


WINTER 2022 

Northumberland news

A MEMORIAL TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II

COULD YOU HELP LOCAL CHILDREN?

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS



Northumberland
County Council



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KEEP IN TOUCH...

To stay informed about all our service developments please follow us on our social media channels.



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youtube.com/NorthumberlandTV



WHILE REFLECTING ON THE YEAR GONE BY, WE'VE SEEN A LOT OF POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND, FROM NEW SCHOOLS AND LEISURE CENTRES TO MAJOR INVESTMENT IN JOBS AND INDUSTRY



FOREWORD BY **GLEN SANDERSON**

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

In our last edition of **Northumberland News** I wrote of how much we were looking forward to The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, marking 70 years since the Coronation.

Sadly, in September, we joined the nation united in grief at the death of Queen Elizabeth II. It was a very difficult time for many of us but gave us all another opportunity to reflect on her inspirational life and pay our respects together as a county and a country.

What is abundantly clear is that people want to remember Queen Elizabeth II and that's why we've been seeking your views on a permanent memorial or memorials to her.

We've had almost 1,000 submissions which we are very grateful for and we're now working

through them to understand more about what you would like to see.

While reflecting on the year gone by, we've seen a lot of positive developments in Northumberland, from new schools and leisure centres to major investment in jobs and industry, and this is set to continue into next year.

But we know the cost of living, driven by global events, is an issue for many of us. That's why we've been working hard, led by our fantastic Northumberland Communities Together team, to pull together a comprehensive list of all the support that's available from ourselves and our partners. There's a lot more detail inside the magazine.

As we prepare to bid farewell to 2022 all that remains is to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas.

STAY INFORMED

Please enter the link below to sign up for updates on important local news and changes to council services: nland.cc/weekly

Front cover image: Pupils from Seahouses Primary School with the sheep from a new visual arts trail *Illuminated Sheep* which is lighting up Northumberland to celebrate the arrival of the Lindisfarne Gospels in the North East.



COST OF LIVING SUPPORT

The cost of living will affect everyone differently. We're working with partners, voluntary sector organisations and charities across Northumberland to make sure every resident has the support they need this winter.

WHERE TO GO FOR SUPPORT...

For up-to-date information about local and national cost of living support visit our website: www.northumberland.gov.uk

It contains information such as:

- Discounts and payments from the government
- Support for household bills - gas and electricity
- Benefits checker
- Information on keeping warm this winter and warm community spaces
- Support for families – including family hubs

- Help with transport costs
- Mental health and wellbeing support
- Information for housing and council tenants
- Support for businesses
- Skills, jobs and work
- How to volunteer

The web pages will be constantly updated with the latest information as new government announcements are made, so please keep referring to it if you are able.

If you don't have access to a computer, please contact Northumberland County Council's customer contact centre **Tel: 0345 600 6400**.



If English is not your preferred language, you can ask the advisor to use a translator: **Typetalk 01800 10845 600 6400**.

If you are deaf or can't speak on the phone, contact us using **Relay UK: 018001 01670 623 515** or **Sign video: northumberlandcc-cs.signvideo.net**

SUPPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Working alongside community groups, partners, volunteers and council services the Northumberland Communities Together team connect residents with local support.



If you or anyone in your family would like support, or identifies with any of the issues listed below, please pick up the phone, we're here to listen.

- Perhaps your financial circumstances have changed with reduced hours, redundancy or benefit changes
- Worried about winter bills, financial pressures or the cost of living
- Feeling lonely, overwhelmed or struggling with mental health
- Concerned about a neighbour who may not have support nearby from family or friends

Ring the Northumberland Communities Together Response Hub on **01670 620015** 9am-6pm, 7 days a week or email NCT@northumberland.gov.uk

FOR URGENT HELP

If it is urgent and someone needs immediate support, help or protection ring the emergency response line OneCall on **01670 536400**. This line is open all day, every day of the year.

Council Leader, Councillor Glen Sanderson, said: "Our residents are facing challenging times and the pressures of rising costs will be a cause for concern for many.

"I want to assure them support is in place to help. Our Northumberland Communities Together Response Hub can help signpost to much needed advice and guidance.

