



Message from Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset

One of the most exciting and rewarding aspects of my life as Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset is the opportunity it has given me to work more closely with Bath University. In recent years, being involved with some of the research which is underway at Claverton Down and further afield, has been particularly rewarding.

Now that we are experiencing this extraordinary time of vulnerability and uncertainty as we try to protect ourselves, and our medical services, from Covid-19, I'm so very proud to see how the university has risen to challenges placed upon local resources and local hospitals. Using your ingenuity and skills, I know that the RUH have really benefited from the extra supplies of PPE for their care workers which you have made, for example.

I know that your contribution goes much further than this as you examine so many other aspects of living through a pandemic of this magnitude. To have the university - our university - undertaking this work which covers such a broad spectrum of response is very exciting and, if I may say it, very awe inspiring too! From the practical and immediate provision of equipment and laboratory facilities, to exploratory work and experimental search for solutions and ways to mitigate the impacts being endured, your work is truly visionary. It is something of which, in Somerset, we are so very proud.

It is difficult to know how I can communicate the depth of gratitude that I feel for this demonstration of support for the community. It is confirmation of the worth of our educational establishments who might appear to be distant from the people in whose midst they live. This is proof, if indeed it were ever needed, that the skills and expertise nurtured and cherished in our seats of learning is so crucial to the common good.

Please accept this message of congratulation and of sincere thanks, to you all in all the different projects and activities which you are undertaking at present to help with provision for protection against and treatment of Covid-19 with all its far flung machinations. This comes to you on behalf of the people of Somerset and, also, as I am their representative in our county, on behalf of Her Majesty and her family.

Thank you so very deeply from us all for the momentous task that you are performing with such brilliance.

With my kindest regards

Annie Maw