



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

20 July 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.

Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 28 July 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 Public Protection and Communities 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=551&MId=5603&Ver=4> where a live feed will be made available on the day of the meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Debbie Barnes'.

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

Membership of the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
(11 Members of the Council)

Councillors N H Pepper (Chairman), A N Stokes (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron,
K J Clarke, Mrs K Cook, Mrs P Cooper, Mrs C J Lawton, C R Oxby,
A H Turner MBE JP, L Wootten and R Wootten

**PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2020**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 March 2020	5 - 10
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillors and Chief Officers	
5	Performance of the Library Services Contract - Year Four Review Report <i>(To receive a report by Will Mason, Head of Culture, and Louise Egan, Library and Heritage Client Lead, which provides an update of the Library Services Contract performance information to enable the Committee to fulfil its role in scrutinising performance of the fourth year of the out-sourced Library Contract to Greenwich Leisure Limited)</i>	11 - 18
6	Blue Light Collaboration Programme - Progress Report <i>(To receive a report by Tim Joyce, Area Manager – Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue, which provides an update on the progress made to date on the Blue Light Collaboration Project and an indication of work which has been or is planned to be undertaken)</i>	19 - 26
7	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme <i>(To receive a report by Daniel Steel, Scrutiny Officer, which provides the Committee with the opportunity to consider and 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>	27 - 30
 SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE		
8	Response to Domestic Abuse in Lincolnshire <i>(To receive a report by Jade Sullivan, Community Safety Strategy Co-ordinator – Domestic Abuse Lead, which provides the Committee with an overview and update of the work that is being undertaken in relation to Domestic Abuse within Lincolnshire, especially in light of COVID-19 and advises on future developments that are likely to have an impact for the County's response to domestic abuse)</i>	31 - 38

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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>



**PUBLIC PROTECTION AND
COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
17 MARCH 2020**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR N H PEPPER (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors A N Stokes (Vice-Chairman), W J Aron, K J Clarke, M A Whittington, L Wooten and R Wooten

Officers in attendance:-

Sara Barry (Safer Communities Manager), Nicole Hilton (Assistant Director - Communities), Claire Seabourne (Partnership and Commissioning Manager), Daniel Steel (Scrutiny Officer), Sean Taylor (Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue) and Nigel West (Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer)

49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Cook, Mrs C J Lawton, C R Oxby and A H Turner.

It was reported that, under Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulation 1990, Councillor M A Whittington had been appointed as a representative for Councillor C R Oxby, for this meeting only.

50 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

51 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2020

It was agreed that the following amendments be made to the minutes:

- Minute 46 – Final bullet point: 'Community Safety advocators' be amended to 'Community Safety Advocates'
- Minute 47 – Second bullet Point: removal of the duplication of 'that'.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the above amendments.

**52 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS
AND CHIEF OFFICERS**

There were no announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillors and Chief Officers.

**53 LINCOLNSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT
PLAN 2020 - 2023 CONSULTATION**

Consideration was given to a report by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, which invited the Committee to consider the comments received from members of the community on the Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue (LFR) integrated risk management plan 2020-2023 consultation.

Members were advised that producing an Integrated Risk Management Plan was a statutory responsibility and set out LFR's mitigation of risks. A public consultation had begun to consult with members of the public on the work LFR carried out on their behalf. Around 100 people had responded to date. However, due to the low response rate, the consultation had been extended.

Members were invited to review the consultation responses received to date and to provide feedback on the LFR Integrated Risk Management Plan 2020-2023.

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

- It was commented that a low response rate generally suggested that the majority of people were satisfied with the service. People were more likely to respond if they had issues with the service.
- There were three traditional high rise buildings in Lincolnshire which were situated in the City of Lincoln. Flats had also been treated as high risk properties.
- The Assistant Chief Fire Officer proposed that a longer consultation period may be one possible way to increase the number of consultation responses. Members suggested that parish meetings may also be beneficial to the process.

RESOLVED:

That the comments made by the committee be considered as part of their consultation response.

54 RELEASE OF SKY LANTERNS, BALLOONS ON COUNCIL LAND

Consideration was given to a presentation by the Scrutiny Officer, which invited the Committee to consider the use of sky lanterns and balloons to examine whether the Council should introduce a ban on their use on Lincolnshire County Council owned land and property.

In 2014, the Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee had raised concerns over the release of sky lanterns and the potential harm that could be caused by them.

