



## Introduction and Welcome!

Welcome to the first Leader's Update for North Northamptonshire Council.

Moving forward, I would like to focus these updates not just on North Northamptonshire Council members, but also town and parish councils and partner organisations too, all of whom together play an important role in the delivery of public services locally.

I am sure you will join me in acknowledging the value of being well informed. I am keen to ensure that there is a regular flow of information on some of the key things the new Council is doing. I am also keen to shine a light on some of the great things other organisations are doing too – if you have feedback, ideas or information that you want to share, please do let me know!

Thank you,

Jason

## An update since the first Annual General Meeting

Things have certainly been busy since North Northamptonshire's first historic Annual General Meeting just over three weeks ago.

Firstly, I announced the Council's new Executive Team. You can find more information [here on the new Executive](#).

With the first meeting of the Executive on the 22 June fast approaching, the focus has naturally been on preparing for the meeting. You can access the meeting agenda and reports via [the link](#).



North Northamptonshire Council has been successfully awarded £19.9 million of funding through the Town Fund.

Preparations for the Executive meeting were punctuated by the very welcome announcement from Government that Corby Town has been awarded £19.9m for its Town Centre Plan. This is truly excellent news for both Corby and the wider area. I know a lot of people have worked on this for many months and I am sure you will all join me in recognising the significance of this achievement. You can find out more about this exciting announcement [here](#).

Last week I had the pleasure of joining Rob Bridge our Chief Executive in a live video address to staff. It was fascinating to hear first-hand some of the questions staff had and the areas they wanted to know more about. It is clear that many of the Council's staff are ready for the challenges ahead but also are working flat out during these difficult times.

Soon, the Council will start work on its first Corporate Plan. This will set out the strategic objectives and priorities for the new Council and we want to take a bit of time to get this right. In particular, we want to engage with stakeholders to get their input and views into our Council's future focus. I look forward to being able to set out more about this process in a future Leader's Update.

## Helping to demystify local government

I am the first person to admit that local government has too many acronyms and complex terms. To be fair, every industry has them, and government is no exception. A number of councillors have mentioned in various forums that it would be useful if the Council had a glossary of terms.

A glossary of terms has been provided with the Constitution on the Council's website [here](#).

A list of commonly used acronyms in local government has also been added. Hopefully you will find this both of use and of interest and I have no doubt this will further develop over time. I suppose you could say it is WIP!

## 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):



West Glebe Sports Pavilion recognised nationally as one of the most improved performers



Executive to discuss bus strategy



NNC to discuss Community Renewal Funds shortlist



Funding injection for North Northamptonshire Garden Communities



Theresa Grant receives the OBE award from Her Majesty



Public Health officials urge families with children to be 'COVID careful'



Take time to take care of you at this year's Kettering Health & Wellbeing festival



Corby awarded £19.9 million for town investment plan



Corby Community Alcohol Partnership wins national award for tackling underage drinking



North Northants businesses urged to apply for grant funding



Public Health officials remind residents of the importance of being 'COVID-19 careful'



National recognition for council's refuse collection service

If you would like to stay up to date with the Council's media releases, you can visit the [news section of the Council's website](#)

or alternatively you can follow the Council on Twitter: [@NNorthantsC](#)

## The Council's Forward Plan

The Council's Forward Plan shows the Council's key decisions that will be made over the next one to four months. These decisions will be made by either the Executive or by officers who have been delegated authority by the Executive.

The Forward Plan is published 28 days prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Executive. You can view the Forward Plan on [the Council's website here](#).

You will also find other information relating to forthcoming meetings via the above link.

## Covid-19 update

Clearly Covid-19 has had a huge impact on everyone's lives and continues to be a major challenge in planning for getting things back to some form of normality.

To help you stay up to date, I have [included a link to further information on Covid-19](#) in the local area.

The link above takes you to a page on one of our legacy websites. However, the information is kept up to date and includes useful links to a weekly surveillance report with the latest weekly Covid-19 data in it:

North Northamptonshire continues to provide support through grants to local businesses to help them cope with the difficulties that the pandemic posts. [More information can be found here](#).

## A45 Chowns Mill improvement scheme

Carnell, the principal contractor working in partnership with Highways England, would like to hear your views about how you think they are communicating with you about the A45 Chowns Mill improvement scheme.

To give your views, please complete their [online survey](#). The survey should only take five minutes to complete. Your views are important. Alternatively, you can use this link in your browser: <https://forms.office.com/r/XLwqFdnSkz>

Last year, when Carnell carried out the survey, they received feedback asking them to make it clearer how the organisations responsible can be contacted. As a result, they published clear contact details.

The Highways England telephone number **0300 123 5000** has been put up on roadside signs near the scheme and they regularly publicise the Public Liaison Officer's direct telephone number which is: **0333 0124 596**.

## Adult learning in the park



Some of you may be interested to know that some adult learning sessions are being held at Fermyn Woods and Sywell Country Park. Free sessions being held over the next week are:

<b>Outdoor Pilates</b>	Mon	21st June	12.00 – 13.00	Code - UZZ1DA33
<b>Outdoor Yoga</b>	Tues	22nd June	17.30 – 18.30	Code - UQB2DA32
<b>Outdoor Pilates</b>	Tues	22nd June	18.45 – 19.45	Code - UQB2DA33
<b>Outdoor Photography</b>	Wed	23rd June	10:00 – 11.30	Code - UQB3DA35

(code used to find course on website)

I am informed that outdoor shelters will attempt to go ahead in most weather circumstances with outdoor undercover shelters provided at Fermyn Woods and Sywell Country Park. Let's hope they won't be needed!

To book please go to [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/adultlearning](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/adultlearning). If any assistance is required to book onto any courses or for further information, please contact [adultlearning@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:adultlearning@northnorthants.gov.uk) or call **01604 367119**.

Please note Country Parks car parking fees still apply for these courses.

## Social media



We have set up both a Twitter and Facebook account for North Northants Council. Here you will be able to see all of our proactive messages that we are sending out to our residents with the push of a button. To give you an idea of what our residents are most interested in we have compiled our top social media posts of the week:

- Street Doctor for reporting highway problems
- Safety message about open water
- Kettering Health and Wellbeing Festival
- Local heritage/tourism
- Walking for Health in country parks

Please follow North Northamptonshire on Twitter [@NNorthantsC](#)

and/or Facebook [@NorthNorthants](#)

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

*With Best Wishes,  
Jason*

Follow me on Twitter

[@SmithersJason](#)

Contacting North Northamptonshire Council

**0300 126 3000**

[www.northnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk)