



**February News  
from  
Marianne Overton MBE**

**Lincolnshire County Council  
LCC and North Kesteven  
District Council NKDC**

**Greetings!**

I hope you and your family are well. This is my personal newsletter to let you know what I am doing on your behalf and to keep in touch with you. Let me know if I can help with anything.

**Reducing Energy Costs**

Properties in bands A to D will get up to £150 rebate, that's 89% of dwellings in our District. There is also a small discretionary hardship fund for bands E to H.  
[www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/energyhelp](http://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/energyhelp)

The Government is helping the Energy companies but we need more focus on grants for better insulation. People who need income support can get free insulation, heaters and boilers, if they are not on mains gas. The deadline is currently the end of March, so worth doing right away. Saves up to £40/month. [warmfrontuk.co.uk](http://warmfrontuk.co.uk) 01902 753404

For tenants, NKDC has staff who give good advice and helps improve your tariff. Veterans can also access grants.

There are of course, the basic energy saving measures such as dress warmly, shower rather than bath, LED lights, heating just the rooms in use.

There are grants if you get really stuck with your bills, usually through no fault of your own. The Citizens Advice Bureau is really helpful and the website has a great page on "grants for insulation" [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 0808 278 7942. Veterans [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

**Supporting Business with Grants**

Following exposure of significant fraud on earlier grants, estimated at £1bn, councils are now required to make more checks. Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant businesses *need to apply*. 1. Mandatory Omicron grant based on the rateable value of your business £2,267-£6K. 2. Additional Restrictions Grant £2K or £4K for businesses not rated but severely impacted in December. Deadlines in Feb and March. Contact North Kesteven District Council [www.businessnk.co.uk/covid-19-support/](http://www.businessnk.co.uk/covid-19-support/)

**Keeping you informed:  
Eight changes to the Highway Code**

Those who can do the most damage have the greatest responsibility to reduce danger to others. That means the hierarchy now puts pedestrians at the top and drivers have a responsibility to keep well clear 1.5-2m, from those walking, wheeling, cycling or horse-riding. Cyclists should keep away from the road edge. There is a neat summary on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) "highway code" and [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk)



**News on Levelling Up**

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, now under Michael Gove has today produced a plan to "transform the UK" – without any new funding and not including tackling climate change. The twelve missions cover all the good things we are doing. Less welcome is the move to reorganise our Councils into ever bigger units, reducing our connections with our communities. More at [www.lincolnshireindependents.org.uk](http://www.lincolnshireindependents.org.uk)



**Lincolnshire County Council Budget (80% of the bill)**

Anyone remember that the County Council did not increase the tax by as much as the Government expected last year? No? Well, I'm afraid we need it now if we want our roads fixed!

We pay income tax and National insurance into Government just the same year on year, but the amount of income tax that it sends back for local spend has dropped **to 10%**. A few grants get added for specific extra things the government wants us to do, like "Better care" a fund shared with the NHS.

This reduction in funds from Government and increasing demands, forces Councils to increase council tax, which is a much smaller pot than income tax and indeed, less fair because it is not connected to the size of your income.

The 3% not taken last year for adult care, plus the 1% for care this year and 2% for ordinary services, totals 6%. The Government has adjusted their grants with the assumption we are taking the Council tax rises they have allowed. If we do not collect the tax, we will be short this year, and every year after that. Every 3% is 79p/week on band D which adds to £9.6m/year for Lincolnshire.



The shortfall in highway repairs next year is £12m which is a quarter of the budget. If you thought roads are bad now, imagine a quarter less. I locally raised issues of efficiency in the operation of the contract and nationally raised the impact of too little funding with ministers. Thanks for supporting the campaign. This is not going to be resolved this year, but is important for the fairer funding decision promised (again) next year.

There is however, little excuse for short-changing our residents on service. Revenue reserves went up by £37m last year. In my view, the money for road repairs must be returned, either from Government or reserves where it was stored last year.

**In Summary:** This proposed 22/23 budget is for £534.515m, an increase of 5.2%. This is based on a 3% council tax increase for social care and a significantly reduced Highway maintenance budget. The government has raised the amount they give us by around £16m to £77m this year and there are more people paying tax. There are also more use of roads and need for services. Total Reserves are £237m about £2/head. Lincolnshire residents pay the second lowest tax of all Counties.

#### **Getting repairs done – overcoming the backlog**

The contractors, Balfour Beatty, lost 19 staff to haulage, and repairs fell behind. We are holding them to their contract and more repair teams have been recruited, aiming to be back on track by March end.

Published by Marianne Overton MBE, Lincolnshire Independents, Hilltop, Welbourn, Lincs LN5 0QH  
clrm.overton@lincolnshire.gov.uk 01400 273323 or [www.lincolnshireindependents.org](http://www.lincolnshireindependents.org) /page 2

#### **District Council Budget (About 10% of the council tax bill)**

The budget this year to run all the services is £15.4m, including a proposed increase in Council tax of £5/year on band D, less than £1/week. The District Council received 50% of the business rates, a bonus for each new dwelling built and fees for services.

