

## **Clr. Ian Carrington (LCC & NKDC) – latest News July 2023:**

### **Improving Biodiversity in Greater Lincolnshire**

The Government has announced that LCC will be the lead authority for the Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy. This will work to improve biodiversity and natural habitats across the county. As Chairman of the LCC Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee I will do my bit to make sure the strategy is set up effectively. With Biodiversity Net Gain coming into force in the planning system by November, I'll also seek to ensure that the County Council works with planning authorities to maximise the benefits in North Kesteven and across the county.

### **Working For Children**

Giving children the best possible start in life is one of LCC's key roles. We were recently visited by OFSTED inspectors, who reviewed the help, protection and care we provide. The inspectors rated the council's children's services as 'outstanding' overall. They reported that families in Lincolnshire continue to have access to local services that help to keep them safe, and support them to make good progress. The report also noted that council staff, schools and other adults involved in the children's lives worked to ensure that help was provided quickly when needed, before issues had a chance to escalate.

Our children are our future, and we are very proud to have this independent endorsement of this essential part of the Council's work.

### **Highways**

Summer season surface dressing works continue this month in various locations within my Division. We recently completed the final round of public briefings on the North Hykeham Relief Road, which remains on track for a planning submission in the course of the next year and construction to start in 2025 against a planned completion date of 2028. Other major road investments are also taking place across the County. You may recently have noticed traffic counters on many roads in and around Lincoln – this is part of a widespread survey to assess actual traffic patterns now the Eastern Bypass has settled into use.

As ever, please report any potholes or other highway problems via [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) or the LCC website – I'm happy to help too.

### **Trading Standards**

The LCC Trading Standards team has recently obtained orders suspending trading for three months at retailers selling counterfeit or unsafe goods. LCC works very hard to protect consumers from being deceived, ripped off or put in danger – it is not something which everyone is aware of but it's an essential part of keeping us all safe.

### **Living Independently**

Lincolnshire's Integrated Community Equipment Service (ICES) is providing important lifeline for people who need support with aids and adaptations around their home. This is a vital service to support people to remain independent at home. Help ranges from a simple walking frame or crutches, or mobile hoists to pressure care equipment. This can be provided for people of all ages to be able to get about their own home, preventing the need to be supported elsewhere.

For further details on the equipment service go to: [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/help-live-home/home-equipment](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/help-live-home/home-equipment)

### **National Housing Award**

And a post-script from NKDC where I'm Exec Board member for housing. Very proud that NK has been given a national award for its new housing, specifically the Passivhaus council housing scheme in Potterhanworth. Passivhaus is the gold standard of eco homes, and NK has committed to building to this standard or equivalent with all its new homes. Taken together with the radical improvements we have made to the Local Plan this underlines our commitment to the environment and reaching net zero. Tackling climate change takes more than just words or protest, it takes engineering, maths and a frightening amount of accountancy! We're putting in the hard yards and it's great to have that effort recognised on the national stage.

### **CONTACT ME**

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