

Introduction and Welcome!

Welcome to my latest Update.

The coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort will take place at Westminster Abbey in two weeks' time. If you haven't made any plans yet to celebrate this historic occasion locally, the official **Coronation** website is a great source of information. You can type in your town or your postcode to find out about events that are happening in the local area. If you are organising an event in your area, it is not too late to add it to the map!

I also wanted to highlight that **The Big Help Out** is starting on Monday 8 May. It would be really interesting to find out more about what is taking place in the local community on this – and the wider coronation plans. Please do let me know if you feel happy sharing them with me by emailing communications@northnorthants.gov.uk.

Yesterday the Executive met in the Council Chamber at the Corby Cube. The Executive considered a number of reports on a range of areas including the provision of funding to two local schools to help improve their facilities; Traffic Enforcement at George Street in Corby, and a proposal on the A43 Northampton to Kettering Improvements Phase 3. All of these were approved, and I have provided more details on these items below. If you missed the live streaming, you can watch the recording on our **YouTube** channel. The **agenda and papers** are on our website.

It was announced this week that a total of 3,793 reception places and 981 junior school (Year 3) places have been allocated to pupils across North Northamptonshire. 98.6% of reception places and 100% of junior school places were allocated to preferred schools.

If you're planning to celebrate life events, such as marriage or civil partnership, you will love our new **Weddings and Ceremonies** web pages. The new section has recently gone live. It is now quite dynamic with a vibrant identity, it's also user-friendly and easy to navigate.

The council has several current open consultations. These are wide-ranging in their subject matter: a proposal for an energy park near Burton Latimer, a local cycling, walking and infrastructure plan for Kettering, a survey on the health and wellbeing services which support children and young people and their families, and a plan to address the accommodation needs of gypsies and travellers. Please feel free to fill in the online questionnaires which are available on our **Consultation and Engagement Hub**.

You can also have your say on the future shape of services providing 'short-breaks' for children with disabilities in Northamptonshire. The Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board and Northamptonshire Children's Trust have developed a potential new model for the services and are looking for feedback via an online **questionnaire** before going any further.

Grants fund - two rounds of funding for local community projects - the **Augean revenue and small grants fund** - is open for applications for another three weeks. The funding supports revenue projects up to £10,000 and capital projects of up to £5,000. If your project or organisation is situated within a 10-mile radius of Augean's landfill sites, you have until Friday 12 May 2023 to apply online.

Not-for-profit organisations based in Corby can apply for funding opportunities for nature projects in the area. The Discover Northamptonshire Team is working with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to promote the £3,000 to £10,000 grants and has organised two free sessions next week so organisations can find out more and apply.

Our workers have been out clearing up litter again in the North Northamptonshire area. This time it was from a one mile stretch of the A6003, which links Kettering and Corby, over three days last week, with four people collecting 172 bags of rubbish.

The dates of next month's Armed Forces Community Hub sessions have been confirmed. All members of the Armed Forces community are welcome to attend to gain advice and support, or just pop by for a chat. The May sessions will take place in Northampton, Daventry, Kettering and Brackley.

As you may have seen in the media, on Sunday 23 April 2023 at 3pm, there will be a national test of the UK Emergency Alerts service. The UK government's new system will ultimately enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. It will be used to warn you in the event of emergencies, such as severe flooding. For more information, please visit the **GOV.UK** website.

Whatever your plans are, I hope you have a great weekend!

Traffic safety measures

The improvement of safety measures for pedestrians along George Street in Corby was discussed at yesterday's Executive meeting.

Following a previous phase which looked at the safety of pedestrians across a section of George Street and saw the upgrade of an existing zebra crossing and the introduction of a tiger crossing, alongside other changes, a second phase is proposed to introduce enforcement cameras along a small section of George Street.

The proposed works will improve the accessibility, mobility and safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Executive approved a report that recommended the replacement of the existing Traffic Regulation Order governing the main crossing in George Street to operate Monday to Saturday between 8am to 6pm restricting access to buses, taxis and cyclists only.

They also approved the introduction of enforcement with the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition to seek to improve the safety for pedestrians.

The project will be funded through the Accelerated Fund, which is part of the Town Fund.

We are aware there are other areas of North Northamptonshire which are suffering from similar issues, which is why the report also proposes that £25,000 is utilised to undertake investigation, traffic studies and feasibility works for further schemes across the local area.



North Northamptonshire Council set to pledge joint working on A43 major road scheme

Building a dual carriageway the length of the A43 between Kettering and Northampton is set to move a step closer – helping to relieve congestion and improve journey times.

So far, the stretch of the A43 between the Round Spinye roundabout and the newly built Overstone Grange roundabout has been dualled, with work taking place in three phases between 2015 and 2020.

The proposal presented to Executive yesterday outlined how the next phase – known as Phase three – would see the dual carriageway continue from Overstone Grange to the Holcot/Sywell roundabout.

While the first phases are in the West Northamptonshire Council area, this next stage crosses over the border into North Northamptonshire.

Because the scheme crosses the boundary, it will be jointly developed by the two councils and, as the majority of the scheme lies within West Northamptonshire, West Northamptonshire Council will be the lead authority, with appropriate involvement and funding from North Northamptonshire Council.