We have 3,800 Council houses with rents that were held back by Government edict, recovering now by about 4%.

#### **Police (About 10% of the Council tax bill)**

The proposal is to raise the police precept by £10 per year on Band D. 70% of people said they were prepared to pay more for a better service and more police are being recruited. I have also raised concern that the police are no longer attached to home areas and often get drawn into the city, leaving the rural areas relatively unprotected. Please write to Chief Constable Chris Haward or PCC <mailto:contact@marcjones.org.uk> and copy me in.

#### **Mrs Smith's Cottage; Supporting community heritage**

Our artist-in-residence, Nicki Jarvis and colleagues are doing a great job with fascinating workshops at the Cottage. Please pick up a free craft pack from the shop. Opening hours noon to 4pm Wed to Sun. Feb 11<sup>th</sup> Friendship cards, Apr 9<sup>th</sup> A buzz about bees. Book here. [www.mrsmithscottage.com](http://www.mrsmithscottage.com)

#### **Plant for the Planet**

Well done Leadenham for a great consultation event at the weekend. New play equipment by the village hall and plans to plant up the Community Field at Leadenham top. [www.villagesplant.com](http://www.villagesplant.com)



#### **Thanks**

Spring is on the way, days are longer, and covid restrictions lifting. Huge thanks to fellow residents for doing so much over the past year. We continue with courage and resilience, determined to support local communities and protect the best of living in Lincolnshire.

Thank you for all you continue to do in our communities and your kind support. Best wishes for 2022.

*Marianne*

**Marianne Overton MBE**

*Working together to support people and planet*



## Useful Information

### Healthy Eating

#### Local shops

East Midlands Dairy 01636 614760  
Oldlings meat etc. 01522 810228  
Nick Streeter's fish etc. 01400 272547  
Grocery Paul Barton 07970 115351  
The Old Forge, Brant Broughton 07958 189650  
Greens, Bassingham 01522 788200  
Welbourn Post Office and Stores 01400 272242  
Leadenham Farm Shop 01400 273988

#### Pub/takeaway meals

The Tempest, Coleby 01522 810258  
The Bell, Coleby 01522 813778  
Thorold Arms, Harmston 07971 029 534  
The Bugle Horn, Bassingham 01522 789773  
The Five Bells, Bassingham 01522 788269  
Generous Briton Brant Broughton Tues-Sat 01400 272119  
Akash Indian Takeaway 01522 811126 Navenby  
Navenby Chinese Takeaway 01522 810773

#### Pre-cooked meals

Andy's Fish and Chips Van Bassingham Tues,  
Skellingthorpe Wed, Caythorpe Thurs 5-8pm  
Hot lunches for senior citizens 01522 404025 Bassingham,  
£5 for two courses. Book by Sunday 5pm  
Primary hot lunches Thurs and Sat 01522 788488  
Age UK will deliver 21 small single person meals for £20,  
plus £7 delivery 03455 564 144  
Hollynelstropcatering@gmail.com - weekly meal boxes



## Where to get more information

Trading with the EU <https://www.gov.uk/transition>  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home)  
Coronavirus cases: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>  
Business [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding)  
Lincolnshire County Council [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
North Kesteven District Council [www.n-kesteven.gov.uk](http://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk)  
Local Government Association [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk)

## Local Help Groups

- Aubourn and Haddington Luke Warwick 07765 900099  
Hayley 07928 032 866
- Bassingham Support Group 01522 404025
- Beckingham Covid Group Philip Wells 07930 990 950
- Brant Broughton and Stragglethorpe The Old Forge  
Village Shop delivers locally free. 01400 273796, 07958  
189650 9.30am-5pm Tues-Sat, Sun 10-4pm, Mon am.
- Carlton Le Moorland, Norton Disney and Stapleford  
Nicola Smith 01522 404024 120 volunteers  
[contact@CleMsupport.co.uk](mailto:contact@CleMsupport.co.uk)
- Coleby Parish Council Sue 01522 810509
- Rector Christine Chris Goldsmith 01400 679081  
07494870701 or [rectorleadenham@gmail.com](mailto:rectorleadenham@gmail.com)
- Welbourn Volunteers Alison 07 377 219 268
- Witham St Hughs Jason Snape on 07894 872 533
- Graffoe Parish Rector Michelle Godbold 01522 426723  
with many volunteers, including daily phone calls.

Like me, you may like to become a dementia friend or champion and add support. Being confused and alone or in lockdown, dementia is a tough call. Let's keep our communities friendly and safe for all.

