.

### **Investing in Wellingborough's future**

At next week's Executive meeting, councillors will consider two significant proposals that demonstrate our commitment to Wellingborough's future.

The first is the [Wellingborough Town Centre Masterplan](#), a long-term vision to revitalise the town centre, attract investment and create a vibrant place for residents, businesses and visitors. The proposals have already received strong support through public consultation.

The Executive will also consider the [sale of surplus council land](#) on the Park Farm Industrial Estate to the University Hospitals of Northamptonshire Group, which is exploring the site as a potential location for a new Community Diagnostic Centre and elective surgical hub. If progressed, the development would bring healthcare services closer to local people while supporting jobs and investment in the area.

Together, these proposals represent an exciting opportunity to strengthen Wellingborough's future, benefiting residents, businesses and communities across North Northamptonshire.

You can watch the [Executive meeting live stream](#) next Tuesday from 10am or on catch up afterwards on our [YouTube channel](#).



## **Community matters**

### **Have your say on the future of local democracy**

The Council is carrying out a second-stage Community Governance Review to ensure town and parish council arrangements across North Northamptonshire continue to reflect local identities and interests and provide effective local representation.

Following an [initial consultation](#), draft recommendations have been developed, including proposed changes to councillor numbers and parish boundaries in some areas.

I encourage everyone with an interest in their local community to take a look at the [Community Governance Review \(Stage 2\)](#) proposals and share their views before the consultation closes on 4 October 2026. Your input is important and will help shape the future of local democracy across North Northamptonshire.



## Your Voice Matters

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

- [Wellingborough Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Order \(PSPO\) Extension](#) – Closes 10 August 2026.

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



## More to explore

**Keep up to date with our latest press releases**

- [Experience the great outdoors as Woodfest returns to Irchester Country Park this August](#)
- [Council looks to extend children's activities and food support](#)
- [Advance notice: temporary closure of Kettering Swimming Pool for essential repairs and improvements](#)
- [North Northamptonshire Council cracks down on illegal trade waste disposal](#)
- [Families urged to snap up Kids Fest tickets as summer savings arrive at The Chester House Estate](#)
- [Essential highway improvements planned for Higham Road, Rushden](#)

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](mailto:executive@northnorthants.gov.uk).

Kind regards,

**Cllr Martin Griffiths**

**Leader of the Council**

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