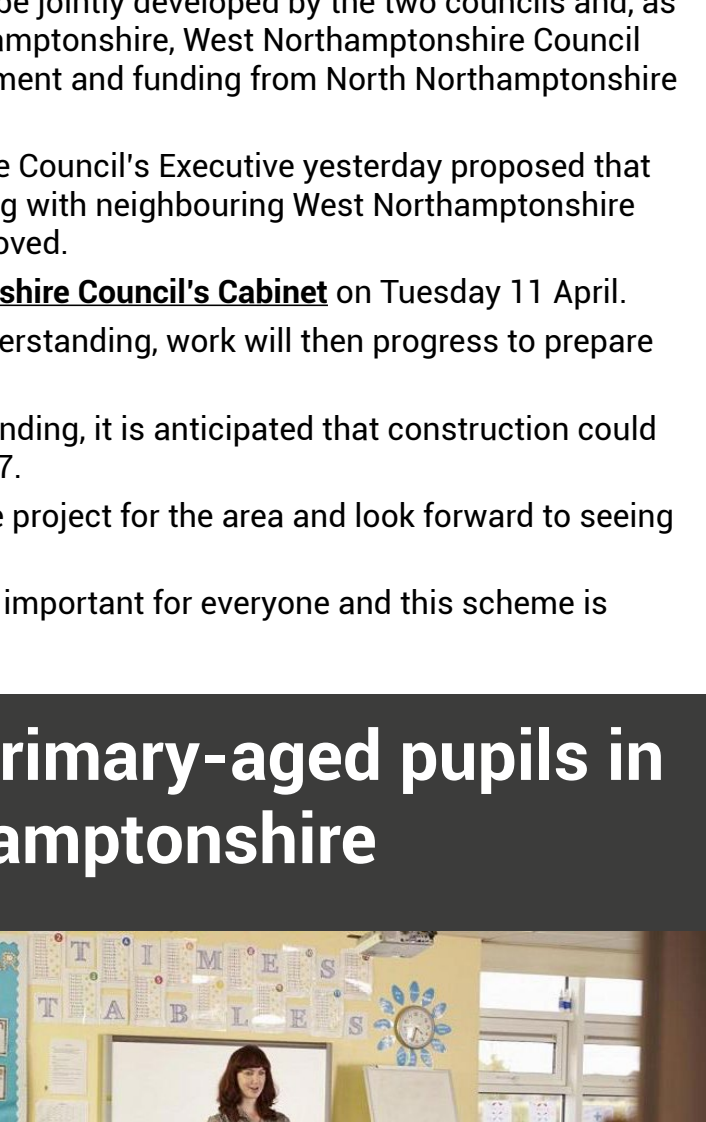
As such, the report before North Northamptonshire Council's Executive yesterday proposed that the council signs a Memorandum of Understanding with neighbouring West Northamptonshire Council to develop this next phase. This was approved.

A similar proposal went before **West Northamptonshire Council's Cabinet** on Tuesday 11 April. Subject to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, work will then progress to prepare the outline business case.

Subject to gaining the necessary approvals and funding, it is anticipated that construction could begin in early 2026, with completion in Spring 2027.

I welcome these next steps in a vital infrastructure project for the area and look forward to seeing this work begin.

A better-connected North Northamptonshire is so important for everyone and this scheme is heading in the right direction.



Places allocated for primary-aged pupils in North Northamptonshire

It was announced this week that a total of 3,793 reception places have been allocated to pupils across North Northamptonshire.

Allocations to reception

- One of their preferred schools: 98.6%.
- First preference: 93.2%.
- Second preference: 4.3%.
- Third preference: 1.1%.

More people than ever before (99%) made their applications online.

Families who applied for their primary school place online and within the deadline can check their offer online.

A total of 981 junior school (Year 3) places have also been allocated to pupils across North Northamptonshire.

