



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

28 August 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.

Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 8 September 2020 at 10.00 am as a Virtual - Online Meeting via Microsoft Teams** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Access to the meeting is as follows:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee 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/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=548&MId=5511&Ver=4> 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'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

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

Councillors Mrs W Bowkett (Chairman), C R Oxby (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A M Austin, T Bridges, G E Cullen, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, C Matthews, E J Sneath, H Spratt and Dr M E Thompson

**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 July 2020	5 - 12
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillors and Lead Officers	
5	South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) <i>(To receive a report from Simon Wright, Principal Officer, Regeneration, on the South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) in Holbeach, which seeks the Committee's views on an initial proposal for the future branding of the scheme, recognising its strategic relationship with other FEZs in Greater Lincolnshire)</i>	13 - 22
6	Coastal Tourism Infrastructure and Arts Project <i>(To receive a report from Pete Fender, Special Projects Officer, which outlines the recent tourism and infrastructure projects completed by the County Council and details those in the pipeline aimed at delivering coastal tourism and arts projects to develop the facilities and attractions that the Lincolnshire coast has to offer)</i>	23 - 30
7	Green Master Plan Update <i>(To receive a report from David Hickman, Head of Environment, which provides an overview of progress towards the Green Masterplan (GMP))</i>	31 - 40
8	The Agriculture Bill <i>(To receive a report from Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment, which provides an update on the current progress of the Agriculture Bill)</i>	41 - 46
9	Boston Infrastructure Works <i>(To receive a report from Warren Peppard – Head of Development Management, which provides an overview of the projects and schemes proposed as part of the Boston Infrastructure Works)</i>	47 - 54
10	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme <i>(To receive a report by Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Committee to comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focussed where it can be of greatest benefit)</i>	55 - 58

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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.

All papers for council meetings are available on:

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



**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
14 JULY 2020**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR MRS W BOWKETT (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors C R Oxby (Vice-Chairman), Mrs A M Austin, G E Cullen, C Matthews, E J Sneath, H Spratt and Dr M E Thompson

Councillors C J Davie, D McNally and E J Poll attended the meeting as observers

Officers in attendance:-

Steve Brookes (Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager), John Coates (Head of Waste), David Hickman (Head of Environment), Karen Seal (Interim Principle Officer for Place), Daniel Steel (Scrutiny Officer), Vanessa Strange (Head of Infrastructure Investment), Emily Wilcox (Democratic Services Officer) and Helen Jenkins-Knight (Sustainability Officer)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

An apology for absence was received from Councillor T Bridges.

2 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor A M Austin declared a personal interest in relation to Item 6 as had been personally affected by issues with poor broadband connectivity.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2020

In relation to the minutes, it was confirmed that two of the Tourism Sector Deal workshops had taken place, one had taken place virtually and three workshops planned for Boston, South Kesteven and North East Lincolnshire had been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND LEAD OFFICERS

The Chairman recorded the Committee's respects for Councillor Lewis Strange, who was a member of this Committee. The Chairman explained that Lewis was a former Executive Councillor for Waste, as well as a former Chairman of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee and the Flood and Drainage Management Scrutiny Committee. He had a real passion for the Countryside and the natural environment and the Committee would miss his presence. The Chairman passed on the Committee's best wishes to his family.

The Executive Councillor for Economy and Place echoed the Chairman's comments, describing Councillor Lewis Strange as a great colleague, friend and representative of Lincolnshire. The Committee noted the great contribution that Councillor Strange had during his years as a councillor.

The Executive Councillor for Economy and Place advised that the Council continued to respond to the challenges faced by the Covid-19 pandemic. The Getting Building Fund had been awarded £25.8m to Lincolnshire, more details would be reported to a future committee. The Business Lincolnshire Growth hub was working on three new support offers: £10m for SME Tourism businesses in England, with businesses being able to receive £5000 to adapt their businesses following the covid-19 pandemic; a £20m kick start grant – the Council were liaising with MHCLG and awaited the final funding level available to Greater Lincolnshire before opening to bidding; and thirdly, the council had also bid to deliver a programme of 25 peer to peer networking events across key business sectors in Lincolnshire.

The Covid-19 pandemic had caused a major shock to the economic and social system, but all sectors were now reopened. A fear of a second wave remained, but Lincolnshire County Council and the Greater Lincolnshire Enterprise Partnership were doing everything they could to support businesses in Lincolnshire, although challenges still remained.

Members were pleased to see funding announcements and the on-going support that was being provided to local businesses.

5 GREEN MASTER PLAN

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Environment, which provided a progress update on the Green Master Plan (GMP) which provided a progress update on the Green Master Plan (GMP), highlighted the key activities taken to date and proposing a delivery schedule.

On 17 May 2019, the Council committed to making its activities carbon neutral by 2050. As a result, the Council began to develop a GMP as the mechanism that it would use to deliver net zero emissions.

The GMP was a detailed action plan which would set out Lincolnshire County Council's roadmap to how it would achieve carbon neutrality, as well as how the Council would support partners and communities in achieving a more sustainable future.

Members were invited to consider the development of the GMP and endorse the proposed timescale for the delivery of the plan as set out in the report.

The Executive Councillor for Economy and Place advised the Committee that the GMP was a critical piece of work for the Council in moving forward with the reduction in carbon emissions and offered an excellent opportunity for Councillors to shape the place for the future generation. Many people were working differently as a result of covid-19, with less people travelling which reduced mileage and pollution and an increase in cycling and walking which was positive. It was noted that Lincolnshire had been allocated £105,000 in the first tranche of the governments active travel fund and the cycling and walking agenda featured strongly in many of local conversations.

Members considered the report and during the discussion the following points were noted:

- Members supported the increase in cycling but emphasised the need for suitable cycle paths and cycle routes for their residents.
- Many people living in rural areas still relied heavily on the call-connect service so it was important that funding levels were maintained for the service.
- It was explained that the sustainability of transport would be key elements in the GMP and officers were working to address transport issues as part of the plan. Increasing opportunities for people to cycle and walk more was a priority. A report would be brought back to the Committee in due course on transport and sustainability opportunities.
- It was agreed that the Scrutiny Officer would email members of the Committee to ask for volunteers for a possible working group to look into the development of transport and sustainability as part of the GMP.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee endorse the proposed timescales for the delivery of the Green Master Plan by early 2021;
2. That the comments made be considered by Officers as part of the Committee's views on the delivery of the Green Masterplan.

6 LINCOLNSHIRE BROADBAND PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report by the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager, which provided an update on the current status of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme.

The Programme outlined future plans and provided details relating to the difficulties of deploying faster broadband to rural end users.

An additional 20,300 premises had now had their broadband upgraded and under contract two, which ended on 31st March 2020. Superfast coverage at 1st July 2020 was 94.5%

The Council had now closed an Invitation to Tender for a third contract where total funding would be £11M and with an aspiration to get as close to 100% Superfast coverage as possible.

BDUK were considering how best to utilise £5 billion funding that had been allocated to improving rural broadband connectivity. BDUK will look to provide full fibre (FTTP) to the last 20% of the UK that isn't deemed to be commercially viable.

Early discussions were on-going regarding potential full fibre broadband investment into the county by private investors.

Members considered the report and as part of the discussions the following points were noted:

- Some Members raised concerns about broadband speeds in their areas. Covid-19 had meant that there had been a significant increase in home working which was proving difficult for those without a satisfactory broadband speed.
- Members were advised that the current contract looked to provide value for money and to increase connectivity in as many premises as possible. Officers would continue to work to improve connectivity for those who properties who were still having issues including the universal service obligation where residents could request a link to give minimum 10MB of speed. Officers were working closely to try to get as much funding as possible to improve speeds across the county.
- It was noted that the BT link had been used by some constituents and had worked and improved connectivity for those people.
- Quantum were not thought to be an approved supplier by BDUK so were unable to utilise government funding available to the Council so any solutions provided by Quantum would have to be paid for separately.
- Members were concerned that the information provided on the On-Lincolnshire website was currently out of date and felt that it would be beneficial to update the information and to provide information to Parish Councils to update them on any alterations and the best solutions available.
- It was noted that the On-Lincolnshire website had not been updated as there was soon to be a system upgrade and a new website which would contain all up to date information.
- The Lincolnshire Broadband Programme Manager agreed to re-circulate information on the Broadband offers available so that the information could be shared with Parish Councils.

RESOLVED:

1. That the progress of the Lincolnshire Broadband Programme be noted;
2. That the comments made above be noted in relation to future rural broadband provision.

7 TEAM LINCOLNSHIRE AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
 ACTIVITIES

Consideration was given to a report by the Interim Principle Officer for Place and Investment, which provided an update on the activities and support being provided to the Team Lincolnshire Ambassador Programme; the Foreign Direct Investment Key Account Management Programme and a brief update on the Investment Strategy for Lincolnshire.

Members were advised that in light of the current pandemic, a new awareness campaign had been launched called *#TeamLincolnshireCares*. The campaign included a weekly virtual coffee club as well formal webinars which were proving to be popular.

Due to the pandemic, a payment holiday for the Team Lincolnshire annual subscription had been instituted and would be reviewed in June 2020.

In relation to the Foreign Direct Investment and the Key Account Management Programme, it was noted that the Principal Officer for Place & Investment on behalf of the Greater Lincolnshire Enterprise Partnership had made a successful bid for £49,000 from the Midlands Engine Challenge Fund, which followed on from the £35,000 obtained under Round 1 for the Foreign Direct Investment Key Account Management Programme which came to an end in March 2020.

