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County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

5 September 2013

Council Meeting

A meeting of the Council will be held on **Friday, 13 September 2013 in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL, commencing at 10.30 am** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda. The attendance of all Councillors is requested.

Yours sincerely

Tony McArdle
Chief Executive

Membership of the Council (77 Members of the Council)

Councillors R Wootten (Chairman), W J Aron (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, M G Allan, A M Austin, Mrs V C Ayling, J W Beaver, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, T Bridges, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, J P Churchill, K J Clarke, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, S R Dodds, G J Ellis, R G Fairman, I G Fleetwood, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, M J Hill OBE (Leader of the Council), J D Hough, D C Hoyes MBE, D M Hunter-Clarke, R J Hunter-Clarke, N I Jackson, A J Jesson, M S Jones, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, S F Kinch, R C Kirk, C E D Mair, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, R A H McAuley, D McNally, D C Morgan, N M Murray, Mrs A M Newton, P J O'Connor, Mrs M J Overton, C R Oxby, C Pain, S L W Palmer, R B Parker, N H Pepper, R J Phillips, Mrs H N J Powell, Miss E L Ransome, Miss F E E Ransome, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs S Rawlins, J M Renshaw, R A Renshaw, Mrs A E Reynolds, P A Robinson, R A Shore, Mrs N J Smith, Mrs E J Sneath, C L Strange, Mrs C A Talbot, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, S M Tweedale, C J Underwood-Frost, W S Webb, P Wood, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, C N Worth, Mrs S M Wray and B Young

**COUNCIL AGENDA
FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2013**

Item	Title	Pages
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2	Declarations of Councillors' Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12 July 2013	1 - 8
4	Submission and Debate of Petitions - Libraries	9 - 14
4a	'Save Sutton on Sea Library'	
4b	'Keep Boultham Library Open'	
4c	'Save Deepings Library'	
4d	'Save Lincolnshire Libraries'	
5	Chairman's Announcements	
6	Statements/Announcements by the Leader and Members of the Executive	15 - 38
7	Questions to the Chairman, the Leader, Executive Councillors, Chairman of Committees and Sub-Committees	
8	Financial Update	39 - 48
9	Non-Executive Councillors' Roles in Policy Development and Scrutiny	49 - 58
10	Annual Report 2012/13	59 - 100
11	Delegation for Planning Applications	101 - 106
12	Absence of Councillor Chris Underwood-Frost	107 - 108
13	Rewiring Public Services	109 - 146
14	To receive the minutes of the Council's Committee's as follows:	
14a	Pensions Committee - 4 July 2013	147 - 152
14b	Planning and Regulation Committee - 15 July 2013	153 - 174
14c	Audit Committee - 22 July 2013	175 - 182
15	Motions for Debate (if any)	

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Please note: for more information about any of the following please contact the Democratic Services Officer responsible for servicing this meeting

- Business of the meeting
- Any special arrangements
- Copies of reports

Contact details set out above.

Please note: This meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and access can be sought by accessing <http://www.lincolnshire.public-i.tv>

All papers for council meetings are available on:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/committeerecords



**COUNCIL
12 JULY 2013**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR RAY WOOTTEN (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors W J Aron (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, M G Allan, A M Austin, J W Beaver, Mrs P A Bradwell, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, T Bridges, Mrs J Brockway, M Brookes, K J Clarke, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, S R Dodds, G J Ellis, R G Fairman, I G Fleetwood, A G Hagues, J R Hicks, M J Hill OBE, J D Hough, D C Hoyes MBE, D M Hunter-Clarke, R J Hunter-Clarke, A J Jesson, M S Jones, B W Keimach, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, S F Kinch, R C Kirk, C E D Mair, R A H McAuley, D McNally, N M Murray, Mrs A M Newton, P J O'Connor, Mrs M J Overton, C R Oxby, C Pain, S L W Palmer, R B Parker, N H Pepper, R J Phillips, Mrs H N J Powell, Miss E L Ransome, Miss F E E Ransome, Mrs S Ransome, Mrs S Rawlins, J M Renshaw, R A Renshaw, Mrs A E Reynolds, P A Robinson, R A Shore, Mrs N J Smith, Mrs E J Sneath, C L Strange, Mrs C A Talbot, T M Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, S M Tweedale, W S Webb, P Wood, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, C N Worth and Mrs S M Wray

21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J P Churchill, N I Jackson, C E H Marfleet, J R Marriott, D C Morgan, C J Underwood Frost and B Young.

22 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor R J Philips declared an interest in agenda item 4 (minute 24 refers) as he was representing a number of clients who were campaigning for the closure of footpaths across railway lines.

23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 MAY 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the County Council held on 17 May 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

In relation to a question raised by Councillor A Jesson at the meeting on 17 May 2013 (minute 12 refers), he acknowledged that on the basis of information he had received since the last meeting, he was satisfied that there had been no deliberate mis-use of staff time, and that processes had since been revised, and therefore the matter was closed.

24 SUBMISSION OF PETITION - IN SUPPORT OF THE CLOSURE OF
PUBLIC UNMANNED FOOTPATHS CROSSING TRAINLINES
NATIONWIDE

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, Mrs Donna Dixon spoke for not more than three minutes in explanation of the contents of the petition in support of the closure of unmanned public footpaths across train lines.

The Chairman reported that the Chief Executive had determined that the petition would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT.

25 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported that the first few weeks of his term of office had been varied and interesting and had given him and his wife the opportunity to meet a variety of people from various parts of the County.

He thanked his wife for supporting him on these engagements and also Councillor Bill Aron and Amanda Job, Vice-Chairman and Lady, for representing them at civic functions when, due to other commitments, they had been unable to attend.

The Chairman reported that his duties had included attending the 70th Anniversary of the Dambusters Service of Commemoration, the no 50 and No61 Squadrons Association Annual Service at Birchwood and Skellingthorpe, supporting the ABF The Soldiers Charity and the Royal Logistics Corps TA. The Chairman and Lady were also pleased to attend the 129th Lincolnshire Show which attracted many visitors to the county including HRH The Countess of Wessex who he was honoured to welcome to Lincolnshire.

A complete itinerary of civic engagements, since the last meeting of this Council were on deposit in the Members' Foyer.

Members were reminded that at the last meeting of Council it was agreed that this Council would re-affirm its declaration of 9 March 2007, which stated that the Council condemned extremism and racist behaviour in all its forms and asked group leaders to sign the declaration, as community leaders.

Group leaders were invited to step forward to sign the document.

26 STATEMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF
THE EXECUTIVE

Statements by the Leader and Members of the Executive had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

27 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN, THE LEADER, EXECUTIVE
 COUNCILLORS, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES

Questions pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 10.3 were asked and answered as follows:-

<u>Questions by</u>	<u>Answered by</u>	<u>Subject</u>
(a) R B Parker	N Worth	The need for a park and ride system in Lincoln when the work on the castle is completed.
(b) C Pain	R G Davies	Request for support from the Executive Councillor in relation to obtaining extra funding for road maintenance from central government
(c) Mrs M J Overton	M J Hill OBE	Update on the changes to the Supporting People Service
(d) Mrs S Wray	Mrs C A Talbot	An update on the present situation following the national review into the Safe and Sustainable Children's Heart Surgery Services
(e) R Kirk	Mrs P A Bradwell	Lack of provision of mental health social care for over 65's
(f) T M Trollope-Bellew	C J Davie	Representation of residents by their local members on Planning and Regulation Committee in relation to planning applications affecting their divisions
(g) Mrs A E Reynolds	N Worth	Continuation of the library on prescription service following the review of library services in Lincolnshire

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(h) P Wood	C J Davie	Setting of key priorities for economic development
(i) J D Hough	M J Hill OBE	Improvements to the library service
(j) C J T H Brewis	R G Davies	Improvements to the East Coast rail network
(k) G Ellis	C Pain	Signing of the declaration against extremist and racist behaviour
(l) R G Fairman	C J Davie	Supporting rural pubs
(m) Mrs A M Austin	C J Davie	Promotion of the storage and distribution park at Kirton to bring economic development to this area
(n) P M Dilks	N Worth	How the Tier 1 and 2 libraries were identified
(o) B Adams	M J Hill OBE	Function of the Digital Engagement Team
(p) S F W Palmer	N Worth	Proposed library services for those unable to travel
(q) S R Dodds	Mrs P A Bradwell	Quality of education in academies compared with maintained schools
(r) M Brookes	C J Davie	Update on action being taken for residents in relation to the Tritton Knoll scheme
(s) K J Clarke	N Worth	Location of public consultation events for library service proposals

(t) Mrs C A Talbot	M J Hill OBE	Update on the visit to Lincoln by the Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP, Secretary of State for Transport
(u) J Renshaw	N Worth	Access to mobile library service
(v) R J Phillips	R G Davies	Disruption on Newark Road caused by road improvement works
(w) N Murray	Mrs P A Bradwell	Mental health underspend
(x) R Renshaw	R G Davies	Review of speed limit policy in Lincolnshire

28 CONTINUATION OF THE BIG SOCIETY FUND

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the continuation of the Big Society Fund be approved.

29 APPOINTMENT CHANGES TO OUTSIDE BODIES - ANGLIAN (NORTHERN) REGIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE COMMITTEE AND THE CENTRAL LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

A report by the Executive Director Performance and Governance had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

1. That Councillor C J Davie be appointed to the Anglian (Northern) Regional Flood Defence Committee;
2. That Councillor C E H Marfleet's previous appointment to the Anglian (Northern) Regional Flood Defence Committee be changed to the joint appointment position;

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3. That Councillor Mrs M J Overton be appointed to the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee as the reserve member;
4. That Councillor M Brookes be appointed as the third County Council representative, and Councillor N Worth appointed as a substitute member on the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee as outlined in Appendix A to these minutes.

30 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

(a) Planning and Regulation - 10 June 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning and Regulation Committee held on 10 June 2013 be received.

(It was noted that Councillor B Adams was present at this meeting, but had not been included in the list of attendees)

(b) Audit - 24 June 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Audit Committee held on 24 June 2013 be received.

31 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Motion by Councillor J D Hough

It was moved and seconded that:-

'Since 2010 the council has had to find one hundred and twenty five million pounds of savings due to reductions in Central Government funding and cost pressures. We have seen the loss of frontline services and thousands of staff losing their jobs.

People in Lincolnshire have already suffered from the recession with cuts in living standards, job losses, and reductions in public services. Two weeks ago further cuts in Government funding were announced which could mean a loss to Lincolnshire of another fifteen million pounds.

Three years ago a review of councillor allowances was carried out by the Independent Remuneration Panel. The recommendations would have meant an increase in the main councillor allowance of £1,816, an increase of 22%. The Council agreed to defer the increase and use the money instead for the benefit of the community.

Following the election we need to decide what should happen now. There are three options:-

1. The recommendations of the Remuneration Panel for an increase of 22% are implemented, which would for example increase the basic rate for a councillor from £8,184 to £10,000 a year,
2. There is no increase in councillor allowances,
3. The recommendations of the Remuneration Panel are not implemented and instead there is 1% increase on the old allowances.

The current position is that plans are in place to implement the recommendations (option 1 above) of the Independent Remuneration Panel subject to legal advice.

This Council, while recognising the importance of allowances to ensure that Councillors from all sections of the community are able to serve on the Council, and mindful of the recommendations of the 2010 Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) and subsequent Council decisions, believes it would be unacceptable for councillors to vote for the full increase recommended by the IRP in the prevailing economic conditions, and therefore resolves that Councillors should only receive an increase of 1% on allowances currently set out in the third column of Schedule 1 to Part 6 of the Council's Constitution in line with this year's expected settlement for the work force.'

An amendment was proposed to the motion to delete the final paragraph and to replace it with the following wording, and was moved and seconded.

'That Council resolves to make a Scheme of Members Allowances for 2013-14 that, whilst recognising the recommendations of the 2010 Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) and subsequent Council decisions, makes no increase to the amounts set out in the third column of Table 1 in part 6 of the Constitution.

To convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to report back with recommendations to Council on 13 December 2013 at the latest.'

The amendment, upon being put to the vote, was carried. This became the substantive motion.

The amended motion, upon being put to the vote, was carried.

Motion by Councillor Mrs M J Overton

It was moved and seconded that:-

'This council calls on Central Government to support the Independence of Local Government from Central Government with a clear mandate to act independently of Central Government in the interests of local people.

Over the past few years, central funding support has decreased, leaving us with greater demands and less money. Yet Central Government still ties us up with thousands of detailed regulations and restrictions. As demand for services increases and our resources decrease, we need flexibility to work differently. Lincolnshire

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County Council calls on Central Government to give us in local government that clear mandate or constitution of independence from Central Government.'

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was lost.

The meeting closed at 12.45 pm

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director Performance & Governance

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Submission and Debate of Petitions – Libraries

Summary:

This report informs the County Council that four petitions have been received in relation to the current Lincolnshire libraries consultation.

It sets out how the Council's Petitions Scheme applies to those petitions and related matters.

Recommendation(s):

That the petitions be received by the Council.

1. Background

The County Council's Petitions Scheme is set out in Part 5 of the Constitution.

Under that Scheme:

- Petitions to Council with 3,500 or less valid signatories allow a spokesperson presenting the petition to speak for up to 3 minutes
- Petitions with more than 3,500 valid signatories trigger a debate at Council and allow a spokesperson presenting the petition to speak for up to 5 minutes.

Four petitions have been received as set out in Appendix A. Two of those petitions are of sufficient size to trigger a debate at Council under the Petitions Scheme.

The Lincolnshire libraries consultation is open until the end of September.

2. Conclusion

Petitions relating to Boutham and Sutton on Sea Libraries will each be presented following a maximum 3 minutes address by the respective spokesperson.

They will then be referred to the Executive as decision makers.

Petitions relating to The Deepings and to all Libraries in Lincolnshire will be presented following a maximum 5 minute address by the respective spokesperson and followed by debate(s) of up to 15 minutes each.

Under the Constitution, the Executive is the decision maker for the library review currently under consultation (this is within of the Articles of the Constitution which cannot be suspended). In view of this the County Council, in debating the issues raised as part of the submission of the petitions, will not be able to make any decisions on the library proposals themselves. The Council can, however, consider and agree upon any recommendations it may wish to submit to the Executive which they will take into account prior to making any decision.

The Executive decision is currently scheduled for 3 December. It will be informed by the consultation including these petitions, debate(s) at Council and pre-decision scrutiny by the Communities Scrutiny Committee.

3. Legal Comments:

In considering this report, Members will be aware that the library review is still under consultation and is yet to be determined by the Executive, within whose remit the decision falls. Members will be aware of the need not to pre-judge the outcome of that determination – the purpose of the debate at council, as set out in the Council's Constitution, being to allow Members to make suggestions and comments on the issue to the Executive.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no direct financial implications arising from the petitions.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Summary of petitions received

7. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by David O'Connor, who can be contacted on (01522) 552316 or david.oconnor@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Appendix A – Library Petitions

Petition	Signatories	Time	Spokesperson
<p>Boultham Library</p> <p>We the undersigned request that the Lincolnshire County Council retain Boultham Library, a vital asset in the South of the City, and to maintain its current opening hours and level of staffing that provide an essential Community Need.</p>	540	3 minutes	Mr Lindsay Cutts
<p>Sutton on Sea Library</p> <p>We, the undersigned Residents of Sutton on Sea oppose the proposed changes to our library services. Sutton on Sea has a higher than average retired population who would find it difficult to travel to Mablethorpe to access the library services there. We demand that the current facilities remain as they currently are.</p>	1829	3 minutes	Ms Patti Marson
<p>Deepings Library</p> <p>We the undersigned, call on Lincolnshire County council to reconsider the proposal to close the library in the Deepings.</p>	8280	5 minutes and debate	Mr A Bowell
<p>Lincolnshire Libraries</p> <p>Lincolnshire’s libraries provide vital public services which many people and organisations depend on. Our library service must meet the differing needs of people across our county. Therefore our library services must be protected from cuts. We oppose the proposed changes by Lincolnshire County Council to Lincolnshire’s Public Library service. Specifically we want to see:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of our libraries to remain open • None of our libraries to be privatised or outsourced • Existing library opening hours to be kept • Our mobile library service to be maintained at its current level • No cuts to computer equipment or access • No cuts to library staff jobs, hours or working conditions • No public library buildings to be sold off 	5534	5 minutes and debate	Ms Leah Warrinor Wood

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Agenda Item 6

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

Statement from: Councillor M J Hill OBE– Leader and Executive Councillor for Policy, Finance, Property, Communications, Procurement and Commissioning

Finance Matters

Spending Round 2015/16 and Related Consultations

I summarised the Chancellor's announcements from the 26th June 2013 Spending Round in my statement to the July Council. Since that time the Government has initiated a number of consultations following those announcements that impact materially on the finances of this Council. I have summarized the three most significant ones below:

Local Government Finance Settlement 2014/15 & 2015/16 – Technical Consultation

This consultation gives early information on the local government finance settlement for the next two years. The information relating to next year is in line with our expectations when we set a provisional budget for that year at the February 2013 Council. The information for 2015/16 indicates the likely impact on the Council of the 10% reduction in funding for local government announced in the Spending Round on 26th June. The actual funding reduction is not 10% but 14.3% in our case. In addition, that percentage reduction is applied to a much larger quantum of funding than originally believed. That is, it is applied to the sum of local business rates income plus revenue support grant and not just revenue support grant, albeit the actual reduction is made solely to revenue support grant (RSG) as the government has no direct access to local business rates income. For Lincolnshire the combined impact of these factors means that the projected funding reduction for 2015/16 is not 10% of £122m (ie. RSG) but 14.3% of £223m (i.e. RSG plus local business rates). The funding loss is therefore £31.9m and not £12.2m as originally envisaged. In addition, a number of what appeared to be 'new' funding streams announced in the Spending Round (such as £335m nationally as an initial contribution to the Dilnot reforms in Adult Care) are not in fact new funds but simply a further top-slicing of the RSG.

The Council will make strong representations to Government on the inadequacy of these funding proposals.

New Homes Bonus & the Local Growth Fund – Technical Consultation

The June Spending Round announced that in 2015/16 £400m of national funding of New Homes Bonus to local government would be diverted from local government and into the Single Local Growth Funds overseen locally by LEP's. This level of funding represents around 34% of the available funding in that year. New Homes Bonus is presently paid to both District and County Councils with the former getting 80% of the

funding in any two tier area. The total New Homes Bonus predicted for the County in 2015/16 is £14.7m with £2.9m coming to the County Council and £11.8m to the Districts.

The Government is now consulting on two methods for generating the required £400m. The first method is simply to reduce every Council's allocation by 34%. The second method is to reduce the allocation to upper tier authorities to zero with the balance coming from Districts. This would result in Districts losing around 19% of their New Homes Bonus rather than 34% under the first option. The rationale for the second option appears to be that upper tier authorities are better placed to stand the loss of funding than lower tier. This Council will make strong representations against the second option.

Proposals for the use of Capital Receipts from Asset Sales to Invest in Reforming Services – Consultation

This consultation seeks views on a proposal to change the restriction on the use of capital receipts (i.e. cash from the sale of assets such as land & buildings) to allow them to be applied to invest as one-off revenue costs relating to the transformation of services. An example of such costs would be redundancy and pension strain charges. It is suggested there are merits in principle with this proposal but the consultation envisages a relatively bureaucratic process of bidding to Government for appropriate permissions (but no funding) with the Government setting an annual ceiling on the quantum of permissions granted. The proposal also envisages, somewhat unrealistically, that the Council would pre-identify which assets it would sell when to fund the costs involved. The Council will respond by supporting the principle but seeking a more streamlined process to govern its operation.

Corporate Property Rationalisation Programme

Property area reviews and rationalisation have taken place and are continuing around the county.

Rationalisation Projects completed to date have resulted in 17 properties being returned to the landlords. Two freeholds have been sold and ten more are ready for disposal. Over ten thousand square metres of floor space (13%) has been released since the beginning of the programme.

The closure of Skegness Ida Road is in progress with the Registrar's service already relocated to Skegness Business Centre, and receiving positive feedback from service and customers. LCC and East Lindsey District Council will be working together to provide a joint customer access point at Skegness Town Hall. In Bourne several LCC services including the library are now working jointly in a 'one-stop shop' with Health and District partners in the centre of the town.

FDSS

The FDSS programme of work to replace the existing Mouchel contract is on track, with constructive discussions taking place with the three shortlisted firms in the competitive dialogue. Other aspects of the existing contract will be put out to the market in November and also during 2014.

Electoral Review

The Boundary Commission has notified the Council that they will be carrying out an electoral review for Lincolnshire.

The first part of this will be consideration of the Council's size; i.e. the number of seats. This will involve written evidence by the Council and public consultation.

Work will be led by the Executive Director (Performance and Governance). There will be engagement with Group Leaders and the submission will be reported to full Council for debate in December before it is finalised.

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

Statement from: Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Adult Care, Health Services and Children's Services

ADULT CARE

Budget Update

In the current financial year the Adult Care budget is expected to be in balance. However, we do have on-going pressures, particularly in the Older Persons and Learning Disabilities areas. In each of these areas demographic pressures are continuing and in the Older Person's service there are an increasing number of Residential and Nursing placements having to be made. Savings delivered this year are in excess of £10m and Adult Care is on plan to deliver fully against a demanding £11.5m savings requirement. The budget is increasingly dependent on the funding coming from the Department of Health to support integration with local health provision. The Government's Spending Review announcement on 26 June increased the focus of such funding with nationally £3.8bn (locally an estimated £52m+) available from 2015/16 including a £2bn transfer from current health service funding. In 2014/15 we expect around £15.4m to be available to Lincolnshire and for both financial years we have already begun planning with CCG colleagues how/where this funding is to be invested.

Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspections

A total of 355 care providers representing nursing and residential homes and, home care services in Lincolnshire have been inspected by the Care Quality Commission in the last 12 months. Of these 91% were judged to be compliant with the 'Essential Standards of Quality and Safety'. Lincolnshire has the highest level of compliance in the East Midlands, where the average compliance level is 75%. This in part reflects the quality assurance work undertaken by Adult Care, our commitment to subsidised training for providers, the quality of our relationship with providers themselves and the on-going relationship with CQC to identify poor quality providers.

Adult Care Performance

Performance continues to improve in a number of areas across Adult Care.

The performance of our in-house reablement service continues to improve with almost 50% of people entering our reablement service are successfully re-abled to live independently compared to 41% for the same period last year.

We continue to make progress with personalisation, with everyone who is eligible for a personal budget now receiving one. Direct Payments continue to grow with over 2700 people now accessing support through a direct payment

Admissions to long terms care for adults with a learning disability, mental health or a physical disability remain stable, however, pressure continues in the older people admissions. We are currently predicting approx.1000 people will be admitted to long term care this financial year. This reflects an increasing intensity of need associated

with serving an increasingly older population, most notably within the over 90 age group.

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Adults Board is working towards being made mandatory by 2014. Similar to the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board there is a strategic board led by an independent chair with an operational board and four subgroups underneath it: 1) Critical and Complex Incident Review Group, 2) Policy and Procedures 3) Intelligence Performance and Risk and 4) Workforce Development

The chairs of the sub groups are split evenly between Health and Social Care managers. We have adopted and adapted the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) model of adult safeguarding and we are currently writing the Implementation plan for Adult Care.

Wellbeing Service

In partnership with Public Health colleagues a new Wellbeing Service is being developed to increase the number of people who are able to live independently with support and technology in their own home. Providing more proactive, integrated, high quality support delivered through multi-disciplinary working can create a reduction in attendances at A&E, emergency admissions, and length of stay in residential care. By joining up information and advice services and making equipment, minor adaptations and assistive technology available quickly on a low level preventative basis the outcome will be people maximise their independence and avoid coming into high cost statutory services. In addition to equipment, the service will offer short term generic support, long term monitoring and rapid response.

Procurement of the service will commence in September with a view to it being accessible across Lincolnshire from April 2014.

Transitional Care

The Independent Living Team (ILT) Pilot began on 17th October 2012 in the East of the county. This integrated (health and social care) approach is being rolled out across all four CCGs by December 2013.

ILT will also form part of a whole health and social care approach to an admission reduction programme this winter.

The admission reduction programme will include a range of services, which can be accessed via a single number for all health and social care professionals. Referrals will be triaged to the most appropriate service offered by an integrated team – ranging from Rapid Response and Virtual Ward to support at home with activities of daily living.

The aim of the new services is to avoid inappropriate attendance / admission to hospital by intervening at key points on the patient journey:

- *At the patient's front door* - by putting in a wide range of services to maintain independence at or closer to home.
- *At the acute trust front door* - by diverting people who do not need admission

- *At the acute trust back door* - by supporting people out of hospital in a timely way, and supporting them at home

Carers Partnership

The Council's Policy and Development Team have been working with the Lincolnshire Carers Partnership to support them to become an independent organisation with the ability and resources to both trade and act as a strategic partner with Lincolnshire County Council. We are delighted that Lincolnshire Carers and Young Carers Partnership Ltd have been successfully incorporated with an experienced board of directors in place. We look forward to working with the new company and continuing to support the carers agenda with them, and with carers across the County.

Extra Care Housing

We are pleased to announce that the new Barratt Court Extra Care Scheme in Skegness is nearing the end of its construction, and will open in October. We are also pleased to announce that Adult Care support within the scheme will be provided by HICA. The new scheme will offer 40 new units of Extra Care in East Lindsey.

Information and Advice

Adult Care continues to seek to improve its information and advice offer to the people of Lincolnshire. After the successful launch last year of the My Choice My Care website, we are now looking to update our paper based offer. We are currently beginning the procurement process that will lead to a renewed care directory that will work in conjunction with My Choice My Care. We will also be seeking to review and improve the website based on feedback and usage over the last year of operation. This review is part of our commitment to ensuring that appropriate information is available to people when they need it and in a form that helps them.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Birth to Five

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Outcomes 2013 – A new national assessment system for the EYFS has been introduced for 2012-13. This system is significantly different in implementation to the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile which existed previously. This new system of assessments has been successfully implemented by all schools and settings across Lincolnshire.

Throughout 2012/13, consultants from the Birth to Five Service have delivered extensive training and agreement trialling sessions, completed moderation visits with all schools and undertaken a comprehensive data quality assurance process to ensure the judgements made at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage are valid and accurate under the new system and will provide a secure starting point for children as they enter Key Stage 1.

A revised measure for the 'Good Level of Development' achieved by children at the end of the EYFS has also been introduced. An analysis of the final data submitted in July indicates that 65% of Lincolnshire children have achieved this level. Early indications suggest that this is higher than the national average outcome of the

majority of Local Authorities, which currently sits at 51%. The final data outcomes will be confirmed in the Autumn Term statistical release.

Ofsted Outcomes – During the current Ofsted inspection framework cycle, 84% of Lincolnshire early years providers on 'non-domestic premises' were judged Good or Outstanding for the Overall Effectiveness judgement. This is 3% above the national average. Over a third of early years providers on non-domestic premises have improved their Ofsted outcome under the new framework and the remaining majority have held their existing grading.

Lincolnshire's five Nursery Schools have continued to achieve very strong Ofsted outcomes with three of the five schools graded as Outstanding and the remaining two schools graded as Good.

Primary

Key Stage 1 Outcomes (provisional data) – Early analysis of 149 Local Authorities in England and Wales, indicates that Lincolnshire's Key Stage 1 results are at the highest level for three years. In 2013 Level 2+ performance in Writing and Maths are 1% above the national average for the first time in three years, Reading remains 1% below.

Level 3+ attainment has a three year trend of improvement for all subjects.

Key Stage 2 Outcomes (provisional data) – Early analysis indicates that Lincolnshire's Key Stage 2 results in 2013 reflect our focus on raising standards in the teaching of Reading and Writing. This is especially gratifying as the threshold for Levels in Reading was raised in 2013.

L4+ Reading and Writing have maintained their 2012 position above the national average this year by 1%, with Maths the same as national average. The new GAPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) test shows the LA at 1% below.

Level 5+ performance in Reading is 2% above the national average, Writing is 3% above and Maths is in line. The new GAPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) test shows Lincolnshire is 1% below the national average.

The LA average for Level 4+ in Reading, Writing and Maths (76%) is 16% above the Floor standard.

Phonics Screening – The first phonics screening for Y1 pupils was administered in 2012. Pupils must attain 32+ points to be working at the age appropriate phonics phase 5.

In 2012 69% of the LA pupils reached this standard. This was 11% higher than the national average. In 2013 the LA has maintained a standard higher than the national average by 6% and raised its own performance by 6%. This reflects the focus on phonics support for schools. Year 2 pupils who did not reach the standard in Year 1 were re-screened this year. 70% of these pupils are now working at the appropriate phase; this is 2% more than the national average for this group.

OfSTED Update – 97 primary schools have been inspected this academic year. 70 of those inspected were previously satisfactory, and of these, 42 moved to Good and 2

to Outstanding, with only 6 schools receiving a lower grade than previously. Since September 2012, the percentage of schools that are graded Good or better has risen from 65% to 80%. No primary schools have been placed in a category this academic year.

Secondary

OfSTED Update – The proportion of Good or better secondary schools in Lincolnshire has not increased this academic year, though this reflects the national picture and is due to the introduction of tougher inspection criteria from September 2012.

Special Schools

There are no special Schools in an OFSTED category and 99% of them (20 out of the 21) have gained or maintained a Good or Outstanding Judgement.

Apprenticeships

The figures for Lincolnshire 16-18 year olds starting an Apprenticeship this year show that the numbers continue to rise. This is against a regional and national picture of falling numbers in this age bracket: Lincolnshire increase of 3%; Regional reduction of 7.3%; nationally a reduction of 13%. This is a result of the work of the LCC funded Apprenticeship Champions working with schools and employers, and our work with employers via the Employment and Skills Board to stimulate employer demand. The success and influence of the Apprentice Champions initiative has been recognised and replicated across the East Midlands region enabling Lincolnshire to occupy a leading role in Regional initiatives, particularly World Skills/Skills UK 'Have a Go' opportunities. These created opportunities for young people to experience over 100 vocational experiences, all supported by our local Work Based Learning providers and Colleges of FE, attracting in excess of 2500 young people and the involvement of many employers from the local areas.

Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities

The Lincolnshire County Strategy for Post 16 Learners with Learning Difficulties and or Disabilities (LLDD) was officially launched in September 2012 with the key priority being to develop local provision for Post 16 LLDD to meet both their diverse needs and their aspirations for adult life within their own communities.

To achieve this aim, 6 local working groups have been established across the county to take forward the strategic priorities in a way that is most relevant to that specific area. These groups have brought about increased collaboration and cooperation between special schools, colleges and other post 16 providers facilitating improved transition between organisations, skills sharing, joint training opportunities and cost effective development and sharing of resources.

Music and Arts

During July 2013, the Music Service has showcased the artistic talents of around 1000 children, young people and teachers in a range of concerts and events across the county. These have included:

Lincolnshire Schools Prom at the Embassy Theatre as part of the So Festival!

Lincolnshire Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert at Lincoln Cathedral and Italian Tour 2013
 Lincolnshire Fashion Show at Lincoln Drill Hall
 Lincolnshire Music Teacher Conference at Myle Cross

In addition, 4000 children and young people have accessed over 40,000 instrumental tuition lessons between the 13-week period April-July. This does not include the delivery of Whole Class Ensemble Teaching to almost 87% of Primary schools which have programmes such as band, world music, strings and ukulele. Standards remain high with access above both the regional and national averages.

