

From Cllrs Daniel Cribbin, John Shephard and Mike Warren, West Northamptonshire Council members for the Moulton Ward

Dear Residents of Moulton Ward,

We are pleased to share with you the significant progress and achievements we have made over the past year. It has been a year of hard work, collaboration and dedication to improving our community.

Financial Overview

The financial situation of West Northampton Council has been marked by significant challenges and adjustments in recent years. In the year 2024/2025 the council set a balanced budget of £889.5 million, which included a 4.99% increase in the Council Tax to fund essential services amidst rising costs and increased demand for social care. We retained the 4.99% increase at a time when other councils were exceeding this increase.

WNC has been dealing with the aftermath of the split from the former Northamptonshire Council, finally settling disputes over asset and debt distribution, which took nearly four years to resolve. This has allowed both West and North Northamptonshire councils to move forward with clearer financial foundations. Rigorous financial discipline has resulted in the council operating within budgets for the first three years of its life, with the anticipation that it will do so again this year.

Despite the many challenges ahead WNC has produced a balanced revenue budget for 2025-2026, the budget includes a Council Tax increase of 4.99% generating extra funding of around £19.2m – with 2 % of the increase going towards funding adult social care and representing an average increase on a Band D property of £88.73 a year, the equivalent of £1.71 a week.

WNC's planned £100m capital programme for the coming year incorporates a range of measures designed to improve infrastructure, support residents and encourage sustainable growth.

These include:

- More than £12m on highways improvements.
- £2m for the creation of Family Hubs in Daventry and Northampton, of which Moulton Community Centre will be one of the Spokes.
- £3.8m on the Northampton North West Relief Road.
- £10m on temporary accommodation acquisitions and £10m on relocatable temporary accommodation.
- £2m as part of the ongoing development plans for the regeneration of the Four Waterside sit

Highways

West Northamptonshire is advancing its road infrastructure with several key projects.

The Sandy Lane Relief Road, with its northern section already operational since the summer of 2024, is set to fully connect to the A4500 by spring 2025, aiming to alleviate the traffic congestion and enhance connectivity in the region. The North West Relief Road, (NWRR) a £54m project, is on track for completion by summer 2025, linking Harlestone Road to Welton Road.

There has been a concerted effort to enhance pothole repair productivity. In 2023, WNC invested in the innovative JCB Pothole Pro, which has significantly expedited repair times, achieving repairs four times faster than traditional methods. Since its introduction, the machine has covered over 12,500 square meters of road repairs across 33 locations in West Northamptonshire. Additionally, with the government's announcement of an extra £1.6 billion for pothole repairs in England, WNC is set to receive a substantial portion of this funding for 2025/2026, aiming to address the backlog and improve the overall condition of local roads. This investment and technological adoption underscore WNC's commitment to improving road maintenance efficiency and reducing disruptions for residents and businesses alike.

Buckton Fields

The 1100 dwelling development has a couple of years to go before it is complete. We have been working with the three developers and are particularly pleased that our efforts to bring early years education to the new school have been successful. The new facility will be included in the rebuilt school when opened in September 2026.

Crematorium

The proposed new Crematorium is now formally in the consultation phase which is part of the planning application process and will give residents another opportunity to air their views. This started at the end of Feb/beginning of March. After this has concluded, the proposal will then be decided by the Council's Planning Committee later in the year.

Fly Tipping

For the 2023/2024 period, WNC reported over 18,000 fly-tipping incidents. This represents an increase from the previous year and highlights the ongoing challenge of illegal dumping in the area. In terms of enforcement, WNC has issued 3,500 fixed penalty notices for environmental crimes, including fly-tipping during 2023/24 period. The council remains committed to tackling this issue and maintaining clean and safe communities. In order to encourage further proper disposal of household waste, as of the 1st April WNC recycling centres will be opening 7 days a week from 10am – 4pm.

Moulton's New Medical Centre

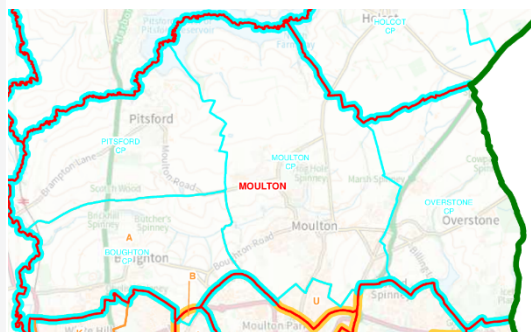
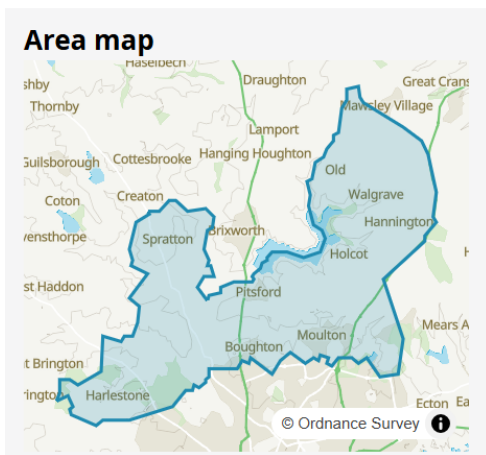
Has at long last been given the green light by the ICB to proceed with our plans to build the new medical centre, it's probably going to be a further 12 – 18 months

before the doors are open. The really good news is, it's now definitely going to be built.

Community Governance Review

As you will be aware, West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) has been carrying out a Community Governance Review since 2022, which has resulted in a boundary change for our ward, it will take effect as of the May elections, reducing the number of villages from 12 to 4, these will be Moulton, Overstone, Boughton and Pitsford. Further to this, the number of overall WNC Councillors is being reduced from 93 to 76. Moulton Ward is remaining a 3 Member Ward.

Current Area



New Ward.