Members considered the report and during the discussion the following points were noted:

- The Committee were advised that officers were working with the partnership of international trade in preparation for the UK's exit from the European Union to ensure that Lincolnshire remained a priority.
- The Executive Councillor for Economy and Place felt that the Team Lincolnshire programme was a fantastic asset and paid tribute to the private sector businesses for their work on the programme.
- The Committee noted uncertainties faced by the Travelodge hotel chain but hoped the proposed development in Boston would continue as planned. The Executive Councillor for Economy and Place agreed to update the Committee on this once more information was available.
- The Committee were pleased to see that support was still being provided virtually and supported the recommendations set out in the report.

6

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY 2020

RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee endorse the that the Team Lincolnshire Ambassador Programme has a vital role to play in the restart of Lincolnshire's economy and future investment and development;
2. That the committee recommend that officers consider waiving the Team Lincolnshire Membership Fees for 9 months of the 2020/21 financial year due to the impact of Covid-19
3. That the Committee recommend receiving a future report on the Investment Strategy detailing the core elements of the Strategy and the activities taking place to drive the Strategy forward.

8 ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report by the Scrutiny Officer, which invited Members to consider the Committee's work programme, as set out on page 44 of the agenda.

The Committee were advised that since the agenda had been issued, the following reports had been added to the work programme:

8 September 2020:

- Update on the tourism infrastructure bill

20 October 2020:

- Historic places strategy
- Update report on charging for pre-application for planning

24 November 2020:

- Lincolnshire growth hubs
- Update report on the Green master plan
- Local transport plan
- Employment and skills audit and action plan

RESOLVED:

That the work programme and updates be agreed.

9 CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPT INFORMATION

RESOLVED:

In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the following agenda item had not been circulated to the press and public on the grounds that it was considered to contain exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended. The press and public would be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of Item 8 of the agenda

10 INTRODUCING SEPARATE COLLECTIONS FOR PAPER AND
CARDBOARD IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Consideration was given to an exempt report by the Head of Waste, which outlined the proposed introduction of separate collections for paper and cardboard in Lincolnshire, which was being considered by the Executive on Executive Councillor for Commercial and Environmental Management on 2 September 2020.

Members discussed the report and a number of comments were noted.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations, as set out in the exempt report, be approved.

The meeting closed at 11.35 am

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Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone

Summary:

This paper provides a detailed update on the Council's work to bring forward the South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) in Holbeach and seeks views from members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee regarding an initial proposal for the future branding of the scheme recognising its strategic relationship with other FEZs in Greater Lincolnshire.

Phase I of the FEZ is being delivered on approximately six hectares (15 acres) of LCC owned adjacent to the A17 and A151, to the north west of Holbeach. Funding for the project so far has been via a combination of LCC capital programme funding and Growth Deal Round Three funding. Additional "Getting Building" funding has just been awarded to the Council to continue with the delivery of the FEZ with match funding provided by SHDC.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is invited to notes the update on implementation of Phase 1 of the South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone as set out in this Report and provides feedback on the branding suggestion that has been made for the scheme.

1. Background

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.

The delivery strategy for the FEZ is for a phased approach to bring forward Phase I comprising of approximately six hectares (15 acres) of land owned by LCC. The land is located adjacent to the A151 to the north west of Holbeach. Phase II comprises land to the north of Phase I and is currently in third party ownership. The extent of the Council owned land which comprises Phase I is shown on the attached indicative master plan and comprises plots one to 12.

A Local Development Order (LDO) was adopted by SHDC on 20th November 2018 in order to streamline the planning process by removing the need for developers to make separate planning applications for development within the FEZ. In effect, the LDO grants outline planning permission, with all matters reserved, for employment and education-led schemes on the whole of the FEZ site for the following range of uses:

- 20,000 square metres of B1 Business Use (offices/research and development)
- 20,000 square metres B2 General Industrial Use
- 9,500 square metres D1 Non-Residential Institutional Use (education and training)
- 1,500 square metres D2 Conference Facilities
- 1,500 square metres A2 Financial and Professional Services Use
- 3,000 square metres C1 Hotel or Motel Use
- Ancillary B8 Storage & Distribution and A3 Restaurant/Café Use

The LDO also grants permission in principle for associated infrastructure and site preparation works. This will assist LCC when it constructs the site access roads as it will make the planning process much simpler and quicker.

Plot 1 of the FEZ extends to approximately 1.3 hectares (three acres) and has been acquired by the University of Lincoln for the construction of a new Food Centre of Excellence and a separate Institute of Technology building. The Centre of Excellence will be an early anchor tenant and act as a strong catalyst for the subsequent development of the FEZ. The building is currently being constructed and once complete will provide 1,390m² of space. Completion is expected in early 2021. There has been a slight delay in the programme for the construction of the Centre due to a number of factors including adverse weather conditions over the winter and as a result of the coronavirus pandemic which forced construction work to be temporarily halted.

The remaining 11 development plots within Phase I are in the process of being serviced with access arrangements also being put in place to enable each plot to be let on a very long lease at market value in order to meet market demand and to recoup a substantial amount of the initial investment.

Over the last 12 months we have focused on the following activity strands:

- Provision of all major utility services. A summary of the infrastructure being provided is shown in Table A below.
- Construction of the first 60 metre section of site service road to access the first four or five development plots.
- Liaising with, and supporting, the University of Lincoln to safeguard the provision of the Food Centre of Excellence
- Obtaining additional public sector funding needed to deliver further elements of the scheme.
- Commissioning a detailed "Visioning" exercise to gather market intelligence to help us shape the development of the FEZ and determine what specific requirements the agri-food sector had.

Table A. Summary of Infrastructure Provision

Utility	Specification	Expected Completion
Power	275Kva to UoL Only.	Complete
	1.7MVA overhead line upgrade	Start late Spring 2021 Complete Winter 2021
Water	Onsite works for UoL	Complete
	Offsite upgrade works for potable water	Start Oct '20 and complete by Feb '21
Foul	Foul pipes in highway of Phase 1a	Complete
	Foul Pumping Station for all of FEZ	Start Sept '20 and complete Feb '21
Gas	Installed for UoL, IoT and Phase 1a	Complete
ICT	Openreach Fibre FTTC	Complete

South Lincolnshire FEZ Branding and Promotion

The Visioning work mentioned above was completed by Collison and Associates Limited in February 2020 and its recommendations included the need for the FEZ to have a strong brand and for stakeholders to prioritise the identification of a suitable identity. The report included one suggestion that the scheme could be described as the "UK Food Valley" to reflect the South Lincolnshire FEZ's role and relationship with two other FEZ's being developed in Greater Lincolnshire (on the south bank of the Humber and at Hemswell Cliff) and similar schemes in East Anglia. Looked at as a whole, the South Lincolnshire FEZ sits at the centre of these schemes.

Perhaps a way to rationalise this with the existing 'Food Enterprise Zone' brand, which is strong and established (there are three in Greater Lincolnshire and others elsewhere) is to see the South Lincolnshire FEZ sitting centrally within the "UK's Food Valley", and straddling three LEP areas, which is potentially an exceptionally strong marketing statement in the context of the food industry in the east / east midlands as a whole.

Financial Implications

Since the inception of the scheme, the Council's preferred approach has been to prioritise the provision of services to Phase I in order to "cash flow" the scheme, provide enabling infrastructure to the Centre of Excellence AND provide enough developable land to meet anticipated demand over a two to three year period.

The scheme has just, in August 2020, been awarded further public sector funding from the Getting Building Fund administered by the GLLEP. This funding has been allocated towards further development on Phase I of the FEZ comprising the construction of an additional 220 metres of site service road to access the remaining eight development plots and also the construction of a new Hub building on plot 12.

Next Steps

Following the recent award of Getting Building Funding, LCC and the other stakeholders in the project can press ahead with the next stage of delivery including:

Extension of Site Service Road.

In order to access all the development plots on the remainder of Phase I, an additional 220 m of service road is to be constructed. This is referred to as Phase 1B of the site service road. Phase 1A of the road was formally completed in July 2020.

Construction of Phase 1A was hampered by difficult ground conditions caused by an exceptional amount of rainfall throughout the build programme which increased costs and extended the timetable for completion. The scheme was also delayed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown. The construction of Phase 1B will extend to the western boundary of the site effectively providing access to the remaining eight plots on Phase I. LCC expects to take advantage of economies of scale by reappointing the contractor responsible for the construction of 1A.

Work is being programmed to begin in September 2020 and the build period is expected to be circa six months.

Cluster Hub Building.

Wide ranging consultation with industry representatives as part of the Visioning work carried out in winter 2019/20 has confirmed the need for a new "Hub" building to be constructed on Phase I of the FEZ. Plot 12 has been earmarked for the construction of the building due to the site's prominence and central location within the scheme. Ground investigation work has already been carried out on the subject site.

The Hub is likely to be operated by the public sector in order to align with the provision of other support in skills, business and innovation and because it may not be a viable stand alone scheme, especially in the initial years.

The Council is currently preparing a business model for the operation of the building in order to understand the likely revenue implications to the Council. One solution being considered is for the day to day management of the building to be undertaken by the Eventus Centre Manager as this could ameliorate the management costs. The Hub will include space for small and medium sized enterprises, business support facilities and space for networking, collaboration and potentially conference and catering facilities. The building will be instrumental in the creation of a "community" within the FEZ which was identified in the Vision for the FEZ. The Hub will be built to a high design and energy efficiency standard as we recognise that the building will set the design standard expected for future development on the FEZ.

Our indicative programme shows work on site starting in March/April 2021 with completion of the scheme in March 2022. It is expected that the design and construction of the Hub will be done in such a way to allow for later extension and addition to the building as the FEZ grows and the need for additional support space and ancillary accommodation increases.

