

Introduction and Welcome!

It really doesn't seem long ago since I sat down to write my last update. Time feels like it is going so fast. Before I know it, I will be promoting Christmas events across the area!

Earlier today I have been working on listing some of the achievements of North Northamptonshire Council over the last six months since the Council's inception. It dawned on me just how much has been achieved and very soon my fellow Executive Members and I will provide an overview of some of the highlights of the last six months which I will include in a future edition of this update.

This coming week the Council will hold both a meeting of the Council on Wednesday 29th September and also the Executive on Thursday 30th September. We have carried out a risk assessment and are strongly advising that all attendees to our Council meeting at The Cube in Corby undertake a Lateral Flow Test before attending. I have provided more information below. You can view the meeting agendas here: [Browse Council Meetings](#). We will be providing live coverage of both meetings via the Council's Twitter feed @NNorthantsC

Since my last update the Council has launched a consultation on the improvement to bus services in the area. I have provided some further information below as well as a link to the online consultation.

On the subject of consultations, the Corporate Plan consultation which I highlighted in the last update is entering its last week of the public consultation. The deadline for responses is midnight on Sunday 3rd October. If you have not yet responded please can I ask you to take the time to participate? I would also really appreciate it if you could share the link to the consultation with family, friends and work associates. Everyone living and working in the North Northamptonshire area is welcome to take part. You can view the Corporate Plan consultation along with the other consultations in progress on the Council's consultation webpage here: [North Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space](#)

Council Meeting on Wednesday 29th September

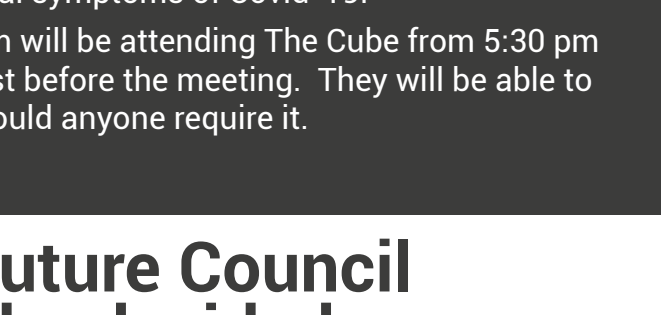
As mentioned above, the next meeting of Council will be at the Council Chamber, The Cube, George Street, Corby NN17 1QG. It will be held at 7:00 pm. A risk assessment has been undertaken to ensure that the meeting is as safe as possible. The following safety measures must however be adhered to when attending the meeting.

Members and officers are requested to take a lateral flow test within the 24 hours preceding the meeting. These are free and details of how to book a test can be found [here](#).

Or you can order a home test kits for free [here](#).

All other attendees are strongly advised to undertake a test. You must not attend the meeting if you receive a positive test or are exhibiting potential symptoms of Covid-19.

In addition, colleagues from our Public Health team will be attending The Cube from 5:30 pm to test anyone who has not been able to have a test before the meeting. They will be able to provide lateral flow tests and provide guidance should anyone require it.



The venue for future Council meetings to be decided

The main location for future meetings of North Northamptonshire Council is amongst several items for discussion at next week's meeting of the Executive.

As well as budget forecast presentations and discussions on vital community funding, the Executive will consider a proposal to make the Corby Cube the venue of choice for many of its meetings including Executive and Full Council. Area Planning Committees will continue to be held in their current locations.

In order to improve public access to council meetings, Members will discuss upgrades to the audio-visual equipment in the Chamber that allows for live-streaming, better display screens, improved microphones and hearing loops.

I believe that it is important that everyone who wants to can attend council meetings easily, either in person or online. The investment we will be considering is focused on ensuring that we have the right infrastructure in place to manage meetings face-to-face and to broadcast to those who prefer to attend remotely.

As our draft corporate plan currently out for consultation says, we want to provide modern public services that embrace technology and improve accessibility for all. We also want to ensure we connect with local communities and this helps in some way to achieve that.

Other reports on the Executive meeting agenda include the Kettering Local Plan Part 2, Isham conservation area management plan and Cannock Road and Cheltenham Road housing developments.

The Executive meeting will be held at 2pm, on Thursday 30th September at the Corby Cube. Meeting details can be found at [Browse Council Meetings](#).

Consultation launched on improvements to bus services

Residents, parish and town councils, businesses and local groups in North Northamptonshire are invited to share their views on the improvements they would like to see to local bus services.

The Council is consulting on the formation of Enhanced Partnership schemes with local bus operators in order to facilitate the improvement of local bus services for residents. These partnerships will enable access to Government funding, which will be made available to support the implementation of the National Bus Strategy, "Bus Back Better".