### First Aid Course online

St John Ambulance [stjohnambulance@email.sja.org.uk](mailto:stjohnambulance@email.sja.org.uk)

### Parish Offices for local support and information

Navenby Venue Tuesday to Friday 10-noon  
Witham Office at Bassingham in the Hammond Hall,  
LN5 9HQ 01522 789758 Open Mon, Wed, Thurs 9-1pm  
Local Police Statistics <https://www.police.uk/>

### Access to Wellbeing Services and Care

Covid Helpline continues 01522 782189  
The Carers service 01522 782224  
[carers\\_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155  
Supporting People 01522 782140 [www.wellbeinglincs.org](http://www.wellbeinglincs.org)  
Umbrellas events supporting all ages with additional  
needs and their families [umbrellaslincoln@outlook.com](mailto:umbrellaslincoln@outlook.com)  
#EveryMindMatters advise on coping with anxiety and  
improving your mental health: <https://qoo.ly/35q2xs>  
Mental health [www.connecttosupport.org](http://www.connecttosupport.org)  
Bereavement Helpline St Barnabus 0300 303 1897  
[tracy.tuffs@stbarnabashospice.co.uk](mailto:tracy.tuffs@stbarnabashospice.co.uk)  
Befriending Service Lincolnshire YMCA 01529 301965  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 0800 1448444 free 8am-6pm

### Church Services

[www.graffoechurches.co.uk](http://www.graffoechurches.co.uk) with Michelle Godbold  
Christine Goldsmith [rectorleadenham@gmail.com](mailto:rectorleadenham@gmail.com)  
[www.withamsidechurches.org.uk](http://www.withamsidechurches.org.uk)

Navenby Methodist Church 01522 685226  
<http://lincolnmethodist.org.uk/circuit-services-weekly-live-stream/> David.lawton@methodist.org.uk

### Venue Finder

420 Lincolnshire Village halls are registered here.  
[www.lincscommunitybuildings.org.uk](http://www.lincscommunitybuildings.org.uk)

### Useful Advice for Charities

<https://www.charityhowto.com/blog/>

### To protect a house or business against flooding

<http://www.marydhonau.co.uk/information/how-do-i-protect-my-home-from-flooding/>

**Roadworks** [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks)  
[roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk) Twitter #lincsc roads

### Business Support

[www.businesslincolnshire.com](http://www.businesslincolnshire.com)  
[www.teamlincolnshire.com](http://www.teamlincolnshire.com) do monthly webinars

### Community Larders

**Sleaford Community Larder** at the Newlife Centre  
<http://www.communitylarder.co.uk/>

### Help save lives and keep countryside clean

Report Potholes 01522 782070  
<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes>  
Or use "Fix my street" on line – works well.  
<http://www.FixMyStreet.com>  
Report Litter 01529 414155  
[customer\\_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk](mailto:customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk)  
Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or  
[ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
Adult Concern 01522 782151  
Police: Sgt Ken Whyte, plus PCSO's 101 or [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)  
07973 846537/235/5827  
Floodline 24/7 on 01522 782082

### Highways, Transport and Travel

Good newsletter from [lincscountycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lincscountycouncil@gmail.com)  
**Roadworks** [www.one.network](http://www.one.network) [lincolnshire.roadworks.org](http://lincolnshire.roadworks.org)  
**Transport** [www.accesslincoln.co.uk](http://www.accesslincoln.co.uk) shows all the options,  
or ask [accesslincoln@lincolnbig.co.uk](mailto:accesslincoln@lincolnbig.co.uk) 01522 581906  
**Call Connect** 8.30am - 7pm Weekdays and to 5pm  
Saturdays 0345 234 33 44 or 01522 553143  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article)  
**Dial a ride** 01522 544983 Disabled door to door  
**Car-sharing** [www.lincshare.co.uk](http://www.lincshare.co.uk)  
**Trains** [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)  
Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT  
**Buses** [www.lincsbuses.info](http://www.lincsbuses.info) or Traveline 0871 200 22 33

**Mobile Library** 01522 782010 or [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk)

### Planning on line

See and comment on applications to get your voice heard.  
Search "planning on line north Kesteven"  
**Local Plan** [www.central-lincs.org.uk](http://www.central-lincs.org.uk) 01529 308084

### Village websites

Withamstaple.com; yourbassingham.co.uk  
[www.carltonle Moorland.org.uk](http://www.carltonle Moorland.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/) Navenby  
and Wellingore business parishes.[lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
[www.harmston.info](http://www.harmston.info) [www.navenby.net](http://www.navenby.net)  
[dunstondossier.org.uk](http://dunstondossier.org.uk) [nocton.blogspot.co.uk](http://nocton.blogspot.co.uk)  
Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby are on the LCC site  
E.g. <https://leadenham.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>  
Branston [www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times](http://www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times)  
Branston Library 01522 880426  
[www.mrssmithscottage.com](http://www.mrssmithscottage.com)

### County Events- Good web page here

Search Lincolnshire County Council out and about or use  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk) search on "county news"

**Wheelchair loan:** No Name Lodge Geoff Nelson 788213  
**Young People Grants** Carlton Le Moorland 07943760155

### Supporting Local Heritage

Mrs Smith's Cottage, Navenby  
Open Friday to Monday noon to 4pm  
Volunteers welcome



### Inspiring Children to Care

West Kesteven Wildlife Watch has a new calendar of events out. Running since 1991 aimed at children 7 to 13, children enjoy learning about our local environment and wildlife. Stars and planets, bees, summer camp, birds, wild walks to discover things, making and doing. Contact me or Jean Martin on 01636 626176 or [jcmartin0448@gmail.com](mailto:jcmartin0448@gmail.com)