

## District and borough authorities begin challenge against Nottinghamshire super-council

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20 July 2018 at  
13:02

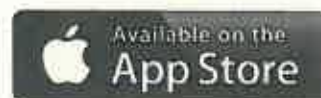
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**LGiU Daily News - Litter groups defend councils over Bank Holiday rubbish - 09.05.18**

1 message

correspondence@lgiu.org.uk <correspondence@lgiu.org.uk>  
Reply-To: correspondence@lgiu.org.uk  
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9 May 2018 at 06:03

*An independently-produced round-up for local government, summarising the day's stories as published by media sources indicated. Links are provided only where permitted under NLA rules.*

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Campaigners have criticised litterers after the bank holiday weekend - warning people must pick up their own rubbish because councils cannot afford to. John Read, founder of Clean Up Britain, said: "Some councils are on the brink of bankruptcy, it's time people took their share of the blame for rubbish". Last month councils across England were given the power to raise fines for dropping litter from the previous ceiling of £80 up to £150, but in 2016-2017 local authorities paid out £682m to keep streets clean. Keep Britain Tidy estimates that the cost of cleaning up litter, as well as local authority street cleansing and fly-tipping removal, is likely to be costing councils



close to £1bn a year.

*The Daily Telegraph* *Daily Express*

### **Kirklees bin collectors to strike**

Bin collectors in West Yorkshire have voted to strike, with Unison saying **Kirklees Council's** 70 waste staff are owed a total of 23 years' leave. The union also claims "bullying" by managers and alleges workers with personal emergencies have even had requests for a half day off denied. Karl Battersby, of Kirklees Council, said: "The council will not tolerate bullying or harassment and take allegations of this nature very seriously. We have commissioned a review of the cleansing service to make sure we can continue to deliver the best services for our residents."

*BBC News*

## **EDUCATION**

### **Most heads say schools worse off after funding change**

A survey by the lobbying campaign Worth Less? Has found the majority of headteachers believe the introduction of the national funding formula (NFF) in April has left schools worse off. Although 15% of schools thought they were better off in real terms under NFF, 60% said they are worse off. Despite the NFF being designed to iron out budget inequities between schools in different areas, school leaders reported ongoing budget woes, with 80% cutting teaching assistant and support staff numbers, and 60% removing teaching posts to balance budgets. The poll of 1,500 heads also showed 90% of schools are having to tap into dedicated funding to support the most disadvantaged children (pupil premium) in order to balance their budgets.

*The Guardian*

### **Church's rural school warning**

A report by the Church of England's education office has criticised successive governments for failing to ensure enough funding is made available for schools in rural communities, meaning some are becoming increasingly "difficult to justify". The study, titled Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools, says a "major challenge" for rural schools is that many are housed in nineteenth century buildings which are falling into disrepair. The Church runs 1,351 "very small" schools with fewer than 110 pupils, 1,264 of which are in rural areas. It also runs 1,411 "small" schools of between 111 and 209 pupils, 856 of which are rural.

*The Daily Telegraph*

### **Halfon demands action on north-south attainment gap**

The chair of the Commons Education Select Committee has called on the Government to take urgent action to narrow the "stark" attainment gap between young people in the North of England and those living in the rest of the country. Conservative MP Robert Halfon has written to education secretary Damian Hinds to ask him to set out what action the DfE is taking to address the gap, teacher shortages and "failures" of academy chains in the North.

*The Independent*

## **FINANCE**

### **Northamptonshire County Council balances books**

Cash-strapped **Northamptonshire County Council** has managed to balance its books after imposing emergency spending controls in February. A panel chaired by the authority's chief executive has been meeting three times a week since the notice had been put in place and cabinet finance member Michael Clarke said the authority's spending ban, known as a Section 114 notice, had been a "drastic, but necessary brake" to slow down spending and balance the £416.8m budget for 2017/18.

*BBC News*

## **CARE**

### **PAC issues care system warning**

The Commons Public Accounts Committee has issued a report warning there is "no credible plan" in place to tackle the care home crisis, and social care faces being "on its knees" without a long-term funding strategy being out in place by the end of this year. The MPs said the sector suffers from "low pay, low esteem and high turnover of staff". The PAC recognised that the Department for Health and Social Care is "committed" to addressing the problem through a future green paper on funding of elderly care, but there are concerns this is seen as a "cure-all and underestimates the scale of the challenge."