"As a council we are doing all we can to access grants available to us to help our residents, but in the meantime, I urge anyone who is struggling, worrying or simply wants to talk to someone about their situation to get in touch with the team."



BEWARE OF COST-OF-LIVING SCAMS

BEWARE

There are some new and sophisticated scams doing the rounds especially around cost-of-living payments with criminals exploiting people's hardships, the elderly and the vulnerable to get their hands on their money.

REMEMBER

Your bank, or any other official source, will never ask you to supply personal information such as passwords, PIN numbers or personal information and bank account details.

DON'T

Click on any links unless you are absolutely sure of the source.

PLEASE

Spread the word to family and friends, especially the elderly, so we can all keep one step ahead of these criminals.

Find out more about scams here:
nland.cc/scam

COMMUNITIES PROMISE A WARM WELCOME TO RESIDENTS THIS WINTER

A network of community warm spaces is expanding across Northumberland to provide a warm welcome to those who need it.

WHAT ARE WARM SPACES?

Warm spaces are places where people can come together in a warm, safe, welcoming place and maybe enjoy a hot drink, a sit down and have a chat with others.

Voluntary groups, community organisations and others from our communities have come together to establish a network of warm spaces this winter. This includes, but is not limited to, community centres, church halls, libraries and community hubs. They are free to visit and we promise a warm welcome when you arrive.

Some places may offer a hot drink, activities and other things like free



access computers and Wi-Fi. You can come and spend time quietly or meet other people in your community for a chat. Each warm space is different and may not be open every day. But we're working together with all our community partners to try and offer as many warm spaces as we can.

Find your nearest Warm Space here: nland.cc/Warmspace or contact Northumberland Communities Together on **01670 620015** between 9am to 6pm, seven days a week.

ARE WARM HUBS DIFFERENT TO WARM SPACES?

Yes, they are different to Warm Spaces. Community Action Northumberland (CAN) has a long standing, award-winning 'Warm Hubs' project. They provide a network of warm, energy-efficient community venues acting as focal points for energy support and advice and a small network of volunteer Energy Agents.

There are 24 Warm Hubs across Northumberland many of which already have a full programme: For more information visit nland.cc/energyadvice

Warm
Welcome

For you, your family and friends



Northumberland
Communities Together

BECOMING A WARM SPACE

If you are an organisation offering a warm space in your community already and you'd like to join the network, please get in touch. All our partners agree to a warm welcome promise.

Please tell us about your facilities and services so we can add you to the directory. It should only take a few minutes to complete the form:

nland.cc/WarmSpacesPromise





"A GREAT PLACE TO COME
FOR ALL AGES, FRIENDLY STAFF AND
LOTS TO SAFELY DO. LOVE IT!"



FAMILY HUBS – HERE FOR EVERYONE!



We're really excited to launch Family Hubs in Northumberland, giving young people of all ages the best start in life.

Our brilliant children's centres are already buzzing with activities for children aged 0-5 and their families.

Now, as Family Hubs, this support is being rolled out to all young people extending the age range to 0-19 and to 25 for anyone with additional needs (SEND), making a difference to children, young people and their families. The hubs will be in the heart of their communities,

with midwives, health visitors, early years and mental health professionals, youth workers, and a host of other services - including relationship and parenting programmes, and financial advice – brought together into a vibrant one-stop-shop.

The Family Hubs will also offer outreach, online and virtual services so that support can be accessible to everyone.



There is so much going on across our Family Hubs – from registering a birth to free play sessions where children can have fun and learn new skills. There's lots of support for parents too.

To find out about what's on visit: nland.cc/hub



IF ELIGIBLE, GET YOUR AUTUMN BOOSTER!

More than 30 million people across the UK are eligible for an Autumn Covid booster and flu vaccine this year. It's the best way to protect yourself from serious illness ahead of winter so please take up the offer.

The Autumn Covid-19 booster programme is being delivered by both GP-led Primary Care Networks and Community Pharmacy sites.

Those eligible for the Autumn booster of Covid-19 vaccine include:

- People aged 50 years and over.
- Residents in care homes for older adults.
- Pregnant women.
- Those aged five years and over who

are at higher risk from Covid because of a weakened immune system or other health condition.

