



## THANK YOU LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

Dear Council Officer,

I am Councillor Frances Burton, NILGA President and an elected member of Mid Ulster District Council. I write to you to express my gratitude at this difficult time of fear and uncertainty in our land because of Coronavirus.

As your current Chair of the Local Government Association here in Northern Ireland, NILGA represents, develops policy, lobbies and invests in councils and is part of a family of Associations across the UK and in Ireland. We have a small team of 10 people dedicated to serving local government and the 11 councils.

But what NILGA or councils do is not my message to you today. My message is short, but very sincere –

A Thank you for being here, for playing your part in supporting our communities and helping people in local places, so selflessly.

You are a credit to yourselves, families, district and the wider public service. Whether you are front line, coordinating, taking calls, writing minutes, off ill, setting policy, enforcing, communicating or regulating – Thank You.

I conclude by using two words I used earlier: “family” and “dedicated”. You are part of a family of councils and you are dedicated to doing all you can amidst the biggest crisis we have faced globally and here at home for a generation. We would be so, so much less able to come through this without your enthusiastic assistance as part of the 12,500 band of colleagues - equally dedicated and part of the bigger team which makes up our work force.

Wherever you are, be proud of the role you are playing as you help us help others. Please accept my heartfelt thanks personally, and on behalf of the members of NILGA.

Yours Sincerely

Cllr Frances Burton (Mid Ulster)

On behalf of all NILGA Office Bearers

Cllr Matt Garrett  
(Belfast)

Ald Danny Kinahan  
(Antrim &  
Newtownabbey)

Cllr Martin Kearney  
(Mid Ulster)

Ald Alan McDowell  
(Ards & NorthDown)