



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

10 September 2018

Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 18 September 2018 at 10.00 am in Committee Room One, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Keith Ireland'.

Keith Ireland
Chief Executive

Membership of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee (11 Members of the Council)

Councillors B M Dobson (Chairman), Mrs W Bowkett (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, Mrs A M Austin, G E Cullen, M A Griggs, C Matthews, R P H Reid, Mrs E J Sneath, C L Strange and Dr M E Thompson

**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2018	5 - 16
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillors and Chief Officers	
5	Government Consultations on Planning Applications for Shale Gas Developments <i>(To receive a report by Neil McBride, Planning Manager, which sets out responses to two Government consultations in respect of the planning process for shale gas developments)</i>	17 - 24
6	Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy <i>(To receive a report from Matthew Michell, Senior Commissioning Officer (Waste), which provides the Committee with an opportunity to consider the updated Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy)</i>	To Follow
7	Employment and Skills <i>(To receive a report by Clare Hughes, Principal Commissioning Officer (LEP), which outlines to the Committee some of the benefits of what had been achieved through the employment and skills provision which had been commissioned by LCC and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, as well as identifying next steps)</i>	25 - 32
8	Economy Quarter 1 Performance Measures 2018/19 <i>(To receive a report by Justin Brown, Commissioner for Economic Growth, which describes performance against the four economic development performance indicators)</i>	33 - 52
9	Environment Quarter 1 Performance Measures (1 April to 30 June 2018) <i>(To receive a report by David Hickman, Growth and Environment Commissioner, which describes progress against the indicators in the Council Business Plan)</i>	53 - 70
10	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme <i>(To receive a report by Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit)</i>	71 - 80

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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

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**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
10 JULY 2018**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR B M DOBSON (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs W Bowkett (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, Mrs A M Austin, G E Cullen, M A Griggs, C L Strange and Dr M E Thompson

Councillors: D McNally attended the meeting as observers

Officers in attendance:-

James Baty (Senior Project Officer (Economic Research)), Andy Gutherson (County Commissioner for Economy and Place), Phil Hughes (Strategic Planning Policy Manager), Tracy Johnson (Senior Scrutiny Officer), Vanessa Strange (Accessibility and Growth Manager), Rachel Wilson (Democratic Services Officer) and Simon Wright (Principal Officer (Regeneration))

11 APOLOGIES/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S R Kirk, R P H Reid and Mrs E J Sneath.

An apology for absence was also received from Councillor C J Davie, Executive Councillor for Economy and Place.

12 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest at this point in the meeting.

13 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 22 MAY 2018

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2018 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND LEAD OFFICERS

The County Commissioner for Economy and Place advised the Committee that the North Sea Observatory had not opened as planned due to last minute building issues. It was noted that remediation works were being carried out and it was

expected to open late July 2018. Members were advised that reparation for these additional works would be sought from the contractor.

15 GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with a progress update on Greater Lincolnshire LEP's production of a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS). The Committee was last briefed on this at its meeting on 16 January 2018. The report presented explained that the government had asked all Local Enterprise Partnerships to produce a local industrial strategy, and set out the steps that the Greater Lincolnshire LEP had taken so far in producing that strategy. As a founding partner of the LEP it was recommended that the County Council played a strong role in supporting the LEP's production of the Local Industrial Strategy.

Members were guided through the report and 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:

- It was commented that since the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility at North Hykeham had been built, it had been producing masses of heat, enough to power nine factories, with 24/7 assured energy which could be provided at a subsidised rate. It was reported that there was a good engineering base in Lincoln, particularly with the opening of the Engineering School at the University, and it was suggested that there was a need to focus on Teal Park and encourage businesses which would use the energy and heat from the Energy from Waste facility. Disappointment that more businesses had not been attracted to this site was expressed.
- Members were advised that officers did have sites such as Teal Park in mind when considering concepts such as the SMART GRID and how businesses could start to self-sustain in relation to the production of energy.
- It was suggested that the heat and energy produced by the EfW should be a big positive for any business looking to relocate to Lincoln.
- It was noted in relation to potential energy solutions, this was more focused on rural energy solutions and Teal Park was in an urban area. It was suggested whether the emphasis should instead be on developing a localised energy solution, which would then make Teal Park a good option. It was noted that there were a number of interested parties, and the authority was still engaged in dialogue about the opportunities. There was also the potential to link to the Western Growth Corridor. Members were advised that options around the EfW were also more complex as it was likely the facility would need to be retrofitted.
- It was noted that future energy requirements for waste sites were being examined.
- It was important to ensure that a perception of Lincolnshire having a predominantly agricultural industry was not developed as there was a need to encourage and attract new businesses to relocate to the County.
- It was agreed that there was a need for a focus on future skills. However, it was commented that there was a still a section of the population who needed the motivation to get onto the skills ladder.

- Reference was made to a number of applications approved in Boston for energy production and storage facilities along the riverside, and it was queried whether there was a way that these could be linked with the factories based along there, many of which operated 24/7. Members were advised that these had been brought together under the NSIP (Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects) programme, and the County Council would be consulted as a stakeholder, but would only be able to respond and react to the developer's proposals. The issue of maximising heat outputs was one which was being scoped by the Planning Team, but was difficult for a local authority to shape.
- In terms of future skills needs, concerns were raised regarding whether there was too much focus on young people going to university and not enough around opportunities for apprenticeships. It was acknowledged that there was a very complex skills challenge in Lincolnshire, which was not just about recognising high level skills. There was also a need to think about what skills would be needed in 10, 20 and 30 years' time, as well as skills for the current workforce. There was a need to work out what businesses future plans may be and what they may need in the future. Work was taking place with the university and other stakeholders. There was also work to do around place making in order to attract new businesses to Lincolnshire.
- Members were advised that the LIS was not a strategy to be read in isolation, and was to run alongside documents such as the SEP (Strategic Economic Plan). It was suggested that the SEP should be seen as the "business as usual" document, but the LIS would set out the ambitions for all different sectors and would set out what made Lincolnshire stand out from other areas. It was hoped that investment in these areas would drive Lincolnshire forward.
- It was commented that the hand picking of crops was one area of skills which needed to be looked at, as this was currently mainly a migrant workforce but this could be reduced or lost in the future. It was suggested that in order for agricultural industries to survive these processes would either need to be automated or the physical demands made more attractive.
- It was noted that if industries were struggling for a workforce, then they would find a way to automate. There was some technology already in place, but there was a need to think 20 or 30 years ahead. There was a need for businesses to think about innovation, and this was the kind of thing that the LIS hoped to address.
- In terms of food production and the development of robotics, it was queried whether it was hoped that this would create its own industry. There would be a need to ensure that innovation was located in Lincolnshire so it could support the sector.
- It was suggested that there was a need to challenge the mis-conception that production line work was low skilled, as much of it involved operating machinery. It was acknowledged that there was more that could be done to show the line of progression that was available, as well as the different paths such as robotics or management.
- Concerns were raised that although Lincolnshire was moving forward at a great pace, the county was still lagging behind. It was queried whether the

authority could work to move forward with the five areas of focus outlined in paragraph 10 of the report.

- It was requested that this came back to the Committee in the future to follow up on some of the points highlighted.
- It was noted that the authority was slightly constrained by the government's timing of this. However, there was a view that officers would like to take work on these activities as far as possible so that once the Industrial Strategies have been agreed progress could be made with as few delays as possible.

RESOLVED

That it would be beneficial for the Committee to focus on the activities identified in paragraph 10 of the report and a progress report be brought back to the Committee in October 2018.

16 EXPORTING IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Consideration was given to a report which provided members with an overview of the recent analysis into exporting data, released by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) recently.

It was noted that despite the importance of exporting to the economy, it had proved difficult to measure locally in the past. However, in 2017 HMRC released new data on exporting at English Growth Hub level, a geography which typically aligned with Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) boundaries. This data provided some new local insight into values, destinations and make up of exports.

It was noted that the total value of goods and services exported originating from Greater Lincolnshire businesses in 2015 was £2.9bn. This equated to £6,797 per job on average, which was below the UK average of £9,403 but was above other areas of the UK which had a similar economic make up to Lincolnshire.

Members 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:

- It was clarified that D2N2 referred to Derbyshire, Derby, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
- It was queried why the values of exports from the D2N2 area was greater, and whether it was the infrastructure or density of population that was a factor in this.
- In terms of machinery that was exported, it was queried how many of the components or materials used in the manufacturing process would have been imported, and how much was being made from 'our own' resources. It was acknowledged that this was an important factor to consider, but the data did not currently provide this information.
- It was noted that exports were less than imports both locally and nationally.

- It was queried whether there was any information on 'invisible' exports such as services and knowledge, and members were advised that this was measured nationally, but not locally.
- It was commented that people exporting small goods could use the post office, those that exported large items would know the routes to export, but it was those people in the middle who were struggling. There was a need to get the message across about methods of exporting.
- It was commented that a lot of the information from HMRC did not relate to what the circumstances were in Lincolnshire, and it was queried whether this information could be provided to the members.
- It was suggested whether there could be a directory of services for exporting, as if a business had not handled exports before it would be a big task to undertake.
- Members were advised that the Business Lincolnshire website was also a source of information, and there was a possibility of peer to peer exercises that could be set up. There was a need to look at how a support network could be operated.
- It was suggested that a briefing paper be put together and circulated to the committee to provide further information regarding the Greater Lincolnshire LEP outputs data in the report.

RESOLVED

1. That the comments made be noted.
2. That a briefing paper be prepared and circulated to the Committee in relation to further information requested on the Greater Lincolnshire LWP outputs.

17 REVITALISING OUR HIGH STREETS

Consideration was given to a report which identified some of the trends which were taking place in the nation's high streets. It made specific reference to the work carried out by the Local Government Association into high streets. The report also recommended the establishment of a working group to explore the issue in greater detail.

Officers informed members of work which had taken place to transform the Marshall's Yard area of Gainsborough and also progress of the work being undertaken in the Cornhill area in Lincoln. It was also noted that the Local Government Association had recently produced a toolkit to help local authorities to understand the various steps that they could make in supporting high streets through this period of change. The toolkit showed that more responsibilities were at a district rather than county level, but it was considered to be a useful description of the issues which needed to be addressed.

Members were also advised that following the preparation of the report, a report known as the Grimsey Review was published which came up with a radical vision for town centres, with a retail core, but also planning for something more comprehensive in terms of becoming community hubs with activities around arts, health and the inclusion of social spaces for music, markets etc., in a similar way to continental

Europe. However, it was noted that UK high streets tended to be very linear, but it was something to be considered in terms of re-engineering town centres.

Members 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:

- One member commented that they had recently visited Marshall's Yard in Gainborough and shared that it was wonderful place and it would be good to see a similar scheme in Skegness, or alternatively a number of smaller schemes.
- It was noted that a lot of the activities to do with high streets were not within the control of the county council. There were a number of factors which needed addressing including rents charged to high street shops, business rates and the cost of car parking.
- In terms of the Marshall's Yard development, it was commented that West Lindsey District Council had been very supportive of the proposals.
- It was suggested that all towns should be looked at, not just those that were working well.
- It was noted that accessibility was an issue, as using public transport to get into Lincoln sometimes could take a lot longer than driving.
- It was commented that the Marks & Spencer's Food Hall which had recently opened on Tritton Road in Lincoln was working well. It was suggested that this was because people could stock up on food without having to negotiate the town centre.
- It was commented that there was a danger of town centres becoming 'concrete jungles' such as the potential development at St Marks' in Lincoln, which was proposed to include student accommodation and a hotel.
- It was noted that market towns had a lot of factors in common such as many had very linear high streets and there would be major infrastructure changes needed to make it a more pleasant shopping experience.
- It was suggested whether there was a need for some of the shops on high streets to be converted back into houses. However, it was commented that changes such as these would need a lot of imagination and courage to get the process started. There was also a need to be realistic about issues like car parking. It was noted that when there used to be free parking, people going to work would use the free spaces preventing people from using them who were coming into the town centre to shop.
- There was a need to accept that shopping was changing, and people were looking for a different experience, which was why areas like York and Bicester were surviving.
- It was commented that Boston was one town which did not have a linear high street. It was also noted that the bulk of land in the town was owned by LCC highways. The authority engaged with Boston Borough Council on maximising the potential of open spaces.
- One member commented that they were unable to welcome any shopping centre in the centre of Sleaford or the proposed designer outlet village in Grantham as it would be detrimental to Grantham town centre. However, it was countered that the designer outlet village in Grantham would be a

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10 JULY 2018

different type of shopping experience and the 3.5million visitors it was expected to attract would have the experience of visiting Grantham. If only 10% of that number visited the town centre, that would benefit the town's economy. It was not anticipated that this outlet village would take footfall from Grantham town centre.

- It was suggested that there was a need to collectively lobby to have rents reduced in the smaller towns.
- It was commented that the opening of Marks & Spencer's in Skegness had improved foot fall within the town.
- In relation to bringing entertainment into town centres, it was thought this would be a good idea, however, the costs of closing a road, and the need to submit the requests for road closures in advance tended to prove prohibitive to these types of activities.
- The Committee was supportive of the suggestion to form a working group to look at these issues further and a number of members volunteered to be part of the working group. It was noted that all suggestions would be put to the Group Leaders who would appoint members to the working group.

RESOLVED

1. That the creation of a time limited working group to identify the ways that LCC as an upper tier authority could support high street vitality be approved.
2. That a report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee which set out the outcomes from the working group and recommendations to be considered by the Executive Councillor for Economy and Place to improve high street vitality.
3. That Councillors B Adams, Mrs W Bowkett, G E Cullen and B M Dobson be put forward for appointment to the Working Group.

18 ECONOMY QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE MEASURES (1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2018)

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with information on performance against the economy indicators included as part of the Council's Business Plan. It also provided some economic context to why the services delivered in support of those indicators were relevant. It was noted that the four indicators were met in 2017/18.

Members 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:

- It was commented that house building rates had fallen again, and at district level, planning consent would be given but the building would never take place. It was highlighted that one issue was that utilities were not in sync with the districts. It was queried whether there was any pressure that could be applied. It was noted that the provision of utilities was one issue in some areas with low house building rates, and work was underway to try and address this.

- It was noted that the utility companies worked to a different regime than local authorities, but work was being taken forward by the LEP, and it was also an issue that the government and MP's were aware of.
- It was noted that housing would be a big issue in the future and would be included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).
- It was highlighted that there had been a 12% reduction in manufacturing jobs, and it was noted that a lot of jobs would have been lost in Grimsby due to reductions in the fish processing industry. It was confirmed with these jobs would have been within the agri-food sector. It was commented that it would be interesting to see what was in the next set of data when it was released later in the year, as the data available was retrospective. The Committee requested further information on changes in employment in relation to manufacturing to see if there was any particular area of manufacturing affected and whether it had changed since 2016. It was requested that this information be included in the Quarter 1 performance report due in September 2018.
- In terms of housing, it was acknowledged that the county council could not affect it, for example, in terms of affordability. But it was suggested that the one thing which the authority could have an effect on was on the amounts asked for under S106. It was thought there was planning permission for about 2,500 houses which were outstanding. It was noted that a review of the planning system was being carried out.
- In terms of S106, they were legitimate requests, as if housing developments were being built, then health, schools and highways infrastructure would be needed. It was also noted that lots of smaller schemes could have a cumulative effect.
- It was suggested whether the LEP could be asked to look into whether there was any correlation between wage growth, building rates and house prices.
- It was queried whether where there were issues with developers obtaining planning permission and then not building the houses, could the authority buy back the land at a reduced rate if the houses were not built within a set time period.

RESOLVED

1. That the comments made in relation to the performance information presented be noted.
2. That further information on manufacturing be included in the Quarter 1 performance report due in September 2018.

19 ENVIRONMENT QUARTER 4 PERFORMANCE MEASURES (1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2018)

Consideration was given to a report which described progress against the indicators in the council business plan. It showed members that one indicator had been fully met, and that there had been measured progress against three indicators but two indicators had not been met.

