

To All Parishes in Northamptonshire:

Northants CALC is pleased to launch today our Climate & Nature Champion Scheme. I would be grateful if you could have on your July, August, or September meeting agenda an item "To appoint a Climate & Nature Champion to represent the council in matters relating to the climate, nature, and the environment".

The scheme has come about due to the incredible response we had to our Climate & Nature Survey in the spring. 181 out of 220 member councils responded and told us about all the brilliant work that parish and town councils are already doing in Northamptonshire. The Top 5 most common actions were:

- Planting native trees and plants
- Organising community clean-up events
- Creating and maintaining wildlife habitats
- Implementing LED street lighting
- Protecting local biodiversity

The Climate and Nature (CAN) Champion will act as the council's key point of contact and advocate for environmental sustainability, biodiversity, and climate resilience. This voluntary role supports the council in identifying, promoting, and coordinating local action on climate and nature. The CAN Champion Scheme will drive the dissemination of guidance, the sharing of good practice, and the identification of challenges and solutions to those challenges.

The scheme will operate in a very similar way to the Police Liaison Representative (PLR) Scheme. Councils are asked to appoint a CAN Champion, who can be a *councillor, officer, or member of the public*. Where a council has not been able yet to appoint a CAN Champion, the clerk will act as the default person. Once CAN Champions are appointed, they will receive regular communications from Northants CALC and will be invited to meetings. We are thinking about an annual online meeting for all CAN Champions in Northamptonshire and then thematic focus meetings three or four times per year, online, focused on a particular area of Climate & Nature Action with external speakers.

The first step is for councils to appoint their CAN Champions and to register their details with us at <https://www.northantscalc.gov.uk/can-champions> where you will also find a draft role description. Please register details as soon as possible, and by Friday 3 October 2025 at the latest.

We are planning a welcome event for all CAN Champions online at 1900 - 2100 on Wednesday 19 **November 2025**. Details will be sent to all CAN Champions in due course.

Many thanks in advance and I look forward to seeing where we can take this initiative in the coming years.

Best regards,

Danny.

Danny Moody

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