

## **Update Cllr Jason Smithers** Leader of the Council





## Introduction and Welcome! As we approach the bank holiday weekend it finally feels like winter is well behind us with some warmer weather and much welcome lighter evenings. While many of us are making plans to

spend the Easter period with family and friends, I would just like to thank the staff at North

Northamptonshire Council who will continue to work over the weekend. I am sure you will all join me in recognising and appreciating such dedication and commitment to public service. The Council is continuing its work to support the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme. We are continuing to develop our **Ukraine web pages** to provide information to sponsors and guests registering on the programme. There is also a lot of work going on behind the scenes to ensure that we do

everything we can to help make this scheme a success locally. I was delighted to hear that North Northamptonshire Council has planted a total of 4,374 trees across 14 sites as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. However, we only have until the end of April to log the trees we have planted on the Queen's Green Canopy map. As a reminder, you can find out more about what is going on in North Northamptonshire for the Queen's

Platinum Jubilee on the **Platinum Jubilee** section of our website. Please let me know of any local events that you would like to be included. Talking of events, it is exciting to hear that the iconic 27-feet-tall Knife Angel will soon be coming to North Northamptonshire, courtesy of funding from The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. The visit forms part of the 'Save a life, surrender your knife' campaign aimed at spearheading

change and focusing on early intervention, education and raising awareness of the scale and severity of knife crime in the UK. This is a campaign that the Council is very keen to support. I have provided more details on this below. The Garden Waste Collection Service Consultation 2022 ends this weekend - at midnight on Sunday 17 April. If you haven't already completed the online questionnaire, please do so. Please encourage your contacts to do the same. All current open consultations and engagement

activities are listed further on in this Update. Incredible response to appeal

for Ukraine support An incredible £23,000 has already been donated to an appeal launched earlier this month to help people fleeing war-torn Ukraine to start building a new life in Northamptonshire. The appeal, co-ordinated by the Northamptonshire

Community Foundation (NCF), was set up to

currently:

necessary security checks.

welcome here.

advice available on holding a street party.

**Brief description** 

Any booking information.

email or phone in the first instance.

from North Northamptonshire Council.

on display into their own organisations.

more and **book your free ticket online**.

charging bays in North Northamptonshire.

Kettering, Linnell Way.

Rushden, York Road.

injection) treatments.

**Bourn Hall Clinic** Cambridge IVF **CARE Fertility IVI Wimpole** 

Northamptonshire CCG website.

eligibility criteria set out in the CCG **IVF Policy**.

The iconic 27-feet-tall Knife Angel, created from 100,000 knives and blades confiscated by the 43

crime in the UK.

A 24/7 telephone helpline is open in

do to help.

Agency (blog.gov.uk)

Northamptonshire to report incidents of Hate Crime and receive help, support, advice, and guidance.

The helpline is operated by Stop Hate UK - a

national charity that provides independent and confidential support to people who are affected by all forms of Hate Crime - has been running since

from seven approved providers including:

Higham Ferrers, Newman Street

To give residents time to adjust to the new parking arrangements, drivers who flout the parking restrictions during the first two weeks

It will start on 18 April in:

Roman Town to life.

If anyone would like further information on signing up for the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme, we are currently directing them to the Government's website in the first instance. **Platinum Jubilee** 

With plans well underway in communities across North Northamptonshire for the Platinum Jubilee weekend (2-5 June), I would just like to take this opportunity to remind all town and parish councils that the deadline to apply for a temporary road closure is fast approaching. The deadline is 11:59pm on Monday 18 April.

If you are planning an event and would like us to promote it on our website, please email the webteam@northnorthants.gov.uk with either a weblink to the event or with the following information: Date and time Location

recorded your trees on the official **Queen's Green** 

One housing options service Important changes were made to North Northamptonshire's housing options service on 1 April.

However, the office at 50 High Street South in Rushden closed on 31 March. The service is now being delivered from our other Council offices such as from the Tithe Barn offices in Wellingborough, where Housing Options officers are already based. Some offices will only be open to the public by appointment, so customers should contact the Housing Options service by

From now, all the correspondence that customers will receive about cases will be addressed

We have done our utmost to ensure this change has minimal impact on the service that customers have previously received. If customers do have any questions, they should not hesitate to contact our Keyways and Housing Options teams who will be happy to help.

