North Northamptonshire Council

Local Link

Your regular update from **Cllr Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council**

Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

Issue 32. Friday 16 October 2026. Featuring: Draft Car Parking Strategy. Supporting strong and cohesive communities. Working together to tackle fly-tipping. Helping communities benefit from local investment. Celebrating reading and creativity across North Northamptonshire. Join the celebration on Northamptonshire Day.

Top story

Have your say on the draft Car Parking Strategy

Parking is an important part of everyday life, supporting residents, businesses, visitors and thriving town centres. That is why we are inviting you to share your views on our Draft Car Parking Strategy 2026-2036.

The draft strategy sets out a long-term vision for council-owned car parks and parking services, aiming to create a fair, transparent and consistent approach across North Northamptonshire. It supports our commitment to delivering fairer public services and the ambitions of our Corporate Plan. Proposals include reducing congestion, supporting sustainable travel, improving access to electric vehicle charging and investing in modern, reliable parking facilities.

As a listening council, we want to hear your views. Your feedback will help shape the final strategy and ensure it meets the needs of our communities over the coming decade. The consultation is open until Sunday 20 December 2026. I encourage everyone to take part and have their say.

Latest news

Supporting strong and cohesive communities

I recently wrote to the Prime Minister regarding the asylum dispersal scheme and its impact on North Northamptonshire. Our area continues to work closely with the Home Office, Northamptonshire Police and local partners to support those involved and help maintain strong, cohesive communities.

As part of this ongoing dialogue, I have asked the Government to consider the pressures placed on local services and communities when accommodation decisions are made. It is important that local knowledge and circumstances are fully understood, and that councils and partners are engaged in discussions that affect their areas.

We will continue to work constructively with all organisations involved to support community cohesion, public confidence and the wellbeing of our residents.

Read more: Council leader writes to Prime Minister over asylum accommodation concerns.

Working together to tackle fly-tipping

Fight Fly-tipping Fortnight is a timely reminder that we all have a role to play in keeping North Northamptonshire clean, safe and attractive.

The national campaign, led by Keep Britain Tidy, runs until 25 October and highlights the importance of preventing illegal waste dumping and protecting our communities. Fly-tipping damages the environment, blights neighbourhoods and costs significant amounts of public money to clear up.

I encourage residents to dispose of waste responsibly and to make sure that anyone removing their waste is authorised to do so. Always ask to see a waste carrier registration number and keep a record of any collection.

Information from local people is invaluable in helping council teams investigate incidents, identify offenders and take enforcement action. By reporting fly-tipping and suspicious activity, you can help protect our neighbourhoods and support efforts to tackle this issue.

Together, we can make a real difference to our communities.

Community matters

Helping communities benefit from local investment

Community organisations play a vital role in helping our towns and villages thrive, which is why I'm pleased that almost £895,000 is now available through the new Magna Park Corby Development Impact Fund.

Funded through developer contributions linked to the Magna Park development, this grant scheme will support projects that bring lasting benefits to communities affected by the development. Whether it's improving local facilities, supporting community activities or creating new opportunities, the fund is designed to make a positive difference where it is needed most.

Community groups, charities, voluntary organisations, parish and town councils, sports organisations and eligible council service areas are all encouraged to apply. There is no maximum grant amount, and applications will be assessed through a competitive process.

Applications close on Friday 13 November, so I would encourage eligible organisations to explore the opportunity and submit their proposals. Full eligibility criteria, guidance and application details are available on our website: Magna Park Corby Development Impact Fund.

Celebrating reading and creativity across North Northamptonshire

The BIG50 Book Festival starts today, bringing ten days of free reading, storytelling and creative activities to communities across North Northamptonshire.

Running until Sunday 25 October, the festival features events in Corby, Kettering, Rushden, Wellingborough, Oundle and Irthlingborough, offering something for all ages. From author talks and creative writing opportunities to storytelling sessions, crafts and family activities, there are plenty of ways to get involved.

The festival showcases the strong partnerships helping to promote literacy, creativity and culture across our area. Whether you're a lifelong reader, an aspiring writer or looking for something to enjoy with your family, I encourage you to explore the full BIG50 Book Festival events programme and take part.

Join the celebration on Northamptonshire Day

Northamptonshire Day is almost here, and I'm looking forward to seeing communities from across the county come together to celebrate everything that makes Northamptonshire special. Taking place in Kettering town centre on Sunday 25 October, the event will showcase our rich heritage, vibrant culture, local businesses, community organisations, and talented food and drink producers.

With more than 50 organisations involved, there will be something for everyone, including living history displays, creative workshops, live entertainment, museum exhibits, and family-friendly activities. I'm told the alpacas are already proving to be a popular attraction and could well be the stars of the day!

I encourage everyone to come along and join the celebrations. Find out more: Northamptonshire Day.

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.
- 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

- Join SEND workshops and share views and experiences
- Manor House Museum secures £196,896 Heritage Fund Grant

- Flood Action Week 2026
- Government funding setback for A509 Isham Bypass
- Government approves North Northamptonshire SEND reform plan
- Update on works to demolish unsafe building in Jobs Yard, Kettering
- Library roadshows seek views on adult disability support

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

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