

From NNDC

'Housing and benefits'

NNDC have developed a 'better off calculator' (www.north-Norfolk.gov.uk/apply) for residents to help with financial planning and resilience. This can help with unclaimed benefits.

We have an additional £500k to improve household energy efficiency.

We continue to administer Discretionary Housing Payment to sustain tenancies and relieve homelessness.

At the end of November there were 1174 households on the housing list with 32% having the greatest need. This is a reduction in previously due to the new allocations scheme, with many not re-registering despite being contacted and a few no longer eligible. Those eligible can reapply. Approaches for homelessness are down to 30 households were assessed as being homeless in November. The most common reason for homelessness is 'friends and family no longer able to accommodate'. The majority of those assessed as homeless are offered social housing. There were 64 households in temporary accommodation in November. NNDC has 29 units of temporary housing with 3 more being purchased. 93 affordable homes will be completed in 25/26 and 129 will come on stream in 26/27.

There has been good take up of the Disability Facilities Grant for housing adaptations to enable residents to stay in their home for longer. Do get in touch if you would like to know more.

There are still very few applications for the Forget me not grant, a non means tested grant for those with memory issues to help with equipment in the home so do contact NNDC:

<https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/tasks/housing-services/apply-for-a-forget-me-not-grant/>

If you have any money worries the Financial Inclusion team are really helpful. Call 01263516221.

Let me know if you have any questions about this.

Planning

The New Local Plan should have been adopted by the time you read this.

There is a consultation on the Building Regulations legislation, looking to see if services could be more financially sustainable, more Building Inspectors could be recruited and whether building regulations are complied with.

Environment

The new Renters Rights Act is now in force. This includes new investigatory powers for local councils.

Environmental crime such as flytipping has reduced.

Energy saving

There is a helpful online checker to create a plan to make your home more energy efficient. Check out [https:// Norfolk.homewise.energy/App/Welcome](https://Norfolk.homewise.energy/App/Welcome)

Norfolk Warm Homes has details of how to make your home more energy efficient with government grants <https://norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk>

Several Mobile Network Operators will be attending NNDC in January to explain their plans to improve coverage in North Norfolk.

I'll be meeting with the ambulance trust in February 2026 to discuss emergency response times in our area.