

£13.8m Household Support Fund announced in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council has announced how it will allocate its share of the fourth round of the Household Support Fund, which will start from the beginning of April.

The council will receive £13.4m from central government and will add an additional £400,000 to make the total programme of support worth £13.8m. This funding covers a 12 month period to the end of March 2024.

This is the fourth round of funding from the Household Support Fund, with the council having received over £20m from the government, with the council supplementing this with almost £2.5m since October 2021. By March 2024 the council will have spent £36.35m on Household Support, working closely with district, borough, and city councils, VCSE and public sector partners to identify and implement a range of support measures to meet the needs of vulnerable households, as well as providing more robust and joined up information and advice to those who need it.

The breakdown of how the funding will be distributed is:

- £7.2m for cost-of-living support for families by providing those on low incomes with vouchers of £15 per child each month, plus an additional £30 in the summer and in December
- £3.3m to continue the Norfolk Assistance Scheme
- £2m of funding for district, borough, and the city council to target support to those in need
- £800,000 of support through voluntary organisations, via the Norfolk Community Foundation, to support hard to reach communities
- £200,000 to fund our 47 libraries to continue to deliver period poverty and hygiene grab and go bags
- £300,000 to provide debt and financial advice

1 Million Trees initiative passes 200,000 trees milestone

21 March 2023

As the 1 million Trees for Norfolk initiative approaches the end of its third planting season, Norfolk County Council is excited to announce a significant milestone in the journey to a greener, healthier county. The aim of hitting 200,000 trees by the end of this season has been exceeded with the total now standing at nearly 265,000 trees and hedgerows planted. The efforts of the community and our partner organisations have been vital in us achieving this and in securing a sustainable future for Norfolk.

The Jubilee Trees for Norfolk scheme has played a big part of this with residents and organisations coming together to leave a legacy for the late Queen. This scheme alone has been responsible for the planting of nearly 33,000 trees to benefit future generations and help combat the effects of climate change. The County Farms Hedge Restoration Fund has also added more than 50,000 hedge plants to the total, which stood at 68,000 at the beginning of this planting season.

A spokesperson said:

"This initiative is about much more than just planting trees. It's about addressing the environmental challenges we face and creating a greener, more sustainable future for Norfolk. The success of the Jubilee Trees scheme shows what can be achieved when we work together, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for this initiative".

With funding secured for the next planting season in November, Norfolk County Council will continue to work towards the goal of planting 1 million trees by 2025. Exciting new projects are planned, including a woodland planting scheme and a new partnership with Norfolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) to encourage woodland creation across Norfolk. Building on the

success of 'Jubilee Trees for Norfolk' there will also be a new tree scheme supplying trees for the public to plant across the county.

Norfolk County Council would like to extend a special thank you to all those who have participated in the initiative by planting trees in their community. If you have planted trees as part of the 1 Million Trees for Norfolk initiative, please fill in the "Tell Us About Your Trees" form. Your contributions will be counted towards our total and will help us reach our goal.

To stay updated on the progress of the initiative and to receive information on future planting opportunities, sign up for our [1 Million Trees newsletter](#).

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