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Democratic Services
The Corby Cube,
George Street,
Corby,
Northants,
NN17 1QG



**North
Northamptonshire
Council**

Meeting: Council
Date: Thursday 26th January, 2023
Time: 6.00 pm
Venue: Council Chamber, The Cube, George St, Corby NN17 1QG

Committee Membership:

Councillor Larry Henson (Chair), Councillor Barbara Jenney (Vice-Chair), Councillor Jean Addison, Councillor Tim Allebone, Councillor Valerie Anslow, Councillor Ross Armour, Councillor Paul Bell, Councillor Charlie Best, Councillor Matt Binley, Councillor Jennie Bone, Councillor David Brackenbury, Councillor Wendy Brackenbury, Councillor Cedwien Brown, Councillor Scott Brown, Councillor Leanne Buckingham, Councillor Lyn Buckingham, Councillor Lloyd Bunday, Councillor Jon-Paul Carr, Councillor Robin Carter, Councillor William Colquhoun, Councillor John Currall, Councillor Alison Dalziel, Councillor Mark Dearing, Councillor Dez Dell, Councillor Scott Edwards, Councillor Jonathan Ekins, Councillor Emily Fedorowycz, Councillor Martin Griffiths, Councillor Jim Hakewill, Councillor Clive Hallam, Councillor Ken Harrington, Councillor Helen Harrison, Councillor Kirk Harrison, Councillor Helen Howell, Councillor David Howes, Councillor Philip Irwin, Councillor Bert Jackson, Councillor Ian Jelley, Councillor Matt Keane, Councillor King Lawal, Councillor Graham Lawman, Councillor Lora Lawman, Councillor Anne Lee, Councillor Richard Levell, Councillor Paul Marks, Councillor Dorothy Maxwell, Councillor Peter McEwan, Councillor John McGhee, Councillor Zoe McGhee, Councillor Andy Mercer, Councillor Gill Mercer, Councillor Macaulay Nichol, Councillor Steven North, Councillor Jan O'Hara, Councillor Dr Anup Pandey, Councillor Tom Partridge-Underwood, Councillor Mark Pengelly, Councillor Harriet Pentland, Councillor Roger Powell, Councillor Elliot Prentice, Councillor Simon Rielly, Councillor Russell Roberts, Councillor Mark Rowley, Councillor Geoff Shacklock, Councillor David Sims, Councillor Jason Smithers, Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes, Councillor Joseph John Smyth, Councillor Mike Tebbutt, Councillor Sarah Tubbs, Councillor Michael Tye, Councillor Malcolm Ward, Councillor Malcolm Waters, Councillor Kevin Watt, Councillor Andrew Weatherill and Councillor Lee Wilkes

Agenda Supplement

The following additional document has now been published which was not available at the time the agenda was published.

Item	Subject	Page no.
016.	Councillor Questions To receive questions from members.	3 - 22

Adele Wylie, Monitoring Officer
North Northamptonshire Council



Proper Officer
Wednesday 18 January 2023

This supplementary agenda has been published by Democratic Services.
Contact: democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS
Council – 26th January 2023

No	Received from	Executive Member Responsible	Question	Answer
1	Councillor Emily Fedorowycz 17/11/22	Councillor Graham Lawman	Many allotments are currently oversubscribed as an increasing number of individuals want to grow their own food. Have we identified - or are we looking at identifying - any areas of land for expanding the local offering of allotments?	A Unitary Council would not ordinarily operate statutory allotments, as, by law, they fall to Parish or Town Councils to be responsible for their function and provision. We work closely with the Parish and Town Councils and, if they identify a need involving North Northamptonshire Assets, any request would be considered through our Community Asset Transfer policy.
Page 3	Councillor Emily Fedorowycz 17/11/22	Councillor Harriet Pentland	Has any progress been made on reducing our use of glyphosate across North Northants? Is there a commitment to phase this out completely?	<p>The Council's Pollinator Strategy includes - "wherever practicable, (NNC) aim to reduce the use of pesticides and ensure that where any treatment application is required that it is minimised by sensitive application techniques such as spot spraying with the most up to date technologies and products."</p> <p>As such, there is a strong commitment to minimising the use of Glyphosate. Unfortunately, at present, its use is still required in some very specific circumstances in order to maintain a safe and legal street scene. This includes to control invasive species which the Council has a legal duty to control or protect built infrastructure from damage.</p>