Freiston Centre

2012/13 has once again been a hugely successful academic year for Freiston. Staff have delivered the equivalent of 5372 provision days to a range of children and young people. This includes universal residential visits, community work and targeted provision to support vulnerable children and young people. Freiston has grown significantly over the last 5 years and is a much respected provider to schools, community groups and other users. It provides an important resource for Lincolnshire with a range of onsite activities including a food technology centre, climbing tower, aerial ropes, archery, small woodland and pond.

Targeted Basic Need Capital Programme and Demographic Growth Capital Fund

Lincolnshire County Council received confirmation in August 2013 of a number of successful bids through the Education Funding Agencies 'Targeted Basic Need Programme 2013-2015'. This provides capital funding to support the increase in pupil numbers due to demographic growth in key areas. The funding is for:

The expansion of existing schools:

School	No. of new places
Witham St. Hugh's Academy	105 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAN moving from 30 – 45 • 4 permanent classrooms to be built
Cranwell Primary School (Foundation)	70 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAN moving from 45 - 60 • 2 permanent classrooms
Total	175

The creation of a new primary school:

School	No. of new places
Gainsborough *	210 (1 form entry)

**The proposed site for the new school is the former Castle Hills site. A process to agree a preferred provider is taking place.*

In addition, through a clear LLDD Strategy and good collaborative work between local providers, Colleges supported by Lincolnshire County Council have been successful in their applications for the Education Funding Agency Demographic Growth Capital Fund (DGCF) which will further support the education of young people with complex needs.

The successful bids are Grantham College (£934,571), Lincoln College (£261,800), Lincoln Queen's Park (£255,200) and New College Stamford (£263,520).

LIFELONG LEARNING

Our Family Learning team has been working for 18 months on "Recycle and Refashion" courses in East Lindsey. Following on from their earlier success in gaining numeracy and literacy qualifications as well as completing the full Level 1 National Open College Network award in Creating Crafts for Cultural Industries, these learners achieved the Level 2 NOCN award in Developing Skills for the Creative and Cultural Industries in July 2013.

The learners are very enthusiastic about the courses offered and have been inspired to try their hand at something new. All learners who joined the courses have reported improved confidence levels as a result of the activities. This has encouraged them to develop their commercial acumen as well as making gifts for their own family and for other people. The learners are now planning to hold an exhibition in their local community to sell their products as well as running related workshops.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Lincolnshire Community Assistance Scheme

Following a national decision to ask top tier local authorities to re-provide a system of crisis loans and community care grants currently delivered by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) Lincolnshire County Council set an agenda for officers to develop a proposal for the Lincolnshire scheme.

The Lincolnshire Community Assistance Scheme (LCAS) has the overall purpose and scope to:

1. Provide assistance to Lincolnshire residents to manage unexpected problems that will affect their health and wellbeing if they are not urgently addressed; and
2. Put Lincolnshire residents who request assistance from the Scheme into contact with on-going support organisations to improve their resilience to unexpected problems in future.

Working closely with partners, including Learning Communities, the Department of Work and Pensions, Citizens Advice Bureaus and Lincolnshire Credit Union, the scheme received a total of 5,192 applications by the end of July 2013 which included:-

- 2,735 successful claims for items, including food parcels, white goods, furniture and clothing, of which:-

- 58 people have received assistance to pay a week's rent to prevent homelessness; and
- 27 people have been assisted with travel arrangements which have included attending family funerals
- During April, 9% of applicants engaged with Citizens Advice Bureaus for resilience work, and in May this figure increased to 20%.
- 182 referrals were made to Citizens Advice Bureaus and 15 were made to Lincolnshire Credit Union during July 2013.

Expression of Interest in being a Pioneer for Health and Social Care Integration

The whole health and social care community united to produce an expression of interest to the Department of Health. Over a hundred expressions of interest were received. Disappointingly, our application has not been shortlisted, but the assessment panel was "impressed with the range of ambitious plans and initiatives already underway, and are therefore very keen for us to remain involved and to be part of a network of support". They "considered that the application had strengths, including its inclusive nature and comprehensive range of services for redesign". The proposals will, however, be taken forward as part of the Lincolnshire Sustainable Services Review.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Statement from: Councillor C J Davie, Executive Councillor for
Economic Development, Environment, Planning, Tourism**

Greater Lincolnshire LEP

The Council's relationship with the GLLEP continues to develop. Our officers have been commissioned by our LEP to develop a Growth Strategy for Greater Lincolnshire. This has involved undertaking primary research into the barriers to prosperity that exist in the county through detailed visits to 100 of the county's key businesses. To support this work, I myself have held discussions with each of Lincolnshire's City, Borough and District Councils to ensure that we understand each other's priorities and to develop a shared list of future economic regeneration schemes which, when implemented, will have long lasting economic benefits for the people of Lincolnshire.

Progress on Key Development Schemes

In addition to looking forward to what needs to be done next, we continue to implement our current programme of works. Whilst officers in the Highways Department have progressed Compulsory Purchase and Traffic Regulation orders for the Lincoln East West Link, the Economic Regeneration Team have provided support by negotiating terms for the purchase of 80% of the land and properties required. Projects partnerships with the private sector are also being developed which will help ensure that the East West link is not only delivered as a road but also as a thriving business corridor.

Nurturing a Fragile Recovery and Promoting Growth

Elsewhere, we may be beginning to see the shoots of economic recovery. House building has started within Grantham's Poplar Farm urban extension, enquiries for employment land are resurfacing and we are starting to receive an encouraging increase in inward investment enquiries. Further evidence of a fragile improvement in the economy can also be taken from our quarterly performance indicators where we have already met our annual jobs created target.

As well as the growth I have just described, it was very good to see the results of a recent survey showing that tourism in Lincolnshire grew significantly last year.

However, the picture is not the same across the county. I was disappointed to hear the news that Glisten in Skegness are planning to relocate outside the county. My officers and I will do all we can to convince Glisten to stay on the site. If this is not possible, we will assist all those affected and help to support them into new employment opportunities.

Pushing ahead with the Growth Strategy and promoting Lincolnshire as a good place for business and investment will be key in the months ahead.

Building on Successful Economic Development Initiatives

My colleague, Cllr Davies, is leading work on putting a superfast broadband infrastructure in place across the county. It is vital that businesses have the skills

and abilities to make the most of this network. In order to help with that, we have recently secured £2.1 million of European funding to provide twelve industrial estates in Lincolnshire with superfast broadband. These are areas that would not have been upgraded by BT in the forthcoming onlincolnshire project. Over one hundred businesses will also be able to receive business support. We have recently facilitated a partnership between AB Internet and Fantasy Island at Ingoldmells as the first stage of making superfast broadband available to coastal communities that would not otherwise have it. Speeds of up to 50mbps are now available up to 100 times faster than previous access.

There are many opportunities for economic growth through the green economy, and our SUSTAIN Lincolnshire programme has just been awarded another £420,000 by the European Regional Development Fund to extend its work. Working in partnership with the University of Lincoln, the project will help at least 68 more businesses compete more effectively through reducing their running costs and their carbon footprint by cutting down waste.

At the last Council meeting I mentioned that the GLLEP has been awarded €113.5m of European grant for the 2014-2020 period. Some of that money will be available to help small businesses and manufacturing businesses to grow, and my officers are working with officials from the Government's Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills to make sure that we get the best possible deal for those businesses.

Salix Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

Lincolnshire County Council's Salix Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan fund was rated 9th best out of 146 public sector clients in the use of available funds for the financial year 2012/13.

Lincolnshire County Council committed £443,000 on energy saving projects via its revolving fund in the 12/13 financial year. These projects included:

- £295,000 upgrading traffic signals to LED
- £131,000 on lighting upgrades
- £17,000 on boiler room works

The above projects will save £90,000 and 455 tonnes of CO2 annually.

Coastal Car Parks

Following concerns raised by the local community, the Council has acted to prevent overnight campers from staying the night in its Marsh Yard, Moggs Eye Coastal car park by erecting and locking a height barrier at the entrance to the site. Staff visited the site and erected warning notices in advance; however, some campers remained on site. Arrangements were made with the Police and our staff regarding temporarily unlocking the barrier to allow the campers to leave. All campers have now left the site.

A similar exercise will be carried out this month at Huttoft now that we have received consent from the Environment Agency to erect a height barrier. We are also hopeful that DCLG will soon confirm the byelaws that were approved at our Council meeting earlier this year.

Concerns over Fracking

The County Council has recently created a section on our website where members of the public can find out more about fracking. It also explains what the County Council's role is in determining planning applications that relate to shale gas. The 'go live' date for the page is 12 September and I would encourage you all to take a look and visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/shale

I can confirm that with regard to fracking, there are no planning applications or enquiries regarding any sites in Lincolnshire at this time.

Lincolnshire Remembrance: Memories and Memorials

The Lincolnshire Remembrance project, which is a community project involving recording of war memorials, a schools programme and celebration of WW1 events in 1914, has been successful in receiving 2 year funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant programme. The total cost is £146,000 of which the County Council is contributing £30,000. A project officer will be in place by October.

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Statement from: Councillor P A Robinson, Executive Councillor for
Fire & Rescue, Emergency Planning, Trading Standards,
Equality and Diversity**

Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire Brigade's Union (FBU) dispute with central government over proposed changes in firefighters' pensions has resulted in a strike ballot which ended on 29 August. The ballot resulted in 78% of the votes cast in favour of strike action.

At the time of writing this statement, the FBU has not announced any date for a strike and is seeking further meetings with government to arrive at a negotiated settlement.

From a Lincolnshire perspective, contingency plans have been drawn up for the operation of our Fire and Rescue Service in the event that an FBU strike is called. Although some specialist areas of FRS work would be badly affected, day to day operations would be maintained and there is no cause for public concern.

Emergency Planning

Our Emergency Planning team led a Lincolnshire Resilience Forum (LRF) Peer Review of Devon and Cornwall LRF in Exeter on 22/23 July. Whilst the major threats on the National Risk Register were common to both Lincolnshire and Devon and Cornwall, there were significant local differences in terms of scale and joint working with neighbours. For instance, Plymouth, with its major naval facilities and nuclear storage, poses a level of risk not shared in Lincolnshire, and we have no area as hard to reach as has Devon and Cornwall with the Scilly Islands. In organisational terms, the Devon and Cornwall situation is complicated by the police jointly serving both Devon and Somerset, whilst the Fire and Rescue Service jointly serves Devon, Cornwall and the Scilly Islands. In practice, it appeared to our team that this organisation may offer operational advantages in providing an increased weight of resource to deal with local emergencies and "cross border" risks.

Devon and Cornwall LRF will carry out a return "peer review" on Lincolnshire LRF on 19/20 September.

Trading Standards

Lincolnshire Trading Standards (TS) continues to be very active across the broad range of their responsibilities:

- The service has been granted £60,000 by the Food Standards Agency to carry out animal feed audits. This is new money to help provide EU reassurance that our feed controls are in place and support Lincolnshire farmers to comply with the complex legal requirements.
- Operation REPEAT involves Trading Standards working in partnership with Community Lincs and Lincolnshire Police to reduce the incidence of doorstep crime and rogue trader scams by raising awareness across the county.
- In partnership with Citizens Advice, Trading Standards are raising public awareness of the high cost of "payday loans" and are working to tackle irresponsible and illegal lenders. We are encouraging victims already known

to Citizens Advice to come forward to share their experiences and to seek help with their budgeting skills.

- The recently launched Trading Standards Twitter and Facebook accounts are reaping benefits through increased community engagement in areas such as toy safety.
- Over 20,000 illegal and counterfeit cigarettes were seized in Lincoln shops raided by Trading Standards officers and police in the last week of July.
- Two more sellers of counterfeit sportswear have been given prison sentences after being caught with the goods at market stalls in Lincolnshire. Both received a 6 month prison sentences (one suspended for 18 months and ordered to complete 100 hours of unpaid work in the community).

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Statement from: Councillor Mrs S Woolley, Executive Councillor for
NHS Liaison, Community Engagement**

Lincolnshire Sustainable Services Review

This is a review of health and care services driven by local leaders across the county. This includes primary, community, hospital and social care services. It is recognised that funding pressures and urgent care demand will continue to rise. The review will design a blueprint for future services across the county, following a central review of the current position.

The initial programme will run from now until November. The Programme Board leading the review includes officers of the County Council and is Chaired by the Council's Director of Public Health.

Healthwatch Lincolnshire

Monitoring meetings are now proceeding with Healthwatch Lincolnshire.

Healthwatch is in its infancy but we can see that the enthusiasm of volunteer Board members will help them to start something that we are confident will be a leading health and social care consumer champion for the people of Lincolnshire.

There are now seven locality meetings: Gainsborough, Lincoln, Louth, Grantham/Sleaford, Spalding, Coast and Boston – the increase in numbers of the locality meetings is seen as a priority, and we're really pleased that they have been set up so quickly and with so much positivity. Lincolnshire County Council is also utilising all of these meetings for community engagement purposes.

Healthwatch Lincolnshire has recruited its Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Fletcher, and has also increased its Board membership with co-opted volunteers. There are now strengthening relationships with County Council Elected Members, Public Health, Adult Care, Children's Services and Lincolnshire's Health Trusts, as well as with lots of voluntary and community services and regional Healthwatch Groups.

'Enter and View' visits are being organised and will be discussed during the next contract monitoring meeting which is taking place at the end of September. We are pleased Healthwatch Lincolnshire is now progressing and look forward to their first AGM which we expect to take place shortly.

Councillor Big Society Fund

The County Council's Big Society Fund is open again for the 2013-2014 financial year after Members voted to continue the fund at the last Council meeting on 12th July.

The fund gives each County Councillor £2,000 to award to community organisations and charities delivering projects that benefit communities throughout Lincolnshire. In previous years the fund has benefited residents of all ages, across Lincolnshire, funding a diverse range of projects from village halls to sports clubs, and play areas

to rescue boats. For more information on the Big Society Fund visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/big society fund .

Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant. (AFCC)

There have been a number of successful applications to the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant (AFCC) partnership; RAF Scampton was awarded £70,000 for a Skate Park project and the Lincoln Emergency Medical Responders were awarded £20,000 towards the purchase of a new responder vehicle.

Recent applications endorsed by the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant partnership has seen just over £100,000 awarded to projects in Lincolnshire. This funding was secured from the MoD Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant Scheme.

The AFCC partnership have now established themed working groups which will report back on issues that affect those serving in the armed forces, their families, veterans and widows. The first to be formed using established groups are Health and Wellbeing and Housing, with further themed groups to be formed in the coming months.

Grant and Community Engagement Support Given to Senior Forum

Four Older People's Senior Forums are currently supported by Public Health through a grant award process. The groups are Louth and District Senior Forum, Lincoln Elder's Forum, Holbeach Seniors' Link and Welland Seniors (covering Spalding and district). These four groups hold regular open meetings and many produce their own newsletters to reach a wider audience of local older people. Grants of £500 for each group for 2013-14 have now been awarded to provide support to the groups. The Excellent Ageing Steering Group and District level Health and Wellbeing Groups will provide a route for the Forums to engage two-way with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Community Engagement Team is looking to support any further Senior Forums that develop in the county, particularly in district areas not currently represented. Additionally, links are being re-established from the Excellent Ageing Steering Group with regional and national older people's groups such as the East Midlands Later Life Forum and the Older People's Advisory Group.

Official Opening of a new Community Kitchen Garden

The new community kitchen garden at Geoff Moulder Leisure Centre in Boston was being officially opened in August by the Mayor of Boston. The derelict area at the rear of the training pool has been transformed into a wonderful edible growing space. Funded through the Health and Wellbeing Fund and developed and maintained by Boston Greenscapers, with the support of Boston Borough Council, this kitchen garden complements the existing community cooking and growing work happening in Boston.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Statement from: Councillor Nick Worth, Executive Councillor for
Libraries, Heritage, Culture, Registration and Coroners
Service**

Libraries Consultation

The consultation which commenced on 2 July has generated a considerable amount of discussion, debate and feedback. The eight consultation meetings held in July across Lincolnshire, facilitated by Sheffield Hallam University working with Shared Intelligence, were generally well attended. I am grateful to everyone who took the time to participate in these events, complete online or hard copy surveys and to everyone who has written to officers and councillors about the proposals. I do encourage people to have their say by filling in the online questionnaire at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/librariesconsultation, calling the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782010 or picking up a hard copy in their local library. At the time of writing this statement 2,589 Adult consultation forms and 279 Children's have been received plus 350 emails/letters. The consultation runs until 30 September.

Summer Reading Challenge

Having secured a grant of £71,100 from Arts Council England to work with Dance4, the regional dance agency, the University of Lincoln, local people and delivery partners Me and The Machine were commissioned to create a spectacular piece of dance and digital artwork developed in libraries across the county to be performed at the Frequency Festival in October 2013. This has become the *House of Mystery Roadshow* which is linked to, and inspired by the Summer Reading Challenge theme for 2013 of *Creepy House*. As a result of the promotional activity for this project enrolments in the challenge are significantly up on previous years.

Renaissance at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life

A £535k scheme to reduce energy consumption and improve the visitor experience at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life has been completed with the installation of solar panels on the roof of the Agricultural Gallery, and the opening of the new outdoor play area in the courtyard of the museum. The latter has proved to be extremely popular with families during the summer holidays.

Most of this scheme has been paid for by the Arts Council England's Renaissance programme, and a further £223k has been secured from the same programme for the *Bringing the Barracks to Life* project to introduce augmented reality technology to the galleries and to develop an interactive electronic guide to the museum, similar to those recently introduced at Gainsborough Old Hall and The Collection. Military history will be the key theme for this work since the museum is located in the 1857 Militia Barracks and it is the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War in 2014.

Lincoln Castle

At Lincoln Castle the last major contract, for the interpretation fit-out in the prison complex, has been let within budget. The archaeological team have just completed

the dig in the Eastern Courtyard, prior to the construction of the Magna Carta vault; Roman town houses, a medieval stable and numerous artefacts have been found.

Coroners

National legislative changes were implemented within Lincolnshire for the Coroners Service on 25 July 2013. These changes involve some amendments to terminology and processes. Coroners jurisdictions are now areas, HM Coroner is now known as a Senior Coroner and Assistant and Deputy Assistant Coroners are Assistant Coroners. Coroner 'investigations' should ideally be completed within six months with greater powers to process inquests within these timescales. These changes will hopefully improve the transparency and timeliness of the service provided by coroners nationally.

Registration Service

An internal audit review found the Registration Service to be providing a 'comprehensive and high quality service.'

'Our health check review identified that there are very effective arrangements in place within the Registrars' Service to ensure that a comprehensive and high quality registration and celebratory service is offered.

There are appropriate and effective systems in place which ensure legislation and Good Practice guidance relating to registrations and ceremonies are complied with. All staff are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities in respect of systems and processes with detailed guidance and training available.'

An annual customer satisfaction survey was completed during the month of August.

The registration office in Skegness moved from Ida Road to new premises at the Business Park and the first wedding ceremony has taken place in the Heath Road ceremony room.

Nationally, legislation will be changing to allow for equal marriage for same sex couples. This is anticipated to be implemented in Spring 2014.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 13 SEPTEMBER 2013

**Statement from: Councillor B Young, Executive Councillor for
Crime Reduction, People Management, Legal**

Crime Reduction

I continue to engage constructively with senior police officers and the Police & Crime Commissioner. I have attended meetings of the Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership and have joined the Police and Crime Panel.

Earlier this week, I met with the head of the Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service which continues to demonstrate good performance against the required Youth Justice Board measures. There is an on-going reduction in the number of first time entrants which mirrors regional and national trends. There has been a noticeable increase in the use of alternative restorative outcomes used by the Police such as Community Resolutions and a Community Justice Panel pilot to deal with minor offending has been launched by the Police in the south of the county. The reduction in statutory Court outcomes is also evidenced by the closure of the Youth Court in Spalding and the movement of the Lincoln Youth Court to a fortnightly sitting. Custody rates for young people in Lincolnshire remain low and this demonstrates a positive relationship with the Court and the ability of the YOS to provide credible and robustly enforced community sentencing options. A county wide health needs assessment is currently being undertaken between the YOS and Public Health to evaluate the health needs of the YOS client group and inform future resources.

In April 2013 the full cost of young people remanded into custody was transferred to the local authority which was highlighted as a potential financial risk if not appropriately managed. There has been positive work with partner agencies to minimise the use of custodial remands and Children's Services are continuing to recruit specialist Remand Foster Carers to enable the Courts to use viable alternatives. The emphasis on early engagement and prevention is shared by key partner including the Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner who provides YOS funding. Referral pathways to identify young people at risk of offending are being expanded and already include the Police, Probation and Troubled Families. This will be extended further into partnership with ASB teams and schools where appropriate. It is envisaged that due to changes in youth justice practice the prevention work will increase significantly but this has the opportunity to generate savings for all agencies in the longer term.

There are undoubtedly funding and resource challenges for the future with funding settlements likely to be reduced in 2014-15 by the Youth Justice Board/Ministry of Justice. There is also a recognised future threat to multi agency working due to the pressures exerted on partner agencies. The current Transforming Rehabilitation agenda has put the future of the Probation Service into doubt and they remain a key partner for youth to adult transitions.

I should like to pay tribute to the Community Safety work of Supt Phil Vickers who has been seconded to the County Council by Lincolnshire Police for the past two

years. Supt Vickers returned to the Force on 9 September and is succeeded by Supt Mark Housley. I have known Supt Housley for many years and look forward to working with him in his new role.

People Management

People Management Services are part of the current competitive dialogue for Future Delivery of Support Services. Employees will be formally consulted on restructuring proposals in October that are designed to align management and operations with future needs.

Legal

I continue to meet regularly with Lincolnshire Legal Services. We are currently discussing how best the service might be developed.



County Council

Open Report on behalf of Pete Moore, Executive Director Resources and Community Safety

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Financial Update

Summary:

This report:

- Describes the Executive's proposals on budget carry forwards of over and under spending from 2012/13 into the current financial year; and
- Sets out the Prudential Indicators for 2012/13.

Recommendation(s):

The County Council is recommended to:

1. Agree the proposed carry forwards of over and under spending set out in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.3 of the report and the transfers to and from reserves summarised in Table A of this report; and
2. Note the Prudential Indicators for 2012/13 set out in paragraphs 1.8 to 1.9 and Table D.

1. Background

Carry forward of over and under spendings

1.1 The Council's policy on carrying forward over and under spendings as set out in its Financial Strategy is that:

- All under and overspendings on service revenue budgets of up to 1% will be carried forward without exception.
- The use of all underspendings on service budgets in excess of 1% will be considered by the Executive and decided by the full Council.
- The means of funding all overspendings on service budgets in excess of 1% will be considered by the Executive and decided by the full Council.

- All under and overspendings on capital budgets and on the dedicated schools budget will be carried forward.

1.2 The Executive proposes that these policies are followed for under and over spendings in 2012/13 as follows:

- Up to 1% carry forward of underspendings on all service budgets (£3.965m); and
- The full carry forward of underspendings relating to Schools (£26.147m) and Shared Services (£1.581m).

1.3 In addition to this the Executive proposes the following allocations are made:

- The write off of overspend on Winter Maintenance (£1.102m) and top the Winter Maintenance Reserve back up to £1.000m;
- A transfer of the underspend for insurance into the reserve (£0.035m) and make an additional contribution of £1.000m to keep the balance at a prudent level for future years;
- A transfer of £20.300m into the financial volatility reserves. £23.200m is required for the planned contribution to Council's revenue budgets in 2013/14 (£11.200m) and 2014/15 (£12.000m). In addition to this, the reserve will provide a safety net of £13.048m for uncertainties in funding levels in the future years;
- A transfer of £4.000m for the Support Service Contract Reserve to cover contract negotiation and transitional costs;
- A transfer of £2.000m for Roads Maintenance, to allow additional works to be undertaken in 2013/14;
- A transfer of £1.991m to new reserves to fund a number of service projects to be undertaken in 2013/14:
 - £0.500m for Responders to Warmth;
 - £0.381m for Drug and Alcohol Action Team Pooled Budget;
 - £0.363m for Youth Offending Service;
 - £0.191m for Children's Insurance Pressures;
 - £0.180m for Asbestos Pressures;
 - £0.156m for Civil Parking Enforcement;
 - £0.150m for Co-Responder Reserve;
 - £0.050m for Domestic Homicide Reviews; and
 - £0.020m for Adult Care Operations – Lincoln Prison.
- A transfer of £0.581m to add additional amounts to existing reserves for:

- £0.165m for Safer Communities Development Fund;
- £0.141m for Community Safety Development Fund.
- £0.116m for Families Working Together;
- £0.081m for Flood and Water Risk Management;
- £0.054m for Health and Wellbeing; and
- £0.024m for Members Big Society.

Transfers to and from reserves

1.4 The Council has a number of reserves earmarked for specific purposes. Transfers are made to or from these earmarked reserves at each year end dependent on actual expenditure and income during the year. The Executive proposes that these transfers are made in the normal way. This will include:

- transfers to reflect the carry forward of over and underspendings; and
- a variety of transfers to or from other earmarked reserves reflecting actual expenditure and income in 2012/13.

1.5 In 2012/13 the Council's total income was £10.093 million in excess of expenditure. The transfers to and from reserves resulting from the proposals described above and from in year transfers reflecting actual expenditure and income are shown in **TABLE A**.

TABLE A – Transfers to and from reserves

	£	£
Schools Carry Forward		-9,116,841
Other Service Carry Forwards		
Use of 2011/12 Service Carry Forward		-2,232,307
Children's Services	1,066,149	
Adult Social Care	1,195,755	
Public Health	177,069	
Communities	863,695	
Resources and Community Safety	433,090	
Performance and Governance	228,750	3,964,508
Other Earmarked Reserves		
Adverse Weather	-52,729	
Insurances	1,035,040	
Schools Sickness Insurance Scheme	-265,838	
Museum Exhibits	9,985	
Waste Disposal	-11,744,906	
Development - Economic Development Reserve	-30,629	
Development - Migrant Workers Reserve	-60,670	
Development - SCS Reserve	-216,213	
Health and Wellbeing	-1,328,672	
Legal Reserve	307,625	
Procurement Reserve	729,787	
Salix Carbon Management	90,494	
Safer Communities Development Fund	164,600	
Community Safety Development Fund	140,500	
Co-Responder Services Reserve	150,000	
Financial Volatility Reserve	8,691,671	
Financial Volatility Reserve - Budget Shortfall	23,200,000	
Fire Fleet Reserve	-9,000,000	
Roads Maintenance - Drought Damage	-2,000,000	
Roads Maintenance - 2013/14	2,000,000	
Responders to Warmth	500,000	
Support Service Contract Reserve	3,692,960	
Civil Parking Enforcement Reserve	156,413	
Youth Offending Service Reserve	362,600	
Domestic Homicide Reviews Reserve	50,000	16,582,018
Temporary Service Reserve		
Flood and Water Risk Management	80,893	
Young People in Lincolnshire	6,484	
Members Big Society	-28,496	
Unsuitable Transport Routes	-300,000	
Fire Fleet Contract Reserve	-218,252	
Families Working Together	216,270	
Enterprise Schemes	-212,824	
Home to School Transport Reserve	-838,094	
Bus Contracts	-209,607	
Asbestos Pressure Reserve	180,000	
Children's Insurance Pressures Reserve	191,000	
Adult Care Operations - Lincoln Prison Reserve	20,000	
DAAT Pooled Budget	380,700	-731,926
Revenue Grants Reserve		1,627,501
		10,092,953

1.6 This sets earmarked reserves at the amounts shown in **TABLE B** below:

TABLE B – Earmarked Reserves at 31 March 2013

	BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2013 £'000
Schools Carry Forward	38,512
<u>Earmarked Reserves</u>	
Other Services (budget carry forward)	3,965
Adverse Weather	1,000
Insurances	4,058
Invest to Save	114
Schools Sickness Insurance Scheme	676
Museum Exhibits	149
Development - Economic Development Reserve	533
Development - Migrant Workers Reserve	65
Development - SCS Reserve	555
Health and Wellbeing	3,984
Legal Reserve	1,140
Procurement Reserve	730
Salix Carbon Management	294
Safer Communities Development Fund	1,333
Community Safety Development Fund	825
Co-Responder Services Reserve	150
Financial Volatility Reserve	13,048
Financial Volatility Reserve - Budget Shortfall	23,200
Teal Park	50
Youth Service Positive Activities Development fund	400
Corby Glen/South Lincolnshire Sports Fund	171
Roads Maintenance - 2013/14	2,000
Responders to Warmth	500
Support Service Contract Reserve	4,193
Civil Parking Enforcement Reserve	156
Youth Offending Service Reserve	363
Domestic Homicide Reviews Reserve	50
	63,702
<u>Temporary Service Reserve</u>	
Flood and Water Risk Management	235
Young People in Lincolnshire	334
Members Big Society	24
Lincoln Eastern Bypass (LEB)	500
Unsuitable Transport Routes	100
Families Working Together	738
Enterprise Schemes	200
Asbestos Pressure Reserve	180
Children's Insurance Pressures Reserve	191
Adult Care Operations - Lincoln Prison Reserve	20
DAAT Pooled Budget	381
	2,903
Revenue Grants and Contributions	37,174
Total Reserves	142,291

General Reserves

1.7 The Council's policy on general reserves is that they will be maintained within a range of 2.5% to 3.5% of its annual budget requirement. The impact of actual expenditure and income in 2012/13 and the proposals on the carry forward of over and under spendings is that the general reserves at 31 March 2013 is £15.900m or 3.50% as shown in **TABLE C** below.

TABLE C – General Reserves at 31 March 2013

	£'000
Balance at 1 April 2012	15,900
Planned contribution to/use (-) in year	0
Proposed contribution to/use of (-) reserves	0
Balance at 31 March 2013	15,900
Balance as a % of total budget	3.50%

Prudential Indicators 2012/13

1.8 The Local Government Act 2003 gave authorities freedoms to borrow what they need to fund their capital programmes. The Act requires Local Authorities to comply with CIPFA's Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. The Code provides a framework to ensure that Local Authorities' capital programmes are affordable, prudent and sustainable and that treasury management decisions are taken to support this.

1.9 In complying with the Code the indicators for 2012/13 were approved by County Council on 17 February 2012 along with the budget and council tax for that year. In accordance with the Code, the Executive Director has been monitoring the actual performance against the targets set and would have reported any issues of concern to members had there been a need to. The County Council should also be informed of the actual position compared with that estimated for any given year after the year end. **TABLE D** below provides details of this comparison for 2012/13. It shows that Prudential Indicators have not been exceeded during the year and there have been no breach of limits set by the Authority.