Allocations to junior schools

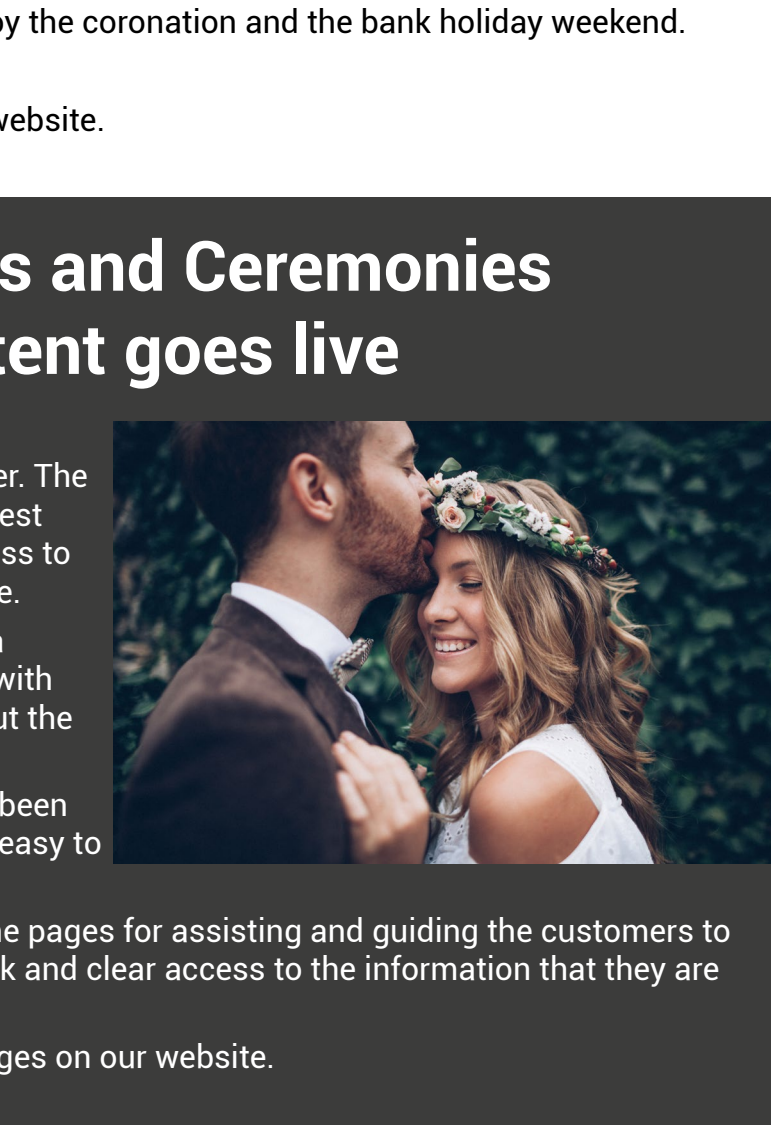
- One of their preferred schools: 100%.
- First preference: 99.9%.

Any parent has the right to appeal (through the independent appeals process) against refusal of a place at any school for which they have applied.

The next round of primary school place allocations (for late applicants) will take place in May.

Further information

Please visit the **School admissions** section of our website.



Coronation events

In two weeks' time, the coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort will take place at Westminster Abbey.

Communities across the nation and the Commonwealth will come together to celebrate this historic occasion over a weekend of special events:

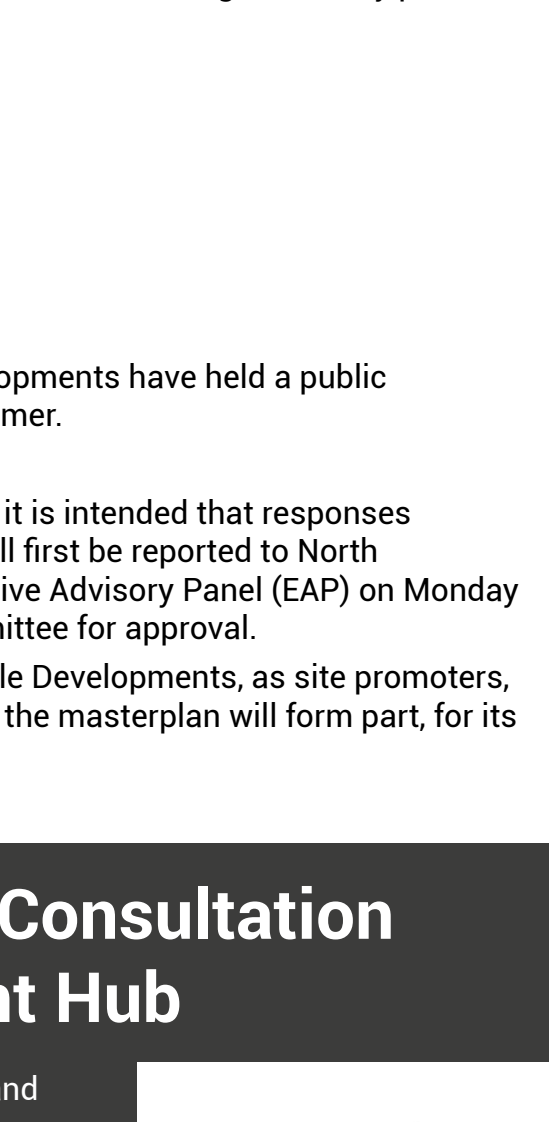
- **Thursday 6 May** - Coronation Ceremony at Westminster Abbey, London.
- **Saturday 6 to Monday 8 May** - Coronation Big Lunches up and down the country and across the Commonwealth.
- **Sunday 7 May** - Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle with iconic locations across the UK lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.
- **Monday 8 May** - A special bank holiday in honour of the coronation, giving everyone the opportunity to join in with their communities and good causes through Big Help Out activities.

If you haven't made any plans yet, you can visit the official **Coronation** website to find details that are happening in the local area. Just type in a town or your postcode to discover picnics, family fun days, village get togethers, live music and entertainment and church services.

I hope you and your family and friends enjoy the coronation and the bank holiday weekend.

Further information

Please visit the **Coronation** section of our website.



