



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

10 September 2020

In accordance with the powers granted by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 this will be a virtual meeting.

Council

A meeting of the Council will be held on **Friday, 18 September 2020 as a Virtual - Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams, commencing at 10.30 am** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda. The attendance of all Councillors is requested.

Access to the meeting is as follows:

Members of the Council and officers of the County Council supporting the meeting will access the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

Members of the public and the press may access the meeting via the following link: <https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/ie/ListDocuments.aspx?CId=120&MId=5504> where a live feed will be made available on the day of the meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Debbie Barnes'.

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

Membership of the Council (70 Members of the Council)

Councillors M Brookes (Chairman), T Bridges (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, T R Ashton, Mrs A M Austin, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, R D Butroid, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, Mrs K Cook, Mrs P Cooper, P E Coupland, G E Cullen, C J Davie, R G Davies, B M Dobson, M T Fido, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M A Griggs, R Grocock, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, P M Key, Mrs J E Killey, S R Kirk, Mrs C J Lawton, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton, Mrs M J Overton MBE, C R Oxby, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, E J Poll, Mrs S Rawlins, C E Reid, R P H Reid, R A Renshaw, S P Roe, P A Skinner, E J Sneath, A J Spencer, H Spratt, A N Stokes, M J Storer, E W Strengiel, Mrs C A Talbot, Dr M E Thompson, R H Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R Wootten, C N Worth, B Young and 1 Vacancy

**COUNCIL AGENDA
FRIDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence	
2	Declarations of Councillors' Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 June 2020	5 - 14
4	Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the County Council held on 3 August 2020	15 - 16
5	Chairman's Announcements	
6	Statements/Announcements by the Leader and Members of the Executive	17 - 60
7	Questions to the Chairman, the Leader, Executive Councillors, Chairman of Committees and Sub-Committees	
8	Review of Financial Performance 2019/20	61 - 82
9	Political Proportionality and Allocation of seats to Committees and Sub-Committees	83 - 88
10	Motions on Notice submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution	

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

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

Contact details set out above.

Please note: This meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and access can be sought by accessing <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business>

All papers for council meetings are available on:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/council-business/search-committee-records>



**COUNCIL
26 JUNE 2020**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR T BRIDGES (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors M Brookes (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, T R Ashton, Mrs A M Austin, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, R D Butroid, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, Mrs K Cook, Mrs P Cooper, G E Cullen, C J Davie, R G Davies, B M Dobson, M T Fido, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M A Griggs, R Grocock, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, P M Key, Mrs C J Lawton, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton, Mrs M J Overton MBE, C R Oxby, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, E J Poll, Mrs S Rawlins, C E Reid, R P H Reid, R A Renshaw, S P Roe, P A Skinner, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, M J Storer, E W Strengiel, Mrs C A Talbot, Dr M E Thompson, R H Trollope-Bellew, A H Turner MBE JP, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wooten, R Wooten, C N Worth and B Young

1 TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF PROCEDURE RULES

It was proposed and seconded, and

RESOLVED

That the following Council procedure rules be suspended for the duration of the meeting, 13.2 (Right of the Chairman to require motion to be written down and handed to him), 15(c) (Every proposition to be decided by voices or show of hands), 15(d) (Where the decision of the Chairman is challenged on voices, requirement to have a show of hands), 19.1 (Standing to speak), Rule 19.2 (Chairman Standing).

2 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR 2020/21

On the nomination of Councillor M J Hill OBE, seconded by Councillor A M Austin, and there being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor M Brookes be elected as Chairman of the County Council for the year 2020/21.

Councillor Brookes took the Chair and thanked the Council for electing him.

COUNCILLOR M BROOKES IN THE CHAIR

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3 **ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR 2020/21**

On the nomination of Councillor M Brookes, seconded by Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, and there being no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED

That Councillor T Bridges be elected Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the year 2020/21.

4 **CHANGE OF AGENDA ORDER**

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the agenda order be amended and agenda item 12 be taken before agenda item 11.

5 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P E Coupland, Mrs J E Killey, S R Kirk and A J Spencer.

6 **DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS**

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

7 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2020**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

8 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN'S CHAPLAIN**

The Chairman reported that this appointment was still being finalised and he would advise the Council in due course.

9 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

It was with great sadness that the Chairman reported the death of County Councillor Lewis Strange. Councillor Strange was elected to the County Council in June 2001 and represented the Ancholme Cliff electoral division until 4 May 2017, when he was elected to represent Market Rasen Wolds electoral division following a boundary review.

A former portfolio holder for Cultural Services, Councillor Strange served as Executive Councillor for Waste between May 2005 and May 2013.

He was chairman of both the Environmental Scrutiny Committee and the Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee between May 2013 and May 2017.

A great champion of the Countryside, Councillor Strange served on the Local Access Forum for many years, as well as being a long standing member of the Lincolnshire Wolds Joint Advisory Committee. In May 2017 he was appointed chairman of the Council's Definitive Map and Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee.

The Chairman said he was a popular character, a great friend to many, and he would be sadly missed.

The Chairman also reported that members would have all seen the devastating effects of COVID-19 and the loss of life here in Lincolnshire, across the country, across the world. The Chairman requested that members observe a silent tribute to the late Councillor Strange and to remember those Lincolnshire people who have lost their lives to Coronavirus in recent months.

The virtual chamber observed a minute's silence.

A number of Members of the Council paid tribute to Councillor Strange.

The Chairman reported that this week would have been Lincolnshire Show Week, but the pandemic caused it to be cancelled in its usual form for the first time since the Foot and Mouth outbreak in 2001.

Regrettably the annual service of dedication and thanksgiving had also had to be postponed. It was hoped that this would be rearranged for a later date during the Chairman's term of office.

A list of civic engagements relating to the immediate past Chairman and Vice-Chairman were available from the Civic Officer.

10 THE LEADER TO REPORT ON EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS AND APPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE AND APPOINTMENTS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT COUNCILLORS

In accordance with Article 5.02 the Leader notified the Council of the appointments to the Executive and for the purposes of Part 3 (Responsibilities for Functions) the responsibilities of each Portfolio Holder. The Leader also notified the Council of the Executive Support Councillors he had appointed in accordance with Article 5.07.

11 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Members of the Executive each provided an update on activity within their portfolios.

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

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

(Note: Councillor S R Parkin left the meeting at 12.35pm and did not rejoin)

<u>Question by</u>	<u>Question to</u>	<u>Subject</u>
a) R J Kendrick	Mrs P A Bradwell OBE	Additional funding allocated to schools from government.
b) R A Renshaw	R G Davies	Use of funding allocated to Lincolnshire for transport improvements
c) K Cook	R G Davies	Delay to Holdingham roundabout projects.
d) G E Cullen	C J Davie	Support to seasonal businesses in Lincolnshire.
e) M D Boles	E J Poll	Disposal of large items at HWRC's
f) Mrs J Brockway	M J Hill OBE	Unexpected benefits of changes to working practices due to Covid-19
g) Mrs M J Overton MBE	R G Davies	Unclassified roads repairs
h) K J Clarke	R G Davies	Work to encourage people to use cycle paths
i) M T Fido	R G Davies	Highways work to increase safety for residents on Doddington Road, Lincoln
j) Mrs A M Austin	R G Davies	Promotion of cycling to families
k) C E H Marfleet	Mrs P A Bradwell OBE	Operation of day care centres.

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| l) R B Parker | M J Hill OBE | Letter about reorganisation of local government |
| m) C Matthews | Mrs P A Bradwell OBE | National tutoring programme for schools |
| n) R D Butroid | M J Hill OBE | Future of RAF Scampton site |

The meeting adjourned at 1.18pm and reconvened at 1.50pm.

(NOTE: Councillors K Cook, C Macey, and A H Turner MBE did not rejoin the afternoon session of the meeting)

13 POLITICAL BALANCE ON COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES AND ALLOCATION OF PLACES TO POLITICAL GROUPS

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That Council:

1. Remove the Roman Catholic representative seat from the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.
2. Adopts Appendix A, as attached to the Order of Proceedings, as the political balance of committees, sub-committees and outside bodies and allocation of places to political groups.

14 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND SUB-COMMITTEES (EXCEPT THE LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AND HEALTH SCRUTINY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE)

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen as circulated with this Order of Proceedings be approved, subject to Council noting the following:

- The appointment of Councillor C E Reid as Vice-Chairman of Scrutiny Panel B
- The appointment of Councillor R P H Reid as Vice-Chairman of the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee

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15 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2020/21

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Calendar of Meetings dates as shown in Appendix A of the report be approved.

16 APPOINTMENT OF PARENT GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointment of Mrs Megan Rebecca Machin as Parent Governor Representative on the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Management Board be noted.

17 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the appointments to outside bodies, as detailed in Appendix A of the report and noting the Council's representatives on the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Member Joint Advisory Committee would be Councillors C E H Marfleet and D McNally instead of Councillor E J Poll and a vacancy.

18 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2019-20 be approved.

19 SCRUTINY REVIEW REPORT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY AT
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

1. That the Executive – Scrutiny Protocol as set out in Appendix A of the report, be approved;
2. That the schedule of deviations from statutory guidance, as set out in Appendix B of the report, be approved;

3. That no change be made to the terms of reference for the overview and scrutiny committees, as set out in Article 6 [Overview and Scrutiny Committees] of the Council's Constitution, except for:
- i) The amendment of Articles 6.03 [*Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee*] and 6.04 [*Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee*], as set out in Appendix C of the report.
 - ii) The deletion of Article 6.12 [*Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny sub-Group*]

20 EXECUTIVE DECISION - RULE 17 (SPECIAL URGENCY)

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the decision made under Rule 17 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution by the Leader of the Council, be noted.

(Note: Councillor P A Skinner left the meeting at 2.17pm and did not rejoin)

21 MOTIONS ON NOTICE SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

(1) Motion by Councillor M A Whittington

It was moved and seconded:

It is now nearly four years since Grantham Hospital A&E was closed overnight as a temporary measure. Councillors, campaign groups and residents across Lincolnshire have marched on several rallies, delivered petitions to Downing Street and, have attended board meetings to call on ULHT and the South West Lincolnshire CCG to re-open Grantham Hospital 24/7 for emergency treatment.

On Thursday 11th June the Trust board of the United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) approved a plan to turn the A&E department into a 24 hour walk in urgent treatment centre from June 22 as a temporary measure in order to create a "green site" that is Covid-19 free to deal with elective cases. Whilst this Council understands the potential operational and infection prevention control benefits of attempting to provide a clean 'green' site for the care of patients without coronavirus, we have significant concerns about a potential future downgrading of the site and stopping all unplanned admissions meaning that residents of Grantham and the surrounding area will have to travel to access in patient care

In addition, in August 2019, Pilgrim Hospital received news of a funding boost of £21.5 million by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson to upgrade Accident and Emergency and improve the Urgent treatment facilities

This funding was intended to improve patient wait times and the flow of patients in and out of the department, allowing patients needing emergency treatment to be seen and treated quicker. This investment is welcomed and whilst we recognise the

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challenges facing the Trust due to Covid 19, Council would oppose any downgrading of emergency and urgent facilities at Pilgrim Hospital in light of this investment.

This Council therefore calls on the Leader of Lincolnshire County Council, Councillor Martin Hill OBE to write to John Turner, Accountable Officer Lincolnshire CCG and Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust to:

1. Express disappointment that residents of Grantham and the surrounding area will need to travel excessive distances to access unplanned in patient care and asks for written assurance on what transport support will be available for patients and their families.
2. Seek written assurance that the closure of the medical beds is a temporary change and asks when the medical inpatient beds will be re-instated with the required medical cover as is currently provided.
3. Seek written assurance that the investment at Pilgrim Hospital will not result in any down grading of facilities for emergency or urgent care.
4. Seek written assurance that consultation to achieve substantial changes in line with the Healthy Conversation is undertaken as soon as possible"

(Note: Councillor C L Perraton-Williams left the meeting at 2.48pm and did not rejoin)

Upon being put to the vote, this was carried unanimously.

(2) Motion by Councillor R B Parker

It was moved and seconded:

PREAMBLE

As a result of COVID 19 there is an even greater concern for children and young people and families who have not been able to access services. This may be due to lack of available services because of lockdown or that families may be reluctant to use available services for other reasons such as fear of contracting the virus. Educationally stimulating resources are not always available at home. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds when at home often have problems accessing IT equipment, having their own physical space and do not always have parental support. It is therefore essential that this Council makes every effort to reduce the impact of the disruption of education because of Covid 19 to Lincolnshire children and young people by enhancing both educational and social provision

By creating a fund of £5,807,200 to be met from transferring funds from the Financial Volatility Reserve the Council could fund the following activities.
Summer Holiday Provision

Provision of 15,000 sessional places over 6 weeks during the Summer vacation at a cost £2,250,000

Out of School Provision

Provision of out of school places from 3.30pm to 6pm for up to three days a week to 2,000 children for 38 weeks at a cost of £2,280,000.

Provide access to maternity services in more of our Children Centres in order to combat disadvantage

Increase maternity offer provided currently from eight centres to ten additional centres. Ten centres would need to be prioritised to ensure the focus was on the areas most in need of these services locally

This proposal would involve both capital funding and revenue costs

Each centre would have different requirements and works to take place to undertake. Internal work to ensure facilities are in line with the relevant guidance alterations required on average has been approx. £25,000 each. This would result in a capital investment of £250,000.

Some on-going revenue would be needed to support the centres to accommodate these additional services for additional cleaning, reception and admin with other facilities costs. An estimate of the ongoing costs for ten centres would be in the region of £150,000 per annum. A pilot of a three-year period would have a total revenue cost of £450,000.

Provide delivery of more children centres outreach services to support families in rural communities as a pilot.

Target rural communities that do not have access locally to children centre services. Develop and deliver a regular programme of support to support local engagement.

Increase services offered through our commissioned provider

Five additional sessions for 48 weeks per year as outreach in each of the four localities Staff per locality £18,250; Venue costs £7,200; Resources £2,400 Total for county £111,400 per annum. A pilot of a three-year period would have a total revenue cost of £334,200.

Provide 1-1 direct advice and support for families not willing to actively engage in services that have a focus on increasing the engagement of parents in their child's early learning as a pilot for 18 months.

Target families that do not access services. Develop and deliver a regular programme of support 1 to 1 with a focus on engaging them in universal services. One Early years practitioners per locality
Resources Total funding required of £162,000 per annum and £243,000 over the 18-month pilot programme.

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The total known cost for the first year of this proposal would be £250,000 capital costs and £4,953,400 of revenue costs. Much of these costs would fall in the 2020/21 financial year, but will also partly fall into the following year in line with the academic year calendar. These costs could be met from transferring funds from the Financial Volatility Reserve, which can be drawn down in the relevant financial year as required.

The additional revenue cost to undertake the pilot schemes for the period set out in the proposals would be £603,800 and would also need to be drawn down from reserve in future financial years.

MOTION

This council therefore agrees in the special circumstances faced by the Covid 19 pandemic:-.

1. To create a fund or funds totalling £5,807,200 to meet a mix of revenue and capital expenditure dedicated to reducing the impact of the disruption of education because of Covid 19 to Lincolnshire children and young people by enhancing both educational and social provision by transferring the funds from the Financial Volatility Reserve
2. Calls on the Executive to utilise the fund(s) for the following purposes:-
 - Provision of 15,000 sessional places over six weeks during the Summer vacation
 - Provision of out of school places from 3.30pm to 6pm for up to three days each week to 2000 children for 38 weeks
 - Increase maternity offer provided currently from eight centres to ten additional centres
 - Five additional sessions for 48 weeks per year of children's centre outreach targeting rural communities that do not have access locally to children centre services.
 - Provide 1-1 direct advice and support for families not willing to actively engage in services that have a focus on increasing the engagement of parents in their child's early learning as a pilot for 18 months

(Note: Councillor R J Kendrick left the meeting at 3.10pm and did not rejoin the meeting; Councillor M A Griggs left the meeting at 3.24pm and did not rejoin; Councillor B Young left the meeting at 3.31pm and did not rejoin the meeting)

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

The meeting closed at 3.45 pm



**COUNCIL
3 AUGUST 2020**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M BROOKES (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors T Bridges (Vice-Chairman), B Adams, W J Aron, Mrs A M Austin, M D Boles, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, D Brailsford, C J T H Brewis, Mrs J Brockway, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, P E Coupland, R G Davies, B M Dobson, I G Fleetwood, R L Foulkes, M A Griggs, R Grocock, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, P M Key, Mrs J E Killey, C E H Marfleet, C Matthews, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton, C R Oxby, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, E J Poll, Mrs S Rawlins, C E Reid, R P H Reid, R A Renshaw, S P Roe, E J Sneath, A N Stokes, M J Storer, E W Strengiel, Mrs C A Talbot, Dr M E Thompson, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wooten, R Wooten and B Young

22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs W Bowkett, R D Butroid, Mrs K Cook, G E Cullen, C J Davie, M T Fido, Mrs C J Lawton, Mrs M J Overton MBE, A J Spencer, H Spratt, A H Turner MBE and C N Worth.