2. Conclusion

There is a clear need for public sector involvement in the delivery of the South Lincolnshire FEZ in order to bring the scheme forward as soon as possible. Even though the Council will not make a direct financial profit from the scheme, its direct intervention will safeguard the long term presence of the University of Lincoln in Holbeach and provide major food producers located nearby with access to the University's technology resources and expertise. The Council's involvement will also ensure that new businesses are attracted to the area which will in turn have a positive impact on supply chain and "business to business" opportunities.

These objectives are particularly important as the UK economy recovers from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and prepares for Brexit.

The delivery of Phase I of the FEZ is a key priority for LCC and public sector investment in the provision of site enabling infrastructure for utilities and access arrangements will bring about further positive outcomes in addition to securing the construction of the University of Lincoln's Food Centre of Excellence and the provision of services to Phase I which are already major achievements of the scheme.

These wider economic benefits include new job creation, economic growth and enhanced prestige for south Lincolnshire as a centre for innovation and the development of cutting edge technology in the agri-food sector.

The ability of the Council to forward fund the project and seek to recover a proportion of its investment from capital receipts following the disposal of serviced land, represents a mitigation strategy against any risk associated with bringing forward this project at the present time.

Land Disposal

Under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council is required to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable on a disposal of land. All disposals in relation to the FEZ scheme are supported by expert valuation advice to ensure that this requirement is complied with.

State Aid

Expert external legal advice has been sought on whether any aspect of the proposals in this Report breach State Aid rules. The advice indicates that the proposal can be pursued without state aid.

The transfer of land to the University of Lincoln will not give rise to State Aid issues if it is sold at an independently verified open market value.

The wider development of the FEZ can be brought within the provisions of an approved scheme which allows the public sector to undertake works to revitalise land it owns by funding specified costs as long as any subsequent sale is at open market value.

It is therefore considered that the proposal can be implemented without breach of State Aid rules. These requirements will be kept under review to ensure that the proposal as developed stays within these rules.

Detailed Understanding of the Benefits of LCC Investment

Having considered many delivery options it is proposed that the Council's preferred approach as set out in this paper would provide the most benefits including:

- Business Space – Phase I of the FEZ will create 11 development plots as well as the construction of 1,422 sq m Hub building.
- Employment Growth - Phase I will safeguard and create new, skilled jobs for the local workforce.
- Strategic fit with the University of Lincoln's Centre of Excellence.
- Innovation – The FEZ will provide a range of development opportunities specifically designed to nurture and grow the agri-tech sector along the A17 corridor in south Lincolnshire.
- Need to demonstrate a strong track record in ability to deliver infrastructure projects using growth deal funding in order to secure further investment in the future.
- The Council's investment has already enabled the UoL to secure public sector funding for the construction of the Food Centre of Excellence. This is in addition to the Growth Deal Round 3 monies awarded to LCC for the provision of Phase I infrastructure. More recently, the scheme has also attracted Getting Building funding via the LEP.
- The whole FEZ site will provide a pipeline of growth for Holbeach for a 15 to 20 year period.

- The FEZ supports many key priorities identified in the GLLEP Strategic Economic Plan and Local Industrial Strategy, including the need to drive the growth of the agri-food and manufacturing sectors.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

See the body of the Report

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Indicative Masterplan of the Peppermint Park Food Enterprise Zone

5. Background Papers

The following Background Papers within the meaning of section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this Report

Background Paper	Where it can be viewed
Report to Executive "South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone and Peppermint Junction Improvements, Holbeach", 7 February 2017	Democratic Services

This report was written by Simon Wright, who can be contacted on 07827 820467 or simon.wright@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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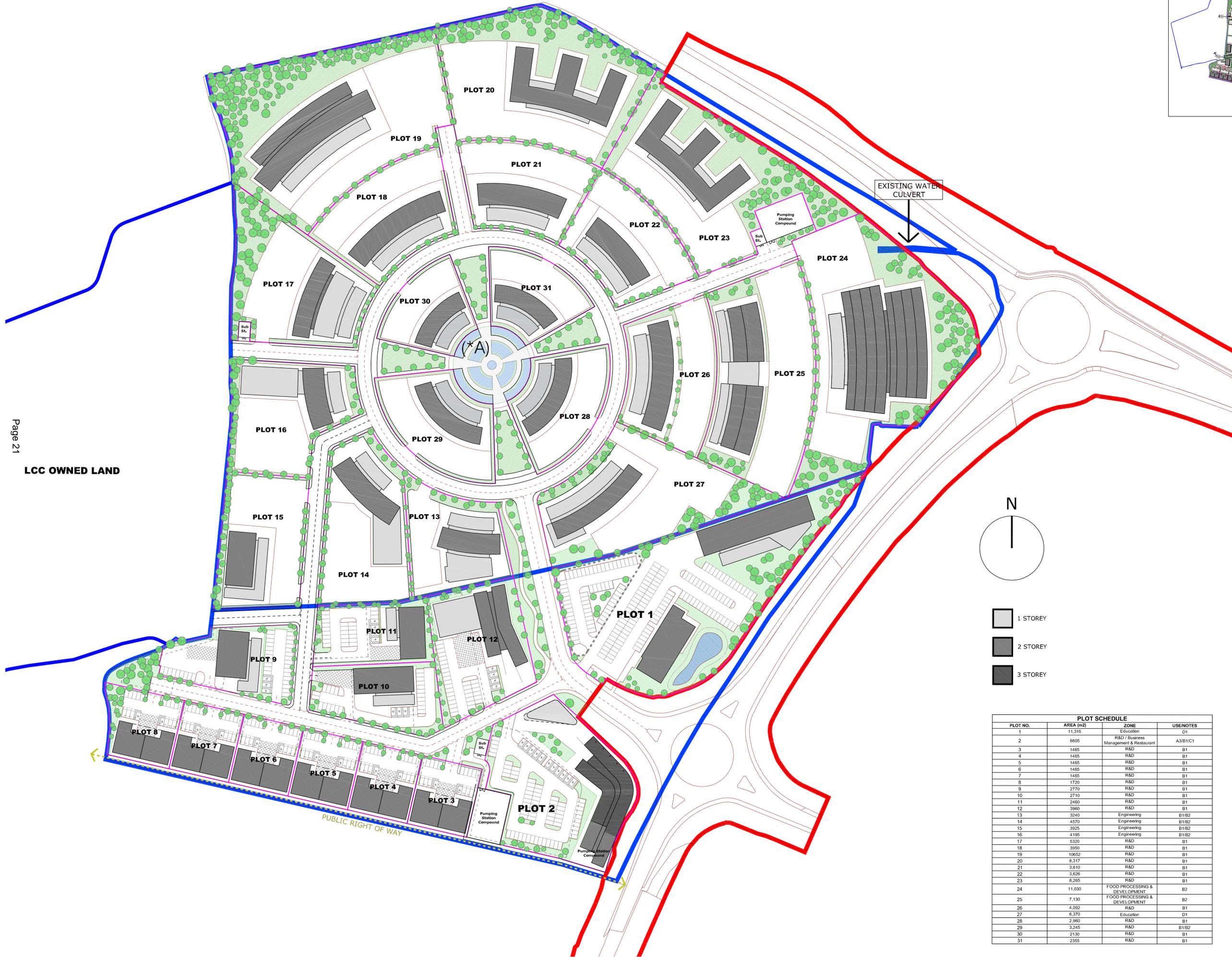


Notes:

Highways & car park layouts are subject to vehicle tracking used for all detailed planning applications made for each plot.

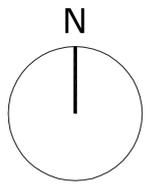
To be read in conjunction with Civil Eng. current information.

(*A) 'Boardwalk' walk public space with integrated drainage attenuation



Page 21

LCC OWNED LAND



- 1 STOREY
- 2 STOREY
- 3 STOREY

WORK IN PROGRESS

P03	Incorporation of Client's Comments following issue of SK01 & Coordination with Civil Eng.	11.05.17	RJT	RJT
P02	Incorporation of Client's Comments from Steering Group Meeting 08/03/17	17.03.17	RJT	RJT
P01	Revision 1	08.03.17	RJT	RJT
Revision		Date	Drn	CHK

Client
Lincolnshire County Council

Project
**Food Enterprise Zone
Holbeach**

Drawing Title
**Masterplan
WORK IN PROGRESS**

Suitability Status
S2 - Suitable for Information
(S2 is not suitable for development or construction & subject to change)

Job No. Scale Site Rev
170262 1:1000 @ A1 P03

Drawing Number
LIN003-PEV-XX-ZZ-DR-A-0002

Project Code - Originator - Zone - Level - Type - Role - Number

PLOT SCHEDULE			
PLOT NO.	AREA (m ²)	ZONE	USENOTES
1	11,315	Education	D1
2	6605	R&D / Business Management & Restaurant	A3/B1/C1
3	1485	R&D	B1
4	1485	R&D	B1
5	1485	R&D	B1
6	1485	R&D	B1
7	1485	R&D	B1
8	1720	R&D	B1
9	2770	R&D	B1
10	2710	R&D	B1
11	2480	R&D	B1
12	3960	R&D	B1
13	3240	Engineering	B1/B2
14	4570	Engineering	B1/B2
15	3925	Engineering	B1/B2
16	4195	Engineering	B1/B2
17	5320	R&D	B1
18	3950	R&D	B1
19	10652	R&D	B1
20	8,317	R&D	B1
21	3,610	R&D	B1
22	3,626	R&D	B1
23	8,265	R&D	B1
24	11,030	FOOD PROCESSING & DEVELOPMENT	B2
25	7,130	FOOD PROCESSING & DEVELOPMENT	B2
26	4,092	R&D	B1
27	6,370	Education	D1
28	2,960	R&D	B1
29	3,245	R&D	B1/B2
30	2130	R&D	B1
31	2355	R&D	B1



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Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	Coastal Tourism Infrastructure and Arts Projects

Summary:

This report outlines recent tourism and infrastructure projects completed by the County Council and details those in the pipeline. Recent projects on the Lincolnshire coast have helped overcome negative images of the Lincolnshire coast and encourage new visitors. The proposed new visitor centre at Huttoft and a new artwork to mark the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower at Fishtoft, Boston will help build on this positive momentum.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider the approach to providing new facilities and attractions to the Lincolnshire Coast, to attract new visitors and encourage investment.