Members were advised that there was currently no UK legislation available to control the use of Sky Lanterns or balloons. However, an increasing number of Councils, including some Lincolnshire Councils, had already banned the use of sky lanterns on Council property. Norfolk County Council had already banned the use of sky lanterns and helium-balloons on land owned by the Council, and were also proactive in engaging with businesses, communities, landowners, schools and individuals in Norfolk to encourage them to sign up to the charter. Norfolk County Council also raised awareness of safer and more environmentally friendly alternatives through promotion and campaigns.

The Scrutiny Officer set out a number of alternatives to sky lanterns which were not harmful to the environment and wildlife.

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

- It was suggested that Councillors lobby Members of Parliament on this issue.
- Members acknowledged that enforcing a ban on the release of sky lanterns and balloons was difficult, however it could discourage use and also provide an opportunity to highlight the use of more positive alternatives.
- From a trading standards perspective there were no legal restrictions on the use of sky lanterns. It was proposed that this could also be something that was included in the licensing of wedding venues, which would provide promote good practice at the venues.
- One Member suggested that taking a similar approach to Norfolk County Council would be beneficial.
- There was discussion around the potential for claims to be made against the Council as landowners if it did not ban the use of sky lanterns on its land. Members were advised that there were a number of campaigns about the use of fire lanterns and balloons run by other external organisations.
- The Assistant Chief Fire Officer agreed to look into the number of incidents dealt with by LFR as a result of the use of sky lanterns and balloons. LFR supported the Council in raising awareness of the risks posed by Fire Lanterns.

The Committee supported the introduction of a ban of fire lanterns and balloons on all Council owned land and property, as well as engaging and educating the public on the risks posed by sky lanterns and balloons. It was agreed that this be put forward as a formal recommendation to the Leader of the Council.

**PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
17 MARCH 2020**

RESOLVED:

1. That the Committee support the introduction of a ban of fire lanterns and balloons on all Council owned land and property;
2. That the Committee recommend that the Council engage and educate the public on the risks posed by the release of sky lanterns and balloons;
3. That the Committee put forward a formal recommendation to the Leader of the Council in relation to this matter.

55 PUBLIC PROTECTION AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report by the Scrutiny Officer, which provided the Committee with an opportunity to consider and comment on its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focussed where it could be of greatest benefit.

Members were informed that there would be an update on the Council's Heritage Service Programme at the next meeting of the Committee, along with a report on the Animal Health and Welfare review and the Blue Light collaboration.

RESOLVED:

That the work programme be agreed.

56 SAFER LINCOLNSHIRE PARTNERSHIP: ANNUAL UPDATE

SITTING AS THE CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to a report by the Partnership and Commissioning Manager and the Safer Communities Manager, which provided a refresh on the structure of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership and the basis which priorities were decided.

In 2018, the partnership commenced a restructure, which included the introduction of an Overview and Scrutiny Board, a Strategy Board, and Core Priority Groups.

Officers outlined a number of activities carried out by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, which were detailed within the report.

The Safer Communities Service would lead on a health check of the partnership during 2020/21 to ensure that previous recommendations had been implemented successfully and the partnership was operating as anticipated.

Members were advised that since the restructure in 2017, significant progress had been made across all four priority areas as a consequence of the continued effort of all partners.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee endorse the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership plan to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the county of Lincolnshire.

The meeting closed at 10.51 am

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

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	28 July 2020
Subject:	Performance of the Library Services Contract – Year Four Review Report

Summary:

This report is to provide an update of the contract performance information to enable the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee to fulfil its role in scrutinising performance of the fourth year of the out-sourced Library Contract to Greenwich Leisure Limited.

Actions Required:

Members of the Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the performance information included in the report and to:

- (1) Consider and support the on-going development and proposed 'Year 5 Developments' highlighted in the report;
- (2) Highlight any additional priorities for consideration.

1. Background

The decision to outsource LCCs statutory library service was taken to enable the delivery of a cost effective, high quality library service in an on-going environment of financial constraint.

Key aims of this outsourcing:

- Increase levels of service performance
- Improved customer's experience
- Service transformation.

The Lincolnshire Libraries Partnership began on 1st April 2016 with the transfer of staff and services from Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) to Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL), as part of a 5 year contract with a potential 5 year extension.