TABLE D – Prudential Indicators actual compared to estimated 2012/13

PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS ACTUAL COMPARED TO ESTIMATED 2012/2013			
Original Estimate	2012/13 £000	Actuals	2012/13 £000
Capital Expenditure Net	121,039	Actual Capital Expenditure (Excl Sch RCCO & Leasing)	104,066
Capital Financing Requirement	609,055	Actual Capital Financing Requirement	547,386
Net External Borrowing	413,613	Actual Net External Borrowing	274,752
Incremental Impact of Borrowing Plans on Council Tax -Band D	£15.48	Actual Incremental Impact of Borrowing Plans on 'Council Tax -Band D	£2.49
MRP & Interest Repayments not to exceed 10% of Net Revenue Stream Estimate	5.03%	MRP & Interest Repayments not to exceed 10% of Net Revenue Stream Actual	6.39%
Ratio of Financing Costs To Net Revenue Stream	5.08%	Actual Ratio of Financing Costs To Net Revenue Stream	6.26%
External Debt: <u>Authorised limit for external debt -</u>		Actual external debt at 31/3/13	
borrowing	634,720	Borrowing	458,780
other long term liabilities	24,127	Other long term liabilities(Credit Arrangements)	14,905
TOTAL	658,847	TOTAL	473,685
Operational boundary -			
borrowing	610,720		
other long term liabilities	22,127		
TOTAL	632,847		
Treasury Management:			
<u>Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure</u>		Actual exposure fixed interest	
Net principal re fixed rate borrowing less investments	661,245	Net Principal	356,885
<u>Upper limit for variable rate exposure</u>		Actual exposure variable interest	
Net principal re variable rate borrowing less investments	198,374	Net Principal	-85,672
<u>Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days</u> (per maturity date)	40,000	Actual sums invested > 364 Day	214
<u>Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2012/13</u>	upper limit	Actual maturity structure as at 31 March 2013	
under 12 months	25%	under 12 months	0.80%
12 months and within 24 months	25%	12 months and within 24 months	2.50%
24 months and within 5 years	50%	24 months and within 5 years	11.50%
5 years and within 10 years	75%	5 years and within 10 years	18.40%
10 years and above	100%	10 years and above	66.80%

2. Conclusion

2.1 The carry forwards of under and overspendings from 2012/13 are proposed to County Council by the Executive for approval.

2.2 The Prudential indicators comply with CIPFA's Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities and provide County Council with actual performance against the targets approved by County Council on 17 February 2012.

3. Legal Comments:

With regards to recommendation 1 the Council's Financial Regulations provide that the use of all under-spending on service budgets in excess of 1% will be considered by the Executive and decided by the full Council.

With regard to recommendation 2 under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 the authority must determine and keep under review how much money it can afford to borrow. Reporting on the Prudential Indicators assists the Council in discharging this function.

4. Resource Comments:

The Council has a sound financial base from which to manage the challenges of a difficult medium to long term outlook for public sector finances.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

The proposals outlined at paragraphs 1.2 and 1.3 of this report were considered by the Executive on 2nd July and the Value for Money Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 30th July. That Committee did not propose any alterations to the proposals considered by the Executive but noted they were framed in the context of a continuing challenging financial environment for the Council.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Financial Strategy	Executive Director Resources and Community Safety
Review of Financial Performance 2012/2013 Report	Executive Director Resources and Community Safety

This report was written by Claire Pemberton, who can be contacted on 01522 553663 or claire.pemberton@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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County Council

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director Performance & Governance

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Non-Executive Councillors' Roles in Policy Development and Scrutiny

Summary:

This report sets out progress on the review of the Constitution with particular emphasis on the role of non Executive Councillors in developing policy and strategy

Recommendation(s):

That Council notes progress and comments on the recommended principles in part 1.4 of the report.

1. Background

Following the County Council Election in May 2013, queries were raised about the way in which non-executive councillors¹ are engaged in policy development and scrutiny. This included discussions at a meeting of Group Leaders and a question at Council. Group Leaders requested that a review should take place to consider the role of non-executive councillors in relation to policy development and scrutiny and the Monitoring Officer, David O'Connor, was asked to lead on this as the officer with responsibility for monitoring and reviewing the Constitution.

On 27 June 2013, David O'Connor presented a report to Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) outlining a potential review and inviting members of the Committee to come forward to form a review group to assist him. The following seven members of the Committee volunteered and have participated in the review to date;

Councillor C J T H Brewis
Councillor Mrs J Brockway
Councillor A Jesson
Councillor Mrs M J Overton

¹ When reference is made to non-executive councillors in this report this term should be taken to include the three parent governor representatives and the three church representatives who sit on the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and OSMC.

Councillor R B Parker
Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew
Dr Emile van der Zee (Parent Governor Representative)

1.2 Review Group Activity

The Review Group has met on two occasions so far; 23 July and 14 August 2013. At the first meeting the Group had a broad discussion around the opportunities open to councillors in relation to policy development and scrutiny and when these should be utilised.

During the discussion at the meeting on 23 July the following issues were highlighted by members of the Group;

- Scrutiny has improved in recent years as it has become more evidence based.
- The challenge presented by almost half of current Councillors being new to the County Council.
- Concerns that Members' skills and knowledge are not fully utilised. We have become better at pre-decision scrutiny but there was some concern that was at the cost of broader engagement.
- Recognition that some cultural shift is required from Members and Officers so that scrutiny is seen to be an aid to effective decision making and performance rather than a set of hurdles to overcome.
- There are already many ways that non-executives can become engaged but they are not clearly understood.
- There is a pragmatic recognition that both Members' and Officers' capacity will be a constraint so there will be a continued need for OSMC to have oversight.
- There is a clear desire for non-executive councillors to add value to decision making by earlier involvement in policy development.
- Members requested clarification on the various methods available to non-executive councillors at the moment and more information about how policy development and scrutiny are performed at other councils.

At the meeting on 14 August information was provided to the Group on the methods available to non-executive councillors as currently described in the Constitution or previously agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (e.g. Task and Finish Groups), additional methods undertaken but not formalised within the Constitution (e.g. Working Groups) and examples of practices undertaken at other Councils. In addition the Group also received a summary of the Task and Finish Groups and Working Groups that have met during the last Council term. Clarification regarding the working methods available to

non-executive councillors will be included in guidance to accompany amendments that emerge from the review of the Constitution. A copy of information provided regarding methods is attached as Appendix A.

The Monitoring Officer and Review Group made recommendations to OSMC on 30 August. OSMC agreed the principles but requested some redrafting. The following section contains redrafted recommended principles.

1.3 Recommended principles

OSMC agreed a number of recommended principles that it would like to see taken forward and incorporated within the on-going review of the Council's Constitution which is being undertaken by the Monitoring Officer;

- Future focus of non-executive councillor activity should shift to provide more input into changes in policy and strategy whilst retaining traditional roles around pre-decision scrutiny and performance.
- There are limits to the capacity of both Councillors and Officers so different types of activity will need to be prioritised. It should be possible to free up capacity for this by reducing some of the very detailed work currently undertaken. It is not envisaged that overall workloads for Officers or Members would need to increase.
- OSMC's leadership role should focus on proactively co-ordinating a strategic approach. This can be based on a range of inputs such as the budget, organisational strategy / business plan and Forward Plan of key decisions.
- OSMC should continue to take an overview of capacity and overall scrutiny activity.
- For the Forward Plan of Key Decisions to be effective in planning non-executive Councillor activity, Officers will need to flag up items as early as possible.
- We should aim for an annual plan for each Scrutiny committee but also recognise that plans will need modification during the year as new issues arise or timings change.
- Some work such as input into developing policy and strategy will not be suitable for the normal cycle of meetings and should be part of a project approach.
- Our commitment to transparency means that activity should normally be in public but, there will be times when early development of policy and strategy should be under Chatham House Rules.
- There should be clear guidance on the ways in which non-executives can become involved including when a particular method is appropriate (or not appropriate).

OSMC recognised that many of these recommendations would need formal adoption within the Constitution before implementation. However, it was noted that some scrutiny committees already made reference to the relevant sections of the Forward Plan of key decisions and OSMC has agreed to do so with immediate effect.

1.4 Other constitutional matters

The Review Group also discussed the on-going review of the Constitution as a whole and the work that the Monitoring Officer is undertaking with the support of officers from Legal Services and Democratic Services. A number of areas have been highlighted for attention, primarily around simplification;

- Content of the budget & policy framework
- Definition of 'key decisions'
- General Exception and Special Urgency
- Call-in
- Internal consistency and cross-referencing between different parts of the Constitution
- Petitions
- Simplified guidance and / or flow charts to support the Constitution

1.5 Next Steps

Subject to any additional comments from Council, the review of the Constitution will continue and the Review Group will be invited to reconvene to assist with this process. A draft final report detailing amendments to the Constitution will then be put before the 28 November meeting of OSMC prior to a finalised report being considered by the meeting of the County Council on 13 December 2013.

2. Conclusion

This report outlines the work of the Review Group set up to assist the Monitoring Officer in reviewing the non-executive councillor role in policy development and scrutiny

3. Legal Comments:

The review is operating within the process set out in the Constitution

4. Resource Comments:

No additional financial implications

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

This report is based on comments from the Review Group and Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Existing working methods for scrutiny and policy development

7. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by David O'Connor, who can be contacted on 01522 552316 or david.oconnor@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Existing forms of working

There are several ways in which councillors can work in relation to policy development and scrutiny outside of formal committee meetings. These are;

- a) **Task and Finish Group**
- b) **Task and Finish Group Rapid Review**
- c) **Working Group**
- d) **Committee Workshop**

Below are outlined the main characteristics of each of the above including a rationale for when they should be employed.

a) **Task and Finish Group**

The most extensive and thorough form of review work usually considering an issue not under direct consideration by any other part of the organisation.

Membership – drawn from across the non-executive membership of the Council.
Politically balanced.

Typical Duration – six months or longer as agreed at the outset.

Approval Required – Relevant scrutiny committee and then the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Subject – typically an issue / concern identified by a scrutiny committee that is not currently under review elsewhere in the Council.

Activities – a full range of activities including;

- research including identifying best practice elsewhere
- consultation - this may take the form of one or more of a survey, focus groups, public meetings, one-to-one meetings.
- Interviews with witnesses including officers, service users, other members of the public and external experts.
- Site visits

Outcome – A final report written by a scrutiny officer on behalf of the Task and Finish Group containing an Executive Summary, Recommendations for the Executive and / or partner organisations along with supporting evidence.

b) Task and Finish Group Rapid Review

An abbreviated and accelerated form of Task and Finish Group usually considering an issue not under direct consideration by any other part of the organisation.

Membership – drawn from across the non-executive membership of the Council. Politically balanced.

Typical Duration – six to eight weeks

Approval Required – the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Subject – typically an issue / concern identified by a councillor or a scrutiny committee that is not currently under review elsewhere in the Council and due to a specific urgency or time pressure needs to be completed in a shorter time than a traditional Task and Finish Group.

Activities – similar to a Task and Finish Group but due to time constraints lacking some of the activities of a Task and Finish Group.

Outcome – A final report written by a scrutiny officer on behalf of the Task and Finish Group containing an Executive Summary, Recommendations for the Executive and / or partner organisations along with supporting evidence.

c) Working Group

Membership – typically drawn from the membership of the relevant scrutiny committee but with the opportunity to offer membership to members of other scrutiny committees where an issue is cross-cutting.

Typical Duration – flexible to reflect the purpose of the working group.

Approval Required - Working groups will typically be suggested by an individual scrutiny committee. However, an invitation to establish a working group could be made by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, the Executive, an Executive Councillor or a senior officer.

Subject –

- Joint strategy / policy review
- Consultation response
- Policy development
- Discussions with service users
- Quality Accounts (NHS)

Outcome – contribution to an on-going activity developed outside scrutiny or to provide an opportunity for more in-depth work not possible within a committee meeting.

d) Committee Workshop

Membership – the entire membership of a particular committee and possibly members of one or more other committee when cross-cutting issues are considered.

Typical Duration – usually a one-off meeting in private.

Approval Required – from the Committee itself.

Subject –

- Budget / Performance training
- Other training
- Site Visits
- Private briefings

Outcome – an opportunity for the whole committee to increase its understanding of a particular issue outside of a formal committee meeting.

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County Council

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director for Performance and Governance

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Annual Report 2012/2013

Summary:

This report presents the Council's Annual Report 2012/2013.

Recommendation(s):

Council approve the Annual Report 2012/2013.

1. Background

- 1.1 This report presents the Council's Annual Report 2012/13. Our Annual Report highlights some real achievements in services provided for Lincolnshire residents, summarises how we spent our budget and what cost savings were made.
- 1.2 Publication of the report will primarily be through a web based document available on the County Council website, with minimum paper copies printed on request.
- 1.3 Finance information is currently unaudited and may be subject to change. Audited information will be available on 30 September.

2. Conclusion

- 2.1 The Annual Report 2013/14 highlights key achievements, summarises our financial accounts and savings made and outlines our plans from April 2013 to end March 2015. Publication will primarily be through the Council's website.

3. Legal Comments:

The Council is able but is not obliged to publish the Annual Report referred to in the Report. The decision whether to do so is within the remit of the full Council.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no material financial consequences arising from acceptance of the recommendations in this report.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Not applicable

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

The Value for Money Committee discussed the Draft Annual Report on 30th July. Committee suggested consideration be given to including: - inclusion of the challenges faced by the Council, serious case reviews, Local Government Ombudsman complaints and the front cover to include The Deepings.

The Council's Organisational Strategy includes the challenges and influences on the Council. A reference and link to the Organisational Strategy has been included on page 4 of the Annual Report. Serious Case Reviews are commissioned by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board. The County Council is just one of several partners that contribute to this multiagency duty so it is not appropriate for this to be included in the Council's Annual Report. The VFM Committee was informed that the Local Government Ombudsman annual review letter is reported to the Chair and Vice Chair of the VFM committee and that any finding against the council is reported to full Council. The Local Government Ombudsman has reviewed the way it provides information to councils. With effect from 2012/13 the annual review letter only provides the number of complaints received by the ombudsman. In 2012/13 the number of complaints received by the Ombudsman for the Lincolnshire County Council (37) is below the average for county councils (54). Inclusion of these could possibly be considered in the future. The Deepings, Market Rasen and Tattersall and Coningsby have been added to the front cover of the Annual Report.

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

There are no actions required.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report

Appendix A	Annual Report 2012/2013
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7. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Jasmine Sodhi, who can be contacted on 01522 552124 or jasmine.sodhi@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Annual report | 2012/2013



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Foreword

Welcome to our annual report for 2012/2013. We trust you find it useful.

This sets out our achievements in the last year, which have helped us to make people's lives better. The report highlights the successes we have made in the services we provide for our residents, local businesses and visitors.

The report also summarises how we spent our £1 billion annual budget and the efficiency savings we made. During 2012/2013 these savings totalled over £51 million. We achieved these through cost-cutting activities, although we still maintained our core services for the benefit of our local population.

Despite Government cuts to our overall budget, we continue to invest in our services. This includes investment in the transport infrastructure, to keep the county moving, promoting local culture and tourism and maintaining our natural environment. Crime is reducing in Lincolnshire; exam results continue to improve; and we are enabling more vulnerable people to be looked after in their own homes. Also, the council now has responsibility for key areas of Public Health and this service is now an integral part of our business, since joining us at the beginning of the 2012/2013 year.

For this council, the cuts have meant finding savings of £125 million over the four years to 2014/2015; we have also had to use £23 million from existing reserves which means a total of £148 million with the possibility of further cuts to come after that. This has been, and will continue to be, a major challenge. However, it is one that we believe we are meeting successfully, thanks to the determined efforts of all our councillors and officers.

In this report, we aim to show how – working together – we have achieved our key objectives: keeping council tax low; protecting essential frontline services; finding efficiencies; and investing for the future. This council has always been committed to setting a low rate of council tax, and we currently have the third lowest county rate. In short, we are changing the way we do business and continue to provide excellent services: flexibly, efficiently and at a reduced cost to Lincolnshire residents.



Leader of the Council
Councillor Martin Hill OBE



Chief Executive
Tony McArdle

Welcome to Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire is England's fourth largest county. Lincolnshire County Council was created as part of the local government reorganisation of 1974.

The council's area boasts the bustling centres of Lincoln, Boston and Grantham. It also serves towns such as Spalding, Sleaford, Gainsborough, Skegness and Louth.

Often described by local people as England's best-kept secret, Lincolnshire has one of the fastest-growing county populations as people move from other parts of the UK and overseas. The population boom means that Lincolnshire now has 714,800 residents (according to the 2012 mid-year estimates) a 0.16% increase on the 713,700 residents recorded in the 2011 Census. This is caused by small population growth in all areas, except Boston and Lincoln, which show population decreases of 0.06% and 0.47%.

The 2011 Census showed that 51% of residents were female and 49% male. 21% were aged 65 or over and 22% aged 19 or under.¹

Our *Organisational Strategy* summaries the challenges and influences for the council.

Your county council

We provide vital services to our residents through a budget of £1 billion a year.

- We educate 102,000 children in 357 schools, and look after almost 600 children and young people in local-authority care.
- We provide 13 household-waste recycling centres to help increase recycling and thus reduce the amount of waste which needs to be disposed of by landfill.
- We look after about 5,512 miles of roads, and 2,563 miles of footways and cycleways, and work with other organisations to keep all road users safe and help reduce accidents.
- We provide school transport for approximately 21,593 students and pupils each day.
- In 2012/2013 we provided 11,915 people with a personal budget, giving them more choice and control over their care. We gave 4,075 carers support in their caring role, and provided 5,955 people with home care to help them live independently in their own homes.
- We currently offer learning, culture and entertainment through 52 libraries. 44 directly run by the county council and we support the remaining eight libraries. We also have 10 mobile libraries and six museum and heritage sites.
- We have 38 fire stations across the county and continually aim to improve fire safety in the home.
- We work with other organisations to tackle crime and disorder, antisocial behaviour and substance misuse. In 2012/2013 we provided funding of £1.5 million to Lincolnshire Police to support neighbourhood policing and to help provide over 50 police community support officers.

¹ All data in this section provided by the Lincolnshire Research Observatory
<http://shared.research-lincs.org.uk/UI/Pages/Home.aspx>

Your Executive Councillors

Lincolnshire County Council is made up of 77 councillors.

Nine councillors, including the Leader of the Council, form the Executive. The 2013/2014 Executive is shown below and this shows the changes made at the local elections, held in early May 2013. The Executive is responsible for making decisions about our priorities and how we spend our money.



Councillor Martin Hill OBE
(Leader of the Council)

Policy, Finance, Property,
Communications, Procurement
and Commissioning



Councillor Mrs Patricia Bradwell
(Deputy Leader)

Adult Care and Health Services
and Children's Services



Councillor Colin Davie

Economic Development,
Tourism, Environment
and Planning



Councillor Richard Davies

Highways, Transport and IT



Councillor Peter Robinson

Fire and Rescue,
Emergency Planning,
Trading Standards and
Equality and Diversity



Councillor Reg Shore

Waste and Recycling



Councillor Mrs Sue Woolley

NHS liaison and Community
Engagement



Councillor Nick Worth

Heritage, Culture and Libraries,
Registration and Coroners Service



Councillor Barry Young

Legal, People management
and Crime reduction

Our vision and purpose

Our vision and purpose reflects the changing world in which we operate. This is set out below.

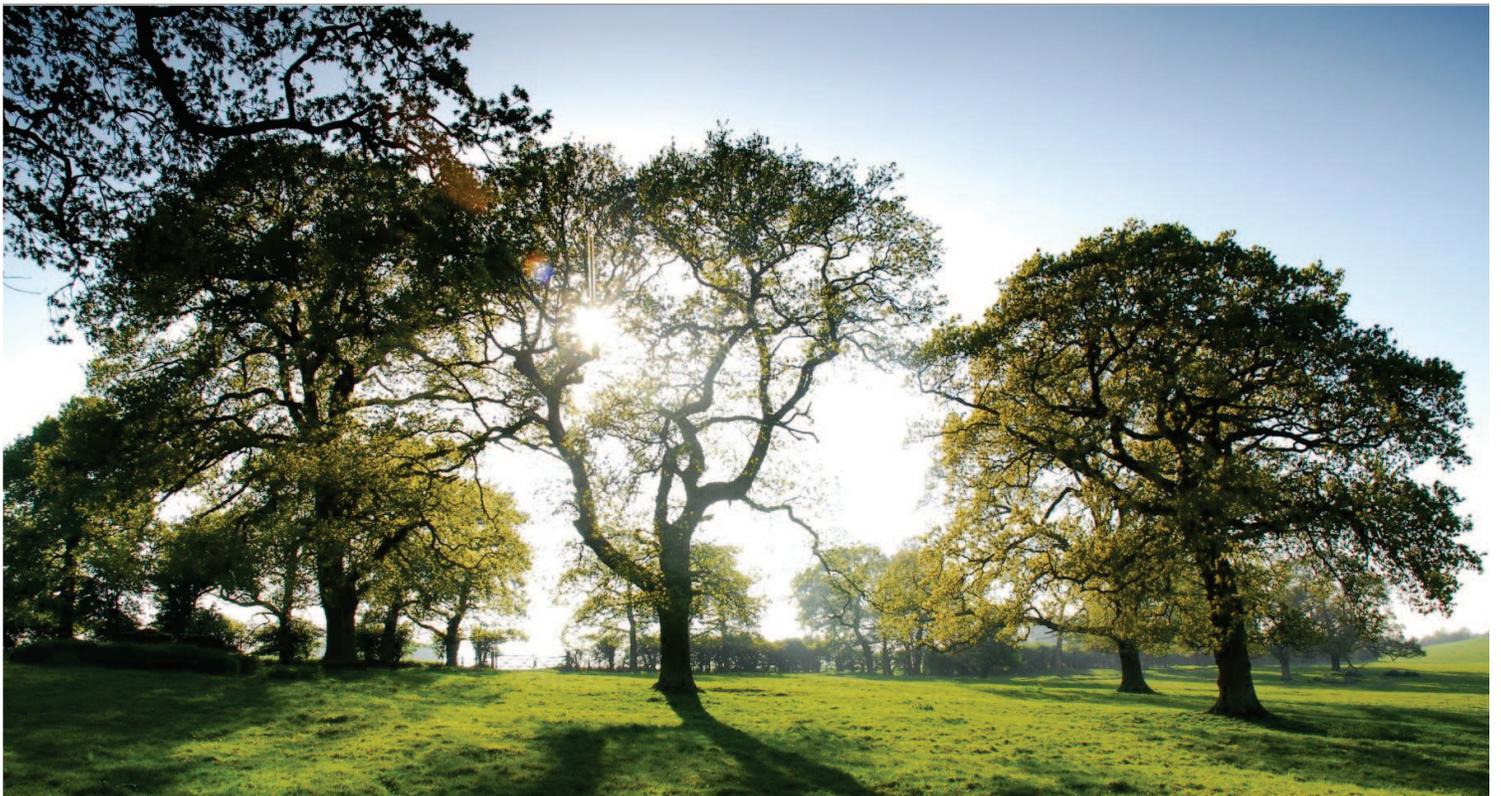
Our vision

Lincolnshire County Council – working for a better future

- Building on our strengths
- Protecting your lifestyle
- Ambitious for the future

Our purpose

- Investing in infrastructure and the provision of services
- Commissioning for outcomes based on our communities' needs
- Promoting community wellbeing and resilience
- Influencing, coordinating and supporting other organisations that contribute to the life of Lincolnshire
- Making the best use of all of our resources



Landscape in the Lincolnshire Wolds in South Elkington near Louth

What it means for you

If you live in Lincolnshire, we want our county to give you the lifestyle and opportunities you need.

If you are a visitor, we want to welcome you to relax and share the environment and lifestyle that our residents enjoy.

If you are a business person, we want to make Lincolnshire a good place to do business.

If you are a community leader, we want to encourage you to get involved in your communities and recognise the role you play.

Main achievements

By managing our performance we have continued to improve our services despite the economic challenges we have faced. Our achievements include the following.

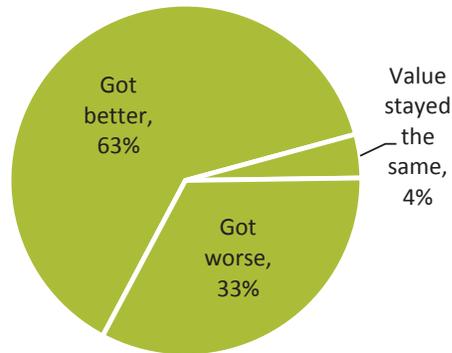
- The number of pupils achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A* to C, including English and maths, has improved by 0.8% on last year, and this is 3% above the national average.
- In 2012/2013 there were 1,020 primary fires compared with 1,247 in 2011/2012, a reduction of 18%. (Primary fires are fires in buildings, vehicles and outdoor structures, fires including casualties or rescues, or fires attended by five or more fire engines.)
- We have worked within the Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership to help reduce recorded crime. This is part of our commitment to improve community safety in Lincolnshire, making sure the county remains a low-crime area. The number of recorded crimes has reduced year on year for the last nine years. In the last year all recorded crime reduced by 15% compared with 2011/2012, making 6,588 fewer crimes.
- Lincolnshire continues to perform well at recycling household waste. In 2012/2013 nearly 52% of household waste was reused, recycled or composted, which is well ahead of the European Union's target of 50% by 2020.
- In 2012/2013 we kept 72% of footpaths open to the public. Our gritting teams routinely treated 34% of our very large road network, beating the government guideline figure. In total, we gritted 1,869 miles (all the main routes) out of the 5,567 across the county. This has helped to provide good connections for transport in Lincolnshire.

Our future plans are set out in our [Council Business Plan 2012-2015](#), which we revisited and updated in February 2013.

Did we improve

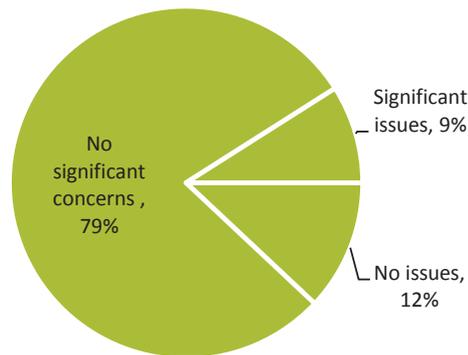
To assess our performance and measure improvement, we compare what we achieved this year against last year. In 2012/2013 we improved against 63% of performance indicators in our Council Business Plan, mainly in Adult Care, Fire and Rescue, Heritage, Libraries and Highways. 4% of our indicators stayed the same. 33% of our performance indicators did not improve: most of these were in Children Services and Waste.

Performance indicators



At 31 March 2013, 91% of our Council Priority Activities are being delivered with no issues or no significant concerns with only 9% reporting significant issues.

Council priority activities



Our Council Priority Activities include: - energy from waste: residual waste treatment (see pages 24 and 29); our local transport plan (see page 13); Lincoln Castle revealed (see pages 10 and 11) and small schools collaboration (see page 17).

We have closed and rebranded our 14Forward programme. The programme helped us to understand where we are with Adult Care and where we could be. This is now the Adult Care transformation programme. The programme will help us meet Government guidelines to allow Health and Social Care to work together to meet the needs of vulnerable adults in Lincolnshire.

Our Performance

Invest in infrastructure and the provision of services

This means we will invest in the framework needed to make sure that services and facilities in Lincolnshire work effectively. We recognise the impact of our spending power on the local economy and support local business where we can.



Lincoln castle is undergoing a £22 million improvement scheme – Lincoln Castle Revealed

What we said we would do

Corporate

- Implement the Local Broadband Plan so that 90% of premises in the county can access superfast broadband by the end of 2015.
- We recognise the impact of our spending power and we will support local business where we can.

Economy and culture

- Have high quality heritage, tourism and cultural assets and events for the community and deliver the Lincoln Castle Revealed Programme with £22 million of improvements to Lincoln Castle.
- Deliver a number of major infrastructure projects to benefit housing growth point areas which provide a supply of good quality housing, including affordable housing for key workers and those in lower income groups.
- Support businesses to develop and grow our economy including supporting the Local Enterprise Partnership.

Highways and transportation

- Prioritise resources for winter gritting.

Lincolnshire County Council

- Maintain the county's road network and aim to maintain quality with reduced budgets through use of innovative partnerships.
- Progress with major road schemes by obtaining planning permission for the Lincoln East West Link road; publish a preferred route for the Spalding Western Relief Road; work with South Kesteven District Council to develop the master plan and identify the route for the Grantham Southern Relief Road and make progress on the legal and design processes for constructing the Lincoln Eastern Bypass.

Road Safety

- Work with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership to make peoples' lives safer.

What we achieved

Corporate

- We are the fifth county to gain approval to start our Broadband programme. We attracted £14.3 million from the Government plus £1.9 million from the European Union. By 31 March 2013 the percentage of Lincolnshire properties receiving superfast broadband speeds of 24mbps was 50.3%.
- Our procurement policies offered firms a better chance of securing council contracts, keeping local money in the local area.



The Museum of Lincolnshire Life has undergone improvements and been praised for excellent visitor feedback

- Procurement Lincolnshire, the shared service with the districts councils, was recognised by the Local Government Association as an example of best practice. In 2012/2013, Procurement Lincolnshire saved the county's local authorities almost £8 million. It also continued its work with local companies, offering them advice on winning public sector business.
- Procurement Lincolnshire continued to work with the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses to support the local business economy. This work made it easier for small businesses to bid for contracts. Over 50% of our total spending on contracts now goes to local businesses.
- Over 330 businesses attended training workshops or meet-the-buyer events with Procurement Lincolnshire. These provided top tips and practical guidance to suppliers, to help them to understand how to put together bids for public sector contracts.

Economy and culture

- We continue to implement the major Lincoln Castle Revealed project and have finished restoring the south curtain wall. As part of this project, a new Heritage Skills Centre, the first new building at the Lincoln Castle for 150 years, has begun to train the craftsmen and women of the future. This is also proving a popular attraction.
- Our Economy and Culture team has received a national award: the Investing in Volunteers quality standard. The award is given to organisations which encourage volunteers to get involved and help them make the most of their experience.
- The Collection and Usher Gallery have launched new multi-media guides and the Collection won the Contemporary Arts Society's £60,000 Commissioning to Collection prize for a project involving 3D digital scanning of its collections.
- The World's largest travel site, TripAdvisor has praised Lincoln's Museum of Lincolnshire Life and The Collection, for earning exceptional traveller feedback ratings over the past year. The award is only given to exceptional performers and with ratings of 4.5, both locations have earned a place amongst the very best.
- Recent improvements at three county council run heritage sites were all honoured at the 2012 Lincolnshire Heritage Awards. The new Discover Stamford attraction won the award for best exhibition; the redevelopment of Gainsborough Old Hall won the Inspiration Award for Best Special Project; and the new children's play area at The Collection won the award for Work with Children and Young People.
- At the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, improvements included a newly refurbished reception and gift shop. The storage area also opened to the public for the first time.
- We have tested alternative models of library delivery, including: supporting the new community run libraries at Bourne, Saxilby, Sutton Bridge, Ingoldmells, Winthorpe, Irby/Bratoft, Waddington, Belton Lane in Grantham.
- We relocated Saxilby Library to the parish council run St Andrews Centre, Waddington Library to the Lincolnshire Co-operative Pharmacy and Bourne Library to the South Kesteven District Council's new facility in the Corn Exchange.
- In January 2013, libraries across the county started to host a series of free health and wellbeing events and activities. These included mood-boosting coffee mornings, human libraries events (which involved people sharing their life experiences) and healthy walks.
- With the Environment Agency we have agreed a financial contribution towards the Boston Barrier project.