- Front-line health and social care staff.
- Those who care for vulnerable individuals.
- Families of individuals with weakened immune systems.

There are two different ways to access the Covid vaccination:

Via the National Booking Service, which is available by telephone on **119**, or online at nland.cc/nhsvaccine

New clinics are being added regularly as vaccine supply is confirmed.

Via your local GP practice using a local




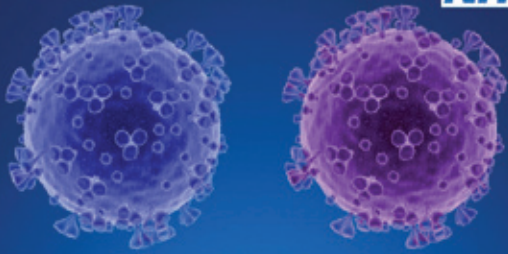
booking system. You will be contacted via your GP practice if they are offering this service and you do not need to contact them. Please wait patiently to be contacted. You will not be missed.

STAY WELL THIS WINTER

As we enter the winter months, remember to do all you can to stay well and look out for others. By remaining vigilant and continuing to follow some simple steps, it will help prevent the spread of winter bugs:

- Continue to wear a mask on public transport and in crowded spaces.
- 'Hands, face, space' still works against Covid, flu and other winter viruses.

- You can help blow viruses away by opening windows and letting in fresh air - keep air flowing.
- If you do start to feel unwell, stay at home if you can and limit your contact with other people.
- Respiratory illnesses can affect anyone, but some people with underlying health conditions are at a higher risk, and it's particularly important they are vaccinated.

DOUBLE YOUR DEFENCES

against flu and COVID-19 this year

Get both vaccines

#GetVaccinatedGetProtected

WORKING TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES

Following a summit earlier this year, over 400 professional stakeholders in Northumberland took part in conversations to develop the action plan to work differently with our communities and help to tackle inequalities.

In the poorest parts of Northumberland, residents are dying up to 12 years earlier than people in wealthier areas and spending longer living in poor health.

A person's physical and mental health and wellbeing

are influenced throughout life by things such as parental upbringing, educational attainment, job opportunities and income, type of housing, access to transport and social connectivity.

The Northumberland Inequalities Plan commits to considering inequalities in all work carried out by the council and partners, listening to the voice of residents, considering community strengths, and enhancing services to ensure everyone can access them.



NEW FILM HIGHLIGHTS THE ROLE OF FOSTERING

A national short film called 'Childhood' has been launched to raise awareness of the need for foster carers and the council took part in the ground-breaking project, along with 56 local authorities - to share ideas and fund the film.

The aim of the film is to find more people to work as foster carers and provide nurturing, positive homes for children and young people.

It highlights the impact of neglect on children, particularly brothers and sisters who may be left at times to try and care for each other.

It shows the journey of 'Sophie' and 'Charlie' who are in a very difficult home situation where their needs are not being met - to being supported through foster care to attend school and be able to enjoy their hobbies and interests. In other words, how fostering helps them to have a childhood.

Look out for 'Childhood' across our social networks, nland.cc/Fostering or visit the Northumberland County Council Fostering website:

www.northumberland.gov.uk/foster

COULD YOU HELP AND SUPPORT LOCAL CHILDREN?

Could you consider part-time or full-time work as a foster carer to help care for brothers and sisters, so they can have a childhood together?

Every day, ordinary folk living in and around the county are doing amazing things by working as a Northumberland foster carer. They are making a huge difference to the wellbeing of children living with them.

They are supported to care for the children by the fostering and wider children's services teams - this includes help financially, emotionally, and training-wise to offer loving homes for children like Sophie and Charlie.

Don't just take our word for it – you can view our Northumberland foster family stories on our YouTube playlist on the NorthumberlandTV channel: nland.cc/Fostering

BE THE DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE



Adopt North East is your local adoption agency, responsible for family-finding for children in Northumberland who cannot be raised in their first family.

There is a wealth of information about the adoption process and the ongoing support provided on the Adopt North East website, as well as regular online, informal, open evenings. These are warm, honest presentations about adoption where you can meet some of the friendly team, ask any questions and hear direct from adopters about their experience - all from the comfort of your own home.

