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## Parish Report September 2017

### Margaret Stone: Norfolk County Councillor

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#### INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

In December 2016 three major roads projects were agreed as priorities for the council – a third river crossing in Great Yarmouth, a bypass for the large south Norfolk village of Long Stratton and the Norwich Western Link, a new stretch of road connecting the Northern Distributor Road, which is currently under construction, to the A47 west of Norwich.

The **Long Stratton bypass** project is linked to a proposal to create 1,800 new homes in the area. The village's Area Action Plan mandates that "the bypass will be completed before 250 of the new homes are occupied" and that "a substantive element of funding is expected to come from the developer".

The county council has been working with South Norfolk District Council with the aim of jointly developing the Long Stratton bypass proposals with the developer. Most of the work to date has however been undertaken by the developer team and they have indicated that they are likely to submit a planning application in November 2017. On receipt of the planning application, both the county council and the district council will formally review and respond to the details.

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#### Children' Services: Mental health link workers to provide early support for children with emerging mental health problems

Children with emerging mental health issues are to receive earlier support, thanks to a new service launching in Norfolk.

The new link service, which is one part of a wider project to transform children's mental health services in the county, begins as children return to school this week.

The new link service will give schools and children's centres extra advice and support via a dedicated link worker

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#### **The new Norwich and Norfolk Eco Awards is open for entries from today (Monday 4 September) and close [on Friday 1 December](#).**

For further information and to apply, visit [www.eco-awards.co.uk](http://www.eco-awards.co.uk)

Please note the awards are only open to organisations based in Norfolk.

The scheme hosted jointly by Norwich City Council and Norfolk County Council is dedicated to championing extraordinary achievements in eco-sustainability. The awards are sponsored this year by energy company, Vattenfall.

Schools, businesses, local food producers, community groups and homeowners across the city and county are being urged to enter the acclaimed awards, with winners due to be announced at a ceremony in March

**Combat Loneliness: In Good Company Quality award**

Communities, shops, pubs, parish councils and other community based organisations are being reminded to apply for the new In Good Company Quality Mark which has been launched to recognise and reward the work they do to combat loneliness in Norfolk. The new mark is part of the 'In Good Company' campaign being run by over 20 organisations from the statutory and voluntary sector to help combat the increasing problem of loneliness in the county and the first round of awards are due to be made this Autumn.

Applications can be made via an online form at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/ingoodcompany](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/ingoodcompany) where full details can be found.