Lincolnshire County Council

- We have completed Teal Park (an 87.5 acre strategic employment business park) at North Hykeham, including providing major highway improvements. We have sold land at Teal Park to Siemens who have relocated their turbine servicing business there.
- We have helped 663 businesses to move, start up or expand in Lincolnshire by encouraging innovation, green technology and, promoting London 2012 opportunities, leading to over £40 million of direct contracts. We also took businesses to major exhibitions and advised on bidding for government grants. One Lincolnshire company won £2 million to set up a worldwide research and development programme.
- We have supported companies looking to invest in the county or to find new alternative larger business premises. As a result of this we created 272 jobs and safeguarded 756, helping 663 businesses along the way. For younger people, we created apprenticeships and encouraged other employers, particularly smaller enterprises, to do the same.
- We have made substantial information available to help companies understand what support is available to them. We launched a business bulletin in December 2012 and have had around 15,500 hits on the www.businesslincolnshire.com website.
- Through the Rural Gain Grant we have supported two rural businesses, delivering essential services to their local community to help them become more sustainable. We have provided advice and support to a further nine organisations.
- 9,563 people attended adult learning courses which provide targeted help to disadvantaged groups, vocational training, and lifelong learning. We worked with our partners and the learners to make sure that we delivered quality courses. In January 2013 an Ofsted inspection decided that our adult learning provision had improved and was 'Good' with a number of areas identified as best practice.

Highways and transportation

- We have continued to develop our partnership working to ensure we deliver effective and efficient highway services. The Lincolnshire Highways Alliance was recognised as a class leader in its field and received the Highways Excellence Award in the partnership category.
- Over winter 2012/2013, we used 40,700 tonnes of salt, beating the previous record set in 2009/2010 by more than 6,800 tonnes. Each of our gritters has been on 139 runs since October 2012. Our popular Gritter Twitter account attracted around 2,400 following two winters of keeping the public up to date with winter road conditions, safety advice and gritting activities.
- In conjunction with the landowner we have developed a master plan for the Grantham southern urban extension Relief Road.
- We have also worked with partners to help us to construct the Lincoln east-west link road; we now have planning permission for the first phase of the Lincoln east-west link road and have applied for planning permission for a single carriageway Lincoln eastern bypass and the Grantham southern quadrant link road.
- We have submitted a planning application for the Grantham south-west relief road.
- Following agreement with seven district councils, we have taken on responsibility for parking enforcement, to reduce congestion, improve safety and make the best use of parking facilities. This has also increased footfall and reduced inconsiderate parking in town centres, benefitting businesses and helping to maintain the viability of our high streets.

- Sustainable transport schemes across the county have helped to create better road layouts and improve public transport, protecting the environment, reducing congestion and boosting economic growth.
- Improvements have been made to the amount of public transport in LN6 through £6.5 million of funding.
- The Wheels to Work project continued to be a success, with over 120 mopeds available. The scheme has given over 150 people access to employment and training.
- We also encouraged stronger community car schemes, which provided a lifeline in isolated parts of the county. 50,000 journeys were made to support individuals in Lincolnshire last year.
- The council has worked with bus companies to help maintain rural services by linking them to school transport.



We have expanded our award-winning CallConnect bus service, which provides vital access for rural areas

- In our rural areas we have expanded our award-winning CallConnect bus service, as well as giving it a new-look website, a Twitter account and longer booking office opening hours. More than 252,000 passenger journeys have been made, an increase of 1.3% over the previous year, contributing to an overall increase of almost 25% since 2010. CallConnect also carried out a passenger survey, with 98.2% of respondents expressing their overall satisfaction with the service. This represents a 4% rise compared to the result of the previous survey, in 2010.
- Following widespread consultation the council has produced its fourth Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan, setting a blueprint for travel around Lincolnshire for the next 10 to 15 years.
- We issued approximately 100,000 concessionary bus passes.

Road Safety

- The number of fatal road casualties in Lincolnshire during 2012 was the lowest ever recorded. There were 39 of these, seven fewer than the previous year, making a reduction of 18%.



The Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership promote bike safety across the county

- The number of people seriously injured was 51 fewer than the previous year, a reduction of almost 12 per cent.
- 220 motorcyclists completed the Performance Plus programme and 93 participated in the Bike Safe programme during 2012. These assess riders' ability and practical riding skills, helping to reduce the risk of having a collision.
- 118 young drivers completed the Safe Young Drivers Programme which includes the Pass Plus programme. This is aimed at new young drivers, as national statistics show that one in four young drivers have a collision within a year of passing their test.
- Some 3,500 students attended the acclaimed 2Fast2Soon programme and 5,000 year 11 (15-16 years old) pupils attended the young passenger awareness course during 2012/2013. In 2012 there was a reduction of nearly ten per cent of the number of killed or seriously injured casualties when one or more of the drivers was 17-24 (based on the 2005-2009 figure).
- 146 mature drivers completed a training programme, covering defensive driving, personal safety and other road safety issues.
- Over 14,000 clients attended speed awareness workshops during 2012/2013. This provides drivers with an educational alternative to prosecution.
- We delivered BikeAbility (nationally accredited cycle training) to 5,000 children, with the help of funding from the Department for Transport.
- We carried out 30 local safety improvement schemes across the county. These were low cost, high value schemes targeted at sites with a history of collisions resulting in injury.

Where we need to improve

- Some areas of our highway network have suffered from the impact of recent harsh winters and we expect to introduce further efficiencies by working with partners to help us improve the condition of our highways in challenging financial circumstances.
- Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership will continue to analyse collision data to identify trends and causes to make sure road safety initiatives have maximum impact on reducing the number of casualties.

Our plans for the future

Corporate

- The council will lead on the superfast broadband network and we will help the business community to understand how to make the best use of the opportunities that this will bring. We will deliver a superfast broadband (24 mbps) network to 88% of Lincolnshire premises by April 2016. The original end date of 2015 slipped as a result of significant delays in Broadband Delivery UK achieving State Aid Agreement from the European Union.

Economy and culture

- We will implement a major promotional campaign so that visitors understand how attractive Lincolnshire is, with Lincoln Castle at the centre of this campaign. One notable example is that Lincoln Castle will host the prestigious European Stone Festival in June 2013. This is a meeting of stone masons and stone carvers and one of the country's top historic attractions.
- We will continue to promote and support Growth Point activity particularly recognising housing delivery targets in the emerging local development frameworks. In particular we will work with partners to ensure that new employment opportunities match increasing housing numbers.
- We will continue to promote Teal Park as a major employment location within central Lincolnshire, seeking to attract additional occupiers.

Highways and transportation

- We will invest an additional £6.451 million of government funding over the next two years using improved technology to carry out maintenance treatments to our roads, helping to reduce the number of potholes and maintain the condition of the highway network.
- We will continue to deliver our major highway schemes to help to stimulate the economy and provide an effective winter maintenance service, helping to improve movement around the county.
- We expect to publish legal orders for the Lincoln east-west link road and the Lincoln eastern bypass in July 2013. Detailed design is underway for the Lincoln eastern bypass and we will agree a preferred route for the Spalding western relief road with our partners.
- We will deliver the AccessLN6 project, including the new cycle infrastructure, which will be built in 2013/2014. We will also support businesses to explore green transport options.
- We will continue to support the Wheels to Work provider to enable them to deliver a sustainable and effective service to people with no access to public transport, for work, education and training.

Road safety

- Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership will upgrade its safety camera stock to digital film and use the latest technology to protect cameras from vandalism. It will also introduce a safe cycling campaign as the national trend shows the biggest increase in casualties is amongst cyclists and it will also expand the programme of driver awareness courses.

Commission for outcomes based on our communities' needs

This means we will make sure that we or other organisations provide services which meet our communities' needs. Becoming a commissioning council is a programme which will transform the approach the council takes to commissioning services. Our priority focus is on outcomes for people in Lincolnshire.



We support older people to live independently through personal budgets and working closely with partners

What we said we would do

Adult Care

- Improve choice and control for adults by moving towards personalised budgets that help people to remain in their own home for as long as possible with their choice of care. When needs change, we will reassess to make sure that we meet the newly identified needs.
- Assess carers' needs to help them enjoy their own lives whilst caring for others.
- Help individuals with their choice of care allowing them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.
- Help develop local markets so that there are enough good quality services to meet people's needs.

Children's Services

- Our Children's Centres ensure families are supported in their parenting role.
- Support families with the most complex needs, via the Families Working Together project.

- Work with a range of partners to give high quality advice and guidance to young people, especially those with additional needs, so they become engaged in education, employment or training.
- Raise educational outcomes for very young children through the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and narrow the gap for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children and families.
- Introduce pupil premiums so that more funding is available in schools to help children who are eligible for free school meals to achieve their potential.
- Continue to make sure that high quality school support services are available to all schools and academies and continue to improve educational achievement.
- Support small and medium sized primary schools within communities through collaborative working.

What we achieved

Adult Care

- We have increased the number of people with a personal budget from 2,500 at the end of 2008/2009 to almost 12,000 in 2012/2013. Personal budgets allow vulnerable adults to either ask Adult Care to arrange services on their behalf, or to use the money to buy in services themselves with a direct payment.
- The number of carers we supported went up to 4,075, recognising the vital role carers play in helping vulnerable adults stay at home.
- Our Reablement service helped people recover the skills and confidence to return to their own homes, perhaps after a lengthy spell in hospital. 2,850 vulnerable people benefited in this way, and over 39% of people leaving Reablement needed no on-going support in 2012/2013.
- We mapped Adult Care service provision across Lincolnshire for all client groups, including older people. This helped to pin-point gaps in provision, market forces and areas of growth.
- Adult Care made savings of more than £21 million in both 2011/2012 and 2012/2013. In 2012/2013, we also produced a balanced end-of-year budget.
- We targeted our limited Adult Care resources on those who needed the most support. To do this we changed our eligibility criteria to focus on substantial and critical needs, in line with 85% of all other councils.
- We have secured funding for the second year running for our Responders to Warmth (R2W) scheme, providing new heating systems, insulation and immediate relief for our most vulnerable residents. There were 2,700 R2W cases in just three months during winter 2012/2013.
- As at 31st of March 2013, Adult Care supported 3,393 people in residential care and 10,045 people in the community.
- 140 people were referred to the Telecare service each month, with many more interested in buying equipment without using our Adult Care service. Over 30% of community based service users received Telecare as part of their care package, providing technology to reassure older people who were discharged from hospital.

- We launched a new website at the 2012 Lincolnshire Show, aimed at helping Lincolnshire's older and disabled adults plan their support and care. Adult Care has created www.MyChoiceMyCare.org.uk offering a wide range of social care options to residents.

Improving the quality of life for adults in Lincolnshire

"As a Lincolnshire resident, you deserve effective, high-quality care and support which is a positive experience and keeps you safe. You deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and to live as independently as possible. This one-stop, growing website will help you, your family, carer or provider access a wide range of information about the choices available to you in the county, as well as other advice and support, which is personalised to you and your needs."

Councillor Patricia Bradwell, Executive Member for Adult Care, Lincolnshire County Council

The MyChoiceMyCare website (www.MyChoiceMyCare.org.uk) offers a wide range of social care options to residents



Children's Services

- During 2012/2013, a total of 995 of the least advantaged two year-olds across Lincolnshire benefited from free childcare places. This was an important advance for families, bringing many of them into contact with Early Years provision and Children's Centres for the first time.
- Our Families Working Together team worked with partner agencies, such as Police, Jobcentre Plus and the voluntary sector to support troubled families. We worked with over 100 families during the year and saved taxpayers almost £0.5 million.
- We have strong and improving early years and childcare provision. The early years private, voluntary and independent sector judged 15% of providers as outstanding, 67% as good, 14% as satisfactory and 1% as inadequate. The remaining 3% are those yet to be inspected.
- The gap in achievement between the lowest 20% of Early Years achievers and their fellow pupils, reduced by a further 1.6 %. This was 3 % less than the national average and placed us within the top 10% of councils.
- The introduction of the pupil premium has meant that pupils eligible for free school meals, looked after children and children of armed services personnel have attracted additional resources into Lincolnshire. This means that an additional £11.9 million has been available to support the education of these children.
- The Centre for British Teachers (CfBT) continued to fund an action research project, to investigate the most effective ways for small rural primary schools to work together to improve provision and raise standards.
- 96% of all Year 11 children achieved five or more A* to G grades, and 21% achieved the English Baccalaureate. This was well above the national rate of 16%.

- The number of young people aged 16 to 18 not in education, employment or training remained low, at 4.5% in comparison to regional and national figures. There was a 3.8% increase of young people aged 16 and 17 participating in education.
- The number of young people and adults in apprenticeship programmes grew by 7.4%, compared to a reduction in the national trend. We achieved this by working with the Employment and Skills Board for Lincolnshire and Rutland, as well as our Apprenticeship Champions.
- 72% of Lincolnshire's children waited less than 21 months between entering care and moving in with their adoptive family, compared with the England three-year average of 56%. 67 looked after children, in care for more than six months, were adopted or made subject of a Special Guardianship Order. This is an increase of 9 children from 2011/2012.
- The FAB! Awards (Fantastic, Amazing, Brilliant) for looked after children took place in March 2013 at the EPIC centre in Lincoln. 209 looked after children and young people received multiple awards for their achievements in sport, education, arts and music, personal endeavour and positive activities.
- The 'From Care2Work' quality mark was awarded in 2012/2013 and we will hold this for the next two years. This award is for local authorities and employers who invest time and support to young people leaving care, to prepare them for the world of work.
- BIG Conversation 4 took place at Horncastle College in February 2013. This regular event brings together looked after children, young people and care-leavers to work with practitioners and managers from Children's Services, including Barnardos Leaving Care Service.
- We supported further education providers to improve their post-16 opportunities for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities to access local education. Better vocational courses and supported internships delivered in partnership with the Welfare to Work team, also enabled learners to fulfil their aspirations. As a result, almost all young people with learning disabilities in Lincolnshire were able to access post-16 education and training close to where they live.
- We agreed a joint three-year commissioning strategy for children with disabilities and additional needs with partner agencies. This aimed to get the best outcomes for these young people.
- We provided a significant number of families with individual grants to support them in caring for disabled children. Families were extremely creative and innovative in using the funding to provide a range of short-break activities.
- At Foundation Stage, we have continued to perform higher than the national average, and improved again on last year's performance. The gap in achievement between the lowest performing pupils and their peers continues to narrow, and we are one of the top performing authorities.
- National league tables for 2012 show Lincolnshire schools continue to perform higher than the national average for GCSE performance. The pass rate for five A* to C, including English and maths, was 62%, while the overall 5 A* to C pass rate was 84%. This was above the national average by 3.3% and 3.8% respectively.
- Over 90% of pupils achieved two or more passes at A-level which compares with the national average.

Lincolnshire County Council

- 84% of our young people achieved level 2 qualifications by the age of 19, compared with 83% nationally, an improvement on last year. This further increases our lead over similar areas.
- Almost 75% of Lincolnshire's secondary schools had a good or outstanding rating from Ofsted.
- The gap in achievement at Key Stage 2 narrowed by 6% in 2012. We will keep on making sure that high quality school support services are available to all schools and academies and continue to improve educational attainment.
- Our Key Stage 2 results for level 4 in English and maths have improved from 75% in 2011/2012 to 81% in 2012/2013.
- The proportion of pupils leaving primary school at the expected level for English and maths has once again risen and remained 1% above the national average. We also outperformed similar authorities. Rates of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 also improved in 2012.
- Since September 2012, 60% of our 'satisfactory' primary schools, which were inspected by Ofsted, improved to a 'good' rating.
- Our excellent working relationship with our educational partner, Centre for British Teachers (CfBT), was recognised at the Education Investor Awards in November 2012. CfBT were named School Improvement Service of the Year due to the year-on-year improvement made by Lincolnshire schools.
- The 2012 Tell Us What You Think looked after children's surveys showed that 98% of looked after children felt that the place they were living was the right place for them.
- This year our performance in the national phonics test placed the county council in the top 5% of local authorities in the country.
- Live and Learn like a Champion, our Olympic and Paralympic legacy programme, was a great success with 95% of pupils in 99% of Lincolnshire schools engaging in this programme. An impressive 83% of pupils who enrolled in the project achieved a bronze, silver or gold medal, exceeding the 75% target.
- 139 schools were involved in 32 collaborative partnerships. These consist of between three and six schools, working together towards improvement. 96% of those who responded to a survey said that partnership working had made a positive difference in their school. This has also been mentioned in recent Ofsted reports.
- We worked with groups in 40 youth centres to discuss future provision, in partnership with a range of community and voluntary organisations, supported by our Youth and Community Development workers.
- We invited applications for youth development funding to deliver and develop positive activities for young people.
- The Mental Health and Wellbeing Service was highly commended by the Local Government Association in 2012/2013 for giving early help to young people experiencing problems.
- The Birth to Five Service won a Nursery World award in October 2012. This is the second year running as the service also won an award in September 2011. In November 2012, the service was runner up in the Communication Trust Team of the Year and Communication Strategy Award. The Trust developed the awards to recognise work to support children and young people's communication skills.

- In October 2012 the HELP (Home Early Learning Project) won the national Nursery World award for a working with parents' initiative. The project was commissioned by Children's Services to educate young children from vulnerable families.



60% of our 'satisfactory' primary schools, which were inspected by Ofsted, improved to a 'good' rating

Where we need to improve

Adults

- We need to develop further our intermediate care services for Lincolnshire in partnership with health colleagues.
- Increase the number of customers resolving their queries through the Customer Service Centre so that customers are provided with professional Adult Care support earlier.

Our plans for the future

Adult care

- We will update the dementia strategy for Lincolnshire.
- We will produce a new strategy for autism.

Children's services

- We will continue to work with troubled families to help them turn their lives around. We aim to help 1,370 families in Lincolnshire before March 2015. 40 key workers will make sure that the Families Working Together initiative is able to focus on those with the most complex needs.
- We will continue to increase the number of places we offer students across the county. We also propose to open new primary academies in Lincoln (September 2013), Skegness (September 2014), Spalding (September 2014) and Bourne (September 2014).
- We will continue to improve access to post-16 education and training for all young people with learning disabilities.

Promote community wellbeing and resilience

This means we will promote the importance of people's wellbeing and the need for communities to be able to help themselves.



We work closely with Lincolnshire Police and Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue to keep our communities safe

What we said we would do

Public Health

- Continue to integrate new responsibilities for Public Health into the county council through a transition plan with the NHS.
- Influence developments between Health, Adult Care and Children's Services through our Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy.

Environmental Planning

- Implement the Joint Local Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy as part of our responsibilities as a lead flood authority, helping communities to be more resilient to flooding if it occurs.
- Continue to recycle more than half of our household waste, minimising what is sent for disposal.
- Continue our on-going commitment to reduce carbon emissions and improve resilience to our changing climate and extreme weather.

Community Safety

- Work with the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum to help services and communities plan for and cope with the impact of major emergencies.

- Continue to make the county a safer place to live, work and visit through the Fire and Rescue's prevention and protection work and by responding to incidents. In our large rural county, this includes acting as 'first responders' to medical emergencies.
- Work in community safety partnerships across the county and with the Police and Crime Commissioner so that Lincolnshire continues to be a safe place where people can live free from fear of crime.
- Reduce repeat victimisation in high-risk domestic abuse, incidents of antisocial behaviour and repeat victimisation of vulnerable people.
- Focus youth offending resources on those at greatest risk of re-offending and who cause the greatest harm, so that custody is only used on young people whose risk cannot be managed in the community.
- Ensure a safe, healthy and sustainable food chain for the benefit of consumers and the rural economy and protect the supply chain against animal diseases.
- Support economic growth especially in small businesses, by tackling rogue trading, helping businesses to comply with the law and protecting consumers from scams.

What we achieved

Public health

- We took over responsibility for key areas of Public Health.
- The council has worked closely with the NHS and other partners, including the wider community, to produce a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), providing a detailed picture of health and wellbeing needs.
- Adult Care and Public Health worked in partnership to develop the Wellbeing Service for Lincolnshire and published the first Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, ahead of the 2013 deadline and ahead of many other areas around the country. This detailed the priorities for the people of Lincolnshire over the next five years.
- The innovative Excellent Ageing partnership brought together over fifty organisations in the county to support communities in delivering practical actions to improve the health and wellbeing of older people. Older people steered this work which aimed to promote greater engagement and raise awareness of the opportunities created by people living longer, healthier lives.

Environmental Planning

- The council has taken on new responsibilities as lead local flood authority, undertaking over 50 investigations into local flooding incidents during 2012/2013. We published our register of flood risk management assets as an interactive, online resource for the public and partner organisations. The asset register showed structures (such as pumping stations, flood defence banks, weirs and sluices) in use across the county to manage flood risk and drainage.
- The council has actively participated in local, regional and national flood risk management issues. We were acknowledged as national leaders in flood risk management, sought out by others for comment and advice. In 2012/2013 we delivered one of the first local flood risk management strategies in the country, developed as a unique joint initiative with our partners.

Lincolnshire County Council

- We increased our contribution to the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee to £620,000 a year, and allocated £6 million to flood relief schemes in Louth and Horncastle.
- As an important part of Lincolnshire's tourism industry, we continued to develop the natural environment, including the Coastal Country Park as a green tourism destination and the Wolds as a living landscape. Environmental Services has produced a sustainable transport strategy, identifying and prioritising options for improvements within the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park. A baseline visitor survey has been carried out to establish how visitors use the area. We also have a new website, with site visitor information and publications, promoting the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park and businesses within the area.



We continued to develop the natural environment

- The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust continue to manage visitor destinations such as Gibraltar Point National Nature Reserve (188,000 visitors) and Snipedales Country Park (45,000 visitors) on behalf of the council. They attracted visitors to the county, along with annual event programmes for the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park, Lincolnshire Limewoods and the Wolds Walking Festival.
- The Lincoln BioBus project was joint runner-up for an Environment Award in the prestigious UK Bus Awards 2012. BioBus is jointly funded by the county council and the East Midlands Development Agency. Stagecoach East Midlands, the region's largest bus operator, provide the service.
- We continued with our investment of £140 million in a combined heat and power plant, which is being built in North Hykeham, plus associated transfer stations. A new £1.5 million waste transfer station in Gainsborough was completed in April 2013. We continued to minimise household waste sent for disposal and construction is almost complete on our network of four new waste transfer stations around the county. Along with the existing site at Louth, these sites will provide local points to receive waste which will then be sent to the new Energy from Waste facility.
- The council has a long-term commitment to leading by example on climate change by signing the Nottingham Declaration. We have also signed up to Climate Local, demonstrating our ongoing commitment to reduce carbon emissions and improve resilience to the effects of our changing climate and extreme weather.

- We have used an invest-to-save fund to reduce energy consumption in our own buildings, including schools. We have also used micro-generation from wind and solar panels on our own properties, encouraged the use of wood-chip burners and helped to fund bio-diesel in buses.
- We invested almost £2 million in energy efficiency measures, through our first five-year Carbon Management Plan. This reduced our annual energy bills by £500,000, and last year we reduced emissions by 9.4%.
- The Collection took part in a ground-breaking project on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council and five district councils: Boston Borough, West Lindsey, East Lindsey, South Holland and City of Lincoln, by fitting solar panels on The Collection's roof. We expect the initiative to save £180,000 a year in electricity bills, including feed-in tariffs, and avoid generating 260 tonnes of CO₂ each year.
- The Hedge and Small Woodland Grant Scheme planted 33,000 new trees (an increase of 7,500 on the previous year), funded through 34 grants.
- The Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project (LCSP) has won the prestigious 2012 Bowland Award at the National Association for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NAAONB) conference. The Award recognises the best project, best practice or outstanding contribution to the wellbeing of areas of outstanding natural beauty.
- The second phase of the Wide Westgate renovation, in Grantham, started in July 2012 and completed in September, in time for the Gravity Fields Festival. We used Yorkstone materials to create new pavements, improved parking areas and access to premises, and resurfaced roads. There were also three new raised crossing points for pedestrians, including a zebra crossing, and three new disabled parking bays.

Community Safety

- We continued to play the lead role in the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum, bringing together partners to ensure the county's preparedness for natural or other disasters. Recent highlights of our work include: work on coastal flooding and the torch relay through the county, in the run-up to the London 2012 Olympics.
- We continued to conduct youth engagement schemes, promoting fire safety and delivering wider community outcomes. Over the last three years we doubled the number of Prince's Trust courses and now run 12 each year. This helped up to 180 disadvantaged, unemployed young people each year.
- Firefighters and members of the public from Lincolnshire were short-listed in three categories for the 2012 Spirit of Fire awards. These were team of the year, best newcomer and the public adult hero award. Skegness Fire Station was shortlisted for a wide range of prevention activities, which helped to reduce fire deaths and injuries. One staff member won best newcomer for her exceptional commitment towards the fire fighters' charity. Two members of the public won the public adult hero award, after selflessly risking their own lives to save others in a fire and rescue situation.
- Two Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue staff members were recognised for making extraordinary differences to the lives of others in Lincolnshire communities at the High Sheriff's Award. They were among the 13 people chosen this year for helping people cope with trauma and working with the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership to educate young people on safer driving.
- The number of people killed or injured in fires continued to be low, with five fire fatalities in 2012/2013. A further 21 people suffered injuries that required more treatment than could be given at the scene of the fire.

Lincolnshire County Council

- We reduced the number of arson and criminal damage offences. The number of deliberate primary fires reduced by 20%, down from 332 in 2011/2012 to 266 in 2012/2013. Criminal damage offences reduced by 25.5% (2,090 fewer criminal damage offences) across the whole county.
- The number of times we helped at first-responder incidents increased to 90.15% in 2012/13 from 89.70% in 2011/2012. (These were incidents at which Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue was first in attendance, often without an ambulance crew.)
- We increased the number of fire engines across the county which were staffed 24 hours a day by whole time fire-fighters, from two to six.
- The increase in Fire and Rescue training time, from an average of two to three hours per week for all retained duty system staff, was introduced on 1 April 2012, in keeping with our new three-year training plan.
- We continued to work in collaboration with Hertfordshire, Humberside and Norfolk Fire and Rescue services, to provide a modern and resilient mobilising system.
- Our fire safety work in the community which includes spreading clear messages about fire protection had a positive effect. There was a further reduction in fires in commercial premises down from 204 in 2011/2012 to 201 in 2012/2013.



Our Fire and Rescue Service undertake home fire-safety checks and are at the forefront of international search and rescue

- Over 11,000 free home fire-safety checks were completed in 2012/2013 as part of our on-going drive to make Lincolnshire households safer. We also completed 894 fire safety audits in commercial premises in our risk-based inspections programme, all of which had a positive effect on keeping our community safe.
- We remained at the forefront of international search and rescue, both here in the UK and around the world. In 2012/2013 we hosted the UK Rescue Organisation Challenge, involving 87 teams from around the country.
- We maintained our commitment to make Lincolnshire's communities safer, reducing crime, the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour. We continued to provide funding to keep Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) a visible presence on our streets.
- Within weeks of the new Police and Crime Commissioner's election in November 2012, we agreed a joint commitment on community safety priorities, including problems associated with drugs and alcohol, education in schools and domestic abuse prevention.

- We continued with our programme of publicity to increase awareness of domestic abuse and promote the help and services available. This has contributed to a 7% increase in domestic abuse incident reporting, or 619 more incidents reported to the police. Working with the Independent Domestic Violence/Sexual Violence Advisor service (IDVA/ISVA) to support high and very-high-risk victims of domestic abuse get legal advice, improved household security and increased their personal safety and that of their children.
- The chief executive of the national charity Standing Together Against Domestic Violence, judged the county's anti-domestic abuse partnership as 'excellent' and praised the range of specialist support services available. Lincolnshire was one of only two areas in England and Wales to achieve the top score in a report carried out for the Home Office.
- Trading Standards have taken tough action on counterfeit goods, which undermine local businesses and put consumers at risk from potentially unsafe products. This resulted in 13 cases before the courts and several tonnes of goods forfeited.
- The Youth Offending Service (YOS) expanded its remit by employing three prevention workers to help divert young people away from offending in the first place. The service performed well against three national indicators: the reoffending rate, those getting involved in crime for the first time and young people sentenced to custody. For example, the number of first time offenders fell by 10% compared to the same period last year. Support for victims of crime was also increased, allowing for more restorative justice, which helped young people to learn how their actions impacted upon others. It delivered 2,400 hours of reparation in 2012/2013 and engaged with antisocial behaviour teams across the county, to ensure that we supported court orders such as ASBOs, which were given to young people.
- We provided support and funding to Lincolnshire Probation Trust as part of an integrated offender management programme, bringing together agencies to tackle persistent repeat offenders. Serious acquisitive crime (vehicle crime, robbery and burglary: those closely associated by persistent repeat offenders) reduced by 6% (378 fewer crimes).
- We improved the way we commissioned and managed services for people with substance misuse problems to provide treatment focused on outcomes. This introduced more choice for service users, including an independent advocacy and governance service. It identified more mental health problems at an early stage and 97% of service users now wait less than three weeks from their referral to first treatment appointment.
- Through working with our partners, we helped to reduce recorded crime by a further 15%, resulting in 6,588 fewer crimes. Violent crime reduced by 9% (766 fewer crimes) and the number of antisocial behaviour incidents has reduced by 15% (4,828 fewer incidents).
- Trading Standards visited over 1,500 businesses to check compliance and support businesses in ensuring they traded fairly and safely. In partnership with the police and HM Revenue and Customs, we continued to tackle the sale of illicit tobacco and alcohol, seizing over 30,000 cigarettes and 190 litres of alcohol in the last 12 months.
- Trading Standards increased the number of No Cold Calling Zones (NCCZs) in the county, offering greater protection and reassurance for vulnerable residents from cold callers and rogue traders. There are now just over 350 NCCZs in the county, 30 of these were established in 2012/2013.

Lincolnshire County Council

- For the third year running, our Registration and Celebratory Service has achieved customer service excellence and has met the Government standard. This registers births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships. It conducts a range of ceremonies, including wedding, civil partnership, citizenship, naming, renewal of vows, funeral and memorial services.
- Tell Us Once, delivered by our Registration Service, is now able to notify central and local Government departments of a birth or a death, reducing the number of times citizens need to contact these departments. Over 10,000 people have accessed this service since its launch in May 2012.
- The number of marriages and civil partnership ceremonies performed increased by 43 events. The historic Gainsborough Old Hall is now available as a venue for civil ceremonies, as well as offering a bespoke wedding service. 480 people became British Citizens through formal citizenship ceremonies in 2012/2013. We worked with the UK Border Agency regarding potential sham marriages, and took on volunteers to help preserve historic birth and death registers.

Where we need to improve

Public Health

- In delivering the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy we need to ensure that health and social care services are more joined up.

Our plans for the future

Public Health

- We will undertake a series of service reviews to make sure Public Health services are delivered as effectively as possible. We will support the Health and Wellbeing Board to manage its relationships with local people, other partnerships and organisations and deliver the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- We will protect the health of the population by assuring the quality of screening programmes, immunisation programmes and health emergency planning, and by working with others to ensure that infections are prevented and managed,
- We will deliver high quality public health advice to the local NHS.

Environmental Planning

- We will agree our second five-year Carbon Management plan, committing to cut emissions by 22%, over a five year period.
- Our Energy from Waste facility is on schedule to start operating during 2013, meaning that most of what isn't recycled will be used to generate electricity. The North Hykeham plant will distribute heat locally and divert 150,000 tonnes of waste from landfill each year.

Community Safety

- We will continue to increase the number of fire stations across the county which are staffed 24 hours a day by wholtime firefighters. By 2015, there will be nine.
- We will progress a number of joint programmes of work with the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to reducing anti-social behaviour, tackling domestic abuse and improving data sharing to target preventative work.
- We will work with Lincoln prison on its improvement plan and enhancing its work with local partners to help reduce re-offending.

Influence, co-ordinate and support other organisations that contribute to the life of Lincolnshire

Our service plans include more details about our services. Some highlights of what we will do are listed below.



