

## **Report from Cllr Margaret Dewsbury – July 2020**

### **Covid 19**

Using the £3.7million allocated by the Government NCC is one of only 11 authorities setting up a Test and Trace system.

There is a Test Centre drive in at Postwick Park and Ride. If you have symptoms, self isolate, visit [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or call 119 to book a test.

Monitoring and tracking people that those testing positive have been in contact with should help to prevent the spread of the virus by ensuring a quick response to contain infection but NCC has a Local Outbreak Control Plan ready in case there is a spike in COVID 19 cases. It sets out how we will work with districts, NHS, Public Health and emergency services to prevent local outbreaks to: Protect ourselves, Protect others, Protect Norfolk. The plan can be found on NCC website [www.norfolk.gov.uk/control](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/control) plan.

### **Equality**

Norfolk County Council is committed to equality and diversity and community cohesion. We have a Stop Hate in Norfolk protocol to encourage members of the public to report any hate incidents that they observe.

### **Libraries**

The larger libraries, including Dereham and Wymondham, are opening where there is space for social distancing. People will need to take their library card to gain access and follow the one way systems.

Several library activities such as the Bounce and Rhyme and Stay and Chat will continue on line.

The children's Summer reading Scheme will also be run on line this year although the council is also sending out some books with food parcels to families who do not have access to books on line.

### **Highways**

The Parish Partnership Scheme is available again this year. Applications must be in by December.

### **Parking**

The Fire Service is asking people to think before they park as they recently experienced difficulty in getting to a fire because cars were badly parked, they could not get through and had to reverse and find another access. Time is precious when they are attending a fire.

### **Recruitment of full-time fire fighters**

We are currently advertising to fill some full time posts across the county. The role includes preventative work and dealing with a wide range of emergencies, not just putting out fires. There will be some taster sessions for people to find out more about the work. We would like to encourage more women and people from ethnic minorities to apply.

### **Economy**

All councils across the county are working together to get the economy restarted so that businesses survive and people keep their jobs.

Cllr. Margaret Dewsbury

Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships  
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