*Daily Mirror, Page: 2*

*Interested in health and social care? See LGiU's [Health, public health and social care round-up policy briefing](#)*

## **LOCAL ELECTIONS**

### **Calls for free childcare if London schools are closed for elections**

Parents and campaigners in London have called for childcare to be provided when schools are forced to close on election days. Margaret Morrissey, of campaign group Parents Outloud, said local authorities should choose other buildings. In **Tower Hamlets**, 43 school buildings were designated polling stations, in **Croydon** there were 33, and in **Kensington and Chelsea** there were 18. Seven nurseries in **Hackney** were shut, seven schools in **Kingston**, and in **Camden** four schools closed. In **Ealing**, 19 primaries were closed and one secondary partly-closed, while in **Merton** 16 schools were used as polling stations, 11 of which shut.

*Evening Standard*

*Interested in the local elections? See LGiU's [election results policy briefing](#)*

## **CHILDREN**

### **Update on Newcastle child abuse investigation**

An investigation into the abuse of vulnerable girls and young women has led to the suspension of dozens of taxi drivers, a report has found. The findings, by Northumbria Police's safeguarding department, have revealed the impact of

**Operation Sanctuary.** Since 2014, there have been 97 convictions secured for offences including rape and sexual assault, with 35 prosecutions still going through the court system. Sixty taxi drivers suspected of sexual exploitation have been suspended, and more than 550 people have been referred to the immigration service for deportation. However, the report said that child sexual exploitation still occurs in the Northumbria Police area and social media platforms are helping perpetrators "contact and groom victims". **Newcastle City Council** has a dedicated reception centre, providing potential victims with a safe place where they can be assessed and found accommodation.

*Daily Star, Page: 8 [BBC News](#)*

## CRIME

### **Police gangs database criticised**

Amnesty International has claimed young people are being criminalised by a racist and illegal police database aimed at tackling gang violence. Forces were accused of 'stigmatising' young black men with no history of violence or criminal convictions, sometimes on the strength of their social media posts. A person's inclusion on the database can affect opportunities for housing, education, training and employment. The Information Commissioner confirmed it is considering whether the Metropolitan Police has breached data protection legislation with its database, which is shared with some other public sector bodies, including schools, local authorities and job centres. Similar databases used by other forces, including in Manchester, Birmingham and Nottingham, are also under scrutiny.

*Daily Mail, Page: 6 [BBC News](#)*

## HEALTH

### **Rise in demand for Punjabi alcohol support services**

Some ethnic minority alcohol support services have reported an increase in inquiries following a *BBC* survey suggesting 27% of UK Punjabis had a family member with a problem. There had been a rise in contacts from both alcoholics and people offering to volunteer, the organisations said. Nottingham's Bac-In has seen an almost six-fold increase in website hits, while UK Punjabi services the First Step Foundation and the Shanti Project have also seen an increase in interest.

*[BBC News](#)*

## HOUSING

### **Safer Grenfell cladding proposal rejected**

A company has claimed it provided a quote to fit Grenfell Tower with fire-resistant cladding, but was rejected amid alleged pressure from **Kensington and Chelsea Council** to cut refurbishment costs. D+B Facades says it put forward a £3.3m quote to attach non-flammable aluminium panels at the request of Leadbitter, the council's preferred contractor in 2013, but rival firm Rydon was chosen after providing a lower price. Rydon fitted the building with combustible cladding which caught fire in the disaster last year. The local authority has declined to comment due to an ongoing police investigation and public inquiry.

*The Guardian, Page: 1 Daily Mirror, Page: 18*

## EMPLOYMENT

### **Slaves working in UK, report warns**

Abuse of workers is widespread in the UK economy, according to a new report by the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA), which highlights 17 sectors which are high-risk for mistreatment. The GLAA said there was slavery in construction, recycling, nail bars and car washes, and also underlined agriculture, food packing, fishing, shellfish gathering, warehouse and distribution, garment manufacturing, taxi driving, retail, domestic work and social care, as other sectors prone to abuse.