The Partnership comprises:

- 10 x Tier 1 & 5 x Tier 2 Core Libraries; Boston, Gainsborough, Grantham, Lincoln, Louth, Mablethorpe, Skegness, Sleaford, Spalding, Stamford, Bourne, Horncastle, Long Sutton, Market Rasen and Woodhall Spa
- 36 x Community Hubs
- 3 x District Mobiles which take library resources to over 200 Lincolnshire communities that do not have easy access to a library or community hub
- 2 x Access Mobiles which take library material to housebound residents who cannot travel to a library, a community hub or a District Mobile stop
- 2 x Community Mobiles which deliver collections of books to care homes, sheltered housing complexes, day centres and primary schools
- Subscription Services to Reading Groups and Music and Drama Groups
- Listening Lincs Services for visually impaired customers
- Delivery of the national Bookstart scheme across the County

Grantham and Bourne Libraries are not directly managed by GLL. It has not yet been possible to transfer the lease for the Grantham Library site to GLL, and so LCC continues to employ the staff based there; although GLL maintains a close working relationship with the Grantham team. Bourne Library is in shared accommodation, and members of staff at the Bourne site remain employees of SKDC; as they were before the contract with GLL. GLL supplies books and other resources to both libraries, together with professional advice and guidance to support the provision and development of library services. Similarly, GLL provides book stock for the 36 community hubs across the County, and through its network of Library Development Officers, provides training and on-going library specific support and guidance for over 900 Hub volunteers.

In year four of the contract GLL has continued to make significant improvements to library services across the County. Managing library stock more effectively has had a positive impact on performance with issue figures for core, mobile and e-services exceeding the KPI target, and use of the library website exceeding target by 37%. Customers really enjoy the events which take place in libraries, and in 2019/20 over 5,300 events were run and attended by over 68,000 adults and children.

Following LCC's approval for the upgrade and transfer of public and staff IT provision and management to GLL, a major refresh project has been embarked upon. Public IT provision has been refreshed at the majority of library service points countywide, and the modern and fit for purpose offer has received much customer praise. The new Library Management System is currently under construction. However, due to the national lockdown resulting from the recent Covid 19 pandemic, this project has only been slightly delayed due to the flexibility and innovative remote working of library staff. GLL looks forward to launching the new system and refreshing staff IT, whilst also being able to continue their work modernising and improving library provision, so that it meets customer's needs for access to high quality reading, information and IT resources across the county.

2. Review of Year 4

2.1 Review of Year 4:

During 2019/20 library staff ran a total of 5,354 events in core libraries, before such activities had to be paused on 17th March by the COVID19 pandemic. These events were attended by over 68,000 adults and children. Over 7,000 hours of community use of core libraries was recorded in 2019/20, including a number of community use events, such as exhibitions and meetings, meaning that the KPI target was exceeded by 270%.

National Bookstart week, rebranded as Pajamarama, took place 3rd to 9th June 2019 and all libraries celebrated with bedtime story themed sessions for the under 4s. Bookstart Bear joined in the fun, visiting libraries across the county in his snazzy new pjs.

The annual Summer Reading Challenge took place in all core libraries and mobiles between July and September 2019 with a 2% increase in participation compared to 2018. Out of this world events, linked to the Space Race theme, included alien, rocket, astronaut and planet making crafts, Lego robot coding workshops and STEM focussed rocket making and launching activities. Stamford Library also welcomed STEM children's author Colin Furze, who demonstrated a number of his amazing inventions.

5 core libraries across the county took part in the National 'Fun Palaces' weekend on the 5th October. Linking with the Fun Palace ethos of connecting communities and local people sharing skills, activities included; sign language, indoor bowls, knitting and crochet, paper folding, stop go animation, how to play Maori board games, Laughing Yoga and chair based exercise courtesy of the Better NK Healthwise team.

In October 2019, as part of National Libraries Week, libraries around the county held events highlighting the range of resources provided and the contribution libraries make to local communities. In line with the national theme of Digital provision, numerous taster sessions were held covering e-books, e-magazines and online resources such as Ancestry and Freegal. Digital colouring and painting workshops and a variety of coding sessions including robotic mousetraps were also held.

In January 2020, working with East Lindsey District Council and Mablethorpe Town Council, Mablethorpe Library hosted a Holocaust Memorial and Remembrance Service. Due to the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the service had a theme of 'Stand Together' and highlighted the actions of people like Oskar Schindler, Corrie Ten Boom and Irena Sendler.

After successfully bidding for and receiving 160 copies of Juliet Naked by Nick Hornby to give away as part of World Book Night, special 'Naked Digestive' coffee mornings were held at Grantham, Horncastle and Boston libraries. Alongside their cups of tea and biscuits, customers were gifted a free novel in line with the World Book Night ethos of encouraging the joy of reading and sharing of stories.