New Weddings and Ceremonies web content goes live

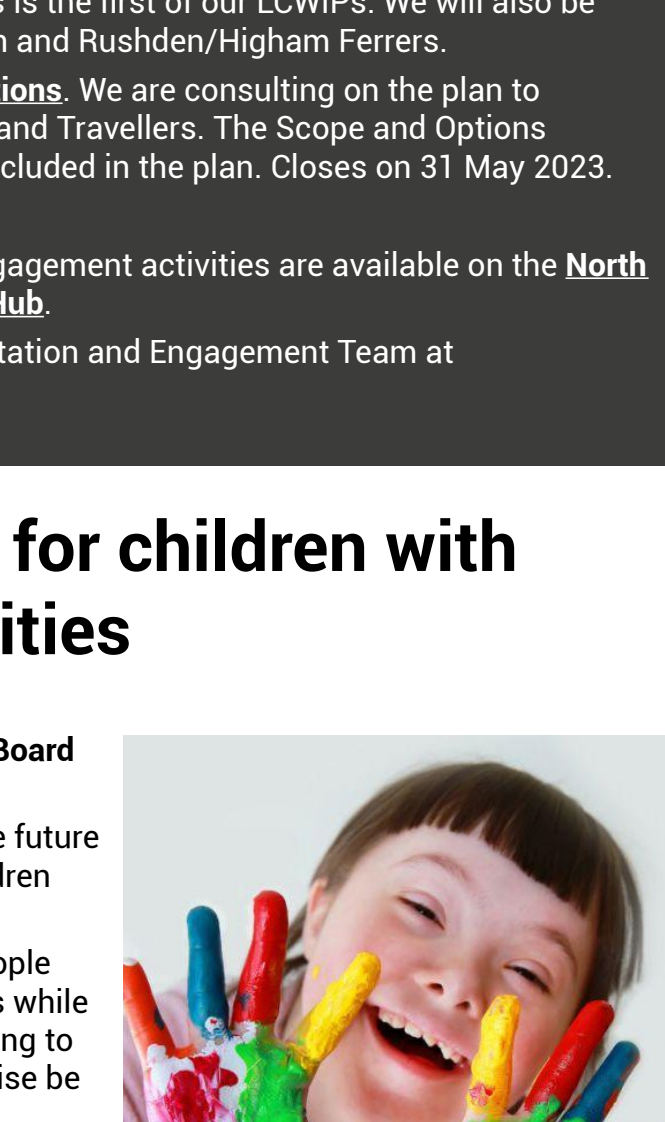
The development of northnorthants.gov.uk continues with another service migrated over. The Weddings and Ceremonies section is the latest platform to have developed and moved across to the North Northamptonshire Council website.

The new website is quite dynamic and has a vibrant identity and supports the customer with an easy and simplified navigation throughout the pages.

Everything is up to date and all content has been reviewed to make sure that it is correct and easy to understand.

We have visually changed the interface of the pages for assisting and guiding the customers to navigate easily the pages and facilitate quick and clear access to the information that they are requesting.

View the new **Weddings and Ceremonies** pages on our website.



Have your say on Kettering Energy Park – Draft masterplan document

Residents are being asked to have their say on proposals for an energy park to the east of Burton Latimer.

First Renewable Developments have prepared a draft masterplan for Kettering Energy Park which outlines a vision for the site at Burton Wold and how it could be developed.

The masterplan will guide proposals and applications related to renewable energy, including how new employment opportunities could be brought forward.

The proposal fits with the Joint Core Strategy (or Local Plan) for North Northamptonshire, which identifies land at Burton Wold as the main area of local opportunity for an 'energy park'.

Public consultation

The masterplan is currently subject to a seven-week public consultation which runs up until Monday 22 May.

More information on the masterplan and how responses can be made to First Renewable Developments on their proposals is available on the **Kettering Energy Park** website and includes a **feedback form** for completion.

Views can also be given by email at ketteringenergypark@northnorthants.gov.uk or by post to: Planning Policy Team

North Northamptonshire Council
Municipal Offices
Bowling Green Road
Kettering
NN15 7QX

Engagement event

As part of the consultation process, First Renewable Developments have held a public engagement event at the Harold Mason Centre, Burton Latimer.

Next steps

Following the seven-week consultation on the masterplan, it is intended that responses received, plus any changes proposed to the document, shall first be reported to North Northamptonshire Council's Planning Communities Executive Advisory Panel (EAP) on Monday 12 June 2023 and then forwarded to the appropriate committee for approval.

Following this process, it is understood that First Renewable Developments, as site promoters, shall submit planning applications to the Council, of which the masterplan will form part, for its consideration.



Open activities on the Consultation and Engagement Hub

Please find below details of several current consultations and engagement activities. I would welcome your feedback.

- **0-19s CYP Health Needs Assessment – Parents and Carers.** The North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Public Health Team is assessing the health and wellbeing services which support Children and Young People (CYP) aged 0-19 and their families, to gain understanding of the current health and wellbeing needs, demands and any improvements in those services across Northamptonshire. There are also two further surveys being shared with School Staff and Stakeholders/Providers to gather feedback from all interested parties. Closes 28 April 2023.

- **Kettering Local Cycling, Walking and Infrastructure Plan.** Following earlier consultations with local residents and stakeholders North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) has drafted a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Kettering, in collaboration with WSP and Brightwayz, Closes 19 May 2023. This is the first of our LCWIPs. We will also be producing such plans for Corby, Wellingborough and Rushden/Higham Ferrers.

