

Norfolk County Council owned companies encouraged to cut carbon

Council-owned companies are being encouraged to reduce their carbon emissions, as part of the county council's efforts to help Norfolk become carbon neutral.

Norse Group, Hethel Innovation Ltd, Repton Property Developments Ltd and Independence Matters are the focus of a report to the county council's cabinet on 3 May.

Each company will be encouraged to set out carbon reduction targets once it better understands its own carbon footprint.

If cabinet backs the proposal, there will be a follow-up report which outlines the progress of each company in establishing specific carbon reduction targets.

Further report to follow when initiatives are instigated.

Uptake for apprenticeships in Norfolk continues upward trend

The upward trend in apprenticeship starts is continuing to increase in Norfolk. A 35% increase in apprenticeships has been reported between August 2021 and January 2022, with 3026 new apprenticeships started in the last 6 months.

Apprenticeships are a government-funded scheme which gives individuals of any age the opportunity to build a new future whilst earning and learning and enables businesses to harness new skills and improve their productivity and sustainability at the same time.

Local employers, training providers, and Norfolk County Council's dedicated team of experts at Apprenticeships Norfolk, boosted by incentives and grants, are all working together to make apprenticeships easier to access and to understand for individuals.

Norfolk Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans

Norfolk County Council has secured a revenue grant from central government to support the development of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Norfolk.

The LCWIP for Norfolk plays an important part in delivering the Government's strategy for encouraging everyone to cycle and walk more, especially when making short journeys in towns and cities. Increased levels of active travel, especially for shorter journeys in towns, will help to reduce congestion, improve air quality, and benefit the environment and local economy. The County Council is working in partnership with all district and borough councils to create the plan. The Norfolk LCWIP builds on plans already completed for Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Greater Norwich.

The objective of the plan is to develop a countywide walking and cycling network, and identify infrastructure improvements over the short, medium and long term.

The development of the Norfolk LCWIP also supports the delivery of a low carbon, well-connected transport network in Norfolk.

The plan for Norfolk is in the early stages of development and to support with the development of the plan the County Council has created an online survey to help obtain insights into current levels of cycling and walking within Norfolk and to identify places where people feel they want to be better connected on foot or cycle.

The initial Norfolk LCWIP engagement runs from the 5 April to 30 May.

to review and comment on detailed proposals within the Norfolk Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan in Autumn 2022 go to www.Norfolk.gov.uk

The initial Norfolk Cycling and Walking Survey is open from 5 April to 30 May.

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