It was noted that the two indicators which had not been met related to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which was out of date, but was in the process of being fully revised. It was expected that the new strategy would be signed off by the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership at its meeting in September. It would then come back to this Committee in due course.

Members 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:

- It was commented that work was underway to try and get all authorities in Lincolnshire to collect the same materials for recycling, but it was thought that it would be difficult to get all districts to agree a joint approach.
- One member commented that they felt very strongly about what should go in the waste bin. There was a need to educate the public and be consistent with what can be collected. Members were advised that progress was being made and it was hoped that work by the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership would give people confidence.
- It was noted that there was a lot of non-recyclable material going into the recycling stream, but also there was a lot of recyclable material which was being put into the residual waste bins.
- There was agreement that the message needed to be simplified, and how the districts wanted to collect it would be up to them.

RESOLVED

That the comments made in relation to the performance information presented be noted.

20 ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Committee with the opportunity to comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny was focused where it could be of greatest benefit.

Members were advised that there were no amendments to the report, and the next meeting was due to be held on 18 September 2018.

Members were also advised that it was expected that the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy would come to this Committee on 13 October 2018.

RESOLVED

That the work programme as set out in Appendix A to the report be noted.

21 VERGE BIOMASS PROJECT

It was reported that in 2017 Lincolnshire County Council attracted funding from the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) to progress the Verge Biomass project. This money was matched by private sector funding to design and build specialist equipment to cut and harvest verge side cuttings to be used in anaerobic digesters (AD) to create energy. This work created national interest and so the authority hosted an event at Riseholme College to showcase the work done so far. The report provided members with an overview of the progress to date and were also advised of the opportunity to see the machine in action following the meeting.

Members were advised that the successful bidder to build the machine was a Lincolnshire firm. With the first trial, there was a lot of analysis carried out with Leeds University in terms of calorific value etc. and research showed that verge cuttings were a like for like replacement for maize, which was important in terms of future food security. This would also start to give a cost to the material harvested.

It was also noted that systems such as AD could provide wireless connection opportunities for electricity going forward.

It was acknowledged that there were limitations with where it would be safe to cut, which would still need to be worked out. However, the amount of partnership working which had gone into this project was emphasised to the Committee. Work with the private sector had also taken place to deliver this project.

Members were advised that currently the biggest challenge was the Environment Agency as dispensation had been received for this trial, but there was still uncertainty around whether individual permits for each AD plant would be required. Detailed conversations were taking place regarding flexibility on this matter going forward.

Members were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present regarding the information contained within the report and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- It was queried what happened to the plastic which would be collected with the verge cuttings, and it was noted that there was an element of this which could be coped with, but it was noted that this was not particularly a problem on B roads, but was more of a problem around junctions. It was noted that in those areas with major litter problems, the grass may not be collected.
- It was noted that some of the machines used on the continent did have the capacity to collect waste plastic in verges. However, it was noted that whether the plastic was collected as well would depend on whether the facility the verge cuttings was taken to could cope with the rubbish as well.
- It was suggested whether it would be worth talking to the Horncastle MP. Members were unhappy that further implementation of this project could be delayed due to permits from the Environment Agency needing to be purchased which could affect the financial viability of this material.
- It was noted that this project would turn grass cuttings into a profitable product. AD plants were currently using a mix of products, and a certain amount would

be stored for use as feed stock through winter. There was also the potential for a much longer cutting window. It was noted that there was no reason that the number of cuts could not be increased if it was economically viable.

- In terms of the Environment Agency, an exemption had been granted for the previous work on this project. But there were still discussions to be had regarding how the verge cuttings would be classified.
- It was noted that any parish council could approach the County Council for additional cuts, and it was confirmed that there were a number of arrangements with parish councils in place.

RESOLVED

That the content of the report be noted and that the direction of the project be supported by the Committee.

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm

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**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills
Executive Director of Environment & Economy**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Government Consultations on Planning Applications for Shale Gas Developments

Summary:

This report sets out, for the Committee's consideration, responses to two Government consultations in respect to the planning process for shale gas developments. The first consultation by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government seeks views on the relaxation of planning controls for the exploration of shale gas. The second consultation by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy invites comments on a proposal to include shale gas production projects within the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) regime pursuant to the 2008 Planning Act.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the Government consultations in respect to the planning process for shale gas developments and endorse the submission of the Council's response to the two consultations.

1. Background

The Committee will be aware of the public interest surrounding the emerging shale gas industry in England. If initial exploration is successful shale gas is expected to make a contribution to the ability of the UK to secure a greater amount of its energy needs from its own reserves. A report produced by the British Geological Society identified the potential for significant quantities of gas to be present in shale rock in a number of areas of the UK. One of the potential areas identified includes the 'Gainsborough Trough' which extends into the north-western part of Lincolnshire. Because of the nature of the shale rock and its depth, to exploit the gas from the shale rock requires the use of a technique called hydraulic fracturing which has been named 'unconventional'. This is in contrast to the 'conventional oil and gas reserves' where drilling techniques have been used for many years to exploit oil and gas from geological formations without issue. Committee members will be aware that oil and gas has been recovered from conventional geological formations in Lincolnshire for many years without any significant issues. However, there has

been, and remains public concern about the safety of hydraulic fracking techniques that will be necessary to exploit the shale gas.

In England a number of planning permissions have now been granted to permit exploratory drilling for shale gas. All of these have taken a significant amount of time to get through the planning process. Some of the permissions have been granted by the Minerals Planning Authority and others have been granted by the Secretary of State following a planning appeal.

The Government remains of the view that there are potentially substantial benefits from the safe and sustainable exploration and development of our onshore shale gas resources but is concerned about the time taken for these projects to get through the planning process. On 17th May 2018 a Government written ministerial statement set out a commitment to undertake public consultations on the planning process for shale gas developments.

One consultation is seeking views on the possibility of non-hydraulic fracturing shale exploration being granted planning permission through permitted development. The consultation is currently underway and runs to the 25th October 2018.

In the consultation the Government asserts that the UK has world class regulation to ensure that shale gas exploration can take place safely respecting local communities and safeguarding the environment. It is confirmed that any drilling that is permitted via the permitted development regime would still be required to receive the appropriate consents from the Environment Agency, Health and Safety Executive and the Oil and Gas Authority before the development can proceed.

Permitted development rights for development allow the grant of planning permission by the General Permitted Development (England) Order 2015 without the need for a formal planning application. Used proportionally this provides a simpler, more certain route to encourage development and speed up the planning system reducing the burden on developers and local planning authorities by removing the need for a formal planning application.

The Government's proposal is that any permitted development rights would only extend to the exploratory phase of oil and gas extraction which seeks to retrieve geological data to establish whether hydrocarbons are present, which in the case of shale gas may involve drilling an exploration well, and conducting a seismic survey. It is suggested that the following development should be incorporated in the General Permitted Development Order as permitted development.

"Shale gas exploration, and for non-hydraulic fracturing operations to take core samples for testing purposes but not to allow for the injection of any fluids for the purposes of hydraulic fracturing. The right would not apply to all onshore oil and gas exploration and/or extraction operations.

The suggested definition of what constitutes non hydraulic fracturing for permitted development purposes is:-

Boring for natural gas in shale or other strata encased in shale for the purposes of searching for natural gas and associated liquids with a testing period not exceeding 96 hours per section test.

The consultation sets out a series of questions. These questions and suggested responses for the Committee's consideration are set out in Appendix 1. The Committee will see that these include questions seeking views on the proposed definition of non-hydraulic fracturing for shale gas development and if permitted development rights should apply to non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas development. The third question provides a list of sensitive and military designations and asks if any of these areas should be excluded from the permitted development rights regime. Question 4 relates to the conditions and restrictions that should be imposed on any permitted development rights allowed. Question 5 asks if the process should involve the approval of the Minerals Planning Authority to such matters as transport and highway impacts or noise impacts before the grant of permitted development rights. The sixth question seeks views on if any permission granted should be permanent or restricted to 2 years. The final question relates to any potential impacts on those people with protected characteristics through the Equalities Act 2010.

The second consultation is from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and seeks views on the inclusion of shale gas production projects in the NSIP regime. The reason for the consultation is similar to the one above which followed the written Ministerial Statement on 17th May 2018 setting out the Government's approach to shale gas developments in the UK.

This consultation seeks views on the potential timing and criteria for major shale gas production projects to be in the NSIP regime. The consultation acknowledges that the shale gas industry is still in the exploration stage in the UK and this consultation is focused on preparing for a potential future production phase.

The consultation confirms that at this stage under the current planning regime any shale gas projects seeking to enter the production phase would need to go through the same permitting and permissions process as other onshore oil and gas production phases.

The consultation sets out in some detail the National planning regime and how this operates. In brief the Planning Act 2008 provides the legal framework for applying for, examining and determining NSIP. The types of developments within the NSIP regime relate to energy, water, waste water, road and rail transport and hazardous waste disposal. For projects falling within the scope of what is defined as a NSIP this becomes the only route for obtaining development consent. The Planning Act 2008 defines the type and scale of infrastructure developments considered to be nationally significant and therefore required to obtain development consent. The final decision for granting development consents rests with the relevant Secretary of State, for shale gas it would be BEIS.

The consultation document then sets out the procedure for determining a NSIP project and the role local communities and local authorities have in the NSIP regime. The document sets out the necessary legislative process that would need to be undertaken to move shale gas production into the NSIP regime. However it is acknowledged that given the very early stages of the shale gas industry until the first exploration sites have been developed it will not be possible to give an indication of the timing on commercialisation and production of shale gas in the UK. However the Government wants to give consideration to the thresholds that can be used to define what constitutes a major shale gas production project to make it eligible for the NSIP regime.

The potential criteria suggested that could be used to determine if a shale gas production project is major are set out below:-

- Number of Wells**
- Recoverable Gas**
- Gas Production**
- Local or National Grid Connection**
- Associated Equipment**
- Shared Infrastructure**

The consultation also seeks views on the timing for inclusion of major shale gas developments into the NSIP regime. It seeks views if this should be prior to the first production sites coming forward or at a yet to be defined stage in the exploration and appraisal activity of shale gas activity which informs the viability and scale of shale gas production in England.

The first question the consultation asks – Do you agree with the proposal to include major shale gas productions projects in the NSIP regime?

The recommended response to this question is no. The next question asks for relevant evidence to support this answer.

The suggested reasoning behind this answer is that at this stage it is far too early to make any assessment as to the scale of the shale gas industry in the UK to be able to determine if the required development would reach the necessary scale to be considered as nationally significant. To date there has been no suggestion that conventional onshore oil and gas production in England should be considered to be part of the NSIP process. To assert that shale gas production should be brought under the NSIP regime without any sound evidence raises suspicion for the reason for doing this. Until evidence is available that demonstrates why shale gas production should be treated differently than conventional oil and gas production then it would be premature to include shale gas production as being eligible for NSIP inclusion.

It will also make matters more difficult for the oil and gas industry as it will be perceived that the decision will be taken remotely from the places and residents who will be subject to the impact of the developments. It is more likely that such projects will be accepted by a local community if the decisions are made locally and by those who will be accountable to the local electorate.

The third question asks if it is considered that shale gas production projects should be brought into the NSIP regime the criteria that should be used to decide what constitutes NSIP status for shale gas production. A list of suggested criteria is provided.

The suggested response is that notwithstanding the Council's view that no shale gas project should be NSIP it is far too early to make any assessment at what level any of the suggested criteria should reach for the development to be considered major. It is not realistic at this time to give any relevant figure or threshold that would have to be reached. The industry has not developed sufficiently yet to understand what the production impacts will be to provide any figures for the suggested criteria.

Question 4 requires evidence to support response to question 3.

Question 5 asks at what stage the change should be introduced. Again notwithstanding the suggested response that the change is not necessary, should it be implemented this should be at a time when the extent of the industry and scale of activities and operation needed to support full production are better known. Before the change is implemented exploration needs to have been undertaken in a number of different locations and the level of infrastructure that would be required for full production identified to provide the evidence to confirm if the change is necessary.

2. Conclusion

A response is provided to both consultations setting out the Council's support the Government's objective that the UK has safe, secure and affordable supplies of energy consistent with the Climate Change Act obligations. The Council has consistently recognised that providing the appropriate environmental requirements can be met there is the potential for further oil and gas exploration across Lincolnshire. The Council also recognise the economic opportunities that successful extraction activity could bring especially given the long established history of conventional oil and gas exploration in Lincolnshire.

The Council supports the need for timely planning decisions whilst also ensuring local communities are fully involved in planning decisions for developments that will impact on them.

The Council also recognise that the work it does as Minerals Planning Authority is part of the UK's world class regulation system that provides confidence and certainty to local communities of the effective way in which both conventional and unconventional oil and gas developments are controlled. As the Minerals Planning Authority for Lincolnshire the Council operate the planning process which is a key part of that regulatory process.

The Council's view is that to move to a process that enables certain activities associated with shale gas development to be classed as permitted development erodes that effective regulatory system and reduces the opportunity for local

community involvement in the process and ultimately confidence in the planning process. To propose permitted development rights for shale gas developments but not for conventional oil and gas developments also reduces public confidence in the process.

In respect of the consultation to include shale gas production in the NSIP regime it is too premature to be promoting this option given that there are some many unknowns about the level of activity associated with full shale gas production. Also taking the decision away from local Mineral Planning Authorities to Central Government will further erode public confidence in the planning process and again raise the question as to why this is being proposed for shale gas development but not for conventional oil and gas developments.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable in this case

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Suggested response to the questions set out in the consultation on permitted development rights

5. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Permitted Development for Shale Gas Exploration	www.gov.uk/mhclg
Inclusion of Shale Gas Production Projects in the NSIP Regime	www.gov.uk/beis

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

APPENDIX A - Response to the Government Consultation on permitted development (PD) for shale gas exploration.

The consultation poses a series of questions which are detailed below with proposed responses

Q1 – a) Do you agree with this definition to limit a permitted development right to non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas exploration? Yes/No

b) If No, what definition would be appropriate?

No

The current system is unambiguous to the public and community in that all activity requires permission. To create a definition that would lead to some activities being PD would create the potential for ambiguity, confusion and mistrust in a sector where there is a high level of misinformation and mistrust already in place. Whilst the planning process does not always satisfy local residents they do believe it provides a mechanism for their views to be considered. None of the other regulatory regimes provide for this public interface.

How would the parameters in the definition be tested or regulated and by who because if this was to be the Mineral Planning Authority (MPA) for monitoring or enforcement it would create a further burden for the local authority? It is unlikely that a robust definition would be found resulting in the Planning Authority being challenged by the developer or the public as to whether the operations constituted permitted development or not.

Q2 – Should non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas exploration development be granted planning permission through a permitted development right? Yes/No

No – the application process builds in the opportunity for public engagement and awareness of the detail of the proposals providing greater confidence than would exist under a PD regime. It also provides for local democratic decision making to be exercised in line with other similar forms of development dealt with in the planning system. Also by only providing a PD right for shale gas but not for other energy minerals leads to a heightened level of suspicion amongst the general public that such developments are fast tracked through the planning process without the normal level of scrutiny that takes place with a planning application. This will further undermine the public view that the authorities are trying to hide the impacts of the development.

Q3 – a) Do you agree that a permitted development right for non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas exploration development would not apply to the following?

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

- National Parks
- The Broads
- World Heritage Sites
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Scheduled Monuments
- Conservation areas
- Sites of archaeological interest
- Safety hazard areas

- Military explosive areas
- Land safeguarded for aviation or defence purposes
- Protected groundwater source areas

b) If No, please indicate why.

c) Are there any other types of land where a permitted development right for non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas exploration development should not apply?

Yes there are special designations within the planning system that should be dealt with differently and these areas would fall into those categories.

This would, however, again create ambiguity and confusion as to where PD rights would apply. This will create further negative public reaction to the whole issue so the County Council believe that there should be no PD rights for exploration rather than making distinctions between areas that are or aren't subject to PD rights.

Q4 - What conditions and restrictions would be appropriate for a permitted development right for non-hydraulic shale gas exploration development?