Anderby Creek on the Lincolnshire coast has a beautiful unspoilt beach and quiet rural surroundings

What we said we would do

- Seek opportunities to bring more resources to Lincolnshire.
- Promote Lincolnshire whenever and wherever we can.
- Work with partners in the NHS, business, other councils and the voluntary sector whenever that will help us to improve services in Lincolnshire.
- Run rural development schemes, providing £6 million for rural businesses and communities (we have been awarded a further £142,000 to put towards this important work).
- Work with district councils to shape local development plans.

What we achieved

- We helped to raise Lincolnshire's profile amongst Whitehall decision makers by supporting the influential Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), a finance forum, the Forum for Agriculture and Horticulture and the Employment and Skills Board. This has led to £5.5 million of grant income from the EU, Government and Coastal Communities Fund, in 2012/2013. Overall for the period 2007/2013 the council's investment of £37.7 million in economic development projects attracted £110.8 million of grants, and our support brought in £13.7 million for our partners.
- Our rural development schemes provided grants to businesses to help them diversify. The schemes have awarded 79 grants, totalling £4,583,794.
- The council lobbied successfully for a fairer deal on Government funding for rural authorities.
- Councillors set up a fund to give money which would have been an increase in their allowances, to good causes. Each member had an allowance of £2,000 per year to allocate locally, and so far 578 individual awards have been made. In many cases, the money went to small groups who had not received funding previously, enabling them to play an even bigger role in their local communities.
- The council worked with district colleagues to help them to prepare local plans. We worked with three district councils in central Lincolnshire, and a further two in south-east Lincolnshire, to form joint committees to influence development over the next 20 years.

Where we need to improve

- Building relationships with Clinical Commissioning Groups and Health Provider Trusts

Our plans for the future

- We will help the Local Enterprise Partnership to produce its growth plan. This plan will set out how the county council, other public organisations and the private sector will speed up growth in the county's economy over the next 20 years. It will also form the basis for the Government and European Union to allocate grants between 2014 and 2020.
- We will lobby for the Government and others to prioritise rural enterprise as part of their economic development actions.
- We will work together with all parties interested in Lincolnshire's prosperity, to raise the profile of Lincolnshire as a place to live, work, invest and visit, particularly promoting new opportunities.
- We will continue to lobby for improvement to the rail services between Lincoln and Nottingham.

Make the best use of all of our resources

What we said we would do

- Identify opportunities to get better value from how we use our land and buildings.
- Work to launch a revised Information & Communications Technology (ICT) service, designed to release cash savings and provide a more relevant and flexible service for ICT.



We are looking for opportunities to get better value from how we use our land and buildings

What we achieved

- We reduced the frequency of County News in 2011 to four editions per year, meaning that in 2012/2013 it cost £240,000 a year less than it did in 2010 when we produced 10 editions. The publication was also re-launched in spring 2012 in a new magazine format, with a special edition produced in conjunction with West Lindsey District Council for distribution in that area.
- Our Audit department has continued its effective counter-fraud work: it recovered over £159,000 in 2012/2013.
- Audit Lincolnshire received a national award from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for a ground-breaking internal audit project. The team won the prestigious Cliff Nicholson Award for Innovation and Excellence in Public Service Audit.
- Next Generation Platform (NGP), our major information and communication technology (ICT) programme for change helped us to cut costs and provide a more robust, modern and flexible ICT system for the future.
- The Information Governance Team has gained the CLEARmark accreditation (www.careleavers.com/clearmark) for the second year running. The Care Leavers' Association gives accreditation to councils for improving access to records for those leaving care. We were the second county council to receive it.

Lincolnshire County Council

- Our People Management service reached the finals of the prestigious national CIPD awards. (CIPD is Europe's largest human resources and personal development body.) Lincolnshire County Council was the only council shortlisted in the building human resources capability category.
- We launched iCount to support local government and NHS employees across Lincolnshire to be healthier and happier, both at work and at home. The project includes being active, sleeping soundly, stopping smoking, drinking sensibly and eating healthily.
- 13 properties (both freehold and leasehold) were closed releasing 10,000 square metres of floor space. The accommodation cost per employee reduced from £2,000 to £700, where we shared accommodation with a district council.

Where we need to improve

- Have consistent good practice across the council in the way we commission.

Our plans for the future

- To lead initiatives to attract regeneration funding into Lincolnshire which will help our council budgets go further.
- We will benefit from annual savings of £1.3 million starting in 2013/2014 from our Next Generation Platform project.
- We will continue to progress the Future Delivery of Support Services (FDSS) programme which should ensure that these services are fit for the future and deliver further efficiencies.
- To undertake a fundamental review of our priorities and budget for 2015/2016 and subsequent years to take account of the future challenges in relation to continued reductions in Government funding to the Council.
- We will continue to review and rationalise the council's properties. The programme is on target to achieve its £1 million savings target by 2015, with the total potentially rising to £2 million by 2017.
- We will review a further 50 buildings to continue to reduce the cost of accommodation per employee.
- We will continue to raise health awareness issues with Lincolnshire public sector employees, through iCount.
- Procurement Lincolnshire will continue to work within the Council and with our partners to deliver further savings and to work with local businesses within our sustainable procurement strategy.
- Legal Services Lincolnshire will continue to offer a responsive and competitive service that will continue to deliver efficiency savings to each partner.

Equality

Our objectives relating to equality are as follows:

- We value our entire workforce and want to make sure they can do the best job. We will be reviewing the most significant staff management policies to make sure they are consistent yet flexible, and fit for a modern local authority.

- We want to make a positive difference for our communities. When we review or introduce a policy or service we will look at the effect it will have on people. Similarly, when we start a new project we will carefully consider the effects and review these throughout the life of the project, supporting people through the change. This analysis will help us to make better informed decisions.

What did we achieve?

- We reviewed and revised our most significant policies while considering the impact on employees. These included: the disciplinary policy, flexible retirement, induction (for people joining Lincolnshire County Council as employees) and supporting disabled employees.
- We audited all the training concerned with equality and diversity in the council. We also carried out a training needs analysis for those employees using Dragon software (which types as the user speaks). We updated the online equality and diversity training for all staff and designed a section on the council e-learning platform to support managers and employees in understanding reasonable adjustments. (These are the adjustments we need to make, such as special equipment or furniture, to support disabled staff).
- We carried out a data validation exercise to improve the personal data which the council keeps about its employees. This information helps us better understand our workforce profile.
- We supported the Disabled and Proud employee engagement group to run events for disability awareness week. This promoted understanding of reasonable adjustments in the Equality Act 2010 and related council policies.
- We continue to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty in our work with the public as set out in the Equality Act 2010. This calls for us to consider the effect of all of our policies, and the services we provide, particularly those concerning vulnerable people. We evidence this through a series of [case studies](#).
- We introduced an innovative approach to assessing the impact of our decisions on people, so that we communicate the benefits and also consider how to reduce any adverse impacts. We analysed the effectiveness of our approach and considered how we could make sure this is part of the way we manage our projects.

What will we do next?

- Once our most significant policy changes have been in place for a minimum period of one year we will assess their impact.
- From April 2013 to March 2014 we will continue to review our HR policies, including: absence management; recruitment and selection and flexible working.
- We will analyse our equality and diversity training to make sure it is comprehensive and fit for purpose. We will also provide the right levels of training to those employees using Dragon software following the training needs analysis.
- The Job Centre will review our activities for the two ticks: positive about disability accreditation.
- We will improve the way we consider the impact of our projects on people.
- We will continue to identify innovative ways to comply with the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Duty to publish information about people who use our services.

Summary of 2012/2013 accounts

Every year we prepare accounts to show what income we have received and what we have spent on services.

This summary shows how we performed during the financial year from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, and our financial position at the end of that year.

The financial information below is a summary of the full set of accounts, known as the Statement of Accounts. To get a copy of the Statement of Accounts, contact us in any of the following ways.

By phone | 01522 553648 (leave a message asking for a copy)

Website | www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/finance

By email | finance@lincolnshire.gov.uk

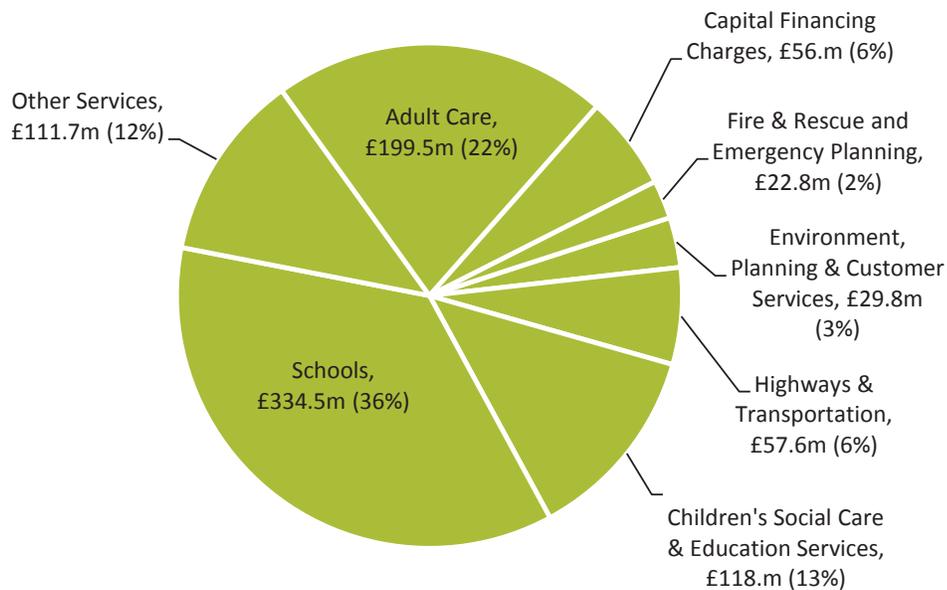
Money for day-to-day services

We spent £929.9 million on the day-to-day running of services in 2012/2013. That is £1,295 for every person in Lincolnshire.

Before the beginning of each year we set ourselves a budget of how much we can spend over the coming year. By managing our spending, we have been able to provide the same level of services at a lower cost and make large cash savings. In total we spent £55.9 million less than our budget. Most of this underspend relates to school budgets and will be carried forward for our schools to spend in future years.

How the money was shared between different services

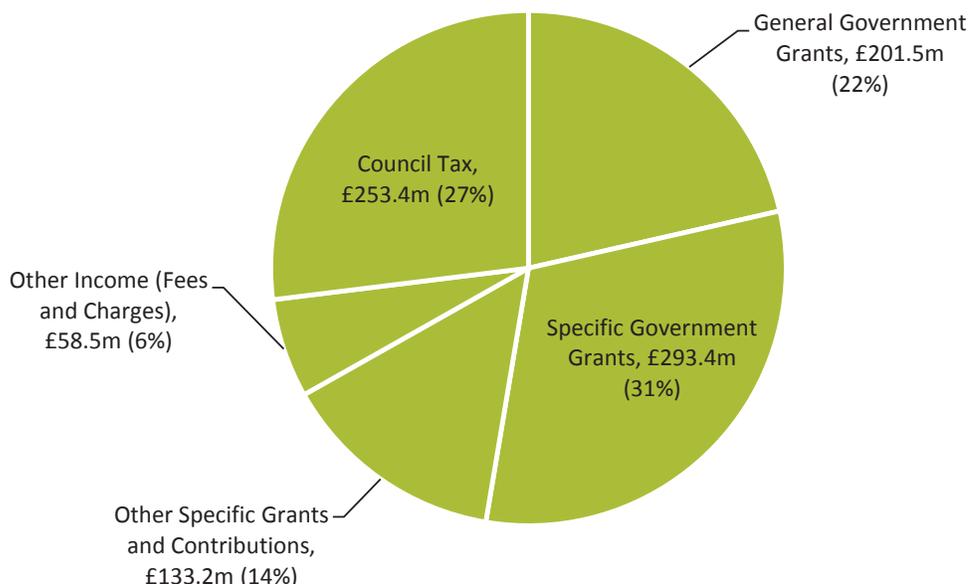
In 2012/2013, we divided our spending as shown below:



36.0% of our spending on services went on schools, and a further 12.7% was spent on other services for children. Adult Social Care received the second biggest share at 21.4%.

Where the money for services comes from

In 2012/2013 we received income from the following sources:



Our income was £940 million. This came from several sources, including grants from the Government, council tax, and charges residents paid for services.

- 21.4% of our income came as general Government funding. We received £201.5 million in general government grants in 2012/2013; this was a reduction of 7.6% from the grant received in 2011/2012.
- In addition to this we received £293.4 million (or 31.2%) of Dedicated Schools Grant which is used for funding education in Lincolnshire.
- 27.0% of our money came from council tax. Our level of council tax stayed one of the lowest in the country, with only two out of 27 counties setting a lower rate.

Our financial position on 31 March 2013

Our reserves – or the amounts we have set aside to be used in the future – now amount to £120.4 million. £37.9 million of this is the savings made by schools and is held on behalf of individual schools. £66.6 million is set aside for future spending on specific services or projects. The remaining £15.9 million is a general reserve which we need to protect us against financial risks such as unexpected extra costs or losses in the future.

We owe £455.2 million, which we borrowed to pay for assets which will last many years like schools and roads. What we borrow is limited by what we can afford to repay each year. We make sure that the borrowing we have to repay each year and the interest we pay on our borrowing is not more than 10.0% of our annual income. Last year our repayments and interest were less than 6.4% of our income.

Contact us

By phone

Our Customer Service Centre is open from 8am until 6pm from Monday to Friday (except on bank holidays or as otherwise stated) to answer your calls. The main number is 01522 552222 and the following is a list of dedicated phone numbers.

Department	Available	Number
Blue Badge	8am to 6pm weekdays	01522 782232
CallConnect Providing public and community transport across the county	8:30am to 6pm weekdays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays	0845 2343344
Welland CallConnect Covering Stamford and Market Deeping	9am to 6pm weekdays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays	0845 2638153
Carers Support Team Support and advice for unpaid carers	8am to 6pm weekdays	01522 782224
Community Safety Including emergency planning, crime and disorder contacts	8:45am to 5:15pm Monday to Thursday and 8:45am to 4:45pm on Fridays	01522 782050
Corporate Services Including enquiries about Lincolnshire development and freedom of information	8am to 6pm weekdays	01522 782060
Cultural Services Museums, heritage attractions and archives	9am to 5pm every day (including bank holidays)	01522 782040
Education The first point of contact for educational services for children aged 4 to 18	8am to 6pm weekdays	01522 782030
Family Information Service Providing information and advice for pre-school placements, childminders and nurseries	8am to 6pm weekdays	0800 1951635
First Contact Provides a single gateway to services designed to help people aged 60 and over live independently in their own homes	8:45am to 5:15pm Monday to Thursday and 8:45am to 4:45pm on Fridays	01522 782172
Fostering and Adoption enquiry line The first point of contact for customers looking into fostering or adoption	8am to 6pm weekdays and 9am to 4pm on Saturdays	0800 0933099
Highways and Planning Handling enquiries about the county's roads, footpaths, verges, street lighting, recycling and environmental services	8am to 6pm weekdays (for out-of-hours emergencies please see below)	01522 782070
Library Services Dealing with book renewals and reservations, computer booking and other library enquiries	9am to 5pm every day (including bank holidays)	01522 782010
Lifelong Learning Offering information and advice on adult education	9am to 5pm every day	01522 782011
Public Health Health care, improvement & protection Community engagement	8am to 5pm weekdays	01522 553729

Department	Available	Number
Registrations and Celebratory Services Registration of births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships	8am to 6pm weekdays and 9am to 4pm on Saturdays	01522 782244
Schools Transport The first point of contact for school transport for children aged 4 to 18	8am to 6pm weekdays	01522 782020
Social care for adults Social care services for adults	8am to 6pm weekdays (for out-of-hours emergencies please see below)	01522 782155
Social care for children Social care services for children	8am to 6pm weekdays (for out-of-hours emergencies please see below)	01522 782111
Tourism development Information about tourism in Lincolnshire	9am to 5pm every day (including bank holidays)	01522 782332
Trading Standards Handling trading standards enquires	8:45am to 5:15pm Monday to Thursday and 8:45am to 4:45pm on Fridays	01522 782341
Minicom Contact point for people who are deaf or hard of hearing		01522 552055
Emergency Duty Team (Social Care) Handling out-of-hours emergency social care contacts	5pm to 8:45am Monday to Thursday, and 4:45pm on Fridays to 8:45am on Mondays (24-hour service on bank holidays)	01522 782333
Highways and Planning out-of-hours emergencies To report a road emergency outside office hours please contact Lincolnshire Police.	8am to 6pm weekdays	0300 111 0300

Outside normal working hours there is a recorded message with details of emergency numbers. Your calls may be recorded for training and quality-assurance purposes. All of your information is protected by the Data Protection Act and may be shared with other organisations.

By letter

Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

On our website

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

By email

For non-social-care enquiries: customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk
For social-care enquiries: csc_socialcare@lincolnshire.gov.uk



More information

For enquiries about the information in this report, contact us in the following ways.

By phone | 01522 782060

By letter | Council's Performance Manager
Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

By email | performanceandprogrammes@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Other formats

For a copy of this report in a different language or format, phone us on 01522 782060.

Polish

Ta informacja jest także dostępna w innym języku i formacie. W razie jakichkolwiek pytań zadzwoń pod powyższy

Russian

Эта информация может быть предоставлена на другом языке или в другом формате. По всем вопросам пожалуйста звоните по вышеуказанному номеру.

Portuguese

Esta informação pode ser fornecida em outro idioma ou formato. Para quaisquer inquéritos, contacte o número acima.

Latvian

Ja nepieciešams, šo informāciju varat saņemt citā valodā vai citā formātā. Uzziņām, lūdzu zvaniet pa augstāk norādīto tālruni.

Lithuanian

Ši informacija gali būti pateikta kitoje kalboje ar formate. Visiem pasiteiravimam prašome susisiekti su viršuj nurodytu numeriu.

Slovak

Táto informácia môže byť poskytnutá v inom jazyku alebo formáte. So všetkými otázkami sa prosím obráťte na vyššie uvedené číslo.

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Communities

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Delegation for Planning Applications

Summary:

Increased delegation to Head of Planning for determination of planning applications submitted to Lincolnshire County Council.

Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Council agrees to the change to the Scheme of Delegation for planning applications set out in the report and the Constitution is amended to reflect the updated procedure for the delegation of planning applications to the Head of Planning as set out in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 of the report.

1. Background

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to bring forward a modification to the Council's adopted scheme of delegation in relation to the planning applications which are submitted to the Council which relate to applications for waste, minerals projects and the County Council's own developments such as schools and highway schemes. The current extent of delegation to the Head the Planning is set out below.

1.2 To approve planning permission for:

- mobile classrooms, siting and retention;
- re-roofing of County Council buildings;
- erection of fire escapes;
- erection of flag-poles;
- erection of fencing and means of enclosure;
- provision of school/education building where the floor space to be created by the development is up to and including 1,000 square metres of floor space;
- external alterations to buildings arising from internal modifications;

- comments on Listed Building and Conservation Area Consent applications to be determined by the Secretary of State;
- the erection of minor buildings up to 15 metres in height and 1,000 square metres in area on established sewage treatment works;
- construction of car parks, all weather pitches and play areas;
- non material changes to planning permissions in accordance with Section 190 of the Planning Act 2008.

All of the above developments are delegated provided no objection is received after appropriate consultation.

- 1.3 For a number of years now the time taken to determine planning applications has been used and accepted as an indicator of efficiency of a Council's planning service and is an important factor in how the public and developers perceive the Council's planning function. This has also been reflected in recent years in a number of government publications such as Killian Pretty Review – Planning Applications: A faster and more Responsive System (2008).
- 1.4 The current position is that all planning applications dealt with by the County Council other than those listed at paragraph 1.2 above must be determined by the Planning and Regulation Committee. If any objection is received in respect of the above types of development then the application must be reported to Committee.
- 1.5 For the last two financial years the split between applications reported to Planning Committee and delegated items are as follows:

Total Decisions Made 2010/11	154
Applications taken to Committee	91
Delegated	63
% of decisions delegated	40%

Total Decisions Made 2011/12	139
Applications taken to Committee	88
Delegated	51
% of decisions delegated	37%

- 1.6 For County Councils, measurements on performance are concerned with National Indicators NI 157 which assesses the percentage of mineral/waste applications dealt within 13 weeks of the date of validation. The national target is 65%. Although not covered by a National Indicator, the Development Management Team sets itself a target of 13 weeks to deal

with 80% of County Council applications from date of validation. With increased delegation this time period could be reduced to eight weeks as the reason for the longer period is that a proportion of County Council applications are still reported to the Planning Committee.

- 1.7 As a comparison, figures obtained from other County Councils show a much higher percentage of applications determined through delegation as follows:

Nottinghamshire	85%
Essex	80%
Northants	78%
Leicestershire	76%
Lancashire	70%

- 1.8 In terms of handling County Matter applications over the past 5 years, only in one year has the group met the national target of 65% (2009/10). These have ranged from 26% (2008/09) to 56% for both 2010/11 and 2011/12. In 2012/13 the figure was 58%. To address this issue previously the number of Committee meetings was increased from eight per year to 12 per year. This has assisted to some extent, but still not enabled the national target of 65% to be achieved. By increasing the amount of decisions that are delegated to Officers would allow some applications that just miss the 13 weeks target due to the need for the application to be reported to Committee to be determined within the 13 weeks. This should enable the figure of 65% to be reached or improved.
- 1.9 It is the nature of the Committee process that by referring applications to Committee can introduce inherent delays in the determination of applications. The main reason for this is that committee report lead in times require officer clearance of the final report at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting to enable the agenda to be dispatched and Councillors having at least five working days advance sight of the report, before the meeting. This can inevitably lead to applications missing their target date for decision especially as the Committee sits on a monthly basis.
- 1.10 There have been a number of instances where applications have been reported to Committee due to the receipt of a single objection. There is currently no discretion on what constitutes an objection resulting in applications being determined by Committee due to only one minor or even non planning related objection being received.
- 1.11 Should delegation be extended to enable a greater range of applications to be dealt with under delegated powers and also enable applications with a small number of objections to be dealt with by Officers it is likely that the Council's performance in the time taken to determine applications would follow.

- 1.12 In addition a slightly reduced number of planning agenda items would enable the Committee to concentrate on the more complex and controversial proposals that attract more significant numbers of representations. The last two Planning and Regulation Committees have lasted well into the afternoon due in part to the number of applications that had to be brought to the Committee. Also a number of planning applications reported to the Committee are for proposals that are in conformity with planning policies, uncontroversial and straightforward and have thus not attracted any objection. Delegating these decisions would provide a better service to the applicant in that they would receive a decision sooner and enable Councillors to spend more time on the complex and controversial applications.
- 1.13 In terms of Officer time, the overheads and staff time spent on producing lengthy reports can be reduced. Whilst reports are still an important part of the delegation process they are shorter and also provide for a steady flow of decisions thereby permitting workloads to be managed more easily and decisions to be processed with greater efficiency without having to work around the Committee timetable.
- 1.14 In terms of any potential risk to the revision to the scheme of delegation there is the potential that objectors may consider that their comments or objections have been given little weight should an application be approved under delegated powers. Such an objector would also have had their right to speak at Committee removed. However an objector could still lobby their local County Councillor who if they considered the objector(s) case had some merit could request that the application is called in for Committee determination.

2. Conclusion

- 2.1 Therefore it is recommended that the delegation powers for the determination of applications available to the Head of Planning are extended as follows:

Determination of all applications for planning approval (including the determination of schemes of conditions submitted under the Environment Act 1995, (Minerals Review) for Hazardous Substances Consent, for Listed Buildings Consent and Conservation Area Consent except where:

- those applications and proposals in accordance with the Development Plan where objections are raised by other local authorities;
- those applications which are Environmental Impact Assessment applications;
- those which are recommended for refusal;

- all applications where more than three individual representations from separate properties raising planning related objections are received;
 - those involving a departure from Development Plan; and
 - those which have been referred to Committee by a Local Member.
- 2.2 The recommended amendment to the scheme of delegation is for all applications other than in the circumstances listed above to be delegated to the Head of Planning for determination. In circumstances where up to three planning related objections are received in respect of any application the Head of Planning must seek agreement from the Chairman (or in his absence the Vice-Chairman) as to whether the application needs to be brought to the Planning and Regulation Committee for determination or not.
- 2.3 For the avoidance of doubt in all cases where more than three planning related objections are received the application will automatically be brought to the Planning and Regulation Committee for determination.

3. Legal Comments:

Increased delegation to the Head of Planning to determine applications will enable the Council to improve its performance in the time taken to determine applications against national targets. This will in turn result in a more efficient determination process which should reduce the likelihood of appeals for non-determination within the prescribed timeframes. The Planning Committee will remain the appropriate forum for determination of those applications which attract objections; are a departure from the Development Plan; or which Local Members feel should be determined by the Committee due to the nature of the application and the potential impacts of it.

4. Resource Comments:

N/A

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Neil McBride, who can be contacted on 01522 554814 or neil.mcbride@lincolnshire.gov.uk.



County Council

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director Performance and Governance

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Absence of Councillor Chris Underwood-Frost

Summary:

The purpose of this report is to note the continued absence from meetings of Councillor Chris Underwood-Frost and to approve the absence in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Recommendation(s):

That the absence through illness of Councillor Chris Underwood-Frost be approved in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. Background

Councillor Chris Underwood-Frost, who represents the Scotter Rural Division, has been unwell and as a result of illness has been unable to attend meetings since the Annual Council meeting on 17 May 2013.

As members will know, if a member does not attend a meeting for a period of six months then, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the County Council before the expiry of that period, the member ceases to be a member of the County Council. This is the last scheduled Council meeting before the expiry of the six month period. Absence through illness is a valid reason which can be approved by the County Council.

2. Conclusion

This is a decision that must be taken by the Council. If the recommendation is not adopted then Councillor Underwood-Frost shall cease to be a member of the County Council in the event of his continued absence on 18 November 2013.

3. Legal Comments:

The legal issues to be taken into account in the taking of this decision, which is a matter reserved in law for Council to decide, are fully set out in the report.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no material financial implications arising from acceptance of the recommendation in this report.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Nigel West, who can be contacted on 01522 552840 or nigel.west@lincolnshire.gov.uk.



County Council

Open Report on behalf of David O'Connor, Executive Director Performance & Governance

Report to:	County Council
Date:	13 September 2013
Subject:	Rewiring Public Services

Summary:

This report and appendices set out details of The Local Government Association's Rewiring Public Services campaign. The LGA has requested that all local councils debate a resolution supporting that campaign.

Recommendation(s):

That Council debates and agrees the LGA resolution set out in Appendix D.

1. Background

The Local Government Association launched the Rewiring Public Services campaign on 2 July 2013.

The campaign aims to enhance the quality of life of everyone by:

- rejuvenating democracy and giving back to people real reasons to participate in civic life and their communities
- transforming public services so they prevent problems instead of just picking up the pieces
- boosting economic growth in a way that offers prosperity to every place

The campaign puts forward 10 propositions to rejuvenate democracy, transform public services and boost economic growth:

1. Give people a meaningful vote on local tax and spending issues: a local treasury in every place.
2. Cut red tape: bring local services and decisions together in one place.
3. Reduce bureaucracy and Whitehall silos: merge six government departments and create an England Office.
4. Share money fairly across the UK by replacing the Barnett formula with a new needs based funding model.
5. Take financial distribution out of ministers' hands and replace it with agreement across English local government.

6. Strengthen local say by reducing ministers' powers to intervene in local decisions.
7. End flawed, tick box inspections by bureaucrats: create local service user champions.
8. Boost investment in infrastructure: create a thriving market in municipal bonds.
9. A multi-year funding settlement tied to the life of a Parliament.
10. Protect local democracy: give the local government settlement formal constitutional protection.

The LGA Chairman, Sir Merrick Cockell has written to all Councils in August requesting that they debate the issues.

Details of the campaign are in the Appendices to this report with additional information available at <http://www.local.gov.uk/campaigns>

2. Conclusion

Rewiring Local Government is a major campaign from the Local Government Association

3. Legal Comments:

Debating the resolution is within the Council's powers.

4. Resource Comments:

There are no additional resources requirements.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Letter from LGA Chairman
Appendix B	Rewiring Public Services Q&A
Appendix C	Rewiring Public Services – Rejuvenating Democracy
Appendix D	Council Resolution on Rewiring Public Services

7. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by David O'Connor, who can be contacted on 01522 552316 or david.oconnor@lincolnshire.hov.uk.

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August 2013

Dear Colleague,

Rewiring Public Services

Following the launch of *Rewiring Public Services* at our annual conference last month, I have been hugely encouraged by the amount of positive feedback about our proposals for local government going forward.

Since our conference, *Rewiring Public Services* and its key propositions have been discussed in Parliament and the media, but we need to ensure it is debated in the most important place of all, your council.

Our 'ten big ideas' that launched the campaign were the result of a series of regional road show events involving and engaging as many people from local government as possible. The debate around these propositions and the discussions about their impact will play a key part in their success. As such, it's essential that as many councils as possible debate the ideas and, hopefully, support them.

In order to assist this debate we have put together a toolkit (www.local.gov.uk/rewiring-debate) containing a draft motion and a suite of supporting materials including a film, created for this campaign and already used by a number of councils, explaining why this important programme of work is essential to the future of the sector. The toolkit also includes a method of feeding back information about your debate.

We need your council to debate and support this campaign and its propositions. The more it is discussed and understood, the stronger our case to those wanting to form a government after the 2015 general election will be.

If you would like to discuss the campaign, or the logistics of promoting its work, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



Sir Merrick Cockell
Chairman, Local Government Association

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Rewiring Public Services – Q&A

1. What is ‘Rewiring Public Services’?

Rewiring Public Services is a new LGA campaign.

The campaign launched with a key publication “**Rewiring Public Services – Rejuvenating Democracy**”, plus four supporting documents and an animation.

The campaign sets out:

- the changes needed at both a local and national level so that public services can help communities to meet people’s future needs and aspirations
- how public services can be transformed through local leadership by rebuilding democratic participation, fixing public services and revitalising the economy
- important challenges to local government, to our communities, to our partners, but most of all to central government.

The campaign is designed to run until 2015 and will seek to influence the manifesto formulation process in the run-up to the general election in that year.

2. How did it come about?

We have travelled up and down the country since early 2013 garnering the views of colleagues in local government – both politicians and officers.

We have heard consistently of the issues that most concern local people and have set out an approach that:

- is innovative, deliverable and sustainable
- will tackle long-term structural issues far beyond a shopping list of obvious one-off savings.

We have been impressed by the ambition of leaders, leading councillors, chief executives and others from across England. They have helped us to shape the detail of this offer and ensured that we brought local and regional perspectives to these big issues.

3. What are the campaign’s main objectives?

We want to enhance the quality of life of everyone by:

- rejuvenating democracy and giving back to people real reasons to participate in civic life and their communities
- transforming public services so they prevent problems instead of just picking up the pieces
- boosting economic growth in a way that offers prosperity to every place.

The campaign will also:

- Influence the manifesto formulation process in the run up to the 2015 general election

- Show members that we are working on their behalf to promote good practice and innovation at a national level
- Create a clear identity for the LGA's campaigning work.

