

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

22 July 2026

COUNCILLOR ADAMS - CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGY, COUNTYWIDE WORKING AND EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS, PERFORMANCE, COMMUNICATIONS, HR AND LEGAL SERVICES

For the period June to July 2026

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Democratic Services

The team has been working hard to redact and upload registers of interest forms for District and Parish councillors to meet the Government's deadline of 29th June for the removal of home addresses. Elected members are still required to declare their home address on their register but it will only be shown on the Council's website if a member requests it. Home addresses have also been removed from the contact pages for district councillors.

We have been engaging proactively with parish and town councils, advising them of the changes and have updated several hundred forms.

The Council's eDemocracy YouTube channel subscriber numbers continue to grow. Work has been undertaken on creating playlists for each committee, so that the videos are easier to find.

Legal

Contracts and Commercial - Current work includes agreements for Cromer Pier 125, the Holt Country Park eco classroom, upcoming filming in Cromer, and support for the relevant project boards. We are also supporting the Fakenham Flash project, including commercial, property, funding, operator and lease arrangements, with recent advice on the new electricity sub-station lease.

Planning - work includes agreements for major developments at Cromer, Stalham and North Walsham, alongside advice on biodiversity, nutrient neutrality and smaller sites. We continue to review Planning Enforcement Notices and advise on Lawful Development Certificates. Eight Assets of Community Value applications have been received this year, with two currently pending.

Housing - work includes homelessness reviews, temporary accommodation matters, possession proceedings and advice on belongings and pets left in accommodation. We are also advising on implementation of Awaab's Law and the Renters Rights Act 2025, including enforcement options against

private landlords.

Code of Conduct - There are currently 15 Code of Conduct complaints, including one subject to full investigation.

Litigation - work includes council tax and business rates recovery, orders for sale on three properties, High Court proceedings and recovery of £20,000 through a charging order. Criminal litigation includes potential prosecutions under planning and environmental health legislation, including a significant animal welfare case involving more than 80 potential offences. We have also successfully defended a trespass and human rights claim, which was struck out.

Information Governance - work includes statutory information requests, data protection advice, information sharing, privacy statements, breach assessments, internal reviews and ICO referrals. Response performance remains at or above 95%.

Coastwise - work includes ongoing legal support on consultancy procurement, the Happisburgh roll-back car park contract and lease, purchase of homes at risk of coastal erosion, and related policy and legislative consultations. Work also continues on guidance for estate agents and buyers, a potential agreement for qualifying homeowners as a transition option, and legal input to wider coastal management matters.

Communications

NNDC's engagement across social media platforms has forged ahead once again this month, adding 758 new followers, including 408 on Facebook alone. Overall our content resulted in 1.2 million views. Our Pride month coverage, collaborating with the local Cromer LGBTQ+ community to showcase their programme of events reached an audience of 72k across social platforms.

We continue to prioritise short-form video posting 30 individual pieces of video content in June. Four water safety videos generated 66k combined views across all platforms – a testament to the power of a good film.

The Comms team has further supported officers on a wide variety of issues including litter, bin and waste collections; water safety; the heatwave; elections; upcycling; the triathlon; HCP's new classroom; Overstrand works; FLASH; healthy living; Pier 125.

The Gala celebration for the 125th anniversary of Cromer Pier was a successful Comms operation delivering live coverage from ITV and in depth reporting from ITV, BBC, EDP and others. The event was favourably received by all those who attended despite a soggy start to the afternoon.

The Communications team has facilitated media coverage in local and national broadcast and press including the Sun, Telegraph, BBC, ITV, EDP, Local Government magazine.

Elections

Having successfully delivered the Norfolk County Council elections on 7th May and administered a District Council by-election and Cromer Town parish election on 9th July, the Elections Team was then required to prepare for and deliver the Police and Crime Commissioner election held on 16th July.

Human Resources

Two officers took part in the LGA Apprentice of the Year event in May, providing a valuable opportunity to develop skills and represent the Council.

Work is ongoing to support LGR-related meetings and workshops, ensuring appropriate HR input and coordination as the programme develops.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Elections

The team is preparing for wider local government reforms, including voting rights for younger residents and preparations to deliver an annual canvass.

Human Resources

Further work is also taking place in relation to the Employment Rights Act, and additional training on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment will be rolled out.

3 Meetings attended

Attended:

- Cabinet
- Business Planning
- Cromer Pier 125 Celebration
- Fakenham Leisure and Sports Hub project
- Holt County Park
- Norfolk Leaders Group Meeting

Met with:

- Cromer Tennis Club
- Anglian Water
- Equinor
- Fakenham Post Office
- Integrated Care Board