It is not considered appropriate for a set of national conditions to be applied when the nature of the environments in which such proposals come forward can vary markedly. The County Council would therefore resist the introduction of PD rights. Should PD rights be introduced conditions would need to be considered in relation to environmental controls in relation to noise levels, light levels, hours of operation, height of equipment, operating procedures, and access and highway considerations. All of these would be matters of detail that would ordinarily be addressed through the consideration of a planning application.

Q5 - Do you have comments on the potential considerations that a developer should apply to the local planning authority for a determination, before beginning the development?

The consultation document acknowledges that 'prior approval are much less prescriptive ... as prior approval is a light-touch process'. This will immediately create a further opportunity for friction between local communities and the MPA if there is a belief that appropriate checking of the development proposal is not occurring. Prior approval would be a necessary requirement if PD rights are introduced but will almost certainly add to MPA resource burden.

Q6 - Should a permitted development right for non-hydraulic fracturing shale gas exploration development only apply for 2 years, or be made permanent?

Any PD rights should be temporary to ensure that activity occurs in a timely manner and removes the uncertainty and concerns for the local community directly affected.

Q7 – Do you have any views the potential impact of the matters raised in this consultation on people with protected characteristics as defined in section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010?

No.

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills
Executive Director of Environment & Economy**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Employment and Skills

Summary:

This paper explains that LCC and Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership have commissioned a substantial amount of employment and skills provision. Some of this is coming to a natural end, and so it is useful to explore the benefits of what has been achieved and to identify next steps – whilst recognising the importance of employment and skills as part of economic development.

Actions Required:

It is recommended that members:

- 1) Consider the significant amount of employment and skills provision that has been commissioned by LCC and the LEP
- 2) Discuss the next steps that could be taken in each of the current range of employment and skills provision and task officers with taking each of these steps forward
- 3) Recommend that LCC should provide substantial support to the LEP in preparing the Local Industrial Strategy and implementing the Skills Advisory Panel so that local skills needs are fully understood, and better resourced, by central government

1. Background

Employment and Skills are a high priority to Lincolnshire County Council and to Greater Lincolnshire LEP. It is right that we help people to access the best opportunities that are available to them, and it is important that we help employers to fill vacancies with skilled and motivated staff.

LCC and the LEP are only one part of the employment and skills picture. The government commissions a substantial amount of training centrally – estimated as £50m per year in Lincolnshire alone. Employers and individuals also have to take responsibility for their own employment and training.

LCC and the LEP's job could be described as to be passionate about our place, to understand the statistics about it, to nurture the organisations who can help us to address the issues arising from those statistics, and to encourage everyone to make an investment in the area.

In terms of employment and skills that means commissioning activity that is focused on gaps in provision and that is focused on the issues that are most challenging to the local economy. Both LCC and the LEP are very active in the employment and skills arena.

LCC attracts £1.700m of government funding each year to provide adult learning to up to 7,500 people. Greater Lincolnshire LEP has invested £9.300m in college and training facilities throughout the LEP area, it has jointly commissioned £13.000m of activity with the Education and Skills Funding Agency, and it is one of a small number of LEPs working with central government on pilot schemes to plan training at the local level and to help employees upskill so that they can gain higher level and supervisory jobs.

Because of the changes that the government is making to local regeneration and economic development, now is a good time to review existing provision and to consider next steps. A strong statement on skills and employment should be made in the Local Industrial Strategy. This should identify flexibilities/new approaches to the government's employment and skills provision so that it better meets local needs, and it should identify what should be delivered outside of normal government provision. It must recognise, though, that employers and individuals have as much of, if not a greater level of, a responsibility for employment and skills as the state.

Current LEP and LCC commissioned employment and skills activity

The attached chart shows some of the highlights of employment and skills provision that has been commissioned by the LEP and LCC working in partnership. It shows that a broad range of employment and training provision is taking place, tackling the issues that are particularly relevant to greater Lincolnshire and that have been raised through statistical analysis and through working with important stakeholders. The issues that are being addressed are:

1. Lower than the UK average level of skills within greater Lincolnshire's existing workforce. We have established training programmes which will support 8,000 employees, and this has been widely supported by businesses. The number of training places available is huge. We should seek to continue this programme into the future.
2. Applicants for jobs often not having the right skills and competencies for the job. We have established programmes which will provide training to 4,000 unemployed people. This is a significant programme with an enviably high number of beneficiaries, but it could be argued that it would be better to amend existing government provision so that it addresses this issue better, rather than us commissioning additional provision locally.

3. Young people not recognising the career opportunities that they have within greater Lincolnshire. We have created a website which has examples of local careers, and have recently recruited a Careers and Enterprise Co-ordinator who will help schools to work with businesses on producing a careers plan. Regeneration funding rules tend to constrain our ability to work with schools, yet this is absolutely critical to the whole issue of employment and skills and therefore to the county's future economic prosperity. We should lobby for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to allow careers work to be delivered in schools.
4. Employers struggling to recruit from outside the area because of a low awareness of the area. The www.marketinglincolnshire.com website has been created and it holds a wealth of information, photos, videos, quotes, etc about the benefits of working in Lincolnshire. Our initial evaluation shows that the businesses that have used www.marketinglincolnshire.com have found it to be a valuable tool, but more can be done to encourage employers to use the platform. A strong push by the LEP, all local authorities, and business organisations is necessary.
5. Colleges needing to invest in new training facilities so that they can deliver contemporary and future skills. Demand for skills is changing all of the time, and increasingly the skills that employers need is based on specific knowledge and niches of activity. Changes to digital technology are also having an impact on the way that trainees receive training. However, the amount of capital available to colleges and training providers is limited therefore the LEP introduced a skills capital grant scheme which has provided £9.300m to address this challenge. It is recommended that further capital for investment in colleges and training providers is sought.

As can be seen from the previous section, the range and breadth of provision that has been commissioned by the LEP and LCC working together is substantial. But the issue of employment and skills remains important –not least because regular surveys of the business community show that despite the economic slowdown they still have plans to recruit, and because economic forecasting models indicate that greater Lincolnshire's businesses will create 200,000 vacancies over the coming decade.

Local Industrial Strategy

The Local Industrial Strategy will be used to set the economic development dialogue between government and local areas. It is imperative that the LIS contains a strong statement about the importance of employment and skills, as well as identifying some of the strategic schemes that we would wish to pursue.

Running in parallel with the preparation of the Local Industrial Strategy is work to design the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which is expected to amalgamate the post-Brexit successor to EU funding with the various strands of growth funding. Officers are working with government officials on the co-design of the Shared Prosperity Fund and are seeking a strong focus on employment and skills in the Shared Prosperity Fund.

Skills Advisory Panel

It must not be forgotten that the vast majority of employment and skills provision, whether it is Job Centres being located in district council offices or multi-million pound training programmes being procured by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, are commissioned and managed centrally by government. Over the years government have been unsure whether employment and training should be commissioned nationally or locally –at the moment they are starting to move towards a localised model and are piloting Skills Advisory Panels in a small number of LEP areas including greater Lincolnshire.

The ambitions of the Skills Advisory Panels are to : (i) create a single version of the truth for skills analysis and policy development, (ii) join up more employment and skills discussions, and (iii) feed into the development of strategy and delivery for local area skills provision. The piloting of a Skills Advisory Panel, coupled with a recruitment process for new private sector members, will refresh the Greater Lincolnshire Employment and Skills Board and it is important that LCC and the LEP support the Employment and Skills Board as it goes through this change, thereby providing us with a stronger voice to shape local skills and employment policy.

Employer

Research tells us that local employers have challenges filling job vacancies, although they tend to report fewer problems than elsewhere in the country.

The challenge is usually a result of a combination of factors: a lack of experienced people, skilled people, and managers within the local labour market, lack of accessible training to upskill existing workforce; and other factors such as lack of recruitment expertise, level of wages and local infrastructure that make recruiting from further afield more problematic. The government has introduced the apprenticeship levy for larger employers, but there remains a requirement for employers to invest in their potential workforce as well as their recent recruits –this may include increased salaries as well as training and support to staff.

In previous years, initiatives like "Investors in People" have provided a framework for employers to champion the way that they support their workforce. But as these initiatives have reduced in scale, local initiatives have started to be implemented across the country. These have galvanised employers, and demonstrated to residents that there are career opportunities within their local area. It would be useful for the LEP and LCC to work together to establish a similar local initiative.

2. Conclusion

Skills and employment initiatives remain vital to the local economy. The LEP and LCC have jointly taken significant steps to address this issue, and it now a useful time to agree to our next steps.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Employment and Skills

5. 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 Clare Hughes, who can be contacted on 01522 550545 or clare.hughes@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Employment and Skills



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**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills
Executive Director of Environment & Economy**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Economy Quarter 1 Performance Measures 2018/19

Summary:

This report describes performance against the four economic development performance indicators. It shows that outcomes have been achieved, and indeed exceeded, for three of the indicators. The report also provides some economic context for the activity that is undertaken, using the LEP/Chamber of Commerce/University of Lincoln quarterly economic survey.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is required to consider and comment on the detail of performance contained in the report and review the progress made against each indicator.

1. Background

The latest Quarterly Business Briefing shows that businesses retain confidence in their future prospects. Domestic sales are decreasing, but they remain strong, whilst overseas sales appear to be decreasing. Businesses expect to recruit in the future, but they are wary of needing to raise the prices of their goods.

This situation indicates that support for businesses should continue to be offered, especially regarding the development of new markets both domestically and internationally. The previous Environment and Economy scrutiny meeting discussed exporting and support for exporters. In terms of developing new domestic markets, a new facility has been added to the www.businesslincolnshire.com website which helps business to find local customers/suppliers. The site will continue to be populated steadily over the coming months.

The situation also indicates that training and employment support continues to be relevant to the local economy. LCC commissions a substantial amount of adult learning, and works with Greater Lincolnshire LEP to commission schemes to train employees in higher level skills and to describe the opportunities in local business to unemployed people. Another report at today's Environment and Economy

scrutiny committee will consider skills, and apprenticeships in particular, in more depth.

Turning to performance, activity to deliver business support and training has exceeded target. This has led to a high level of job creation/safeguarding.

Because of the way that the funding programmes operate, no funding approvals were anticipated in this quarter.

2. Conclusion

Performance against indicators continues to be strong, and the Quarterly Business Briefing suggests that businesses remain confident in their future.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A


4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Economy Quarter 1 Performance
Appendix B	GLEP Quarterly Business Briefing

5. 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 Justin Brown, who can be contacted on 01522550630 or justin.brown@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

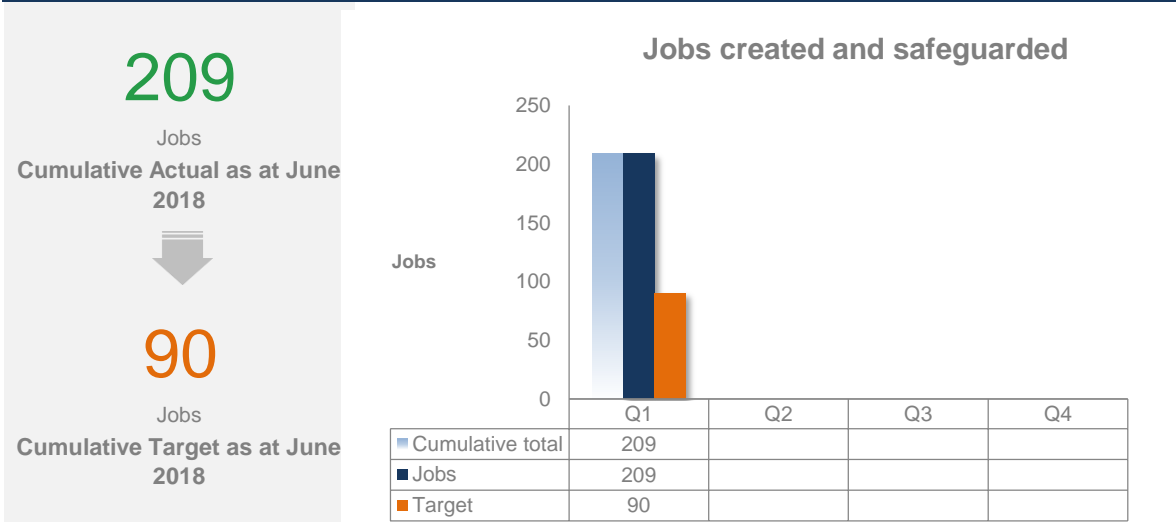
 Businesses are supported to grow

Jobs created as a result of the Council's support

Jobs created and safeguarded

Number of jobs created and safeguarded as a result of the Council's support.
A higher number of jobs created and safeguarded indicates a better performance.

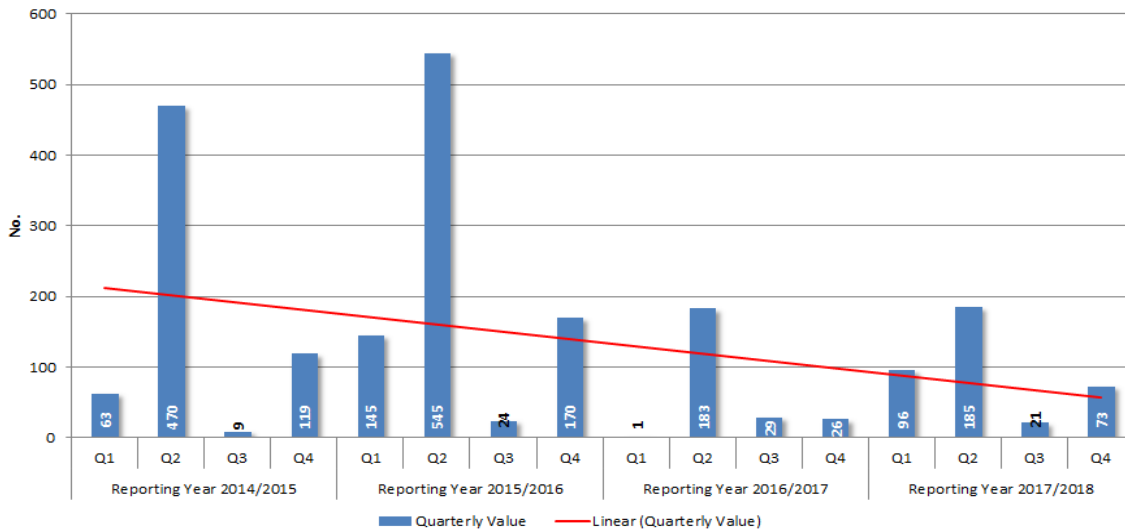
 **Achieved**



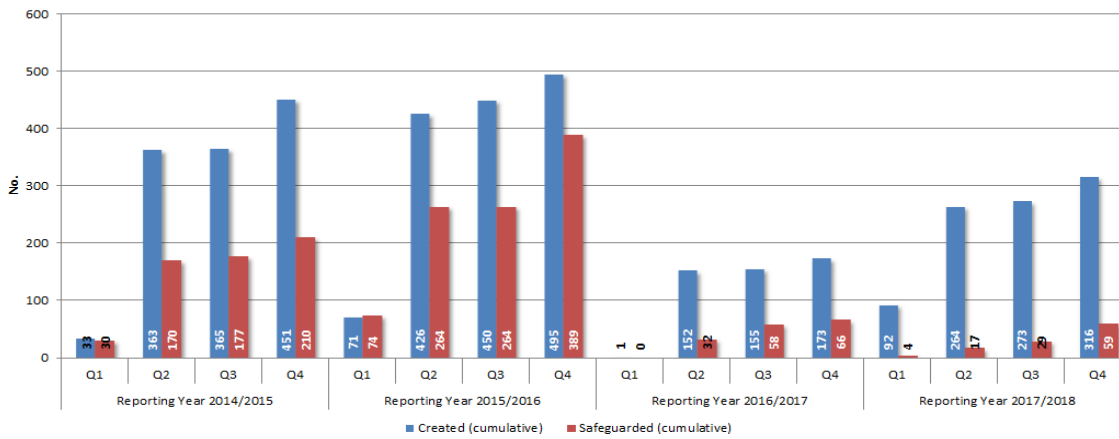
About the latest performance

79 jobs were created and 130 were safeguarded by businesses accessing the services that Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) provides. This is significantly above target because of the wide range of services that LCC can provide due to attracting funding to make our own business support budget go further. The services include providing industrial premises and business centres in which to expand their business, advice on business strategy to help businesses to grow into new markets, and grants to undertake specific projects to grow their business. The jobs were created throughout Lincolnshire.