*The Guardian*

## TRANSPORT

### **MP swaps Commons for City Hall**

Labour MP Heidi Alexander is quitting Parliament to work for London Mayor Sadiq Khan as the new deputy mayor for transport, replacing Val Shawcross, who is stepping down after 18 years at the Greater London Authority. Ms Alexander said: "I know just how important it is we ensure everyone has access to a high-quality and affordable public transport network, with safe cycling routes across the capital."

*BBC News The Sun, Page: 2 The Independent The Guardian, Page: 19*

## ECONOMY

### **UK trade deficit almost £10bn lower than estimated**

Research from the ONS indicates the UK trade deficit was almost £10bn lower during 2016 than the £40.7bn first estimated. The change was because of an improvement in the estimate of trading margins at the banks that identified more financial service exports. The same "net spread earnings" effect also increased nominal GDP by £6.2bn, the ONS said, which could translate into a £2.3bn annual windfall for the chancellor.

*Financial Times, Page: 3 The Times, Page: 38*

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5 March 2018 at 10:01



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3. EXCLUSIVE: Funding red flags raised
4. EXCLUSIVE: Finance cover-up exposed
5. Where next for Northants?
6. Northamptonshire issues s114 amid growing cash crisis
7. EXCLUSIVE: Public and private sectors poles apart in senior pay
8. Javid finds extra £166m in final settlement
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Northumberland County Council Mail - Fwd: Daily News Headlines: 1 March 2018



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To: [REDACTED]

2 March 2018 at 10:57

Dear All,

Please see below, for your information.

Kindest Regards, [REDACTED]

Regards

Daljit

Mrs Daljit Lally

Chief Executive, Northumberland County Council &

Executive Director of Delivery, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

County Hall

Morpeth

Northumberland

NE61 2EF

[REDACTED]

Executive Assistant to Daljit Lally (Council)

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Email: [REDACTED]

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Executive Assistant to Daljit Lally (Trust)

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1 March 2018

## Daily News Headlines

An exclusive service for LGA member authorities

### Minister: Leadership key to turning round children's services

The new children's minister Nadhim Zahawi has pledged "world-class" support for social work, but says that strong leadership, rather than extra funding, is the key to turning round services. His comments follow Nicky Morgan, Chair of the Treasury Select Committee, saying that children's social care had been neglected. The LGA has warned that children's services face a £2 billion funding gap by 2020, and that councils are opening more than 500 child protection cases every day.

[Guardian Online](#)

### National Offer Day 2018

Headteachers have said the Government is not fulfilling a basic duty of care for thousands of pupils who will miss out on their top choice of secondary school places this year. They warn that parents' wait will be made worse by the Department for Education not being able to guarantee enough school places amid a surge in pupil numbers. The LGA has warned that almost half of councils are at risk of being unable to meet demand for secondary school places within the next five years.

[Independent Online](#), Telegraph p2

### Recycling rates fall

Recycling rates have fallen in some council areas according to figures analysed by the BBC. It found that half of councils recycled a lower proportion of household waste in 2016/17 than in 2011/12. The LGA says recycling is a real "success story for councils". Cllr Martin Tett, LGA Environment spokesman, said "Recycling rates have quadrupled in the last decade and our own polling shows eight out of 10 people are happy with the way their local council collects their rubbish. But councils are under huge financial pressures and in England face an overall funding gap that will exceed £5 billion by 2020. Having to prioritise vital services such as the demand for children's services, adult social care and homelessness support is leaving increasingly less money for councils to fund other services such as waste collection."

[BBC Online](#)

### Weather: Storm Emma to bring snow, gales and rain

Heavy snow, strong winds and significant travel disruption is expected today following the arrival of Storm Emma. Around 4,000 gritters are on standby to keep roads moving with many fitted with snow ploughs, according to the RAC. Cllr Martin Tett, LGA Transport spokesman, said: "Councils remain well prepared for the cold with 1.5 million tonnes of salt stockpiled and a fleet of state-of-the-art gritters ready to be deployed. Highway teams are monitoring high-tech weather forecasts with highly-trained staff on standby around the clock. Gritters will be out treating thousands of miles of council roads as the big chill bites and councils will be keeping people up-to-date about weather forecasts, road conditions and gritting activity. As the freeze sets in we need everyone in our communities to be on the look-out for signs that something might be wrong."