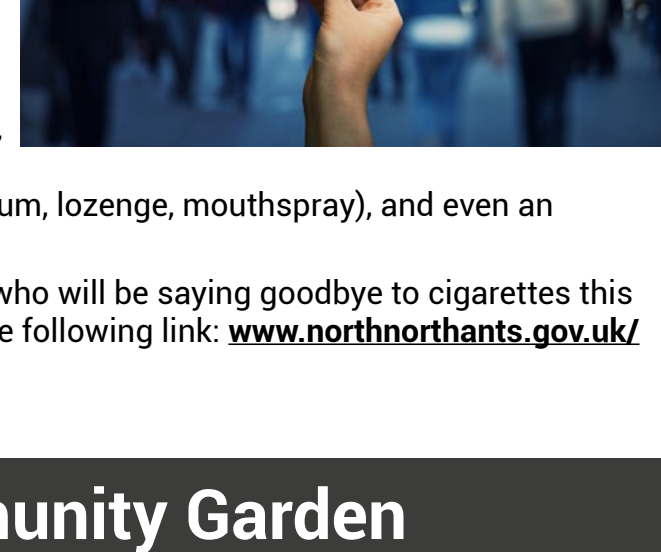
You can have your say by completing a short survey which launched on the Friday 17th September and runs until Sunday 10th October on the Councils' [consultation hub](#) [here](#).



Stoptober – Quit smoking

Stoptober begins on 1st October and there's never been a better time to quit! Stopping smoking can be difficult, especially without the right guidance and support. Thankfully, you can access support completely free of charge through the Northamptonshire Stop Smoking Service. The service, which is commissioned by Public Health Northamptonshire, offers 12 weeks of support to local smokers looking to kick the habit for good. The support on offer includes; bi-weekly telephone appointments with a trained Stop Smoking Advisor, tips and advice on how to stop smoking, a free course of nicotine replacement therapy (patches, gum, lozenge, mouthspray), and even an e-cigarette starter kit and e-liquid.

If you would like to join the thousands of smokers who will be saying goodbye to cigarettes this October, you can refer yourself for support using the following link: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/stopsmoking or by calling 0300 126 5700.



Sunday Community Garden

Since celebrating its first anniversary in Northamptonshire in September, leading shared e-scooter company Voi is having an extra celebration, as the region extends the trial of e-scooters until March 2022.

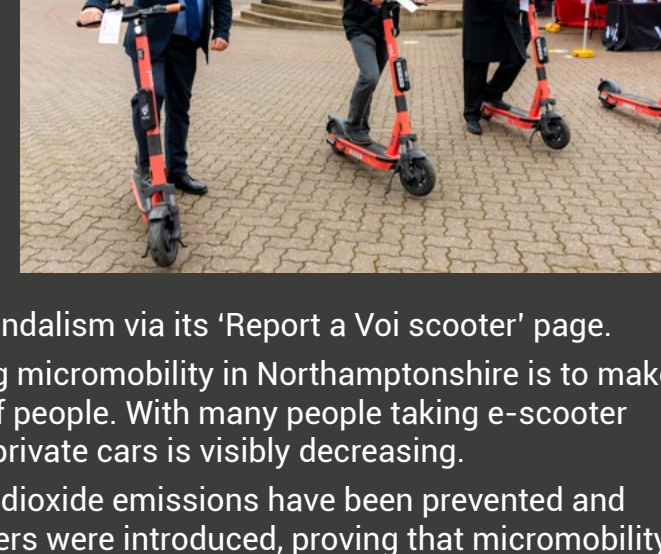
This vote of confidence in Voi's e-scooters from North Northamptonshire Council is the result of a year-long cooperation between all stakeholders to make shared micromobility an important part of everyday life in the region as ridership tops 835,000. Since September 2020, riders have covered 1.2 million miles in Northamptonshire as users adopt Voi for commuting to work, getting to the gym, meeting friends and running errands.

The extension is also recognition of Voi's hard work introducing measures that places educating riders around safety, parking, and sustainability at the forefront of the micromobility experience. Measures that have contributed towards increased public confidence in using e-scooters and e-bikes regularly, and therefore towards this decision to extend the trial, including having staff on the ground to monitor e-scooter activity and using state-of-the-art technology.

In addition, Voi continues to incentivise the general public to report situations of misuse or vandalism via its 'Report a Voi scooter' page. One of the most important reasons for introducing micromobility in Northamptonshire is to make public transport accessible to a greater number of people. With many people taking e-scooter rides to connect with public transport, the use of private cars is visibly decreasing.