**Merged Futures event** Get ready to meet a delivery robot, try out an e-scooter and swim with dolphins in Virtual

Digital talent showcased at fourth annual Reality at Merged Futures 4, the fourth annual tech

## Parking restrictions to start at on-street parking locations

Parking restrictions and enforcement are being introduced at the new on-street electric vehicle

It all takes place on Friday 17 June from 10am to 3:30pm and includes a buffet lunch. Find out

use of Virtual Reality technology in healthcare to how the Internet of Things can boost wellbeing. There will be an advice hub for business owners to explore how they can translate the technology

There will be plenty to inspire the next generation of digital and tech talent, including 20 sessions taking place throughout the day on topics as varied as setting up a new games design company, how to get ahead in digital marketing and the Chester House Estate's future plans to bring their

The enforcement will be for the electric only bays – marked 'Electric Vehicles Only'. This started on 8 April in: Wellingborough, Castle Road Wellingborough, Knox Road Thrapston, Highfield Road Kettering, Telford Way

IVF and ICSI Procurement

NHS Northamptonshire CCG has been working with other CCGs across East Midlands,

Nottinghamshire CCG, to procure fertility services on behalf of our local population.

including NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG, NHS Lincolnshire CCG and NHS Nottingham and

- NURTURE Fertility Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust
- Police Forces across the country, will be visiting Northamptonshire next month thanks to funding from The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. The visit forms part of the 'Save a Life, surrender your Knife' campaign aimed at spearheading change

The Knife Angel is coming to North

**Northamptonshire** 

The statue will be on display at the All Saints Church plaza in Northampton town centre for two weeks from Friday, 29 April to Friday, 13 May and then will make its way to North Northamptonshire – details are going to be announced publicly very soon! Telephone helpline gives hate crime support

of the devastating impact that knife crime can have on individuals, families and communities. I have made a commitment to deliver robust enforcement and awareness campaigns to reduce the number of knives on our streets and contributing to this nationwide campaign sends a

powerful message that we will not tolerate knife crime in our county."

and if they receive a bad response they could be lost to services and never have the confidence to report again. Hopefully this helpline will demonstrate that they can access expert support and be assured that any report they make will be robustly dealt with.' The Stop Hate Line is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year on 0800 138 1625. The helpline is also available by text message on 07717 989 025 and by email to talk@stophateuk.org. British

**Living with COVID-19** 

COVID-19 is still around. So, it's a good idea to keep doing simple things to protect our families and communities – especially those at the greatest risk of severe illness. Here's what you can

**Consultation and engagement:** 

**April 2022 update** 

COVID-19: Simple and effective ways to protect yourself and others - UK Health Security

Garden Waste Collection Service Consultation 2022: Following local government reorganisation last year, the new unitary Council has inherited different approaches to the all residents receive the same service. Closes 17 April. Closes 25 April.

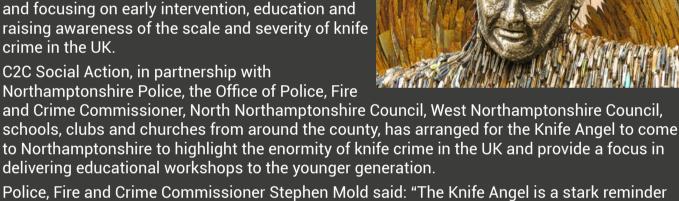
ONE MONTH TO GO! unce

and start exploring

Social media: Top stories Follow our social media accounts on Facebook and/or Twitter. Top Facebook posts so far this week (11-13 April) Got your bin back in after a collection and a neighbour comes knocking for it? Whether you pop a sticker on or use a white marker pen, give your bin a home. (Reach 3,740, Post Clicks 322)

(Reach 3,179, Post Clicks 479)

From 1 April, eligible patients who are registered with a GP practice in Northamptonshire (with the exception of Oundle Medical Practice until 1 July 2022) have more choice when it comes to choosing a fertility service provider for IVF (Invitro Fertilisation) and ICSI (Intracytoplasmic sperm This means eligible patients seeking NHS funded specialist fertility treatments can now choose