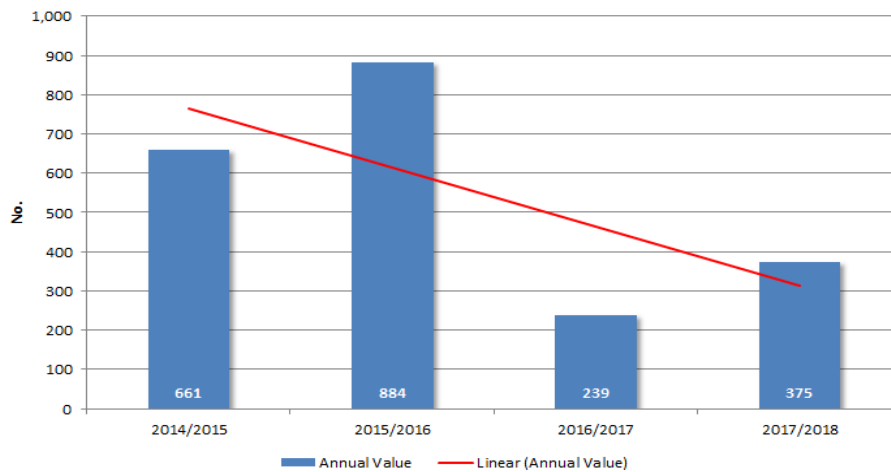
**Jobs Created and Safeguarded
Quarterly Value**



**Jobs Created and Jobs Safeguarded
Cumulative Comparison**



**Jobs Created and Safeguarded
Annual Value**



About the target


The council commissions a series of programmes which help business leaders to grow their business. This includes the building of business sites and premises for selling or renting to businesses which are growing. We do this in order to create jobs in the county, and the jobs are counted in this target.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this measure.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.

 Businesses are supported to grow

Jobs created as a result of the Council's support

Businesses supported by the Council

Number of businesses who receive direct support and advice from services the Council commission. A higher number of businesses supported by the Council indicates a better performance.

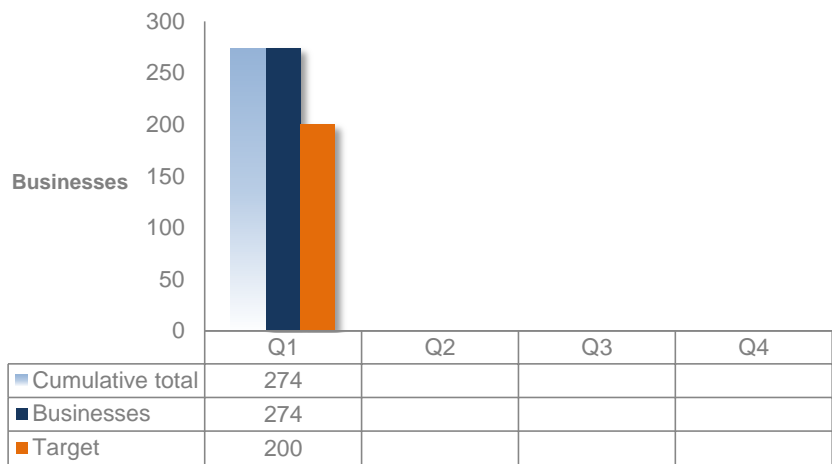
 **Achieved**

274
Businesses
Cumulative Actual as at June 2018



200
Businesses
Cumulative Target as at June 2018

Businesses supported by the Council

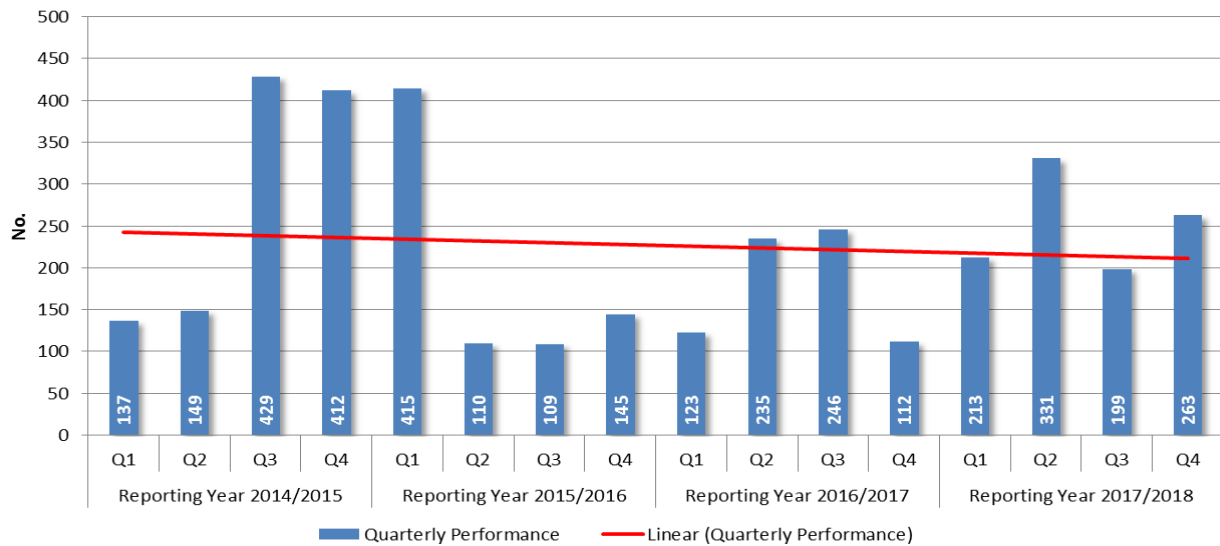


About the latest performance

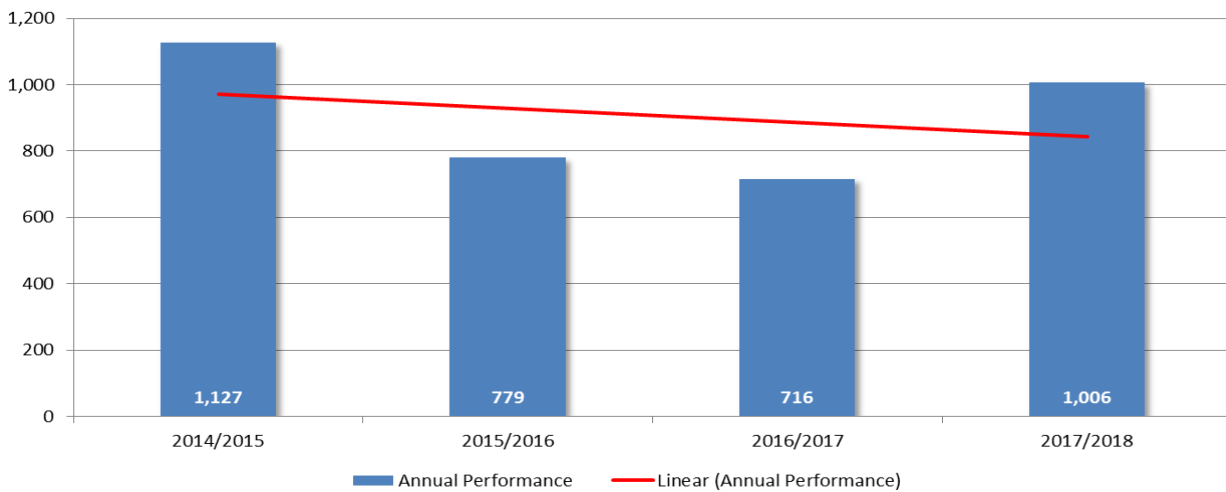
We actively assisted 274 businesses during Quarter 1 of 2018/19. As well as providing business advisers who visited 103 businesses during the quarter we also ran a services of successful workshops that were attended by 174 businesses (NB. There is a slight overlap between businesses receiving assistance from advisers and those attending workshops which is why the numbers do not correlate to the reporting figure). Workshops included items such as how to help to expand your business exports which is particularly relevant in the run-up to Brexit.

Further details

Businesses Supported by the Council



**Businesses Supported by the Council
Annual Performance**



About the target


The council commissions a series of programmes which help business leaders to grow their business. The businesses who receive support will grow, creating jobs and other opportunities (e.g. supply chain) and the number of businesses counted in this target.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this measure.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.



Businesses are supported to grow

Jobs created as a result of the Council's support

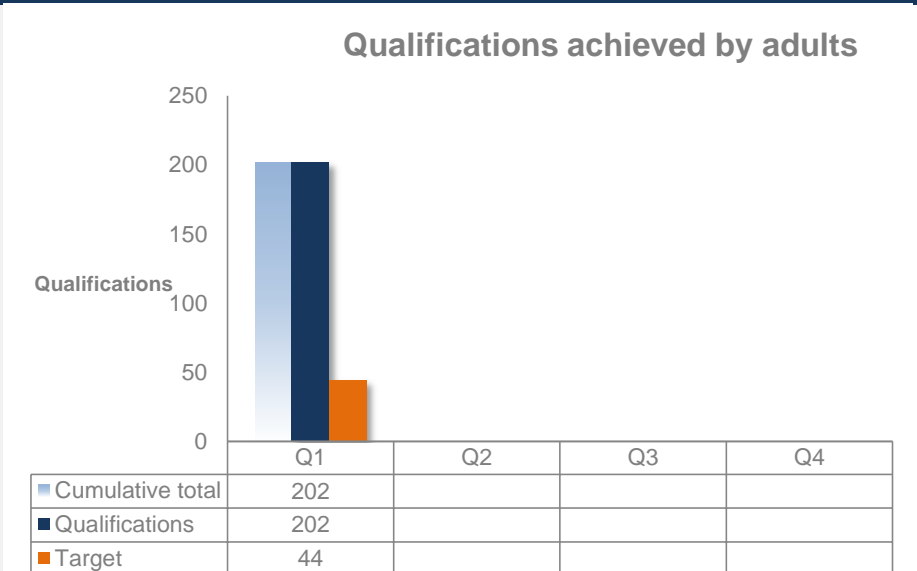
Qualifications achieved by adults

Number of qualifications achieved (Skills programmes, vocational training programmes, adult and community learning) through programmes supported by the council.
A higher number of qualifications achieved indicates a better performance


Achieved

202
 Qualifications
Cumulative Actual as at June 2018

44
 Qualifications
Cumulative Target as at June 2018

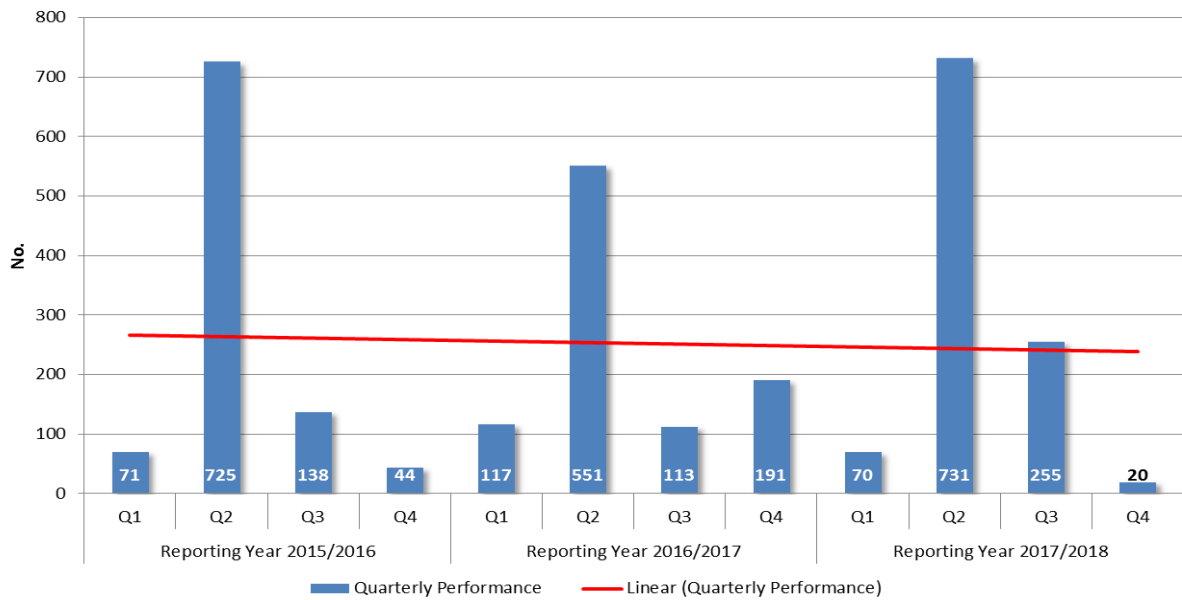


About the latest performance

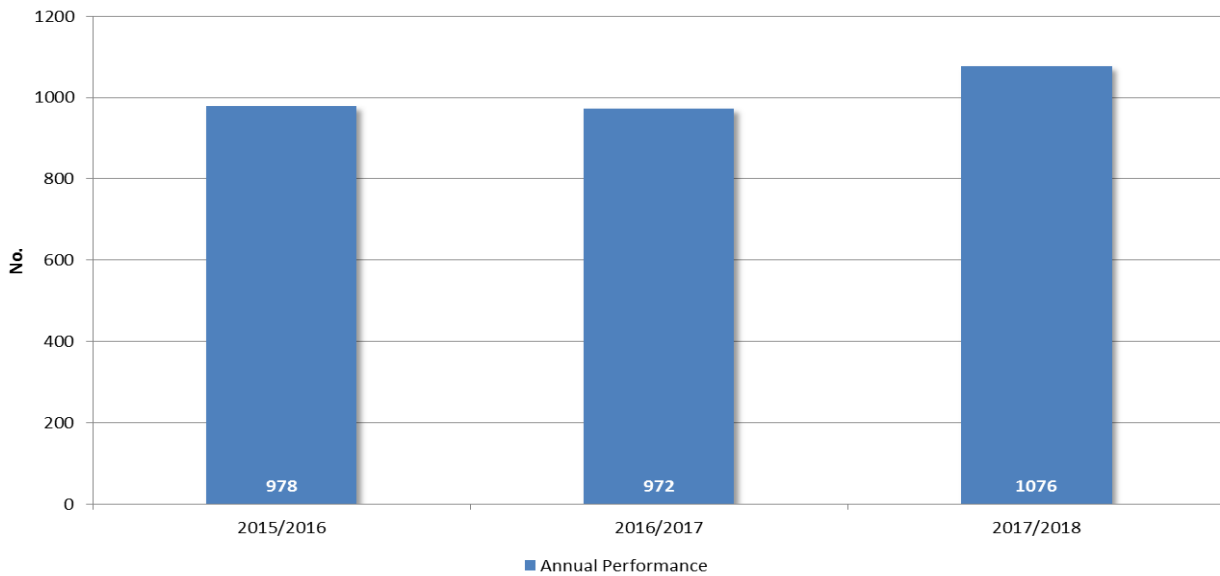
In order to meet the needs of local businesses for short courses, and to assist individuals who do not have the time to complete lengthy course programmes, the training providers that we commission have adapted some courses so that they operate –and award qualifications– on a rolling basis rather than on the basis of an academic year. This has led to a higher number of qualifications being awarded in Quarter 1 than was anticipated.

Further details

No. of Qualifications Achieved by Adults



**No. of Qualifications Achieved by Adults
Annual Performance**



About the target


The council commissions a series of training schemes which help individuals to gain skills. These training schemes are focused on the skills that employers need. Employers can understand an individual's skill level by the qualifications that they hold, hence the reason that we count the number of qualifications achieved.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this measure.