The next opening evenings are on 10 January and 8 February, 2023.

For details and to reserve your place, go to www.adoptnortheast.org.uk/events or call 0191 643 5000.



The next 'IS FOSTERING FOR ME' event is online on January 16th from 6pm. Visit www.northumberland.org.uk/foster for more information and details.

SIMPLE STEPS TO STAY PREPARED THIS WINTER

It's the Scout Movement's well known motto - *"Be Prepared"* - and it's advice we should all follow.

Whether it's snowfall, power cuts or fallen trees, it's always good to think ahead about what you might need if your daily routine is disrupted.

Northumberland residents are known for their resilience, but as we saw with the storms of last winter, some communities were without heating or power for several days.

So it's always worth taking some simple steps to keep you and your loved ones safe. And as with all emergencies it's best to be prepared in advance if you can.

Feel free to keep this page as a handy reminder.

Think about what you would do in an emergency. What are your personal circumstances – do you have children, pets or a medical condition which you need to prepare for? Are there friends or family you could stay with if needed?

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES:

Hopefully these won't be needed but it's a good idea to have a few items ready for any household emergencies.

Some items to have to hand include:

- ☐ A charged phone, a phone charger and a charged battery pack. Handwritten phone numbers.
- ☐ Torches and spare batteries and a wind-up torch if you have one.
- ☐ Food and drink that doesn't require cooking or heating.
- ☐ Warm clothing and layers.
- ☐ A battery powered radio (to keep up to date with events).
- ☐ A list of any prescription medicines.



HOUSEHOLD HINTS AND TIPS:

- ☐ Make sure you know where your main switches are (gas/electric/water).
- ☐ Do any of your neighbours need any extra help or support?
- ☐ If you have dogs or cats, are their microchip details up to date?
- ☐ Talk to your family about your emergency plans.

USEFUL NUMBERS AND WEBSITES:

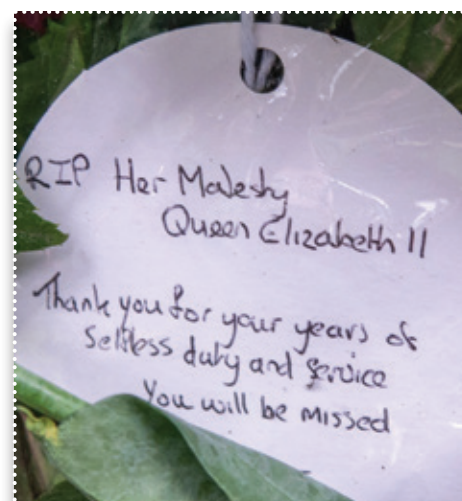
- **Northumberland Communities Together** (for anyone struggling with food supplies or other essentials) Every day: 01670 620 015.
- **Northumberland County Council:** 0345 600 6400.

- **Northern Powergrid:** www.northernpowergrid.com or call 105.
- **Scottish Power:** www.spenergynetworks.co.uk or call 105.
- **Northumbria Water:** 0345 717 1100.
- **One Call** (for concerns about vulnerable residents or safeguarding issues): 01670 536 400.
- **Emergency:** If you are experiencing an emergency call: 999.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS:

Remember, if you are on social media and can get access to the internet, follow the council's alerts channels for latest updates during emergencies or severe weather:

- www.facebook.com/nccalert
- www.twitter.com/northumberland



OVER 1,000 IDEAS SUGGESTED FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH II MEMORIAL

People in Northumberland are being thanked for their views on a permanent memorial in the county to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II.

The idea for a permanent memorial or memorials in Northumberland to forever remember her in the county she often visited drew over 1,000 suggestions and around 90 locations suggested.

The council will now be carefully going through all the ideas put forward before any final decisions are taken.

Councillor Glen Sanderson, Leader of Northumberland County Council, said: "Queen Elizabeth II touched the hearts

and lives of so many people and we want to ensure this memorial is a place for all; a place where our residents and visitors can go to remember this great monarch.

"I am so grateful that so many people took the time to put forward ideas and suggestions – it clearly shows the high regard we held her in.

