

# INTRODUCING

## Your new Council



**From 1 April 2021**



**West  
Northamptonshire  
Council**

[www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk)

# Welcome to your new council



## West Northamptonshire Council

On 1 April, Northamptonshire's County Council and its seven District and Borough councils will be replaced by the new West Northamptonshire Council and North Northamptonshire Council. From this date, West Northamptonshire will deliver public services to the residents and businesses previously served by Daventry, Northampton, South Northamptonshire and the County councils.

This change gives us a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create more modern and effective ways of delivering the vital services that our residents rely on. You will no longer need to go to different councils for

different things - and we will create significant savings and efficiencies by reducing duplication.

We are working hard to improve and enhance how you get what you need from us in the coming months and years. But you can trust that the services you rely on - such as waste and recycling collections, your libraries and leisure centres, social care and work on our roads - will continue to function as normal and without interruption.

West Northamptonshire has tremendous potential and everyone working at the new authority will be striving to make it an even better place to live, work and thrive.



[www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk)

**0300 126 7000**

*Please note: These new contact details will only be active from 1 April. Until then, please continue to contact your existing council.*

## Common Questions

### Will there be changes to bin collections or local recycling centres?

No. There will be no immediate changes to your collection day or schedule, or what you can put out for collection. You can check your bin day and recyclable items at [www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk) from 1 April.

There are no changes planned to household waste and recycling centres, which will continue to take the same items and operate on the current opening hours.

### Will opening hours change?

From 1 April, the Council's Customer Contact Centre, including phone lines and offices, will be open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. The opening hours of libraries, leisure centres, recycling centres and other council-run venues will stay the same as they are now.

### Will I have to restart my planning application?

No. Planning and building control services will continue as usual and applications underway will not be affected - you will still be able to access them and make new applications at [www.westnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.westnorthants.gov.uk)

### Will I still have the same social worker?

Yes. You will continue dealing with the staff already looking after your needs, and your support will not change, unless you're specifically told otherwise.

### Will my Council Tax go up?

West Northamptonshire Council's part of the Council Tax was set in February by the West Northants Shadow Authority following a public consultation. The rates across Daventry, Northampton and South Northants have been harmonised, which may affect how much you pay.

Your Council Tax bill also includes charges from the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and parish/town councils, so the total cost will be dependent on all these factors.

### Do I need to reapply for things, such as benefits, grants or licences?

No, these will continue as usual through the new Council and you will not need to make any changes or reapply for them. For advice and queries please continue to contact our Customer Service Centre or visit the Council website.

### Will I have to restart my housing application or move from the homelessness accommodation I have been provided?

No. Your new provider will now be West Northamptonshire Council, but your direct debits or standing orders will not need to be changed.

You can still report issues through the Customer Service Centre number or the same email addresses as before.

**405,000**  
residents



**1**  
new council



## Have your say on 6 May!

On 6 May, elections will take place to select 93 councillors for the new West Northamptonshire Council. This is your chance to have your say!

You can help shape your new council by either voting in the elections, or standing as a candidate. Find out more at [www.local.gov.uk/be-councillor](http://www.local.gov.uk/be-councillor).

Deadlines for your diary!

- **Nominations to stand - 8 April**
- **Register to vote - 19 April**
- **Apply for a postal vote - 20 April**
- **Voting day - 6 May**

To apply for a postal vote, visit [www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote)