About benchmarking

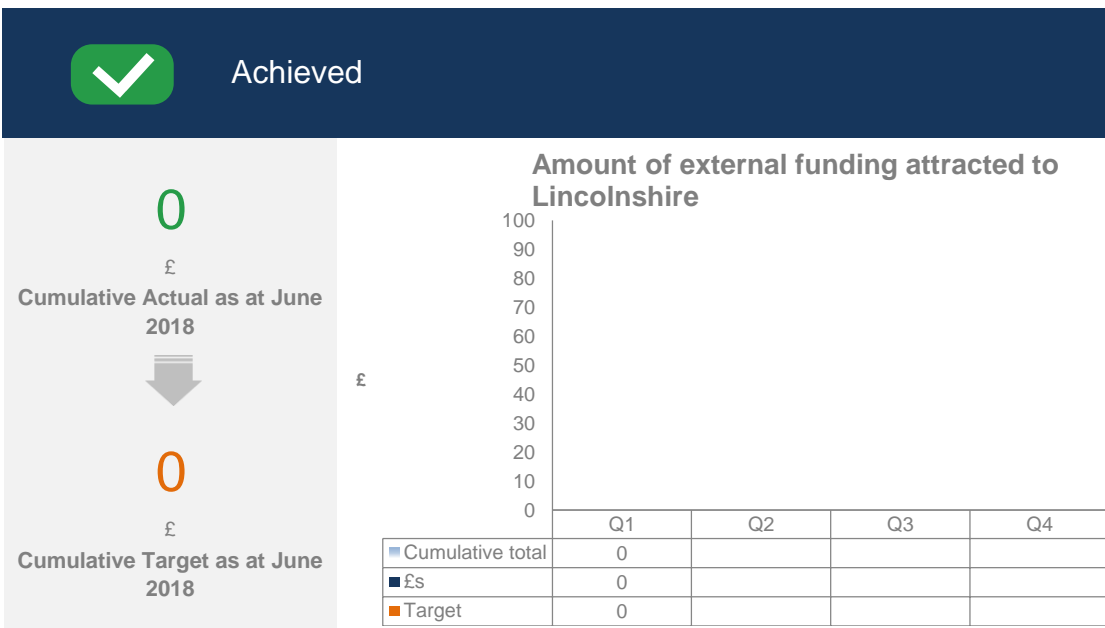
This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.

 Businesses are supported to grow

Jobs created as a result of the Council's support

Amount of external funding attracted to Lincolnshire

Amount of external funding attracted to Lincolnshire (including Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership and European Union funding programmes) by the council.
A higher amount of external funding indicates a better performance.

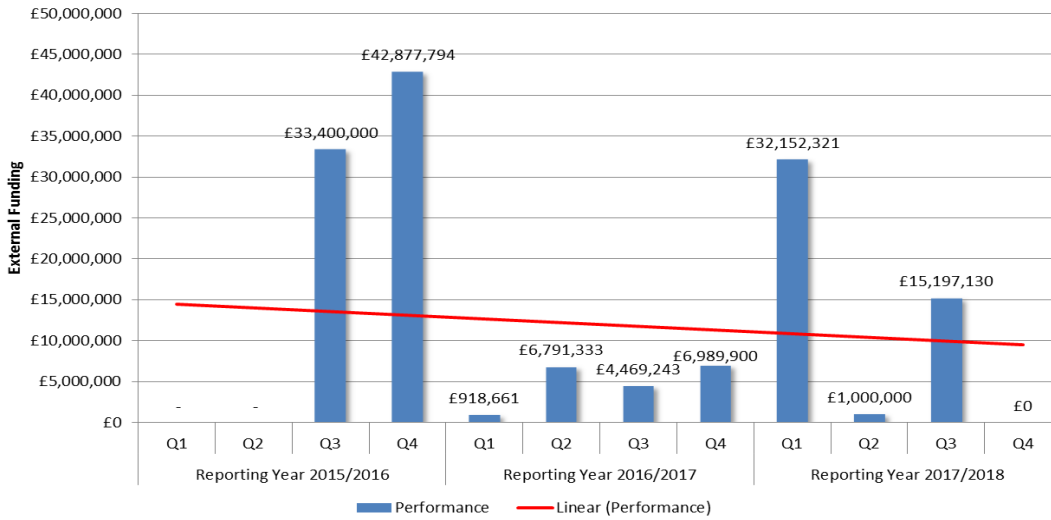


About the latest performance

No funding bids were due for approval during this quarter. However, bids have been made to extend the business support work that we do, and a number of farming and community businesses have been assisted to make bids. We would expect to see significant approvals for funding in quarters 3 and 4 when the funding administrators have appraised the bids that we have made/supported.

Further details

Amount of External Funding Attracted to Lincolnshire



About the target

The target set is based on external funding bids submitted that are anticipated to be approved throughout the reporting year.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this measure.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.

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QUARTERLY BRIEFING Q2. 2018

- > DOMESTIC SALES RECOVER WITH ORDERS ACTIVITY DECREASING BUT STILL STRONG
- > OVERSEAS SALES LEVELS UNCHANGED WITH ORDERS DECREASING

- > BUSINESS CONFIDENCE HOLDS AS WE MOVE THROUGH 2018
- > PRESSURE ON PRICES REMAINS AND INCREASES
- > RECRUITMENT ACTIVITY UNCHANGED WITH FUTURE INTENTIONS TO RECRUIT INCREASING

QUARTERLY BRIEFING Q2. 2018

The latest results from the Quarterly Economic Survey are very much 'as you were' in terms of business conditions with some areas of improvement. Sales have recovered based on last quarter, but overseas sales continue to stagnate. Pressure on prices remains and increases but business confidence holds strong and has improved in certain areas. Recruitment activity is in a stronger position as is both cashflow and investment plans.

Last quarter we noted that the chilly weather delivered by the 'Beast from the East' was having some impact on the economy, though the Office for National Statistics was keen to downplay the role of the weather in the weak results for growth in Q1. However, the Bank of England governor, Mark Carney, has recently added to the debate stating that more recent data had given him

"greater confidence" that the weak first quarter growth "was largely due to the weather".

Whilst this may be the case based on data that the Bank of England is currently in possession of, it has not been enough (for now) to stem the tide of woes for the High Street. June saw House of Fraser announce store closures with its new Chinese owners

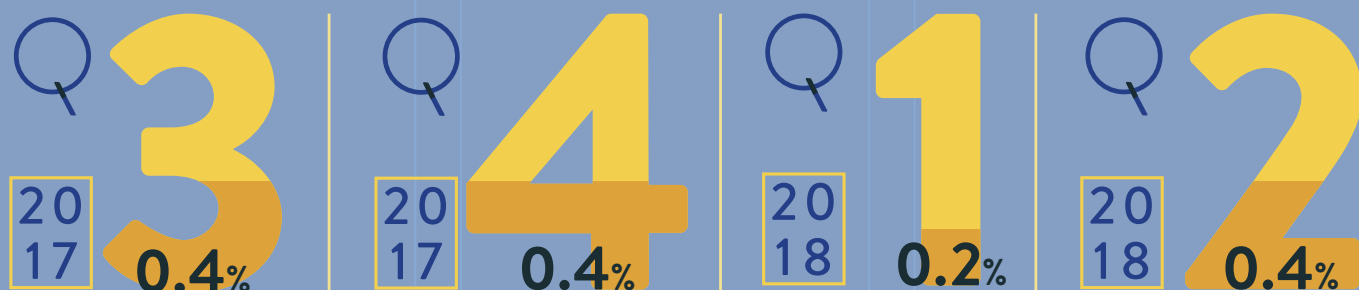
making efforts to restructure the business and turn it around. 31 of its 59 stores are to close including those in Lincoln and Grimsby.

Returning to the weather, the 'Beast from the East' was replaced by the 'Beauty from the East' during May, bringing with it some welcome warmth and sunshine for the UK. This great weather has continued with the arrival of a similar weather system from North Africa (the 'Drought from the South?') during June. As with the bad weather, it is hoped that this spell of good weather has brought with it a positive impact on the economy, particularly in terms of sales and the service sector.

UK GDP GROWTH

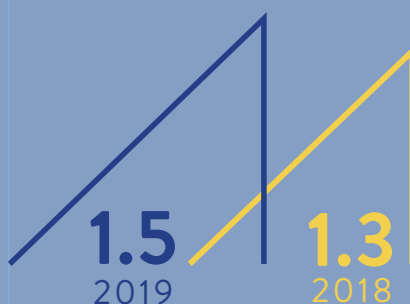
(Change in GDP compared to previous quarter)

Source: Office for National Statistics

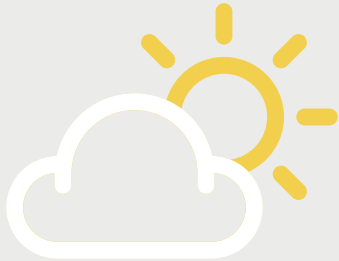


UK ECONOMIC GROWTH (GDP) FORECAST

Source: HM Treasury, Forecasts for the UK Economy: a comparison of independent forecasts, No. 374 Aug 2018

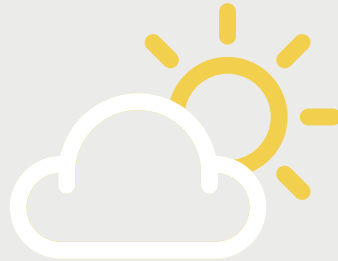


One sector that is hoping that this weather will hold is that of the Visitor Economy, particularly on the coast. As a result, it will be looking to do even better than it did in the previous year. Latest tourism data for the coast shows that:



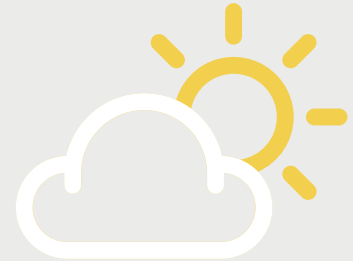
THE VALUE OF THE VISITOR ECONOMY HAS INCREASED

FROM £455 MILLION IN 2016 TO £494 MILLION IN 2017



THE NUMBER OF VISITORS HAS INCREASED

FROM 2.7MILLION IN 2016 TO 2.8MILLION IN 2017



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTED IN THE SECTOR HAS RISEN

FROM 5,901 IN 2016 TO 6,170 IN 2017



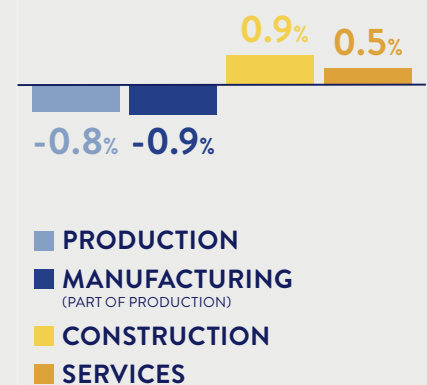
This year, and according to Lisa Collins, CEO of the Lincolnshire Coastal Destination Business Improvement District (BID), footfall and visitor numbers are up this summer with the weather definitely playing its part in this. Attraction businesses are attracting good visitor numbers, and bookings are good in the accommodation sector well into the autumn. The caravan and self-catering businesses are also doing very well.

It would be remiss of us not to mention the one other element of what is turning out to be a great summer of 2018 – that of England’s progression to the World Cup Semi-

Finals. England’s run in the competition provided a timely economic boost to pubs and hospitality businesses. Locally, many businesses have reported seeing increased trade because of this with large family groups eating out together pre or post games. Nationally, the grocery market has also prospered with many of the supermarket chains (both big and small) reporting increased sales related to alcohol and barbecue dining. In the case of the High Street then there is more concern with initial reports suggesting that these same sporting events and heatwave have kept shoppers away.

UK SECTORAL GROWTH (Q2 2018 - % CHANGE ON PREVIOUS QUARTER)

Source: Office for National Statistics



DOMESTIC SALES RECOVER WITH ORDERS ACTIVITY DECREASING BUT STILL STRONG

The balance of responses for UK sales has risen this quarter (after last quarter's fall), whilst the balance of responses for advanced sales and bookings has decreased but remains in a strong and positive position.



OVERSEAS SALES LEVELS UNCHANGED WITH ORDERS DECREASING

Overseas sales levels show no signs of movement away from Q4 2017 levels with the balance of responses remaining at 0 for the third straight quarter, with overseas orders dropping back to a negative balance of responses indicating a contraction in orders.



EXCHANGE RATES

£1 =

JUL 17
\$1.32 €1.12
JUN 18
\$1.32 €1.13
JUL 18
\$1.31 €1.12

Source: x-rates.com

Moving away from the weather and the football (but not Mark Carney), our final point is that of the looming threat of a global trade war. Recent tariffs imposed by the US on a range of Chinese goods have been met with Chinese measures on US products including soya beans, meat and cars. These follow taxes imposed on steel and aluminium imports from the EU and other countries including Canada and Mexico. President Trump has also threatened to impose tariffs on European cars.

Commenting on these developments, Mark Carney believes that "there are some tentative signs that this more hostile and uncertain trading environment may be dampening activity". It is far too early to say if we are seeing this in the national and local data available to date. And, whilst the local level data on exporting from the quarterly economic survey has not

Painted the greatest of pictures so far in 2018, data on the number of international trade documents being issued by the Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce show that numbers are broadly in line with those seen last year. Hopefully, social media rhetoric around trade wars will remain just that, and that this trend continues throughout the rest of the year.



**BANK OF ENGLAND
INTEREST RATE**

0.75%

BUSINESS CONFIDENCE HOLDS AS WE MOVE THROUGH 2018

Confidence levels once again remain strong this quarter with the balance of responses for future turnover holding, with the balance of responses for profitability increasing slightly.



INFLATION

Source: Office for National Statistics

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)



PRODUCER PRICE INDEX (PPI)



PRESSURE ON PRICES REMAINS & INCREASES

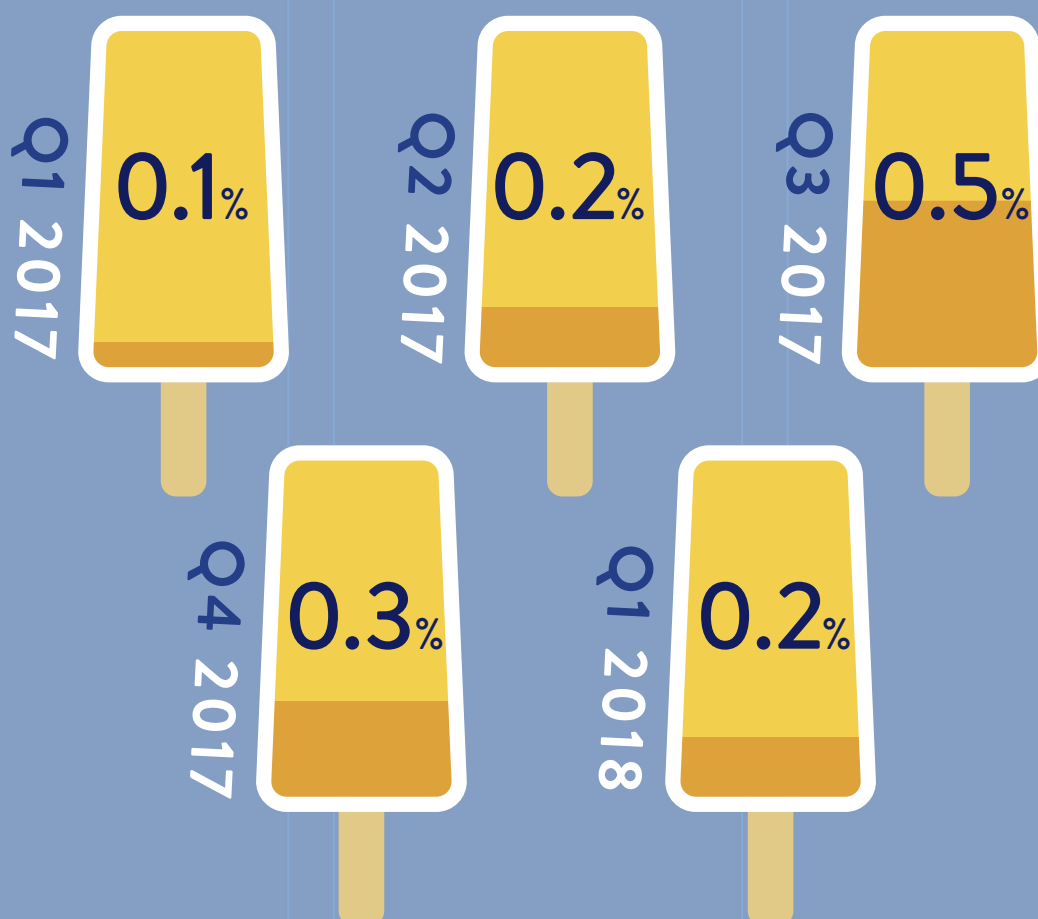
The balance of businesses expecting to increase prices of their goods/services over the next three months has increased again this quarter. 'Other overheads' has moved into first place of those factors cited by businesses as putting pressure on them to raise prices.