1. Background

The Lincolnshire Coast provides two very different seaside experiences, the 'fun coast' and the 'rural coast'. The wild areas of the rural coast contain a wealth of wildlife and a significant potential for increasing tourist numbers. The 2016 Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership estimated that the value of nature based tourism and leisure activity could be as much as £325M.

LCC have taken the lead in developing this market through the development of the Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park and new visitor centres at Gibraltar Point and the North Sea Observatory (between them attracting 175,000 visitors a year).

The Lincolnshire Coast has also been a priority area for Arts Council England (ACE) who identified a lack of cultural infrastructure in the area. They backed this with financial support for a gallery in the North Sea Observatory. LCC have also led on a number of arts led projects on the coast. The Bathing Beauties and Structures on the Edge (SOTE) projects have raised the profile of the coast and attracted new visitors.

The longer visitors stay in the county the more the local economy benefits. Day visitors spend £34 per head (20,000 extra day visitors would bring in

£680,000/year). Overnight visitors spend £158/head (20,000 would bring in an extra £3.16M/year). American visitors spend up to 4 times as much as domestic visitors (Visit Britain GB Tourism Survey 2017).

Coastal projects in delivery

Building on recent developments LCC are delivering another new visitor centre on the coast at Huttoft, to be opened this Autumn.

At Scotia Creek, Fishtoft near Boston another coastal project has been developed by LCC to attract new visitors, especially those from abroad, visiting England to mark the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the Mayflower.

Mayflower 400

2020 marked the 400th anniversary of the historic voyage of the Mayflower from England to America. An international partnership was created, Mayflower 400, to encourage international visitors, boost the economy through creative, cultural and tourism sectors and bring communities together through culture and heritage.

Mayflower 400 secured funding from Visit England and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) to promote the national Mayflower Pilgrims story overseas and Boston directly benefitted, with new interest from travel operators and positive stories about the towns' historic offer from journalists. Boston was the 3rd highest profile destination amongst the Mayflower 400 destinations.

LCC member support

LCC members were keen for the county to be involved in the celebrations and deliver projects and programmes to mark the anniversary. Members were also keen for LCC to be involved in new projects in the Boston area, building on the momentum from local waterways projects and the Boston Flood Barrier. In 2017 Cllr Davie met RSPB Frampton Marsh, BBC and ACE to discuss their plans for a series of arts-led projects around the River Haven in Boston (the **Haven Arts Project**). It was agreed to set aside LCC capital funding of £35k to help develop and match fund these projects.

The need for Lincolnshire to make the most of Mayflower 400 was discussed at the 24th October 2017 E & E Scrutiny Committee, with it resolving that LCC should continue to take forward projects that had the most significant positive impact in developing the economy through tourism and heritage.

Further discussion took place at the E & E Scrutiny Committee on 10th September 2019. Members were concerned that many Boston residents did not appreciate how much heritage was in their area, and welcomed work being developed by LCC, the University of Lincoln, and ACE in developing a programme to help Boston celebrate the Mayflower 400 in 2020. The Committee was keen for LCC to take the initiative on these projects.

Haven Arts Project

After the initial meetings in 2017 a partnership between BBC, RSPB Frampton Marsh, ACE and LCC came together to deliver the Haven Arts Project. A series of shelters and lookouts were proposed at Frampton Marsh (delivered by the RSPB). A second project (delivered by BBC) would see a series of historic giant mooring bollards (donated by the Port of Boston) positioned in the town. The third project, led by LCC, is to create a new feature at Scotia Creek.

To have the best chance of attracting ACE national funding these projects would take a similar approach to previous LCC arts led projects by using a competition to attract high quality, artists and designers to create iconic, innovative structures.

LCC project at Scotia Creek

On the bank of the River Haven at Scotia Creek, Fishtoft, where the precursors of the Pilgrims tried to sail from, a new landmark structure is being created.

After an international design competition in 2018 an Architectural practice, MSA Gruff, was chosen to design and build the new structure at Scotia Creek. Their proposals were the basis for the bid to ACE.

The architects proposal, using a series of historic navigational instruments, considers themes of navigation relating to migration, flight and exploration of unknown worlds. Visitors can alter seating positions giving views to Boston, the Wash and beyond. The structure is on an elevated deck supported by flood and resilient piles, with a balustrade containing features depicting the navigational journey to the New World, and the stars in the night sky used to get there.

LCC is contributing £25k match funding towards the structure at Scotia Creek and £10k match funding for the project at RSPB Frampton Marsh, if this goes ahead.

LCC and BBC made successful bid to ACE, with LCC receiving a grant offer of £90,000 in November 2019. Unfortunately the RSPB's application was received just after the start of the Covid-19 crisis and was turned down by ACE as they re-directed funding elsewhere. They are planning to re-submit

Extensive consultation took place with the EA, the Marine Management Organisation, BBC and Natural England. Planning permission and EA consent have now been received. The artwork will be installed in late November 2020.

Because of the effects of Covid-19 on travel and tourism the majority of the Mayflower 400 celebrations have been put back to Summer 2021.

3. Conclusion

We hope that members of this committee will agree that Lincolnshire should make the most of its attractive coastline and LCC should continue to lead in delivering coastal tourism and arts projects to develop the facilities and attractions that the coast has to offer.

4. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Site specific risk reports have been produced for the Scotia Creek project as part of the consultation and application process with the local planning authority (Boston Borough Council, who also own the land) and the Environment Agency.

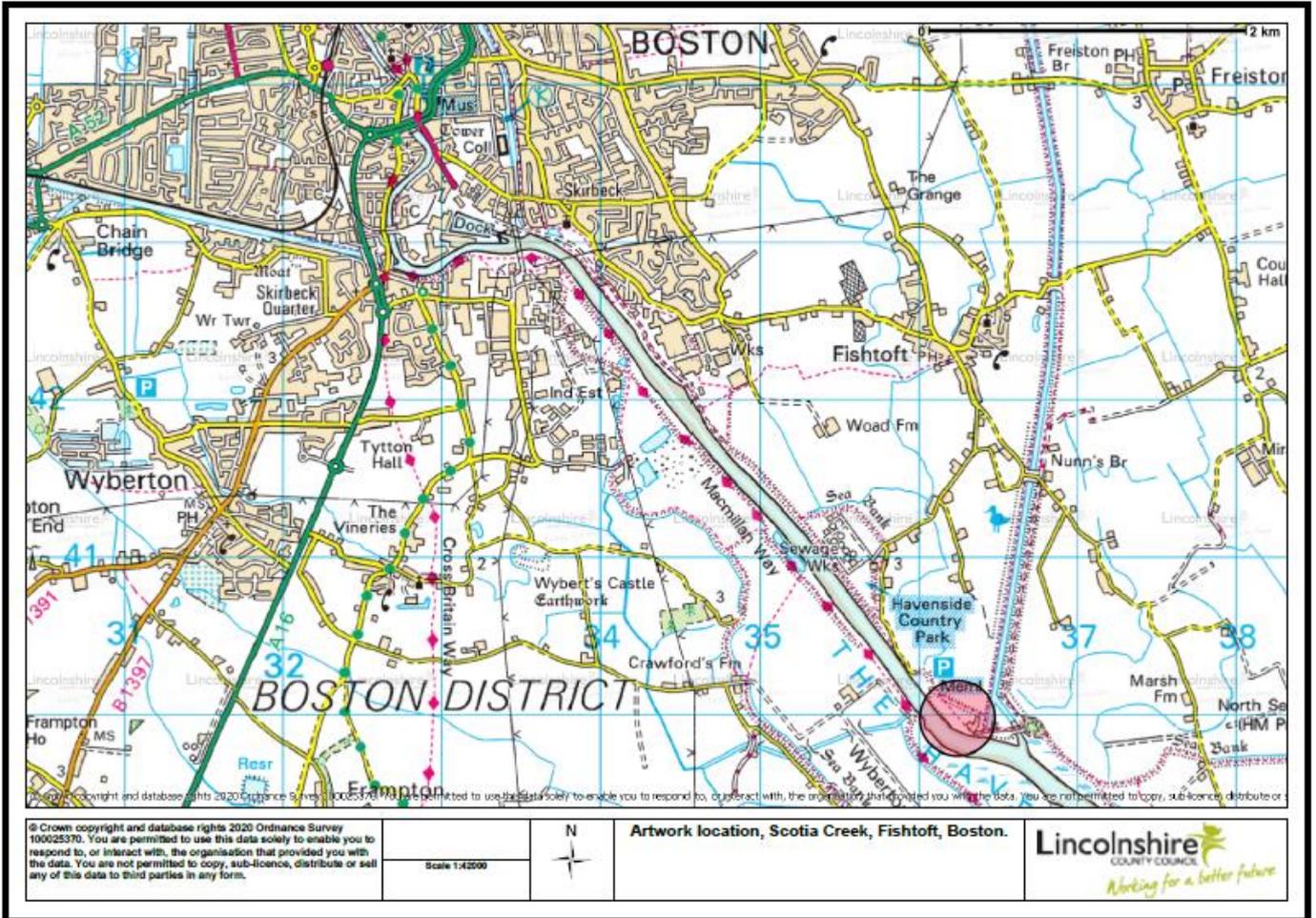
5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Location plans and images