The GLL Annual User Survey (AUS) was held in core libraries in summer and autumn 2019, with over 1,500 responses received. Overall satisfaction with services was 99%, with 82% of respondents saying they would recommend the library to a friend. The lowest rated areas, and so requiring improvement, were provision of public IT and Wifi.

Following library supplier Askews' decision to remove themselves from the e-book market, a new e-book platform, Overdrive, was launched in August 2019 with all 13,000 existing titles being transferred. The new platform included a dedicated app, Libby, which is compatible with multiple devices. This considerably increased the accessibility of the services' e-book collection for customers.

New contacts and working relationships were built with colleagues in Public Health and Children's Centres by the BookStart co-ordinator and officer. This resulted in joint working to build greater knowledge and understanding in Health Visitors and Children's Centre staff of the BookStart scheme, and the benefits it can bring families with babies and pre-school children.

2.2 Performance Review, KPI's:

The library contract is monitored through 11 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Performance against the 2019/20 KPI targets is detailed in the table below.

KPI	Detail	2019/20 KPI Target	2019/20 Actual	KPI Actual compared to Target
1	Number of visits to Core Libraries and Mobile Library Services in a contract year	1,723,917	1,305,135	-24%
2	Percentage of scheduled events at Core Libraries in a Contract Year which are delivered	100%	100%	0%
3	Number of hours of use of access to the internet from public access computers in Core Libraries and Mobile Library vehicles in a Contract year	178,135	112,631	-37%
4	Number of hours of Wi-Fi Use in a Contract Year	Not available	Not available	Not available
5	Number of visits to the library website in a Contract Year	417,034	572,647	+37%
6	Total number of Stock Issues across Core Libraries, Mobile Libraries and E services	1,990,956	1,999,635	+0.4%
7	Percentage of books Requested delivered within 7 days	65%	71%	+6%
8	Percentage of books Requested delivered within 15 days	75%	81%	+6%
9	Percentage of books Requested delivered within 30 days	85%	87%	+2%
10	Percentage of mobile library stops scheduled in any Contract Year which are delivered	100%	100%	0%
11	Aggregate number of hours of Community Use at all Core Libraries	1,909	7,073	+270%

Although the majority of KPIs present a positive picture of progress within the Library Service, there has been a decrease in public access computer use, and a related but smaller decrease in visits against the KPI target. It should be noted that the suspension of library activities from 17th March, and sites closure from Monday 23rd March due to the national Covid-19 pandemic, had a negative impact on KPI performance in the final month of the contract year, most notably on visits, PN use and issues.

As highlighted in previous years reports, the age and limitations of LCC's library IT provision, which remained in use at most sites until January 2020, continued to present significant problems for customers and staff alike, and negatively impacted on the library service's ability to deliver high quality services in line with customer expectations.

The IT refresh, which commenced in 2019, has received very positive feedback from library users, staff and volunteers alike. Once complete it is expected that this will have a significant positive impact on IT usage in libraries although this is unlikely to fully manifest itself in 2020/21 due to Covid-19 impact in service delivery.

2.3 Service Transformation/Innovation

2.3.1 IT Refresh

Following approval for the upgrade and transfer of public and staff IT provision and management to GLL, the first phase of the IT transfer commenced in core sites in December 2019 with the roll-out of new public IT provision. The remaining core sites, excluding Bourne, saw the new public IT offer installed in January 2020. Hub installations commenced in February 2020 but could not be completed as scheduled by the end of March 2020 due to the Covid-19 national lockdown. The installation of the last few remaining hubs and Bourne Library is scheduled to take place in July 2020 following the easing of lockdown measures nationally. Customers' response to the new IT provision was extremely positive and alongside multiple verbal compliments 26 formal written compliments were received.

The second phase of the IT transfer, which will take place in summer 2020, involves the refresh of staff IT following the Library Management System (LMS) transfer. The LMS transfer project commenced in January 2020 with the planning and building of system parameters and data mapping and testing exercises continuing into early March. Alongside this, planning for the training of staff and volunteers was devised. The training was to be delivered locally by key staff trained by Capita in the new system and in how to deliver this to colleagues and volunteers. This 'train the trainer' programme took place in mid-March just days before lockdown commenced. During lockdown these key trainers, working remotely, reconfigured the planned training package so that it could be carried out remotely by library staff rather than in face to face group sessions. The building of the new LMS by library staff working remotely also continued throughout lockdown to ensure that the planned implementation did not fall significantly behind schedule.