Page 4				<p>All staff within, what was, Corby and Kettering Grounds Services, have undergone nationally recognised training alongside internal training and staff briefings to ensure that any weed treatments are applied in accordance with the manufacturers own and national guidelines. All staff have been briefed on the processes employed by the council.</p> <p>Arrangements will be put into place to stop the blanket spraying inherited from the former contract in the Wellingborough area and the council will continue trialling alternative products, as they become available, with the hope that these will meet the standards required in order to replace other substances used to ensure compliance with the law.</p>
Page 4	Councillor Ross Armour 17/11/22	Councillor David Brackenbury	What support is being given to Wellingborough Whitworth Football Club to save its playing fields put at risk by the Stanton Cross proposal to build a surface water basin?	<p>Vistry, the main developers of the Stanton Cross SUE, have submitted a full planning application to the Council under reference NW/22/00717/FUL for the delivery of a flood attenuation basin. The proposal as submitted impacts upon two football pitches currently in use by Wellingborough Whitworth Football Club and has resulted in objections from the Football Club, Wellingborough Town Council and Sport England. Following discussions between the Football Club and Vistry, the Council's Planning Service understands that an amended plan is in discussion which would re-orientate the pitches so that there would be no subsequent loss of pitches. It is understood that Vistry will meet the cost of reorientation of the pitches & goals etc. and they may also potentially be able to improve the pitches in</p>

				terms of levelling, scarifying, seeding etc., which is something it is believed the Football Club currently cannot afford to do. Once formal agreement to the amendments have been agreed by the parties, the Planning Service expects revised plans to be submitted by Vistry, which will need to be considered and consulted on through the planning process.
4	Councillor Alison Dalziel 18/11/22	Councillor Helen Harrison	Warm Spaces - how many organisations have signed up, where are they located and what are they expected to provide for residents using the facilities? What grants will NNC make available to cover the extra costs incurred by organisations offering Warm Spaces (e.g., hospitality, staff costs).	Our recent survey has resulted in approximately 30 external organisations across the area informing NNC they are setting up warm spaces this winter, this is in addition to 9 we have been made aware of through the Kettering Town Council survey. This offer along with the location of foodbanks and similar community provision is available on the NNC website along with other information about where residents can access support. NNC's 6 statutory libraries in Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough, Rushden, Irthlingborough and Oundle are open as warm spaces where hot refreshments will be offered and officers from the NNC Supporting Independence team will be available to talk to residents and provide support to them to access services. NNC is also supporting the 10 Community Managed libraries to offer warm spaces through Household Support Fund 3 funding. Other organisations providing warm spaces will also be made aware of the funding opportunities available to them either from HSF3, NNC other grant funding or external funding sources we are aware of.
5	Councillor Simon Reilly 18/11/22	Councillor Graham Lawman	'North Northamptonshire Conservatives' are committed to providing a new Council which promises inclusivity and more localised democracy. We are committed to	The Council will shortly be commissioning a Parking Strategy for North Northants. This strategy will consider the demand and