[BBC Online](#), Express p7, Mirror p4, Guardian p2, Express p1, Telegraph p8, Times p12, Mail p10

### Emergency homeless shelters open amid big freeze

Across the country councils have opened emergency shelters for the homeless during the snow and cold temperatures. Homelessness outreach teams have assisted more than 1,000 rough sleepers. Charities say record numbers of referrals had been received via the StreetLink phone app.

[Sky News Online](#), Guardian p3, p9

### Nearly half of girls have self-harmed

A YouGov poll has found that just under 50 per cent of young women have self-harmed, prompting renewed alarm over teenage mental health. It also found just over a quarter of men aged 16 to 25 have



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Northumberland County Council Mail - Fwd: Daily News Headlines: 1 March 2018

deliberately harmed themselves.

Times p14

**PG tips to cut plastic from tea bags**

PG tips is to remove plastic from its tea bags, replacing it with a material that is fully biodegradable. The polypropylene seal used to hold PG tips together will be removed as it doesn't break down and so is left in the garden waste.

Mail p43, Times p23

**Northamptonshire passes budget**

Northamptonshire County Council has passed a budget for 2018/19 which has included ceasing to run libraries and ending bus subsidies. This follows a section 114 notice issued to stop all but essential spending. In a separate piece, the Times reports on how East Hampshire District Council is on course to make a £5 million annual surplus by 2022, cancelling out the need to tax residents.

Times p21

**Council blocks tax hike for Dales second homes**

Richmondshire District Council has blocked a plan to increase council tax on second homes in the Yorkshire Dales. Members voted not to join other local authorities in talking to the Government, effectively ending the plan.

Telegraph p2, Times p26

Guardian

Times

Daily Mail

The Sun

Telegraph

Financial Times

Daily Express

Independent

Evening Standard

Mirror

**Events**

**LGA Annual fire conference and exhibition 2018**

13-14 March 2018 | Gateshead

The Annual fire conference and exhibition is a key event in the conference calendar for senior fire officers and members of fire and rescue authorities.

**Understanding spend in children's services**

13 March 2018 | London

This half day event will preview findings from new research that aims to answer the question "what drives variation in spend on children's services".

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Northumberland County Council Mail - Your local government comment and analysis



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## Your local government comment and analysis

1 message

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Reply-To: [reply@cipfa.org](mailto:reply@cipfa.org)  
To: [Alison.Eldson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Alison.Eldson@northumberland.gov.uk)

27 February 2018 at 15:35

**CIPFA** The Chartered Institute of  
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## Local Government News March 2018

Dear Alison,

As we head towards spring we take a look at the financial resilience issues of local authorities, very much in the news recently, as well as [investment vehicles and strategies](#).

Also, if you are looking at innovative approaches to public service management and delivery CIPFA's annual conference this year has the theme of 'Talent, Technology, Transformation: Mapping the digital future'. [Visit the site for more information](#).

### IFRS9 and Collective Investment Vehicles for Local Authorities

By means of context, UK law stipulates that extant IFRS standards apply to public service reporting. CIPFA applies standards to meet this requirement in relation to local government. Applying to all corporate and public financial reporting, IFRS9 has made important changes to the accounting for local authority investments which includes collective investment vehicles.

[Read article](#)

### The Road Less Travelled for Council Savings

During the first couple of months of this year, there has been renewed public attention on local government finances, particularly following the widely reported news that Northamptonshire County Council were unable to balance its budget and the issuing of section 114 notice.

[Read article](#)

### Local Authority Property Investments: Delivering on Opportunity

Local authority property investment has been brought into sharp focus in recent weeks following the release of CIPFA's revised Prudential Code, Treasury Management Code and the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government guidance on Local Authority Investment activity. CIPFA Property has recently undertaken a nationwide series of events.