4. What are the big ideas?

We have 10 propositions that we feel that should be taken on in order to rejuvenate democracy, transforming public services and boost economic growth. These will be set out in the "Rejuvenating democracy" publication and supporting documents – these are:

1. Give people a meaningful vote on local tax and spending issues: a local treasury in every place.
2. Cut red tape: bring local services and decisions together in one place.
3. Reduce bureaucracy and Whitehall silos: merge six government departments and create an England Office.
4. Share money fairly across the UK by replacing the Barnett formula with a new needs-based funding model.
5. Take financial distribution out of ministers' hands and replace it with agreement across English local government.
6. Strengthen local say by reducing ministers' powers to intervene in local decisions.
7. End flawed, tick box inspections by bureaucrats: create local service user champions.
8. Boost investment in infrastructure: create a thriving market in municipal bonds.
9. A multi-year funding settlement tied to the life of a Parliament.
10. Protect local democracy: give the local government settlement formal constitutional protection.

5. What are the areas of focus?

The campaign has four strands –

Economic growth
 Financial sustainability
 Children's services
 Adult social care and health

We will be launching the campaign with five publications setting out each area of the Rewiring Public Services campaign.

www.local.gov.uk/campaigns

REWIRING PUBLIC SERVICES





CHAIRMAN'S

FOREWORD

<u>Chairman's foreword</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>The argument</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Building blocks for a future deal</u>	<u>7</u>
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<u>Transforming local government</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>What <i>Rewiring</i> means to politicians</u>	<u>21</u>
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This country faces challenges which require a game-changing response at a national level.



This paper sets out the changes needed at both a local and national level so that public services can help communities to meet people's future needs and aspirations. It is a proposition which shows how public services can be transformed through

local leadership by rebuilding democratic participation, fixing public services and revitalising the economy. The approach contains important challenges to local government, to our communities, to our partners, but most of all to central government.

The current model we have for local government set in the context of a highly centralised national state will not see us through for very much longer.

We have travelled up and down the country over the past year garnering the views of colleagues in local government – both politicians and officers. We have heard consistently of the issues that most concern local people. Now, we urgently need to address how councils can better lead economic growth, social



AS A SECTOR WE MUST
 STAND SHOULDER TO
 SHOULDER ON BEHALF
 OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND
 FORGE A NEW DEAL



care, health and children’s services – with all local services putting citizens and not institutions at the forefront. Underpinning this approach is the need to provide strong community leadership through an independent local government that is properly and fairly funded.

We have set out an approach that is innovative, deliverable and sustainable, which will tackle long-term structural issues far beyond a shopping list of obvious one-off savings. We have been impressed by the ambition of leaders, leading councillors, chief executives and others from across England. They have helped us to shape the detail and ensured that we brought local and regional perspectives to these big issues.

Across the country, in all regions these matters have been raised as a ‘fairness issue for England’. Colleagues are clear that we must look at the ‘English question’ in the context of wider devolution within the United Kingdom. People in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland already have a much greater say over everything from health to transport. Yet local government in England is still battling for the same freedoms to tackle national and local priorities. The LGA’s Welsh membership is also in discussions about the future form for local government in Wales and we are keen not to hinder that process. Accordingly, this proposition focuses on England and not on our Welsh members.

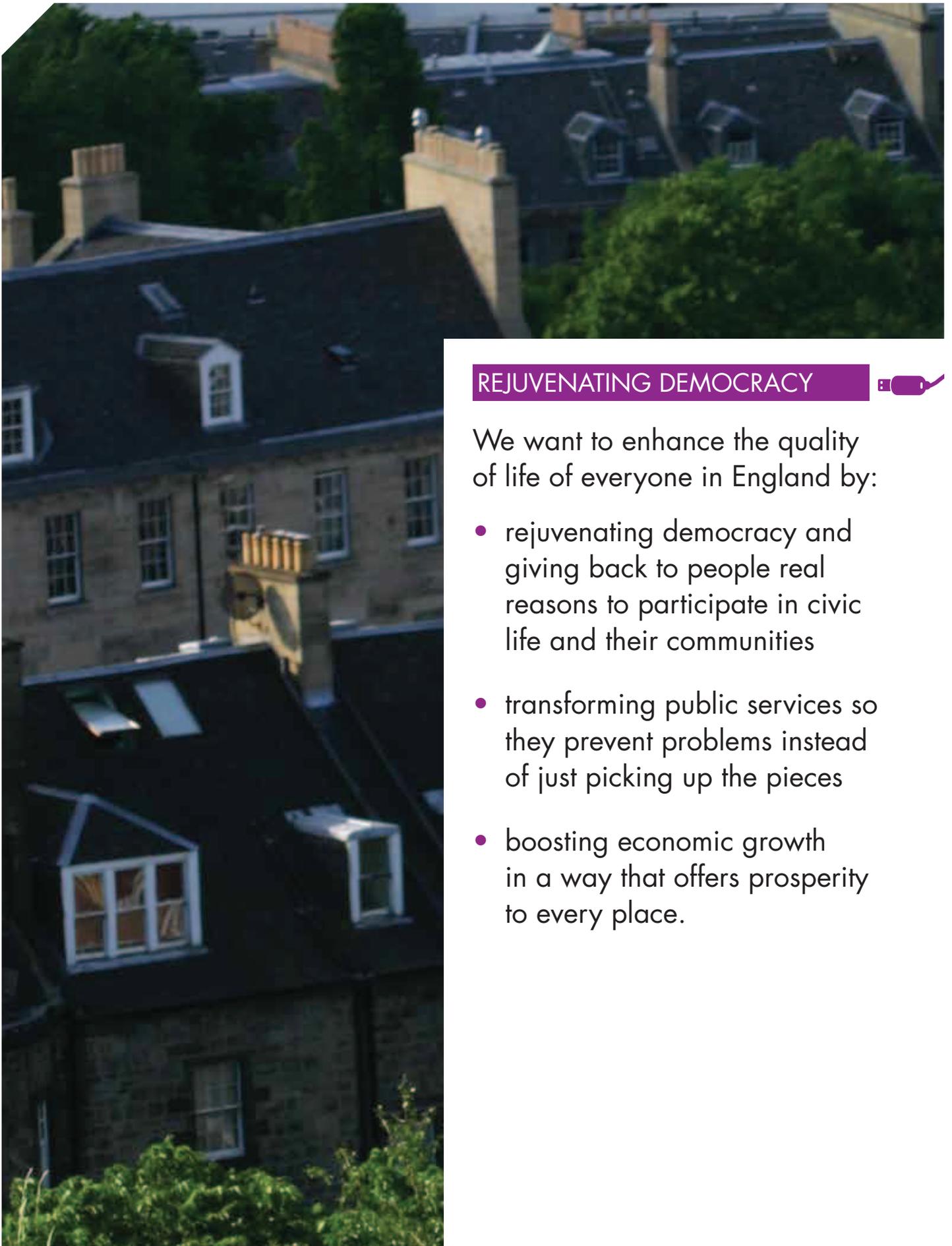
We all came into public service with a strong and clear ambition – to make a positive difference and help improve people’s lives. That ambition continues despite the challenge of current times.

We have a vision of how to change public services; giving local people a clear say in the important matters that face them and their local communities, and a local vote that matters once more.

Whilst we won’t agree politically on every issue, idea and solution, this is a moment for us to be leaders of local government first and national party members second. Rightly, we believe in the power of politics, but we need to take a step back and work together as a sector for the wider benefit of our communities and our country.

As a sector we must stand shoulder to shoulder on behalf of our communities and forge a new deal for our citizens.

Councillor Sir Merrick Cockell
 Chairman, Local Government Association



REJUVENATING DEMOCRACY

We want to enhance the quality of life of everyone in England by:

- rejuvenating democracy and giving back to people real reasons to participate in civic life and their communities
- transforming public services so they prevent problems instead of just picking up the pieces
- boosting economic growth in a way that offers prosperity to every place.



OUR TEN BIG IDEAS FOR REWIRING PUBLIC SERVICES

- 1.** Give people back a meaningful local vote on a wide range of tax and spending decisions, to establish a level of decision-making that allows each place to act as its own local treasury, managing local tax and spend and driving growth.
- 2.** Drive local public service effectiveness and end waste and red tape at all levels by bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, for issues ranging from economic development to health and law and order.
- 3.** Reduce bureaucracy and remove artificial Whitehall silos by merging six government departments and creating a single England Office. Under this proposal the Department for Communities and Local Government, Department for Transport, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Department of Energy and Climate Change, Department for Culture, Media and Sport and relevant parts of the Home Office would be combined.
- 4.** Share money fairly around the UK by scrapping the outdated Barnett formula and replacing it with needs-based funding.
- 5.** Share money fairly around England by taking financial distribution out of the hands of Ministers and replacing it with an agreement across English local government.
- 6.** Strengthen the say of local people by reducing Ministers' powers so that they cannot intervene in local democracy, boundaries and decisions.
- 7.** End flawed and bureaucratic tick-box inspections and replace them with a process where genuine consumer champions focus on the service local people receive from schools, hospitals, policing or care homes.
- 8.** Boost investment in infrastructure by re-creating the thriving market in municipal bonds which England once had and most other countries still have.
- 9.** A multi-year funding settlement aligned to the end of the next parliament which will enable councils to invest in economic growth and prevention rather than cure.
- 10.** Put this settlement beyond future Whitehall revision by giving formal constitutional protection to local democracy.



THE ARGUMENT

People increasingly feel that English democracy faces a crisis.

People – especially younger people – are disillusioned with all the main political parties because they do not see what difference voting for them makes to their daily lives. This feeds disillusion with the whole democratic process.

English voters increasingly express frustration that their Scottish and Welsh counterparts have more power over what happens in their places than they do.

People do not like being disillusioned. People tell us they want a reason to care about voting and a reason to feel positive about belonging to their community and its civic life.

They want more of a stake in public debate. Election turnout figures tell us clearly that democratic engagement rises when voters feel something really is at stake when they vote.

Recent national MORI polling shows that 79 per cent of people trust councils to make decisions about the future of local service. Yet the public trust in central government to take decisions over local services is just 11 per cent.

The economy is stagnant and too many people are without jobs and without hope of a better future.

- We underinvest in economically productive infrastructure like roads and utilities.
- Not enough homes are being built and those that are, are unaffordable to most buyers.
- Employers have chosen not to hire the graduates of our schools and colleges. Youth unemployment is at levels that threaten not only those young people but the nation's future productivity.

What people tell us they want is well-targeted and planned investment in growth, training and help that really leads to jobs, and an adequate supply of affordable homes.

Today's model of public services is unsustainable.

- Demand and costs are going up but funding is going down.
- Public services concentrate on trying to handle failure rather than on preventing it.
- People perceive public services as remote, over bureaucratic and bogged down in process.



PEOPLE TELL US THEY WANT WELL-TARGETED AND PLANNED INVESTMENT IN GROWTH, TRAINING AND HELP THAT REALLY LEADS TO JOBS

What people tell us they want is services that are affordable, built around them and their needs, and that visibly make their areas better to live in.

Transformed and independent local government is needed to give the people of England what they want.

It can **make public services effective, efficient and locally responsive** through place-based public service budgets, bringing together public service spend in one place by making:

- services more responsive and less bureaucratic
- services more preventive and positive
- the local public sector financially sustainable both through place-based public service budgets and localised taxation and borrowing.

Transformed and independent local government can **revitalise local economies.**

- It will target and plan investment better.
- It will match training and skills with employer need and involve schools better in vocational training.
- It can unblock barriers to housebuilding.
- It will deliver simpler regulation for business.

And it can **rebuild democracy** to make it meaningful again.

- It will address democratic disillusion by fixing the inequities of the current devolution settlement.
- It will make voting at local elections a must-do because of the impact on tax and service decisions.
- Communities will be stronger where people come together to make local decisions.

This is a radical proposition by local government to transform public services and democracy **by transforming itself.**

We think the scale of the challenge is big enough, the size of the prize is worthwhile, and we are optimistic and bold enough to be ready to make this leap into a more grown-up relationship between central and local government.

This will be a more exciting and less risk averse relationship with the people who elected us.



BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A FUTURE DEAL

Individual people, families and local communities are the building blocks of our society and their health and welfare is vital to future prosperity and wellbeing.

Local identity in Britain is diverse and many-layered, reflecting wide variations in lifestyles from world cities to rural hamlets.

Many forms of local government have sought to provide leadership, look after the needy, ensure public health and develop local economies.

England's booming visitor economy generates nearly a tenth of national income and employment, precisely by driving value through exploiting local difference.

It creates a virtuous circle between the quality of a place, economic growth and quality of life for local people.

This varied patchwork of place has been catalogued since the Domesday Book and local government is largely permitted and organised by statute rather than existing as of right.

We think that the challenges that the country faces require a different approach reflecting the local needs of communities, based on joined up services, economic vitality and a new democratic deal.



CHALLENGES THAT THE COUNTRY FACES REQUIRE A DIFFERENT APPROACH REFLECTING THE LOCAL NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES

The Local Government Association (LGA) has been considering the future for local government.

We have concluded that things have got to change, because the current operating model for local government in England is broken.

Our member councils agree and all the evidence that we have seen confirms this view.

So we have been engaged in debates with councils across the country, with partners and with policy specialists to suggest a way forward that will benefit our communities.

We have looked at a range of solutions which make a compelling case to government, to business, to our partners and most importantly to our residents.

This is not about how we might cope or get through the tough times of the next couple of years but looking ahead.

It is a fundamental look at what we will need to do to change local government to meet local needs but also the national challenges through the next decade.

Although they vary slightly from council to council, there is a consistency of issues and so we have adopted these as our main priorities for the LGA for the coming year.

The following sections set out how this can be taken forward at the local level, addressing specific challenges:

- independent local government, revitalising democracy
- economic growth and welfare reform building resilient communities
- adult social care and health, caring for the vulnerable
- children's services, nurturing our future
- financial sustainability, supporting people and places
- transforming local government to take on the challenge.



INDEPENDENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT



›Our propositions

- Give people back a meaningful local vote on a wide range of tax and spending decisions, to establish a level of decision-making that allows each place to act as its own local treasury, managing local tax and spend and driving growth.
- Reduce bureaucracy and remove artificial Whitehall silos by merging six government departments and creating a single England Office.
- Share money fairly around the UK by scrapping the outdated Barnett formula and replacing it with needs-based funding.
- Share money fairly around England by taking financial distribution out of the hands of Ministers and replacing it with an agreement across English local government.
- Strengthen the say of local people by reducing Ministers' powers so that they cannot intervene in local democracy, boundaries and decisions.
- Transform local government with a new deal: a new framework for public services which is able to be both strategic and locally responsive.
- Align parliament and local government through greater inclusion of MPs in council decision making and ensure the involvement of current leading councillors in the House of Lords.
- Put this settlement beyond future Whitehall revision by giving formal constitutional protection to local democracy.



ALIGN PARLIAMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH GREATER INCLUSION OF MPS IN COUNCIL DECISION MAKING

› **These proposals** will help rebuild democracy by making elections really matter to people because they will have a personal and financial interest in the outcome.

Joined-up government locally will reduce bureaucracy and allow national government to focus on developing national policy and legislation rather than engaging in local matters for local people.

The proposals will also address English voters' disillusionment with the unequal devolution settlement, and in turn provide the opportunity for the local government sector to ensure that councils reach sensible deals between themselves on distribution.

The national framework of local democracy needs to be renewed ensuring local decisions about local arrangements are made by people who are accountable to local voters.

We can align delivery arrangements with electoral accountability so that voters know what they are voting for at general and local elections. By doing so local democratic decisions can also be protected from national intervention.

Align parliament and local government through greater inclusion of MPs in council decision making and ensure the involvement of current leading councillors in the House of Lords.

This would ensure that a proportion of the House of Lords would be there by both the virtue of their electoral mandate and their knowledge of the impact of legislation on people and communities.

Linking local democracy to key local decisions will make public services sustainable again; and will revitalise the economy by clearly linking local economic development to local government's income, promoting competition and competitiveness.



GROWTH

›Our propositions

- Give people back a meaningful local vote on a wide range of tax and spending decisions, to establish a level of decision-making that allows each place to act as its own local treasury, managing local tax and spend and driving growth.
- Drive local public service effectiveness and end waste and red tape at all levels by bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, for issues ranging from economic development to health and law and order. Including:
 - a local treasury to provide the incentive for a local budget for growth and choice, rather than silo budgets to fund services. This would have the ability to flex business rates and other taxes including, for example, tourist or sales taxes to support local economies
 - an agreement between local government and local taxpayers on the level of local taxation and their choices on spending decisions
 - a changed relationship between universities and local government to link education more strongly to local economies
 - development of clearer employer involvement in schools' work on education outcomes and as an introduction to the world of work
 - local leadership of skills and jobs initiatives through coherent employer-led programmes linked to the needs of the local economic sub-region and orchestrated through local government
 - a place-based public service budget for infrastructure
 - localised and simplified regulation linked to clearly defined vision for the community and place.



➤ REVITALISE LOCAL ECONOMIES BY ENABLING BETTER TARGETING OF INVESTMENT IN PROJECTS THAT WILL UNLOCK GROWTH

➤ **These proposals** would help revitalise local economies by enabling better targeting of investment in projects that will unlock growth potential and improve productivity.

These include house building; ending a top-down bidding culture and refocusing decision-making decisively on local employer-led priorities; enabling the public sector to provide a better tailored service to local businesses; putting school-leavers' work-readiness higher up educational priorities; and retaining and recycling the proceeds of growth, including tax receipts, into local economies.

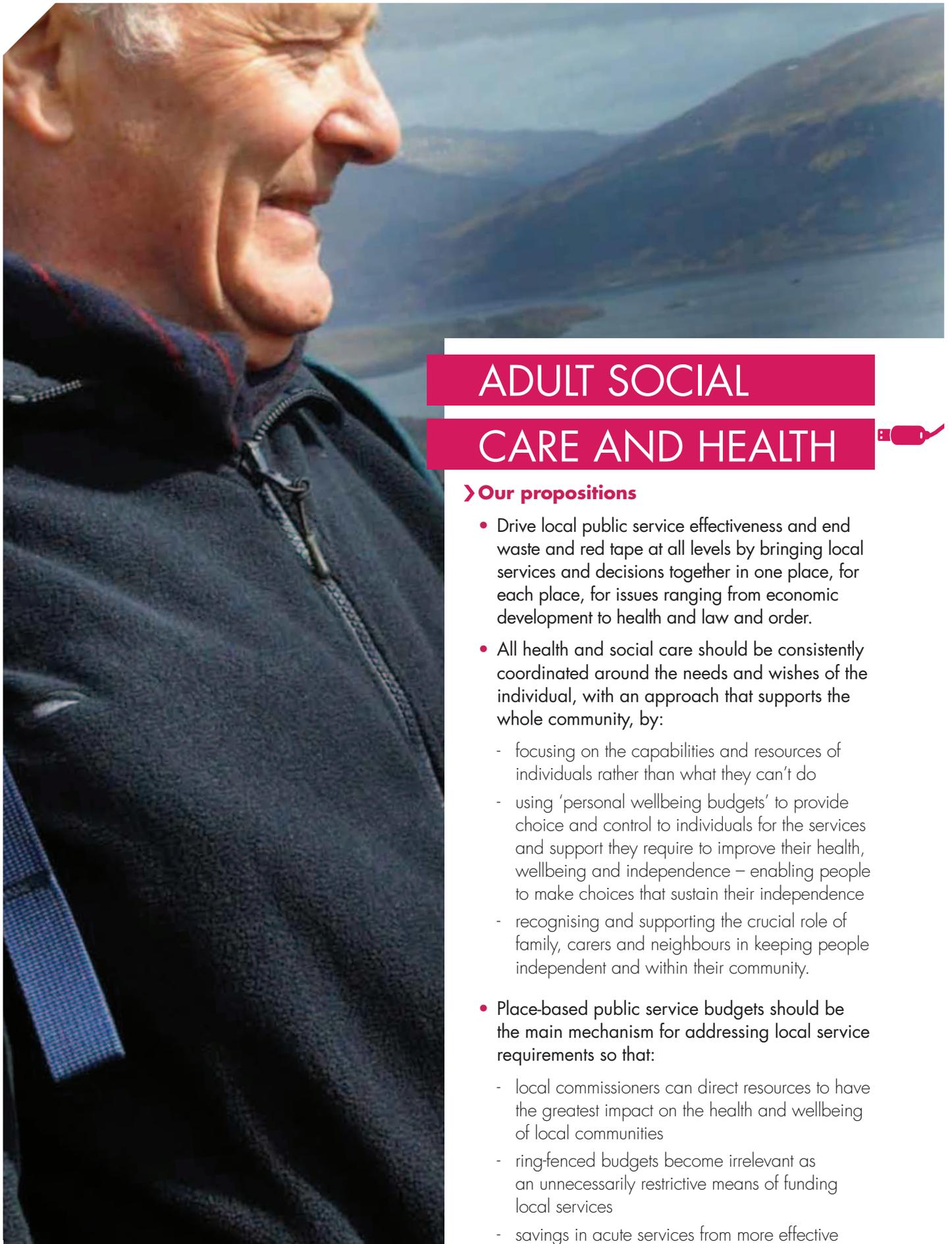
They would help make public services increase the focus on early intervention to ensure education and training made young people employable, and by putting local employers more powerfully in the driving seat of infrastructure investment and skills provision.

They would also create the opportunity, with a place-based public service budgets model, to ensure that the new welfare system develops appropriately.

If the welfare system is to evolve away from tolerating the costs of social failure into something that supports work and builds social capital, we need to see it primarily as that social agent.

If Universal Credit succeeds, it should move the focus onto the personal experience of people looking for work and their families, and the collective effort government, councils, and communities make to prevent exclusion and social fracture.

They would help rebuild local democracy by putting the tax and spending bargain between the public sector and local taxpayers, especially business taxpayers, back at the centre of local democratic debate.



ADULT SOCIAL

CARE AND HEALTH

› Our propositions

- Drive local public service effectiveness and end waste and red tape at all levels by bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, for issues ranging from economic development to health and law and order.
- All health and social care should be consistently coordinated around the needs and wishes of the individual, with an approach that supports the whole community, by:
 - focusing on the capabilities and resources of individuals rather than what they can't do
 - using 'personal wellbeing budgets' to provide choice and control to individuals for the services and support they require to improve their health, wellbeing and independence – enabling people to make choices that sustain their independence
 - recognising and supporting the crucial role of family, carers and neighbours in keeping people independent and within their community.
- Place-based public service budgets should be the main mechanism for addressing local service requirements so that:
 - local commissioners can direct resources to have the greatest impact on the health and wellbeing of local communities
 - ring-fenced budgets become irrelevant as an unnecessarily restrictive means of funding local services
 - savings in acute services from more effective prevention and re-ablement can be reinvested in better support in the local community.



WE NEED TO ACT NOW TO INTEGRATE THE COMMISSIONING OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

- End flawed and bureaucratic tick-box inspections and replace them with a process where genuine consumer champions focus on the service local people receive from schools, hospitals, policing or care homes.
- Health and wellbeing boards should be strengthened to extend their leadership across local services to ensure child and adult health and wellbeing is at the top of local agendas by:
 - involving the full range of health services including community, mental health and acute trusts
 - signing off health and care commissioning plans to ensure alignment with democratically-mandated local services
 - extending joint commissioning across core social care and health budgets.

› **These proposals** will rebuild democracy through a new settlement between communities and the state. Growing dependency on intensive support for people is often an indicator that we have collectively failed to provide the right support early enough. We all have a part to play in supporting families and the crucial role of carers' needs to be much more widely recognised and celebrated.

Of course, the state will always need to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable, but we need to get the balance right. As part of this, we want to see personal budget approaches extended for carers, patients and service users.

Services need to work with people: as individuals in their family context, not as a series of specific problems or life stages.

We also know that designing and delivering services with people themselves can be more effective than 'doing to' them.

Place-based public service budgets will enable services to work together to see the whole person, join up across service boundaries and ensure that savings in acute health services can be used to fund better support in the community.

We need to act now to integrate the commissioning of social and health care. We know it can save money and improve outcomes: there is no excuse for waiting. We want to see much stronger joint arrangements through health and wellbeing boards.

Local economies will be revitalised because local political leaders will promote healthier lifestyles, encourage local people to support each other and will lead difficult decisions through health and wellbeing boards, which prioritise the right services to secure value for money.

All of these will improve productivity and reduce the tax-drain. Local leadership can make a real difference to change behaviour and help people support each other.



CHILDREN

› Our propositions

- Drive local public service effectiveness and end waste and red tape at all levels, by bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, for issues ranging from economic development to health and law and order.
- Give councils the flexibility they need to redesign services around individual and family needs, and promote effective early intervention, by:
 - making place-based public service budget arrangements the norm for service delivery in local areas; bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, including education and children' social care; allowing greater investment in early intervention
 - giving people back a meaningful local vote on a range of tax and spending decisions to reinvigorate the civic and community involvement that people want and public/ children's services need
 - making the most of the transfer of public health for young children to local government; ensuring Health and Wellbeing Boards are strengthened to extend their leadership across local services and keep children's health and wellbeing at the top of local agendas.
- End flawed and bureaucratic tick-box inspections and replace them with a process where genuine consumer champions focus on the service local people receive from schools, hospitals, policing or care homes.



GIVE COUNCILS THE FLEXIBILITY THEY NEED TO REDESIGN SERVICES AROUND INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY NEEDS

- Rebuild the role of families and communities in supporting each other, by:
 - recognising that “it takes a village to raise a child”, raise expectations that communities will help families and that families will help each other – building on the strengths we already find in communities and in families themselves
 - renewing civic education in our schools, ensuring young people understand the rights and responsibilities of government and citizens
 - recognise the crucial support offered by extended family members who care for children who might otherwise be in the care system
 - incentivising businesses to support children and young people in their locality, making it a standard part of corporate social responsibility.
- Strengthen links between the local community and schools by:
 - giving local people a more direct say in how school buildings are used out of hours
 - developing clearer employer involvement in schools’ work on education outcomes and as an introduction to the world of work
 - removing the protection and ring-fencing of the schools’ budget which creates an obstacle to better working between schools and local agencies
 - reversing the decision which prevents schools from pooling budgets, so they can cooperate with and support wider services for children and families to improve child development and attainment.

› **These proposals** would help revitalise local economies by enabling a better connection between schools and other education providers and the needs of local employers.

They would help make public services stronger again by using a place-based public service budgets approach to boost early intervention and prevention. Children, families and communities need to be resilient enough to cope with life’s challenges. But when children and their parents do need help, they should get it early on, so that the situation can be improved as soon as possible. This should be done in a way that makes sense to them, with their voices at the core of decision making.

Not jumping through the bureaucratic hoops of different organisations, but getting what they need, when they need it, regardless of whether it is from a children’s centre, social worker, the school, their GP, a more specialist health service, or some combination.

When there is no choice but to take children into care, we want to give them a model of stable, loving homes and wider support networks which give them the very best chances in life. The propositions would allow better use of staff and other public sector assets. They would make it harder for weak service provision to shelter behind formal compliance with paper processes.

They would help revitalise local democracy by making it clear that schools have a core job to educate and develop our future active citizens.



FINANCIAL

SUSTAINABILITY

› Our propositions

- Give people back a meaningful local vote on a wide range of tax and spending decisions, and create a local treasury for local services, including:
 - self-funded local government through council tax, business rates and other taxes including local control over council tax and business rates, the right to determine new local taxes and to set fees and charges which fully recover costs.
- A multi-year funding settlement aligned to the end of the next parliament which will enable councils to invest in economic growth and prevention rather than cure.
 - an agreement tied to the life of the Parliament for any services that remain funded by central government to allow greater innovation and pursuit of longer term objectives.
- Re-create the thriving market in municipal bonds which England once had and most other countries still have:
 - free local government borrowing from Treasury restrictions because it already complies with appropriate prudential rules
 - allow access to alternative sources of finance including the creation of a local government bond agency and the right to develop earn-back deals. These would allow places to reinvest the proceeds of additional growth in local services and measures to promote further growth.



**GIVE PEOPLE BACK
A MEANINGFUL LOCAL
VOTE ON A WIDE
RANGE OF TAX AND
SPENDING DECISIONS**

- End waste and red tape by bringing local services and decisions together in one place, for each place, for issues ranging from economic development to health and law and order, including:
 - a place-based public service budgets approach to the integration of public services in every place providing fluidity between currently protected and non-protected budgets to support locally agreed outcomes
 - financial incentives for government departments to overcome inertia to place-based funding reforms, to integrate services and to focus on people and places.
- Share money fairly around England by taking financial distribution out of the hands of Ministers and replacing it with an agreement across English local government.

› **These proposals** would help revitalise local economies by enabling better targeting of investment in projects that will unlock growth potential and improve productivity.

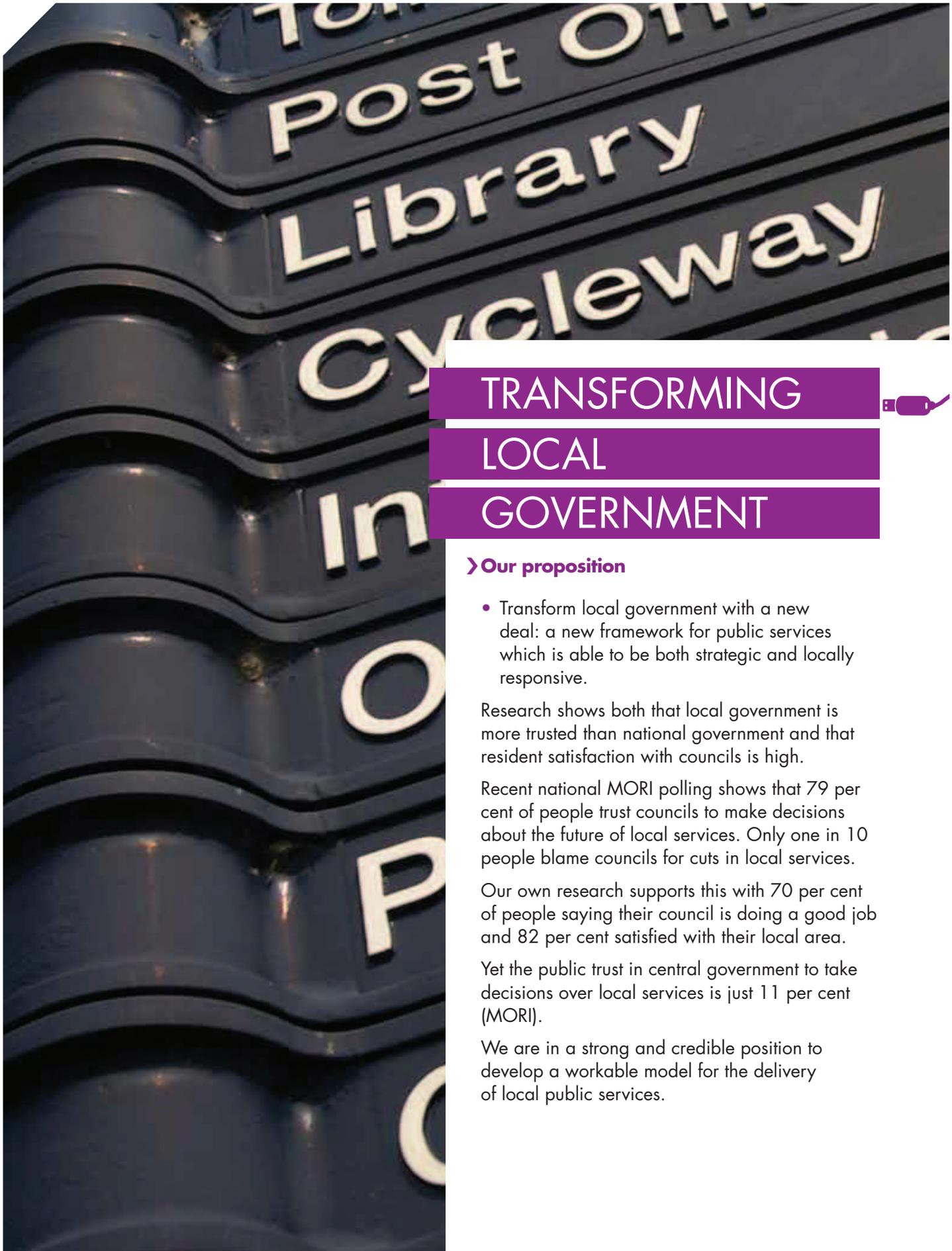
These would include house building; ending a top-down bidding culture and refocusing decision-making decisively on local employer-led priorities; and retaining and recycling the proceeds of growth, especially tax receipts, into local economies.