			listening to the residents of North Northamptonshire to accurately reflect the wishes of local people'? When are you going to harmonise the parking?	sufficiency of on and off-street parking across North Northants. It will also consider the Council's approach to parking provision in each Town in North Northants, taking into account local needs and constraints as well as considering the condition and future use of the car parks. This will consider the appropriateness and options for harmonisation of parking, bearing in mind those differing local situations.
6	Councillor Mark Pengelly 19/11/22	Councillor Jason Smithers	Does the Leader recognise the great work local BBC does getting the message out about North Northants to residents and is he concerned that funding cuts means, Radio Northampton have to slash's local programmes and Look East is closing the Cambridge office with regional news items all coming from Norwich.	I totally agree that the BBC is an important institution and is highly valued and provides an important service internationally, nationally and locally and have played an important role in North Northamptonshire. I also recognise that the way all media is now digested or received by people has changed and clearly this is a challenge for the BBC who have had to review this, and I hope will continue to provide an important service in the area even with the changes they are putting in place.
7	Councillor Lyn Buckingham 20/11/22	Councillor Graham Lawman	On this Road Safety Week, what are NNCs plans for Auditing and prioritising road safety markings so that we can see them, to improve highway safety and enforcement opportunities.	This year, the Council has invested a further £1.5m in the highways service to undertake line painting, sign cleaning, vegetation clearance, drainage repairs and resurfacing, all of which further improve the safety of our roads. Road markings have been, and continue to be, refreshed and repainted in many locations and in particular, picking up on safety markings such as stop lines, give way markings and junctions where these have faded as well as centre and edge lines and other markings. This will help ensure the markings are visible so that drivers clearly see them. North Northants Highways

Page 7				<p>have regularly communicated through social media where they have undertaken this work. As part of our routine maintenance programme, our Highway Inspection Team regularly inspect all highways throughout North Northamptonshire to identify road marking that require replacement, as well as any other defects. These are then programmed as part of a wider programme of road marking replacements to ensure they remain prominent, and the enforceability of restrictions is not compromised. To ensure these activities are being undertaken in accordance with our Highway Service contract, we are employing highways contract inspectors/auditors whose remit is to ensure that the activities expected and promised as part of the Highway Service Contract, are being delivered by Kier. As ever, if any member has a particular area of concern they should report it on StreetDoctor.</p>
8	Councillor Lyn Buckingham 20/11/22	Councillor Matt Binley	When will this Council, honour its statutory duties to its tenants, and fulfil its housing repair obligations, it is a service that tenants pay for in their rent charges and deserve to get, we have seen in the past how underinvestment in properties works, increasing costs consequentially.	NNC is committed to dealing efficiently with housing repairs reported to it by its tenants. All repairs are categorised as emergency (24-hour response) or non-emergency. During October 2022, the Housing Property Services teams completed 956 emergency repairs and 1239 non-emergency repairs and since the beginning of the financial year have completed an average of 823 emergency and 1173 non-emergency repairs each month, which is in keeping with the amount of new repairs reported. Non-emergency repairs are largely dealt with in date order, although where

Page 8				<p>appropriate jobs are clustered by geography or type to ensure resources are used as efficiently as possible. There remains a challenge to tackle the backlog of repairs NNC inherited as a result of the COVID lockdowns where operatives could not enter tenant's properties and were utilised on other work such as void properties instead. An action plan has been developed to address the backlog which has included a complete review of all outstanding repairs in order to omit duplications and cluster by type and neighbourhood. Completion of the plan requires additional revenue investment from within the HRA and options to secure this are being considered as part of the MTFP for the HRA.</p>
Page 8	Councillor Jean Addison 20/11/22	Councillor Scott Edwards	<p>Will the Leader join with us in congratulating Pen Green Children's Centre in being selected as the Stronger Practice Hub for the East Midlands. Will he also agree that the centre is a jewel in the crown of NNC and internationally recognised as a centre of excellence in family practice?</p>	<p>I am delighted that Pen Green have been selected as the Stronger Practice Hub for the East Midlands. For over 37 years, children and families in North Northants have benefited from their wealth of experience in delivering high quality education and support, thus contributing to better outcomes for our children.</p> <p>Most children missed out on some early education during the pandemic which means they had less opportunity to socialise and develop self-regulation skills and their physical development was negatively affected. The challenges facing providers are numerous, including financial implications, staff retention issues but also ensuring they are well equipped and trained to support the variety of needs children are presenting with when they join their</p>