"We look forward to sharing our plans with everyone once we've studied the survey findings."

FLORAL TRIBUTES TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Moving messages and floral tributes to Queen Elizabeth II were made at locations across Northumberland in the days following her death.

Displayed on this page, are just some of the images which capture our county's respect and admiration for the country's longest serving monarch.





WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES THIS CHRISTMAS...

- Explore what is on your doorstep, you'll be surprised at what you find.
- Ask friends and family for vouchers for Christmas for your favourite local shop, restaurant, bookshop or hotel.
- Support local businesses on social media: Share, Like and Follow their posts and recommend them to others.
- Instead of using an online giant retailer, look around and see if any local businesses also offer online shops and deliveries.
- Support your local farmer or farm shop when planning your Christmas meal.

To find out more go to
www.discoverourland.co.uk/shoplocal

SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS

Are you looking for something special this Christmas for your loved ones? Save on the fuel and hassle of driving into the giant retailers and shopping centres and Shop Local, Shop Northumberland this festive season.

With hundreds of independent retailers in Northumberland you'll be sure to find everything you need and more.

Or why not get in the Christmas spirit at one of the many Christmas markets and Farmers' markets held across the county selling everything from delicious homemade delights like cheese and jams to Northumberland-

inspired crafts and gifts.

Our Shop Local campaign has been highlighting some of the amazing businesses in Northumberland throughout the year from butchers to clothing brands and bakers to jewellers, as they need our support more than ever to ensure our high streets and market towns continue to prosper.

6 WAYS TO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES

WRITE A POSITIVE REVIEW	£0.00
TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY	£0.00
FOLLOW THEM ON SOCIAL MEDIA	£0.00
ENGAGE WITH THEIR POSTS	£0.00
GIVE THEM A SHOUTOUT	£0.00
SIGN UP FOR THEIR NEWSLETTER	£0.00
TOTAL	£0.00



JOIN THE FOLLOWING FACEBOOK GROUPS...

Search for "Northumberland, let's support" to join the Facebook group *Northumberland, UK*, Let's keep supporting local businesses!

www.facebook.com/FoodandDrinkNE

active
Northumberland



Call us: 01670 620200 or visit: activenorthumberland.org.uk

SO MANY WAYS TO STAY ACTIVE ♥

love being ♥

ACTIVE

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- 9 pools
- 100's of weekly classes
- 10 state-of-the-art gyms
- Free fitness consultations

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- Loyalty scheme rewards
- 5 Tranquillity Spas
- HIVE cafes

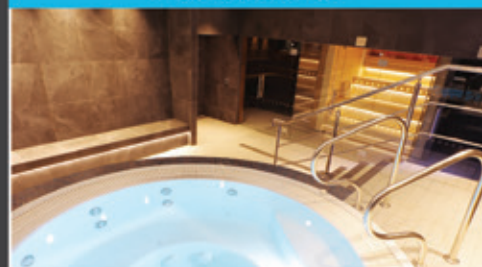
Blyth



Berwick



Ponteland



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

It's been a busy and exciting year in Northumberland. Here's a small snapshot of some of the work and events that took place during 2022 to help boost jobs, the local economy, improve our environment and our communities.



Providing affordable housing is a key priority for the council and we've allocated £48 million to help provide more affordable housing in the county, in areas of greatest need.



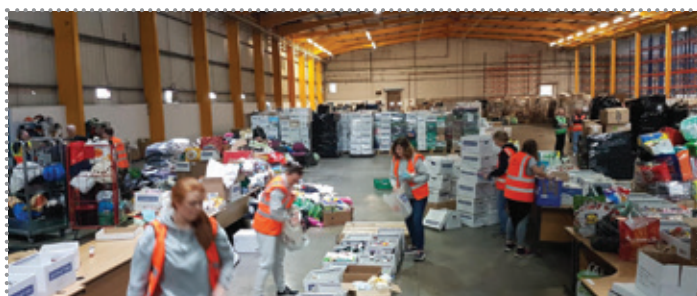
Infrastructure improvements were carried out in Blyth town centre as part of the council's £70 million 'Energising Blyth' programme to revitalise the town.



