



Latest update on events from your County Councillor Tom FitzPatrick

Hempton Parish Council

15th March 2023

COVID-19 Trusted sources of information

The most recent **verified data on cases in the UK and Norfolk** is available from [Public Health England](#) and [Norfolk Insights](#).

Everyone has a key role in promoting www.nhs.uk/coronavirus and www.gov.uk/coronavirus as trusted sources of information to the public. It is important to ensure people go to the right sources of information and keep up to date with how to look after themselves.

Keep up to date: We have [a dedicated webpage for coronavirus updates](#) in Norfolk and impact on Norfolk County Council services.

Service updates: The most up to date information on council services can be found at [Norfolk County Council services disruptions](#).

Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation update

Spring COVID-19 booster

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has confirmed its advice for a 2023 spring coronavirus (COVID-19) booster programme.

- The committee has advised that the Spring booster should be offered should be offered to adults aged 75 years and over, residents in a care home for older adults, individuals aged 5 years and over who are immunosuppressed.
- Eligible individuals will be offered the vaccine around 6 months after their previous dose and NHS England will confirm operational details for the programme in due course.

More details [here](#).

County Deal for Norfolk - **consultation ends 20 March**

The County Council would appreciate your feedback on the County Deal for Norfolk and if you could share the link to the consultation, with your residents.

There's still time for people to have their say on a proposed £600 million-plus devolution deal, to give Norfolk more powers and funding to create jobs, improve transport and boost skills.

The consultation proposing '[A County Deal for Norfolk](#)' and plans to transfer funding and powers from Government to Norfolk County Council closes on 20 March 2023.

- We want to receive feedback from communities across Norfolk, to ensure everyone has a voice and an opportunity to help shape the future of Norfolk.
- **Everyone is encouraged to provide a response to the consultation.**

You can find out more and respond to the consultation online [here](#).

or, by emailing haveyoursay@norfolk.gov.uk.

Childrens' Services

Start for Life programme is looking for panel members

I would be grateful if you could share this information with residents.

Norfolk's children and young people alliance is looking for pregnant people and parents and carers of children under two to join their 'Start for Life' parent and carer panel to help shape the design of services that support families with young children.

- They are looking for parents and carers from diverse backgrounds and experiences to join their panel. The panel will meet every other month.
- If people want to find out more, they can sign up for one of the two remaining information sessions being held online in March:
 - 16 March at 18:00
 - 20 March at 14:15

Further information about the Start for Life programme, the panel and how to book a place [here](#).

Government funding for Norfolk to provide new support for teenagers with SEND

Teenagers with SEND and their families are set to benefit from new help and support after Norfolk County Council's Short Breaks Service successfully bid for £955,000 to fund an innovative new project.

- The new scheme will be for 14 to 18-year-olds with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) demonstrating the most complex social, emotional and behaviour from this summer.
- It will introduce new community-based provision for families struggling to manage their child's behaviour safely, including family coaching, psychological therapy, activities in the home delivered by professionals, and community-based activities outside the family home.

The funding is from the Government's new £30 million Short Breaks Innovation Fund set up as part of the [SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan it published on 2 March](#) which aims to achieve better, fairer access to high quality SEND support.

Integrated Quality Service improvement update

I am pleased to share with you the Integrated Quality Service improvement and escalation policy.

The policy helps us to support health and social care providers in Norfolk and Waveney. It sets out the statutory framework, strategic principles and key activity of Norfolk County Council and Norfolk & Waveney Clinical Commissioning Group's Integrated Quality Service.

- Over 100 people provided feedback in the consultation of the policy.

The Integrated Quality Service improvement and escalation policy is available on Norfolk County Council's website [here](#).

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch:

gaprovidersassd@norfolk.gov.uk

An event is currently being planned in June for Members, ICS partners and care providers and the service will be in touch with them soon with further details.

Norfolk Climate Change Strategy

Earlier today (15 March) Norfolk County Council's Infrastructure and Development Select Committee will review a draft climate change strategy that outlines how the Council will hit its net zero estate target by 2030, support clean growth across the county, and boost resilience to the changing climate.

Members will hear that the authority's own emissions from its buildings, streetlights and vehicles have halved in five years, and that the strategy sets a commitment to maintain this momentum and reduce these emissions by 90% from 2016/17 levels by 2030, with remaining emissions being offset.

The draft strategy aims to reduce emissions from the Council's own operations and services, as well as support wider emissions reductions and clean growth across the county. It includes measures to promote low-carbon transport options, develop the skills needed for the green economy, and encourage sustainable tourism. The Council will also work with local businesses and communities to support nature recovery, such as the nationally-significant Wendling Beck Project, being delivered by partners including Norfolk County Council.

Further details and a link to the Infrastructure and Development Committee papers [here](#)

Rural electric vehicle charging points for Norfolk

Norfolk's Electric Vehicle infrastructure has been given another boost as Cabinet have approved an application to the Norfolk Infrastructure Fund for £175,000 to improve the provision of charging points across the County.

The Norfolk Rural Electric Vehicle Charge Point Pilot Scheme will increase the availability of public electric vehicle charging point (EVCP) facilities in rural communities by looking at opportunities to use both existing public and private infrastructure. It is hoped that by improving the availability of public charge points more people will be able to make the transition to electric vehicles.

- The project is a partnership with local supplier Anglia Car Charging who will be providing match funding for the scheme.

The money will be used to:

- Install a minimum of 26 charge points across Norfolk
- Establish 'Plug-in Norfolk'; a charging network initiative for the county bringing together businesses, parish communities and other organisations to introduce consistency to charging across Norfolk
- Work with the Broads Authority to identify locations with boat charging provision and install car charging to showcase multi-modal green transport charging infrastructure
- Create a universal payment, maintenance, and support system
- Trial modular solar car port chargers in areas where facilities would otherwise not be provided

Norfolk fundraiser event for victims of earthquake in Turkey and Syria

Norfolk members and residents are invited to participate in a Fundraising Event for the victims of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, to be held at Blackfriars Hall in Norwich on Sunday 19 March.

- In partnership with local Turkish and Syrian residents in Norfolk, Norfolk County Council's specialist social work team, the People from Abroad Team, are holding a fundraising event from 2pm to 6pm on Sunday 19 March at Blackfriars Hall. This all-ticket event will feature presentations about the impact of the earthquake on the Turkish and Syrian communities locally and in the earthquake zone.
- Local Turkish and Syrian restaurants and caterers are providing a buffet meal and there will also be a raffle, along with some entertainment.
- Tickets cost £25 each, with all proceeds going to charity, they can be booked [here](#).

Those not able to make the event can still donate to this event at the same link, by choosing to make a donation.

PUBLIC INFORMATION NOTICE:

Appeal from the Norfolk Coroner's Service for help tracing next-of-kin

The Norfolk Coroner's Service are appealing for help to trace the family of a gentleman who died last month.

60 year-old Christopher Godfrey Evans who lived at an address in Thorpe St Andrews in Norwich and died on Thursday 22 February 2023.

Christopher previously had links to Norwich and Hertfordshire.

There were no suspicious circumstances and despite carrying out extensive enquiries no next-of-kin have been identified.

Anyone with information relating to Christopher should contact the Coroner's Office in Norwich on 01603 774773

Tom FitzPatrick

County Councillor for Fakenham Division

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