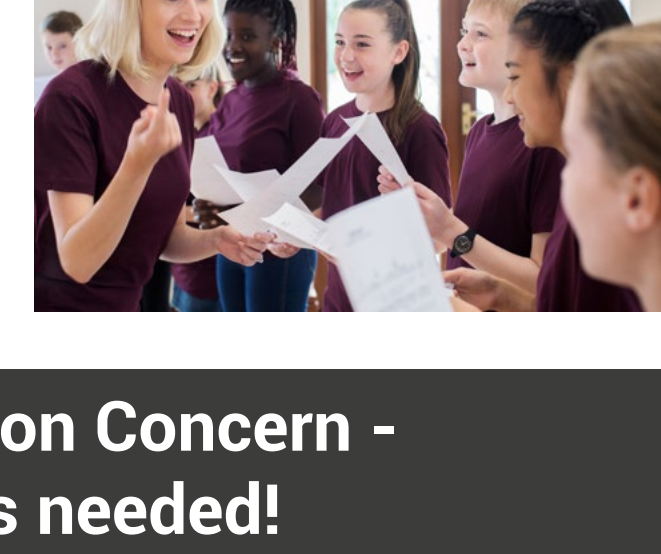
In Northamptonshire alone, 190 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions have been prevented and 410,000 car journeys replaced since the e-scooters were introduced, proving that micromobility is key to combating the climate crisis - another reason to celebrate the extension of this trial. The growing popularity of e-scooter usage shows, therefore, that not only is the region leading in terms of sustainability and equitable access to transport, but also in creating towns made for future generations.

If you're new to the world of e-scooters, visit <https://www.smartmovenorthamptonshire.net/> and to learn how to ride safely, visit <https://www.voiscooters.com/how-to-voi/>.



Time to apply for school places

Parents and carers can now apply for Reception places in Primary and Infant schools, Year 3 places in Junior schools and Year 7 places in Secondary school for September 2022. For more information please visit [here](#).



Accommodation Concern - Volunteers needed!

Now that the children are finally back to school and life is slowly returning to normal, it may be time to consider how you spend your time. Accommodation Concern are recruiting for volunteers!

If you have a spare 3-6 hours per week and you are skilled at filling in benefit/PIP forms, managing your money or either simply like to learn how to help others this could be for you.

If you want to know more contact Tina tina@a-c.org.uk ; or give Accommodation Concern a ring on: 01536 416560 to find out more.

Northamptonshire Counter Terrorism Local Profile - We Need To Hear From You!

As part of the statutory 'Prevent Duty', the countywide multi-agency partnership works to reduce the risks of people becoming radicalised and drawn into terrorism and extremism across North and West Northamptonshire.

Each year a document known as a 'Counter-Terrorism Local Profile' is produced to:

- Develop a joint understanding amongst partners of the threats, vulnerabilities and risk relating to terrorism and violent extremism,
- Provide information on which to base local Prevent programmes and action plans; and
- Direct targeted and proportionate use of shared resources.

The team wants to hear about your knowledge and experiences of issues affecting the communities within which you live and work and about your understanding of the Prevent Duty and counter-terrorism issues, even if you feel that this isn't directly related to your role.

No matter the depth of knowledge or experience you have of the subject, your views are valuable. Please complete the survey which can be found at [Northamptonshire CTLP Survey](#), it should take approximately 10-15 minutes. The survey is live and available until Friday 1st October 2021.

The more responses we can get, the better the understanding of how we can support you and those vulnerable to radicalisation.

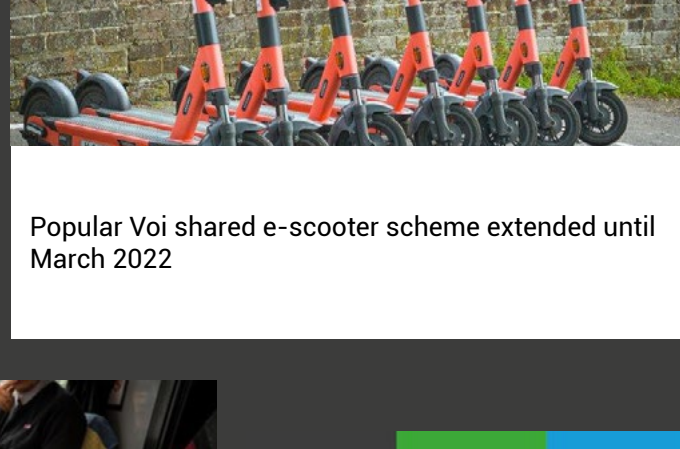
If you have any questions, or any other concerns surrounding Counter Terrorism, please contact the Northants Police Prevent team at prevent@northants.pnn.police.uk