23 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

Councillor S P Roe clarified one of his declared interests in that he was a director of a company with two tenants who ran café's. He advised that he would not take part in the debate or the vote.

24 PAVEMENT LICENCES - ACCEPTANCE OF DELEGATION OF DISTRICT COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Council:

1. Approves the exercise by the Council of the pavement licensing functions contained in Part 1 of the Business and Planning Act 2020 if and to the extent that they were delegated to the County Council by any of the District Councils in Lincolnshire;
2. Delegates to the Executive Director – Place the authority to take all decisions necessary to fulfil the said functions including the determination of applications for pavement licences.

The meeting closed at 2.38 pm

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Agenda Item 6

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor M Hill OBE, Leader of the Council

FINANCE

Financial Impacts of Covid-19

From the beginning of the current pandemic the Council has taken measures to support and protect our staff, our suppliers and our local communities and residents. Recognising the vital role local authorities are playing with this support, the Government has distributed three tranches of Covid-19 Emergency Support Grant, totalling £3.7b. They have also announced funding for authorities to reclaim sales, fees and charges income lost due to Covid-19 and measures to assist with future years' potential deficits on the collection of local taxes. We have currently been allocated £40.3m of this emergency support grant and we have been continually monitoring the costs and forecasts of additional expenditure and income losses due to Covid-19. At this point, we believe we can manage our costs within the financial support provided, but this will be continually reviewed.

Financial Statements and Outturn 2019/20

In response to the current emergency situation, the Government has amended the statutory audit deadlines for the 2019/20 financial statements. The latest publication date for final audited accounts has moved from 31 July to 30 November, with the date for draft accounts available for public inspection moved back to the 31 August. Whilst this extension has been given, we are aiming to work to an earlier timetable more in line with previous years. Our draft accounts were available for public inspection from 1 July and were reviewed by the Audit Committee on the 13 July. Our external auditors, Mazars, are currently reviewing our accounts, with an aim to have a proposed audit opinion and the audited accounts with Audit Committee on 28 September, well within the extended reporting deadline.

Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2020/10 – Monitoring Reports

In order to improve the frequency and transparency of our financial reporting, the first budget monitoring reports for the current financial year were based on the position as at 30 June 2020. The reports cover both our revenue and capital position and provide an update on the financial impacts of Covid-19. The reports were presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 27 August with the comments of the Board presented to the Executive on 2 September 2020.

Budget 2021 and Beyond

Leading up to Council approving our budget in February 2020, work had been undertaken to review our budget pressures and identify efficiencies which allowed us to set a balanced budget for 2020/21, which included new development initiatives. Although much reduced, our medium term strategy was still forecasting a budget shortfall position at by the end of 2022/23. Prior to Covid-19 we were expecting to see

the outcome of the Government's Comprehensive Spending review and Fair Funding review, looking at how funding is distributed to Local Authorities. We are now expecting a spending review outcome to be announced by the Government during the autumn and will look to bring an update of our medium term budget position to Council at the end of 2020.

COMMERCIAL

Infrastructure Team

The team continues to support high priority projects within the Council:

- **Dry Recycling Contract/Paper and Card** – the Council has entered into a contract with New Earth Solutions West Ltd for the reception, processing and sale of household recycling materials. Now that the contract is live it will bring some financial savings and flexibility to adapt to regulatory changes and for the Council to benefit from an improved recycling rate. This work is being carried out within the county, providing local employment. This new contract will also allow the Council to move forward on the separate collection of paper and card which we hope to begin next year.
- **COVID-19 Supplier Support** – in response to the unprecedented events relating to Covid-19 the Council has continued to work hard to ensure that the suppliers which it relies upon are supported through the provision of continued funding for service delivery, where the financial support provided by central government could not be accessed.

Serco performance during the Covid-19 crisis

The Serco contract performance is measured through a series of key performance indicators, and these have continued to be measured during the crisis period. Serco delivered strongly, continuing to meet most of their usual target service levels, and only claiming mitigation for those in IMT associated with service request fulfilment and end user device patching, both of which have been heavily impacted during the rapid deployment of remote working.

Extension to Corporate Support Services Contract

Following the Executive's decision on the 2 June to retain Serco's services for the period 1 April 2022 until 31 March 2024, work has progressed apace to negotiate all the details of the arrangement, and these are now nearing completion.

People Services Team

The People Services Team has and continues to play a significant part in the Covid-19 response. This has represented a very high proportion of the Team's workload since the end of March and as a consequence it has been necessary to delay some key procurements. As the Council and wider community progresses into the recovery phase, the Team has re-prioritised and is re-commencing the stalled procurement programme.

The Team has continued to support a number of high priority procurement programmes throughout this period:

- **Community Supported Living – Annual Value £32m** - Community Supported Living (CSL) is a care and support service enabling vulnerable adults to develop and acquire new skills to increase independence in daily living through appropriate risk taking, education and employment to meet their desired outcomes in their Personal Plan. Across Lincolnshire 903 people are currently supported in this way. The successful outcome of the procurement process in June will ensure this service can continue to offer care and support to vulnerable adults, and includes developments in the service model, intended to enhance value for money and support high quality service delivery. 28 Providers are now approved to deliver CSL services under the new contract, which commenced on 1 July.
- **Housing Related Support – Annual Value £2m** - evidence shows that homelessness and rough sleeping continue to increase locally and nationally, and that cases are becoming increasingly complex. The new Housing Related Support (HRS) service model has been developed to ensure that all agencies fulfil their individual and shared obligations to the most vulnerable people. Redesigning HRS services in this way increases the likelihood of positive outcomes for service users, reduces the risk of them needing other LCC services and maximises the effectiveness and efficiency of the investment in HRS. The procurement process concluded at the end of February for both Adults HRS, and Youth Housing Supported Accommodation Services. Originally due to go live in July, service mobilisation periods for these complex services were extended to take account of the pandemic situation and the new contracts are now due to go live in October this year for Adults HRS, and in January 2021 in the case of the Youth Housing Supported Accommodation Service.
- **Home Based Reablement – Annual Value £4m** - the Home Based Reablement Service (HBRS) is designed to help people learn or relearn the skills necessary for daily living, which have been lost through illness, deterioration of health and/or increased support needs. It offers an intensive period of support for people to maximise skills and potential for either full independence or a lower level of on-going support. It is a fundamental part of the care system in Lincolnshire and plays a critical role in the overall healthcare system. Through person-centred interventions the service improves residents' quality of life and decreases the need for longer-term social care services, supports timely hospital discharge whilst reducing the chances of re-admission, alleviating pressure on already overburdened residential homes and hospitals. The new contract includes a pilot programme to trial a broadening of eligibility criteria for the HBRS in order to confirm the potential benefits. It was won by incumbent provider, Libertas, which will commence delivery of the new service on 1 November.
- **Emergency Provision and Short Breaks – Annual Value £800k** - this service provides planned and emergency respite care for adults with learning disabilities at two LCC owned buildings, with a total of 15 beds across both

sites. Usually intended to give an informal carer a break from their caring role and to provide meaningful activity for the service user, the service can also be used in emergency situations, for example following carer breakdown. This service relieves pressure and helps to sustain carer arrangements in the long term in a cost effective way for the Council. Following the conclusion of the procurement process, the new contracts were awarded in early April, and went live on 1 July.

- **Domestic Abuse Refuges – Annual Value £200k** - the service will deliver support and help and access to secure refuge accommodation for those fleeing domestic violence. The delivery model comprises temporary accommodation and support (up to 6 months) for men and women (including any dependents) and was developed in conjunction with Community Safety, the Lincolnshire County Council Domestic Abuse Strategy Co-ordinator Lead and Public Health. The new contract, awarded in mid-March, was successfully mobilised by provider EDAN Lincs, through the height of the pandemic and went live on 1 July.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

ADULT CARE

Despite the challenges we have all experienced in recent months, Adult Care have been navigating their way through the Covid-19 pandemic with a stronger focus than ever on working together. Being flexible, creative and with a focus on residents to ensure they continued to be as safe as possible. Things that were previously thought impossible were achieved in a matter of weeks. Staff have pulled together to support Lincolnshire residents and adopted new ways of working.

Discharge from Hospital and Testing

Having recognised the impact of Covid-19, Adult Care were instrumental in developing discharge pathways for service users returning home, and for those who transferred to a Care Home. Both Providers and our Health Protection Team recognised the importance of knowing a person's Covid-19 status before they left hospital. A single discharge pathway was implemented early in April across the Lincolnshire Health and Care system which meant no one needing support would leave hospital with an unknown Covid status. This was essential for Providers and enabled informed decision making regarding the ability to meet a person's needs safely. Care Homes within Lincolnshire accepted over 300 hospital discharges between 1 April and 30 June 2020. Whilst every Covid death is painful, the number of deaths in Lincolnshire Care Homes related to Covid-19 has been much lower than those in other parts of the country. This is a reflection of the excellent work undertaken by all of the staff across the Health and Care system.

Reablement Service (Libertas)

The Council temporarily stood down this function at the start of the pandemic to ensure enough home care capacity was available to provide safe hospital discharges. As part of the recovery and restoration of services, the full reablement service started again on the 23 June 2020. People can now access a reablement service and Libertas are continuing to support with providing care for hospital discharges.

British Association of Social Work (BASW) National recognition

Holly Clarke, a Community Care Officer, based with the ASC team at Lincoln County Hospital recently won a national competition run by the British Association of Social Work (BASW). Her excellent essay titled: '*Working Better Together: How do we build stronger relationships between social workers and people using our services*' will be included in the next BASW book published. Holly achieved whilst working through the pandemic and some of her reflections can be read in the published article.

Extra Care Housing

De Wint Court Lincoln

Although the Covid-19 restrictions did affect housing construction schemes, the De Wint Court development has continued. This is primarily due to the ability to focus on external works which were less affected by the restrictions. The scheme remains on track to open in 2021. A joint allocations approach has been agreed between LCC and City of Lincoln Council which will see people being allocated either one or two bedroomed accommodation, with a mix of needs delivered within the scheme.

Linelands, Nettleham

Our second Extra Care housing scheme was approved by the Executive this month. This scheme will provide 43 one or two bedroomed accommodation. The project partner for this scheme is Lace Housing who are very experienced at delivering this type of accommodation.

We have further proposals in the early stages of development at Horncastle, Sleaford and Boston.

Day Centres

The service reacted rapidly to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, introducing infection control measures in order to maintain a broadly normal service until the national lockdown, at which point the service switched immediately to a risk based emergency operating model providing direct support only to those assessed as requiring essential critical support - around 12% of people. In the main this support was community based or in the homes of people using the service and where this was not possible some service buildings were used to support individuals.

A secondary level of service was then quickly established which saw weekly welfare checks made by telephone to all families known to the service. This ongoing contact and monitoring ensured the service could increase support to direct provision as and when required. These welfare checks were widely reported as a valuable emotional support by vulnerable families under high levels of stress. The service has also supported vulnerable people in other ways over the lockdown period, for example collecting medication and shopping for self-isolating families, providing activity packs and through the extensive use of online video conferencing sessions.

The service has also contributed to the county wide response to the pandemic in a number of ways including using buildings to provide socially distanced workstations, providing support to individuals whose ordinary independent providers were unavailable and by releasing staff to work in children's residential settings and to support colleagues in safeguarding.

Many of the buildings are now opened, having been adapted to provide a safe support environment and people are returning. However, the capacity of each centre is currently much reduced and so the service is using this as an opportunity to

provide more community based activity in line with the existing strategy. This is leading to many and varied examples of great support, for example one group of service users have been supported to volunteer, maintaining a local community woodland. We expect to be providing normal service levels by December.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Our care homes have done a fantastic job throughout the challenges presented by Covid-19, continuing to care for some of our most vulnerable people. They have fundamentally changed the way they are working in order to protect everyone from this terrible disease. The lower than average rates of infection and deaths associated with this virus across our homes is testament to their dedication and effectiveness.

On each step of the journey, care homes have reacted quickly and enthusiastically to new guidance and measures aimed at improving safety. This coming week a re-launched national system will see every care home routinely testing for Covid-19 once a week for all staff and once a month for all residents. All of our providers of services to older people in Lincolnshire will be taking part. If their success in routine testing so far is any indication, I am confident we will continue to find the small number of positive cases in staff and residents that arise and act swiftly to prevent the spread of the disease and maintain our excellent track record in reducing harm.

This new testing approach, alongside driving the uptake of flu immunisations as we approach winter, will help us keep our vulnerable residents as safe as possible.

Centre for Ageing Better Rural Strategic Partnership

In my last statement I spoke about how Lincolnshire had been selected as a Rural Strategic Partner for the Centre for Ageing Better (AB). Working with our District Council colleagues, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, this will enable us to draw on Ageing Better's expertise of 'what works' and to influence national policy. I am pleased to report that good progress is being made in finalising the arrangements. The Memorandum of Understanding has now been signed by all partners; a Partnership Manager for Lincolnshire has been appointed and topic groups have met to develop the work programme ahead of the first full Steering Group meeting on 28 September 2020.

The Health work stream is developing a programme of research and evidence based practice with those in their 50s and 60s to test ways to support healthy ageing. The Housing work stream is supporting the delivery of the Housing Health and Care Delivery Group action plan. In addition, Ageing Better's links with Care and Repair England to compliment the County Council's links with Foundations will provide expert advice and guidance for service re-design.

Housing Related Support Service

I am pleased to report the Housing Related Support (HRS) service mobilisation is on course to go live on 1 October 2020. Work with the District Councils, incumbent

providers and the new provider is continuing to ensure a new referral pathway and eligibility criteria is well established and accessible. Public Health remain in dialogue with the Districts to assist with move-on provision after HRS support, so that the service is able to provide support to those most at need and we are able to move them on to more sustainable accommodation. However, the Team Around the Adult development has been put on pause due to Covid-19.

Wellbeing Service

An updated Step Down and Step Up option for the Wellbeing Service has been developed. This will ensure that the service can return to elements of business as usual whilst still being ready to support those most at need if and when local Covid-19 outbreaks happen, or if local lockdowns are needed:

- The Wellbeing Service will continue to manage the triage of support needs and enable access to essential supplies for those without support networks including online supermarket options, local voluntary groups and the NHS Volunteer Scheme.
- Wellbeing Officers will also triage and refer individuals who are eligible for assistance from the Lincolnshire Food Partnership with small appliances and payment of utility bills.
- The Wellbeing Service assess the needs of those experiencing extreme financial hardship, offering support through the core service to explore their longer term financial resilience.
- Where vulnerable individuals have no immediate access to essential supplies, emergency food parcels can be provided by referral from the Wellbeing Service to the British Red Cross, supported by the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum.

Public Health Support to Children Services

The majority of public health led services regarding children's health have been put on hold during the Covid-19 response, although support for the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Child Death Overview Panel has continued through the outbreak response period.

The Health Protection Team within Public Health has been supporting schools, further education colleges and universities with their response to Covid-19 including risk assessments, risk mitigations and preparations for outbreak management and response. Dedicated support has also been given to Children's Services, head teachers and education leaders on implementing protective measures for children's residential settings, schools and social work teams.

ADULT & FAMILY LEARNING

All over the county during the Covid-19 lockdown, Adult Skills & Family Learning Tutors haven't just provided new online courses; they have kept an eye on the vulnerable and helped to change lives. The service has been at its most responsive during these very difficult times. In Lincolnshire, we produced an online response to lockdown reducing isolation, improving mental health and wellbeing, whilst

increasing support for people affected by job insecurity. This is great social return on the Education & Skills Funding Agency funding investment.

We have refreshed the 2aspire website to support our learners and training providers, as well as helped to future proof the service as we continue to operate in uncertain times. Our website now provides learning at home advice and activities, careers and job hunting advice and links to online learning (<https://www.2aspire.org.uk/learning-at-home/>). In partnership with Food Banks in West Lindsey we have supported some of our most vulnerable families with resources to support their children's learning.

The impact of this hard work is demonstrated by the 12,000 visits we have seen to the 2aspire website since lockdown. Most importantly, we have been able to maintain a learning programme for our learners and help them to complete the qualifications they signed up for back in August 2019. Over 1,500 qualifications have been undertaken during the academic year. We are delighted that the evidence tutors and providers have submitted to awarding bodies with regards to tutor assessed calculated grades has been honoured in order to ensure all our learners receive the qualifications they deserve. This includes 31 learners at Community Learning in Partnership (CLIP), one of our subcontracted providers, who received their GCSE results with 77% achieving a Grade 4 or higher. We are really proud of these learners who have achieved qualifications in very challenging times.

