

Mini *eUpdate* from Northants CALC

To Member Councils in Northamptonshire:

[Please read and circulate to all councillors]

Publication of Highway Maintenance Transparency Reports

The **Department for Transport** (DfT) has introduced a new requirement for all local highways authorities to **publish information about their highways maintenance activities** to help local taxpayers see the difference that funding is making in their areas. The first report was required to be published on the highways authorities' websites by 30 June 2025 with a copy sent to DfT. Any highway authority not publishing a report by the 30 June deadline risks losing a proportion of their additional funding from government for highway maintenance. You will find North Northamptonshire Council's report at <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/highways-major-projects-plans-and-strategies/local-highways-maintenance-transparency-report> and the one for West Northamptonshire Council is at <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/highway-maintenance/local-highways-maintenance-transparency-report>. Both reports make very interesting reading and reveal the plans for 2025/26 and also the huge scale of the task. For more about the government's funding of highway maintenance, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/highway-maintenance-funding-guidance-for-local-authorities>.

Withdrawal of Funding for Neighbourhood Plans

As reported in the Friday mini *eUpdate* on 20 June 2025, the government has withdrawn future funding for Neighbourhood Plans. Parish and town councils were able to access up to £10,000 via Locality for neighbourhood planning technical support, which has incentivised and encouraged the development of over 2,400 Neighbourhood Plans in the past decade. Now, sector academic and champion Dr James Derounian has **launched a petition** to reinstate/continue support funding for community-led Neighbourhood Plans. If you think the funding should be put back, please sign the petition at <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/continuing-support-funding-for-community-led-neighbourhood-plans>.

Make A New Plan, Stan

North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) and West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) are both in the process of creating new Local Plans. Since November 2023, Northants CALC has held a series of **regular online briefings** in partnership with WNC for all parish and town councils in West Northamptonshire on the development of the Local Plan and other planning matters. The sessions have been useful for the attendees but also for the Planning Policy Officers from WNC, who have gained valuable feedback. All the slides and written Q&As are at <https://northantscalc.gov.uk/wnc-planning-briefings> including those for the most recent session held on 5 June 2025. You can read more about the development of the Local Plans

at <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/planning-policy/new-local-plan-west-northamptonshire> and <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/planning-strategies-and-plans/north-northamptonshire-local-plan>.

Local Council Vacancies

From Moulton Parish Council: "**Moulton Parish Council** is one of the largest and most active parish councils in Northamptonshire and holds the Quality Gold Local Council Award. One of our lovely team members will be taking time off over the summer to recover from surgery, creating a temporary opportunity for a **Parish Administrator** to join us. Flexible working hours are available, with the option to be based at Moulton Community Centre or to work from home. The role requires approximately 10 hours per week, Monday to Friday, starting mid/late July and ending late September/early October. Rate of pay £15.50 per hour. The Parish Administrator is a vital part of our team, supporting the smooth day-to-day operation of the council. This is an excellent opportunity for someone currently working as a Clerk in a smaller parish who is looking to gain experience in a larger, busy council or simply seeking additional hours. Key Responsibilities would include:

- Managing weekly and quarterly play equipment inspections, including liaising with contractors and organising repairs.
- Maintaining and update asset registers.
- Tracking and manage planning applications, assisting the Planning Committee and submitting responses on time.
- Coordinating with external contractors for village maintenance.
- Maintaining and updating the Parish Council website.
- Handling enquiries across all communication channels in a professional and timely manner.
- Supporting the Executive Officer with special projects as needed.

Please contact Jane Austin, Executive Officer on 01604 642202 or officer@moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk for further information. We'd love to hear from you!"

Rothwell Town Council has a vacancy for a Town Council Administrator, who will work under the instruction of the Clerk & RFO to ensure the smooth running of the Town Council and Health and Wellbeing Offer. 16 hours per week, Monday to Thursday, £12.50 per hour. Rothwell is an historic town just off the A14, 5 miles northwest of Kettering. There are 6,867 electors and the council has 12 seats. The precept for 2025/26 is £220,000. This is an exciting opportunity to join a growing and progressive town council.

Collyweston Parish Council has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 10 hours per week. Collyweston is a small village with 450 electors and is the second most northerly parish in Northamptonshire. The council has 7 seats and the precept for 2025/26 is £31,000. The deadline for applications is **18 July 2025**.

Details of all vacancies are at <https://northantscal.gov.uk/council-vacancies>.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Best regards, Danny.