				settings. The Stronger Practice Hub initiative seeks to address the impact of the pandemic on young children by sharing good practice and building lasting networks. Pen Green are nationally recognised as a centre of excellence and we are lucky to have them as part of our Early Years provision in NNC; the whole of the East Midlands will benefit from their research evidence, ability to share good practice and support beyond their own settings and localities. We congratulated Pen Green when we heard the news and we congratulate them again on successfully being appointed as one of only 18 Practice Hubs nationally.
10 Page 9	Councillor Mark Pengelly 21/11/22	Councillor Jason Smithers	There have been around 900 days since the shadows authority was formed and about 600 since this new council came into being. What would you give us out of ten for progress and what do you think the public would give us out of ten?	As a council, I think we need to recognise the huge amount of progress and work which has happened since vesting day in April 2021. This has involved difficult decisions which aren't always agreeable with everyone but are important for the longer-term ambition of the council. Since April 2021, Executive have made 239 decisions and our Full Council 55. We have agreed two balanced budgets which included £27m of savings, efficiencies and transformation as well as delivering many varied services every day for our residents and businesses. I therefore think we have come a long way, but there is more to do and I don't think it would be right to mark us out of ten for us or the public.
11	Councillor William Colquhoun 21/11/22	Councillor Smithers	Following on from harmonisation of green waste and taxi fares across the Authority, would the Leader inform Council what similar harmonisation is planned for any other services in the coming year?	The Council has made significant progress in harmonising various functions, policies, fees and charges in the last 18 months. The work on this will continue in relevant service areas and

				will be reported and agreed through the appropriate governance function of the council.
12	Councillor William Colquhoun 21/11/22	Councillor Graham Lawman	Would the Leader agree that the use of grass verges for vehicle parking, creates an eyesore, particularly at this time of year when the ground is soft, and would he agree that it is something we should try to put a stop to?	We are aware that some residents park on grass verges where parking is restricted within their neighbourhood. Unfortunately, this can lead to unsightly damage to the verges and, in some rare cases, may even damage utilities buried in the verge. Although parking on verges itself is not an offence outside London (unless it causes obstruction or is a heavy goods vehicle), as a highways authority we do discourage this behaviour where it is a concern for residents through additional signage and by working with local Members and parish councils. If the Councillor would like to notify us of any locations of concern, the highways service would be happy to discuss it further with him. Should legislation be introduced to permit us to enforce a ban on pavement and verge parking, we would actively consider that.
13	Councillor Dorothy Maxwell 21/11/22	Councillor Graham Lawman	Bus Shelters which have been installed by developers and some which have not, who maintains them now and why have they not got lights installed? Will the Council take them over in future?	Where bus shelters have been installed by developers as part of their works on new roads or on existing roads, they remain the responsibility of the developer until the road is adopted or the works are signed off. At which point they either become the Council's responsibility within the highways service, or they become the responsibility of another party in accordance with the relevant agreement. For instance, in some cases it is agreed that shelters will become the responsibility of the parish council. The Council charges commuted sums for the on-going management and maintenance of the shelters where it will be a responsibility for them.

				<p>It should also be noted that some shelters may be owned by bus operators whilst others are owned and maintained by advertising companies.</p> <p>The Council does not require or accept lighting within the shelters to avoid an ever-expanding maintenance and energy bill.</p>
14	Councillor Anne Lee 23/01/23	Councillor Lloyd Bunday	When will NNC and WNC restore public access to Wi-Fi in the Kettering library after it was lost when wires were damaged by the contractor working on the Cornerstone building - which surely makes North Northants co-responsible for getting public Wi-Fi restored for its residents?	Works are currently taking place to re-install the internet (public Wi-Fi) within the Kettering Library space, this is expected to be completed within the next three weeks. We are pushing forwards as quickly as possible with getting the Library re-connected.
15	Councillor Anne Lee 23/01/23	Councillor Scott Edwards	Since the Annual Report from the NSCP tells us that on average 283 children were missing from education in North Northamptonshire, what is our insight into the various potential reasons for these children missing from education and into how their wellbeing can be optimally protected?	<p>There are currently 111 children in North Northamptonshire missing education.</p> <p>There are two groups of children who make up the Children Missing From Education (CME) group.</p> <p>The first are children who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never attend their allocated school place • Stop attending school because they have moved. • Are withdrawn by parent/carers. • Failed to complete a transition between schools <p>The Children Missing Education Tracking Officers track and support children/families who have moved without informing their school and help place students who do not have a school place.</p> <p>The second group are those that have:</p>