12 Month Annual Rate (%)	2017						2018						
	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Input Producer Price Indices	9.9	6.4	8.2	8.3	5.0	7.7	5.6	4.4	3.9	4.4	5.5	9.6	10.2
Output Producer Price Indices	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.1

HOUSEHOLD SPENDING

Source: Office for National Statistics



RECRUITMENT ACTIVITY UNCHANGED

WITH FUTURE
INTENTIONS TO
RECRUIT INCREASING

Recruitment activity in the last quarter has remained at Q1 levels, whilst the balance of responses for future workforce expectations has increased again from last quarter's.



EMPLOYMENT RATE (AGED 16-64)

Source: Annual Population Survey,
Office for National Statistics

MAR 17 - MAR 18

GREATER
LINCOLNSHIRE

UK



75.1%



74.8%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (AGED 16-64)

Source: Annual Population Survey,
Office for National Statistics

MAR 17 - MAR 18

GREATER
LINCOLNSHIRE

UK



4.4%



4.4%



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**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills
Executive Director for Environment and Economy**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Environment Quarter 1 Performance Measures (1 April to 30 June 2018)

Summary:

This report describes progress against the indicators in the council business plan. One indicator is reported in quarter four, one will be reported from quarter two, while two indicators have not been met. Two of the measured indicators will have data available in the following quarter, and a further three show measured progress.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to:

- 1) Consider the performance against the indicators and highlight any recommendations, changes or actions for consideration; and,
- 2) Seek assurance from senior managers on how they will maintain and improve performance against the indicators.

1. Background

The Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) business plan has nine indicators for the Environment, of which six are reported quarterly. One indicator will be reported from quarter two, one in quarter four, and two have not been met. Of the measured indicators, three are showing measured progress, and two will be measured from quarter two.

The two that have not been met relate to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, which is now out of date, and is currently being fully revised. The draft new strategy will be considered by the Environment and Economic Scrutiny Committee in due course.

This Quarter Environment & Economy has received 11 complaints compared with 4 in the previous quarter, which is an increase of 7. When comparing this quarter with the same period in the previous year, there was an increase of 7 again, with 4 complaints having been received for quarter 1 in 2017-18.

2. Conclusion

Performance continues to be steady against the most relevant measures. Where performance is not meeting the indicators it is because the indicators are outdated, and work is in progress to replace these indicators.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

N/A

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A


4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Q4 Performance Indicators (Environment)
Appendix B	Q4 E&E Customer Complaints information

5. 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 Hickman, who can be contacted on 01522 554809 or David.Hickman@lincolnshire.gov.uk

 Businesses are supported to grow

Reduce the risk of flooding

Flooding incidents within a property

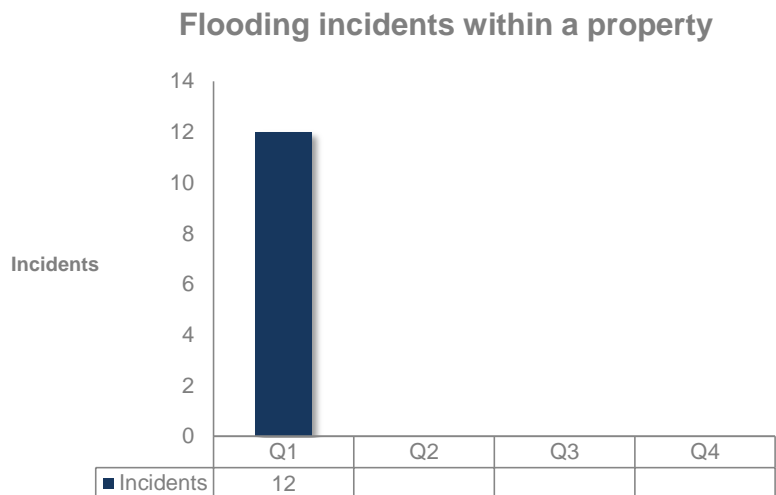
This measure is calculated on the basis of the number of formal investigations undertaken by the County Council under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 where the incident involves flooding within a property from any source, although under the Act the County Council only has a responsibility for local flood risk i.e. from surface water, groundwater or ordinary watercourses. Lincolnshire County Council has interpreted a flooding incident to be any in which one or more domestic properties are flooded internally. A smaller number of flooding incidents indicates a better performance.

Measured

12
Incidents
Quarter 1 June 2018

↓

1
Incidents
Quarter 4 March 2018

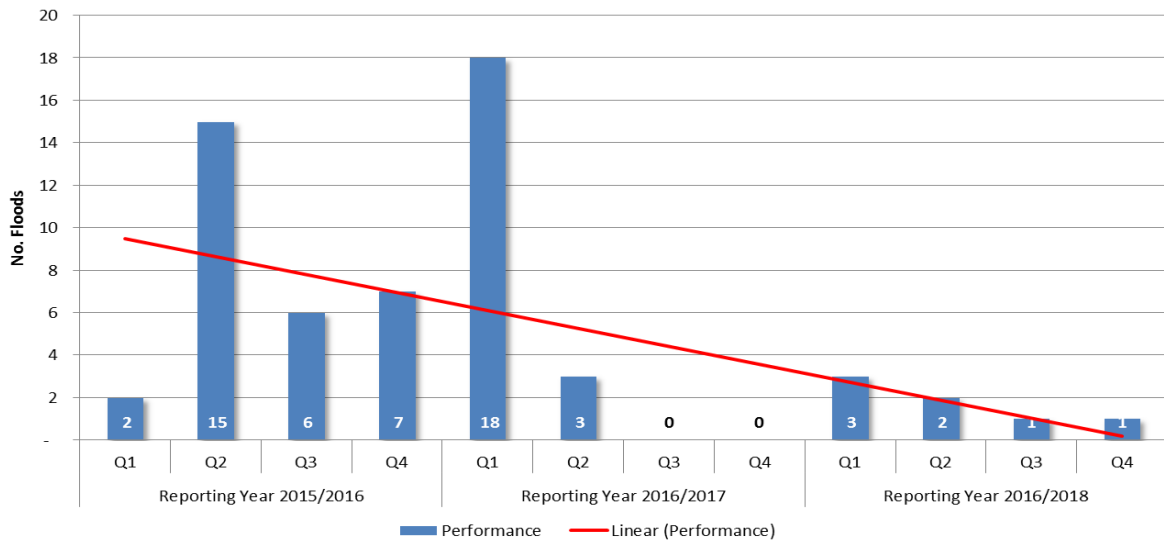


About the latest performance

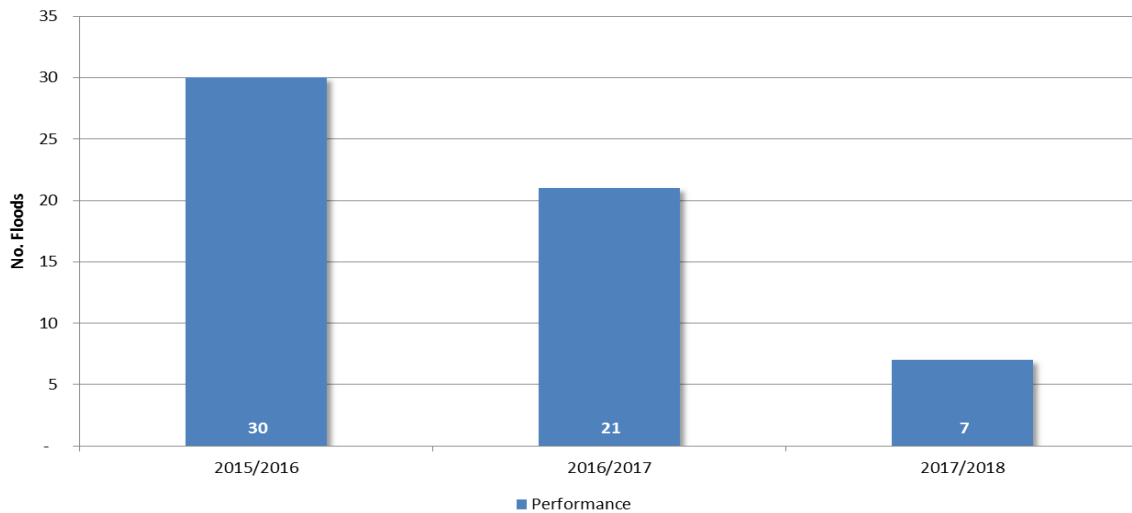
A stormy start to the period resulted in three flood investigations in April affecting the highway network and two residential properties. Isolated heavy showers at the start of June gave rise to seven flood investigations affecting 15 properties, including a couple of commercial premises. Included in the measure are two investigations commenced into historical flooding that have only just been brought to the attention of the authority. There were three flood investigations started in the same period last year.

Further details

Flooding Incidents Within a Property



Flooding Incidents Within a Property Annual Total



About the target


This measure is reported to provide context to the outcome reduce the risk of flooding. It is not appropriate to set a target for this measure.

About the target range

A target range is not applicable as this is a contextual measure.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire as each Local Flood Authority (Unitary and County Councils) defines a flood incident as they consider appropriate and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.



Businesses are supported to grow

Reduce carbon emissions

CO₂ emissions from county council activity

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is a greenhouse gas which contributes, along with other gasses, to global warming and the resulting climate change.

The County Council is no different to any other organisation in that its activities use energy and emit significant amounts of these gasses.

The main activities involved (both Council and their long term partners) that generate these emissions are:-

- * Use of buildings (heating & lighting)
- * Use of vehicles (fuel)
- * Street lighting (electricity)

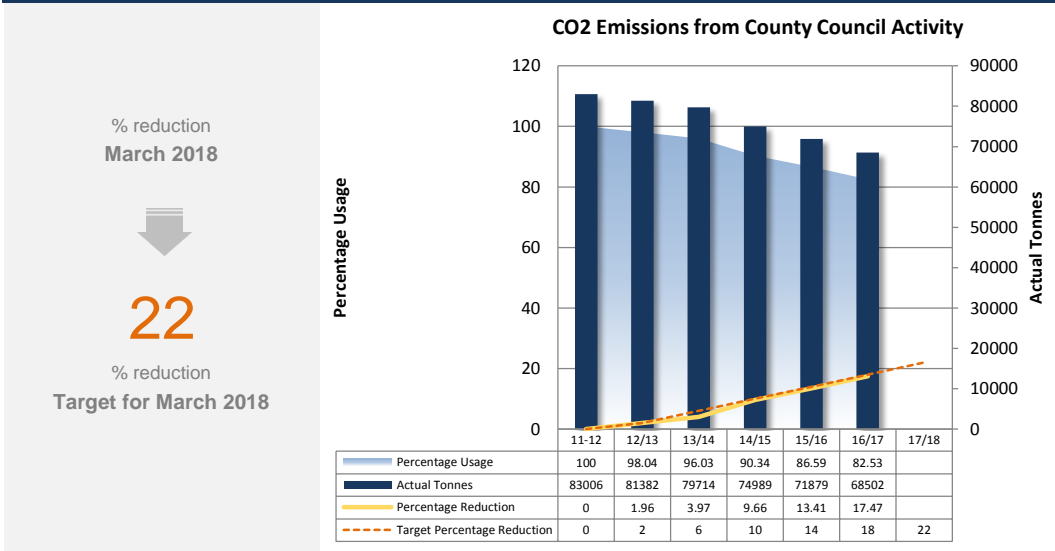
County Council annual carbon dioxide emissions were calculated in 2011/12 and the baseline figure was reported as 83,006 tonnes.

The Council has adopted a target reduction of 22% over a 6 year period, reducing the emission down by 18,261 tonnes to 64,745 tonnes by 31st March 2018.

Data is reported annually in Quarter 1, with a 3 month (1 quarter) lag, so for example, 2016/17 data will be reported in Q1 2017/18. The higher the percentage of CO₂ reductions indicates a better performance.



Data not available



About the latest performance

Data for this measure is currently unavailable. Mileage data for LCC activity is sourced from LCC's internal Waste Contract, which covers mileage from the waste transfer sites to the Energy from Waste Facility. We are in contact with the contractor to source the required data to inform these measures; consequently these measures will be reported in Quarter 2 of 2018/19.

Further details

Please see the main graphic for all available data relating to this measure.

About the target


County Council annual carbon emissions were calculated in 2011/12 and the baseline figure was reported as 83,006 tonnes. The Council have adopted a 22% reduction over a 6 year period reducing the emissions down by 18,261 tonnes to 64,745 tonnes by 31st March 2018.

About the target range

There is no target range for this measure as the target is based on a reduction of 22% over a 6 year period.

About benchmarking

This measure is local to Lincolnshire and therefore is not benchmarked against any other area.

 Businesses are supported to grow

Reduce carbon emissions

Lincolnshire CO₂ reductions

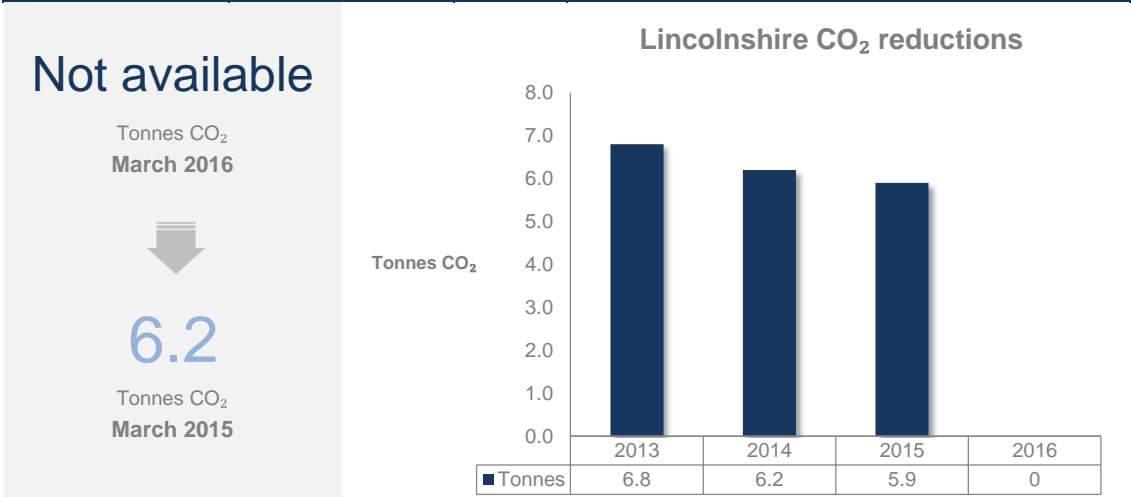
This is a nationally collected (by the Department for Communities and Local Government) set of data that shows the amount of greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂) from all sectors within the UK. This data is broken down to National, Regional, County and District Levels.