The improvements include:

- Installation of new high speed communication lines and upgrading of existing IT infrastructures
- Refresh of all public access computers at core and hub libraries
- Refresh of all public printing/photocopying/scanning facilities at core and hub libraries
- Provision of web based printing facilities at core libraries
- Provision of web based public PC booking facilities for all core and hub libraries
- Installation of public WiFi at all core and hub libraries
- Refresh of staff and volunteer computers at all core, mobile and hub libraries
- Transfer of the Library Management System (LMS) from Civica's Spydus system to Capita's Soprano system

Launching the new system and refreshing staff IT will see continued modernisation and improvement of the county's library provision, so that it meets customer's needs for access to high quality reading, information and IT resources.

2.4 Community Hubs

2.4.1 Community Hub Background:

The development of community hubs was driven by the desire to give communities more control and a bigger role in delivering services, whilst ensuring services remained affordable within the Council's reduced budget.

GLL provide on-going professional support in the form of Library Development Officers [LDO's], including operational management of book stock, volunteer training and development, support of volunteers as well as supporting hubs to be professional and safe places for the members of the public to utilise; ensuring that the national picture in libraries performance and innovation is reflected locally.

LCC provide the provision of computers for public use, volunteer use and access to LCC IT helpdesk. For those hubs that have chosen to remain in Council-owned premises, preferable rates of a peppercorn rent for the initial 4 years of their lease between the Community Hub and the Council were applied and continue to be in place.

All Community Hubs have been supported financially with the allocation of £15k, a one-off capital payment to assist with set-up/improvement works and an annual revenue payment of £5,167 whilst they remain operating as a Community Hub for a minimum of 6 hours per week for 50 weeks per year.

Overall there is a commitment to support up to 40 Community Hubs and there are currently 36.

Table 2: Community Hubs

Ref	Hub Name	Ref	Hub Name	Ref	Hub Name
1	Alford	13	Donington	25	Pinchbeck
2	Belton Lane (<i>Children's Centre</i>)*	14	Ermine	26	Ruskington
3	Birchwood	15	Heckington	27	Saxilby
4	Boultham	16	Holbeach (Co-op)	28	Scotter
5	Bracebridge (<i>Bridge Church</i>)	17	Hospital Hub* (<i>Lincoln, Boston and Grantham</i>)	29	Spilsby (Co-op)
6	Bracebridge Heath	18	Ingoldmells	30	Sutton Bridge
7	Branston	19	Keelby	31	Sutton on Sea
8	Burgh le Marsh	20	Kirton	32	Swineshead
9	Caistor	21	Metheringham	33	Waddington (Co-op)
10	Cherry Willingham	22	Navenby	34	Wainfleet
11	Crowland	23	Nettleham	35	Welton
12	Deepings	24	North Hykeham	36	Wragby

** These 'hubs' do not receive the £5,167 annual revenue grant nor £15,000 capital grant. They are classified as a hub for the purpose of the GLL support to community hubs contractual payment clause.*

Community Hubs are independent and so have autonomy around opening hours, activities available and other potential utilisation of the site. All income received is retained by the hub, for reinvestment into the site.

Discussions are on-going around the potential for a new and improved future for the Ermine Community Hub.

Community Hubs need to be sustainable to ensure they will be there in years to come and they continue to achieve this through a range of income sources/funding which they require to cover the costs of running activities e.g. grants, donations, hiring out space, etc.

3. Conclusion

Building on the successes and foundations of previous years, a variety of focused activities are planned for Year 5 (April 2020 – March 2021), which include:

- The safe and successful reopening of Lincolnshire libraries post Covid-19.
- Responding to the changed needs of our users, communities and businesses post Covid-19.
- Completion of the IT refresh.

4. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/a

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 Will Mason, who can be contacted on 07500 121283 or william.mason@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Open Report on behalf of Les Britzman, Chief Fire Officer

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	28 July 2020
Subject:	Blue Light Collaboration Programme - Progress Report

Summary:

In December 2015, the three Blue Light Services agreed a programme of collaboration and formally started the 'Lincolnshire Blue Light Collaboration Programme'.

A steering group meeting in May 2016 formally agreed the full programme management structures required which initiated the programme proper.

The programme structure defined the following key elements:

- A shared Fire and Police Service Headquarters (SHQ) project
- A shared Fire and Police Service Control Room (SCR) project
- A combined Lincoln Police/Ambulance/Fire station (South Park) project
- A Wider Estates (WE) review project
- A Wider Interoperability and Integration (WII) Project

The programme has a number of specific milestones although, given the rolling nature of the last 2 elements which are being considered on a case-by-case basis, no specified end date.

