



Norfolk County Council

Latest Information, Advice, Useful Links and Service Updates

Updated 4 September 2025

This weekly briefing is intended as a resource to keep you up to date with the latest information and advice.

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

Norfolk County Council updates

Your chance to give your views on Norfolk's Recycling Centres

The county council has launched their annual survey for Norfolk's 19 recycling centres.

Last year, the centres processed over 69,000 tonnes of household waste, with more than 73% successfully diverted from general waste disposal.

The survey, is a chance for residents to share their experiences, suggest improvements, and help shape the future of the service. It is open until Wednesday 17 September and takes just a few minutes to complete.

How you can help

- Let your parish councils know about the survey and encourage them to share the link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RecyclingCentreSurvey2025/>
- Look out for social media posts across [Norfolk CC Facebook](#) and [Next-door](#) and share them on your own pages
- Signpost to more information about locations, opening hours and accepted items: www.norfolk.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling

Household hazardous waste days - reminder

Norfolk County Council has announced a series of household hazardous waste days (HHWDs) this autumn, offering residents the opportunity to safely dispose of unwanted hazardous materials at seven recycling centres across the county.

The autumn HHWDs will take place on the following dates:

- Norwich South – Friday 3 & Saturday 4 October
- King's Lynn – Friday 10 & Saturday 11 October
- Caister – Friday 24 & Saturday 25 October
- Dereham – Friday 31 October & Saturday 1 November
- Thetford – Friday 7 & Saturday 8 November
- Hempton – Friday 21 & Saturday 22 November
- Norwich North – Friday 28 & Saturday 29 November

Over £34 Million secured to transform transport across Norfolk

Norfolk County Council has secured more than £34 million in new government funding to enhance local transport infrastructure and planning over the next four years.

The Department for Transport (DfT) has confirmed that Norfolk will receive £32.5 million in capital funding and an additional £2.1 million in resource funding through the Government's Local Transport Grant (LTG) programme.

The funding will support both the delivery of physical infrastructure and the capacity to plan, develop and manage projects, helping Norfolk address key priorities such as reducing congestion, improving accessibility, enhancing public transport, and promoting sustainable travel.

Bus service improvements

More passengers in Norfolk will benefit from the recent bus service enhancements implemented through Norfolk County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan. These improvements are supported by £15.9 million in funding for 2025/26 from the Department for Transport (DfT) - supplementing the £49.5 million provided in previous funding rounds. All funding is dedicated to improving bus services across the county.

More bus services to Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital

Bus passengers travelling to and from Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital will benefit from the latest bus service improvements.

Additional buses are operating on the 26/26A evening and Sunday services between Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and Bowthorpe.

Buses on the 21/21A route between Old Catton and the hospital now run every 15 minutes instead of every 20, Monday to Saturday. The updated timetable also adds earlier trips Monday to Friday and more evening services Monday to Saturday.

More buses between Watton and Attleborough

Konectbus service 82 will now run hourly, adding three extra journeys each way between the two towns. The new schedule improves connections to Norwich by coordinating with First Bus and Coach Services. Funded by Norfolk County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan, the 82 has operated since September 2023.

Little Ellingham will no longer be served by the 82, but residents can still use the twice-weekly Flexibus from Our Hire. Notices and leaflets will inform passengers about these changes.

Nationally recognised AI programme to be rolled out across Norfolk to prevent falls

A nationally recognised proactive intervention scheme is being implemented throughout Norfolk. This initiative, delivered in partnership with local organisations such as Voluntary,

Community and Social Enterprises (VCSE), city, district and borough Councils, and NHS bodies, is designed to reduce the incidence of falls among vulnerable and older adults.

Building on a successful pilot involving 1,250 residents, the programme uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to identify residents who may be at risk of increasing care needs. This enables the council to identify and prioritise individuals in Norfolk most at risk of falling, and to offer timely and proactive interventions to support their safety and well-being.

For more information about preventing falls visit [Preventing and dealing with falls](#).

National Updates

Emergency alert reminder

The UK government will be carrying out a national test of the Emergency Alerts system on Sunday 7 September at 3pm. Compatible mobile phones and tablets will receive an alert, make a loud siren-like sound and vibrate.

More information about emergency alerts is available on the government website [here](#).

Flu medication and vaccines

The Government is removing restrictions on prescribing flu medications outside the usual season to reduce winter pressures and allow year-round treatment. This will allow patients to receive treatment sooner and ease winter pressures by allowing outbreaks to be contained

The government's announcement coincides with the NHS launching this year's improved flu vaccine programme on 1 September 2025. The autumn rollout kicks off with flu vaccines for millions of children and pregnant women. The [NHS national booking system](#) has also opened for all eligible individuals to book their winter flu and COVID-19 vaccinations, with appointments starting from 1 October 2025.

Booster vaccines for children

The latest annual uptake data on childhood vaccines published by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) shows that 18.6% of children, almost 1 in 5, have not received their pre-school booster jab. [UKHSA and NHS England are calling for](#) parents and healthcare workers to catch up on missed vaccinations as schools start the autumn term.

The 4-in-1 pre-school booster helps protect children against 4 serious illnesses - polio, whooping cough, tetanus and diphtheria. Given from 3 years 4 months of age, the vaccine boosts the protection provided by previous vaccines given to babies. It ensures children have the essential protection they need when starting primary school. Without this booster, children are not fully protected.

English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill Second Reading.

A majority of MPs have voted in favour of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill at its [Second Reading](#). 365 MPs backed the Bill, with 164 members opposing the changes.

Deputy prime minister Angela Rayner said the Bill marked a 'new era' for Britain as the reforms would empower communities and enable people to have a 'bigger say in shaping their local area and that it 'will drive the biggest transfer of power in a generation out of Whitehall to our regions and communities.'

Sentencing Bill

[The Sentencing Bill](#) was introduced to the House of Commons on 2 September. The Bill makes significant changes to the sentencing framework and the way in which offenders are managed and serve sentences in the community. It aims to protect the public from serious offenders while reducing prison overcrowding and reoffending through greater community sentences for low-risk individuals. It also aims to create a justice system that better serves victims.

Further details are available in the [Government's press release](#). It will need to go through several further stages, and if passed, is not likely to be implemented until 2026.

Dental Deserts – LGA research

[New research](#) by the LGA has revealed 'dental deserts' in Britain's most deprived areas. Rural areas are worst hit and more likely to have fewer NHS practices. People living in areas with the poorest health outcomes are less likely to find an NHS dentist than those in areas with the best health outcomes, suggesting that demand is outstripping supply in communities which need it most.

The analysis finds that the mean number of active dental practices offering NHS services per 100,000 people was 16, with Norfolk at 13.2 (based on 2022 data).

SEND transport costs hit record levels

Spending on transport for children with special educational needs in England reached £2.26 billion in 2023/24, more than double the figure in 2015/16, according to FT analysis of official data. Previous [LGA analysis](#), published in July 2025, found that the average cost per student is now £8,900 a year, with some councils paying significantly more as demand for education, health and care plans rises.

Chancellor confirms date of budget

The Chancellor has confirmed that the date of the Budget will be Wednesday 26 November. [HM Treasury says](#) the next Budget will focus on the long-term reforms Britain needs to unlock growth and ensure it works for working people.