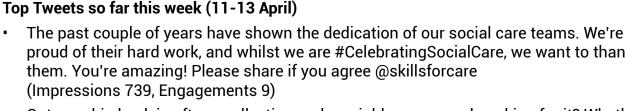
October. It is funded jointly by Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold, North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council. Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold said: "The first contact for victims of Hate Crime is vitally important Sign Language (BSL) users can report via the interactive BSL link at www.stophateuk.org

Northampton's archaeological

collections find a new home

Download the DiscoverNN app

Ensuring you recycle correctly is important. These examples from a green waste



Ensuring you recycle correctly is important. These examples from a green waste

the bins have contaminated the whole load. Please be careful when recycling https://t.

Thank you! Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. If you have ideas of items to include in future updates please let me know at: executive@northnorthants.gov.uk

fortnightly kerbside garden waste collections from the previous local authorities. North Northamptonshire Council wants to harmonise the garden waste collection across the area, so North Northamptonshire Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA): North Northamptonshire Council is developing a Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) for the area and invites interested parties to help shape its development. Initial Consultation: Proposed amalgamation of Tennyson Road Infant School and Alfred Street Junior School, Rushden: The Council's Executive meeting on 24 February 2022 authorised the commencement of the statutory process relating to the amalgamation of Tennyson Road Infant School and Alfred Street Junior School, Rushden. Closes 29 April. Project Gigabit: Public Review Launch in Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes (Lot 12): Building Digital UK (BDUK) is carrying out a Public Review to help identify areas in Lot 12 that may be suitable for future public funding for gigabit-capable broadband. Closes 29 April. NNC House to House & Street Collection Policy: The purpose of this policy is to detail how the Council will comply with its obligations under the House to House Collections Act

1939 and the House to House Collections Regulations 1947 and the Police, Factories, etc.

Northamptonshire Strategic Plan to take account of changes since 2016 and to extend the

<u>Visitor Use of the Upper Nene Valley</u>: We are currently undertaking a project to understand how people use the Nene Valley for recreation, so we can understand the impact on the

Details of all open and closed consultation and engagement activities are available on the **North** 

Press releases

To help you stay abreast of the key things the Council has been doing, I have included some

North Northamptonshire Strategic Plan Scope and Issues Consultation: The Council is reviewing the strategic planning policies through the preparation of the North

period to which the plan relates to 2041 and beyond. Closes 23 May.

If you have any questions about consultation and engagement please email

links to the Council's press releases below (starting with the most recent):

(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1916. Closes 29 April.

important wildlife habitats in the area. Closes 1 December.

Northamptonshire Consultation Hub.

CET@northnorthants.gov.uk.

Children and young people asked

to get crafty for Queen of Arts

Platinum Jubilee Activity

North Northants Council round If you are unwell, please try to One month until the International off 50 years of Shape Dance stay at home and reduce contact Waendel Walk returns celebrations with others Northamptonshire eareo

collection last week in the Wellingborough area, show how items that shouldn't be in the bins have contaminated the whole load. Please be careful when recycling https:// www.northnorthants.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-street-cleaning/garden-waste Rogue traders are renowned for poor workmanship, over-charging and pressuring homeowners to pay them for unnecessary work. Use our approved trader scheme, Buy with Confidence, to find a local trusted trader: http://ow.ly/7jF950IE6sS Find more advice at: http://ow.ly/Cgtg50IE6sV #ScamAware (Reach 1,803, Post Clicks 13)

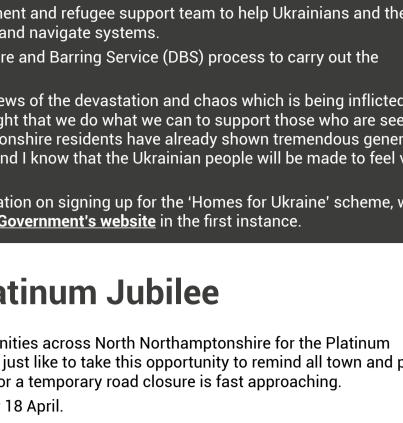
collection last week in the Wellingborough area, show how items that shouldn't be in co/eM0cAk1TMh (Impressions 609, Engagements 48)