The dataset is made up of 4 key sectors:-

- * Industry and Commercial
- * Domestic
- * Transport
- * Land Use/change and Forestry

The emissions for Lincolnshire are expressed as the amount of CO₂ emitted per person (capita). Data is reported with a 2 year, 3 month (1 quarter) lag, so for example data from March 2015 will be reported in Q2 2017.

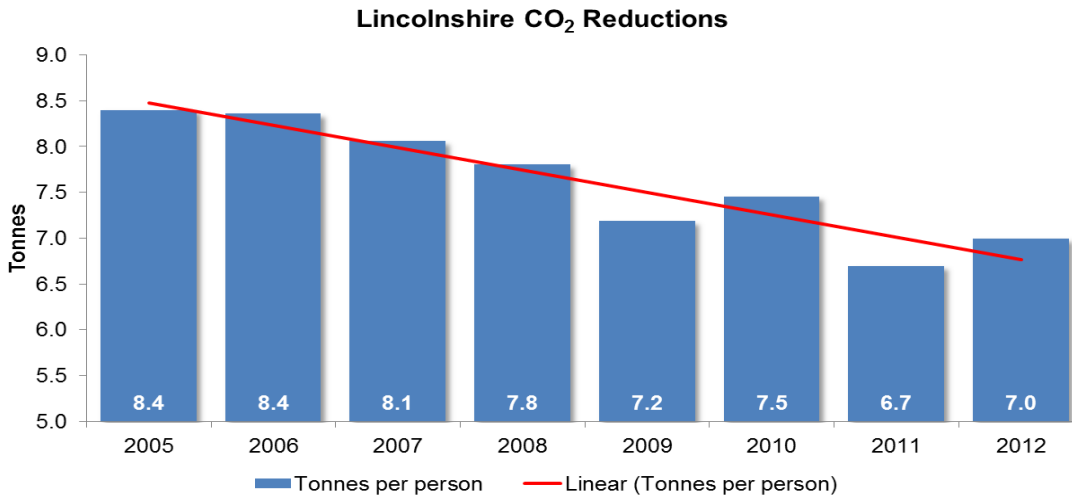
A smaller tonnage of CO₂ emissions for Lincolnshire indicates a better performance.



About the latest performance

Data for this measure is currently unavailable. Mileage data for LCC activity is sourced from LCC's internal Waste Contract, which covers mileage from the waste transfer sites to the Energy from Waste Facility. We are in contact with the contractor to source the required data to inform these measures; consequently these measures will be reported in Quarter 2 of 2018/19.

Further details



The dataset can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2015>

About the target


This measure is reported to provide context to the outcome reduce carbon emissions. It is not appropriate to set a target for this measure.

About the target range

A target range is not applicable as this is a contextual measure.

About benchmarking

The Lincolnshire data set can be benchmarked against other local authorities, the East Midlands, England and the UK as a whole.

 Businesses are supported to grow


Increase recycling

Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres

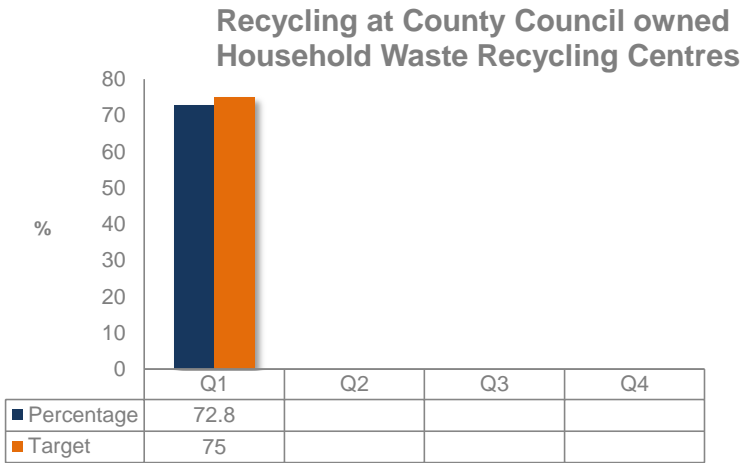
This measure excludes all sites which are not owned by Lincolnshire County Council as the Council has limited control and influence over what streams are recycled. Performance includes some estimates where actual figures are not yet available. Officially approved data is available four months after the end of the Quarter to which it applies. A higher percentage of recycling indicates a better performance.

 Not achieved

72.8
%
Quarter 1 June 2018



75
%
Target for June 2018



About the latest performance

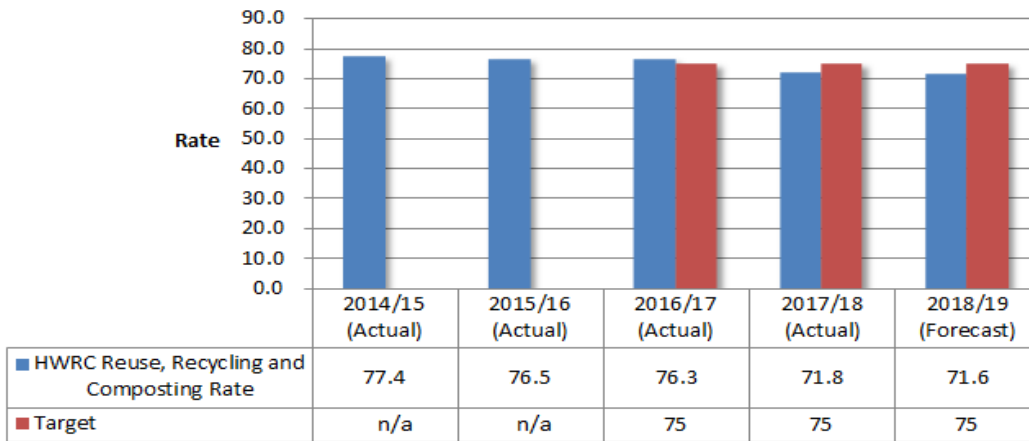
The HWRC recycling rate for Q1 is expected to be higher than for the year overall due to more composting in summer, although the challenging weather conditions may have an effect on this for the year overall.

We are forecasting a reduction in the overall recycling rate from 17/18 a contributing factor will be the processing of some materials has moved down the waste hierarchy from recycling to recovery. The Environment Agency (EA) have concerns around some materials being stored which has reduced the capacity of recycling outlets in Lincolnshire to accept material.

Cumulative Tonnes	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
LCC owned HWRCs waste reused, recycled or composted.	16,242			
Total waste collected at LCC owned HWRCs	22,297			

Please note: Figures for previous quarters are those reported at the time and include some estimates where data was unavailable. Subsequent quarter cumulative totals may include revised figures for previous quarters.

Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres



About the target


The annual target of 75% represents a sustaining of our previous high performance.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this target.

About benchmarking

Availability of data for other authorities is limited as this has never been an official National Indicator.

 Businesses are supported to grow

Increase recycling

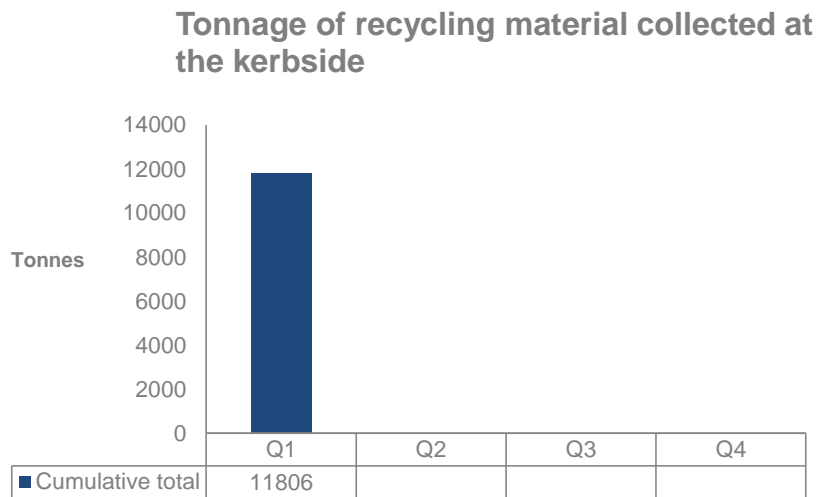
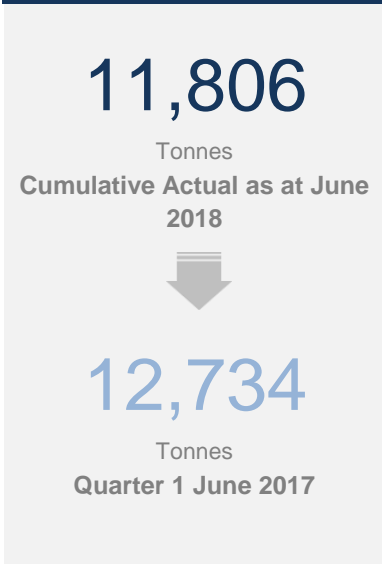
Tonnage of recycling material collected at the kerbside

The tonnage of recycling material collected at the kerbside depends on how much is presented by the public in kerbside recycling collections and on how much of that material has to be excluded due to it being non-recyclable. This measure excludes waste that has been 'rejected' so that we can see how much recyclable material was collected.

Performance includes some estimates where actual figures are not yet available. Officially approved data is available four months after the end of the Quarter to which it applies.

A higher tonnage of recycling material collected at the kerbside indicates a better performance.

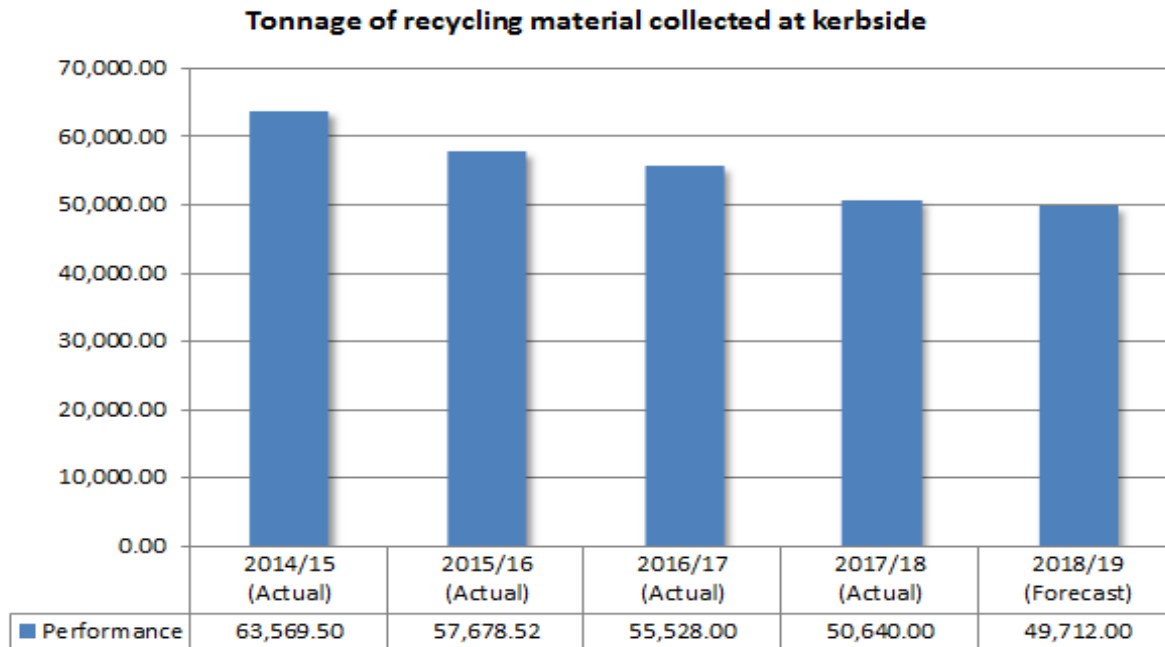
Measured



About the latest performance

Our Waste Collection Authorities continue to collect a similar quantity in kerbside recycling collections. Unfortunately, around 31% of what our WCAs collect from kerbside recycling bins turns out to be non-recyclable. There is a food waste trial taking place in one area of South Kesteven District Council that should provide an opportunity to understand the impact of this method of collection on the current contamination levels for Mixed Dry Recycling (MDR). In recognition of the levels of contamination the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership has endorsed a campaign to remind people of what not to put into their recycling which will be rolled out from September. This focusses on the known high level of contaminants e.g. food waste, nappies and sanitary wear, electrical items and batteries. This contamination level needs to be addressed with the District Councils as part of the next MDR contract and Waste Strategy.

Further details



About the target

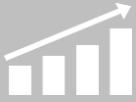
This measure is included for context and so it is not appropriate to set a target for this measure.

About the target range

No target range has been set for this target.

About benchmarking

As tonnage collected depends on the size of a Local Authority, comparisons with other councils is not meaningful.



Businesses are supported to grow

Increase recycling

Household waste recycled

The percentage of waste collected by either the County or District Councils which was reused, recycled or composted.

Performance includes some estimates where actual figures are not yet available. Officially approved data is available four months after the end of the Quarter to which it applies.

A higher percentage of household waste recycled indicates a better performance.



Not achieved

49.0

% recycled

Quarter 1 June 2018

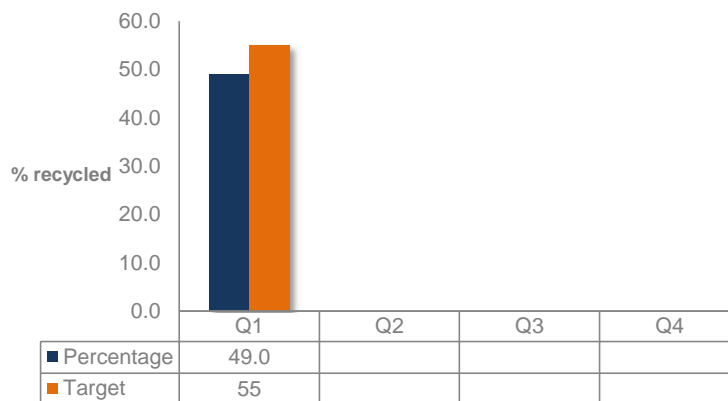


55

% recycled

Target for June 2018

Household waste recycled



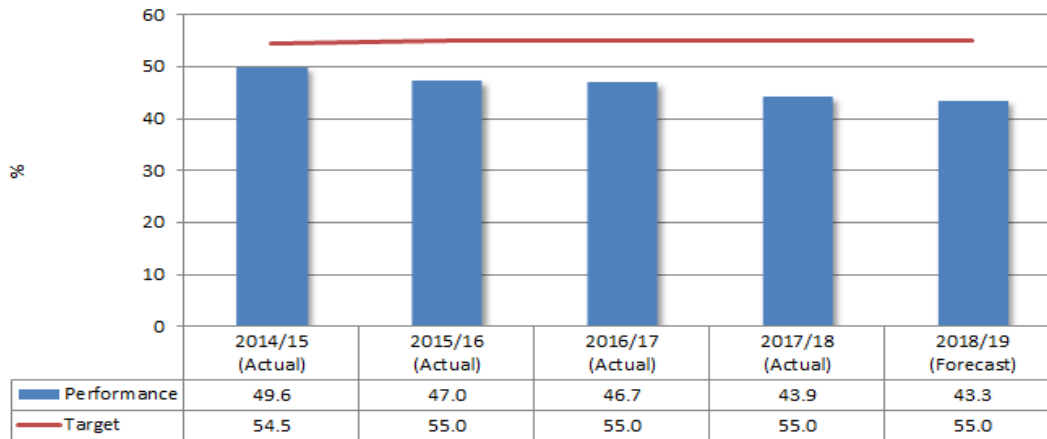
About the latest performance

Our recycling rate for Q1 is expected to be higher than for the year overall due to more composting in summer. We are forecasting a drop in the overall recycling rate compared to 2017/18 as the reported level of contamination (non-recyclables) has increased. We have seen an increase in Green waste composting in quarter 1 to that of quarter 1 2017/18. The challenging weather conditions we are currently experiencing may have an effect on this for the year overall. The aspirational target of 55% was set in our Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy which is being refreshed in cooperation with the Districts.