- **Gypsy and Traveller Local Plan – Scope and Options.** We are consulting on the plan to address the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. The Scope and Options consultation invites views on what should be included in the plan. Closes on 31 May 2023.

Further information

Details of all open and closed consultation and engagement activities are available on the **North Northamptonshire Consultation and Engagement Hub**.

If you have any questions, please email the Consultation and Engagement Team at CET@northnorthants.gov.uk.



Improving services for children with disabilities

Message from Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board and Northamptonshire Children's Trust.

Residents are being invited to have their say on the future shape of services providing 'short-breaks' for children with disabilities in Northamptonshire.

Short breaks are breaks for children and young people with disabilities which give them rich opportunities while also allowing their carers to have a break from caring to carry out other vital activities they may not otherwise be able to do.

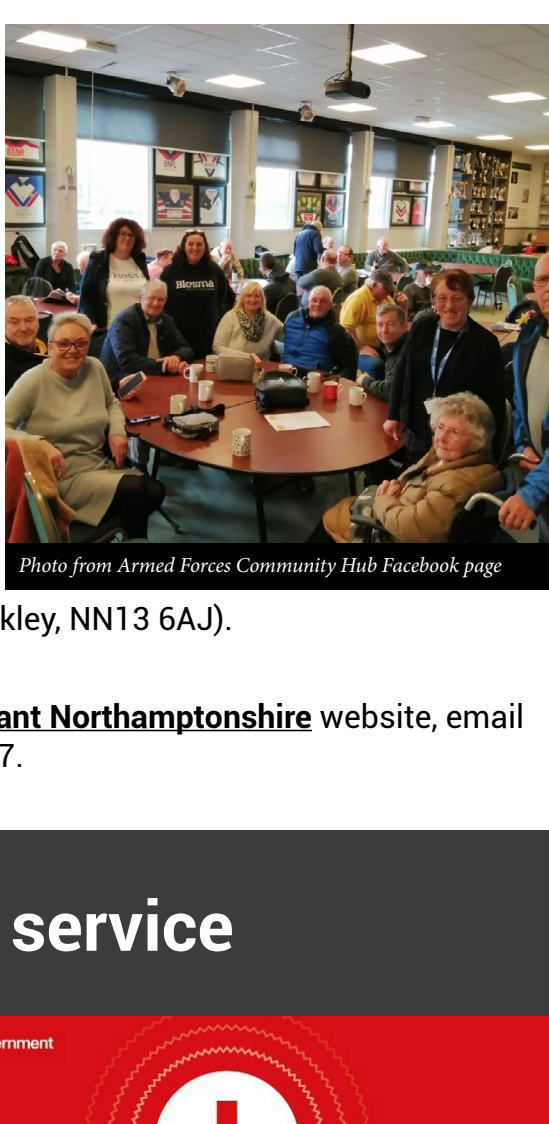
Currently Northamptonshire Children's Trust and the NHS Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board fund a range of different services from a number of different organisations to provide these breaks ranging from residential and non-residential breaks, personal care and support, holiday clubs, sensory impairment services and sleep support.

Having worked with parents and practitioners the organisations have developed a potential new model for the services and are looking for feedback on this before going any further.

The new proposed model would bring all current short break services into one offer, led by one organisation – as opposed to the current situation where services are provided across a range of different organisations. The aim is to ensure these services are better joined up to meet the needs of families.

Workshops are being held for families and practitioners working in the field. If you are interested in attending a workshop please email: sufficiency@nctrust.co.uk.

A **questionnaire** has also been published to gauge views.



Augean revenue and small grants fund

The application process for the Augean revenue and small grants fund is open until Friday 12 May 2023.

Augean plc manages landfill sites in King's Cliffe and Thornthugh. As part of this, some of their revenue (Section 106 monies) is given back to fund local community projects.

The council administers the scheme to fund projects within a 10-mile radius of Augean's landfill sites. Before applying, projects and organisations should check online that they are situated within the radius.

Total funding changes every year and supports revenue projects up to £10,000 and capital projects of up to £5,000. Examples of what the fund can be used for can be found in the **criteria and guidelines**.

There are two funding rounds in the 2023/24 financial year.