Press Releases

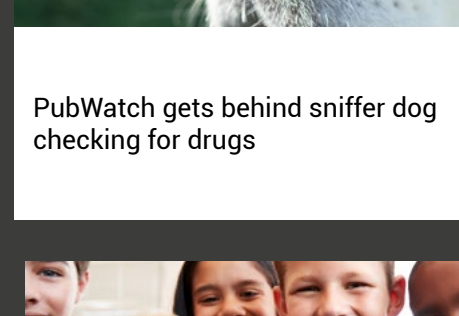
To help you stay abreast of the key things the Council has been doing, I have included some links to the Council's press releases below (starting with the most recent):



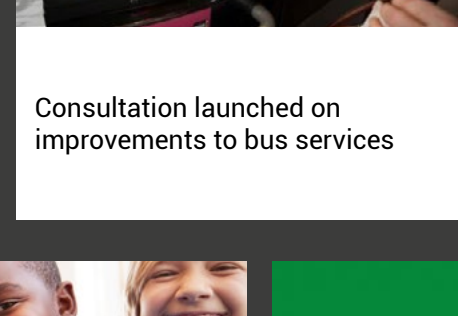
North Northamptonshire Council to agree venue for future council meetings



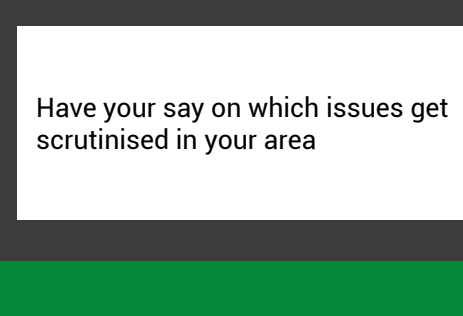
Popular Voi shared e-scooter scheme extended until March 2022



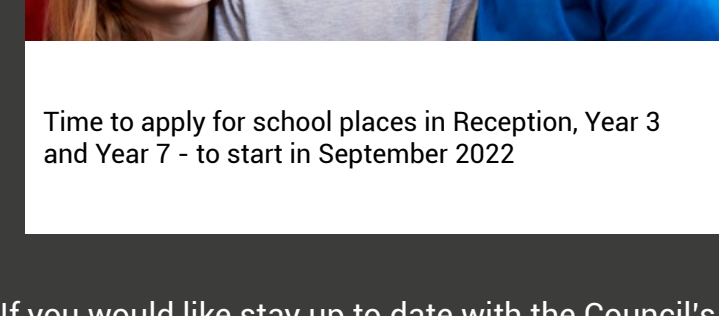
PubWatch gets behind sniffer dog checking for drugs



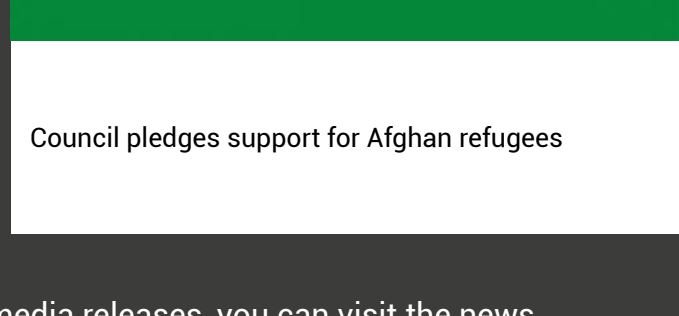
Consultation launched on improvements to bus services



Have your say on which issues get scrutinised in your area



Time to apply for school places in Reception, Year 3 and Year 7 - to start in September 2022



Council pledges support for Afghan refugees

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

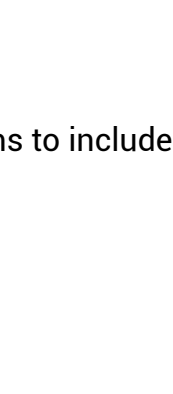
Or follow Twitter [@NNorthantsC](https://twitter.com/NNorthantsC) and/or Facebook [@NNorthants](https://www.facebook.com/NNorthants)

Social media: Top stories

Week commencing 20th September

Facebook:

- Current vacancies
- National Highways - road closures
- Annual canvass



Twitter:

- Street Food Friday at the West Glebe Park Sports Pavilion in Corby
- Northamptonshire Highways - reconstructing the footways along Pennine Way in Kettering
- #NationalFitnessDay

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

With Best Wishes,
Jason