





# Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral

As Towns and Parishes will be aware, Queen Elizabeth II will be [honoured with a full state funeral](#) at Westminster Abbey at 11am on Monday 19 September, in a ceremony that will be televised worldwide.

Some cinemas are also showing free screenings of the funeral. This includes the [Vue Cinema in Northampton](#) and the [Arc Cinema in Daventry](#), though both events are now fully booked.

## Country to fall silent on two occasions

Two national silences will be observed over the weekend. The first will take place at 8pm on Sunday, the day before the Queen's funeral.

A second, two-minute silence will be held at 11.55am on Monday at the conclusion of the state funeral service for Queen Elizabeth II.

## The proclamation of the new sovereign

Hundreds of people gathered outside All Saints Church in Northampton on Sunday (11 September) for an historic ceremony, when The High Sheriff of Northamptonshire, Crispin Holborow DL, formally proclaimed the beginning of King Charles III's reign to the people of Northamptonshire.

The High Sheriff read the Accession Proclamation at the ceremony, which began at 12.45pm, with the proclamation being made at 1pm.

You can [watch a video of the county proclamation on our YouTube channel](#)

Then from 2.30pm onwards, town and parish councils across Northamptonshire read the same proclamation in their respective areas.



The proclamations across our county followed national proclamations that were read out in London on Saturday. Proclamations were also read out in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Hillsborough Castle in Northern Ireland at midday on Sunday.

In recognition of the new Sovereign, flags were flown at full mast from the time of the principal proclamation at midday on Saturday 10 September, until the local proclamations took place at 1pm on Sunday 11 September, when they returned to half-mast as The Queen's mourning period continued.

In tribute to Queen Elizabeth II, [wreaths were laid by civic leaders](#) in the Memorial Gardens at All Saints Church on Saturday.

And James Saunders Watson, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire and the King's representative in the county, also [paid tribute to the Queen in this video](#).

# Updates from Tuesday's Cabinet meeting

During the mourning period, the Council has decided only to proceed with meetings deemed necessary to ensure essential council business continues.

With a number of important issues on the agenda, it was decided that the Cabinet meeting at The Forum in Towcester on Tuesday (13 September) should go ahead. Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings due to take place on 15 and 19 September were postponed to a later date.



A recording of the Cabinet meeting can be [viewed on our YouTube Channel](#). You can also find out more information on the [Agenda and Decisions page on our website](#)

We have also summarised some of the decisions made below:

## Tiffield SEND School

Cabinet noted the latest progress on this project to create a 250-place [school for children with special educational needs and disabilities](#) (SEND) and agreed in principle to borrow up to £10million to make up the shortfall for the cost of building the new school, which will cost up to £23million.

The new facility in Tiffield near Towcester will cater for children aged four to 18 who are on the autistic spectrum and have speech, language and communication needs, as well as those with severe learning difficulties.

## Licensed Taxi fare increases

Cabinet members [decided to support a proposal to increase taxi fares](#) across West Northamptonshire. The proposals create a single tariff across West Northamptonshire, setting the maximum that licensed taxis can charge.

## Award of transitional contract for Highways services

Cabinet agreed proposals for a [new contract with engineering consultancy WSP](#) to continue to provide expert technical guidance and support on specific large-scale highways projects. The aim of this interim arrangement is to ensure these projects continue to move forward without additional costs or potential delays from the appointment of a new supplier.

## Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Cabinet [approved the proposed scheme for 2023/24](#) and recommended this to Council.

## Cost of living increase: how we are supporting residents

Cabinet [noted the contents of the report](#) and tasked the all-party Anti-Poverty Working Group to oversee a range of actions to take place over the next year and support the development of other interventions that respond to local need.

## Upcoming meetings this month

Due to the amount of business we have to get through this month, a second session of Cabinet will [take place at the Forum at 6pm on Friday 23 September](#)

Full Council will also meet later in the month, at [6pm in the Guildhall on Thursday, 29 September](#).

Town and Parish Councils are reminded that a [regularly updated calendar of meeting dates is available on our website](#), where it is also possible to subscribe to updates to receive e-mails on arrangements for particular committee meetings that might be of interest.

Meetings are also [streamed live on our YouTube channel](#)