Plans are in place to deliver the 2020/21 programme to around 6,000 learners across Lincolnshire. The 2020/21 programme, based around employability and health and wellbeing, aims to help participants boost their skills and get back into work. The programme has been developed with the Lincolnshire business community and is tailored to learners' needs.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Schools Reopening

I am pleased to be able to report that when the Government required schools to close in March, the proportion of schools that remained open to care for vulnerable children and the children of key workers in Lincolnshire was impressive. I have heard many reports of how pleased both pupils and staff were to be back in school when the phased re-opening of schools commenced with key year groups in June.

School is important for our children and young people for their wellbeing and for their education. Seeing all pupils return to schools in September brings back a degree of normality and ensures pupils can continue with their education. Schools were asked to carry out risk assessments and follow a set of controls to minimise risk in their settings. School leaders and their governing bodies have considered these controls and with the knowledge of their school and community planned what is best to mitigate risk and ensure pupils access education.

This means that schools in different settings will be working in different ways. For example, it has been recommended that schools minimise contact. How contacts are reduced will depend on the school's circumstances and may include grouping children together in 'bubbles', avoiding contact between groups or in secondary schools, the groups may need to be the size of a year group to enable schools to deliver the full range of curriculum subjects and students to receive specialist teaching.

Schools are adapting their curriculum to ensure the wellbeing of students is a high priority. Training has been delivered to teachers to support the wellbeing of pupils returning to school. Schools are adapting their curriculum based on the educational needs of their pupils, with modification at the start of the year moving back to the full curriculum by the summer term of 2021.

A level and GCSE Results

On 18 March 2020, the Secretary of State announced that the summer 2020 exam series would be cancelled in order to help fight the spread of coronavirus (Covid-19). Centres were asked to provide a grade for what students would have been most likely to achieve had exams gone ahead.

Exam boards used this information to produce calculated grades ensuring the distribution of grades followed a similar pattern to that in other years. Unfortunately, the algorithm that was applied caused anomalies for some students. It was decided to move to using teacher assessed grades for A level and GCSE students. Where the algorithm had increased grades, which in some cases it did, the higher result stands.

Children's Centres

Following the Government's lockdown, Lincolnshire children's centres quickly moved to a virtual offer. By working with our early years commissioned provider, midwifery and our locality teams we were able maintain essential support services to families during this time.

Families have responded very positively to the new ways of accessing services and have taken up the virtual offer with enthusiasm.

To ensure we provided safe access to antenatal appointments, 13 centres including our Lincolnshire Maternity Hubs have remained open throughout the pandemic. Since July, the Health Visiting service has been able to offer face to face visits in some children's centres as part of delivering the Healthy Child Programme.

We know that more services are reopening to families. We are currently reviewing our timetable of activities for the children's centres to identify what is safe to offer from September across the county as part of the next phase of recovery planning. We are continuing to monitor government advice. The services will be determined by the size of space available to ensure we are able to maintain social distancing requirements. Therefore, to complement this, our children's centres will continue to offer a selection of online activities to ensure families have continued support until

such time a full timetable can be made available. The Children's Centres' Facebook pages will be updated with information about centres.

Children's Services Response to Covid-19 – Update

Children's Services delivers a vast number of services to children, young people and families in Lincolnshire to ensure that they are safe, well and supported. During the early stages of the pandemic, Children's Services adapted and redesigned service delivery to ensure that the critical services that keep children, young people and families safe continued to be delivered in an effective way. This included a monumental shift from face to face working to a virtual approach and a number of staff redeploying to the most critical of services, like our children's residential homes and front line social work teams.

Our staff and partners continuously strived to provide the right support to families at an extremely worrying and difficult time. Our staff, together with partner agencies and families themselves, have developed countless innovative and creative ways of engaging with each other, utilising the technology on offer and embracing new ways of working. The commitment, dedication and adaptability of both staff and families ensured that children, young people and families stayed safe and well throughout the early stages of the pandemic.

Whilst we have received positive feedback from staff, partners and families on the new ways of working that were implemented early on, we have, throughout the pandemic, always had a focus on how we would return to a level of normality. I am pleased to say that this focus now means most families, and not just those most vulnerable, are now once again receiving face to face support from Children's Services staff. We are also now at a stage whereby the vast majority of staff who were redeployed to critical services have returned to their substantive roles with critical services now staffed and delivering services as normal.

Whilst services are returning to a level of normal we continue to look to the future. Work is continuing in Children's Services to ensure that robust plans are in place for further recovery with a significant focus on managing the demand for services over the coming months ensuring that children, young people and families are supported. This work will also ensure that we are in the best of positions should a second wave of Covid-19 occur.

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor C J Davie, Executive Councillor for Economy and Place

Flood Management September 2020

The exceptionally dry period over the last six months has been a stark contrast to the widespread and unprecedented flooding in 2019, which resulted in over 150 flood investigations, two and a half times the number in 2012, which was the previous worst year. The size of the task should not be underestimated, and despite the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, work has continued to complete the flood investigations with extra resource being brought in as required.

We have submitted an ambitious nationally-funded capital programme for the next six years beyond into the next planning cycle. Despite the deferment of Flood Defence Grant in Aid last year, we have been successful this year in securing nearly £300,000 of national funding to prepare five flood alleviation schemes so we are ready to start work as at the start of the six year plan in April next year. Ours is an ambitious programme to protect more residents of Lincolnshire; it is a programme which can only be delivered in partnership with others, not just national government but also local agencies who understand the impact of flooding on our residents. We are also looking further ahead than other authorities by including flood risk management schemes for communities at risk of flooding not just those with a history of flooding.

Members will of course recall the severe flooding that occurred at Wainfleet in June last year. I am pleased to be able to report that work continues in the Steeping catchment; weed cutting is underway, and it is expected that dredging will start late in September in a special operation to remove silt from the bed of the river into specially constructed holding lagoons. The water is filtered out and returned to the water course whilst the silt is retained and can then be used on farmland to enrich the soil.

In what is possibly the last ever tranche of European funding, we have successfully led on obtaining an ESIF grant of over £500,000 in support of an £850,000 project to develop the Black Sluice catchment into a 'smart' catchment, using instrumentation with remote monitoring to gauge river flows, rainfall, groundwater levels and levels in surface water systems to facilitate better decision making towards a sustainable, catchment-based water management plan by mid-2023.

Growth

Work is on-going to secure funds and develop new support offers to support delivery of the Business and Economy Covid Recovery Plan.

The South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) at Holbeach has been awarded a grant to deliver an £8.5m accelerated development project as part of the Government's Getting Building Fund. It is one of seven projects supported in

Greater Lincolnshire which received a total of £25.8m from the fund, and is targeted on Covid recovery.

The vision for the FEZ is to create a high quality business park to meet demand from food technology businesses to take space close to existing food producers in South Holland. It is a partnership between Lincolnshire County Council, South Holland District Council and the University of Lincoln, in which £5.4m from various sources has been invested in the Council-led elements to date. With work expected to start on site in October 2020 and finish by March 2022, the new project will create a new 'Cluster Hub' building, providing high quality business and collaboration space for small and start-up businesses working in the agri-tech sector and related businesses in the food supply chain. The project also includes further access roads to open up additional plots on Phase 1, and the foundations for Phase 2.

The Hub building will complement the purpose-built national Food Centre of Excellence on Phase 1 of the FEZ which is due to be completed in February 2021.

Further north in Skegness, construction of the extension to Skegness Business Park started on 10 August, with completion due in March 2021, so that it can be opened up to employers in sectors which will help to diversify the coastal economy.

Nearby in Huttoft, the new Huttoft Boatshed Café is nearing completion, with the off-site constructed modular building due to be installed and commissioned over the next month, which will help to raise the quality of our tourism offer.

There is a mixed picture of how the visitor economy has been impacted by Covid-19. Since relaxation of lockdown, some tourism businesses such as self-catering and caravan sites are reporting very strong business, including forward business into both the autumn and into 2021. Other businesses are finding social distancing makes their business model uneconomic, whilst others are very dependent on the event and wedding market. Some are facing the equivalent of three winters in a row. The County and District Councils have contributed to a recovery plan which will see a considerable investment into www.visitlincolnshire.com and a marketing campaign that will raise the profile of Lincolnshire as a safe, welcoming, and enjoyable destination post Covid through a campaign that is targeted locally and regionally. A Tourism Commission is to be formed that will meet over the next six months to discuss how a county DMO (Destination Management Organisation) might work.

Across the county, we have been supporting our small business tenants, which total around 200, in our business centres and industrial units, by offering a three-month suspension of rent collection from April to June, and then putting in place phased repayment plans over the remainder of the year to reduce the pressure on their cash flow due to the impact of Covid-19.

Greater Lincolnshire has been successful in bidding for Department for International Trade (DIT) High Potential Opportunity (HPO) status for its food chain and technology base. Each year DIT promotes a small number of HPOs to showcase the investment potential in the UK to international investors, and Lincolnshire is delighted that its food sector has been recognised in this way. Over 2020/21 the HPO would drive recognition for our priority sector giving investors the opportunity to

enter the UK food market to take robotic innovation from concept to commercial scale and aid new investment opportunities from 'Farm to Fork'.

The Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub has secured funding to deliver 25 Peer Networks across Greater Lincolnshire (they are part of a new National Peer to Peer networking programme). They will focus on High Growth, Visitor Economy, Manufacturing, Agriculture and Horticulture, Health and Care and Charities/CICs. The programme will launch in September and will be available for business owners who want to grow and develop their organisations. Support will be delivered through a series of virtual high impact group sessions with a trained facilitator. Benefits include help to overcome challenges and creating a trusted network of connections to support businesses now and in the future.

In addition, the Growth Hub will provide Visitor Economy Kick-Starter grants and Covid Business Recovery grants of between £1,000 and £3,000 to support businesses with Covid-19 recovery projects, including for use on new equipment and technology or to access specialist advice. The Growth Hub will administer these grants, which are due to be launched at the end of August.

Two new programmes have been developed; the Manufacturing Transformation programme and the Lincolnshire Supply Chain Improvement programme will be live from September. The aims of the programmes are to help businesses to diversify, innovate and develop robust local supply chains.

A call for businesses and community groups to apply for LEADER funding has been in great demand. Applications have been received from a range of sectors, including farming, tourism, heritage and forestry. The team will now support those who have been successful at the first stage to complete a full application.

For further information on any of the schemes please email:
Businesslincolnshire@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor R G Davies, Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP)

Fatal Collision Figures as of 17 August 2020

Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fatalities	28	38	28	25	37

Following the suspension of all National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme classroom courses due to Covid -19 (March 20) as an interim measure LRSP launched online courses. To date LRSP have delivered online road safety education courses to over 6,000 road users that committed road traffic violations.

Prior to the summer break, LRSP reintroduced School Crossing Patrols at schools where a specific need was identified. LSRP have reintroduced the full service this September. Also working on the national BikeSafe course delivery changes during COVID-19.

LSRP are currently working on changes to the delivery of 2Fast2Soon theatre production to comply with schools COVID-19 plans, as well as working on providing new online content for schools so pupils do not miss out on essential safety messages due to Covid-19.

Progress is being made with Lincolnshire's DfT Safer Road Fund. A right turn lane is currently being constructed on the A18 at the Barton Street (Pond House) junction. Resurfacing works are programmed to start on the A631 on the stretch between Market Rasen and North Willingham. Consultation on speed limit change will follow.

Community Speed Watch activity has resumed following it's suspension due to Covid-19. LRSP continue supporting Lincolnshire Police in delivering a national road safety awareness campaigns being led by the NPCC and Fire Chiefs Council. A new average speed camera system is now present and awaiting sign off on the A52 between Haltoft End and Butterwick. This has replaced two older style spot speed wet film units. All roads policing enforcement including static speed cameras and mobile speed cameras has resumed.

Major Projects/Advanced Design Block

Lincoln Eastern Bypass

Work has continued on the construction of Lincoln Eastern Bypass. The Coronavirus Pandemic caused some initial delay as new working methods were introduced to ensure guidelines on social distancing were observed where

possible. All operations have now recommenced but the above has resulted in additional cost pressures. The improved spring weather has allowed substantial progress to be made on completing the major earthworks; this is now all but complete. A new drainage sub-contractor has been engaged to improve progress on drainage installation.

As works near complete at the end of 2020 various activities are taking place across the whole site, including:

- Carriageway surfacing, including final surfacing in places
- Completion of drainage connections
- Backfilling behind the abutments to the Witham Bridge
- Completion of the Washingborough Road roundabout
- Completing of final surfacing to all the roundabouts
- Installation of Bloxholme Land and Greetwell Road Footbridge
- Removal of the temporary bridge across the River Witham
- Top soiling and landscaping

Grantham Southern Relief Road

Phase 1 from the B1174 running towards the A1 is already complete.

Phase 2 consists of tunnelling underneath the A1 while keeping the running lanes live to create a new grade separated junction with the A1 south west of Grantham. The main works commenced in September 2019 being constructed by Galliford Try. The Coronavirus Pandemic introduced some initial delay as new working methods were introduced to ensure guidelines on social distancing were observed where possible. All operations continued but the project has experienced additional cost pressures as a result.

Details of on-going works include:

- Bridge beams on the west side of the A1 are complete
- Concrete deck pour has been completed on the west side
- Continued earthworks to the western and eastern roundabouts and slip roads.
- Started drainage works for both the eastern and western roundabouts
- Piling platform has been constructed on east side

The next main sequence will be having the A1 traffic running on the new western section while the eastern underpass bridge is constructed.

Phase 3 will be the final phase of the project and is the largest and most complex to deliver. It consists of a five span viaduct carrying the road over the East Coast Mainline railway and the River Witham. The viaduct will be in excess of 10m above the River Witham. The phase is programmed to commence in spring 2021 and take approximately three years to complete. Galliford Try have been selected to provide the initial Early Contractor Involvement. Early land access agreements have been signed which allowed for enabling works to commence in February, including: vegetation clearance, ecological works, archaeological works, fencing and topsoil

strip. Work is on-going with the contractor and designers to further develop the Value Engineering options to either decrease the price or mitigate further risk.

North Hykeham Relief Road

The Outline Business Case for the project was completed and the bid document was submitted to the DfT, via Midlands Connect in February 2019. Since then a number of tranches of question have been posed to LCC, which have been answered, with the last tranche received in early August 2020. The DfT intend to now forward the bid assessment to ministers and treasury with the intention of a resolution by the end of 2020.

Spalding Western Relief Road

Section 5 (Northern Connection) – In February 2018 SHDC in collaboration with LCC were successful in securing £12m from the HCA for delivering this section of the SWRR. Since then a further £8.13m has been sourced from the HCA. Enabling works have commenced on site, which includes archaeology investigations, some vegetation clearance, utility diversion preparation and property demolition. Detailed design for Section 5A is complete, including agreement of Departures from Standards and Stage 2 Road Safety Audit.

Detailed designs of Section 5B are progressing and due to be completed by the end of 2020. This includes a re-design of the bridge and embankment to reduce costs following input from the contractor (ECI). Main works planned to start in early 2021 following land transfer agreements and signing the bridge agreement with Network Rail.

A46 Dunholme/Welton Roundabout Improvement

The A46 Dunholme/Welton roundabout improvement consists of constructing a roundabout and improving visibility at an existing 'T' junction. LCC was successful against the NPIF Tranche 2 bid for £2m. Planning approval was granted in February 2018 and detailed design is nearly complete. Legal orders were published in May 2019 and the project received two statutory and three non-statutory objections. Following extensive discussions all objections were removed and the Public Inquiry was cancelled. The DfT have subsequently confirmed the orders.

A target cost was agreed with the contractor, Eurovia and the works commenced July 2020.

The following progress has been made:

- Topsoil stripped to the entire working area for the site
- Planed out the old A46 through the hill, approx. 400mm depth of material
- Excavated the whole of the Market Rasen leg up to 3m deep
- Laid geotextile membrane along Market Rasen leg and geogrid in areas of poorer ground conditions
- 300mm of sub-base laid and compacted along 200m of Market Rasen Leg ready for surfacing contractor to complete
- Started filling the area north of the compound to finished road level
- Started excavating for drainage along the Market Rasen Leg

A46 Lincoln Northern Roundabout Improvements

The A46/A158 Riseholme Road Roundabout project on Lincoln's Northern Bypass attracted SLGF to a value of £2.4m. The project entails enlarging the size of the roundabout and increasing the number of lanes both entering and exiting each leg of the roundabouts. This will reduce congestion at this pinch point and improve journey time reliability.