Berwick's new sports and leisure centre opened to the public with residents enjoying the new swimming pools, spa and fitness suite, a café, an indoor bowling area and more.



A new Tree Warden scheme was launched to help protect the county's green spaces and woodlands and to educate children about the importance of trees to our environment.



Over 130 tonnes of aid was sent to Ukraine following donations from residents across the county. We also donated two older fire appliances to the Ukrainian Fire Service.



A spectacular Platinum Jubilee beacon lighting ceremony was held on Hadrian's Wall and screened live on national TV.



Almost 200 community groups received funding from our Queen's Platinum Jubilee fund which was launched to help communities celebrate the Jubilee.



Over 500 young people from schools around the county took part in a School Games Live event to celebrate the 2022 Commonwealth Games.



Eleven Northumberland parks were awarded prestigious Green Flag Awards which recognises them as some of the very best in the country.



The very best in community and voluntary environmental work was recognised at this year's LOVE Northumberland awards with award winners honoured for their extraordinary efforts.



Progress is continuing on the Northumberland Line rail scheme which will be operational by early 2024 and offer direct trains from Ashington to Newcastle.



Restoration of the Union Chain Bridge, the oldest vehicle suspension bridge in the world, is nearing completion. The famous structure connects England and Scotland.

WASTE LESS THIS CHRISTMAS

Did you know over Christmas we generate around 30% more waste than at other times of the year? A lot of this can be recycled or composted. Here are some top tips on how you can waste less this Christmas.



USE RECYCLABLE PAPER

The council recycles all plain wrapping paper, but we cannot recycle any paper made with glitter or foil.

Please remove all sticky tape from your used wrapping or opt for reusable alternatives such as fabric or gift bags. Don't forget to clean residual dirt from your cardboard boxes before placing them in your recycling bin.

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards can be recycled too! So long as they don't have glitter or any other 'bling' they will be turned into cards for next Christmas! Please continue



to place paper, magazines, card, well-rinsed food and drinks cans, plastic bottles and aerosols in your recycling bin. All other types of waste should be placed in your general waste bin.

SHOP SUSTAINABLY

Shop local this festive season and contribute to your local economy. If you want to be super sustainable why not buy second hand or give homemade gifts.

USE YOUR LEFTOVERS

Go and visit online LoveFoodHateWaste.com to make your leftovers go further. Or compost! – don't forget to compost your fruit and vegetable peelings over the festive season.



DON'T DUMP YOUR BATTERIES!

Unsafe battery disposal in general waste bins can cause fires. Recycle your batteries at your local Household Waste Recovery Centres (HWRC).

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

We recycle real Christmas trees at our HWRC's into good quality compost, soil conditioner and wood chippings to be reused in the county. Visit our website:

www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste to find out the collection points.



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RECYCLING AND HOUSEHOLD WASTE THIS CHRISTMAS:
WWW.NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK/WASTE





FOOD WASTE TRIAL STARTS IN COUNTY

As part of our drive to combat climate change and improve recycling rates in Northumberland, a pilot scheme is now underway collecting the weekly food waste from over 4,000 households in the county.

An average household's waste is made up of one-third food waste that could be recycled. Additionally, wasting food costs the average family around £60 a month.

All participants need to do is empty any food waste they have, such as plate scrapings, raw meat and fish, vegetable peelings and tea bags into their new food recycling caddy and put it out for collection once a week in their new food recycling bin.

The council will then turn the food waste into something useful by taking it to a special processing plant

where it will be used to generate renewable electricity and gas. It also produces an organic fertiliser, which can be used in farming.

The pilot scheme will help the council assess the impact recycling food waste will have on overall household waste, determine the viability of extending the service across the rest of the county, and help the county refine the service.

Find out more about the trial online Nland.cc/food



WHY RECYCLE YOUR FOOD WASTE?

- Your household bin will be cleaner and less full.
- Recycling more of your waste will help us combat climate change.
- Your collection is easy, frequent, and convenient.

WHEN WILL MY BINS BE COLLECTED THIS CHRISTMAS?

