

## NCC Report for December meetings

Norfolk County Council received £635,000 from the Social Input Board for a four year project to reduce homelessness and promote independence. The fund can also be used to support people who are at risk of becoming homeless and will support the Adult Social Care aim of 'no homelessness in Norfolk'.

With funding from DWP Norfolk County Council also launched Norfolk COVID Winter Help to support those facing financial hardship over the winter period. The scheme will run until the end of March 2021. For information see [www.norfolk.gov.uk/wintercovidsupport](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/wintercovidsupport)

If anyone needs emergency help with food or fuel they can get help from the Norfolk Assistance Scheme. [www.norfolk.gov.uk/NAS](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/NAS) or tel: 0344 800 8020

### Fire Service

The Fire Service is working with the Police on a Drink/Drug Drive campaign called #IMPACT to highlight the dangers and protect other road users. There will be three mock crashed car scenes outside the Fire Stations in King's Lynn, Thetford and Sprowston to show the outcome of driving accidents and to make people more aware of the need to drive carefully.

As we are coming to a time when people have more candles and electrical items in their homes the Fire Service are also promoting Test it on Tuesday to try to get people in the habit of testing their fire alarms. They are also raising awareness of the possible causes of fires in homes via a series of short videos on how to spot early signs of a fire and tips on how to reduce the risk of fire in homes. [www.norfolk.gov.uk/fire](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/fire)

### Trading Standards

Norfolk Trusted Trader Scheme has been offering 50% off membership to Norfolk businesses to help them promote themselves and find more work and to ensure that local residents can be confident when selecting a local company to do some work for them. Norfolk Against Scams Partnership has also been warning people and businesses about scams and advise that people keep the following contacts handy:

To report a scam tel: Citizens Advice (freephone) 0808 223 1133

To obtain support if you have been a victim of an on line scam tel: freephone 0808 250 5050

Or for fraud, cyber crime etc. contact: Action Fraud 0300 123 2040

We fear businesses may be targeted by Brexit Scams in the new year.

### Libraries

Most libraries are open again. Hingham has not yet opened as it is so small but the mobile library is going in at present and there may be a click and collect system set up in the new year. The Business and Intellectual Property Centres provide free support and advice to help start or develop businesses and although they are usually based in some libraries they are currently offering advice virtually or by phone. 01603 774708

### Museums

Three of our museums, Lynn Museum, Time and Tide Gt Yarmouth and the Castle Museum reopened on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Castle Museum is providing virtual programmes for schools as they cannot visit at the moment.

If you are trying to find a Christmas present for someone 'who has everything' it is possible to 'adopt an object' at the Castle Museum on their behalf. [www.adoptanobject.co.uk](http://www.adoptanobject.co.uk)

If I do not see you before, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Cllr. Margaret Dewsbury

Cabinet Member for Communities and Partnerships  
Norfolk County Council: Hingham Division  
South Norfolk Council: Easton Ward