Works started in February 2020 but were suspended by Breheny due to Covid19 impact. Breheny returned to site in May with revised working practices to comply with social distancing guidelines where possible. The contractor has largely completed two quadrants of the roundabout and is working on the remaining two. Works are due to be completed autumn 2020 with traffic management restrictions increasing to complete the final surface course.

Rugby Club Junction, Sleaford

Works were due to start in late March; however the contractor suspended the commencement of any new projects and furloughed their staff. Since then however, the contractor commenced the works on 13 May with the works planned to take 5 months. The majority of works on the north side of the A153 are complete with the focus now switching to the south side widening. To date the works have gone well however, a risk remains regarding the performance of utility providers. Works are due to be complete autumn 2020.

Holdingham Roundabout, Sleaford

This project was originally to follow on from the Rugby Club, but this will put the earthworks into the autumn and winter months which presents too great a risk of delays and financial costs. The decision has been made to postpone the start of work until the middle of February 2021. Detailed design is complete and the tender package has been submitted to the contractor for pricing. This is expected back in September 2020 providing sufficient time to scrutinise the target cost.

Corringham Road Junction, Gainsborough

The project entails improving the existing Thorndike Way/Corringham Road junction to a traffic signal layout with two running lanes in either direction along Thorndike Way. The improvements will provide additional safety and capacity to accommodate predicted Local Plan growth in the area.

The detailed design is complete, albeit with some minor drainage amendments to resolve. The works tender package was submitted to Balfour Beatty in July, with tender prices expected back in mid-August. Works are expected to commence September 2020.

Roman Bank, Skegness

This project entails reconstructing a section of Roman Bank in Skegness which is in a very poor state due to the concrete road slab. A funding bid was submitted to the DfT which was successful in securing £3.6m towards the project. The tender package was submitted for pricing, with Breheny being successful. Works are to commence in September 2020 with a programme duration estimated to be 7-8 months. Businesses have been liaised with and the Chamber of Commerce have been consulted.

The project will be subject to a full closure, however, the actual works will be broken down into smaller pieces of work, so that no one business will be adversely affected for an extended period of time.

Lincolnshire Coastal Highway

Following the announcement of a Coastal Highway Budget allocation a programme or works are being developed over a number of years. Approximately £6.5m has been allocated to date, towards various improvements along and around the Lincolnshire Coastal Highway. This includes carriageway reconstruction, carriageway resurfacing, guard rail replacement, white lining and new/improved pedestrian facilities.

Boston Distributor Road Scoping Bid

A project scoping report was produced by LCC and submitted to Matt Warman MP for lobbying to central government for funding to progress a Boston Distributor Road Outline Business Case. The DfT responded stating that there were insufficient funds at this time.

Highways Works Term Maintenance Contract

The new Highways Works Term Maintenance Contract, implemented in April 2020 has led to various benefits, despite the challenging mobilisation period during the initial nationwide lockdown due to Covid-19. Productivity of our reactive gangs increased between 54% and 184% gang to gang in the first quarter of the financial year, which also led to an improvement in performance with regards to response times with 71% of all faults repaired within default response times, a figure which is still increasing to the aspirational performance of 98.5%

Since the start of the new contract in April, we have completed the following reactive repairs:

- 15,743 carriageway potholes
- 825 footway potholes or trips
- 199 broken or missing gully grates or covers
- 406 footway slab replacement jobs
- 209 sign repairs
- 447 lining jobs
- 289 kerbing jobs

This increase in performance was in part down to recurring performance workshops which the Highways Works Term Contractor held with their own managers, supervisors and gangs. On the back of this, Local Highways Management ran joint workshops with the Contractor to look at the end-to-end performance from public report to repair on the ground and are exploring ways to improve the efficiency of the service together.

Since re-balancing the Local Highways areas in April 2020 to align with the new contract, and introduction of tablet devices for on-site tracking of public enquiries and ordering of work at time of inspection, the Local Highways teams have been subject to tighter targets and performance measures which the new contract has given us

the tools to track. Currently, there are only 844 outstanding pothole enquiries across the County. 650 of these have a job raised for repair within our contractual timescales, leaving only 194 reports across the County in need of assessment, about the amount which are reported in a week at this time of year. For some context, in June 2018 we had around 7000 outstanding pothole enquiries. As of September 2020, there are only 4926 outstanding enquiries across all highways teams including street lighting, with us receiving around 3000 per month during summer.

Highways 2020 Implementation

Mobilisation Update

On the 1 April 2020 LCC reached a major milestone in relation to service provision for Highway Works, Traffic Signals and Professional Services with a starting date for three new contracts that were awarded following a strategic commissioning exercise. This event meant that LCC have a new provider for Highway Works (Balfour Beatty Group Ltd) and Traffic Signals (Colas). WSP retained the Professional Services contract.

The mobilisation phase is now coming to an end as the contracts transition into normal service provision. All aspects of the service are being delivered with a variety of different social distancing measures in place to mitigate the impacts of Covid 19.

Next steps

The service is working through a roadmap of future improvements and is implementing them in partnership with the new providers. Social value initiatives, member engagement applications, introduction of innovative technology and recycling initiatives are being progressed in line with normal service provision.

A new set of challenging performance indicators have been introduced as part of the Highways 2020 contract. These measures have raised the bar in terms of service provision. The recently reported Quarter 1 data will be analysed and initiate improvement plans across the service.

Depot Improvement

Depot improvements continue at five strategic sites within the Highway Works contract: Lancaster House, Willingham, Horncastle, Pode Hole and Sleaford. These works will improve current facilities so the workforce is better equipped to deliver a higher quality service.

Improvements and installations being made to welfare facilities, drying rooms, visual training and increasing the ability for staff from Balfour Beatty and LCC to co-locate in the future.

Fleet & Compliance

With significant impact on the inspection team, all inspection activity was stalled as the majority of local bus and school transport services were suspended. Also, backlogs in Pupil, Route and Stop Risk Assessments; Driver/PA vetting and Training; Independent Travel Training for SEND pupils; and School/Classroom Max Respect sessions are all being addressed in the recovery phase.

Inspection Team has been used, to meet new government instructions for every bus shelter (875) to have social distancing posters displayed. Continued fleet input into the specification and procurement of a range of TSP, TSG, Library and Lincs Lab vehicles. The Covid outbreak has however impacted on timescales for acquiring some vehicles due to vehicle manufacturers (domestic and abroad) being closed. In some cases this would have extended delivery dates by a year. In these scenarios pre-owned vehicles have had to be sourced as an alternative.

Client Services

Usual tender deadlines for school transport services were passed whilst awaiting national steer for September schooling arrangements, transport requirements and guidance on associated protection measures. Alternative procurement via contract extensions and negotiated contracting arrangements has been authorised by the Leader.

Significant amount of scenario planning and joint working with Children's Services on all of the challenges presenting in relation to Home to School Transport during Covid. Transport provided for 1280 scholars during the final term of the last school year.

Late timing of Govt. guidance now means that transport for all entitled scholars (17-18k) has to be organised in about 3 weeks, this will be almost impossible. Staff are putting in an incredible effort and working extremely long hours in rising to the challenge.

Slippage within the IT programme for replacing the time expired SEATS software means go live is now Dec 2020 at the earliest, this further exacerbates the challenge of this year's summer peak.

IT

Lincolnshire Broadband Programme

The Lincolnshire Broadband Programme has now upgraded 172,363 premises under Contracts 1 & 2 and 20,324 of which were completed in Contract 2. Both contracts are now fully completed.

Improvements in broadband coverage since we started the first contract can be seen below.

- Lincolnshire Superfast coverage at March 2013 – 43.3%
- Lincolnshire Superfast coverage at March 2016 – 86.9%
- Lincolnshire Superfast coverage at August 2020 – 94.7%

Current levels of customer take up remain very positive and well above projected. At this point, take up is sitting at a 72% of all premises enabled under this programme. This in financial terms will release clawback from BT of circa £13.5M, although it should be mentioned that we have previously received £4.65M in order to increase the size of Contract 2 and BDUK might insist that 50% of remaining clawback needs to be returned to them. On-going communication with parish councils and District

partners continues in an effort to further increase clawback revenues and we will work closely with Openreach to drive this further.

Customer takes up:

- March 2015 – 15.6%
- Sept 2016 – 34.08%
- Jan 2018 – 46.6%
- Nov 2019 - 64.1%
- July 2020 – 72.12%

The Invitation to Tender for Contract 3 has been closed and Quickline Communications have been awarded the contract to provide at least 100Mb/s download speeds to circa 8K rural premises as a first phase of this contract. At the time of writing, BDUK are going through their final approvals prior to formal signatures to the contract. This tends to be a rather lengthy process with BDUK and we expect to sign the contract shortly. This first phase will utilise £4.5M with a further £6.5M to follow in the second phase of this contract.

In terms of potential additional funding; we are aware of an announcement by DCMS that they have further money to invest (circa £5bn), specifically in the more rural areas. We have held preliminary meetings with BDUK to establish their strategy for this deployment. It is very early days at this point as we are unlikely to see any deployment in the UK under this scheme until October 2021. It will then continue for several years after that date.

Openreach has recently announced their intention to upgrade circa 51K rural premises to full fibre connectivity over the coming 18 months. They have focussed on a number of telephone areas, specifically, Sleaford, Bourne, Stamford, Leasingham, Horncastle, West Ashby and Gainsborough. This is a welcome addition to the work on-going in the county and will be fully funded by Openreach.

In addition to this work, Openreach are carrying out a 'retro build' exercise where they are going back over recent housing developments and upgrading them to full fibre. This will be an on-going deployment, again, fully funded by them. In the initial tranche, they will upgrade a little over 4K premises before year end. We expect these numbers to increase next year. Initial areas are Birchwood, Bourne, Washingborough, Welton, Wellingborough and Market Rasen.

There has been some interest from potential private investors in providing full fibre within the county. At this stage, discussions are at a very sensitive stage. Non-disclosure agreements are in place at this point.

IMT Support Services

LCC IMT have been actively working on a number of enhancements and new functionality during the second quarter. Below is a roundup of some of that work:

LCC Modern Workplace

IMT created the LCC Modern Workplace SharePoint site as a hub for all things Microsoft Teams. Here you can access training materials, guides, and FAQs.

Public Access Devices

LCC IMT together with an external delivery partner recently installed public access devices into a number of Lincolnshire's family centres which allowed our service users to participate in family court proceedings online, without direct supervision from LCC colleagues. This was an urgent requirement of the family service as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and was implemented within 2-3 weeks.

Improved internet speeds

Approximately 60 LCC sites now benefit from improved internet speeds, as a result of a programme of work and investment which commenced last year, one that will continue for some months to come. This work had the objective of improving users' experience and access to the LCC network, Windows 10 equipment and essential business applications.

Remote working technology

Always on VPN technology was barely known by LCC users at the beginning of 2020, yet is now an essential part of our daily lives, as we rely on this for our connection to the LCC network and many applications. Whereas prior to March we were seeing up to 600 daily remote connections to the LCC networks, we now regularly see up to 4000.

Whilst we were already building the IT infrastructure that this technology relies on in February, the speed at which Serco worked to bring us the initial version of Always on VPN, ready for staff to use, was phenomenal. IMT and Serco continue to work with our partners to make further improvements.

Investment in Wi-Fi

LCC IMT has made a significant investment in hardware that will replace existing wireless access points in LCC offices in the coming months. Although the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed down our implementation of this newer technology, we are now looking at how to move forward with the installation of this equipment.

Service Desk Stats

The Lincoln IT Service Desk has taken an unprecedented amount of phone calls with a 75% increase and tickets raised via the Portal since lockdown.

1 March to 10 Aug

Phone calls into the IT Service Desk = 31,821

Tickets created (Both Incidents and Requests) = 29,973

We have made significant improvements to the IT Portal (Service Now) enabling staff to self-help or capture the relevant information freeing up agents to work on incoming calls.

Whilst the Service Desk has worked tirelessly to get the backlog down we still have a significant backlog of Service Desk tickets. Microland are assisting the Service Desk to free up agents so they can tackle the backlog.

FreshService implementation for Business World

FreshService is being implemented by LCC IMT to manage IT queries and requests for a number of critical business application. Over the last few months, we have been working with the Business World team to set up FreshService to manage all Business World issues and requests, and this was successfully implemented at the beginning of June for Finance, HR and Payroll teams. The plan now is to extend this to all LCC staff in the final months of this year.

SAP Legacy Data

SAP is an old solution which needs to be decommissioned, but LCC must retain the information held in it to meet our legal obligations around a variety of different HR and financial requirements.

We have been working with Serco to design and develop a solution that meets the needs of LCC, providing a safe and secure way to hold the information outside of SAP and also enable colleagues, with a defined business need, to access it when necessary through a user interface. Once finalised, this will allow LCC to decommission SAP, something which has been our priority from the outset. User testing is starting in August with the remaining user interface development and data extracts continuing in parallel.

O365 project progress

Completing review and migration of outstanding users and shared mailboxes in the next couple of weeks. 230 users migrating across this week, with 1700 shared mailboxes moving the week after. The work to bring LFR into the LCC world starts in two weeks with the provisioning of their new user and email accounts.

Users will also be getting the O365 web applications within this time period, meaning that Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and OneDrive will be available to all LCC employees on the internet. The project to rebuild our Windows 10 experience and deploy M365 desktop applications is progressing at pace. Technical trials have highlighted a much improved user experience that we were aiming for initially.

Swopout Service

Together with Serco during the initial months of lockdown we managed to prepare and deploy 394 laptops out to the business that were either without a device or were using shared devices at work.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor E J Poll, Executive Councillor for Commercial and Environmental Management

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Lincolnshire Waste Partnership (LWP)

The continuing impact of the Covid-19 crisis has been the focus of all partnership members since lockdown began. The increased levels of waste and recycling that have been collected from households has put more tonnage in the system and our waste transfer stations have managed to deal with increased throughput and more collections for delivery to the Energy for Waste (EfW) and Materials Recovery Facility (MRF).

The recycling centres opened in mid-May and have been available for a full range of services since July. The creation of a booking system to control the number of vehicles on site to protect staff and visiting residents in accordance with Government guidelines was done quickly by Waste Services working with other LCC teams (Comms, IT). Staff really went the extra mile working weekends and nights to get the booking system from concept to reality and implemented. The team worked with the recycling centre contractors to reopen the sites as quickly as possible.

The EFW has successfully completed its annual maintenance shutdown and is now returned to full operational status.

The first annual report of the partnership was formally published in July. This was a major success and was enthusiastically supported by all the partnership members at the AGM. It looked back over the first year of the partnership's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and how it has performed against its ambitions and objectives. The overarching picture was success on many fronts.

The Government have resumed their timetable for introducing the new policies contained in the Resources and Waste Strategy. The second round of consultations that will inform the drafting of the legislation is now promised for March 2021. It is hoped that there will be clarity about their promises of future funding given the economic impact of the Covid-19 crisis and the recession.

Sustainability

Work continues to create and implement the Council's Green Masterplan, with regular updates being reported to the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee. A work programme is being developed, designed to link into and support the Council's Transformation Programme, and we remain on target to see the first draft masterplan by October this year. In addition we are actively engaging with our district partners in supporting and developing their approaches to reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the next few years.

Public interest remains very high in this area of the council's work, and we have also been supporting the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership in their preparations for

what is expected to be a year of great opportunities, but also of significant challenge. This includes careful consideration of recent Government announcements of changes to the planning and development system, as well as creating a nature strategy for the county that dovetails with the Council's Green Masterplan and Transformation programme.

Planning

The Planning Services team has continued to operate normally during the Covid pandemic with applications being received and processed in a timely manner. The Planning and Regulation Committee has met virtually and has conducted business in a transparent way enabling the public to speak at the meeting. Compliance and monitoring visits to minerals and waste sites were suspended initially and then re-started again in May as lockdown restrictions were eased.

The work of the Historic Places Team was subject to an initial lull due to the impact of the pandemic, development work has since picked up significantly and the archaeological advisers have been very busy. A number of quarries are preparing for an extension of their operations and work on a number of road schemes is starting with archaeological works. On the route of the Spalding Western Relief Road enabling works have commenced on site, which includes archaeology investigations, some vegetation clearance, utility diversion preparation and property demolition.

At a quarry on King Street in West Deeping archaeologists have discovered a Roman feature which began life as a simple cistern for the collection of fresh water but later became a ritual site and contained all sorts of symbolic objects.