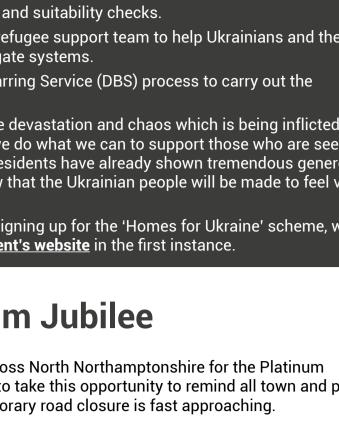
@SmithersJason

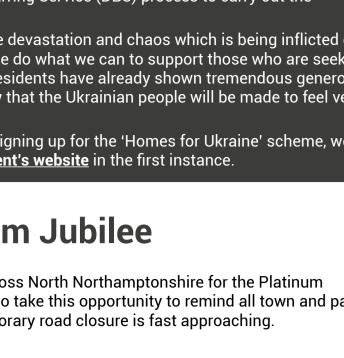
With Best Wishes,

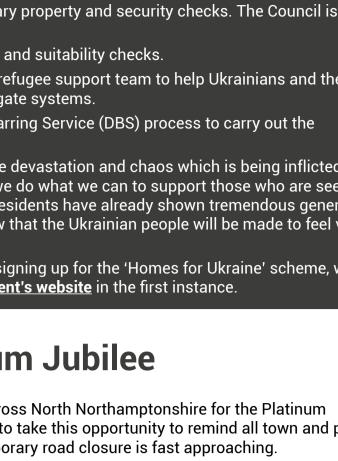
North **Northamptonshire** Council Contacting North Follow me on Twitter

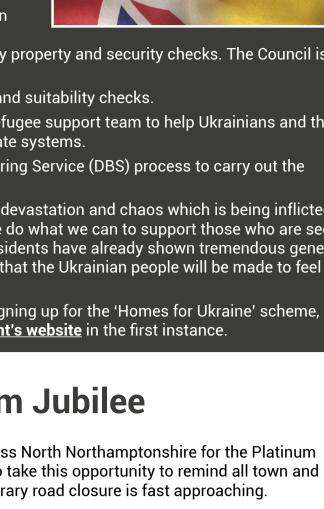
support disadvantaged people and communities. Local authorities have been tasked with coordinating the Government's activity, particularly around the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme. Council staff in North Northamptonshire are in the process of contacting sponsors, who will be hosting Ukrainian visitors, about necessary property and security checks. The Council is Training staff to carry out initial property and suitability checks. Seeking to establish a resettlement and refugee support team to help Ukrainians and their households to access services and navigate systems. Setting up a dedicated Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) process to carry out the We've all seen the images on the news of the devastation and chaos which is being inflicted on Ukraine and its citizens. It's only right that we do what we can to support those who are seeking shelter in the UK. North Northamptonshire residents have already shown tremendous generosity and kindness towards the nation, and I know that the Ukrainian people will be made to feel very