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Conference highlights

Treasury Management  
Conference, 14 March 2018

CIPFA Scotland Public Finance  
Conference, 22-23 March, Glasgow

Public Sector Investment Strategy  
Conferences, 18 May, London; 23  
May, Sheffield; 12 June, Cardiff; 13  
September, Glasgow

[Visit our conference page for  
updates](#)

## Council Investment Guidance Demands Greater Transparency

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government has issued its response to the consultation on changes to the prudential framework of capital finance. This was published in November amid growing concern around councils increasingly investing in commercial property.

[Read article on Public Finance](#)

## Are you prepared for GDPR?

The General Data Protection Regulations comes into force on 25 May 2018.

[Find out more](#)

## Cost of care

Information on how C.Co can help to determine local costs for Continuing Health Care.

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Northumberland County Council Mail - Northamptonshire plans sale of HQ to generate cash



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## Northamptonshire plans sale of HQ to generate cash

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County Council

### Northamptonshire plans sale of HQ to generate cash

Northamptonshire County Council will sell its £53m headquarters to free up cash after it issued a section 114 notice earlier this month.

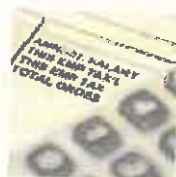
**NEWS**



### Council investment guidance demands greater transparency

New investment guidelines for councils have outlined a requirement for greater transparency.

**NEWS**



### More than half a million public sector worker children to be 'in poverty'

Public sector pay restrictions will force 150,000 extra children into poverty by the end of this financial year, according to the Trade Union Congress.

**NEWS**



## Immigration system 'too understaffed' to deal with Brexit

Immigration processes are currently too under-staffed and under-resourced to deal with the demands of Brexit, a home affairs committee has found.

NEWS



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## EU auditors call for more transparent and responsive budget

The EU budget should place greater emphasis on accountability and transparency and be able to react more flexibly to unforeseen circumstances, auditors have said.

NEWS



## University vice chancellors urged to stay out of pay meetings

A trade union is calling for vice chancellors to be barred from attending remuneration committee meetings after 95% of the UK's universities were found to allow vice-chancellors to go to them.

NEWS



## Foster calls for Westminster-set budget as Northern Ireland talks fail again

Arlene Foster has called on Westminster to set Northern Ireland's budget after a breakdown in talks to reform a shared government between the country's two biggest parties.

NEWS

## There is no question: international tax rules are in need of deep reform



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Northumberland County Council Mail - Northamptonshire plans sale of HQ to generate cash



This week's New York summit offers an opportunity to start the process of fixing the broken tax system, argues David McNair of the ONE Campaign

OPINION



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Northumberland County Council Mail - LGiU Daily News - Social care funding boost for councils - 07.02.18



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## LGiU Daily News - Social care funding boost for councils - 07.02.18

1 message

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7 February 2018 at 06:04

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Wednesday February 7, 2018

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#### CARE

#### **Social care funding boost for councils**

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid has said local authorities will receive an additional £150m for stretched social care services, through an adult social care support grant. Rural authorities will receive an additional £16m to deliver services, after MPs raised concerns about the possible collapse of vital services in Northamptonshire. Shadow communities secretary Andrew Gwynne noted at least 10 other councils were prepared to issue section 114 notices. The new local government funding settlement is set to go before MPs for approval today. Meanwhile, Patrick Butler, the social affairs editor of the *Guardian*, warns that the "overall direction" of

the settlement "looks set" and "it's not looking promising" in the wake of **Northamptonshire County Council's** section 114 notice. The announcement of additional funds comes as the *Daily Express* warns that a group of up to 24 backbench Conservative MPs are threatening a rebellion over social care funding, particularly in rural constituencies.

*The Independent*, Page: 7 *The Guardian*, Page: 33 *Daily Express*, Page: 4

### **Dementia patients benefit from weekly chat**

Researchers from the University of Exeter, King's College London, and Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust have found that just an hour of social interaction each week can improve the quality of life of dementia patients in care homes. The research found that increasing social interaction reduced agitation and aggression in people with dementia, and noted that cost savings could follow, with reduced needs for antipsychotic medication.