The historic towns project continues apace. Such is its success that we are being asked to engage across the county in a number of high street funding initiatives. The economic impact of online shopping and now the health crisis is likely to be dramatic and the team are helping to find sustainable solutions. We have applied to Historic England for funding for a project to improve our understanding of the historic pubs across the county. A pilot study is expected to start along the coastal area to test the methodology. This will be the first such project to be undertaken in England looking at this increasingly at risk group of buildings. The agricultural activity across the county continues to disturb significant remains from time to time. Following up on some finds made by metal detectorists last year we are commencing a project north of Lincoln to investigate an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery before it is lost to the plough.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

NHS LIAISON

Lincolnshire Partnership Recovery Renewal Plan for Communities

I am pleased to report that Lincolnshire County Council has received £823,000 of funding from DEFRA to support vulnerable people in immediate need due to Covid-19. The grant was supplied without application and the sum determined according to county population. Central government anticipates that most of the funding will be spent within 12 weeks, commencing 1 August 2020. The funding will be split as follows:

- £391,000 to support local food banks and access to cooking essentials for those people who do not have the means to sources these themselves;
- £215,000 to Community Lincs to support developing local schemes, such as the good neighbour scheme and food kitchens;
- £217,000 for the direct purchase of food parcels arranged through the Local Resilience forum.

The Covid-19 Community Support Pathway continues to provide an effective mechanism for residents to access advice and practical assistance and will be a key entry point for accessing the DEFRA funded support.

Health and Wellbeing Board Reset and Refocus

I have invited the Local Government Association (LGA) to work with Lincolnshire's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) to help review the Board. In particular we will be focusing on the seven priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) to ensure the HWB remains focused on promoting good health and reducing health inequalities in light of Covid-19. A formal proposal will be presented to the HWB at its meeting on 29 September 2020. Two workshops are planned for October/November, the first to review the purpose and membership of the Board, and the second workshop to re-prioritise the JHWS.

Clinical Commissioning Group Focus on Inequalities

The Covid-19 pandemic has shone a spotlight on inequalities and the impact the virus is having on certain groups in the population. NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSEI) have signalled that actions to improve inequalities needs to be an essential component of the recovery programme for local NHS organisations. In the Council, the Public Health Division is working with NHS Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group, local NHS providers and NHSEI to build on work begun before Covid-19, looking at the specific challenges facing rural and coastal communities and the opportunities to reduce health inequalities. A five year action plan is being co-produced between LCC, the CCG and East Lindsey District Council.

The HWB is also due to discuss this at the meeting in September to ensure key linkages are being made across partners and with the JHWS.

Covid Free Site and Operations

Lincolnshire NHS providers are all continuing to operate their sites in accordance with the recovery and restoration plans:

As one of its objectives to create Green Sites and pathways to increase elective care services, the United Lincolnshire Hospital Trust (ULHT) Board recently approved plans to temporarily reconfigure services at Grantham as a Green Site (Covid-19 free patients only) with a Blue Isolated Urgent Treatment Centre. The Green Site at Grantham will be in place up to at least 31 March 2021; any proposal to make these arrangements permanent will be subject to public consultation. Elective surgery commenced at the Grantham Green Site on 1 July 2020.

At the time of writing this statement, Lincolnshire Community Health Service (LCHS) NHS Trust had no confirmed Covid-19 patients across any of its sites. It continues to work with its partners in supporting the restoration of services, and is supporting ULHT's temporary Green Site at Grantham.

Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust (LPFT) has similarly reported no current Covid-19 incidents, and is progressing well with its implementation plans.

NHS Second Wave Planning

Lincolnshire NHS, in line with the national planning guidance, is developing demand and capacity plans that sets out the impact on system capacity and operational performance should there be a second wave in infections. The scenario planning is taking account of local knowledge and assumptions, as well as being informed by the nationally defined scenarios:

- The 'Reasonable Worst Case Scenario' is an increased demand for Winter 2020 compared to 2019 plus a Covid-19 peak equal to April 2020.
- The 'Reasonable Best Case Scenario' is an increased demand for Winter 2020 compared to 2019 plus a Covid-19 peak at half April 2020.

Whilst the NHS nationally has been 'downgraded' to a Level 3 response, Lincolnshire's NHS Response Centre cells remain active, allowing for continued overview and planning. These cells cover all operational services, as well as workforce, estate, digital and communications capacity and planning. Lincolnshire NHS has been praised at both a regional and national level for a number of positive and effective measures implemented during the Covid-19 response. These include:

- Digital and telephonic access for staff and public.
- Staff health and wellbeing measures implemented ahead of the national schedule, and as a system measure, including primary care.
- 'all organisation' approaches to a number of 'enablers'. These include - volunteer recruitment, digital delivery, workforce redeployment, staff and

public communications and many others. These approaches will continue during wave two resilience planning

Independent Drug and Alcohol Review

With the Council providing secondary care services for substance misuse, the announcement of Dame Carol Black's second phase of an independent review into drug misuse is welcome. The review will concentrate on prevention, treatment and recovery. I have already attended the first reference group meeting for the enquiry and consultations responses have been submitted by the Public Health team. Some key areas under review are causes of young people's substance misuse, the barriers to providing successful treatment and recovery services, and mental health related issues.

Dame Carol is expected to submit initial recommendations to the Government in September and her final report in December this year.

Joint Strategic Asset Assessment

Covid-19 has highlighted the importance of strong resilient communities. Whilst there has been joint focus on understanding health and wellbeing needs, in particular through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), less attention has been given to identifying assets or strengths of the people, communities and population in Lincolnshire. The Joint Strategic Asset Assessment (JSAA) aims to identify a comprehensive range of assets, both physical and people resource, to understand the potential; maximise their use and help identify gaps. Connect to Support Lincolnshire has been agreed as the platform for the Joint Strategic Asset Assessment (JSAA). A 12 month temporary post will be recruited by the end of October to work with communities and partners to identify and map assets, build the register and establish future sustainability.

COMMUNITY ENAGEMENT

Citizen's Advice Lincolnshire (CAL)

Since the start of the pandemic CAL have seen an increase in requests for support on employment issues in comparison to last year; examples of enquiry areas include issues related to furlough, returning to the work place, redundancy and clients on zero hours contracts.

There was a decrease in money advice, which is expected and is reflected across the sector. The triggers that generally prompt a client to seek money advice are not currently there (Councils are not chasing Council Tax arrears, there are no evictions, payment holidays are available, bailiffs are not 'knocking on doors'), this is, of course, a short term situation, not only are we anticipating those who were experiencing debt issues to return but for there to be an increase in demand as the financial implications of the current situation start to hit.

Across the county Citizens Advice are offering telephone and web chat services, provided by staff and volunteers working remotely. They already have experience

delivering telephone and wechat services in projects such as UCH2C, their Consumer Service delivery and Martin Lewis On-Line Scams advice, indeed achieving 97% client satisfaction rate month by month.

Citizens Advice have engaged with key partners to look at ways to provide the best possible support, for example engaging with the Trussell Trust to utilise a new remote referral process for food banks.

At the latest CAL monitoring meeting which took place in August, we reviewed the outcomes delivered by CAL over this financial year, plus discussed their work during the Covid-19 pandemic. We also asked CAL to provide data for the report that is being compiled in order to support any future funding-related decision that LCC will make for the 2020-21 financial year.

Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (LALC)

LALC have experienced a high volume of calls/emails, particularly around making decisions, as they are unable to meet and prior to the legislation coming into force on 4 April, councils were not allowed to meet remotely to make decisions. Since 4 April, they can now meet via video or telephone conference to make decisions, but with some councillors/clerks not either having the equipment or ability to use these platforms, not all councils have relished this new way of working. Internet connection can also be a problem.

LALC have delivered sessions to clerks/chairs on the use of Zoom and we are now seeing quite a few councils meeting this way. They have also delivered training session to clerks via Zoom and will be delivering this training to the councillors within the coming weeks. LALC are reviewing their annual training programme with a view of it being delivered entirely on Zoom.

Community Resilience

Over the past few months the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum (LRF), consisting of Lincolnshire County Council, all seven District Councils, the Voluntary and Community Sector, British Red Cross and others, have been supporting those that are shielding with arranging welfare visits and emergency food parcels via our Wellbeing Services.

British Red Cross, Brakes and Lincolnshire's Wellbeing Service all helped to ensure that people who needed food parcels received them, as well as referring those who were unable to collect their prescriptions. If a vulnerable resident expressed that they had no support, they were also referred to the Wellbeing Service.

A survey was carried out to capture the experiences of those within the 'shielded' category between March and July 2020 of the Covid-19 pandemic to understand any concerns for the future.

The LRF Recovery is preparing for the next steps including a potential local outbreak; this has included asking for comments and views about how we communicate with individuals and communities.

Experiences from the early part of the response to Covid-19 indicate that more needs to be done to communicate with groups of people with increased exposure to risk, for example; people in crowded or shared accommodation and people who attend work places with individuals working in groups in enclosed spaces. The LRF is developing a robust plan identifying the most appropriate way to engage with such groups of people, in order to confirm the best way to communicate key messages with them ensuring that the messages are passed on to targeted groups or people in particular.

Recruitment/retention of volunteers as we move into recovery

418 groups (7,049 volunteers within those groups) have offered support. So far, 225 of these have completed and returned their indemnity forms and registered on the Connect to Support, an information and advice page for Lincolnshire.

Any individual volunteers who offered their support were also signposted to Connect to Support to register with indemnified groups.

The Connect to Support page provides the listings of the Covid-19 community groups around the county, arranged by district. The intention is that this page will evolve beyond the initial response phase to include information about recovery and resilience, and any groups which continue to provide services and support beyond this initial stage of Covid-19 can have their details embedded in the wider community directories on the website.

Funding enquires and use of the portal for July 2020

Funding enquires and the use of the Lincolnshire Funding Portal increased by 132% in July 2020 compared to same period last year. There were 2,550 visits to the Lincolnshire Funding Portal and 126 funding searches made during this period. Enquiries received from a wide range of organisations including community buildings, town and parish councils and small community groups.

Town and parish council websites

Training is now underway with parish councils across Lincolnshire with the roll out of the new 310 websites. So far, 205 parish councils have taken advantage of the virtual training sessions. New tools are also being produced including 'how to' videos and guidance on accessible content in order to support councils further.

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COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor C N Worth, Executive Councillor for Culture and Emergency Services

CULTURE

Heritage Sites Reopening Performance

Lincoln Castle continues to see a strong increase in visitor numbers week on week. The site has welcomed over 80,000 visitors since opening the castle grounds in May and has also received over 10,000 paying visitors since the Medieval Wall Walk, Victorian Prison and Magna Carta reopened. Over the past few weeks, the average admissions have reached 50% of where we would usually be at this time of year. This is a good achievement when compared to the current performance of some National Museums. The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport for example, released figures last week evidencing how some National Museums were only reaching 8.8% of what they normally would expect for this time of year.

The Collection Museum has welcomed just under 2,000 visitors since it reopened on the 13 July, with a weekly average of between 300/400 visitors.

The Battle of Britain Memorial Flight visitor centre opened in July with reduced opening hours, limiting both the number of tours, and reducing the number of spaces available on them. Since reopening, the visitor centre has welcomed nearly 500 visitors through its advance booking system, and tours are fully booked until September. Given its reduced capacity, the average visitor figures are 10% of where we would expect them to be at this time of year.

Lincolnshire Archives also reopened in July, operating on reduced opening hours, limiting the number of visitors and operating an advanced booking system. It has welcomed over 80 visitors, and again advance bookings are near full for the next few weeks. Given its reduced capacity and limitations on visiting, their average visitor figures are roughly 15% of where they would usually be at this time of year.

Digital Activity

The Culture Service has continued to develop ways of keeping in touch with audiences during site closures, and since the reopening of initial heritage sites. This continues to provide a blended onsite and digital offer keeping culture at the forefront of people's minds. This included Lincoln Castle, The Collection and Usher Gallery, and the Digital Archaeology Festival. The festival comprised of weeklong activities hosted on Facebook and YouTube. In total there were 15 online films, which received 3,875 Facebook views and 1,126 YouTube views. The festival also caused a massive increase in the traffic through The Collection's website and its Festival webpage.

Lincolnshire Archives also took part in the national #LoveCulture week encouraging people to feel reassured and inspired to explore local attractions this summer. Visitors were encouraged to celebrate by adding old photos of great days out at our heritage sites on social media channels, tagging our heritage sites and the Enjoy Summer Safely and Throwback Thursday campaigns.

Exhibitions

The Wildlife Photography Competition which closed in July received a fantastic response, with many quality images entered. These will shortly be judged before being exhibited as our first reopening temporary exhibition at The Collection from mid-September.

Our Arts Council England NPO funded bursary project to develop "Make Kits" working with a local artist have been distributed via EDAN Lincs and to the Lincoln Food bank to help keep people creative through the summer and engage with families and younger audiences that cannot always get into our sites.

Details continue to be finalised with the Imperial War Museum's collection to showcase two touring artworks in an exhibition this December at The Usher Gallery, alongside works from our own collection, as part of 2020's commemorations of the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

We continued to work with partners to devise plans for recovery focusing on moving major programming content and large scale events/exhibitions to early 2021 onwards. This will include the postponed hosting of the annual 'Wildlife Photographer of The Year' exhibition for summer 2021, and a spring 2021 date for the hosting of the spectacular Gaia installation featuring detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface at a 6m scale.

Libraries

Core Libraries

- New online joiners: 156 in May, 135 in June and 187 in July
 - Increase in e-books: up 345% in May, 363% in June and 345% in July
 - Increase in e-audios: up 81% in May, 72% in June and 64% in July
 - Increase in e-newspapers and magazines: up 214% in May, 261% in June and 240% in July
 - Increase music streams and downloads: up 160% in May, 128% in June and 145% in July
- (% increases based on comparison of the same month in 2019 and 2020)*

From 13 July, 14 of the 15 core sites reopened for collection of pre-reserved items, PC use and deposits of existing loans. The final core site re-opened on 3 August. July alone saw 20,909 new issues, 21,329 visits and 394 hours of PC use. It is worth noting that this is only part of the month that the sites were open and they are operating on reduced hours. This is a very positive start to the libraries recovery.

The IT refresh with Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) is progressing. The new Library Management System has been installed and is now in use by customers and across all core sites. Roll out to Community Hubs will commence as these sites reopen to the public; which is anticipated to start throughout September.

All except one Community Hub have new public PCs, volunteer PCs and printers; this delay is unfortunately due to a fire at the site. All core libraries have new public PCs and printers and now travel restrictions have been removed, work is underway for GLL to replace the staff PCs at all core sites.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire and Rescue

The first few months of the new financial year have seen Fire and Rescue's activities significantly impacted by the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. With robust contingency plans already in place, decisions to review, stop or amend daily activities were taken, with a process for continual review implemented. Local and national guidance has allowed suitable control measures to be developed and implemented to ensure that our response capabilities have continued to support our communities.

A reduction in operational calls was noticed in April and May, with our Co-Responding activities temporarily suspended due to identified issues with personal protective equipment requirements. Following a quick resolution, working alongside LIVES and EMAS, we were able to commence these activities again across the county. Incident types were also monitored closely, allowing prevention strategies to be developed to manage identified risks.

The replacement programme of our new appliances whilst impacted initially has been brought back on track as a result of the hard work of the Organisational Development and Ops Support teams. We currently have 17 new Scania appliances in use across the county, and continue to receive really positive feedback from all crews.

Following the period of consultation, final amendments have been made to our Integrated Risk Management Plan document. The document will be presented to Scrutiny in September, with final sign off by the Executive Committee in October.

The Service continues to review the way in which we deliver our core functions, recognising that we need to use new and innovative ways to provide an effective service delivery.

Fire Station Chief Officer Group (COG) Inspections

Chief Officer Group (COG) inspections are a vital part of the CFO's engagement with fire stations. They are also run alongside our station audit process for all stations. It is pleasing to see that more and more local councillors are coming to their stations and this helps our remote fire crews to feel more part of Lincolnshire County Council.

COVID has severely impacted the COG Inspections and Audits. As we recover we are looking to use new video technology to provide remote engagement opportunities but are also exploring starting informal COG visits once again whilst ensuring the safety of our staff and visitors. County Councillors will be most welcome to come along when these are established.

Fire Protection

During lockdown our fire protection teams have been completing virtual audits to ensure the highest risk properties in the county are monitored, in line with the Fire Safety Order. This has worked really well and is something that we will continue to develop.

We have now completed the relevant submissions to secure central government funding. The first grant of £60,000 is for the Building Risk Review Programme and the second grant of £91,436 is for the Protection Uplift Programme. This is a one-year funding arrangement intended to make a significant impact in driving improvement in the protection function within fire and rescue services. The grant conditions cover:

- The Building Risk Review Programme which will deliver a review of all high-rise residential buildings over 18 metres by the end of December 2021.
- The Protection Uplift Programme which supports initial improvements in local protection capability, for example training and development of our teams.