Page 2				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not attended school regularly (truancy) • Been excluded from school. • Experienced absence due to medical issues <p>The Education Inclusion Partnership Team work with these pupils to support a return to regular attendance at an appropriate setting and enforce attendance legislation</p> <p>Following COVID CME figures have increased nationally, and overall attendance is reduced. There are many reasons for this, and Education work with Health and Social care colleagues to offer support and advice. The teams work collaboratively to support pupils and families to identify and access the right education placement to meet needs.</p>
	Councillor Anne Lee 23/01/23	Councillor David Brackenbury	What action is being taken to speed up the reopening of Meeting Lane in Kettering, which has been closed to the public for a considerable period because of a dangerous newbuild contravening planning regulations?	<p>The case against Michigan Construction Limited regarding the unsafe building situated on land off Jobs Yard, Kettering is scheduled for trial for four days commencing 30th May 2023 at the Technology and Construction Court in Birmingham. Following the trial, it is likely that the closure of Jobs Yard will remain in place for a period of time whilst anticipated works take place to the building to remedy the structural issues that have been identified. Council officers will work with our appointed structural engineers to review the size of the cordon as work is carried out to remove the danger. It is important that the cordon remains in place around the building, including the closure of Jobs Yard, until the danger to the public is removed.</p>

17	Councillor King Lawal 23/01/23	Councillor David Brackenbury	Can the council commit on record, that we will never trial, test, review, partake-in or adopt the Orwellian 15-minute zones, smart cities project, that is currently being trialled in Oxford City, and other councils in the UK?	<p>The Council should not commit at this stage to ruling out any trials, innovative ways of working or best practice that are currently or have in the past, been run across the country.</p> <p>As a Council, it is important that we learn from others, and seek to adopt principles that would work best for residents and business when transferred to North Northamptonshire.</p> <p>Nevertheless, we recognise that projects intended for densely populated urban environments may well not be suitable for adoption in the far more diverse environment of North Northamptonshire.</p>
18	Councillor King Lawal 23/01/23	Councillor Larry Henson (Chair)	Is there anything we as a council can do to help create, cultivate and support schools, colleges and universities to educate children, and younger adults on the functions of their local council?	This would be an excellent initiative to pursue and is in line with initiatives we are already considering to engage young people in democracy. I will ask the Monitoring Officer to consider adding this to the workplan of the Democracy & Standards Committee for an appropriate and sustainable programme to be developed, appropriate resources provided, and materials produced. The Council can investigate assisting schools and academies in supporting their Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) curriculum and whether support can be provided in the development of skills required through extra-curricular activities.
19	Councillor Jean Addison 23/01/23	Councillor Matt Binley	Following the death of a child attributed to damp and mould and the Housing Ombudsman's report 'It's not Lifestyle', what is NNC putting in place to urgently resolve issues of damp and mould in its properties? Will the council commit to solving the problem not just treating the signs?	NNC is and has always been committed to resolving damp and mould issues in our housing stock and since the recent coroner's report an action plan has been put in place which has a focus on the following areas:

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring we have a consistent approach to stock condition surveys across both Kettering and Corby 2. Reviewing all the outstanding reported repairs for damp and mould and prioritising them. These figures are being monitored every 2 weeks and as of week beginning 16th January 2023 were 97 for Corby and 108 for Kettering, across a stock of 8160 homes. It should be noted that since the recent publicity surrounding the dangers of mould and damp, we have seen an increase in the volume of reports. 3. Improving the information for tenants via the tenant newsletter and an updated leaflet appropriate for all tenures, which will be issued in early 2023. To help residents prevent and identify issues, along with information on how to and encouraging residents to report them promptly to either NNC or their private sector or other social landlord, including what to do if you are dissatisfied with the response. 4. Updating the Tenants Handbook for issue early in 2023 to include information on mould and damp, how to prevent condensation and who to report any issues to. 5. A section for NNC tenants has been included on our website providing information and help on mould, damp and condensation.
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				<p>works required and the repairs are scheduled. NNC is also investing in hydrometers which measure humidity and air temperature. Extraction fans and ventilation solutions are fitted if not in place or not working correctly.</p> <p>10. NNC is continually investing to improve its housing stock through various programmes, such as homes for the future, windows and doors replacements, heating systems, etc. We also plan to invest even further with procurement of shared parts and materials suppliers, along with the additional capital investment for the year 2023-2024 subject to budget approval.</p> <p>11. It should be noted that NNC do not operate any such policy that repairs will be stopped whilst any form of complaint is ongoing, whether that be internal or legal, so that we continue to carry out our duties as a responsible landlord.</p> <p>12. The NNC housing teams are committed to a journey of continual improvement, through lessons learnt, agile processes, elected member & resident feedback and various other methods of factual based learnings.</p>
20	Councillor Dorothy Maxwell 23/01/23	Councillor Graham Lawman	How many Council buildings are not fully occupied at present, and what cost are these to the Council?	With respect to operational buildings, space is allocated to teams to occupy for service delivery across a number of council buildings. We are aware changing working practices has changed the way space is used in our operational buildings. There is also a need to continue to