NORMAL COLLECTION DAY

Monday 26th December

Tuesday 27th December

Wednesday 28th December

Thursday 29th December

Monday 2nd January

Tuesday 3rd January

Wednesday 4th January

Thursday 5th January

NEW COLLECTION DAY

Tuesday 27th December

Wednesday 28th December

Thursday 29th December

Friday 30th December

Tuesday 3rd January

Wednesday 4th January

Thursday 5th January

Friday 6th January

Collections the week after Christmas and New Year will be one day late:





NEWBIGGIN SPORTS AND COMMUNITY HUB OPENS TO THE PUBLIC

In September we held an open day so Newbiggin residents could look around their new-look sports and community hub.

Over 700 people turned up – and they were thrilled with the finished results.

The £1.9m county council funded scheme has seen the centre refurbished and remodelled to provide new and improved sporting facilities and a community hub.

Here's what's new:

- Library with public access PCs
- Community café and hub providing a welcoming social space for local people. Here they can access a range of services, support and events, with opportunities to learn new skills, seek help finding employment and receive health checks and advice
- A new, modern and welcoming reception area
- A large, refurbished function room for events
- New indoor cycling studio

- New gym area with Technogym cardio and weights equipment
- Three refurbished squash courts and a viewing gallery
- Upgraded six-court sports hall with new flooring and energy-efficient lighting
- New and improved changing facilities, including a changing place for those with additional needs

Coming soon:

- Community garden
- New football pitch
- Teaching and learning café and bar



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS ON MORPETH LEISURE CENTRE

Work to build a new £21m state-of-the-art leisure centre and community hub in Morpeth is progressing at pace and is on track to open to the public in Spring 2023.

The centre is incorporating a number of energy saving and energy generating technologies to drive down running costs and the environmental impact.

The new leisure centre is expected to run with a 69.7% carbon emission reduction per year, compared to the current Riverside Leisure Centre contributing towards the council's ambitious plans to be carbon net zero by 2030.



Here's what's new:

- Six-lane swimming pool with spectator gallery
- Learner pool with moveable floor
- Tranquillity spa facilities
- Four-court sports hall
- New state of the art gym with Technogym equipment and functional training area
- Dedicated indoor cycling studio
- Two fitness studios
- A modern and welcoming reception with a café and children's soft play
- New community services hub
- Library
- Adult learning facility



COUNTDOWN IS ON FOR NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2023

We will be celebrating National Apprenticeship Week in a few short months with a host of events and activities.

National Apprenticeship Week is a chance for prospective apprentices to learn about upcoming roles, meet current apprentices and speak with the team.

The council offers apprenticeships from entry level up to degree apprenticeships, allowing you to gain

skills, experience, and a qualification all while earning a wage.

Sign up to be the first to hear about upcoming events go to: nland.uk/apprenticeshipform

Have a question for the team?
Email: apprenticeshipenquiries@northumberland.gov.uk



Gilbert Ward Academy

Seaton Delaval's super-school

INVESTING IN OUR SCHOOLS

Plans have been unveiled for Northumberland's first carbon neutral super-school and a new special free school as multi-million-pound investment in education continues across Northumberland.

The council is investing record amounts in new school buildings and school improvements

to provide first-class learning environments for generations of young people.

The Emily Wilding Davison School has opened in Ponteland and the Gilbert Ward Academy is due to open in Blyth in September 2023 – both providing nurturing provision for young people with social, emotional and mental health needs.

Exciting proposals are also underway for an innovative new super-school in Seaton Valley to replace the Astley Community High School and Whytrig Middle School buildings.

Next on the list are Amble and Berwick, where further plans will be developed following the outcome of public consultations.

TO READ THE LATEST ON SCHOOL CONSULTATIONS GO TO [NLAND.CC/CONSULT](https://nland.cc/consult)



We
**ARE
FAMILY**



Are you looking to make a real difference in a child's life?

If you have room in your life, you could help children and young people through one or more types of foster care.

Your skills and experience with children is what counts to start fostering - we provide you with a strong network of support, resources, training, plus a regular income.

Visit www.northumberland.gov.uk/foster for information and dates of our next "Is fostering for me?" session

**Call 01670 62 62 62 for an informal chat or to start the application process
Text 07779 983 165 to request a call-back**



Northumberland
County Council

Join
**OUR
FOSTER
FAMILY**