

It's still a big Thank You to everyone that continues to help within our communities, looking out for one another and helping with shopping, picking up prescriptions and keeping in touch with those that live on their own in this difficult time. We have heard an announcement from the Government of it's route map for easing down the lockdown. A sign of hope for us that the current situation we are living in will start to change for the better. At County Hall this means that we are going to be facing renewed challenges as we work out how to deliver our services to the people of Norfolk, as guidelines and rules develop and change so that we can ease ourselves out of lockdown safely. For anyone needing help please contact the Help Hub at South Norfolk Council on 01508 533933

As from May 11th NCC opened up eight of its larger recycling centres so that Norfolk householders can dispose waste and recycling that may have built up at home and has started to pose a health and safety risk since the Government 'lockdown' measures. We are restricting the materials accepted based on the availability of transport and whether the companies that deal with the collected material are open for business – so please follow the directions of the staff on site as the options available may not be what people are used to.

NCC has launched Rooting for Nature, a campaign to spread the word on the benefits of home composting. As part of the campaign, NCC has teamed up with Get Composting to offer a range of discounted composting bins to encourage people to use their garden waste, fruit and veg peelings to make their own compost at home. To find out more about composting and to order a discounted bin, visit: norfolkrecycles.com

NCC's Adult Learning has made many of its learning courses available online, as well as launching a range of new online courses perfectly designed to keep you active, healthy and connected throughout the lockdown. If you're struggling to keep up with technology and connecting with loved ones during this time, the uniquely designed courses will help you get to grips with email, video messaging and how to stay safe online. There are also courses for the whole family, designed to help support your children's learning at home through age-specific targeted activities. For more information please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning .

Norfolk children are being invited to enter a new competition for a chance to win a visit to their school from a fire and rescue crew later this year. Online learning fun for children is now available on the service's website and includes top tips on staying safe at home, as well as fun activities including colouring sheets and puzzles around the theme of fire safety. We're encouraging children to look at the tips and then create posters, which they can take a photo of or scan in and send to us before the 30th of June for a chance to win a crew visit.

With Best Wishes
Martin