*Independent i*, Page: 5 *The Daily Telegraph*, Page: 12 *The Times*, Page: 24  
*Yorkshire Post*, Page: 5

## **CHILDREN**

### **Children's services in poorest areas face biggest cuts**

The *BBC* reports on figures released by researchers at Huddersfield and Sheffield universities, showing that since 2010, council areas with the highest levels of deprivation and need have faced the biggest cuts in children's services funding. The research, based on Department for Education figures, shows that overall spending across England is down 16%, ranging from 4% in the wealthiest areas to 27% in the poorest. Similarly, spending on intervention services is down 33% in well-off areas, 47% overall, and 54% in the most deprived areas. Professor Paul Bywaters, who led the research, said the figures showed that "we're storing up costs for society in the future and creating a kind of vicious spiral".

*BBC News*

### **Councils want mental health counsellors for all secondaries**

Council chiefs are calling on all secondary schools to have mental health counsellors. Launching its Bright Futures campaign for children and young people's mental health, the Local Government Association said the national rollout is vital because some youngsters have to wait up to 18 months for support. Government has pledged £1.7bn to improve children's mental health, and the LGA is calling for 5% of this funding to be used to make it mandatory for every pupil in secondary and alternative education provision to have access to onsite counselling.

*Daily Mail*, Page: 29 *The Sun*, Page: 25

## **FINANCES**

### **Local authorities confirm council tax rises**

**Surrey County Council, East Sussex County Council, and Norfolk County Council** have all confirmed increases in council tax. Surrey's budget includes the maximum 5.99% rise, with 3% allocated to adult social care services, while making cuts of more than £66m, prompting council leader David Hodge to call on the government to "recognise the gap between rising demand and reducing funding".

East Sussex announced the same increase in council tax, alongside £17m of savings and cuts, with leader Keith Glazier saying the council's grave financial situation leaving it impossible to reverse cuts. In Norfolk, a 5.5% police precept was agreed, on top of last week's agreed rise of 5.99% in council tax. Police and Crime Commissioner Lorne Green said that "police are skint", and that "we just could not continue with the resources we had – this money is going to buy extra police officers".

[BBC News](#) [BBC News](#) [BBC News](#)

### **Council's finances 'grave'**

**Northamptonshire County Council**, which has banned all new spending, faces a serious financial situation for the rest of this year and next year, according to its chief finance officer, Mark McLaughlin. Mr McLaughlin has projected a £21.1m overspend for 2017/18, partly caused by the failure to sell housing development land, and said the situation for the following year was grave.

[BBC News](#)

- Interested in local government funding? See LGiU's [Fair Funding Review](#) policy briefing

## **HOUSING**

### **Former housing ministers urge Javid to be bold**

Conservative MPs John Penrose, Nick Boles, and Mark Prisk, former ministers for architecture, planning, and housing respectively, have urged Sajid Javid to "be even bolder" in his reforms of the planning system. In a joint letter, they said: "As your department's housing white paper says, the only way to make homes more affordable is to build a lot more of them. We haven't built enough homes for decades and the lack of supply has caused soaring prices and created one of the biggest barriers to social progress in our country today. There is no time to waste, otherwise house prices will continue to spiral and we will lock a generation out of the dream of home ownership."

*City AM, Page: 7 The Times, Page: 11*

### **Elephant and Castle developer ups social housing**

Delancey Ltd, the developer behind the planned regeneration of London's Elephant and Castle, has offered to increase the number of social-rent flats in the development from 33 to 116 in a bid to gain planning approval.

*Evening Standard, Page: 8*

## **TRANSPORT**

### **Anger over East Coast Mainline failures**

Judith Blake, the leader of **Leeds City Council** has spoken out over the handling of the East Coast Mainline franchise, with Stagecoach expected to pull out shortly, having previously brought forward the franchise end date to 2020 due to concerns over finances. Councillor Blake, who speaks for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on transport issues, said that passengers would be "angry and disappointed" that promised improvements to the line "have been put in doubt less

than three years after this franchise began", and said that she would "urgently be seeking clarity from the Transport Secretary" on short-term service provision and the longer-term future of the line.  
*Yorkshire Post, Page: 2*

### **Milton Keynes' £8k street light vandalism bill**

**Milton Keynes Council** has spent thousands repairing vandalised street light cabinets. The authority said it had spent £8,000 on cabinet repairs since January.  
*BBC News*

