

Mini *eUpdate* from Northants CALC

To Member Councils in Northamptonshire:

[Please read and circulate to all councillors]

Water, Water, Everywhere

Over the next five years the **Anglian Water Thriving Communities Fund** will put £5.8m of shareholder funds into projects that improve the water environment and bring real social benefits to the Anglian Water region. Whether it's shaping spaces that enhance wellbeing and reduce flood risk, improving water quality, or helping local species thrive, there are countless ways this fund can help communities flourish. Application for grants **between £10,000 and £100,000** can be made, with a two-stage application process for grants over £50,000. The Thriving Communities Fund opened for applications on Monday 10 November 2025 and the first round will close on **Sunday 1 February 2026**. If your parish or town council has in mind a project related in any way to water, from improving flooding resilience to supporting biodiversity in and around water courses, this fund could be for you. For all the details, please see <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/environment/supporting-our-communities/thriving-communities-fund>.

Staffing Update

On Monday next week we bid **a fond farewell to Lesley Sambrook Smith** who is hanging up her local government boots for good. We are so grateful for the wonderful service she has given to the Association and to our member councils in Northamptonshire. I know there will be many clerks and councillors that will miss her steadfast support. We are rejigging things internally and an advert for a **Senior Advisory Services Manager** went out on Wednesday. It is a great opportunity to join our small, busy, and dedicated team. There is never a dull day in the world of parish and town councils! For all the details, please see <https://northantscalc.gov.uk/sasm>. The closing date for applications is 1700 on **Monday 26 January 2026**.

Transport Scheme Funding – North Northamptonshire

North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) is giving parish and town councils **an opportunity to propose transport schemes** for potential future funding. Scheme proposals can cost up to £5million and must be deliverable by April 2030. Active Travel Schemes (encouraging people to get out of their cars) or schemes that improve accessibility would probably fit well. Proposals must fall within NNC's remit, i.e. don't propose a major new trunk road or railway! The consultation period is 16 December 2025 to **16 February 2026** and you'll find all the details at <https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/place-and-economy/ccf040fe/>.

Friday mini *eUpdates*

Today's Friday mini *eUpdate* is the last regular bulletin for 2025. The next FME will be on **Friday 9 January 2026**. Northants CALC will continue to monitor the local

government world over the festive period and special bulletins will be issued only if necessary to highlight any urgent announcements or key information for member councils in Northamptonshire. Our offices close for Christmas at 1200 on Wednesday 24 December 2025 and reopen at 0900 on Monday 5 January 2026.

Local Council Vacancies

Daventry Town Council has a vacancy for an Administration Assistant working 25 – 30 hours per week providing administrative support to the Chief Officer and other council staff. The role is based at the council's offices at New Street, Daventry. Salary NJC Scale Points 7-12 £26,403 to £28,598 per annum pro rata. The deadline for applications is **TODAY 19 December 2025**.

Cogenhoe is medium village 6 miles southeast of Northampton town centre. **Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council** has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 26 hours per week (plus on-call allowance). Salary SCP 24. The parish consists of the village of Cogenhoe and the hamlet of Whiston with combined population of approx. 1550. The council places a huge importance on community well-being, and the role includes managing the community bus scheme (known as the Village Hopper), the village hall (separate charitable status) and extensive program of community outreach activities. The council has 11 seats and the precept for 2025/26 was £39,300 (but with further income of £150,000 from the bus operation & £50,000 from Village Hall). The deadline for applications is **12 January 2026**.

Old Stratford is a large village on the A5 approximately 8 miles northwest of central Milton Keynes. There are 1,822 electors and the council has 11 seats. The precept for 2025/26 is £90,000. **Old Stratford Parish Council** has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 15 hours per week. The deadline for applications is 5pm on **23 January 2026**.

Scaldwell Parish Council has an immediate vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 8 hours per week. Scaldwell is a small village nine miles north of Northampton near Brixworth. The council has 7 seats and there are just 234 electors. The council set a precept for 2025/26 of £17,509. The deadline for applications is 1700 on **30 January 2026**.

Full details of all vacancies are at <https://northantscalc.gov.uk/council-vacancies>.

And finally, our friends at **Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service** have asked us to highlight their vacancy for a **Home Fire Safety Adviser**, full time, £28,083 - £31,566, to undertake home visits to high, and very high-risk members of the public identified via referrals from social services and the police. This role helps reduce risk and improve quality of life for residents of Northamptonshire. You'll find all the details at <https://tinyurl.com/576ctsrh>. The closing date for applications is 1600 on Monday **5 January 2026**.

Here's wishing all dedicated parish and town council clerks and councillors across Northamptonshire a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you for your hard work, commitment, and service to your communities throughout the year. **Your efforts make a real difference**, and we look forward to working to support you in 2026. Wassail! 🍷🎄🎁👤

Best regards,

Danny.

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