



Welcome to the Local Link from North Northamptonshire Council

Issue 23. Friday 12 June 2026. Featuring: A fresh identity for Kettering's much-loved cultural venues. Chairs appointed for £20 million Pride in Place Neighbourhood Boards. And more...

@ Top story

A fresh identity for Kettering's much-loved cultural venues



I'm pleased to share that a new visual identity has been unveiled for our cultural site in Kettering, formerly known as Cornerstone.

Shaped by feedback from residents and stakeholders, the approach retains valued historic names, avoids a single overarching brand and reflects the site's heritage.

Designed in-house to keep costs low, each venue – Alfred East Gallery, Kettering Library, Manor House Museum and Manor House Gardens – will have its own distinct identity, linked by a subtle visual theme.

With refurbishment works nearing completion, Kettering Library will reopen on Monday 6 July, ahead of the full site launch in October.



Chairs appointed for £20 million Pride in Place Neighbourhood Boards



I'm pleased to share that Chairs have now been appointed to lead three new Neighbourhood Boards delivering the £20 million Government-funded [Pride in Place Programme](#) across the local area.

Gail Lewis will chair the Avondale Grange Board (Kettering), Nicky Kingsnorth will lead the Queensway Board (Wellingborough), and Alex Bonner will chair the Kingswood, Hazel Leys and Exeter Board (Corby).

These voluntary roles bring together people with strong local connections to work alongside MPs, councillors, partners, community representatives and residents. Together, they will help shape a long-term vision and regeneration plans that reflect local priorities and guide investment over the next decade.

This programme is all about strengthening our communities through collaboration and targeted funding, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact it will deliver.

Submit your Expression of Interest: Crisis Resilience Fund



We are inviting voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations across North Northamptonshire to apply for funding through the UK Government's Crisis Resilience Fund.

Over the next three years, the council will receive £13.18 million to strengthen long-term financial resilience, reduce hardship and support vulnerable households.

We are looking for Expressions of Interest to deliver Financial Resilience Services (£500,000) and Community Coordination (£680,000), alongside existing Crisis and Housing Payments.

Applications are open until Wednesday 17 June. To request documentation, please email CRF@northnorthants.gov.uk.

I encourage eligible, well-governed not-for-profit organisations, including collaborative partnerships, to come forward. Together, we can ensure that vital support reaches residents who need it most.

 Community matters

Nominate your local sporting heroes today



We are proud to be hosting the Active Communities Awards for a fifth year this November, celebrating the individuals, clubs and organisations who make a real difference across North Northamptonshire.

Nominations are now open for the Active Communities Awards 2026. I would encourage residents to put forward local heroes across our community, performance and school categories. You can find full details of the nomination criteria and submit your entry on the [Active Communities Awards](#) website. Voting will remain open until Sunday 13 September.

Please take a moment to watch last year's highlights video by clicking on the image – it's a great reminder of the talent and dedication within our communities.

Remembering Her Majesty: Share your memories of Queen Elizabeth II



I'd like to highlight the [Queen Elizabeth Digital Memorial](#), an official UK Government website dedicated to honouring and remembering the life and legacy of Her Late Majesty.

The memorial allows people to explore key moments from her remarkable life and share their own personal memories. Selected contributions will be published, with all others kept as a lasting record for future generations.

Created by the Cabinet Office in partnership with the Queen Elizabeth Memorial Committee, it offers a meaningful way for us all to reflect on her life of service.

I would encourage you to take a moment to explore the memorial and, if you wish, share your own memories.

 Upcoming meetings

Stay informed: Watch upcoming council meetings



You can watch Executive and Full Council meetings live, or catch up afterwards, via our official [Democratic Services YouTube channel](#).

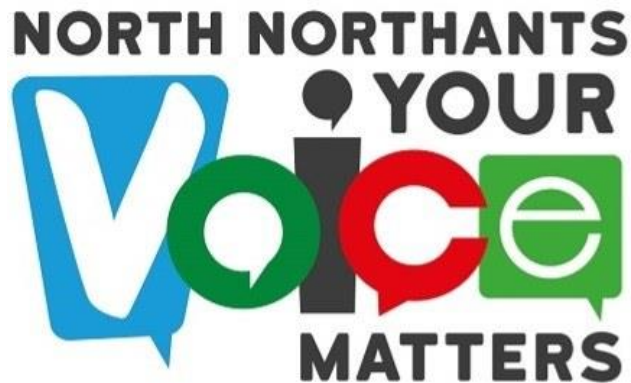
Full details for each meeting, including dates, agendas and papers, are available on our [ModernGov meetings portal](#).

Upcoming meetings:

- [Full Council – Thursday 25 June from 6pm.](#)
- [Executive – Tuesday 14 July from 10am.](#)

 Your Voice Matters

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



- [Have your say on the future of Wellingborough Town Centre](#) – Closes 15 June 2026.
- [Play Area Strategy – Have your say](#) – Closes 21 June 2026.
- [North Northamptonshire Local Plan – Scoping Consultation](#) – Closes 1 July 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

- [Adult Learning Service praised by Ofsted for strong performance and inclusive support](#)
- [Partnership between Anglian Water and North Northamptonshire Council to protect environment in Thorpe Malsor](#)
- [Award-winning public archaeology programme returns to the Chester House Estate](#)

- [£454,000 fund opens to help prevent serious violence in Northamptonshire](#)
- [Celebrating the amazing role of unpaid carers](#)
- [New training will enhance pupils' journey to school](#)
- [Five-year action plan to manage, maintain and invest in social housing across North Northamptonshire](#)
- [Meet your new Members of Youth Parliament](#)
- [Council's Executive set to look at revised proposals for electric bus investment](#)
- [Action plan on care to build on foundations for future](#)
- [New bus service introduced in Wellingborough](#)

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

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