## **SOCIAL**

### **Bournemouth removes anti-homeless bars**

**Bournemouth Council** has reviewed its decision to install "anti-homeless" bars on public benches following a public outcry, and has decided to remove the bars. Shelley Morris, from non-profit organisation Second Chance, praised the council for rethinking its decision: "It's a really good thing. It's quite brave from the council to admit they made a mistake." Separately, the head of the Torquay Chamber of Commerce has been criticised after calling for a charity, Humanity Torbay, to relocate, claiming that the centre was "attracting too many rough sleepers".  
*Independent i, Page: 11 The Times, Page: 16 The Sun, Page: 15 Daily Mail, Page: 15 The Daily Telegraph, Page: 6*

### **More action needed for equality in politics**

The Welsh Assembly's presiding officer, Elin Jones, has said more needs to be done to attract women into politics. Ms Jones said it was probably still in question whether enough had been achieved in equality between men and women in politics, but added there was "nowhere near" enough among councillors and MPs.  
*BBC News*

## **ENERGY**

### **Campaigners hail council's fracking rejection**

Anti-fracking campaigners have welcomed a decision from **Derbyshire County Council's** planning committee to oppose Ineos's proposals for exploration work in the village of Marsh Lane. The advisory decision will be followed by a public inquiry this summer, following a Government decision that the council had taken too long to make a ruling on the application. Harthill Against Fracking campaigner Deborah Gibson expressed her hope that "the decision should now carry some weight with the planning inspectorate, alongside all our new objections".  
*Yorkshire Post, Page: 9*

## **CHILDREN**

### **Council issues drug warning after children hospitalised**

Several children attending Richmondshire schools have fallen ill after taking super-strength ecstasy, in the form of orange "Tesla" tablets, prompting a warning to pupils and parents from **North Yorkshire County Council**. Dr Lincoln Sargeant, public



health director at the council, warned that taking "even one single tablet" could be fatal.

BBC News *Daily Mirror*, Page: 23

## GOVERNANCE

### Thanet UKIP councillors form independent group

Twelve of UKIP's 25 Thanet DC councillors have withdrawn support for their leader, Chris Wells, and have set up an independent group. "Chris Wells has lost the confidence of a significant proportion of the group and indeed the public in Thanet," UKIP national leader Henry Bolton said.

BBC News

## BREXIT

### EU plans to cut UK's market access if Brexit transition terms broken

A leaked legal document drawn up by the EU reveals how Brussels will punish the UK if it does not comply with rules during the transition period. Instead of taking Britain to court, the EU would be able to impose sanctions, effectively cutting the UK off from parts of the single market. The Transitional Arrangements in the Withdrawal Agreement paper makes clear Britain will have no say on new regulations and could only sit in on meetings under exceptional circumstances. The document also suggests extra payments to the EU budget, beyond what was agreed last year, may be required. A spokesman for the Department for Exiting the European Union said: "This is a draft document produced by the EU that simply reflects their stated directives."

Financial Times BBC News The Guardian The Daily Telegraph Daily Mail  
Bloomberg Sky News

## OTHER

### May launches review of local news

Theresa May has launched a review into whether state intervention is needed to preserve local and national news reporting. She said that recently "especially in local journalism", "we have seen falling circulations, a hollowing-out of local newsrooms and fears for the future sustainability of high-quality journalism". She noted that two-thirds of local authority areas do not have a daily local newspaper, which she described as "dangerous for our democracy". She pledged to ensure that publishers receive a "fair share of advertising revenue", in the face of the advertising dominance of tech giants like Facebook and Google.

*The Guardian*, Page: 5 *The Times*, Page: 2 *The Daily Telegraph*, Pages: 5, 17  
*Independent*, i: Page: 10 *The Sun*, Page: 6 *Daily Mirror*, Page: 14

### Raids tackle people-smuggling network

A total of around 350 officers in London, Northumbria, Cleveland and Sussex have taken part in a series of raids organised by the National Crime Agency, tackling a people-smuggling network believed to involve Kurdish gangsters. Around 21 arrests were made at 20 addresses and a number of car washes, targeted to disrupt

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a suspected money-laundering operation.  
*Evening Standard Daily Mail, Page: 18*

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