Round 1

- Open: 1 April 2023
- Deadline: 12 May 2023
- Outcome: Mid-June 2023

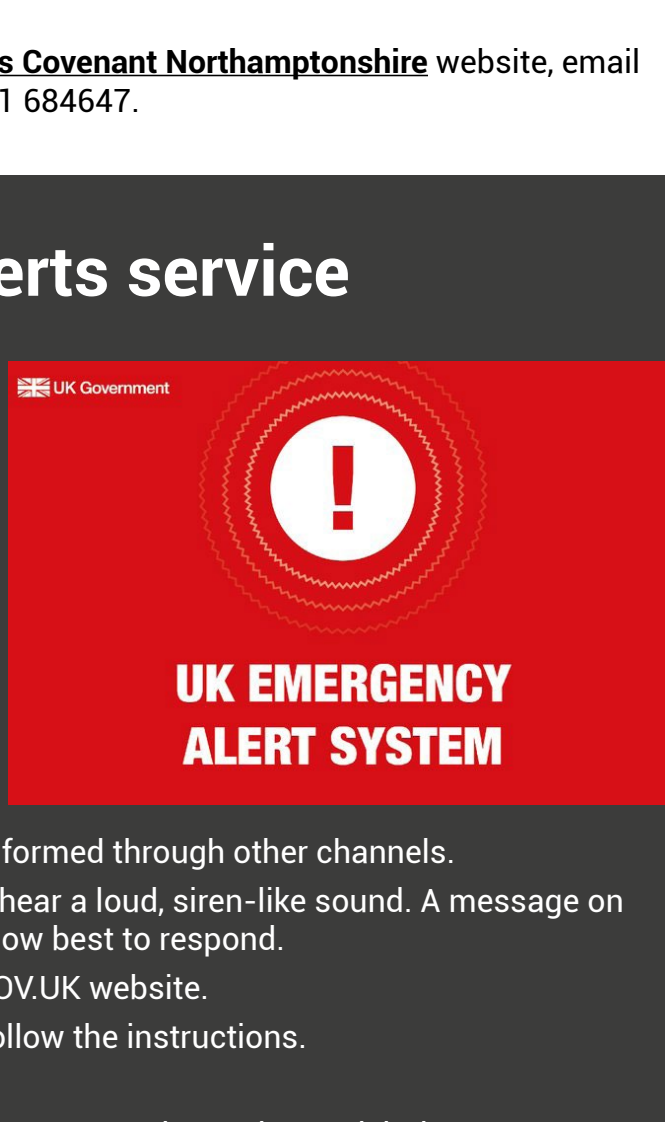
Round 2

- Open: 2 October 2023
- Deadline: 10 November 2023
- Outcome: Mid-December 2023

The Augean Revenue and Small Capital Grants Fund (previously known as the ENRMF Fund) was set up as part of the planning consent for the East Northants Resource Management Facility. It aims to support any organisation with a constitution/charitable status that directly benefits the community within a 10-mile radius of the sites.

Further information

Find out more and apply on our **website**.



Funding opportunities available

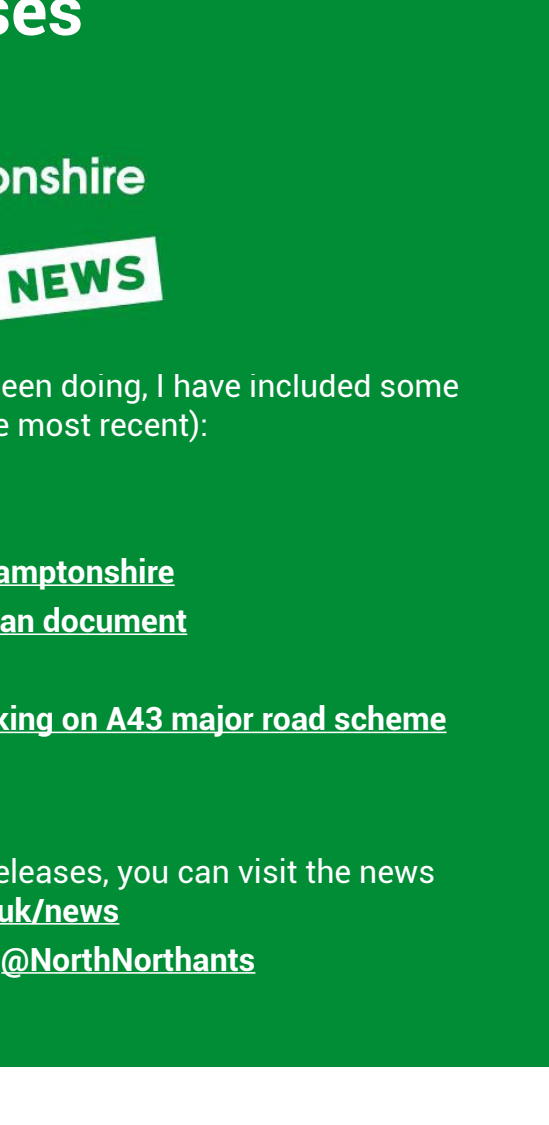
Do you know a not-for-profit organisation based in Corby?

The Discover Northamptonshire Team is working with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to promote the £3,000 to £10,000 grants they have available for nature projects in the area.

On 26 April, the team will be running two free sessions at Corby Cube from 1pm to 2pm and again from 6pm to 7pm where not-for-profit organisations can learn more about how to apply and see a range of projects the National Lottery Heritage Fund has funded in the past.

Please **pre-book your free place online** for your desired session. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the team on info@discover-northamptonshire.co.uk.

