

News from County Councillor Dr Marie Strong
Wells Division
(Until 6 May)

Dear Residents of Wells and neighbouring villages

It has been a privilege and pleasure to be your county councillor for these past 12 years and and I must confess I am sad as this relationship comes to an end.

You have joined me in many campaigns whether related to your needs and wishes or to benefit fellow residents across our division and the county. I have not yet completed the list but it includes:

- Flood Sirens, Better Broadband for Norfolk, Mobile phone reception, DAB, MIPS, Coasthopper, Shoreline Management Plan, Marine Conservation Zone, Wells Field Study Centre, Pub is the Hub, Mobile Libraries

And I have had the privilege of collaborating with so many of you – individuals and via the town council - seeking solutions to problems, needs and wishes.

Mike and I look forward to ‘bumping’ into you (safely) now there will be more time to enjoy Wells and the lovely parishes which constitute our division.

(Below are a few items of information)

All good wishes –

Marie

**County Cllr Dr Marie Strong
Wells Division**

Barshams & Houghton St Giles, Binham with Cockthorpe, Blakeney, Brinton with Sharrington, Field Dalling & Saxlingham, Glandford with Letheringsett, Great Snoring, Great & Little Walsingham, Hindringham, Holkham, Langham, Morston, Sculthorpe, Stiffkey, Stody with Hunworth, Thornage & Little Thornage, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton, Wiveton

COVID-19 grant scheme extended: A grant scheme which has provided support with food and bills for vulnerable households during the pandemic has been extended – renamed the [Covid Local Support – renamed S-scheme, extended until 20 June with a further £40 million allocated](#). This is to provide [much-needed support to low income households at risk of poverty](#) and financial hardship.

COVID-19 Information: I recommend keeping the following websites which I am assured will continue to be reliable and regular updates:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus: this site includes local services as well as the latest regulations for Norfolk and reference to many if not all of the government schemes

www.gov.uk/coronavirus: all the government schemes are to be found on this site

Project Gigabit: I am repeating this piece because it is so very important and remains the most exciting piece of news regarding broadband since I campaigned with you for 'Better Broadband for Norfolk'. Whilst many, many people have good broadband due to BBfN too many still struggle but now one million hard to reach homes and businesses will have next generation gigabit broadband in the first phase of a £5 billion government infrastructure project. If your broadband remains a problem or you know someone in that situation hopefully you can access the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-5bn-project-gigabit>