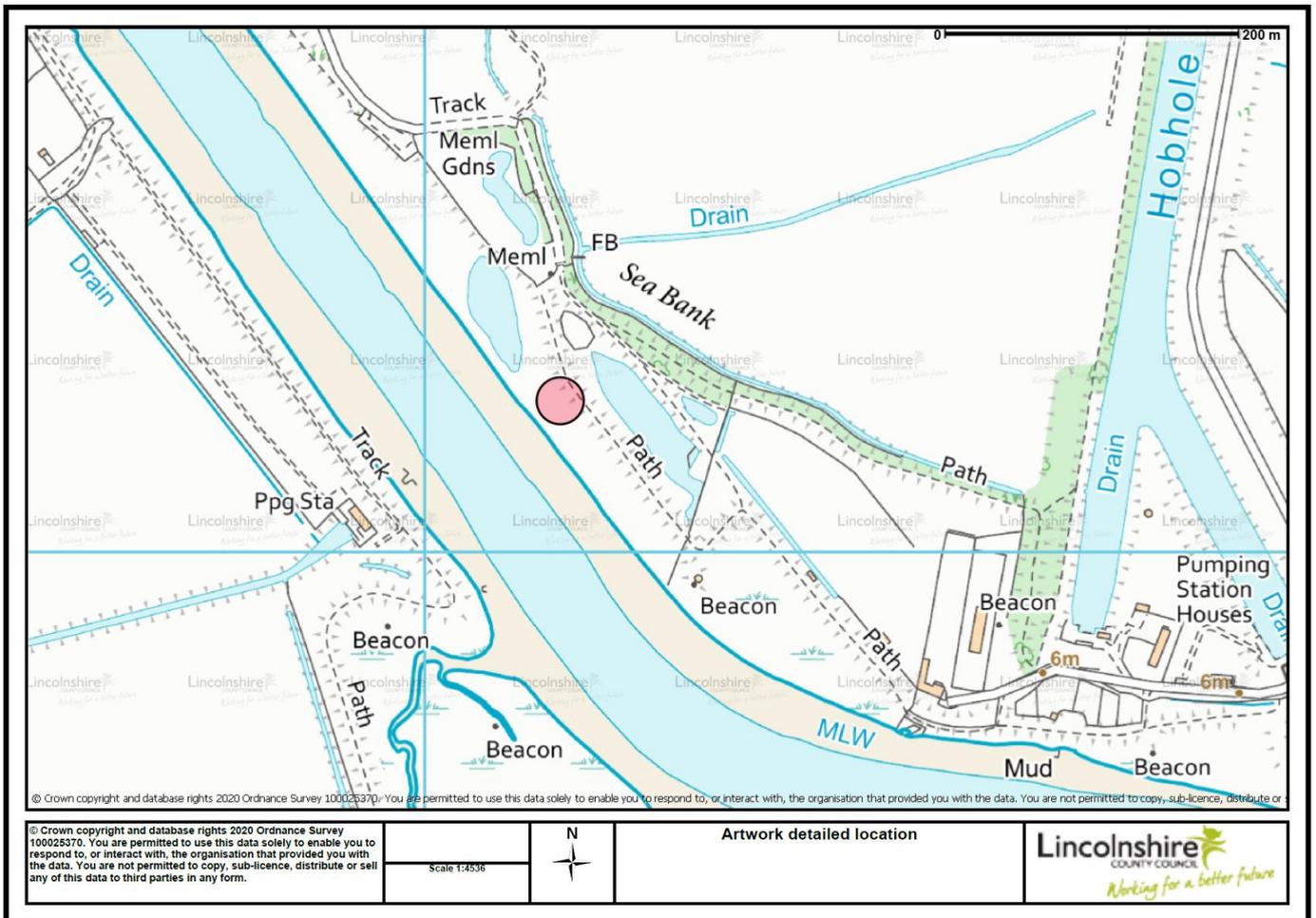
6. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Peter Fender, who can be contacted on 01522550604 or peter.fender@lincolnshire.gov.uk.



Created by Peter Fender on 12 August 2020



Location plans of artwork at Scotia Creek, Fistoft, Boston.
Page 27

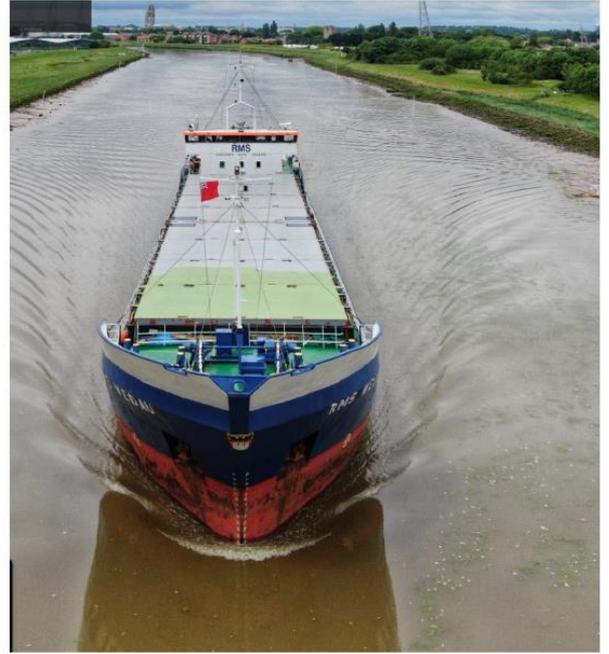


Fig 7 & 8. View of Haven and the Wash (site at very bottom of image) and boat transportation on Haven. Copyright Google Maps.

View of Frampton Marsh & River Haven (site at the bottom of image)

A boat passing the site on a high tide



Fig 5 & 6. Existing Pilgrims Memorial Monument and View towards site along footpath towards monument and site beyond. Copyright Google Maps.

Existing Pilgrim Memorial

View towards the site before the Environment Agency bank and footpath works



01: CGI (Indicative only)
NOT TO SCALE



02: CGI (Indicative only)
NOT TO SCALE



03: CGI (Indicative only)
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04: CGI (Indicative only)
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Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	Green Master Plan Update

Summary:

This report is intended to provide an update on progress towards the Green Masterplan (GMP). The report includes an overview of the GMP, update on progress and future opportunities to explore.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider the development of the Green Master Plan and consider the options for delivery. Members of the Committee are also invited to consider the publicity for the GMP including any existing networks or activities which could be used.

1. Background

Lincolnshire County Council committed to making its activities carbon neutral by 2050 on 17th May 2019. This commitment also extended to working with partners and community groups to make Lincolnshire carbon neutral within the same time frame. In addition a key recommendation from the corporate peer challenge in September that year was to develop and implement a climate change strategy for Lincolnshire. The review highlighted that the council has the "ingredients in place for a good response to climate change" and recommended that it should grasp this agenda and move from 'carbon planning' to 'climate leadership'.

The council directed action to develop a Green Master Plan (GMP) for Lincolnshire in early January. A proposed outline of the GMP was put forward in February, setting some key priorities and outlining a number of actions, including developing an evidence base, and working with consultants to engage with our partner organisations. The scope of the plan was also defined and will cover emissions and environmental impacts of LCC, our partners, and the wider community.

The scope of the GMP is:

- To act as an overarching position statement with a clearly defined target to reach 'net-zero' by 2050 or earlier.
- To set the ambition for 2050 with clear actions to cover the next 10 years (2020-2030) in more detail and have two more phases to cover the period to 2050 (2030-2040 and 2040-2050).

- To include a road map to achieving the net zero target by 2050 or sooner if practicable, along with governance structure, accountability, monitoring and evaluation.

The corporate plan sets out LCC's commitment to reducing carbon emissions for Lincolnshire by 2050 to net zero. It also emphasises the need to show leadership in this area. The corporate plan success framework highlights the GMP as the mechanism by which LCC will deliver net zero.

Current Position

The consultation with key partners is coming to an end with only a few interviews left to complete. Initial feedback shows support for the overall approach of the GMP. Some key areas of concern raised by our partners were around area wide emissions calculations and monitoring and emissions from land use (likely to be a significant contributor to emissions in Lincolnshire). The conclusions of the consultation will be available in late September and will be included within the drafting of the GMP.

In partnership with the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan team (who are currently investigating opportunities to produce a carbon neutral local plan) a baseline emissions calculation has been commissioned for the whole Lincolnshire area. The piece of work will also produce a tool to forecast emissions based on national and local policies. This work will be produced for Lincolnshire as a whole, but will also be viewable at a district level, showing leadership and support for our partners. This piece of work will form the foundation upon which monitoring and evaluation of the plan can take place for the wider Lincolnshire area.

Clear links with the transformation programme have been established. Strengthening links between these two programmes of work should deliver multiple benefits and prevent any unintended impacts on either work stream. The head of Environment will now sit on the transformation board. Similarly the Assistant Director – Corporate Transformation, Programmes & Performance has a seat on the Corporate Environment Board. The Corporate Environment Board will oversee the GMP development and implementation.

The COVID-19 crisis presented an opportunity to achieve carbon reductions and sustainable decision making in advance of what might have been possible without it. Appendix A on carbon emissions reductions during the second quarter of this year highlights in more detail options to capitalise on reductions made to date and extrapolates those savings out to the rest of this year. The total potential carbon savings for 2020/21 are 2708 tonnes. Whilst this falls under the remit of GMP delivery it was vital that action was taken to understand the impacts and implications.