Page 17				<p>identify and reallocate space to services as they continue to disaggregate into NNC teams. As such, the council is considering its approach to usage and rationalisation of its estate via the Asset Rationalisation Scrutiny Commission Panel. This work will support proposals on how the council's estate can change, to continue to deliver value for money and meet service needs. It is also reflecting the Future Ways of Working Strategy agreed by Executive in January 2022.</p> <p>With respect to the council's investment estate, there is a steady churn of tenants leaving and entering new leases for such premises. The Council reports on the occupancy rates for its investment estate through the Executive performance reports.</p> <p>In terms of costs, we operate our building stock within current financial budgets, but, as detailed above, there will be opportunities for efficiency savings in the future as we look to rationalise our operational buildings.</p>
21	Councillor Dorothy Maxwell 23/01/23	Councillor Graham Lawman	Following the power crisis, would it be possible for the Council to consider as a one-off payment to help Parish Councils with their street lights this year?	As a council we do appreciate the pressures on all public bodies with raising energy costs, which also significantly affect this council, however, we do not see how we could make such a payment to parish councils, where the volume of street lights differs and which, in turn, could lead to expectations from other local bodies and further financial pressures to this council. Parish Councils may also choose to precept for these additional costs at their budget setting process.

22	Councillor Lyn Buckingham 23/01/23	Councillor Matt Binley	At the Executive of 12th January I spoke on the KPI report on void turnarounds, in response Cllr Binley made serious allegations regarding voids at the former Corby Council and not reporting/accounting of these correctly, suggesting 500 void properties were wrongly accounted for, what is the evidence of this?	<p>To clarify, the topics raised in this question regarding voids reporting in Corby and the issue of over 500 voids were 2 separate matters. Firstly, the service that transferred from Corby Borough Council measured voids turnaround times by not counting a 'safety period' which was a number of days at the end of the process before the keys were handed to Landlord Services for the property to be let. Whereas the service in Kettering measured voids turnaround time from 'the date of keys into the service to the date of keys out to the new tenant', the latter is recognised as industry standard. The Housing service has introduced a standardised end-to-end process for the management of voids which involves all the relevant service leads, consistent measurement and reporting of data is critical to this. As a result, the moving to standardisation of the reporting, in June this appeared to show an uplift in the Corby voids by 31% as a result, however this wasn't a sudden increase, it was a reflection that properties that were not previously reported in the Corby area were now captured within the reporting.</p> <p>With regards to the statement regarding 500 voids, this refers to the historic performance of void management within the previous sovereign council. Whilst historic performance was referenced, the situation was improved over a number of years, however it was referenced at the meeting to show current performance in comparison to that previous performance.</p>
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23	Councillor Zoe McGhee 23/01/23	Councillor David Brackenbury and Councillor Matt Binley	Does the Executive have any explanation for why North Northamptonshire's Levelling Up bid was unsuccessful? Has levelling up been paused or forgotten in this county and will there be a report to give an update on what work has been done so far?	<p>NNC officers sought immediate feedback on why our bids were unsuccessful. We have been told that the LUF was over four times oversubscribed with over 500 applications. NNC has informed projects leads of the outcome. Officers have asked for detailed feedback on the two bids and scoring. Once received, this will help NNC to understand why the bids were not successful and importantly next steps in relation to the individual projects ahead of any further funding opportunities.</p> <p>The Council continues to invest in left behind areas, including investment in new street lighting in Olympic Way, and forthcoming tree planting as part of the Local Authority Treescape fund programme. Further plans continue to be developed following up the actions identified in the scrutiny review. There have also been multi-agency and partnership approaches, working with the OPFCC on initiatives such as the Safer Streets Lite in Kingswood and Safer Streets in Queensway.</p>
24	Cllr Jim Hakewill 23/01/23	Councillor Jason Smithers	What is the total cost of the Dr Monks case to North Northamptonshire Council including all internal and external costs and the actual pay-out(s)?	<p>From 1st April 2021 (which is when the matter transferred to NNC), external legal costs amounted to £18,558.60 plus VAT. Disbursements including Counsel fees are £45,391 plus VAT. Total amount is therefore £63,949.60.</p> <p>Council officers do not time record and therefore information on the internal cost is not recorded.</p>