This report provides an update on the progress made to date and an indication of work which has been or is planned to be undertaken.

Actions Required:

The committee are invited to note progress within the programme and provide feedback as appropriate.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Blue Light Programme is the umbrella term given to a range of projects to enable collaborative working across the 3 emergency services in Lincolnshire. In June 2016, the Executive considered and approved the Blue Light

Collaboration Programme¹. This firmly set the course for greater cooperation and joint working between the 3 emergency services in Lincolnshire. In March 2017, further key recommendations were agreed by the Executive² including an agreement to enter into a Collaboration Agreement and enter into a works contract for the combined station at South Park. The collaborative legal agreement and the South Park Campus support the Government's policy direction around increased collaboration and integration of emergency services.

- 1.2 The programme includes 3 projects (SHQ, SCR and South Park) which are funded by the 3 partners supported by a Home Office Police Innovation Fund (PIF). The remaining 2 elements (WE and WII) are required to be self-funding based on individual business cases.

2. Current Situation

Shared Headquarters

- 2.1 The first project, namely the inception of a shared Headquarters between Lincolnshire Police and Lincolnshire Fire & Rescue was completed in April 2017 with a formal project closure date of 1st November 2017 and a subsequent 'lessons learned' session.

Shared Control Room

- 2.2 The second project, to share a control room facility with Lincolnshire Police at Nettleham, was completed on Tuesday March 10th 2020. This has been achieved within the initial budget despite being delayed.

Issues with the East Coast and Hertfordshire consortium mobilising system collaboration which have now been resolved, meant the final physical move had been delayed for a significant period. The decision to delay was made to prevent additional expense being required which would have provided hardware with a very limited useable life.

The move to a shared control facility will for the first time bring supervisors from both services together and provide the ability to run adjacent 'Silver' command facilities from within the building.

The move will greatly help satisfy the Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles (JESIP) of:-

- Co-location
- Communication
- Coordination
- Joint understanding of risk
- Shared situational awareness.

¹ Executive paper dated 7 Jun 16.

² Executive paper dated 7 Mar 17.

This move alone provides the county with a significant improvement in our capability to respond to a rapid onset emergency without the need for dedicated channels of communication between two of the blue light services.

A lessons learned exercise has again been completed for this part of the programme.

South Park

- 2.3 The South Park development has been complex due in part to the lack of national models to learn from, the intricacies of the site and the building of a full custody suite to current Home Office regulations. As expected this has increased the duration of the build.

Contractual arrangements were made under the pressures of a requirement to spend Police Innovation Fund monies within specific financial years. It is recognised that this fact placed pressures on the project which would otherwise not have been there and in some ways may have affected the relationship between the client and contractor during some stages of the project. This has been captured in detail through the post construction learning sessions.

The full site was 'taken over' on the 18th November 2019 and this marked the beginning of the final decant of staff from West Parade working towards full occupancy. The formal South Park construction contract was signed on 25/02/2020 (completion certificate.)

The complexity of this project should not be underestimated and although there have been significant challenges throughout, is badged as a great success and is a flagship of collaboration for Lincolnshire throughout the country.

The project recently won the 'One team' award at the government property awards ceremony.

Wider Estates

- 2.4 The Wider Estates programme includes various differing collaborative models ranging from potential use of On-call fire stations for EMAS training to tri-service estate sharing. The first station to have shared areas was Grantham Fire station in December 2016 when the Police Underwater search team moved their facilities and vehicles to allow space to be freed at Nettleham for LFR stores.

The first shared Fire and Ambulance station, at Louth, opened officially on the 17th November 2017. The remodelling of the Fire station to enable EMAS to base and mobilise all their assets involved a significant amount of work. This was funded by EMAS.

The new, purpose built facility at Sleaford, which brings together EMAS, LCC departments and Fire & Rescue has been operating since 2018. Work to share LCC estate with EMAS at Boston, Stamford and Spalding has been put on hold until the property strategies for other services are fully understood.

Further strategic work to review the Police estate and identify collaborative efficiencies is currently underway.