LCC's Carbon Management Plan 3 had a baseline of 28,679 tonnes of CO₂. A 20% reduction was committed to over 5 years amounting to a reduction of 5,736 tonnes of CO₂ needed to meet the target. There are 3 years left to the March 2023 deadline. Making a 2,708 tonne saving annually would yield savings of 8,124

tonnes of CO₂ by March 2023. Failure to capitalise on this opportunity could result in higher costs and reputational damage.

Future Activity

The GMP will not be static, requiring the consistent input of officers to maintain the evidence base, project monitoring and delivery and continuous consultation with partners and communities. All actions must be kept under continual review in order to strengthen them as more information becomes available. Remodelling of outcomes will be required on a semi regular basis as new policy/ technologies come on stream.

The GMP will be a living document. More than a masterplan; it is a joined up response across a broad spectrum of society to enable the Lincolnshire environment to thrive. A strong resilient environment will provide a robust launch pad for the economy, transport, and the health of our residents. To achieve this, activities must be linked to provide multiple benefits across a number of areas.

An appropriate delivery vehicle for the GMP will need to be created. This could be in the form of a document, through a green network or partnership (eg waste partnership model), a website or other means that would enable the GMP to be kept alive and provide a focus for projects and activities.

Effective communication and engagement will have a significant impact on the success of the GMP. Opportunities are being explored to do this in such a way as to have maximum impact. Currently ideas involve consultations, workshops and events. Making use of existing networks and exploring opportunities with partner organisations are also being considered to reduce the administrative burden of broader engagement with the public.

Officers continue to work to the timeframes agreed at the previous Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee as follows:

- Full GMP draft available for E & E scrutiny – 24th November
- Full report to Executive – 1st December
- Final sign off at full council – February 2021

The indicative project plan is attached as Appendix B.

2. Conclusion

The Committee is requested to consider the development of the Green Master Plan and consider the options for delivery. Do members agree with the GMP being delivered as a living document?

Members of the Committee are also invited to consider the publicity for the GMP including any existing networks or activities which could be used.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

NA

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Carbon Emissions Reduction During Lockdown
Appendix B	GMP outline project plan

5. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Helen Jenkins-Knight, who can be contacted on 07771674845 or helen.jenkins-knight@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

SUBJECT: Lockdown Carbon Savings

Introduction

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) along with the majority of other Local Authorities and private business sent home those employees that were able to work from home in late March 2020. As of mid-August 2020 LCC employees are still working from home and are unlikely to be returning to offices until mid to late January 2021 at the earliest.

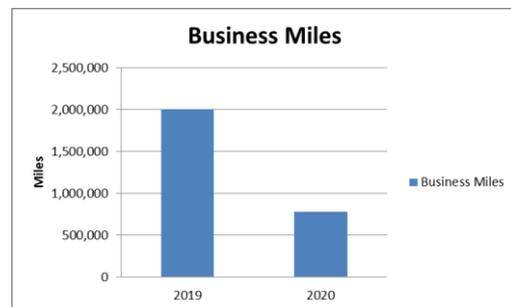
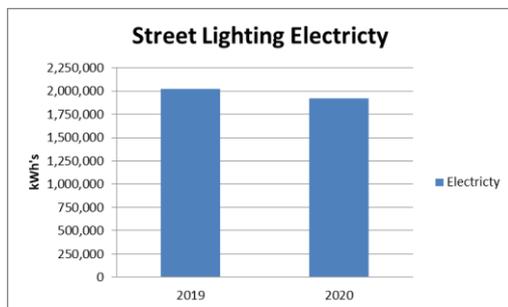
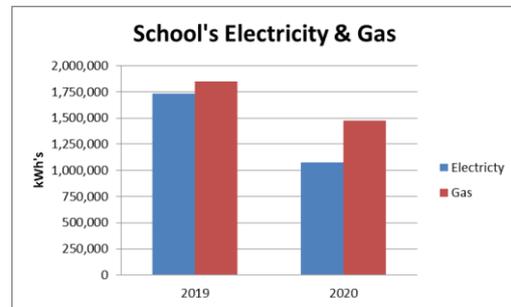
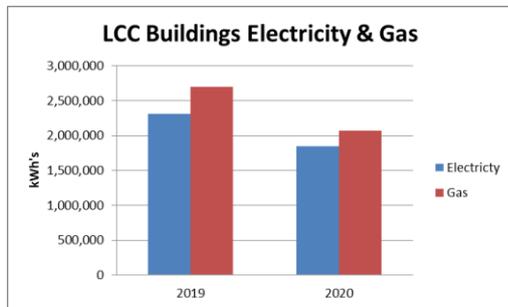
At present there has been no discernible drop in output and residents of Lincolnshire are still being provided with the same quality of service as that of pre lockdown.

LCC is at present looking at how it will provide services in the future with COVID 19 still circulating or sporadically flaring up especially in the winter months. It is worth noting that although COVID 19 may be eradicated through vaccinations, the situation that led to the country being placed in lockdown could easily re-occur if another virus was to emerge. Also the No1 risk on LCC's risk register is a pandemic.

Data Analysis

Data is now available for the first quarter of the financial year (1st April 2020 – 31st June 2020) for electricity and gas and that can be compared to the first quarter of the previous year (1st April 2019 – 31st June 2019). This date covers electricity and gas for LCC properties, maintained schools and business mileage.

This data has been used to produce the 4 graphs below that clearly show significant reductions in electricity and gas consumption across LCC buildings, Schools and Street Lighting, and a significant reduction in Business Miles. This data will allow the estimation of carbon savings due to lock down and what affect that will have on LCC's commitments through its Carbon Management Plan and ambition to be Net Zero by 2050.



The table below shows the amount of savings in CO₂ that have been achieved in the first 3 months of lockdown.

Category	2019 (CO ₂)	2020 (CO ₂)	% Reduction	Savings (CO ₂)
LCC Buildings	1083	807	25%	276
Maintained Schools	781	521	33%	260
Street Lighting	513	445	13%	68
Business miles	550	214	61%	336
			Total	940

Opportunities

It is unlikely that the full 940 tonnes of CO₂ could continue to be made throughout the year and to estimate the potential annual savings the following assumptions have been made:

- **LCC buildings** – These savings could potentially continue to be made. A permanent change towards increased home working could allow a review of LCC building stock. It is likely some buildings could be disposed of through such a review. **Maintained Schools** – It is unlikely that any further savings will be seen for schools after the first quarter as they will reopen in September. Although they may operate slightly differently post COVID 19 they are likely to consume the same amount of electricity and gas in their operations.
- **Street Lighting** – These savings are being seen through the LED replacement programme and not due to lockdown.
- **Business miles** – It is hoped that the significant level of reduction in business miles can be maintained through a permanent policy change. This would ensure the continued use of Microsoft Teams for meetings and home working as the preferred meeting method.

Therefore, the potential annual reduction in CO₂ could be as follows:

- **LCC Buildings** – 276 tonnes of CO₂ per quarter = 1,104.
- **Maintained Schools** – First quarter of CO₂ savings only = 260.
- **Street Lighting** – These savings will not be included in lockdown calculations.
- **Business miles** – 336 tonnes of CO₂ per quarter = 1,344.

This means that the potential CO₂ savings for the 2020/21 reporting year are:

- **LCC buildings** – 1,104 tonnes CO₂.
- **Maintained Schools** – 260 tonnes CO₂.
- **Business miles** – 1,344 tonnes CO₂.
- **TOTAL** = 2,708 tonnes CO₂.

To give some context to this figure LCC's Carbon Management Plan 3 had a baseline of 28,679 tonnes of CO₂ and the council committed to a 20% saving over 5 years meaning 5,736 tonnes of CO₂ needs to be saved to meet that commitment. There are 3 years left to the March 2023 deadline and if we continued to achieve the annual 2,708 tonnes saving it gives a potential saving of 8,124 tonnes of CO₂ savings above and beyond any other energy saving initiatives.

Emissions calculations should be considered in the round. Colleagues will be using energy within their own homes, thus displacing some emissions. It is also likely that emissions reduction will be seen due to the lack of commuting taking place. Future guidance from government is anticipated to ensure carbon accounting remains accurate and avoids duplication. Meanwhile opportunities to support staff to reduce emission within their own homes could be considered as part of the Green Masterplan work.

Conclusion

LCC must be aware that some of the emissions saved through buildings not being occupied is being used in employee's homes. Hopefully guidance may be given through the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy as to whether Local Authorities should account for those emissions or allow them to be collated through National Carbon emission figures.

It is paramount that any initiatives that have been introduced during lockdown are continued and enhanced and that we do not go back to business as usual and lose this once in a lifetime opportunity that has arisen albeit through a pandemic.

The following sources were used for the data calculations as follows:

- Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2019:
 - Electricity 0.25358 Kg CO₂/kWh.
 - Gas 0.18409 Kg CO₂/kWh.
 - Business miles 0.27382 Kg CO₂/mile.
- Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020:
 - Electricity 0.23104 Kg CO₂/kWh.
 - Gas 0.18387 Kg CO₂/kWh.
 - Business miles 0.27382 Kg CO₂/mile.