				£4m to Dr Monks (final settlement of any and all actions, claims, rights and demands that he has (including claims for or related to legal costs, legal costs funding and After The Event Insurance).
25	Cllr Jim Hakewill 23/01/23	Councillor Larry Henson (Chair)	What was the total amount of allowances paid to all members including Special Responsibility Allowances in 2021/22 and what is the projected total for 2022/23?	<p>Total Allowances paid in 2021/22: £1.299m. This figure includes allowances paid to members of the shadow authority before the election in May 2021. A further £14,543 was also paid to members; £14,256 related to mileage expenses and £287 were other misc. reimbursements.</p> <p>Total forecast allowances in 2022/23 is £1.360m. This will rise dependent on any inflationary increase. A further £20k is forecast for mileage expenses & £1.1k of misc. expenses have been claimed to date.</p>
26	Cllr Jim Hakewill 23/01/23	Councillor Graham Lawman	What consultation was carried out and with whom as to how to spend the £1.5 million highways "Spruce up" announced on the 27 th September 2022?	<p>The Executive agreed to invest an additional £1.5m to improve the quality of our roads and footpaths, repairing potholes, white lining, sign cleaning and cutting back vegetation. All parishes across North Northamptonshire have benefitted from the additional funding which has made a notable difference to the quality of the highways and the experience of driving, cycling and walking in North Northamptonshire. Prior to visiting each parish, emails were sent to local Members and the Parish Councils informing them of the types of work to be undertaken and asking them for any suggestions on work required in the area. The location of works has also been informed from reports made through the Council's Street Doctor reporting system and Highways</p>

				<p>engineers' and Community Liaison Officers' visits as well as requests from local Members and parishes. The service has received many positive comments following this work. The Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets has provided oversight in reviewing the programme and agreeing the work to be undertaken, in consultation with the Executive.</p>
<p>27</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 21</p>	<p>Cllr William Colquhoun 23/01/23</p>	<p>Councillor David Brackenbury</p>	<p>Given the news that in Corby we have suffered over a thousand job losses in the first month of the year, would the Leader agree that NNC should establish a 'task force', or similar, to assist those people who now find themselves unemployed?</p>	<p>NNC is working closely with DWP and other partners to put in place a package measures to help people impacted by the job losses. On 24 January, the Council held its latest NN Job Club in the Corby Cube. This initiative is designed to help people get the support they need to find employment including CV writing, interview skills etc. DWP and NNC have also arranged a Job Fair, again at the Corby Cube, on 2 February. This will showcase some of the job opportunities available locally and within commuting distance to maximise the mix of opportunity. Up to 25 employers are due to attend, including Ball Corporation, VPK packaging, North Northants Council, Taste Original, TATA Steel and SERCO as well as other support organisations such as the National Careers Service. Similar events will be organised over the coming weeks and months along with other measures following discussions with DWP and other partners.</p> <p>NNC will continue to do all it can to assist people who have been impacted by recent job losses working in partnership with DWP.</p>