They would also enable greater investment by councils in the provision of social housing, helping to de-risk the government's welfare reform programme.

They would help make public services sustainable again by putting councils onto a self-financing footing. Through the place-based public service budgets model it would enable local public service collectively to find savings both through taking out duplication and inefficiency, and by rewiring public services around people and places to invest in early intervention and reduce demand for services in the medium and long term.

The current financial position of most councils is unsustainable in the long term. Unless something changes, communities will fail solely because of financial instability.

This is indicated by what we know from the preparations for the one year spending round in 2015/16 and the likely position of local government in the Spending Review following the general election. The proposals would help rebuild local democracy by putting the vital link between tax and spending decisions at the centre of local democratic debate.



TRANSFORMING

LOCAL

GOVERNMENT

› Our proposition

- Transform local government with a new deal: a new framework for public services which is able to be both strategic and locally responsive.

Research shows both that local government is more trusted than national government and that resident satisfaction with councils is high.

Recent national MORI polling shows that 79 per cent of people trust councils to make decisions about the future of local services. Only one in 10 people blame councils for cuts in local services.

Our own research supports this with 70 per cent of people saying their council is doing a good job and 82 per cent satisfied with their local area.

Yet the public trust in central government to take decisions over local services is just 11 per cent (MORI).

We are in a strong and credible position to develop a workable model for the delivery of local public services.



► POLLING SHOWS THAT 79 PER CENT OF PEOPLE TRUST COUNCILS TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF LOCAL SERVICES

Economic revitalisation and service effectiveness will be promoted through a new way forward based on place-based public service budgets, the development of city deals and single pot arrangements to facilitate growth across the country. The extension of this approach across the country suggests an emerging framework of coalitions of place based upon:

- logical communities
- different local governments and departments some within combined authorities
- economic sub-regions
- health economies
- voluntary sector frameworks
- locally raised finance and appropriate distribution or equalisation.

► **These proposals** will lead to an improved local deal and would revitalise democracy because people would see where accountability lies and what the local risks are. The distance between people and the decisions which affect them would be much shorter.

This implies significant devolution of powers from Westminster to a more local level. There would consequently be a real need for a national network of support and a sector-wide workforce strategy to address change and build resilient organisations.

Such an approach to devolution would also provide a solution to the 'English Question'. It would address current unfairness by giving England powers and control, which is similar to that of the three other UK countries.

Previous thinking tended towards a one-size fits all approach, but what is right for Birmingham will not necessarily be right for Norfolk. Accordingly, there is a need for a new framework which unlocks potential for a settlement which has real meaning for local people in very different settings.

All of this will require strong and vibrant political and managerial leadership to deliver real change.



WHAT REWIRING MEANS TO POLITICIANS



**Councillor
Gary Porter**
LGA Conservative
Group Leader

This document is the product of extensive discussions with our member councils over the past year and reflects many of the contributions that

were made by colleagues at the recent regional roadshows.

We all know that funding reductions would have occurred whichever party won the last election but, as is made clear, without a radical reform of local government finance councils will struggle to deliver discretionary services in the near future.

Crucially, we are offering positive solutions to the problems that we identify. For example, we clearly explain how the introduction of community budgets nationwide would save billions of pounds and result in more joined-up and better quality services for the public.

Equally, we want to work with government to actively promote economic growth. As the report emphasises, City Deals, Local Growth Deals, Lord Heseltine's review and a wealth of academic literature have all clearly shown that devolved decision making can boost economic performance.

Councils are up for the challenge locally but we need government to be bold nationally. For example, we are calling for a review of the ring-fencing of the schools budget since we believe that parts of this funding could be more effectively spent on council services such as early intervention for vulnerable children.

The current government's localist agenda must go further if we are to fully realise the ambitions that we have for the people and places that we represent. This document clearly outlines the path that local and central government should take together in partnership.



**Councillor
David Sparks**

LGA Labour Group
Leader

Never has localism been so important to our services, politics and finances. We are faced with profound financial problems and increasing demand. Caught in that pincer movement, local government as it stands is under threat – and more importantly with that the ability for people to have a real say over how their area is run.

To overcome the challenges we face, we need an ambitious long term vision for how we can reinvigorate local democracy, innovate to save money and improve the services people use. We also need a clear strategy for how we will deliver this vision. This document begins to sketch that out.

Local government has to adopt to our new circumstances in terms of our relationships with our residents, the ways in which we organise ourselves to collaborate better and in our relationship with central government.

This document sets out some new terms in our relationship with government, one that is more mature and one that benefits people, going straight to the heart of addressing democratic deficits.

Local government can be the engine of a country-wide economic revival. One that is not dependent on one area or one industry. This document sets out what local government can do and what we need in order to do it.

This document is an important first step in the conversations we need to have in local government between councillors, with our residents, staff and partners on what our vision looks like and I look forward to having those discussions.



Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson

LGA Liberal Democrat Group Leader

The 1963 Luchino Visconti film, *The Leopard*, has a line that is relevant to local government right now: "For things to remain the same,

everything must change."

The sector has made a massive contribution to reducing the national deficit, cutting a third of its spending over four years – with more funding reductions expected. But the scale of these cuts – for many authorities – is beyond merely trimming back. In order merely to continue with the way things are, everything has had to change.

But even this isn't enough given the scale of the ills we face as a country – the economy, the continuing jobs shortage and the lack of faith people have in our politicians and institutions to solve our problems.

This cross-party LGA publication prescribes a radical change in power distribution as a treatment for the nation's symptoms. It reflects what Liberal Democrats have long argued for - more powers to local communities and to local government.

But this isn't theoretical now – this isn't a subject to be classified under 'constitutional reform'. This is a matter that pervades all policy areas and especially jobs, the economy and the public's control over their lives.

Local government has undergone massive changes and shown it can transform itself to deliver what is required by Britain.

Whitehall doesn't have a good track record in trusting local government with power. But the severity of the problems the country faces means central government must change its approach - after all, to evolve leopards do in fact change their spots.



**Councillor
Marianne Overton**
LGA Independent
Group Leader

This is a brave bid for devolution at a time when there is a dramatic change in local government and a window of opportunity.

Whilst demand increases and resources drop, we have to find a better way to do business that still puts local government at the heart of leading our communities.

The cross-party LGA councillor and officer workshops I joined across the country were vibrant with lively ideas and discussion, putting a huge collective brainpower into redesigning local government. Now it is up to the hundreds of councillors at the annual conference. This is nothing if not a democratic and inclusive process. Yet the recommendations are still radical and ones we can all agree.

Why not have a local funding mechanism that provides for local services? Why not bring more of public services together under democratic control? Why not have a clear identification of our roles as distinct and separate from central government?

I recently met a delegation from the Council of Europe considering how far we had got with implementing our charter for local democracy. Our government already agreed years ago to properly fund local government to carry out our statutory duties and that we should have a constitution of our own. The door is more open now.

Our proposals show that local government stands ready to play its part in leading and refreshing England's economic prospects, public wellbeing and civic engagement.

This will not be created through central control, but can be achieved by every community contributing to renewal and creating an English state which reflects the needs of the 21st century.

Inevitably our proposals would mean enormous change for public services as a whole and local government in particular. However, we believe that this is a prize worth pursuing because it provides a real opportunity to improve the quality of life of our communities and make England fit for the future.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The LGA would like to thank and acknowledge all those who have participated in our road show and deep dive events earlier this year.

It has been an invaluable way for us to work with our local government colleagues to reassess the way we work and set out plans for what we believe will be a sustainable future.

For a full list of participants in the roadshows and deep dives please visit:

www.local.gov.uk/campaigns

To find out more about Rewiring Public Services or to read our four supporting documents visit:

www.local.gov.uk/campaigns

- Adult social care and health
- Children's services
- Economic growth
- Financial sustainability

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We consider requests on an individual basis.

L13-524

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Council, **noting**

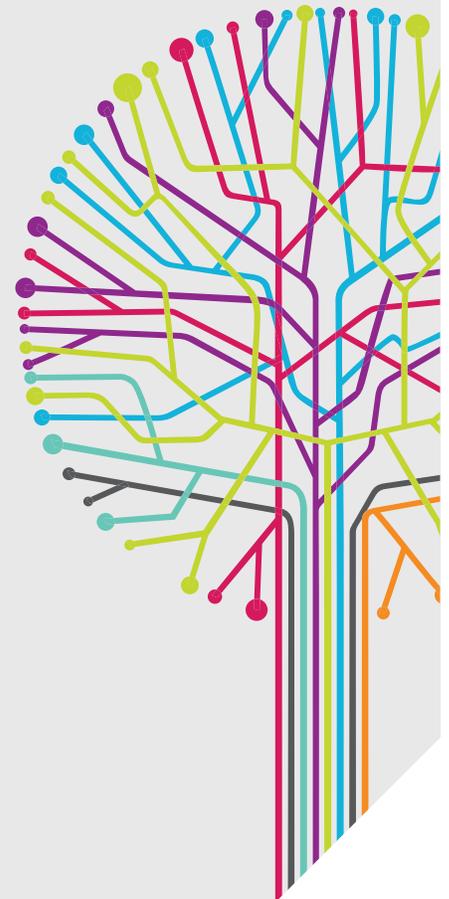
- that England is now widely recognised to be the country with the most centralised system of government in Europe;
- that devolution has brought decisions about tax and spending, and the quality of public services, closer to voters in Scotland and Wales, while English voters have not gained comparably greater influence over decision-making that affects their taxes and services; and

considers

- that the likely scale of change in how public services are funded and provided makes it democratically unsustainable for those changes to be decided within the existing over-centralised model;
- that services need to be reformed and integrated across local agencies to enable them to prevent problems rather than picking up the pieces;
- that voters should be given back a meaningful say on a wider range of tax and spending decisions, through place-based budgetary arrangements, the abolition of the discredited Barnett formula and the reinstatement of fair financial distribution agreed among English councils, the re-creation of a municipal bond market, and the certainty of multi-year funding settlements for the life of a Parliament;
- that central government should enable that local decision-making by joining up and reducing in size Whitehall departments in order to facilitate local place-based budgets, by reducing Ministers' powers to intervene in local decisions, and replacing bureaucratic tick-box inspection regimes with local service users champions; and
- that such a new more mature settlement between central and local government should be put beyond future revision by giving formal constitutional protection to local democracy; and

resolves

- to support the Local Government Association's Rewiring Public Services campaign, which embodies these objectives;
- to ask [the borough/city/county/district's] Member[s] of Parliament to support the Rewiring Public Services campaign to improve local voters' influence over services, tax and spending; and
- to make the council's position clear to the Secretary of State.



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PENSIONS COMMITTEE 4 JULY 2013

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M G ALLAN (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors R J Phillips (Vice-Chairman), J W Beaver, N I Jackson, B W Keimach, Miss F E E Ransome, Mrs S Rawlins and A H Turner MBE JP

Added members: Mr A Antcliff, Mr J Grant, Councillor M Leaning

Officers in attendance:- Jo Ray (Group Manager – Pensions and Treasury), Nick Rouse (Investment Manager), Dave Vickers (Pensions Manager, Mouchel), Tony Warnock (Head of Finance (Children and Specialist Services)), Catherine Wilman (Democratic Services Officer)

1 APOLOGIES/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N I Jackson and Peter Jones, Independent Advisor.

2 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor M G Allan declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as he was currently a contributing member of the Pension Fund as a North Kesteven District Councillor;

Councillor R J Phillips declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as a member of the Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board;

Councillor Miss F E E Ransome declared a personal interest in item 6 on the agenda as an employee of HSBC;

Mr A Antcliff declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as he was currently a contributing member of the Pension Fund as an employee of Lincolnshire County Council;

Mr J Grant declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as the Chairman of the Witham Fourth Drainage Board, Boston;

Councillor M Leaning declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as he was currently a contributing member of the Pension Fund as a West Lindsey District Councillor and as a member of the Witham Third Internal Drainage Board.

2
PENSIONS COMMITTEE
4 JULY 2013

3 MINUTES OF THE PENSIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 APRIL 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting on 11 April 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 INDEPENDENT ADVISORS REPORT

Jo Ray, Group Manager - Pensions and Treasury took the Committee through the Independent Advisor's report.

It was requested that, in future reports, the Independent Advisor include a short forecast of what was expected in the markets.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

5 PENSION FUND UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to a report which aimed to give the Committee an overview of fund activity and a general update. Jo Ray took the Committee through the report and the following points were noted:

- Investments in renewable energies would sit in the alternatives portfolio and the decision on whether to change it would rest with Morgan Stanley;
- Councillor N I Jackson had been the Committee's representative on the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum during the last Council term and this would continue;
- Discussion took place regarding the investment in tobacco product manufacturers, which had also been discussed at previous meetings of the Committee. The Committee policy was not to disinvest in certain sectors on ethical, environmental or socially responsible grounds, but to address any concerns through the membership of LAPFF. The Fund's active manager would always look to invest in stocks that were sustainable over the long term;
- In relation to the Investment Consultancy services framework, it was agreed that Officers would undertake the call off process and bring a shortlist of consultants to a meeting of the committee to receive presentations and make an appointment;
- The dates for the LGA Fundamentals training had been released and the Committee was advised that, if it was necessary, overnight accommodation would be paid for.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted;

2. That the Investment Consultant call-off from the national LGPS Framework be progressed through Officers and the Committee receive presentations from the shortlisted consultants to make an appointment.

6 INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Consideration was given to a report presented by Nick Rouse which updated the Committee on the management of the Lincolnshire Pension Fund assets over the period from 1 January to 31 March 2013.

The Committee was asked to exclude Blackrock from the need to present to them as they managed a passive mandate that was performing exactly as required. This was agreed on the understanding that Officers would continue to monitor Blackrock's performance.

RESOLVED

- 1 That the report be noted;
- 2 That the exclusion of Blackrock from presenting to the Committee be agreed.

7 PENSION ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Consideration was given to a report by Dave Vickers the purpose of which was to update the Committee on current administration issues. During discussion of the item, the following points were noted:

- After the death of a member of the Fund, the pension administrators had a target of 5 days in which to write to the member's next of kin. Over the reporting period this had been adhered to, apart from two cases, where the task system had not been updated correctly to show that the tasks had actually been completed on time. Procedures had been amended to ensure that this did not reoccur;
- Information on deaths was acquired via a mortality bureau called Faraday on which data was checked on a monthly basis;
- Unclaimed pension lump sums remained in the fund until they were paid out.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

8 UK EQUITY PORTFOLIO ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee was taken through the annual report for the UK Equity Portfolio by Nick Rouse which was managed in-house. During presentation of the report, the following points were noted:

4
PENSIONS COMMITTEE
4 JULY 2013

- The portfolio was managed through the Bloomberg system which enabled officers to see live valuations during the day and monitor performance. The Committee was invited to see the system in action;
- Members were pleased with the performance of the portfolio during the past year and thanked the Pensions and Treasury team for their efforts.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

9 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FUND'S PROPERTY INVESTMENTS

Consideration was given to a report which outlined the performance of the Fund's property and related investments for the year ended 31 March 2013.

It was noted that the table showing UK Commercial Property Investment returns to 31 March 2013 in the report, should show a figure of 7.5% Inception Annualised for Aviva.

Property had not performed well over the last few years, however it was a long term investment. Managers with the relevant areas of expertise were sought for property investments.

The Committee requested a glossary of terms and abbreviations which would be provided to them in due course.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

10 TRAINING POLICY AND ANNUAL COMMITTEE TRAINING PLAN

The Committee considered a report which set out the training policy and the annual training plan for Pensions Committee members for the meetings from July 2013 to April 2014.

The training requirement for members of the Pensions Committee was higher than that of other committees due to the level of risk involved in managing and making decisions relating to the Local Government Pension Scheme and in view of this, a training policy had been produced. The purpose of training was to ensure a collective understanding across the Committee.

If any members were unable to attend scheduled training sessions, one-to-one training was available from officers.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

11 PENSION FUND POLICIES REVIEW

A report was considered which brought to the Committee the main policies of the Pension Fund for review. The report recommended that the Committee agree the following policies:

- Statement of Investment Principles
- Governance Policy and Compliance Statement
- Communications Policy
- Stewardship Code Statement

The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 required a Pensions Board to be created for each LGPS Fund, with equal representation from both employees and employers. The Governance Policy and Compliance Statement would be updated to include this once LGPS Regulations had been produced. The Committee would be kept informed of progress.

RESOLVED

1. That the report be noted;
2. That the policies listed above be approved.

12 PENSION FUND RISK REGISTER

The Committee was presented with the Pension Fund Risk Register for annual review which was recommended for approval.

Issues were raised that Jo Ray was the owner of all the risks on the register, however the Committee were assured that despite this, there were other Officers able to take over management of risks should the need arise. In addition, the Committee were assured that none of the risks were time critical.

The risk register would return to a future meeting of the Committee in three months time.

RESOLVED

That the risk register be agreed.

The meeting closed at 12.15 pm

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**PLANNING AND REGULATION
COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2013**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR I G FLEETWOOD (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs V C Ayling, D Brailsford, D C Hoyes MBE, D M Hunter-Clarke, Ms T Keywood-Wainwright, D McNally, D C Morgan, N H Pepper, J M Renshaw, T M Trollope-Bellew and W S Webb.

Also in attendance:- Councillors C Pain, Mrs S Woolley, A H Turner MBE JP, R G Davies and C J Davie.

Officers in attendance: Neil McBride (Development Manager), Brian Thompson (Head of Highways West), Charlotte Lockwood (Solicitor), Alan Aistrup (Highways Manager, North), Graeme Butler (Projects Manager), Steve Blagg (Democratic Services Officer) and Dave Clark (Traffic Orders Manager), Natalie Dear (Planning Consultant).

28 APOLOGIES/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C L Strange and C J Underwood-Frost.

Councillor N H Pepper had replaced Councillor B Adams as a permanent member on the Committee and Councillor Mrs M J Overton was deputising for Councillor Mrs H N Powell, for this meeting only. Councillor Mrs M J Overton arrived in the meeting at 11.40am.

Also in attendance Councillors C J Davie (minute 43), R G Davies, A H Turner MBE, JP (minute 44), C Pain (minute 43) and Mrs S Woolley (minute 51)

29 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

It was noted that all members of the Committee had been lobbied in connection with minute .

Councillor D M Hunter-Clarke requested that a note should be made in the minutes that he knew the applicant (minute 43).

Councillor J M Renshaw requested that a note should be made in the minutes that her son was a Manager at Tesco (minute 35).

Councillor W S Webb requested that a note should be made in the minutes that he had been lobbied in connection with minute 35 and that he would neither take part in

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the discussion nor voting thereon as he knew the Director of Creeton Quarry (minute 41).

Councillor V C Ayling requested that a note should be made in the minutes that she was a member of East Lindsey District Council.

Councillor D C Morgan requested that a note should be made in the minutes that she was a member of South Kesteven District Council's Development Control Committee.

30 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 JUNE 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Planning and Regulation Committee held on 10 June 2013, be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to "Councillor B Adams" being added to the list of attendees and the deletion of "a member of the Environment Agency" for Councillor C D Morgan, under "Declarations of Councillors' Interests" (minute 2).

31 MINUTES OF THE SITE VISIT BY THE PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE TO CREETON QUARRY LTD (PLANNING APPLICATION NO'S S24/1741/11, S24/1752/11 AND S24/1726/11) ON 26 JUNE 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning and Regulation Committee site visit held on 26 June 2013, to Creeton Quarry Ltd (planning application No's S24/1741/11, S24/1752/11 and S24/1726/11), be noted.

32 TRAFFIC MATTERS

33 THEDDLETHORPE & MABLETHORPE VARIOUS ROADS PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT AMENDMENTS

Graeme Butler presented a report on an objection received to a proposal to amend sections of speed limits within the parishes of Theddlethorpe and Mablethorpe.

On a motion by Councillor D McNally, seconded by Councillor W S Webb, it was -

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the objection be overruled and the Order as advertised be implemented.

34 BRAYFORD WHARF EAST, LINCOLN - PROPOSED ONE WAY ORDER
AND TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

Alan Aistrup presented a report on objections received to a one way traffic order and traffic regulation orders proposed for Brayford Wharf East, to facilitate the installation of a new pedestrian footbridge over the railway line, which Network Rail considered to be a high priority.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor C D Morgan, it was
—
RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the objections be overruled and the Orders as advertised be implemented.

35 WRAGBY ROAD, LINCOLN - PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO WAITING
RESTRICTIONS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FACILITIES

Alan Aistrup presented a report on objections received to the proposed alterations to pedestrian crossing facilities and waiting restrictions in connection with the expansion of the Tesco site on Wragby Road.

Officers stated that since the publication of the report a petition comprising 500 signatures had been received objecting to the loss of existing parking places. There was scope to use existing parking outside of the retail premises and that there was an opportunity to negotiate with landlords.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor W S Webb, it was
—
RESOLVED (unanimous)

That consideration of the proposals in the report be deferred pending negotiations with landlords about the use of existing parking outside of the retail premises on Wragby Road, Lincoln.

36 PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS - CURTOIS CLOSE, BRANSTON

(Note: Councillor I G Fleetwood stated that he had received a telephone call from a local resident enquiring if Members had knowledge of the area. He informed the resident that he had knowledge of the area as he had visited the Fish and Chip Shop and the Chinese Takeaway but was not aware of the precise details until he had received the report before the Committee, today).

Alan Aistrup presented a report on the responses to the statutory consultations and public advertisement of proposed parking restrictions on Curtois Close and part of Station Road, Branston.

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Comments by the Committee included:-

1. Potential loss of parking for patients attending the GP's surgery and was there alternative parking provision?
2. Was parking provided for Home Care visitors visiting clients on Curtois Close?
3. Residents were able to call the Police if their driveways were obstructed.
4. Car parking provision was needed for both short and long periods.
5. How far was the nearest parking provision to Curtois Close?

Officers responded:-

1. There was no alternative parking provision for patients using the GP surgery.
2. There were on street laybys which could be used and the Cooperative Store had a verbal agreement with the GP's Surgery to allow patients to use their car park car park with the car park located 100m away from the surgery. However, this use could be withdrawn at any time.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D Brailsford, it was
—
RESOLVED (8 votes for and 1 against)

That the objections be overruled and that the proposals as detailed in the report be implemented as advertised.

37 **DENTON TO SKILLINGTON, THE DRIFT/VIKING WAY - PROPOSED
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING ORDER**

Brian Thompson presented a progress report since approval was given to implement a seasonal prohibition of driving order on a section of the Viking Way near Denton. The report recommended an all year round prohibition order was needed to ensure the Council's duties under the Wildlife and Countryside Act were discharged.

In response to comments by the Committee officers stated that the proposed prohibition of driving order affected all motorised traffic, that it would still be open for walkers and cyclists and that there was a need to protect the SSSI.

A motion by Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew that this section of the Viking Way should remain open for motorised traffic during the Summer months and closed during the Winter, was not seconded.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D Brailsford, it was
—
RESOLVED (11 votes for, 1 against)

That, under Section 22(1) (viii) of the Road Traffic Regulations Act, approval be given to consult to permanently prohibit all motorised vehicles from using this length of road for all of the year rather than the seasonal closure and that any objections be considered by the Committee.

38 COMMONS ACT 2006 - APPLICATIONS TO REGISTER VILLAGE GREENS

Dave Clark presented a report outlining the position in connection with three applications to register Village Greens under the Commons Act 2006.

On a motion by Councillor C D Morgan, seconded by Councillor W S Webb, it was –
RESOLVED (unanimous)

- (a) That the applications relating to Woodhall Spa and Mareham Le Fen, be noted.
- (b) That the application to register land as Barrowby Village Green under the Commons Act 2006, be approved.

39 TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - PROGRESS REVIEW AND PETITIONS RECEIVED

The Committee received a report from the Executive Director for Communities in connection with the latest position on all current Traffic Regulation Orders and petitions received since the last meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the report be noted.

40 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RELATING TO COUNTY MATTER APPLICATIONS

The Executive Director for Communities submitted reports in connection with County developments. The responses to consultation were detailed in the reports.

- 41 Supplementary report
To: extend the existing quarry (part-retrospective); to allow for the importation of inert restoration materials to facilitate the restoration of part of the quarry in accordance with the proposals contained within the first periodic review application (s24/1726/11) and; application for the determination of new (updated) conditions to which Creeton Quarry is to be subject (environment act 1995: first periodic review) at Creeton Quarry - Creeton Quarry Ltd (agent: David Jarvis Associates Limited) - S24/1741/11, S24/1752/11, S24/1726/11

(Note: Only those Councillors who had attend the site visit on 26 June 2013 were permitted to speak and vote on this application, namely:- Councillors V C Ayling, I G Fleetwood, D Hunter-Clarke, T Keywood-Wainwright, D McNally, H N J Powell, J M Renshaw, C L Strange, T M Trollope-Bellew and W S Webb).

Comments made by the Committee included inadequate passing places for articulated HGVs.

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A motion by Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew that the applicant should provide suitable passing places over a four year period under a S106 Agreement, was not seconded.

Comments made by the officers included:-

1. The passing places were small but adequate.
2. A S106 would be difficult to justify as highways had not objected to the current passing places and it was suggested that highways could be consulted again on whether the passing places required upgrading.
3. Based on the amount of material to be removed for the period to 2042 the additional HGV movements amounted to one to two vehicles per week.

RESOLVED

(a) That this report (including appendices) forms part of the Council's Statement pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 – which requires the Council to make available for public inspection at the District Council's offices specified information regarding the decision. Pursuant to Regulation 21(1)(c) the Council must make available for public inspection a statement which contains:

1. the content of the decision and any conditions attached to it;
2. the main reasons and consideration on which the decision is based;
3. including, if relevant, information about the participation of the public;
4. a description, when necessary, of the main measures to avoid, reduce and if possible offset the major adverse effects of the development;
5. information recording the right to challenge the validity of the decision and the procedures for doing so.

(b) Application S42/1741/11 (the "Extension application")

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor V C Ayling, it was

–

RESOLVED (4 votes for, 1 against)

That planning permission be granted for the reasons and subject to the conditions as set out in Appendix A of the Executive Director for Communities report dated 10 June 2013 (attached as Appendix E), with the exception of Condition No.7 which shall be revised to read as detailed in the report.

(c) Application S24/1752/11 (the "Landfill application")

A motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood that the recommendation detailed in the report should be approved, was not seconded.

Comments made by the Committee included the view that the material available for the applicant to restore the site was neither suitable nor sufficient to restore the site and considered that the Head of Planning should be asked to examine conditions which would allow the applicant to restore the site by importing material.

On a motion by Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew, seconded by Councillor D McNally, it was –

RESOLVED (6 votes for, 0 against)

That the Committee are minded to approve Application S24/1752/11 (the "Landfill application") subject to the Head of Planning being delegated to examine suitable conditions which will allow the applicant to import material to restore the site for restoration purposes.

(d) Application S24/1726/11 (the "ROMP application")

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D McNally, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That, subject to the decisions made by the Committee in (b) and (c), above, that the amended schedule of conditions as set out in Appendix C of the Executive Director of Communities report, dated 10 June 2013, (attached as Appendix E to the report), with the exception of Condition 8, shall read as detailed in the report.

- 42 Supplementary Report
To construct an exploratory drill site to include plant buildings and equipment the use of the drill site for the drilling of three exploratory boreholes and subsequent short-term testing for hydrocarbons erection of security fencing and bunds and construction of an access track for a temporary period of three years with restoration to agriculture use at land to the north of Scotter Road, Laughton - Blackland Park Exploration Ltd (agent: Hughes Craven Limited) - W56/129112/12

Oliver Craven, representing the applicant, commented as follows:-

1. The drilling assessment was a worse case scenario.
2. Outlined mitigation measures to reduce noise.
3. The direction of the prevailing wind would reduce noise.
4. The proposals were similar sites to those throughout the country and all of these schemes were well run.
5. Created additional employment and helped to sustain the on-shore oil business.
6. The NPPF stated the benefits of mineral working to the country.

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The Committee commented:-

1. The need for any galvanised fencing to blend in with the countryside.
2. Potential build-up of gas and the ability to flare of any excess gas.
3. The need to avoid the destruction of trees during the bird nesting season.
4. The need to prevent light pollution.
5. The need to ensure that local residents were informed of the proposals and kept informed of the monitoring arrangements.

Officers commented:-

1. Local residents had been consulted about the proposal and appropriate monitoring measures were in place.
2. Tanks to collect excess gas to prevent flaring had been installed.
3. The conditions addressed light and noise pollution.
4. The restoration of the site was covered by conditions and the provision of a buffer had been agreed with the Wildlife Trust.

On a motion by Councillor D Brailsford, seconded by Councillor T M Trollope-Bellew, it was –

RESOLVED (11 votes for, 1 against)

That following the applicant entering into a highway indemnification agreement in relation to the C220 Scotter Road planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

- 43 To retain the waste transfer station/materials recycling facility with extended hours of opening and an increase in the variety of waste types to include general, commercial and industrial permitted within the building at Bowmans Business Park, Mill Road, Addlethorpe - Bowmans Waste to Recycling Ltd (agent: GP Planning Ltd) - (E)S2/0941/13

Since the publication of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows:-

Applicant – submitted an amended plan which identifies an air lock to be situated adjacent to the southern roller shutter door.

Also submitted (On 9th July 2013) a dispersion modelling assessment of potential for odour to cause annoyance from the proposed waste processing facility.

The dispersion model predictions show that at the nearest sensitive receptors that emissions of odour from the facility as modelled will not give rise to odours sufficient to cause annoyance to these sensitive receptors.

Also request that the application be deferred until the September meeting as the applicant has now addressed the only remaining issue (odour modelling). Confident the odour issue has been resolved. It is better that councillors make an informed judgement on the application with all the facts to avoid a costs application at a potential appeal. Also it would be helpful if councillors were to make a site visit before making a decision.

Highways – would not wish to see the possible increase of commercial traffic on Bank Holidays to and from the site. The traffic generated by the proposal would have an adverse impact on the traffic using the surrounding network of roads and a likely source of unacceptable damage to other highway users, particularly because of heavy volumes of traffic using the adjacent network during those time periods.

Addlethorpe Parish Council – letter of objection attached to the update.

Gill Pawson, representing the applicant, commented:-

1. Unless the Committee was minded to grant approval, today, requested deferral as the only remaining issue was odour.
2. An odour management plan had only been requested by the planning officer supported by the Environmental Health Officer at East Lindsey District Council just before the report had been finalised.
3. The odour management plan had now been submitted but there had been no consultations on the plan to date.
4. The Environment Agency and the local Parish Council wished the findings of the odour management plan which did not give rise to odour pollution.
5. The statutory consultation had been with the Environmental Health Officer at East Lindsey District Council and at the time they had not requested an odour management plan.