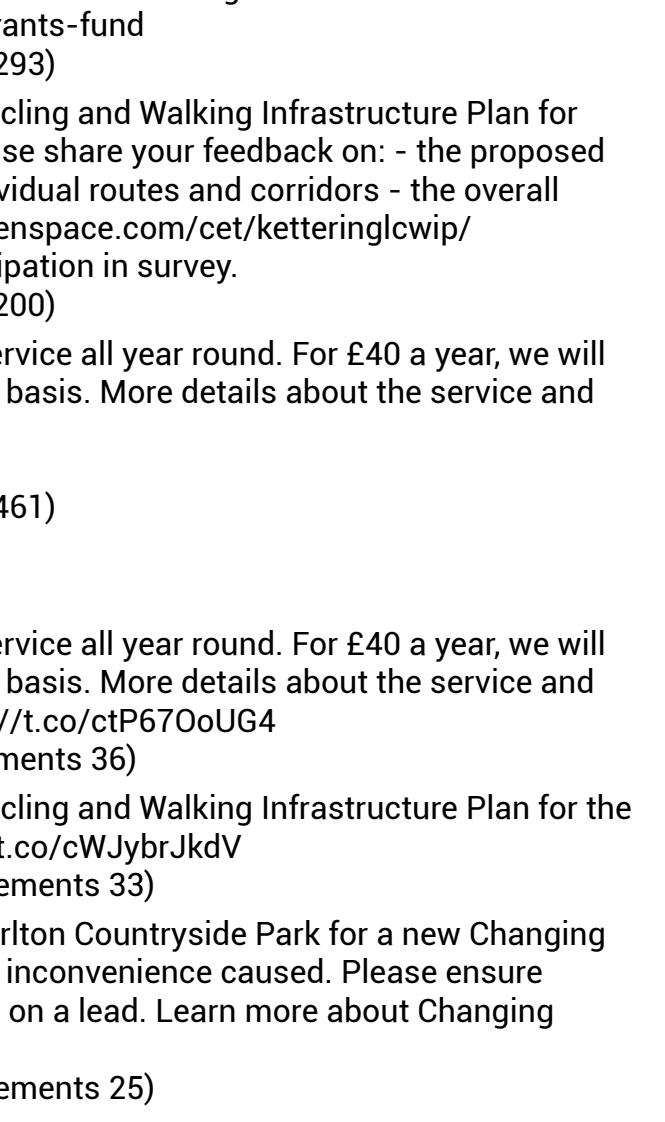
The event will take place within the Council Chamber at the Corby Cube. Please use postcode NN17 1QG and use the entrance on George Street.



Litter pick on the A6003

Our workers have been out clearing up litter again in the North Northamptonshire area. This time it was from a one mile stretch of the A6003, which links Kettering and Corby, over three days last week, with four people collecting 172 bags of rubbish.

Litter-picking is a simple action that anyone can do to make an immediate and visible difference to their area – a Keep Britain Tidy survey showed 85% of those who took part in last year's Great British Spring Clean reported that taking part made them feel more pride in their local area. And 74% said it improved their mood too!



Armed Forces Community Hub - May sessions

• The Community Hubs are a friendly, informal drop-in service. All members of the Armed Forces community are welcome to gain advice and support, or just pop by for a chat.

Wednesday 30 May

12 noon to 1:30pm at The Bridge (63c Gold Street, Northampton, NN1 1RA).

Wednesday 10 May

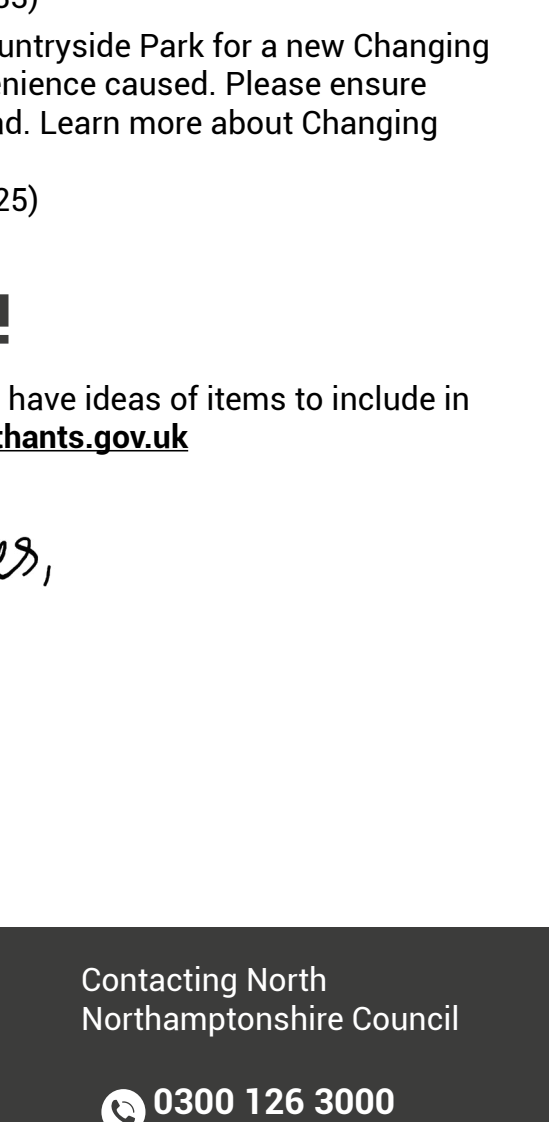
10am to 11:30am at Daventry Library (The Abbey Centre, Daventry, NN11 4XG).

Thursday 18 May

2pm to 3:30pm at Kettering Library (Sheep Street, Kettering, NN16 0AY).

Friday 26 May

10am to 12 noon at Brackley Library (Manor Road, Brackley, NN13 6AJ).