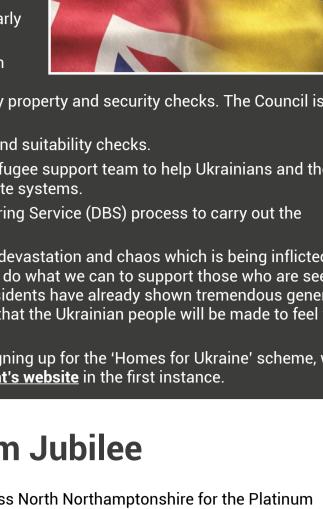


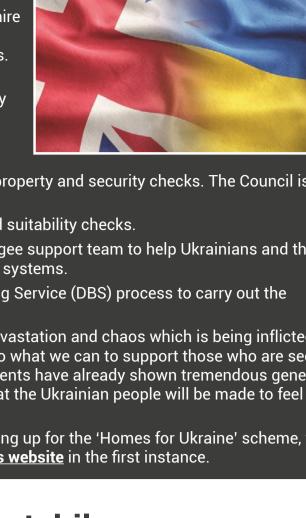


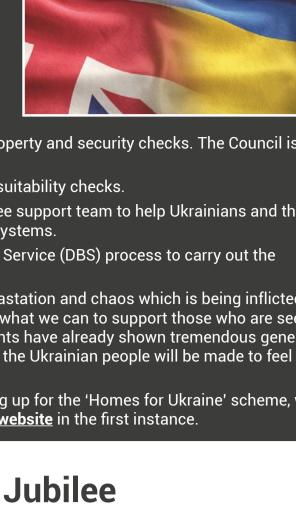






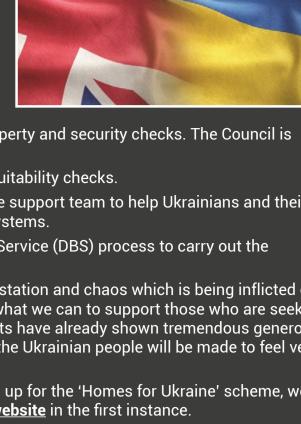




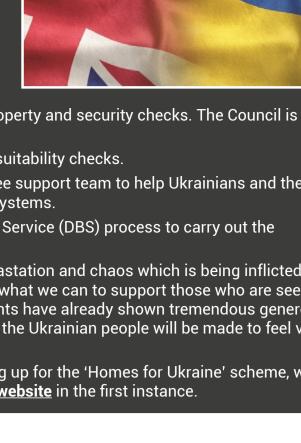


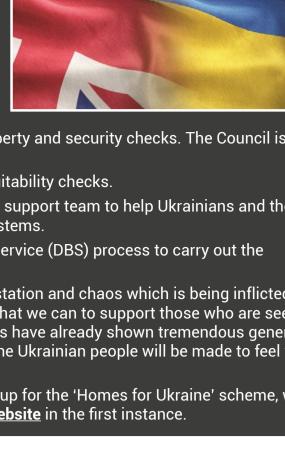




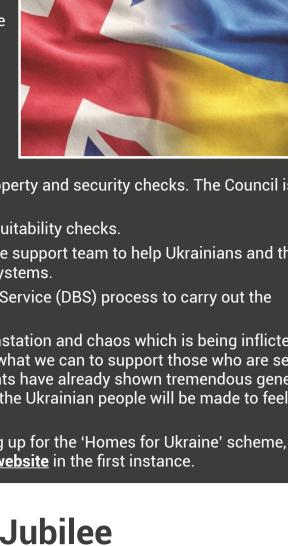








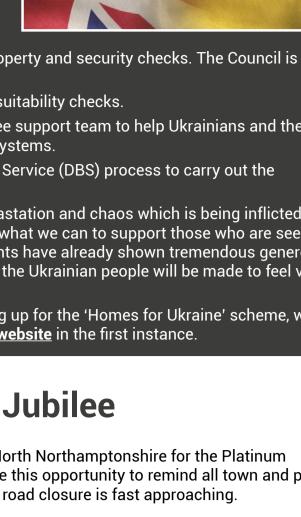


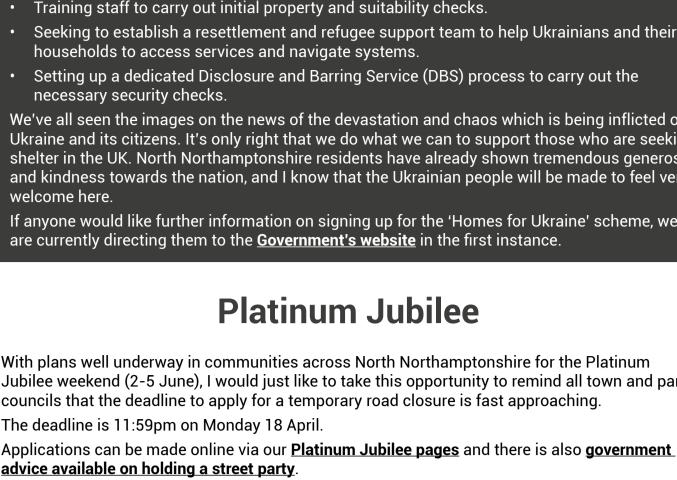


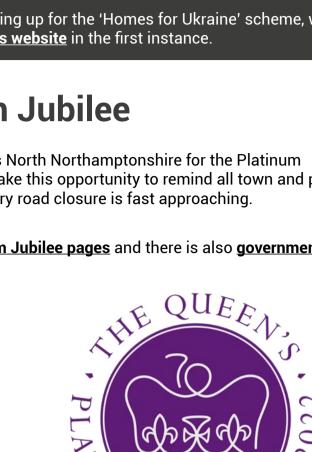








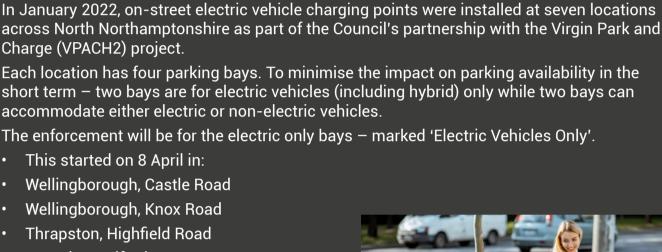


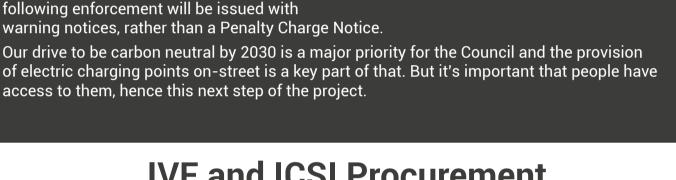


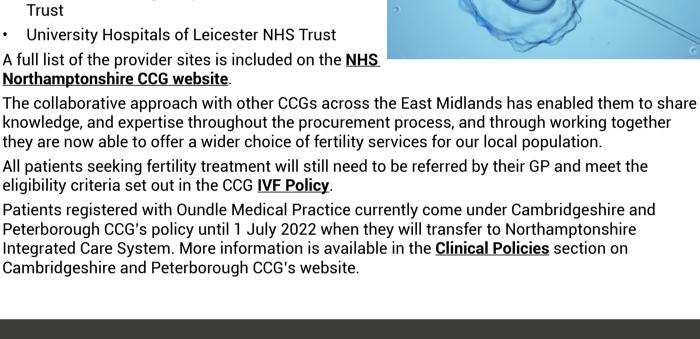
It's great to see so many groups and organisations 'planting a tree for the Jubilee'. If you haven't yet One council:

Canopy map, you have until 30 April to do so. Midland Heart Housing Association previously delivered the housing options function on behalf of the Council in the former East Northamptonshire area. This included our statutory homelessness and housing allocations functions. In order for us to bring our services in-line across North Northamptonshire as one Council, we brought this function in-house and have been providing it directly since 1 April. Please be assured that Keyways housing applications or any homelessness applications that were registered before April have not been affected by the changes. Application(s) will continue from the original date and residents do not need to do anything.

innovation showcase event organised by Digital Northants. Merged Futures returns to the award-winning Learning Hub at the University of Northampton's Waterside Campus on Friday 17 June and, as with all Digital Northants events, it's free to attend. A celebration of Northamptonshire's innovators, educators and entrepreneurs, the event brings together people from different sectors interested in digital, tech and innovation to share and spark ideas. It's also an opportunity for the business community to discover some of the University of Northampton's innovative teaching methods, the skills developed by students and the potential to partner and collaborate with the University in different fields. In the exhibition space, a wide range of local organisations will demonstrate their work, from the









Open activities on the North Northamptonshire Consultation Hub

Wellingborough services brought back in-house Proud to serve North Northamptonshire 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 @ @NNorthantsC and/or Facebook @ @NorthNorthants

proud of their hard work, and whilst we are #CelebratingSocialCare, we want to thank them. You're amazing! Please share if you agree @skillsforcare (Impressions 739, Engagements 9) Got your bin back in after a collection and a neighbour comes knocking for it? Whether you pop a sticker on or use a white marker pen, give your bin a home. (Impressions 616, Engagements 10)

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