Officers stated that the applicant had been informed at the appropriate time that an odour management plan was a requirement of the Waste Planning Authority.

Colin Davie, local Member, commented:-

1. The report did not address the issues raised at the last meeting in connection with odour.
2. The applicant should have addressed the reasons for refusal and therefore should have submitted an odour management plan with this application.
3. The officer's recommendations in the report were supported.
4. The new shutter door system proposed by the applicant was impractical to implement without causing odour.
5. The tonnages proposed by the applicant were not possible and therefore there would be waste arising in the summer months.
6. There seemed to be some discrepancy in the figures for the creation of jobs.
7. Some residents lived only 60m from the site and some people were more sensitive to certain smells.
8. There were 19 properties within close range of the site.

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9. Did not believe that the reasons for refusal made at the last meeting had been addressed by the applicant and therefore urged the Committee to refuse the application.

Councillor C Pain, a neighbouring local Councillor, commented:-

1. There was a need for jobs to meet the need of service industries in the area.
2. The application helped to reduce the Council's carbon footprint.
3. Had spoken to the Environmental Health Officer at East Lindsey District Council and he had stated that an odour management plan was not required.
4. The new shutter doors proposed by the applicant would prevent odour.
5. The site had been insulated and odour was not bad outside.
6. HGVs would be entering an air lock system.
7. If there were any problems with the site it was possible for the site to be closed down quickly.
8. It was proposed to collect waste daily from Butlins and local caravan sites and therefore this would be a low odour site.
9. There seemed to be a breakdown in communications between the County and East Lindsey Councils and requested that the Committee should defer consideration of the application to make a site visit.

The Committee commented:-

1. What was the planning officer's advice?
2. A site visit was supported as this would allow the various issues to be considered.
3. The effects of any future change in the wastes arriving at the site.

Officers commented:-

1. The planning process was a balancing act of considering various planning issues.
2. The applicant had been made aware of the need to produce an odour management plan in April 2013 and that a site visit was an acceptable solution.
3. A list of the materials which could be sent to the site was detailed in the report. However, should the application be approved then it would be necessary for the Committee to consider the conditions to ensure that the waste was suitable for the site.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor M J Overton, it was

—

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That consideration of the application be deferred pending a site visit to allow consideration of the odour management plan.

44 To continue use of a site for a green waste deposit processing and recycling centre at the former pea vining station, a1173 Riby Road, Riby - Mr S Clarke (agent: Walker Resource Management Ltd) - W81/129802/13

Mr N Strawson, an objector, commented:-

1. The majority of residents of Riby had voted against the application at a recent meeting of the Parish Council.
2. Residential properties were located within 400m of the site.
3. Local residents felt that they had been misled about the application.
4. Residents had been informed that the original site would be a small cottage industry but the site had grown out of all proportion.
5. Composting waste had been allowed to grow over 5m in height when the original planning application had been for 3m in height.
6. Lack of enforcement.
7. There had been 100 complaints made to the Environment Agency.
8. People expected rural smells when living in the countryside but the smells from this site were exceptional.
9. The site operated in the open air and outside business hours.
10. People had been misled by the applicant.
11. There would be more churning if this application was approved and more traffic.

Councillor A H Turner MBE, JP, the local Member, commented:-

1. Riby was a small Parish.
2. The business had grown rapidly.
3. Requested a site visit.
4. Should it not be possible for the Committee to visit the site then the Chairman and Vice-Chairman should meet the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council.

Following an enquiry the Committee was informed that the population of Riby was between 40-50 people.

On a motion by Councillor W S Webb, seconded by Councillor N H Pepper, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That consideration of the application be deferred pending a site visit.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman, with the consent of the Committee, adjourned the meeting for lunch (1:10pm) and it was agreed that the Committee would re-adjourn at 1:45pm)

When the Committee re-adjourned the following Councillors were in attendance:-
Councillors D McNally, I G Fleetwood, D M Hunter-Clarke, M J Overton, C D Morgan, J M Renshaw, N Pepper, D C Hoyes MBE, W S Webb and D Brailsford.

- 45 For the erection of a building for receiving and sorting of waste, change of use of building 8 for the receiving and sorting of waste for energy recovery, erection of a building for storage of paper products, erection of an infill building for storage of baled refuse derived fuel, erection of workshop building, formation of residual metals storage compound, siting of electrical substations and retrospective planning permission for change of use and extension of building 1 for the processing of waste to form fuel for energy recovery, extension to building 5, formation of baled refuse derived fuel open storage area, skip open storage area, formation of gated access and screening boundary landscaping measures at the warehouse complex, High Dike, Wilsford Heath, Wilsford - Mid UK Recycling Ltd (agent: JHG Planning Consultancy Ltd) - N74/1238/12)

Following the despatch of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows (Note: the response below also applied to minute 46):-

Natural England initially provided no objection comments as at that time were satisfied that due to the nature of the application there would be no impact on Copper Hill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which is less than 1km to the north.

However, recently have identified there has been vehicular damage caused to the roadside verges that form part of the Copper Hill SSSI, which is understood is caused by vehicles visiting the application site.

Present management of the SSSI has restored the SSSI to a near favourable condition therefore further damage has the potential to cause the SSSI to fail its condition targets. If this continues Natural England may have to serve an enforcement notice on the Highway Authority for the damage caused to the SSSI.

Welcome the opportunity to work with the council and applicant to try to limit the damage to roadside verges and it may be that it is simply an awareness raising exercise with the applicant to the importance of the SSSI.

Also ask if a mechanism exists through planning conditions etc that could be used to limit the on-going damage to the verges of Copper Hill SSSI.

Head of Planning – consider the most appropriate way to address this is to include an informative on the Decision Notice regarding the presence of the SSSI together with a letter to the applicant drawing their attention to this matter.

Oliver Grundy, representing the applicant, commented (Note: the comments, below, also apply to minute 46):-

1. Application had been submitted because of changed market conditions.
2. Recycling of products would take place.
3. There would be an increase in the number of people employed.
4. The application would help the local economy.
5. The proximity principle was met.
6. Customer demand was met.

7. The application accorded with the NPPF.

Oliver Grundy responded to comments from the Committee including an explanation of the effects of a recent fire on the site and that the applicant would address the concerns made by the fire service, substantial water storage had been installed, explained the location of customers and the routing of vehicles to the application site, explained why the application was retrospective, an independent drainage engineer had been appointed to examine the effects of drainage on a nearby aquifer and an archaeological survey had been done.

Officers informed the Committee that conditions in the report would address the concerns raised by the fire service and the archaeological aspects of the site.

The Committee agreed that a letter should be sent to the applicant expressing the concern of the Committee about the retrospective nature of the application.

On a motion by Councillor D Brailsford, seconded by Councillor W S Webb, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

(a) That this report forms part of the Council's Statement pursuant to Regulation 24 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 which required the Council to make available for public inspection at the District Council's Offices specified information regarding the decision. Pursuant to Regulation 24(1)(c) the Council must make available for public inspection a statement which contains:-

1. content of decision and any conditions attached to it;
2. main reasons and considerations on which decision is based;
3. including if relevant, information about the participation of the public;
4. a description, when necessary, of the main measures to avoid, reduce and if possible offset the major adverse effects of the development;
5. information recording the right to challenge the validity of the decision and procedure for doing so.

(b) That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

(c) That an informative be included on the Decision Notice regarding the presence of the SSSI together with a letter to the applicant drawing their attention to this matter.

(d) That a letter be sent to the applicant expressing the Committee's concern about the retrospective nature of the application.

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- 46 For the erection of a gypsum bagging and storage building, the change of use of warehouse buildings 2 and 3 for the processing and storage of waste plasterboard, change of use of building 7 for the storage of gypsum, siting of electrical substations and erection of three covered conveyors at the warehouse complex, High Dike, Wilsford Heath, Wilsford - Mid UK Recycling Ltd (agent: JHG Planning Consultancy Ltd) - N74/1232/12

(Note: The update and comments made by Oliver Grundy, the applicant's representative, in connection with minute 45 also applied to this application).

Following an enquiry from the Committee, the applicant stated that regulations ensured that any plasterboard would be covered when transported.

On a motion by Councillor W S Webb, seconded by Councillor I G Fleetwood, it was

—

RESOLVED (unanimous)

(a) That this report forms part of the Council's Statement pursuant to Regulation 24 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 which required the Council to make available for public inspection at the District Council's Offices specified information regarding the decision. Pursuant to Regulation 24(1)(c) the Council must make available for public inspection a statement which contains:-

1. content of decision and any conditions attached to it;
2. main reasons and considerations on which decision is based;
3. including if relevant, information about the participation of the public;
4. a description, when necessary, of the main measures to avoid, reduce and if possible offset the major adverse effects of the development;
5. information recording the right to challenge the validity of the decision and procedure for doing so.

(b) That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

(c) That an informative be included on the Decision Notice regarding the presence of the SSSI together with a letter to the applicant drawing their attention to this matter.

(d) That a letter be sent to the applicant expressing the Committee's concerns about the retrospective nature of the application.

- 47 To erect a galvanised palisade fence, new yard slab with associated surface water drainage, new rainwater harvesting tank, relocation of an existing vehicle weighbridge, additional new vehicle weighbridge, siting of a modular weighbridge office building, vehicle unloading/loading and product storage to service yard area - Environcom England Ltd (agent - William Saunders Partnership) - S35/0931/13

Comments made by the Committee included:-

1. Concerns about the routing of HGVs.

2. Impact on local residents in a residential area who were on low incomes and had poor quality homes.
3. Concerns about the 24hour operation of the site.
4. The highways solution in the report was not supported.
5. Any galvanised needed to be aesthetically suitable for the local area.
6. What plans were in place to deal with sewage?
7. This was a brown field site allocated by South Kesteven District Council.
8. The A1 motorway was used to access the centre of Grantham.
9. The road leading to the site had existed for many years.
10. Routing issues would be addressed by the construction of the Grantham Southern Relief Road.
11. The concerns of the Committee in connection with retrospective nature of the application should be drawn to the attention of the application.

Officers responded to the comments made by the Committee stating that all operations were carried out in the building 24:7 and conditions in the report addressed the concerns raised, the site was located some distance from residential properties and therefore noise was not an issue, HGVs came off the A1 at Colsterworth to avoid Grantham and the timetable for the construction of the Grantham Southern Relief Road was not known at this stage.

Councillor Mrs C D Morgan moved refusal of the application but the motion was not seconded.

On a motion by D McNally, seconded by Councillor I G Fleetwood, it was –

RESOLVED (6 votes for, 1 against)

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report and that the applicant be informed of the Committee's concerns about the retrospective nature of the application and the need for any galvanised fencing to be aesthetically suitable for the local area.

- 48 To extend the period for the restoration of the hykeham quarry without complying with condition number 1 of planning permission reference N43/75/1413/04 - Cemex UK Operations Ltd - N43/75/0527/13

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D Hunter-Clarke, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted to extend the period for the restoration of the Hykeham Quarry without complying with condition number 1 of Planning Permission (LCC) Reference N43/75/1413/04 subject to the conditions (that replace all previous conditions), detailed in the report.

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49 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RELATING TO COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENTS

The Executive Director for Communities submitted reports in connection with County Council developments. The responses to consultation were detailed in the reports.

50 Supplementary Report
To construct a single storey one form entry primary school at land situated within the Wygate Park residential development located to the west of Spalding - H16/0321/13

(Note: Councillor N Pepper requested that a note should be made in the minutes that he was a member of South Holland District Council).

Michelle Andrews, representing the applicant, commented:-

1. The issues raised by the Committee at its last meeting had been addressed in the report including additional car parking provision in the school and "drop off" areas for parents.
2. Most children would be expected to either walk or cycle to school and there was provision for this.
3. An operator had been identified to run the school.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor M J Overton, it was
–
RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions and reasons for approval as set out in Appendix B of the report with the exception of Condition 8 as set out in the supplementary report.

51 To construct an one form entry primary school at land off Aintree Way, Bourne - S12/1101/13

Since the publication of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows:-

Elsea Park Community Trust – comment that the provision of the primary school is welcomed but concerned about provision for parking.

The number of spaces is considered to be low as understand all spaces will be reserved for school staff and therefore wish to know what if any provision is to be made for parents and visitors.

Main concern relates to impact of car parking on Sandown Drive with adverse effects on local residents. Also draw attention to the fact that the Trust own and manages the Centre on Sandown Drive. The Centre has car parking provision for visitors to the Centre but not for general use and fear an adverse impact on the car park and the Centre from school related car parking.

Also note that the Committee report indicates that the car park for the Centre may be available for school use. Wish to make it clear that this will not be the case, it is not a public car park and is used for the Centre hirers and staff and will be used during the day for this purpose.

Local Member – Councillor Mrs Woolley – supports this application as the time is now right for a further primary school in Bourne. Aware of children moving to Bourne mid-term who have not been able to access this local school. Believe that other than in exceptional circumstances that should be able to attend this nearest most appropriate school if they wish to do so. Need to be assured there is sufficient parking for parents to use when the school is holding special events without causing disruption to neighbouring properties. Have been contacted by two local residents who have concerns about a perceived lack of parking, road layouts and possible congestion. Believe the school will be a welcome piece of infrastructure for Bourne and more particularly the children and families living at Elsea Park.

Miss A Steele, an objector, commented:-

1. There were parking and access problems on the estate where the school was to be built.
2. Congestion from pupils being dropped off.
3. Access problems to properties.
4. Boundary fence issues.

The objector responded to questions from the Committee, including an explanation of her medical problem, the need for double yellow lines to prevent poor parking, the entrance to the school needed to be changed and pupils should be encouraged to cycle and walk to school.

Michelle Andrews, representing the applicant, commented:-

1. The project was developed as a local school and was part funded by the developer by a S106 Agreement.
2. Provision was made for the dropping off of pupils.
3. Cycling and walking were encouraged and provision made.
4. A School Travel Plan would be developed.
5. The school provided was due to be recommended to the Executive and the Council would work with the provider to ensure that the impact of the school would be reduced for local residents.

The applicant's representative responded to comments made by the Committee:-

1. Consultations had taken place with the Community Committee to address concerns raised.
2. On-going consultations with the school's provider to try and solve concerns of local residents.

3. The school had been designed to accommodate the concerns of local residents about the dropping off of pupils.
4. The school car park had been designed in the school boundary.
5. Outlined the details of the number of pupils in each year group.
6. The new school provider would work with the community.
7. A School Travel Plan would be produced.
8. Suitable parking provision had been made in and outside of the school site.

Councillor S Woolley, local Member, commented:-

1. Gave an explanation why she had not responded to the application.
2. Supported the application.
3. Sufficient car parking provision was provided for everyday use. However, this could be more of a problem when major events were staged by the school.
4. The school had received outline planning approval in 2001.

The Committee commented:-

1. Concerned about highway safety issues.
2. The transport of pupils to school by car was an issue for all schools.
3. A lot of footpaths and cycle tracks were provided which would help pupils to get to school.
4. South Kesteven District Council's refuse lorries used Aintree Way.
5. "Zig zag" lines outside of the objector's property would not prevent her from entering her property.
6. Consideration should be given to relocating the school.

Officers stated that the school had been given outline planning permission in 2001 and therefore its location had been known for some time, the applicant had provided additional car parking, the number of pupils who were likely to walk and cycle to school was expected to be higher than anticipated and the NPPF recommended the building of schools in residential locations where there was a demand.

A motion by Councillor D Brailsford, seconded by Councillor D McNally, that the recommendations detailed in the report should be approved.

An amendment by Councillor M J Overton, seconded by Councillor C D Morgan, that consideration of the application should be deferred pending full consideration of an alternative access put to the Committee, today, in order to increase parking and improve access for residents, was approved by 6 votes for, 4 against. The substantive motion on being put to the meeting, it was –

RESOLVED (5 votes for, 2 against)

That the application be deferred pending consideration of an alternative access in order to increase parking and improve access for residents.

- 52 For the continued use of the ground floor of the Castle Moat House for a contractor site office and the change of use of the first floor to contractor site office and mess facilities; and the continued use of the garden and forecourt as a site compound, parking and storage of materials for a temporary period at Castle Moat House, Drury Lane, Lincoln - 1/0736/13

Since the report the publication of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows:-

Lincoln Civic Trust – no objection.

English Heritage – no objection to continued use of the facilities in order to assist the current development and repair programme.

Highways – no objection subject to a condition being imposed requiring the arrangements shown on the plan accompanying the Traffic Management Plan be available at all times the site is in use.

Head of Planning – the recommendation be amended to grant planning permission subject to the conditions in the report and the following additional condition:-

The arrangements shown on the plan dated 21 June 2013 for the parking/turning/manoeuvring/loading/unloading of vehicles shall be available at all times the premises are in use.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D M Hunter-Clarke, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to a condition being imposed requiring the arrangements shown on the plan accompanying the Traffic Management Plan be available at all times the site is used and an additional condition as follows:-

Condition: The arrangements shown on the plan dated 21 June 2013 for the parking/turning/manoeuvring/loading/unloading of vehicles shall be available at all times the premises are in use.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

- 53 For repairs and alteration to the prison front and rear range, new exhibition facility within the eastern courtyard, repairs to external walls, demolition of outside wc and landscaping scheme at Lincoln Castle, Castle Hill, Lincoln - 1/0561/13

On a motion by Councillor D M Hunter-Clarke, it was -

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PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2013

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

- 54 To undertake external alterations to replace cladding and windows on an existing extension, and to construct a ramped access to existing entrance in the east courtyard as part of the refurbishment of Foundation House, which is part of the school campus at Louth King Edward VI Grammar School, Edward Street, Louth - (E)N105/1066/13

On a motion by Councillor W S Webb, seconded by Councillor M J Overton, it was -

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

- 55 To remove a small section of wall within school car park and planning permission is sought to construct a two storey teaching and dining block including kitchen to provide meals for this school and other local schools. the proposal would also comprise the provision of two temporary parking areas, to be used for the duration of the construction works and the resurfacing of the existing car parking area at Louth King Edward VI Grammar School, Edward Street, Louth - (E)N105/1134/13

Since the publication of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows:-

English Heritage – note the development is greater than 1000 square metres And within a conservation area. Also note that the proposal involves a small section of wall to be removed within the car park. Have no objection to the loss of part of the existing wall, but consider that the proposed building will have some impact upon the character and appearance of the conservation area and the adjacent listed buildings, but that the harm should be less than substantial and the harm should therefore be weighed against the public benefit of the proposal.

East Lindsey District Council – no objection to the principle of siting a building Within the area proposed but have made detailed comments regarding the design of the building and how this could be improved in relation to the northern and southern elevation and height of the building.

Applicant – in light of the comments from English Heritage and East Lindsey District Council request the application be deferred to enable a review of the proposal to take place to see if changes to the design of the building can be made.

Louth Town Council – support the application.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor C D Morgan, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That the application be deferred to enable the applicant to examine the proposal to see if changes to the design of the building can be made in the light of comments from English Heritage and East Lindsey District Council.

56 For the construction of a temporary building with eight classrooms to be used until February 2014 at the Priory Ruskin Academy, formerly the Central Technology & Sports College, Rushcliffe Road, Grantham - S35/1533/13

Since the publication of the report responses to consultation had been received as follows:-

South Kesteven District Council – no objection.

Sport England – note that whilst the need for modular classroom is regrettable given the short term nature of the proposal, do not object to the application subject to the use being limited for a temporary period and the land is restored to a standard suitable for playing field use.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor W S Webb, it was

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to the conditions detailed in the report.

57 To vary condition 10 of planning permission reference S35/2956/11 for the redevelopment of the Priory Ruskin Academy, Rushcliffe Road, Grantham - S35/1534/13

Since the publication of the report a response to consultation had been received as follows:-

South Kesteven District Council – no objection to raise.

On a motion by Councillor I G Fleetwood, seconded by Councillor D McNally, it was –

RESOLVED (unanimous)

That planning permission be granted subject to all other conditions, except condition 10 as set out in the Council's Decision Notice reference S35/2965/11 dated 29 August 2012, so far as the same are still subsisting and capable of taking effect and subject to the new condition to replace condition 10 as detailed in the report.

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PLANNING AND REGULATION COMMITTEE
15 JULY 2013

The meeting closed at 4.30pm



**AUDIT COMMITTEE
22 JULY 2013**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR MRS SUSAN RAWLINS (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs E J Sneath (Vice-Chairman), J W Beaver, N I Jackson, S M Tweedale and W S Webb

Also in attendance: Mr P D Finch (Independent Added Person)

Officers in attendance:-

Tony Crawley (KPMG), David Forbes (Assistant Director Finance and Resources), Glen Garrod (Director of Adult Social Services), Pete Moore (Executive Director Resources and Community Safety), David O'Connor (Executive Director Performance and Governance), Claire Pemberton (Assistant Head of Finance), Lucy Pledge (Head of Audit and Risk Management), Dave Simpson (Head of Finance - Communities and Corporate), John Sketchley (Audit Manager), Janice Spencer, Phil Vickers (Assistant Director Safer Communities) and Mike Wood (KPMG)

9 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Wood.

10 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

11 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JUNE 2013

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Audit Committee held on 24 June 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

12 ASSURANCE STATUS REPORT - ADULT CARE

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Audit Committee with an insight on the assurances across all critical services and key risks in Adult Care. The Director of Adult Social Services was in attendance to provide the Committee with an update on work which was taking place within the directorate.

It was reported that this was the second assurance status report which had been presented to the Audit Committee. The first had been presented in November 2012. The Committee was advised that the general direction of travel was improving, but

there were still a few risks. There were five strategic priorities for Adult Care in 2013/14, which were:

- A balanced budget outturn
- Improved performance
- Integration with health
- Established plans for the delivery of key elements of Adult Care transformation
- A set of quality indicators

The Committee was informed that the position of Adult Care had been improving for the last 6-12 months, and excellent support had been received from finance colleagues, and so had been able to get into a level of detail with spend analysis that had not been able to do before. It was expected that the budgets for Adult Care would balance at the end of the financial year.

Members of the Committee were provided with an opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- As the public demand for quality care continued, there would be a need to ensure that contractors had staff trained to meet the needs of the people they cared for;
- The Committee was assured that quality had become a priority in Adult Care. Following a review of domiciliary care, Lincolnshire was found to have the highest rate of compliance in the East Midlands. Age UK would also be commissioned to undertake face to face quality checks;
- There were 80,000 domiciliary visits made in Lincolnshire per week;
- It was hoped to introduce an electronic system to monitor visits, this would require staff to call a Freephone number when they arrived at a visit and before they left. They would call from the service users home phone, and this would provide information on how long the visits were, how many visits a person received and how many different staff visited the person, which were all quality markers;
- A degree of assurance could be provided regarding quality of care in residential homes, however the domiciliary care sector was the most diverse as it did not make a distinction between those working in rural areas and those working in more urban areas. The authority was hoping to negotiate with the sector about recognising this;
- It was projected that the budget would just about balance for the year, but for the future there was potential for more funding to be received through health integration;
- It had been agreed with health colleagues that prevention and intervention were important priorities;
- It was thought that the growth in the older population in Lincolnshire over the next 5-10 years would be profound;
- Adult care in the future would no longer be able to exist on its own as it became more interdependent with health, and direct care was not supplied in the majority of cases. A completely new business model would be required for the future;

It was requested that the Director of Adult Social Services come back to the Committee in January 2014 with a further update.

RESOLVED

That the current status of the Adult Care assurance regime be noted;

13 CORPORATE AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2013

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on progress made against the Audit Plan for 2013/14. The Committee was informed that good progress had been made in the first quarter, with 17.8% of the planned work for 2013/14 being completed and closing down audit work which had been carried over from the previous year. It was reported that some staffing issues had been experienced with one person being on long term sick leave which has had an impact on performance, but arrangements were now in place to cover this shortfall for the rest of the year.

The Committee was informed that 22 school audits had been completed as well as finalised 16 County Council audits since the previous progress report, 5 of these had resulted in limited assurance. A further 19 County Council audits were in progress, and draft reports had been issued for the majority of them.

Members of the Committee were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

Adult Services Project Risk Management

- On smaller projects it was important to recognise that the risk had been considered and managed;
- In Adult Care there was a targeted approach to risk, as some could be left with individual managers to manage;
- It was clarified that detailed information was generally provided for those areas which were given 'limited' assurance, as a focus for the Committee;

Coroners

- The audit for the Coroners was requested as management had identified a number of areas which were not working as well as they should. A number of new processes had now been put in place;
- The direction of travel for the Coroners Service was improving, and the action plan was quite comprehensive, with all actions being put in place except for those with a completion date of 1 August or 1 September 2013, but they were on track;
- An internal health check was carried out with full assurance being given;
- The main change which had occurred was in relation to the production of invoices;
- There was a need to be able to respond to new legislation;
- There were proposals for the introduction of medical examiners, but officers were still awaiting further details of this, and it was expected that this would have an impact on the service;

4
AUDIT COMMITTEE
22 JULY 2013

Child Protection Plans

- An audit was undertaken which looked at children's safeguarding, and a number of areas of good practice were identified. Child protection plans were found to be detailed. Limited assurance was given due to concerns that information was not always clearly evidenced on the central record. A contract for a new IT system was currently out to tender, and officers were contributing to the design and procurement of the system. The recommendations from the audit were being taken very seriously and new processes were being put in place to ensure implementation of the actions;
- One of the challenges of keeping paper records was around indexing. Business Support had now taken over the indexing of records;
- The authority had invested heavily in the frontline staff being involved in the procurement of the system to ensure that it was fit for purpose. This system was approximately 18 months away from implementation;
- Limited assurance was given as officers recognised the importance of recording the information;
- There were several similar systems which had been implemented in other authorities;
- There were five tenders which were being looked at in detail, and each would be coming to spend a day at the authority, and staff would be involved in this as well;
- Children's Services had significant quality assurance processes, but the recording system was a strategic risk, and so officers were disappointed that substantial assurance could not be given;

General

- It was important that directors provided the resources and commitment to implement actions identified on action plans;
- In relation to Fire and Rescue, the Committee was informed that follow up work had been undertaken and all recommendations had now been implemented;

RESOLVED

That the outcomes of the Corporate Audit work be noted.

14 EXTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with an update on the work performed by the Council's external auditors, KPMG, during the interim audit stage including the County Council and Pension Fund audits, as well as work planned for the next quarter.

It was reported that all of the interim work had now been completed.

RESOLVED

That the progress report be noted.

15 DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2012/13

Consideration was given to a report which contained the draft Statement of Accounts for Lincolnshire County Council for the financial year 2012/13. The annual Statement of Accounts were prepared in line with the proper accounting practices required by section 21 (2) of the Local Government Act 2003 and set out in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice (SeRCoP).

The Committee was guided through the draft Statement of Accounts and provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present and some of the points raised during discussion included:

- Note 10 - Clarification was given in relation to the amount of the Council's reserves which were usable, as much of the reserve was allocated to various projects, included schools balances, health and wellbeing funding. There was only about £30m of the reserve which could be used flexibly;
- The reserves that were held for schools were handed over to the school when they became academies;
- It was important to emphasise that the reserves were 'one off money' and they could only be spent once, and should not be used to fund ongoing issues;
- If there was a scheme which required a compulsory purchase order (CPO) the funding required would come from the capital budget;
- Note 12 – the movements were on pensions costs/assets and carrying the value of investment properties;
- Note 33 - The change which would be seen in the next year would be inclusion of the public health funding which would be approximately £28m;
- Note 33 – once there were two years of figures for Civil Parking Enforcement, it would only appear on the service plan. It was only highlighted as the County Council had acquired the operation in 2012/13;
- In relation to the Energy from waste facility, four waste transfer stations had been built and would be responsible for delivery of the waste to the EfW. There was an obligation for the County Council to fill its quota for the EfW, and if it could not be met from residual waste, then it would need to be found from other sources;
- Note 15 – the castle carried a historic cost, and was not subject to revaluations as a value could not accurately be put on it. It was listed under 'other historic buildings', and £1.3m had been added to its value due to the work which had been carried out at the site;
- In terms of academies, the school had responsibility for the buildings, but the Authority still owned the land, and the land value would transfer back to the County Council at the end of the 125 year lease. If the school ceased to operate then the land and buildings would revert back to the County Council. At this point in time the asset would come back into the County Council's balance sheet and would be re-valued. Whilst the buildings were being used by the academy they could be used however the school wished, but they would not be able to sell off the land;

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AUDIT COMMITTEE

22 JULY 2013

- If an school was PFI funded before it became an academy the liability was with the County Council, but it was the responsibility of the academy to pay the PFI credits;
- There had been a reduction in value of short term investments, but the authority was using this to fund capital expenditure rather than external borrowing;
- The value of the county farms estate was only amassing on the balance sheet, and the value would only be realised if the land was sold. If the land was sold it would be classed as a capital receipt and could only be used on capital projects;
- The authority had been very careful in the land which had been disposed of from the county farms estate as it was one of the best ways of investing money;
- Cashflow Statement – Any cash movements in or out of the authority would be shown as cash flow;

The accounts for the Lincolnshire County Council Pension fund were also considered and it was noted that it was important for new members to join. In relation to the investment manager expenses which seemed to have risen since the previous year, it was noted that this could be seen as a positive thing as a proportion of the expenses were performance linked.

It was noted that all audit work was on schedule to be completed on time, and the Statement of Accounts were available through the Council's website.

RESOLVED

That the comments made in relation to the draft Statement of Accounts be noted.

16 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK & DEVELOPMENT OF ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2013

Consideration was given to a report which sought the views of the Committee in relation to the development and approval of the Council's Annual Governance Statement and whether the areas of concern identified adequately reflected the Council's governance and assurance framework for 2013.

The Committee were guided through the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2013 by the Executive Director Performance and Governance, and the main governance issues were explained along with the key delivery milestones. The Annual Governance Statement outlined the areas which had been identified where further work was required to improve systems or monitor how the key risks facing the Council were being managed.

It was reported that following the peer review, the authority had been put on alert that if an authority with poor governance was found, officers could be called on to share some of the good practices which had been highlighted in Lincolnshire.

Members of the Committee were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report, and some of the points raised during discussion included the following;

- The safeguarding issue went beyond children's services. A MASH (Multi agency information sharing hub) was intended to provide a way to share intelligence on high risk adults as well as children;
- There could be up to 25 cases on a MARAC agenda. Safeguarding could be looked at in more detail if the Committee felt it was necessary;
- The authority would be informed of domestic violence cases through its police representative. Information sharing was a very important practice;
- The ability to retain suitably qualified staff in service areas when there was better paid work available elsewhere would continue to be a high risk factor within the Council;
- It could be more difficult to recruit high level and senior officers;
- The biggest risk to ICT resilience was having a single data centre;
- The funding had been granted for a second data centre, but this had now been moved to the following year, as other options were being pursued and there was a possibility it may not be required;
- ICT resilience was far more resilient now than it had ever been;
- There was a need for contracts to be more flexible if they were going to be for more than one year;
- Lincolnshire was better placed than some large authorities in terms of governance;

RESOLVED

That the Committee delegate approval of the Annual Governance Statement to the governance group and pass on any additional comments to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Committee.

17 WORK PLAN

The Committee received a report which provided information on progress on agreed actions and its work plan up to November 2013.

It was suggested that the assurance around emergency planning could be broadened to include flooding, and would come back to a meeting of the Committee after October 2013.

RESOLVED

1. That progress of agreed actions be noted;
2. That the work plan be noted;

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm

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