

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

17 December 2025

COUNCILLOR ADAM VARLEY - CABINET MEMBER FOR CLIMATE

For the period November to December 2025

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

The Norfolk Warm Homes consortia, of which NNDC is a key partner, has been awarded additional funds following successful delivery under the Warm Homes: Local Grant scheme. This additional funding will need to be spent in this financial year (25/26), so the team will be proactive in building interest and supporting potential applicants/beneficiaries.

In addition, the ECO and ECO flex grants will finish in March 2026 (their termination was announced in the Government's autumn statement, as part of the package of householder energy cost reductions).

The climate team are therefore working hard to maximise the take up of these grants, which are available to qualifying low-income households, in north Norfolk. This has included working with the benefits team and using LIFT data to target residents who may auto-qualify. **Councillors** are asked to help promote these grants to households in their wards in the run up to Christmas. (Please use this link to find details of Norfolk Warm Homes, including the case study videos: [Norfolk Warm Homes](#))

In addition, residents who do not qualify for grants can make use of other Council services to help save on their energy bills:

- Homewise – an online tool free to all Norfolk residents to provide [Tailored energy advice for your home](#)
- [Fairer Warmth](#) – a website with local information on energy saving measures and finance
- The Council's [web pages on solar panels](#) – including access to a free roof top design tool

For more information, including leaflets to deliver to residents please contact the climate team climate.emergency@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Concern has been raised that with the termination of the ECO scheme, local installers who installers on installations funded by that may find a gap appearing in their order books, so we will explore the extent of this issue and

try to identify ways of mitigating it, as ensuring there are locally qualified suppliers/installers, is important.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Designs for the retrofit of the existing Fakenham fitness centre have been approved so this work can be carried out, with the aid of a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme grant, at the same time as the construction of the new swimming pool. This will remove all gas requirements from the centre, significantly reducing its carbon footprint.

3 Meetings attended

NZSAP team meetings
Cabinet
Full Council
Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance meeting
Meeting with Coastal Gas