

COUNCIL COLLEAGUE PARTICIPATES IN THE BATON OF HOPE INITIATIVE

Support North Kesteven Council colleague Jenni Swift as she takes part in a Baton of Hope initiative which aims to raise awareness and prevent suicide.

Baton of Hope is designed to be the biggest suicide awareness and prevention initiative the UK has ever seen, opening necessary conversations, and prompting appropriate actions.

The specially designed baton will tour UK towns and cities for two weeks in summer 2023, setting off towards the end of June, raising the profile of this issue like never before. Suicide is the biggest killer of men and women under 35 in the UK. The initiative brings people together to raise awareness, reduce the stigma, and get better at asking questions, listening, and directing people to the right help.

Jenni Swift has been selected as a Baton Holder for a London leg of the tour which will take place on Thursday July 6th. Jenni and her family set up EVELYNS BUTTERFLY EFFECT after their daughter Evelyn Gibson lost her battle with mental illness on April 15th 2022. EVELYNS BUTTERFLY EFFECT lets Evelyn's legacy shine bright, through encouraging others to carry out random acts of kindness in her name. To learn more about Evelyn's Butterfly Effect you can Google and visit a Facebook page. Evelyn's mum Jenni said "I really feel honoured to have been selected as one of the Baton Holders for the London leg of the tour. I will be carrying the Baton of Hope in Coal Drops Yard near King's Cross and will pass a board promoting Random Acts of Kindness – how apt considering we set up Evelyn's Butterfly Effect in her memory, to promote random acts of kindness". They expected to be represented on this tour.

AN EVENING OF EXPECTATION AT THE NORTH KESTEVEN BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Some of the best examples of Building Excellence were championed at the annual awards for clients of NKDC's building control service.

The 2023 NKDC Building Excellence Awards was an opportunity to bring together construction professionals, clients and Building Control experts demonstrating that the District of North Kesteven excels in creating new homes and buildings that are equal to – or in fact better than other builds in the country.

NKDC has an emphasis on building for the future, building for climate resilience and building to a Net Zero standard for improved lives and environmental wellbeing. This is carried through to the new Local Plan which informs building standards and principles for not only North Kesteven but also Central Lincolnshire partners and neighbours in West Lindsey and the City of Lincoln.

COUNCIL AIR QUALITY PROJECT EXTENDS TO SCHOOL BUSES AND TAXI HIRE

Drivers of school buses and taxi operators are being reminded to stop idling in their vehicles in a bid to boost public health and protect the environment, as NKDC extends its "Be Smart, Stop – Start" project.

As part of the clean air initiative, the Council has written to the District's two school bus contract-holders and 52 taxi and private hire operators, providing information and leaflets asking them to ensure drivers turn off their engines when waiting in their vehicles.

The campaign aims to raise the awareness of the dangers of idling on public health and the environment, with children being disproportionately affected by vehicle pollutants such as oxides of nitrogen, carbon dioxide and particulate matter.

The Council Campaign began through work with the William Alvey Primary School in Sleaford to stop parents from idling in their cars at school pickup times.

The project attracted national attention, even being featured on BBC Look North and BBC Breakfast News earlier in the year.

NKDC plan to roll out this work to other schools and communities in a bid to improve air quality for all young people in the District.

Exposure to these emissions can cause wide-ranging health issues such as breathing problems (including provoking asthma attacks), COPD, coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, low birth weight, diabetes, and diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.

NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NKDC works with partners such as Police, Fire and Rescue and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) at times of emergency to ensure our communities receive the support and response they require.

Flooding as a result of heavy rain is typically one of the emergencies our communities face and NKDC have effective plans in place to deal with this.

If a community is affected by flooding, residents should:-

Dial 999 if life is at risk or the 112 non-emergency number if life is not at risk. This call will go to the joint Fire, Police and Ambulance Control. Lincolnshire County CCL Highways as lead Local Flood Authority will be contacted to respond and the LCC Emergency Planning Duty Officer will also get a call and will use their rota to contact NKDC on-call officer.

The public will also report the flooding to LCC as follows:-

Customer Service Centre – 01522 782082

Flood and Water Teams

Fix my Street

Alternatively, flooding can be reported through the Environment Agency:-

Telephone 0345 9881188

Textphone 0345 6026340

A small supply of unfilled sandbags are held by NKDC. They make these available for partners such as Fire and Rescue or NKDC repairs contractors to support their response.

It is important to note that sandbags are not an effective method of flood defence and should not be used on their own unless absolutely necessary. Eight bags are required for a single door, and they do not protect ingress via air bricks etc.

NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL SALUTES OUR ARMED FORCES

More than 300 years of combined service to Armed Forces has been honoured through the presentation of Veteran's Badges, in a continuation of long held custom to the council.

The 13 veterans of the British Armed Forces present at a celebratory lunch for Armed Forces Day had put in a collective 180 years of service between them, with individual contributions of between two and more than 37 years. Their badges were presented by NKDC Leader Richard Wright who, as a veteran himself, said it was a deep pleasure to say, "thank you for everything you have done" Additionally,

badges have been sent to a further nine veterans who were unable to attend. Their collective service represents contributions in theatres of war, in peacekeeping, community resilience, civil contingencies and countless other duties.

Engaged in the British Army, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy and Merchant Navy, through longstanding careers and stints in National Service, veteran and civic representatives plus school children and the wider community gathered at Sleaford Market Place.

Best Wishes

Lucille



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There's a range of services available at

n-kesteven.gov.uk

*You can apply for help, report a problem,
find your bin days and lots more,
all from our new-look website.*