Fire Prevention

During the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Prevention team have continued to support the vulnerable across the county, with our advocates giving telephone advice and providing Safe and Well visit to the very vulnerable, ensuring people continue to be safe and well within their homes. We are now reviewing this approach with the aim of reaching more people in support of our Integrated Risk Management Plan.

We have also recently advertised to increase the Fire Safety Advocate Team and received over 30 applications, which is pleasing to see how many people want to join our team and help our communities.

Emergency Planning

The first quarter of this financial year has seen the Emergency Planning and Business Continuity team play a significant role in the multi-agency response to the coronavirus pandemic. This response has necessitated the co-ordination of both LCC services and LRF resources and has required a new approach to be implemented to ensure that the county could assist and support our communities during a prolonged national emergency.

There have been many new challenges to face during this time which have included the formulation of new plans which take into account remote working and social distancing, risk assessments to ensure that staff working in the County Emergency Centre (CEC) are kept safe and adapting existing policies and procedures to deliver a mixture of core teams that are physically working supplemented by remote working to support the command and control arrangements as much as possible.

During this time the CEC was six weeks from completion of its refit and upgrade but with the assistance of LCC property services, Kier and Lindum, a way was found to safely complete this work and the centre is now operational again with only a few more pieces of equipment to be installed. This has enabled the team to adapt to new ways of working including the use of Teams and Zoom to hold command and multi-agency meetings. This is something that will be further developed as this software evolves. The completion of the CEC will also provide additional meeting rooms that can be utilised by all LCC services if required when the centre is not operational and staff can safely return to work.

Blue Light Collaboration

The South Park Tri Service Station is well established now and the Fire, Police and Ambulance teams are settling in well. In addition, the Blue Light Steering Group (which includes Police, Fire, Office of PCC, Ambulance and LCC) has restructured the various working streams into a single Collaboration Delivery Group. Both groups are currently revisiting the collaboration scope to plan for future opportunities.

Fire and Rescue Inspection

Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) inspections were curtailed during the Covid-19 pandemic and these are due to be resumed in spring 2021.

There will be a themed review of how fire services responded during Covid to inform learning for the sector. This is due to take place in October 2020.

People

We are pleased to confirm that our 11 new whole-time fire-fighters completed their training which had been disrupted by the Coronavirus pandemic with all new recruits joining whole-time stations. We have a good number of potential on-call recruits but course numbers continue to be limited by Covid-19 precautions and we are investigating how the training may be delivered differently in order to allow us to maximise the number of new entrants.

Operational training continues to be high priority and we are using a variety of delivery methods e.g. digital training as well as practical where necessary to ensure that operational competence is maintained. We are also moving into Phase 3 of our Learning Management project ensuring that all learning and development activities are planned and recorded in one central location accessible by all staff remotely via the website.

We continue to be on track for roll-out of the new Scania fire engines with the final one in place on station by January 2021. Our Operational Support team are also managing projects on the Breathing Apparatus refresh, the additional flood pumps and the replacement water carrier.

Registration, Celebratory & Coroners

Following closure to the public due to the Covid-19 regulations, all offices with the exception of Bourne Registry Office are now open once again for the registration of births, taking notices of marriage/civil partnership and conducting ceremonies.

Due to the office in Bourne not being able to meet the social distancing guidelines, an alternative location for the delivery of services is being actively sought.

The birth registrations that should have been completed during the period of closure have now either been completed or are in the process of being completed. It may take some months before the entire backlog is cleared and the processes are back to normal.

Death registrations are still taking place over the telephone and will continue to be done this way for the foreseeable future. We continue to work with Hospitals, Bereavement Centres, GP surgeries, Nursing Homes and Funeral Directors to ensure that the impact on bereaved families is kept to a minimum.

Some wedding ceremonies (at registration offices and at Licensed Venues) are going ahead, subject to Government guidelines with appropriate risk assessments in place. However, many couples have chosen to postpone their ceremonies to a time when they hope that there will be fewer or no restrictions and they are able to have the ceremony they choose. Unfortunately, this has had an impact on our ability to generate income and has put pressure on our overall budget projections.

The service has managed to complete all Citizenship Ceremonies that were outstanding due to Covid-19. We have only received a minimal number of certificates for new citizens since the Home Office have started to issue them again post Covid and ceremonies for these have been arranged.

The uncertainty of the time and the changing processes have created a large increase in the public contacting the service which is proving to be a strain on our resources but the team are working hard to manage this increase in workload.

The Coroner's Service workload has remained fairly steady; no uplift has been seen due to Covid-19. Certain types of inquests have now resumed in earnest post lock down, utilising the Myle Cross centre. Jury inquests are unlikely to be able to commence until restrictions are eased further.

Daily business carried on through lockdown due to the essential nature of the service. Colleagues are continuing to work primarily from home with office visits where necessary. Workload remains high which is challenging for the teams. Despite the time of year, there are no signs that this will ease and historical trends indicate the workload will begin to increase significantly as we approach the end of summer and the beginning of autumn.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 18 SEPTEMBER 2020

Statement from: Councillor B Young, Executive Councillor for Community Safety and People Management

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Community Safety Team have continued to support the partnership response to the pandemic through data gathering, scanning and analysis, to ensure there is a shared understanding of the impact of CoVID-19 on Domestic Abuse, Fraud and Anti-Social Behaviour incidents for example. The team will continue to monitor trends to enable partners to be focused in their response to these issues.

The team have been working with Domestic Abuse service providers to understand and manage demand for their services during the lock-down period; to ensure there is sufficient capacity to support every adult and child experiencing domestic abuse who reaches out for help. This has included the successful submission of bids for additional Government funding.

The team have been working with the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board to progress the Serious Adult Review "Learning from the experience of large-scale Modern Slavery in Lincolnshire" recommendations. A virtual meeting was held with the Victims and Partnerships Lead, Office of the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, to ensure our learning influences future policy and practice around Modern Slavery. Partners have also been working on the development of a Modern Slavery Charter for Lincolnshire, as well as resources to raise awareness of Modern Slavery. Partners are looking to launch both the Charter and resources on Anti-Slavery Day on the 18 October 2020, with the support of Lincoln Cathedral, who have agreed (for 1 night only) to light up the Cathedral yellow as part of the awareness raising campaign.

Trading Standards

The Trading Standards Service has focussed on responding to issues arising from the COVID19 pandemic. The service has undertaken a project to ensure the safety of PPE being sold online and through local retailers. Samples of hand sanitiser and face masks have been submitted for testing. Whilst a number have been found to be non-compliant due to their labelling, serious failures have been identified with some hand sanitisers. Samples tested have been found to include insufficient alcohol content to make them effective and others contained highly toxic methanol, rather than ethanol which is commonly used. Trading Standards are currently following up on all adverse results.

Due to COVID-19, Lincolnshire Police had to suspend their volunteers work, which affected their ability to allocate victims a REVIVE volunteer. Op Revive (Repeat,

Elderly, Vulnerable, Intimidated, Victim Engagement) volunteers provide support and reassurance to those who have been victims of crime. A lot of the cases could be put on hold as the local PCSOs retained 'responsibility' and were looking in on residents until they could start REVIVE again. However there were a number of cases where it wasn't appropriate to stand back and the Trading Standards Scams Prevention Officer has stepped in and done visits with PCSOs. Without their assistance, the Police wouldn't have been able to provide 1:1 support.

Last year Trading Standards set up a Lincolnshire "Better Business for All" (BBfA) Partnership bringing together Lincolnshire Trading Standards, the seven District Councils (H&S, Environmental Health & Licensing), and Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue to identify the issues facing local businesses and shape the provision of effective support services. All of the Lincolnshire BBfA partners have continued to receive enquiries from businesses about their regulatory and legal responsibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic and more recently those enquiries have predominately been in relation to the reopening of their business. Trading Standards co-ordinated the production of a Better Business for All Toolkit of resources to help Lincolnshire businesses become COVID-secure, resume trading safely and protect their staff and customers as lockdown is eased. The toolkit provides all the information and website links in one place making it quicker and easier for businesses to locate the key information they need to restart their business safely.

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Apprenticeships

The total number of apprentices on roll, as at 18 August 2020, was 196, with a levy allocation of £1,649,621.00. Local providers are delivering 62% of training provision. At the time of reporting, 27 of the 196 apprentices are on a break in learning, including 20 who have been redeployed due to Covid-19. Of those 27, twelve are due to recommence their learning in September 2020.

The HR Service is working closely with providers to agree the optimum time of return to learning for redeployed apprentices; additionally we continue to work with all providers to ensure our apprentices are supported through to completion of their apprenticeship.

Lincolnshire County Council has amended the target to 250 staff undertaking apprenticeships for 2020-21. The emphasis will be on up-skilling existing staff and recruiting new talent, so we can maximise the levy and benefit from staff development.

The corporate approach is currently:

- Continuing to support take up of apprenticeships across all services and schools. For the Council, areas that are hard to recruit to and retain are a high priority.

- Business Support continuing to drive forward with apprenticeships as part of their workforce development approach. They have also introduced the new Business Administrator Level 3 qualification into their centre and have apprentices working to the new Customer Service Practitioner Level 2 standard.
- The ILM Leadership and Management Apprenticeship for Level 3 are scheduled to commence in the autumn.
- We continue to work with the Local Government Association (LGA), Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), local networks such as Compact and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP), and as part of the Apprenticeship Ambassador Network for the region. This enables Lincolnshire County Council to share and receive resources, refine good practice within the Council and participate in benchmarking exercises with other authorities.
- As part of the Covid-19 recovery plans we are working to ensure, wherever possible, that the Council is in a good position to support apprenticeships in Lincolnshire. One example of this is the transfer of levy funds into the Adult Care Sector. As of the end of July 2020, Lincolnshire County Council was supporting 24 apprentices through this route.

LEGAL

Legal Services Lincolnshire (LSL) has continued to support the County Council, District Council partners and the wider Lincolnshire Resilience Forum with advice during the Covid-19 pandemic. This has included regular updates on rapidly changing Regulations and Guidance.

Advice and support continues to be given to the local outbreak management process and, in particular, preparations for the exercise of the new legal powers granted to County Councils in relation to premises, events and outdoor public places.

The scheduled annual assessment of LSL against the LEXCEL Practice Management Standard took place remotely in July. This was the four-yearly full assessment and led to the assessor finding only four minor areas of non-conformity with the Standard. This was a particularly pleasing result given the difficulties experienced with using the case management system when working from home.

Fortunately that case management system will itself be replaced imminently with the new Civica I-casework cloud-based system due to go live in September 2020. The introduction of the new system has provided the opportunity to rationalise data and processes and introduce a greater number of workflows which should increase the efficiency and therefore the capacity of the service. Progress on the creation of an alternative business structure for LSL has been impacted by Covid-19 but the company, Legal Services Lincolnshire (Trading) Limited has been established and the application by the company for a licence from the Solicitor's Regulation Authority is well advanced.

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Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham, Executive Director of Resources

Report to:	County Council
Date:	18 September 2020
Subject:	Review of Financial Performance 2019/20

Summary:

This report:

- Describes the Council's financial performance for 2019/20 and the Executive's recommendations on budget carry forwards of any over and under spending from 2019/20 into the current financial year and seeks approval for those proposals which are not set out under Financial Regulations;
- Reports the flexible use made of capital receipts to fund revenue expenditure on transformation during 2019/20; and
- Sets out performance against Prudential Indicators for 2019/20.

Recommendation(s):

The County Council is recommended to:

1. Note the carry forwards set out in paragraphs 1.9 to 1.11 of the report, which are made in line with the Council's Financial Regulations;
2. Approve the transfer of the underspends on service revenue budgets of up to 1% referred to in paragraph 1.9 into the Development Fund earmarked reserve.
3. Approve the proposed use of carry forwards of over and under spending in excess of 1.0% as follows :-
 - a) the transfer to reserves for non "business as usual" activity described in paragraph 1.12 and 1.13 of the report;
 - b) the creation of a new earmarked reserve for capital financing as described in paragraph 1.14 and allow it to be included in "business as usual" activity in future years; and
 - c) the transfer to the Development Fund earmarked reserve set out in paragraph 1.15 of the report;

4. Note the position of earmarked reserves as at 31 March 2020 as shown in Table A of this report;
5. Note the position in relation to general reserves set out in paragraph 1.19 to 1.20 and Table B of this report;
6. Note the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts in 2019/20 as set out in paragraph 1.21 to 1.25 and detailed in Appendix A; and
7. Note performance against the Prudential Indicators for 2019/20 as set out in Table C of this report.

This report describes the actual position for the 2019/20 financial year and is factual in content and follows current Council policy. No alternatives are being considered in relation to this aspect.

In relation to the treatment of overspends and underspends above 1.0% as set out in paragraphs 1.12 to 1.15, there are a number of different ways these could be used. The proposed usages will help to alleviate service pressures by funding some specific areas of budget volatility. In previous years, an element of any underspend has been added to the Council's Financial Volatility Reserve to support us in managing future budget pressures. This reserve is at a sufficient level and this year it seems more appropriate to focus some financial support on recovering from the Covid-19 situation and strengthening the way we work as we do so, therefore a total underspend of £7.394m is proposed to be transferred to the Development Fund and earmarked for transformation and recovery activities.

Financial governance requires that the Council reviews the financial performance of each year. This report facilitates this.

The treatment of underspends and overspends are considered appropriate and prudent for supporting the Council's future budgets. The transfer of the remaining underspend of £4.159m to the Development Fund to support future transformation and Covid-19 recovery work will assist the Council in emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

1. Background

1.1 The County Council set its spending plans for 2019/20 against a backdrop of continued significant reductions in government funding and growing cost pressures. In developing its financial plan for the year the Council considered all areas of current spending to identify cost pressures which must be funded and savings which could be made through efficiencies.

1.2 The budget proposals also included an increase in Council Tax levels of 4.95% (2.95% general increase, plus 2.00% for Adult Social Care) and a £3.087m one off use of reserves to support the budget.

1.3 As the financial year drew to a close, the UK was hit by the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. This has had a huge impact on the community and on the way that the Council delivers services, resulting in very significant financial implications. Most of this impact has been experienced in the new financial year – 2020/21, but the smaller impact at the end of 2019/20 should be noted as the Council used £0.378m of the Covid-19 emergency grant from the government to fund additional costs and losses caused by the pandemic in 2019/20.

Financial Performance

2019/20 Revenue Spend

1.4 In 2019/20 we spent £991.603m on providing public services. This equated to £1,312 for every person in Lincolnshire

1.5 When compared to the budget set:

- a) Total service revenue spending, excluding schools, was underspent by £6.435m or 1.6%.
- b) There was an underspend of £6.255m on other budgets (a number of corporate budgets including capital financing charges and treasury management) or 17.5%.
- c) The Council received £2.450m or 0.5% more general funding income than we originally budgeted for

This gives the Council (excluding schools) an overall underspend of £15.140m.

1.6 In addition, there was an underspend of £11.958m relating to Schools. This amount will be carried forward for schools to use in 2020/21.

2019/20 Capital Spend

1.7 In 2019/20 the council spent £173.076m building, improving and purchasing assets such as roads, schools and information technology. We received £99.524m of grant and other contributions, therefore, spending £73.552m of our own resources. This was £17.003m or 18.8% less than planned.

Carry Forward Of Underspends into 2020/21

1.8 The Council's policy on the carry forward of underspends is set out in its Financial Regulations, this is:

1.9 All under and overspends on service revenue budgets of up to 1% will be carried forward without exception. In 2019/20, this amount totalled £3.235m. It is proposed to transfer this amount into the Development Fund earmarked reserve.

1.10 All under and overspends on the dedicated schools budget will be carried forward. In 2019/20, this was a net underspend totalling £11.958m.

1.11 In addition to the carry forward of up to 1% of budget under and overspends, there are a number of transfers to reserves for "business as usual" items totalling £1.424m:

- a) Civil Parking Enforcement income is ring-fenced for spending on specific works defined by legislation. This budget underspent by £0.194m in the year.
- b) Two of the Council's activities which provide services to partner organisations have operated at a surplus in 2019/20 and the net surpluses will be transferred to earmarked reserves pending future decisions about their use. These are: Legal Services Lincolnshire (£0.721m) and Strategic Commissioning and Procurement (£0.108m).
- c) Income of £0.401m was received in the year from the sale of former playing fields and school land. This sum is to be used for the Poplar Farm Schools Project under Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. (see paragraph 1.22)

1.12 All of the transfers to reserves set out in the preceding paragraphs are for noting. However, the Council is asked to approve the transfer of the £3.235m up to 1% carry forward on services (paragraph 1.9 above) to the Development Fund earmarked reserve for use on service transformation and development projects as well as for Covid-19 recovery plans.