Cumulative Tonnes	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Household waste recycled, reused or composted	48,494.4			
Total household waste collected	99,027.0			

Please note: Figures for previous quarters are those reported at the time and include some estimates where data was unavailable. Subsequent quarter cumulative totals may include revised figures for previous quarters.

Percentage Recycled of Household Waste Collected (Annual Total)



About the target

The annual target of 55% was set as a long-term aspiration in our Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2008).

About the target range

Given the number of separate figures which go into this calculation, a target range of +/- 0.5 percentage points allows for small fluctuations to remain on target.

About benchmarking

National data is available for each Local Authority. However, given the delay in finalising official figures, this is usually only available for the previous year.



Businesses are supported to grow

Increase recycling

Green waste composted

The tonnage of green waste collected by either the County or District Councils which was sent for composting.

Performance includes some estimates where actual figures are not yet available. Officially approved data is available four months after the end of the Quarter to which it applies.

A higher tonnage of green waste composted indicates a better performance.

Measured

28,129

Tonnes

Cumulative Actual as at June
2018

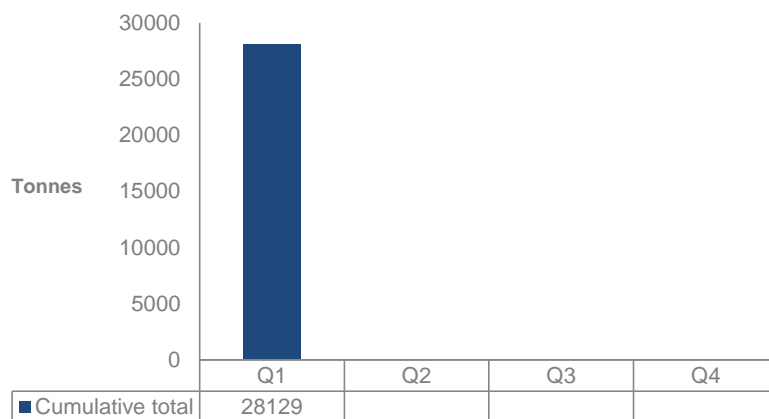


26,437

Tonnes

Quarter 1 June 2017

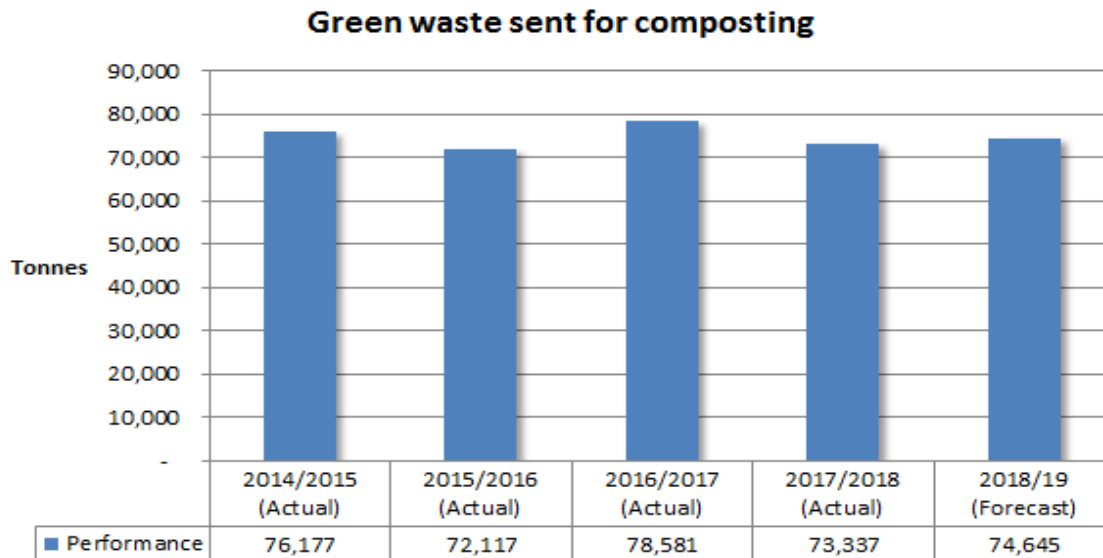
Green waste composted



About the latest performance

We have seen an increase in composting compared to Quarter 1 in 2017/18, this is dependent on growing conditions.

Further details



About the target

No target has been set, as this is measured for reference purposes. The tonnage composted depends on how much green waste is presented to us by the public and external factors such as weather conditions.

About the target range

A target range is not applicable as this is a contextual measure.

About benchmarking

As tonnage of waste composted depends on the size of a Local Authority, comparisons with other councils is not meaningful.

**Customer Satisfaction Information
Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee Q1
Date range for report 1st April 2018 – 30th June 2018**

LCC Overview of compliments

Overall Compliments

The overall compliments received for Environment & Economy shows a decrease of 83% this Quarter with only 1 compliment received compared to 6 last Quarter.

Total number of compliments relating to <u>Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee</u>	Current Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
	1	6	2	11	7

Environment & Economy Compliments

1 compliment received from a customer for Jonathan Stockdale for addressing overgrown shrubs obstructing footpath.

LCC Overview of complaints

The total number of LCC complaints received this Quarter (Q1) shows a 4% decrease on the previous quarter (Q4). When comparing this Quarter with Q1 of 2017/18, there is a 17% increase when 159 (excluding school complaints figures) complaints were received.

Total number of complaints received across all LCC service area.	Current Q1 18/19	Q4 17/18	Q3 17/18	Q2 17/18	Q1 17/18
	186	193	241	219	159
Total number of complaints relating to <u>Environment & Economy Scrutiny Committee</u>	11	4	56	23	4
Total Service Area Complaints broken down					
Environmental Management	10	3	2	3	4
Planning	1	1	54	20	0
Number of complaint escalations	0	1	18	4	0
How many LCC Corporate complaints have not been resolved within service standard	3	9	4	10	0
Number of complaints referred to ombudsman	15	16	10	11	9

This Quarter Environment & Economy has received 11 complaints which is an increase of 7 as last Quarter they received 4 complaints. When comparing this Quarter with Q1 2018/19, there was an increase of 7 again with 4 complaints received for that period.

Environmental management

This Quarter Environmental Management has received 10 complaints which is a increase of 7 from last Quarter when 3 were received.

- 7x HWRC. 3 were partly substantiated and 2 substantiated.
- 1 x Flooding which was substantiated
- 1 x Unnecessary spending on a footpath. This was partly substantiated
- 1 x Blocking of a footpath. This was substantiated.

Planning

This Quarter Planning has received 1 complaint which is the same as last Quarter when 1 was also received. This was in relation to a planning application and surface flooding.

Complaint escalations

In Quarter 1 of 2018/19 there were a total of 29 complaint escalations for LCC. None of these related to Environment & Economy.

Ombudsman Complaints

In Quarter 1 of 2018/19, 15 LCC complaints were registered with the Ombudsman. None of these complaints were recorded against Environment & Economy.

Policy and Scrutiny

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills,
Director responsible for Democratic Services**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Summary:

This item enables the Committee to consider and comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit. The work programme will be reviewed at each meeting of the Committee to ensure that its contents are still relevant and will add value to the work of the Council and partners.

Members are encouraged to highlight items that could be included for consideration in the work programme.

Actions Required:

Members of the Committee are invited to:

- 1) Review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- 2) Highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

1. Background

Overview and Scrutiny should be positive, constructive, independent, fair and open. The scrutiny process should be challenging, as its aim is to identify areas for improvement. Scrutiny activity should be targeted, focused and timely and include issues of corporate and local importance, where scrutiny activity can influence and add value.

Overview and scrutiny committees should not, as a general rule, involve themselves in relatively minor matters or individual cases, particularly where there are other processes, which can handle these issues more effectively.

All members of overview and scrutiny committees are encouraged to bring forward important items of community interest to the committee whilst recognising that not all items will be taken up depending on available resource.

Committee Scope

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee combines two areas of responsibility (Protecting & Sustaining the Environment, Sustaining & Growing Business & the Economy) to provide an opportunity to join these areas and encourage a more holistic approach and a greater focus on strategic outcomes. There is a clear logic to this arrangement as environment and economy are directly connected to supporting growth.

As part of its terms of reference, the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee will work to review and scrutinise the following services and their outcomes:

- environment and growth, including:
 - carbon management
 - the natural and built environment
 - sustainable planning and the historic environment
 - growth and access
- economic development projects including broadband
- waste management, including waste recovery and recycling
- skills and employability
- support to business and growth sectors
- business investment
- attracting funding for Lincolnshire, including the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership

There will inevitably be service specific subjects that the scrutiny committee will want to consider, either through policy development, project updates, or through pre-decision scrutiny.

There will also be a number of strategic considerations which span both environment and economy. It is likely that those areas which require strategic consideration will include but not be limited to the following:

Coast – taking a holistic approach to coastal issues. This should combine various partners' interests (especially Environment Agency) as well as achieving a balance between flood risk management and the exploitation of coastal assets for tourism and leisure purposes.

Water – Lincolnshire County Council, Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, and other partners have worked on a water management plan, which was launched in the House of Commons last year. The water management plan is closely linked to Lincolnshire's Joint Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy, focusing on those strategic elements of our broader approach to managing water which can make a critical difference in promoting economic growth. The plan has been well received by government officials and local business and it is now an appropriate time for LCC and the LEP to take the plan into its implementation stage.

Visitor economy – Lincolnshire's visitor economy has several strengths, but the natural environment and associated heritage is one of the most prominent strengths. Our historical importance, from Magna Carta and the Battle of Lincoln Fair through to the anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers setting sail all provide opportunities to strengthen the visitor economy.

Members may also wish to note that environmental and economic issues should not be considered in isolation. There is a strong connection between investments in highway infrastructure and growth, between support for school age children and the wider skills agenda, and the relationship between the council's own heritage assets and the visitor economy. These will require a relationship with the Highways and Transport, Children and Young People, and Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee's respectively.

Purpose of Scrutiny Activity

Set out below are the definitions used to describe the types of scrutiny, relating to the items on the Committee Work Programme:

Policy Development - The Committee is involved in the development of policy, usually at an early stage, where a range of options are being considered.

Pre-Decision Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising a proposal, prior to a decision on the proposal by the Executive, the Executive Councillor or a senior officer.

Policy Review - The Committee is reviewing the implementation of policy, to consider the success, impact, outcomes and performance.

Performance Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising periodic performance, issue specific performance or external inspection reports.

Consultation - The Committee is responding to (or making arrangements to) respond to a consultation, either formally or informally. This includes pre-consultation engagement.

Budget Scrutiny - The Committee is scrutinising the previous year's budget, or the current year's budget or proposals for the future year's budget.

Requests for specific items for information should be dealt with by other means, for instance briefing papers to members.

Identifying Topics

Selecting the right topics where scrutiny can add value is essential in order for scrutiny to be a positive influence on the work of the Council. Members may wish to consider the following questions when highlighting potential topics for discussion to the committee:-

- Will Scrutiny input add value?
Is there a clear objective for scrutinising the topic, what are the identifiable benefits and what is the likelihood of achieving a desired outcome?
- Is the topic a concern to local residents?
Does the topic have a potential impact for one or more section(s) of the local population?
- Is the topic a Council or partner priority area?
Does the topic relate to council corporate priority areas and is there a high level of budgetary commitment to the service/policy area?
- Are there relevant external factors relating to the issue?
Is the topic a central government priority area or is it a result of new government guidance or legislation?

Scrutiny Review Activity

Where a topic requires more in-depth consideration, the Committee may commission a Scrutiny Panel to undertake a Scrutiny Review, subject to the availability of resources and approval of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board. The Committee may also establish a maximum of two working groups at any one time, comprising a group of members from the committee.

2. Conclusion

The Committee's work programme for the coming year is attached at Appendix A to this report. A list of all upcoming Forward Plan decisions relating to the Committee is also attached at Appendix B.

Members of the Committee are invited to review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in Appendix A and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme. Consideration should be given to the items included in the work programme as well as any 'items to be programmed' listed.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme
Appendix B	Forward Plan of Decisions relating to the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

5. 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 Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 01522 552102 or by e-mail at daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

18 SEPTEMBER 2018 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Permitted development for shale gas exploration Consultation	Andy Gutherson, County Commissioner Economy and Place Neil McBride, Planning Manager	Consideration of the Government Consultation on Permitted development for shale gas exploration
Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Matthew Michell, Senior Commissioning Officer (Waste)	Consideration of the revised Draft JMWMS
Employment and Skills, Issues and responses	Clare Hughes, Principal Commissioning Officer (LEP)	Consideration of employment and skills as part of economic development
Environment Quarter 1 Performance Measures 2018/19 (1 April to 30 June 2018)	David Hickman, Growth and Environment Commissioner	Review of the Key Performance and Customer Satisfaction Information
Economy Quarter 1 Performance Measures 2018/19 (1 April to 30 June 2018)	Justin Brown, Enterprise Commissioner;	Review of the Key Performance and Customer Satisfaction Information

30 OCTOBER 2018 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Greater Lincolnshire Local Industrial Strategy	Justin Brown, Commissioner for Economic Growth; Ruth Carver, Commissioning Manager (LEP)	Review of the work undertaken on the Greater Lincolnshire Local Industrial Strategy
Agri-Food Sector – Plan, Progress and Prospects	Kate Storey, Commissioning Officer (LEP)	
Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership – Accountable Body Progress Report	Linsay Hill Pritchard, Principal Commissioning Officer	To scrutinise performance of the projects funded by greater Lincolnshire LEP (NB. Lincolnshire County Council is the accountable body for the GLLEP)
Progress and prioritisation of, Economic Development Capital Projects	Andy Brooks, Commissioning Manager (Regeneration Programme)	

27 NOVEMBER 2018 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Quarter 2 Performance Report (1 July to 30 September 2018)	Justin Brown, Commissioner for Economic Growth, David Hickman, Growth and Environment Commissioner	Review of the Key Performance and Customer Satisfaction Information.
Visitor Economy Sector – Plan, Progress and Prospects	Nicola Radford, Senior Commissioning Officer (Regeneration Programmes)	
Co-commissioning Historic Environment Services	David Hickman, Growth & Environment Commissioner	To shape development of a more integrated approach to LCC services relating to the historic environment.

15 JANUARY 2019 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals 2019/20	Andy Gutherson, County Commissioner Economy and Place; Justin Brown, Commissioner for Economic Growth; David Hickman, Growth and Environment Commissioner	PRE-DECISION SCRUTINY Budget Proposals for 2019/20

26 FEBRUARY 2019 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Quarter 3 Performance Report (1 October to 31 December 2018)	Justin Brown, Commissioner for Economic Growth, David Hickman, Growth and Environment Commissioner	Review of the Key Performance and Customer Satisfaction Information.

09 APRIL 2019 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose
Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Progress Report	Steve Brookes, Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager	Review of the implementation of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme (Onlincolnshire).

21 MAY 2019 – 10.00am		
Item	Contributor	Purpose

Items to be programmed

- Third Carbon Management Plan - Vanessa Strange, Accessibility and Growth Manager
- Manufacturing Economy Sector - Plan, Progress and Prospects
- Learning points from DWP/GLLEP Skills Pilot Project
- County Farms
- Coastal Country Park

For more information about the work of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee please contact Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer on 01522 552102 or by e-mail at daniel.steel@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Forward Plan of Decisions relating to the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

DEC REF	MATTERS FOR DECISION	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR DECISION	HOW AND WHEN TO COMMENT PRIOR TO THE DECISION BEING TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND CHIEF OFFICER	KEY DECISION YES/NO	DIVISIONS AFFECTED
I016468 New!	Adoption of Lincolnshire Waste Partnership's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy	6 November 2018	Executive	Lincolnshire Waste Partnership; Lincolnshire County Council's Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee; neighbouring councils; and public consultation	Report	Senior Commissioning Officer (Waste) Tel: 01522 552371 Email: matthew.michell@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Executive Councillor: Commercial and Environmental Management and Executive Director for Environment and Economy	Yes	All Divisions

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