Wider Integration and Interoperability

2.5 The Wider Integration and Interoperability project was added to the main programme early on to ensure a process could be followed for any ideas or concepts which begin to fall naturally from the collaborative work. So far work and discussion has taken place on the following subjects:

- A tri-service Symposium was held which included political leaders to explore the will to collaborate
- A Fuel Sharing agreement has been set up between Fire & Police
- Work to combine Policies and set up of working groups in South Park has been completed
- A Joint Executive Group has met at HQ where strategic managers from Police and Fire discuss any issues or quick wins in terms of collaborative activity
- There have been informal, closer working agreements at HQ and other locations in areas such as Alcohol Licensing and Fire Safety
- Best practice has been shared between analyst departments
- Shared training opportunities- underwater search, rope rescue
- The Lowland search and rescue team now occupy Wragby fire station as their HQ under license
- There is a current drone sharing agreement enabling Fire to request the Police drone to provide imagery at large incidents
- Lincolnshire Police have been provided access in some locations to enable drop-ins for breaks in the working day, enabling officers to remain working in the community for longer periods
- Fire and forensic recovery training is being developed

There currently remain 19 opportunities still to be progressed of which varying levels of progress will be seen over the next 12 months.

3. Finances

3.1 The programme costs are shown in the table below.

Key changes to the requirements during the design phase have included:

- An additional floor
- Increased clinical provision (In line with CQC requirements)
- Additional provision for future use of electrical vehicles
- Improved specification of security provisions
- Additional PV cells

At contract signature stage the programme steering group were provided with full clarity on the changes to the design. The County Council funding for the full design solution was approved by the Executive Director of Finance and Public Protection under delegated authority.

Currently the programme is projecting a slight underspend although it is likely that when programme closure occurs the underspend will have been absorbed by sundries currently being discussed at the Blue Light Steering group.

Appendix A provides the most recent financial report sent to the steering group from which the table below is lifted.

Blue Light Programme	Revised Budget	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	Programme Actual as at Mar-20	Outturn Variance as at Mar-20	Budget Virements	Adjusted Budget	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actual to date	2020/21 Forecast	Total Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Expenditure														
Shared HQ/Control Room														
Headquarters	1.977	1.431	0.546	-	-	1.977	-		1.977	-			1.977	-
Shared Control Room	0.644	-	0.231	0.064	0.088	0.383	(0.261)	(0.027)	0.617	0.234	0.005	0.167	0.550	(0.067)
Total Shared HQ/Control Room	2.621	1.431	0.776	0.064	0.088	2.360	(0.261)	(0.027)	2.594	0.234	0.005	0.167	2.527	(0.067)
Blue Light Campus														
South Park Construction	19.076	0.443	4.609	10.479	3.716	19.247	0.171	0.171	19.247	-		0.058	19.305	0.058
Vinci Mouchel Fees	0.352	-	0.111	0.111	0.145	0.367	0.015	0.015	0.367	-		0.045	0.412	0.045
Client Risk	0.300	-	-	-	0.140	0.140	(0.160)	(0.160)	0.140	-		-	0.140	-
ICT	0.400	-	-	0.026	0.238	0.264	(0.136)		0.400	0.136		0.018	0.282	(0.118)
Furniture	0.330	-	-	-	0.325	0.325	(0.005)		0.330	0.005		0.005	0.330	-
Total excl. level 1 extension	20.458	0.443	4.720	10.616	4.565	20.344	(0.114)	0.027	20.485	0.141	0.000	0.126	20.470	(0.015)
Level 1 Extension	0.562	-	-	0.513	0.039	0.552	(0.010)		0.562	0.010			0.552	(0.010)
Total incl. level 1 extension	21.020	0.443	4.720	11.129	4.605	20.896	(0.123)	0.027	21.047	0.150	0.000	0.126	21.022	(0.025)
Overall Blue Light Expenditure	23.641	1.874	5.497	11.192	4.693	23.256	(0.385)	-	23.641	0.385	0.005	0.293	23.549	(0.092)

4. Conclusion

4.1 The Blue Light programme has been challenging and extremely beneficial bringing together staff at all levels of the three emergency services. Closer working between functional departments at SHQ, integration of operational crews and staff at the shared station locations and real time ability to share time critical situational information in a Shared Control Room have all proved to be significant leaps forward in the world of Blue Light service collaboration. Key points to note include:

- SHQ opened as planned and within budget.
- Shared Control Room occupied behind schedule but within budget.
- A fully operational tri-service station at South Park. The first of its kind nationally incorporating a Fire station, Emergency ambulance base with deep clean facilities, State of the art Home Office compliant custody suite and a significant number of divisional Police departments.
- The wider estates project which has provided opportunities to share estate at Sleaford, Louth and Grantham amongst others which has been the catalyst for improved ways of working between the emergency services staff at operational incidents.