1.13 The Council is required to consider the use of underspends above the level of 1% and outside of the "business as usual" transfers to reserves. There are three further requests for a transfer to an existing earmarked reserve, totalling £1.175m:

- a) Following the accumulation of a surplus on the insurance fund due to a reduced level of provision for future claims, it is proposed that £1.038m be added to the Insurance Fund reserve. This will maintain the total at £13.110m within the Insurance Fund and the Insurance Provision to cover future liabilities.
- b) The budget for flood and water risk management underspent by £0.089m in the year and it is proposed that this sum be added to the Flood and Water Risk Management reserve.
- c) A surplus of £0.048m was achieved in 2019/20 from the purchase by employees of additional annual leave. It is proposed that this sum is transferred to the Purchase of Employee Leave earmarked reserve. This will help to support staff wellbeing and the introduction of a case management system to help support the efficient management of casework through HR.

1.14 It is proposed that a new earmarked reserve be created this year, from the overall underspend, and that this is included within the "business as usual" category in the future.

- a) During this year's budget process, future fluctuations in the capital financing charges budget was noted and it was suggested that this budget could be stabilised over time by the use of a new Capital Financing earmarked reserve. Any future underspends on the capital financing budget may be transferred into this reserve at the year end, and any future overspends on the capital financing budget may be funded by a transfer from this reserve. In 2019/20 the capital financing charges budget underspent by £5.150m and it is proposed that this sum be used to create this new earmarked reserve.

1.15 After the above allocations, which are in line with the Council's Financial Strategy, there is £4.159m still to be allocated. It is proposed to add the remaining underspend of £4.159m to the Development Fund earmarked reserve, which means that when taken together with the £3.235m underspend from service budgets referred to in paragraph 1.12 above, a total of £7.394m is proposed to be transferred to the Development Fund earmarked reserve. It is proposed that this sum of £7.394m be earmarked for supporting future transformation as well as Covid-19 recovery plans.

1.16 The current balance in the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve is £52.683m, this is after the use of £3.087m to support the 2019/20 budget. This reserve is not required to balance the budget in 2020/21, but it may be required to support the budget in the years beyond. This will depend on the outcomes of the government's funding reforms and may also be affected by the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic impacts on our medium term financial plan. Work on updating the medium term financial plan is currently underway.

1.17 It is felt that the current balance of the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve should be sufficient to support the future revenue budget, if required, as we transition towards the new funding arrangement and recover from the pandemic.

1.18 A variety of other transfers to or from other earmarked reserves reflecting actual expenditure and income in 2019/20 are shown in **TABLE A** below:

TABLE A – Transfers to and from reserves

	Restated Balance at 01 April 2019	Additions in Year	Used in Year	Balance at 31 March 2020	Transfer from 'Earmarked Reserves - Pre- Council	Balance following Council Approval
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balances from dedicated schools budget	19,070	0	(5,720)	13,350		13,350
Balances for schools under a scheme of delegation	14,108	381	(14,988)	(499)	11,958	11,459
Total Schools	33,178	381	(20,708)	12,851	11,958	24,809
Other Earmarked Reserves:						
Earmarked Reserves - Pre Council Confirmation	16,196	0	(16,196)	0		0
Adverse Weather	67	0	(67)	0		0
Insurance	5,237	500	0	5,737	1,038	6,775
Schools Sickness Insurance	519	362	(196)	685		685
Health and Wellbeing	473	0	(473)	0		0
Legal	843	738	(769)	812	721	1,533
Procurement	1,064	52	(105)	1,011	108	1,119
Financial Volatility	45,594	10,175	(3,087)	52,683		52,683
Civil Parking Enforcement	856	23	(879)	0	194	194
CSSC Transformation Including BW Rebuild and Development	2,296	1,100	(11)	3,384		3,384
Energy from Waste Lifecycles	4,986	1,286	(1,235)	5,038		5,038
Flood & Water Risk Management	558	0	(398)	161	89	250
Purchase of Employee Leave Scheme	264	0	(120)	144	48	192
Business Rates Volatility Reserve	1,683	6,152	(1,683)	6,152		6,152
Development Fund	0	10,182	0	10,182	7,394	17,576
Business As Usual Transfers (Capital Financing Charges Reserve)	0	0	0	0	5,150	5,150
Other Service Earmarked Reserves	5,213	1,941	(2,308)	4,846		4,846
Earmarked Reserves	92,683	32,511	(34,361)	90,835	14,742	105,577
Revenue Grants and Contributions	63,369	73,350	(48,174)	88,545	0	88,545
Total	189,231	106,242	(103,243)	192,232	26,700	218,932

General Reserve

1.19 It is our policy on general reserves that these will be maintained within a range of 2.5% to 3.5% of the annual budget requirement. When setting the budget for 2019/20 we planned to increase the balance in our General Reserve by £0.200m at the start of the financial year. After considering the updated budget requirement for 2020/21 and the proposals on the carry forward of over and underspends, there is no requirement to adjust the General Reserve any further at this year end.

1.20 The General Reserve at 31 March 2020 stands at £16.050m or 3.30% of the budget requirement (**TABLE B**).

Table B – General Reserves

GENERAL RESERVES	Balance at 31 March 2020 £'000
Balance at 1 April 2019	-15,850
Contribution to / use in year	-200
Proposed contribution to / use of reserves	0
Balance as at 31 March 2020	-16,050
Balance as a percentage of total budget	3.30%

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts

1.21 We had planned to use £8.000m of flexible capital receipts in 2019/20 to fund transformation projects which will generate ongoing revenue savings to the authority.

1.22 We generated £9.578m of capital receipts in the year and included within this was £0.401m relating to specific Schools capital projects in accordance with Section 77 of the Schools Standard and Framework Act 1998. It is therefore requested that £0.401m be transferred to an earmarked reserve for this purpose (see paragraph 1.13(c)). This will fulfil the requirement to re-invest capital receipts relating to the sale of playing fields as part of the consent given by the Department for Education.

1.23 The remaining balance of £9.177m was available to fund transformation projects in accordance with the Strategy. The following schemes were identified to be funded this way in 2019/20:

- Service changes and reductions (including redundancies);
- Property rationalisation;
- Efficiencies through contracting and procurement;
- Transforming technology; and
- Preventing and detecting fraud.

1.24 During the year the Council spent £3.272m on these transformation projects. Details of the Council's original plans and actual activity are set out at **APPENDIX A – Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Outcomes for 2019/20**.

1.25 As the total capital receipts available is £5.905m more than the cost of the transformation projects identified, this surplus amount is to be used to fund the future capital programme in accordance with the Council's accounting policy i.e. it will be set aside in a capital receipts reserve fund, and will be used to reduce our borrowing in future years.

1.26 For 2020/21 the Council has agreed a different strategy for the use of capital receipts and will now use any such receipts to help fund the future capital programme.

Prudential Indicators 2019/20

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

1.28 In complying with the Code the indicators for 2019/20 were approved by the Council on 22 February 2019 along with the budget and council tax for that year. In accordance with the Code, the Executive Director has been monitoring the actual performance against the targets set and would have reported any issues of concern to members had there been a need to. The Council should also be informed of the actual position compared with that estimated for any given year after the year end. **APPENDIX B** provides details of this comparison for 2019/20. It shows that Prudential Indicators have not been exceeded during the year and there have been no breach of limits set by the Authority.

1.29 The Council sets a voluntary limit on its total borrowing to ensure that it remains prudent and affordable over the longer term. This target is to ensure that the annual minimum revenue provision (MRP) charge plus interest on loans amount to no more than 10% of the Council's annual income. The MRP charge is the amount set aside by the Council each year as a provision to repay debt over the period when the assets purchased and built provide a benefit to the communities of Lincolnshire. The total cost of these capital financing charges for 2019/20 amounted to 5.16%.

Key Financial Performance Measures: Financial Health and Performance

1.30 The County Council has identified a number of key indicators to monitor its Financial Health and Performance. The Council's actual performance against these key indicators for 2019/20 is shown in **TABLE C**.

TABLE C – Key Financial Performance Measures: Financial Health and Performance

REF	PERFORMANCE	MEDIUM TERM TARGET	2019/20 Estimate	2019/20 Actual
1	Council tax compared with other counties	In lowest quartile of all English county councils (out of 26 county councils)	Yes	Yes
2	Government grants	Lobby for annual increases in general government grants to be above the county average	Yes	Yes
3	Capital Receipts	At least £8.0m per annum from 2017/18	£8.000m	£9.578m
4	Minimum Revenue Provision and Interest	MRP and Interest repayments not to exceed 10% of net income	5.68%	5.16%
5	Accounting	Unqualified external audit opinion	Yes	Yes
6	General Reserves	Maintained within the range of 2.5% to 3.5% of the annual budget requirement net of Dedicated Schools Grant	Within range 3.5%	Within range 3.5%
7	Internal control	None of the processes audited receive a "no assurance" opinion from internal audit	Yes	Yes
8	Expenditure - prompt payment	At least 90% of undisputed invoices paid within 30 days	90%	91%
9	Treasury management	Risk adjusted return comparison	Weighted Benchmark 0.611%	0.978%

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- * Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- * Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- * Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- * Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic
- * Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it
- * Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process

These matters have been considered and there is not considered to be any direct impact of the decisions called for by this Report on the Equality Act duty or any of these strategies and obligations. The Council set its budget for 2019/20 in February 2019 having had regard to these matters. The treatment of underspends and overspends in this Report do not impact on that budget or any individual decisions in relation to services. Those decisions will continue to have regard to

equality act obligations and the various strategies and obligations referred to as they are taken. This includes decisions on the use of carried forward underspends.

Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health & Well Being Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision

The Joint Strategic Needs Analysis and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy have been considered and there is not considered to be any direct impact of the decisions called for by this Report on either of them. The Council set its budget for 2019/20 in February 2019 having had regard to these matters. The treatment of underspends and overspends in this Report do not impact on that budget or any individual decisions in relation to services. Those decisions will continue to have regard to the JSNA and the JHWS as they are taken. This includes decisions on the use of carried forward underspends.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 has been considered and there is not considered to be any direct impact of the decisions called for by this Report on the crime and disorder matters. The Council set its budget for 2019/20 in February 2019 having had regard to these matters. The treatment of underspends and overspends in this Report do not impact on that budget or any individual decisions in relation to services. Those decisions will continue to have regard to crime and disorder obligations as they are taken. This includes decisions on the use of carried forward underspends.

3. Conclusion

3.1 The proposed treatment of underspends and overspends outlined in the report are considered appropriate and prudent for supporting the Council's future budgets

3.2 The Prudential indicators comply with CIPFA's Prudential Code of Capital Finance in Local Authorities and provide County Council with actual performance against the targets approved by County Council on 22 February 2019.

4. Legal Comments:

With regards to recommendation 1 the Council's Financial Regulations state that underspends up to 1% will be carried forward without exception.

With regard to recommendation 2 the transfer of underspends below 1% from service budgets into the Development Fund is a budget transfer that requires full Council approval

With regards to recommendation 3 the Council's Financial Regulations provide that the use of all under-spending on service budgets in excess of 1% will be considered by the Executive and decided by the full Council.

With regard to recommendation 7 under Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 the authority must determine and keep under review how much money it can afford to borrow. Reporting on the Prudential Indicators assists the Council in discharging this function.

Otherwise the information contained in the Report informs the Council concerning performance against the budget and Financial Strategy it has set.

5. Resource Comments:

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

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

On 2nd July 2020 the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the report on Financial Performance 2019/20 and the Board's comments were included in the report to Executive on 7 July 2020.

d) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

e) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Outcomes for 2019/20
Appendix B	Prudential Indicators 2019/20

8. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Financial Strategy	Executive Director of Resources
Executive Report - Review of Financial Performance 2019/20 (7 th July 2020)	Executive Director of Resources

This report was written by Dave Simpson, who can be contacted on 01522 553008 or dave.simpson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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APPENDIX A - FLEXIBLE USE OF CAPITAL RECEIPTS

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20		
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Corporate Redundancy	5.500	1.500	7.000	2.848	0.354	3.203	-3.797	From 2016-17 to 2019/20 the Council incurred £3.203m of costs. The Council tracks the payback period for redundancy costs and the total cumulative payback is £6.657m. This is a more positive payback than the rate assumed.
Service changes and reductions (including redundancies)	5.500	1.500	7.000	2.848	0.354	3.203	-3.797	
Bluelight Project	0.878	0.000	0.878	0.896	0.072	0.967	0.090	<p>This will support the Blue Light Programme, which is a collection of projects run by Lincolnshire Police, Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue and East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a modern and fit for purpose estate which meets the needs of each party into the future. 2. Optimise savings and reduce the running costs for all Parties. 3. Maintain and improve service delivery and public confidence in emergency services in Lincolnshire. 4. Continue to build upon existing collaboration and partnership working between Lincolnshire's emergency services. 5. Maximise interoperability and integration opportunities for Lincolnshire emergency services in the future. <p>The new emergency services building at South Park is now complete and the first phase of occupation took place in mid-June with East Midlands Ambulance Service and Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue starting to operate from the building. The Lincolnshire Police decanting followed swiftly in the Autumn. Now the South Park Campus is operational, the project is moving into closure phase. Benefits of this project can start to be realised, including reductions in running costs, collaborative working in line with Government policy and having a modern, affordable, fit for purpose blue light campus.</p>
Strategic Asset Management	1.567	0.404	1.971	1.982	0.397	2.379	0.408	<p>The work done by the team supports the programme of rationalisation, supports the transformation programme that the various services are undertaking to ensure that the property portfolio is being utilised effectively. This includes further collaborative working with other government departments and local authorities, e.g. Lincolnshire Police, East Midlands Ambulance Service, Health Authorities and District Councils</p> <p>The team have continued to support the programme of rationalisation which delivered the new integrated service based in South Park. Savings from this will not be identified until all tenants have had a full year of occupancy (December 2020). The rationalisation programme has been put on hold due to covid-19 and any savings expected from the move of staff from the leased Richmond House in 2020 to Lexicon House are not known at present.</p>
Lancaster House	0.150	0.000	0.150	0.128	0.000	0.128	-0.022	The refurbishment of Lancaster House resulted from a move by staff from Witham House whereby the lease for c£216k per year at the time was surrendered.
Property rationalisation and collaboration	2.594	0.404	2.998	3.006	0.468	3.474	0.476	

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20		
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Record Management Project	0.318	0.000	0.318	0.173	0.000	0.173	-0.145	The project ran for 2 years and resulted in the destruction of over 7,500 boxes of records with more than 12,500 boxes reviewed. The work will provide the basis of the next approach the Council needs to adapt to improve the way it manages its records, reduce its holdings, and mitigate the risks currently presented. This will address the outdated practices that results in inconsistencies and inefficiencies, and a lack of ownership and accountability leading to unnecessary retention of a significant number of records.
Commercial Projects and Performance	3.450	1.159	4.609	2.673	0.984	3.658	-0.951	The team has supported the following projects that will transform the delivery of services: 1. Bluelight Collaboration project is moving into closure phase as the South Park Campus is now operational. 2. The IMT Board is now established. It is responsible for delivering, championing and driving improvement to the Council IMT delivery. It ensures that IMT work programme follows the Council's existing formal decision making governance arrangements and monitors the delivery of that programme. 3. Zipporah upgrade to Neo has now commenced and the upgrade of the Council's online booking and e-commerce system ensures the Council can continue to offer online and telephone card payments facilities. 4. Safer Together - This will develop and improve collaboration between the Council, the Police and other partners by working to promote safer communities across the county through - Project 1 - Establish a multi-discipline, co-located Council and Police team working together on priority themes relating to crime prevention and responses; and Project 2 - New partnership models and working practices to improve outcomes for cohorts with complex and multiple needs and their families. 5. Work is now complete implementing the new JADU digital platform and the transition from the old website to the new website has been successful. The website now complies with the requirements of the new Accessibility Standards, offers a mobile friendly design to improve user experience and improved access to information that enables self service through My Account facility. 6. HR Transformation Programme is developing a transformed and integrated HR Service. Expected benefits are automation of manual processes, improved reporting, compliance with case law and regulations to help Managers become more self-sufficient people managers. 7. Budget 2020 work has delivered a balanced budget for the next two financial years through a range of initiatives and transformation. A deep dive programme of work is underway any savings / efficiencies identified will feed into the continuing balancing of the budget.