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2020

2021

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
CEO and leaders group 14 th Feb	Blue																					
Formation of the Sustainability Officers working Group		Green																				
Consultants appointed for early stage consultation			Blue																			
Senior leaders Interviews					Blue	Blue	Blue															
Report on early stage consultation								Red														
E&E scrutiny 14 th April/26 th May				Green																		
Baseline development - Data Collection and Creation																						
Procurement of support for Baseline development						Blue	Blue															
Baseline data collection							Blue	Blue														
Baseline Report									Red													
Carbon emissions from Land use report											Red											
Action Plan drafting								Blue	Blue													
Informal Exec?				Green																		
Public Consultation					Green	Green																
GMP drafting							Cyan	Cyan	Cyan	Cyan												
GMP final draft										Red												
Approval Process																						
Scrutiny									Green													
Executive										Green												
Full Council													Red									
Public consultation											Blue	Blue	Blue									
Lincoln Climate Summit/ GMP formal launch																						
Initial discussion with sustainability officers group										Purple												
Environment Board Development										Purple												
Procurement - venue, catering etc												Purple	Purple									
Appointment of key note speakers												Purple	Purple	Purple								
Advertising development													Purple	Purple								
Advertising release															Purple							
Invitations issued																						
Climate Summit																		Red				
Evaluation of event, update to attendees and report																			Purple	Purple		
GMP initial projects																						
Project database development								Blue	Blue	Blue											Blue	Blue
Castle - Baseline (Scope 1,2 and 3 inside castle walls).							Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Street Lighting - final 3rd												Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Projects up coming - facilitation of links through transformation program								Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Combined cost £88,000																						

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Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	The Agriculture Bill

Summary:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee has considered a number of papers following the development of the Agriculture Bill and has contributed to consultation opportunities. The Committee has asked to receive regular updates on the progress of the Bill and the state of the agricultural sector within Lincolnshire.

As such this paper updates members on the current progress of the Bill and also provides some background on the current position of the agriculture sector in the county. In particular this paper provides a focus on the Environmental Land Management Scheme, which has an important connection to the wider environmental agenda – from biodiversity, to carbon – and as such very strong links to the Green Masterplan

Later in the year Lincolnshire Rural Support Network will join the Committee to provide an update on their work. Corporate property will also attend to provide an update regarding County Farms Estate.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to note the report and asked to consider how the committee can interact with the Lincolnshire Agriculture and Horticulture Forum.

1. Background

The Agriculture Bill ("the Bill") will provide the legal framework for the establishment of a new system of agricultural assistance for farmers and land managers. The Bill provides broad powers to current and future governments to provide financial assistance and policy interventions.

The Bill was given its First Reading on 16 January and Second Reading on 3 February 2020. It completed Committee Stage on 5 March 2020 and remaining Commons stages on the 13 May 2020. The Bill received its Second Reading in the

Lords on 10 June and commenced its Lords Committee consideration on 7 July 2020.

The Bill was presented at the House of Lords, with over 300 amendments tabled. None have been accepted thus far. The main discussions have focussed on - transition; payment for public goods; public access; skills shortages and food security. The Bill was not passed before Recess, but remains on track for the transition period. DEFRA will announce further detail on the transition period in the autumn.

Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS)

ELMS will be the centre piece of future financial support for the agriculture sector via the Bill. The Multi Annual Funding Framework looks at the funding between now until 2024 (end of the current parliament) and covers DEFRA priorities. Officer from LCC joined a number of virtual ELMS events with Defra during the summer and promoted the events to the sector. Those attending the virtual events highlighted similar concerns – in particular they stressed that clarity on policy was needed urgently for the farming sector.

For all elements of the ELMS scheme design DEFRA will:

- a) Focus on achieving environmental outcomes, helping to deliver our 25 Year Environment Plan and net zero target. In doing so, it will help farmers, foresters and other land managers optimise the potential of their land to deliver public goods, as part of a thriving food or other land-based business;
- b) Ensure national and local environmental priorities are supported and balanced effectively;
- c) Ensure that the scheme and its underpinning systems and processes work effectively and represent maximum value for money to the taxpayer;
- d) Ensure that ELM includes actions that most farmers, foresters and other land managers could deliver and encourage delivery of outcomes at all spatial scales through collaboration as well as individual participation;
- e) Enable farmers, foresters and other land managers to have greater flexibility over how they deliver environmental outcomes;
- f) Ensure minimal complexity and administrative burden for participants and administrators, considering lessons learned from similar past initiatives;
- g) Seek to harness new technology and digital solutions where they are shown to add value and improve the scheme design and operation;
- h) Seek to continuously improve all elements of the scheme and its administration, through monitoring, evaluating, learning and innovating, while providing sufficient certainty and clarity to applicants;
- i) Consider re-using / improving existing systems and data before building new.

National Pilot

The ELM National Pilot will be the means by which DEFRA will pilot, at scale, the new ELM scheme, in real world situations with a wide range of farmers, foresters and other land managers. The first agreements with those taking part in the Pilot are planned to begin formally in late 2021. The Pilot is planned to run for three years

until ELM is launched in late 2024 and will provide an important opportunity for farmers, foresters and other land managers to be involved in shaping the scheme.

The main aims of the Pilot are to learn and prepare for full implementation. It is clear that in the past IT systems, ill-conceived processes and unintended consequences of policy design have negatively impacted delivery (RPA mapping and payments for example). The Pilot is one of the primary mechanisms to ensure the ELM approach, its systems and processes work prior to full rollout of ELM in 2024.

DEFRA current thinking is that the Pilot could consist of two large pilots for tiers 1 and 2, and several smaller pilots, with fewer participants, for tier 3, and could test three main things:

1. How best to construct different types of ELM agreements at different scales
2. How to target ELM incentives to deliver specific environmental outcomes in specific areas
3. Underlying scheme mechanics (such as the application and payments approach and the use of advisers)

Ministers have been clear that the greening rules have delivered little for the environment. On 27 July DEFRA announced their intention to remove the greening rules in England as part of the transition towards the new Environmental Land Management scheme, which will deliver greater benefits for the environment. To help farmers plan, they made this announcement ahead of the 2021 scheme year.

The Lincolnshire Agricultural and Horticultural Forum

Plans are being developed to bring the Lincolnshire Agriculture and Horticulture Forum, hosted by Lincolnshire County Council, together virtually in the autumn with the DEFRA ELMS team to help coordinate / promote a Lincolnshire ELMS program and to look to widen the membership and remit of the current Forum to be fit for purpose for the implementation of the Agricultural Bill roll out.

The Sector – 2020

Covid-19 and the Agriculture Bill will fuel the pace of change within the food and farming sectors. Predictions suggest that by the end of the transition period (7 years) between 1/3 and 2/3 of current active farmers will no longer be farming themselves as businesses are forced to consolidate and evolve.

In the immediate term many farming businesses continue to work in a very challenging space – the climatic challenges of 2019 appeared to briefly improve in spring 2020 and many arable farmers were able to drill a barley crop. However, yields have been significantly impacted. Commodity prices have been affected in a variety of ways by the global issues of the last 12 months. The livestock sector has benefitted from a shortage of protein in China for example.

Commodity Prices	May 2020 prices	% change from 3 months ago	% change from 12 months ago	% change from 24 months ago
Milk (ppl) – April 2020	27.6	-4.2%	-2.1%	0.7%
Deadweight pigs (p/kg)	161.5	1.0%	13.6%	11.0%
Feed Wheat (£/t)	152.3	2.4%	-1.0%	-0.5%
Deadweight sheep (p/kg)	509.7	-2.1%	7.4%	-10.7%
Deadweight cattle (p/kg)	334.3	0.0%	-4.0%	-8.8%

Source: AHDB (Figures may not add up due to rounding).

Covid-19 has impacted businesses in many different ways – there are some who have benefitted from people being at home and a shift in the supply chain; however, for many it has been a problematic period. Notably, for those supplying the service sector and catering trade, the horticulture sector and those who have sought to diversify into the tourism economy with holiday lets and visitor attractions. Farm shops do report a period of growth as they have responded quickly to local need.

The recent supply chain disruption experienced by the major multiples is leading to a desire to simplify the supply chain and potentially increase the amount of British produce stocked by supermarkets in the short term. This is likely to apply to fresh produce rather than the processed sector where there is a far higher tolerance for non-British or different value production. (For example, the dominance of free range eggs in the fresh egg market and the dominance of caged eggs in processing).

The impact of future staff shortages is also a concern for many across the food and farming sectors. In Lincolnshire, as elsewhere there are two very clear areas of activity happening to address this. Firstly, the Greater Lincolnshire LEP is part of the national Pick for Britain campaign, which looks to encourage people – particularly students and the furloughed workforce, to pick fruit and vegetables. Secondly, an increased drive by the business community for automation and the use of robotics and digital technology.

In recent weeks Lincolnshire County Council has released a Call for LEADER funding. The team have received a vast number of Expressions of Interest. Many of which come from the agri-food sectors: from farming equipment, to diversification projects, to robotics. It is very clear that there is a strong demand for investment for the future in Lincolnshire.

Furthermore, nationally diversification remains a clear priority for the majority of farming businesses. Total income from diversified activities in 2018/19 was £740 million, a 6% percent increase from the previous year (£699 million). 65% of farm businesses in England had some diversified activity in 2018/19. The main diversified activity is letting out buildings for non-agricultural use; when this is excluded, the proportion of farms with some other diversified activity was 46% in 2018/19. The proportion of farms generating solar energy in 2018/19 was 20%, while those generating other sources of renewable energy accounted for 10% of farms in 2018/19.

