

Update June 26th

Big Holiday Fun back

This summer's Big Norfolk Holiday Fun programme is now live, offering more opportunities than ever before - from kayaking and climbing to cooking and coding! Between 20 July and 02 September, activities will take place across Norfolk, giving children the chance to stay active, try new things and make new friends during the school holidays.

There are still free spaces available for children eligible for benefits-related free school meals, alongside paid places for those who are not eligible. Families can choose from a wide range of activities and there are also plenty of SEND-specialist sessions too.

Sessions are delivered by organisations across the county, in partnership with Norfolk County Council and Active Norfolk - [click here to browse the full list of what's on offer](#). There's lots on in North Norfolk so do have a look. There is the Government promise of free bus travel for children in August but Sanders haven't yet committed.

Apprenticeships drop-in King's Lynn

Our Apprenticeship Team is holding a drop-in session on Monday 06 July at Priory House in King's Lynn. They'll be stationed by the lifts near the staff entrance between 12:00 and 13:30 and will be on hand to discuss all things apprenticeships. A range of apprenticeship opportunities are available to suit everyone so it's a great chance to learn more by speaking directly with the team.

For more information about apprenticeships at NCC and the opportunities available, [visit our dedicated page on myNet](#).

Free workshops to help people drive safely for longer

In partnership with Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service, our public health road safety team is offering free workshops for drivers aged 60 and over to help them drive safely for longer. The workshop covers how driving can change as you get older, key Highway Code updates and practical tips with time to ask questions.

Family members wanting to find out about support available for older people to travel safely are also welcome to book a place.

[Click here to find out more and book a free workshop.](#) More workshops around the county will be added in the coming months.

Electrical Waste Update

We are currently unable to accept fridges and freezers and small electrical appliances for recycling in Norfolk. We are working hard to resolve this issue and are expecting services to be resumed in the coming weeks.

Electrical waste is dealt with through Producer Compliance Schemes, who arrange for safe recycling and disposal of the electricals via treatment plants, at the cost of the electrical retailers. The treatment plant that accepted the majority of Norfolk's electrical waste suffered a catastrophic fire in April and subsequently the business stopped operating. This has given a huge loss in the regional treatment capacity for these types of materials, and this was on the back of some significant national issues with fridges and freezers, following plant fires and site closures.

As we no longer have a treatment facility to accept our electrical waste, we have been referred to the Producer Balancing Scheme, which acts as a national regulator to ensure local authorities have their electrical waste collected. We have been accepted by a new Producer Compliance Scheme, who is currently working with treatment plants nationally to find capacity for our waste.

We are asking householders to hold on to electrical items that we cannot accept, to avoid the fire risk they pose within the waste stream and thanking them for their patience while we reestablish the service. I am sorry that this may be generating additional enquiries for you.

Our webpage is regularly updated at

[Electrical waste recycling](#)

Any questions can be sent to waste.management@norfolk.gov.uk

New SEND plan

Norfolk has published a three-year plan to improve support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The Norfolk Local SEND Reform Plan has been developed following extensive engagement with children and young people, families, schools, early years settings, colleges, the NHS and the voluntary sector.

It sets out a shared approach across education, health and social care, with a focus on earlier support and a more inclusive system where the vast majority of children can flourish in mainstream education.

The plan responds to a Government request for all areas to submit a Local SEND Reform Plan by 19 June. It focuses on support that can be introduced now, ahead of national legislation which will bring further change.

Over the next three years, Norfolk will:

- Expand support for mainstream schools through the £5.9m 'Experts at Hand' funding available if the Government accepts the
- Create additional wraparound support to early years settings and further education providers aiming for 95% of 16 and 17-year-olds to be in education, employment or training.
- Further strengthen 'Team around the School' support to mainstream schools to help identify and meet needs earlier
- Through existing Zone Inclusion Partnerships across Norfolk's 15 school and community zones, increase peer-to-peer support between schools and trusts to share strong SEND practice
- Roll out a new three-tier approach developed with secondary schools to create improved support for children at risk of exclusion through 16 new social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) bases and centres, Local Partnership Planning meetings and targeted outreach
- Complete rollout of mental health support teams to all schools by 2028
- Aim to reduce waiting times for neurodevelopmental assessments to 18 weeks by 2028
- Continue the capital programme to expand specialist provision, and by 2028 double the number of Specialist Resource Bases (SRBs) in mainstream schools resulting in around 40% of primary schools and over half of secondary schools hosting this provision. To date around 85% of children have remained in mainstream education as a result of this support.
- Roll out a framework focused on positive relationships and a nurture approach, that supports consistent and inclusive practice across all settings.

The plan builds on work already underway through the council's multi million pound Local First Inclusion programme to transform SEND education.

If approved by Government, the plan could see 90%, around £195m, of the council's historic Dedicated Schools Grant (SEND) deficit repaid.

Judicial Review submitted

A judicial review has been submitted by Norfolk County Council in response to the proposed Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) programme in Norfolk.

The Government's proposals would replace the current two-tier system of local government in Norfolk, comprising the county council alongside district, city and borough councils, with a new structure of three unitary authorities.

The submission of a judicial review represents an early stage in the legal process. The court will consider whether the case should be granted permission to proceed. If so, the case would

move to a substantive hearing where the lawfulness of the Government's decision-making process will be examined.