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20		
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Commissioning - Strategic Commissioning Shared Services	1.094	0.368	1.462	1.047	0.358	1.404	-0.058	<p>Savings are achieved through reducing costs but also keeping future contract costs as low as possible (i.e. ensuring that growth in costs is kept to a minimum).</p> <p>In addition to savings and transformation reported in previous year, for 2019-20 the team completed various activities which have transformed the way these services will be delivered in the future:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Highways 2020 contract has been successfully retendered and reflects the current strategy for Highways. 2. Waste – Dry Mixed Recyclables Agreement. This project has been completed and a contract is in the process of being signed. Whilst the service delivery has not really altered, the commercials of the contract have with a shift in risk transfer surrounding the payment mechanism of the contract with a shared approach to the onwards sale of the Dry Recycled Materials and the fluctuation in the volatile market prices. 3. Household Waste Recycling Centre – Materials Reception – An exercise was carried out to refresh the Dynamic Purchasing System with some amendments to the documentation and the award criteria with a focus on generating a greater interest from the market, leading to greater competition and improved service delivery. 4. Electricity Contract – The Council has secured its power for its Corporate Property portfolio and Highways. Taking into consideration the social value agenda (Environmental) and in support of the Council's Carbon Management Action Plan the Council made the decision to move to 100% green electricity. 5. Adult Skills and Family Learning Services – Due to an increase in annual funding available from ESFA a new framework agreement was established with a focus on providing a high level of flexibility, which in turn attracts more suppliers, allowing for the delivery of a more diverse range of educational subjects and is sufficiently flexible to accommodate further additional funding should it become available. 6. The team continued to work with ICT to re-procure the Microsoft licenses the Council use and this provided a savings of £547k over 3 years. This will also support the move to Office 365. They were also involved in the transformation of Council's new website.

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19 £'m	2019-20 £'m	2016-17 to 2019-20 £'m	2016-17 to 2018-19 £'m	2019-20 £'m	2016-17 to 2019-20 £'m	£'m	
Commissioning - Strategic Commissioning LCC	0.767	0.193	0.960	1.033	0.433	1.466	0.506	The team concluded procurement of the following encompassing 2016-17 to 2019-20 that transformed the way the service will be provided: 1. Carers Support Service - consolidated multiple independent arrangement across multiple providers to a single contract and lead providers for specialist support to carers in Lincolnshire, including provision of information advice and signposting, face to face assessment, guidance and various other measures. 2. Sensory Impairment Support Service - the new contract offers an improved person centred service delivery, providing flexible and innovative solutions within a fixed budget that offers value for money year on year. 3. A substance misuse delivery model that is holistic and aims to provide an integrated treatment system for drugs and alcohol which will effectively meet the needs of the local population. 4. The re-designed Wellbeing Service 'Wellbeing Lincs' will give people empowerment to live healthy independent lives, provide preventative service that delays escalation to more costly health and care services, increase accessibility to support, improvement in health and wellbeing and an individual's ability to self-care and tailor to ensure the individual gets the right support at the right time. 5. The new Telecare Service will work effectively to support the people to remain at home ensuring that the new provider understands the targeted outcomes along with a positive and flexible approach supporting the service user, carers and trusted assessors. 6. A new innovative cost model for Learning Disability residential services to support the vulnerable adults with learning disabilities that will represent a significant step forward in how the Council commissions residential care. 7. The new Integrated Lifestyle Service commenced in 2018-19 improves levels of physical activity, reducing weight and BMI, quitting smoking and drinking within safe limits. 8. A new framework for day care to address the mixture of spot contracts, which commenced at different times and for varying durations, based on different pricing and in some cases with different specifications and contract terms. This provided a new buildings based day care contracts for older people and people with learning disabilities, maximised the choice of services, ensured consistency in service quality and introduced transparency and control to service costs. 9. A full Housing Related Support and Crisis Housing review of available options concluded and the decision to re-commission under a single countywide provider. The budget has been reduced by £1m and include a redesigned service to help achieve positive outcomes for service users and maximises the effectiveness and efficiency of the service.
Efficiencies through contracting and procurement	5.629	1.720	7.349	4.926	1.775	6.701	-0.648	
ICT Project Work	1.164	0.114	1.278	1.253	0.440	1.692	0.414	Improvements and efficiencies here may not easily convert directly into a reduction in spending, however, they will increase capacity and allow other savings to be delivered across other areas of the Council. A number of IMT projects to improve the ICT infrastructure of the Council have been undertaken: 1. The design and installation of an IT network and security on the Lancaster House Campus; 2. To migrate the IMP content platform to Open Text Cloud as current versions are coming to the end of their life. 3. The contract for Achieve is ending in July 2020. A project to replace legacy forms created in Achieve to the new Firmstep replacement is nearing completion and will generate a saving for the Council.
Electronic Data Warehousing (EDW)	0.270	0.000	0.270	0.468	0.000	0.468	0.198	This is a transformational project which aims to locate key Council's datasets in a central database.

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20		
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Transformation Enabling Technologies	3.000	3.000	6.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-6.000	There are various IMT projects planned that will significantly improve the IT of the Council. These include support for the following 1. Office 365 will provide the Council with all the IT tools and functionality we need to work together efficiently, flexibly and safely. As it's a cloud based system, it's more accessible and resilient. The building blocks for use of Office 365 and other cloud services have been laid and work continues to prepare for migration to those platforms. From April 2020 we will begin systematically rolling out features of Office 365 across the Council. 2. LCC Telephony Upgrade - the software for the Council's Avaya telephone system used by staff and the CSC will be upgraded. This will improve supportability and provide additional features for the CSC such as voice recognition, which enables callers to verbally answer a number of system generated questions so that they can be quickly routed to the information or support they need. This will extend the working life of the Council's investment in telephone hardware. 3. Network Improvement - Work has started to upgrade the Council's network infrastructure to keep the network secure, resilient and has the performance to support our business needs. 4. Internet Upgrade - Alongside the network upgrade, the internet upgrade gave users improved performance and stability when accessing IT services, whether office based or working remotely. The website is now Accessibility compliant and offers a mobile friendly design to improve the user experience and improve access to information through self service.
Financial Strategy Staff Time - Mosaic Project and Agresso Upgrade	0.247	0.000	0.247	0.283	0.000	0.283	0.036	The Council is replacing the current Care Management system with Mosaic in order that all data are kept in one place and will include a finance module. This will help improve the efficiency in dealing with cases and transform the service processes resulting in efficiency. The Council's financial system Agresso was upgraded and provided an up to date, supported system that could be used as a platform for future transformation improvements.
Confirm on Demand		0.210	0.210		0.000	0.000		The service has now moved across to Confirm on Demand with the benefits being the ability to monitor the condition of every asset and make data-driven decisions in real time. This will help to predict and prevent failures. It will also help to respond efficiently to any emergencies by mobilising the right resources.
Transforming information technology	4.681	3.324	8.005	2.004	0.440	2.443	-5.352	

	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Budget Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Cumulative Actual Expenditure on Transformation	Variance	Project Cumulative Savings or Transformation Results
	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20	2016-17 to 2018-19	2019-20	2016-17 to 2019-20		
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Counter Fraud Investigations	0.622	0.220	0.843	0.707	0.235	0.942	0.099	<p>The year 2019/20 has seen significant success in terms of our contribution to recovery of fraud losses and fraud stopped. In addition to what was reported in previous year, the team have extended their use of data analysis during 2019/20 to review vast amounts of records which helped to identify Payroll overpayments of £2.7k in the most recent exercise.</p> <p>Extensive work has been done to raise awareness of bank mandate fraud in recent years. We have built up good lines of communication with service areas and Serco colleagues and in June 2019 a mandate fraud attempt was prevented by a vigilant member of staff – the value of the next payment due was £1.56m.</p> <p>Following on from the success of the partnership work with other Council around the Single Person Discounts reported last year, the team are developing the exercise to be reviewed on a rolling basis. This could potentially deliver additional council tax revenue of £5.2m over a 5 year period.</p>
Preventing and detecting fraud	0.622	0.220	0.843	0.707	0.235	0.942	0.099	
TOTAL	19.026	7.168	26.195	13.491	3.272	16.763	-9.222	

APPENDIX B – PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS ACTUAL COMPARED TO ESTIMATED 2019/2020			
Original Estimate	2019/20 £000	Actuals	2019/20 £000
Prudence Indicators:			
1) Capital Expenditure & Financing			
Net Capital Expenditure	118953	Actual Net Capital Expenditure (Excl Sch RCCO & Leasing)	73552
2) Capital Financing Requirement			
Capital Financing Requirement 31/3/2020	705820	Actual Capital Financing Requirement 31/3/2020	616220
Capital Financing Requirement Estimate at 31/3/2022	760695	Capital Financing Requirement Estimate 31/3/2022	671095
3) Gross Borrowing and the Capital Financing Requirement			
Gross External Borrowing	593127	Actual Gross External Borrowing	502646
Headroom Over CFR at 31/3/2022	167568	Actual Headroom Over CFR at 31/3/2022	168449
4) External Debt			
Authorised Limit for External Debt		Actual external debt at 31/3/2020	
Borrowing	696847	Long Term LCC	501540
Other Long Term Liabilities	12026	Long Term Schools	862
Total Authorised Limit	708873	Salix	244
		Temporary(Home Office)	0
Operational Boundary for External Debt		Borrowing	
Borrowing	681847	Other Long Term Liabilities (Credit Arrangements)	9471
Other Long Term Liabilities	10026	Total Debt	512117
Total Operational Boundary	691873		
Affordability Indicators:			
5) Financing Costs & Net Revenue Stream			
Estimated Ratio of Financing Costs To Net Revenue Stream	5.52%	Actual Ratio of Financing Costs To Net Revenue Stream	4.93%
Estimated Ratio of MRP & Interest Costs To Net Revenue Stream	5.68%	Actual Ratio MRP & Interest Costs To Net Revenue Stream	5.16%
Proportionality Indicators			
6) Limit for Maximum Usable Reserves at Risk from Potential Loss of Investments			
Estimated Proportion of Usable Reserves at Risk from Potential Loss of Investments -Limit 10%	2.04%	Actual Proportion of Usable Reserves at Risk from Potential Loss of Investments	1.35%
7) Income from Non Treasury Investments & Net Service Expenditure			
Estimated Proportion of Non-Treasury Investment Income to Net Service Expenditure -Limit 3%	0.51%	Actual Proportion of Non-Treasury Investment Income to Net Service Expenditure	0.55%
Treasury Indicators:			
8) Interest Rate Exposures (Variable)			
Upper limit for variable interest rate exposures		Actual variable interest rate exposuew at 31 March 2020	
Borrowing	30%	Borrowing	0%
Investments	100%	Investments	23%
9) Total Principal Sums Invested			
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 365 days (per maturity date). Treasury and Non Treasury Investments.	40000	Actual principal sums invested > 365 Day. Treasury and Non Treasury Investments.	13850
10) Maturity Structure of borrowing			
Upper Limit for maturity structure of borrowing		Actual maturity structure of borrowing at 31 March 2020	
Under 12 months	25%	Under 12 months	2.90%
12 months and within 24 months	25%	12 months and within 24 months	2.20%
24 months and within 5 years	50%	24 months and within 5 years	5.40%
5 years and within 10 years	75%	5 years and within 10 years	12.70%
10 years and above	100%	10 years and above	76.80%
11) Borrowing in Advance of Need			
Estimated borrowing in advance of need limit equal to 25% of the expected increase in CFR over 3 year budget period	13719	Actual borrowing taken in advance of need in 2019/20	0

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**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham - Executive Director
responsible for Democratic Services**

Report to:	County Council
Date:	18 September 2020
Subject:	Political Proportionality and Allocation of seats to Committees and Sub-committees

Summary:

A councillor has informed the Council that she has ceased her membership of the Labour Group on the County Council. This decision has triggered a review of the political proportionality and allocation of seats on committees and sub-committees. This report invites the Council to consider the impact of the change and decide on the allocation of seats.

Recommendation(s):

That the Council notes the change in membership of the political groups on the County Council and agrees the allocation of seats illustrated in the proportionality spreadsheet to be circulated prior to the meeting.

1. Background

1.1 The Council is required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (as amended) to review the allocation of places to political groups on committees and sub-committees. Under the Council's Constitution the composition of committees and sub-committees is the responsibility of the full Council. This was last reviewed at the annual meeting of Council on 26 June 2020.

1.2 On 20 August 2020 Cllr Sarah Parkin notified the Council that she had ceased her membership of the Labour Group on the County Council.

1.3 Unless and until Councillor Parkin joins another political group on the Council she will be an independent unaligned councillor.

1.4 Councillor Parkin leaving the Labour Group automatically triggers a review of political proportionality on the Council.

1.5 In achieving political proportionality as far as reasonably practicable the 1989 Act requires the Council to apply certain principles in order as follows:

- Not all the seats on the committee are allocated to the same group
- The majority of seats on the committee are allocated to a particular political group if the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority's membership.
- The number of seats allocated to a political group on the committees of the Council bears the same proportion to all the seats on such committees as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole and
- The number of seats allocated to a political group on an individual committee bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that committee as the membership of that group bears to the membership of the Council as a whole.

1.6 For the purposes of the last two bullet points in paragraph 1.5 the membership of each group must be compared to the membership of the Council to establish the correct proportion to be used in the allocation of seats. Under Schedule 1 of the 1989 Act membership means the number of persons who are members for the time being of the authority. The number of members at the time of this decision is therefore 69 and it is this number that has been used in the calculation of the proportion to be used in deciding on allocation.

1.7 Under Regulation 16 of the 1990 Regulations, where some of the members of the relevant authority are members of one or more political groups and the others are not, the Council's obligations are as follows:

- To determine the proportion of the total membership of the Council who are members of one or more political groups and ensure that the same proportion of the total number of seats to be filled is allocated to each of the political groups in the proportion that the number of members of that group bears to the membership of the authority; and
- To secure that persons appointed to any seats that do not fall to be allocated to a political group under the above requirement are not a member of a political group.

A political group must have at least two members – i.e. there cannot be a group of one.

1.8 The impact of the current membership referred to above is shown in the table below (the references to Lincolnshire Independents and Liberal Democrats in the table below and in Appendix A are references to the member's political party and not a reference to a political group):

	26 June 2020 (Council)		18 September 2020 (Now)	
	Members	%	Members	%
Conservative	55	79.71%	55	79.71%
Labour	6	8.70%	5	7.25%
Independents	5	7.25%	5	7.25%
Lincolnshire Independents	1		1	

Liberal Democrats	1		1	
Independent unaligned	1		2	
Vacancy	1		1	

1.9 There are 127 seats that fall to be filled by the Council. The table below sets out the political groups, the number of councillors and the proportion of the total membership of the authority that belong to that group assuming that Councillor Parkin remains unaligned. Using that percentage, the final row of the table shows the number of seats that the Council can allocate to each of the political groups.

	Conservative	Labour	Independent
Members	55	5	5
Percentage	79.71%	7.25%	7.25%
Seats	101	9	9

1.10 The remaining seats (eight in number) cannot be allocated to the political groups and would have to be allocated to the members who are not members of a political group.

1.11 Six of those seats are currently occupied by three of the members, who are not members of a political group, Councillors M Overton, M Boles and R Foulkes occupy two seats each.

1.12 To satisfy the requirement for the seventh and eighth seats to be allocated to a councillor who is not a member of a political group Cllr S Parkin would be allocated those two seats.

1.13 This was the position at the time of writing this report. However were the position in relation to Councillor Parkin's unaligned status change prior to the meeting the Council would be in danger of making a decision on a flawed basis. Therefore in order to facilitate any changes to the position between the date of the Report and the meeting it is recommended that Council agree the proportionality spreadsheet illustrating the allocation of seats which will be circulated nearer to the meeting.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- * Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- * Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- * Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- * Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic
- * Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it
- * Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding

Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others

The duty cannot be delegated and must be discharged by the decision-maker. To discharge the statutory duty the decision-maker must analyse all the relevant material with the specific statutory obligations in mind. If a risk of adverse impact is identified consideration must be given to measures to avoid that impact as part of the decision making process

There are not considered to be any equalities impacts arising out of considering and approving the allocation of seats on committees and sub-committees to political groups on the Council.

Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS)

The Council must have regard to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the Joint Health & Well Being Strategy (JHWS) in coming to a decision

There are no implications for the JSNA or JHWS in relation to the allocation of seats on committees and sub-committees to political groups on the Council.

Crime and Disorder

Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council must exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting

the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area

There are no implications in relation to Crime and Disorder arising from the allocation of seats on committees and sub - committees to political groups on the Council.

3. Conclusion

It is a matter for the Council to allocate seats on committees and sub-committees to the political groups on the Council, which it must do in accordance with the law relating to proportionality.

4. Legal Comments:

Council is required to allocate seats on the Committees of the Council to political groups in accordance with the law relating to proportionality as set out in the report.

The decision is within the remit of the Council.

5. Resource Comments:

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

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

e) Risks and Impact Analysis

There were no risks identified as a result of the recommendations in this report.

7. Appendices

To be circulated prior to the meeting	
Appendix A	Allocation of seats to committees and sub-committees.

8. Background Papers

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

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