

20 Cleveland Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR33 0BN

23rd October 2020

Ms Shona Bendix
Town Clerk
Lowestoft Town Council
Hamilton House, Battery Green Road
LOWESTOFT
NR32 1DE

Dear Ms Bendix

Agenda Item 108.5 – Offering thanks to keyworkers in the NHS with luxury hampers

Please circulate my comments to all Lowestoft Town Councillors before the full council meeting on Tuesday 27th October.

I feel compelled to express my objection to the proposed gift of "Luxury Hampers" to some NHS staff as a thank you for the work they did over the national lockdown.

Of course we are grateful to all NHS staff

...and the Police, the Armed Forces, charity workers, council workers, postal and delivery workers, shop (food and medicine) workers, teachers (providing online lesson), bus drivers, lorry drivers

...also the people that made sure we had power and the cleaners that made sure it was safe for essential workers to do their jobs I include the excellent volunteers who supported the elderly and vulnerable, answered phone calls from those in need and prevented suicide by offering a listening ear.

This is naming just a few of our essential workers. I trust that you realise the list represents the "tip of the iceberg" of all the people who risked their safety to ensure we could carry on with our lives. Singling out just 1 group is divisive and offensive to the rest.

The idea of public money being spent on "luxury" anything at a time when many people (including the constituents of Lowestoft Town Council) are experiencing unprecedented hardship is distasteful and abhorrent.

I hope Lowestoft Town Council will re-think this activity.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Grafton