Further information

For more information, please visit the **Armed Forces Covenant Northamptonshire** website, email Covenant.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk or call 07741 684647.

Emergency Alerts service

On Sunday 23 April 2023 at 3pm, there will be a national test of the UK Emergency Alerts service.

The UK government's new system will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger. It will be used to warn you in the event of emergencies, such as severe flooding.

Emergency Alerts are sent to all compatible mobile phones within an area of risk. They don't track your location, need your phone number or collect personal data. Only the government and the emergency services will be able to send them. If you don't have a mobile phone, you'll still be kept informed through other channels.

If you get an Emergency Alert on your phone, you'll hear a loud, siren-like sound. A message on your screen will tell you about the emergency and how best to respond.

You'll be able to check an alert is genuine via the GOV.UK website.

If you receive an alert, read the alert carefully and follow the instructions.

You can opt out of receiving emergency alerts.

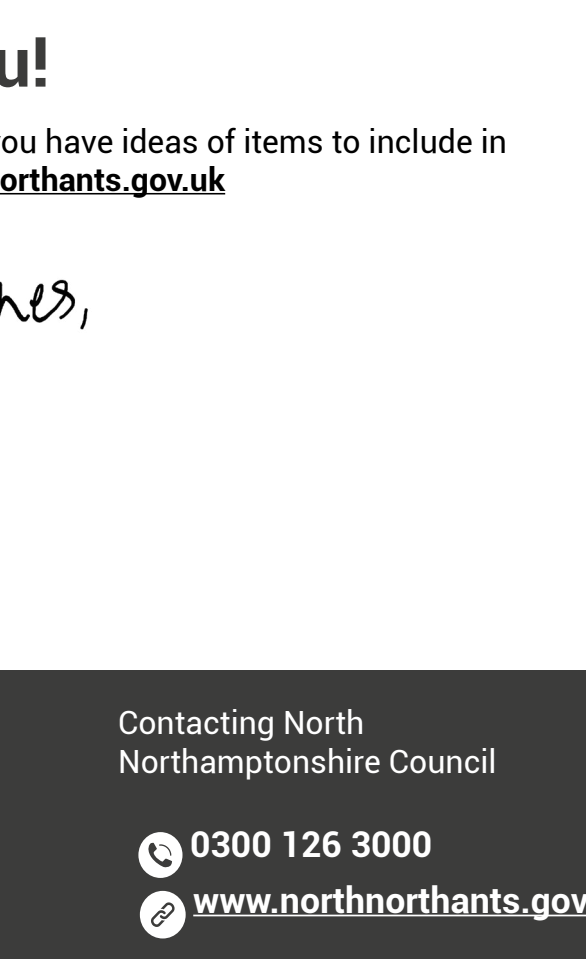
For details on how to opt out and more about the Emergency Alerts, please visit the **GOV.UK** website.



Forthcoming meetings

- **Executive:** Thursday 11 May from 10am.
- **Full (Annual) Council:** Thursday 25 May from 6pm.

The agendas will be displayed on our **website** the week before the meetings.



Press releases



To help you stay abreast of the key things the Council has been doing, I have included some links to the Council's press releases below (starting with the most recent):

- [Improving services for children with disabilities](#)
- [Places allocated for primary-aged pupils in North Northamptonshire](#)
- [Have your say on Kettering Energy Park – Draft masterplan document](#)
- [Traffic safety measures on Executive agenda](#)
- [North Northamptonshire Council set to pledge joint working on A43 major road scheme](#)
- [Emergency Alerts system](#)

If you would like stay up to date with the Council's media releases, you can visit the news section of the Council's website: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/news

Or follow Twitter [@NNNorthantsC](https://twitter.com/NNNorthantsC) and/or Facebook [@NorthNorthants](https://www.facebook.com/NorthNorthants)

Social media: Top stories

Follow our social media accounts on **Facebook** and/or **Twitter**.

Top Facebook posts so far this week (17 to 19 April)

- Revenue funding is available up to £10,000 for project costs. Find out if you can apply using our postcode checker <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/communities-assets-and-grants/augean-revenue-and-smallgrants-fund> (Reach 5,261, Post Clicks 365, Reactions 293)

- We are consulting on our drafted Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for the Kettering area until 19 May 2023. Please share your feedback on: - the proposed routes and corridors - your priority of individual routes and corridors - the overall LCWIP report <https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/ketteringlcwip/> (Reach 4,704, Post Clicks 232, Reactions 200)

- You can subscribe to our garden waste service all year round. For £40 a year, we will collect your garden waste on a fortnightly basis. More details about the service and how to sign up are available online: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/gardenwaste (Reach 3,054, Post Clicks 594, Reactions 461)

Top Tweets so far this week (17 to 19 April)

- You can subscribe to our garden waste service all year round. For £40 a year, we will collect your garden waste on a fortnightly basis. More details about the service and how to sign up are available online: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/gardenwaste (Reach 3,054, Post Clicks 594, Reactions 461)

- We are consulting on our drafted Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for the Kettering area until 19 May 2023. <https://t.co/cWJybrJkdV> (Impressions 1,539, URL Clicks 20, Engagements 33)

- Construction works start today at East Carleton Countryside Park