Diversified farm activity - England 2018/19	No. of farms	% of farms	Income of diversified enterprise (£m)	Average enterprise income (£/farm)
No of farms	57,100			
Farm with diversified activity	37,400	65%	740	19,800
of which:				
letting buildings for non-farming use	25,200	44%	454	18,000
processing/retailing of farm produce	5,800	10%	89	15,300
sport & recreation	7,100	12%	37	5,200
tourist accommodation and catering	3,700	7%	33	9,000
solar energy	11,600	20%	31	2,700
other sources of renewable energy	5,800	10%	56	9,600
other diversified activities	5,900	10%	39	6,600

Source: Farm Business Survey

2. Conclusion

The Committee is asked to consider the issues in the paper. The next meeting of the Lincolnshire Agriculture and Horticulture Forum provides a bridge to practitioners within the sector – farmers, land managers, environmental groups for example. The Committee is asked to consider how members can interact with the Lincolnshire Agriculture and Horticulture Forum.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

N/A

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Vanessa Strange, who can be contacted on 01522 843346 or Vanessa.Strange@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	Boston Infrastructure Works

Summary:

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) in discussions with Boston Borough Council (BBC) has committed funding towards highway and flood risk improvements which could match up to other local economic development schemes that will support the town's growth, based on the analysis of the town.

The purpose of this report is provide the committee with a brief overview of the projects, and invite members of the committee to review the list of schemes and highlight any additional scrutiny activity.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to review the list of schemes and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for future updates.

1. Background

Boston is a traditional market town which has a growing port, and is rich in heritage, character and history. Being one of the largest urban areas in Lincolnshire, makes its economic success important not only locally, but also for the County and wider region. However, flood risk, traffic congestion and struggling High Street present barriers to Boston's economic growth.

Following discussions between the Leaders of LCC and BBC, the Place Directorate was asked to consider schemes which could provide benefit to the Town. Service areas across LCC were approached and a long-list of schemes was identified.

Following a review of the projects with Executive Councillors, eight schemes have been agreed (estimating £1,684,000) which will provide economic growth opportunity to the town of Boston.

The final schemes are identified below which includes commentary on the key benefits.

At Appendix A more detail is provided which includes: cost, planned delivery, and scheme progress.

Updates of all schemes will be provided at future Scrutiny Committees, and members are asked to consider whether additional information (to that provided within this report) for the schemes will be of benefit.

Ref	Scheme	Benefits
A	Boston Dock Link Road (South End & St Johns Road)	Investment to support growth in the area of the port by enhancing the physical environment, introducing sustainable movement choice and amenity areas, with the intent to support investor confidence.
B	Haven Banks – Flood Risk Investment	Investment to support growth in the area of the port and locations to the east of the town which will help enhance the existing and new flood risk activities with the intent to support investor confidence.
C	Demolishing Murco garage (200-202 London Road)	<p>There are two key reasons for the clearance and demolition: reducing LCC revenue costs, which are more than just insurance, rates and council tax, there's also the on-going and increasing costs of making the site safe after repeated break-ins, thefts and damage; and also making and keeping the site safe and thereby reducing the liability risk to LCC as the landlord.</p> <p>In addition to the above the site is being retained as it could enable the construction of a roundabout for a new road, and act as the site compound for that.</p>
D	Strategic Business Case for changes to freight rail loop out of the port	A business case to consider ideas for re-routing the railway line could reduce delays within the town due to barrier down time, which in turn will reduce congestion on the highway network, and support investor confidence.
E	Dolphin Lane – Public realm enhancements	Investment to expand the Market Place public realm: reallocating space for pedestrians and commercial opportunities [e.g. footway café tables and seating], reorganising parking and loading, improving perceptions of safety and making landscape improvements. The intent will support investor confidence and stimulate activity within the High Street area.
F	Sleaford Road/Brothertoft Road junction – Traffic signal refurbishment & pedestrian facility upgrade	Investment to bring the junction to the latest standard in terms of control hardware and operation system (MOVA v8), as well as improve pedestrian & cycling facilities. The intent will reduce congestion (improving travel times) and improve sustainable movement choice.
G	A1137 Norfolk Street/Witham Place – Junction improvements	Investment to prohibit the right turn gives more green time to traffic from both Witham Place and Fydell Street. The change in junction delay times, as a result of banning the right turn, improves the performance of the junction which will reduce congestion (improving travel times).
H	Funding a Boston Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan	Investment to produce the plan will identify and assess potential schemes with the intent to support economic growth by protecting and enhancing the environment and improving quality of life for all.

2. Conclusion

Members of the committee are invited to review the list of schemes and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Storyboard Boston v0.5

5. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Warren Peppard - Head of Development Management, who can be contacted on 01522 554637 or warren.peppard@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Boston

Appendix A

Boston is a traditional market town and growing port, rich in heritage, character and history and is one of the largest urban areas in Lincolnshire making its economic success important not only locally but also for the County and wider region.

It provides services to residents of the town and of a wide rural hinterland, it has a port and a strong food production industry both of which provide it with good economic opportunities. The barrier, which will be delivered soon, reduces flood risk substantially.

However, the town's routes are often congested, and the high street retail offer is struggling.

Boston's PE21 masterplan has created a vision for the future of the town centre, and a Local Transport Strategy has been adopted for the period 2016-2036.

LCC in discussions with Boston Borough Council has committed funding towards highway and flood risk improvements which could match up to other local economic development schemes that will support the town's growth, based on the analysis of the town as set out above.

PLEASE NOTE: The scheme values are indicative only and are subject to change as and when any of the schemes identified are approved to progress.

Ref	Scheme	Est Value	Project Lead	Delivery by QTR	Scheme progress
	Minor highway and flood risk improvement that develop the docks as an economic asset				
A	Boston Dock Link Road (South End & St Johns Road) - Resurfacing improvements to the access road to port area	£600,000	SB	Q3 (2020-2021)	Currently out to tender via our select list framework. Tenders are due back on 27 th August and we intend being on site between 5 th Oct and 27 th November (subject to successful contractors programme and also weather as we are working nights).

Ref	Scheme	Est Value	Project Lead	Delivery by QTR	Scheme progress
B	Investment to support growth in the area of the port and locations to the east of the town which will help enhance the existing and new flood risk activities with the intent to support investor confidence	£300,000	DH	Q4 (2020-2021)	Scheme has commenced on site and LCC's £300k is a contribution to the £4m EA project. LCC continue to monitor scheme delivery, and payment is planned on completion of the works.
C	Demolishing Murco garage to reduce revenue cost of land held in anticipation of Dock Link Road	£99,000	MK	Complete	Demolition works have been completed. Site is currently vacant and secure. Periodic security checks taking place.
D	Strategic Business Case for changes to freight rail loop out of the port	£25,000	VS	Q1 (2021-2022)	Imminently the project brief will be developed with key stakeholders. Following which consultant support may be commissioned to deliver the Strategic Business Case.
		£1,024,000	Sub-total		
	Minor highway and flood risk improvement that enhance the High Street to encourage investment				
E	Dolphin Lane – Public realm enhancements - (potential to include the expansion of the Market Place public realm: reallocating space for pedestrians and commercial opportunities [e.g. footway café tables and seating], reorganising parking and loading, improving perceptions of safety and making landscape improvements. The individual elements of the scheme could be split into separate packages [which would improve accessibility for buses and other sustainable modes of travel])	£400,000	SB	Q4 (2021-2022).	Currently at feasibility stage where we are considering scheme details, risks, finances etc. Feasibility report expected Oct 2020, with a view to complete site works by Q4 2020-2021.
		£400,000	Sub-total		

Ref	Scheme	Est Value	Project Lead	Delivery by QTR	Scheme progress
	Minor highway and flood risk improvement that reduce congestion & improve sustainability in the town				
F	Sleaford Road/Brothertoft Road junction – Traffic signal refurbishment & pedestrian facility upgrade	£130,000	AG	Q2 (2020-2021)	Scheme has commenced on site and is planned to be complete by the end of the first week in September 2020.
G	A1137 Norfolk Street/Witham Place – Junction improvements	£100,000	AG	Q1 (2021-2022)	Detailed junction capacity work has commenced which will finalise the scheme details. Site works planned to be complete by end of Q1 (2021-2022).
H	Funding a Boston Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan	£30,000	PW	Q4 (2020-2021)	Route auditing work has commenced and it is planned that we have initial scheme options available for consideration by Oct 2020.
		£260,000	Sub-total		
		£1,684,000	Total		

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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	08 September 2020
Subject:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Summary:

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

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

Actions Required:

Members of the Committee are invited to review, consider and comment on the work programme as set out in this report and highlight for discussion any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

1. Background

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

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

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

2. Work Programme

08 SEPTEMBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) Simon Wright Principal Officer, Regeneration
2	Tourism Infrastructure Pete Fender Special Projects Officer
3	Green Master Plan Update David Hickman Head of Environment
4	Agriculture Bill Vanessa Strange Head of Infrastructure Investment
5	Boston Infrastructure Works Warren Peppard, Head of Development Management

20 OCTOBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Historic Places Strategy Ian George, Historic Places Manager
2	Charging for pre-application in planning Neil McBride, Head of Planning
3	Adult Learning Programme Thea Croxall, Principal Commissioning Officer (Learning)
4	Review of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Neil McBride, Head of Planning

24 NOVEMBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Employment & Skills Audit and Action Plan TBC
2	Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub TBC
3	Fifth Local Transport Plan Vanessa Strange Head of Infrastructure Investment
4	Performance Report TBC
5	Green Master Plan – Final Draft David Hickman, Head of Environment
6	Internationalisation strategy Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development

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

3. Conclusion

Members of the Committee are invited to review and comment on the work programme and highlight any additional scrutiny activity which could be included for consideration in the work programme.

4. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

5. Appendices

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

6. Background Papers

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

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

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

DEC REF	MATTERS FOR DECISION	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR DECISION	HOW AND WHEN TO COMMENT PRIOR TO THE DECISION BEING TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER AND CHIEF OFFICER	KEY DECISION YES/NO	DIVISIONS AFFECTED