4.2 Next Steps

The programme governance has recently changed due to the major projects now being complete, the emphasis moving onto the continuation of Wider Estate (Linked with OPE) and reinvigoration of the wider collaborative initiatives.

With a clear intent to streamline and refresh the programme the governance structure now consists of:-

- Steering Group – Chaired by CFO (Strategic)
- Collaboration Delivery Group – Rotating second tier manager (Delivery)
- Terms of reference for both groups have been agreed)

5. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Yes

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

- There are live risk logs which will be discussed at the Collaboration Delivery Group Meetings.
- An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out for the SHQ project.
- An EIA has been carried out for the South Park Development.
- EIAs are carried out for each individual Wider Estate location.
- An EIA has recently be revisited prior to the move to SCR.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Blue Light Collaboration Programme Steering Group Financial update

7. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Area Manager Tim Joyce, who can be contacted on 07799110491 or tim.joyce@lincoln.fire-uk.org.

BLP Steering Group – 24 May 2020

Financial Report

1. **Capital Budget Summary**

1.1 The table below shows the overall capital budget for the programme, the actual expenditure per year (2020/21 is as at April); the total forecast outturn and any variances.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Blue Light Programme	Revised Budget	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Actual	2018/19 Actual	2019/20 Actual	Programme Actual as at Mar-20	Outturn Variance as at Mar-20	Budget Virements	Adjusted Budget	2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actual to date	2020/21 Forecast	Total Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Expenditure														
1 Shared HQ/Control Room														
Headquarters	1.977	1.431	0.546	-	-	1.977	-		1.977	-			1.977	-
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Client Risk	0.300	-	-	-	0.140	0.140	(0.160)	(0.160)	0.140	-		-	0.140	-
ICT	0.400	-	-	0.026	0.238	0.264	(0.136)		0.400	0.136		0.018	0.282	(0.118)
Furniture	0.330	-	-	-	0.325	0.325	(0.005)		0.330	0.005		0.005	0.330	-
3 Total excl. level 1 extension	20.458	0.443	4.720	10.616	4.565	20.344	(0.114)	0.027	20.485	0.141	0.000	0.126	20.470	(0.015)
Level 1 Extension	0.562	-	-	0.513	0.039	0.552	(0.010)		0.562	0.010		-	0.552	(0.010)
4 Total incl. level 1 extension	21.020	0.443	4.720	11.129	4.605	20.896	(0.123)	0.027	21.047	0.150	0.000	0.126	21.022	(0.025)
Overall Blue Light Expenditure	23.641	1.874	5.497	11.192	4.693	23.256	(0.385)	-	23.641	0.385	0.005	0.293	23.549	(0.092)

1.2 The table shows that there is individual budget line variances, overall the programme is currently forecasting a £0.092m under spend, see column 14.

1.3 Column 7 shows the outturn variance at the end of 2019/20. South Park Construction and Vinci Mouchel Fees were both overspent as per the forecast during the year. Other budget lines were underspent and netted off these overspends. At the start of 2020/21 the budget lines were adjusted to realign budget to expenditure, see columns 8 and 9, the overall budget remained the same, £23.641m.

1.4 The remaining budget is shown in column 10. The Forecast variance for the programme is shown in column 14.

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

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	28 July 2020
Subject:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Summary:

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

Actions Required:

Members of the Committee are invited to review the work programme and highlight 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

28 JULY 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Blue Light Collaboration Programme Tim Joyce, Area Manager- Response
2	Performance of the Library Services Contract – Year Four Review Report Will Mason, Head of Culture
Sitting as the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee	
3	Domestic Abuse Update and review of commissioned services Jade Sullivan, Community Safety Coordinator-Domestic Abuse Lead

15 SEPTEMBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Lincolnshire Registration and Celebratory Service Annual Report Julie Waller, Acting Head of Registration
2	Animal Health and Welfare Review Mark Keal, Acting Joint Head of Safer Communities
3	Heritage Service Update Nicole Hilton, Assistant Director - Communities
4	Adults Reoffending Performance Clare Newborn, Acting Joint Head of Safer Communities

27 OCTOBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Annual Prevent Review Report Paul Drury, Prevent Officer, & Sara Barry, Acting Assistant Director Public Protection
2	Community Hub Progress and Developments Louise Egan, Library and Heritage Client Lead
3	Safer Together - First Year Review Sara Barry, Acting Assistant Director Public Protection
4	Coroners Service Report Annual Report Paul Smith, Acting Senior Coroner

08 DECEMBER 2020	
Item	Contributor
1	Road Safety Partnership Annual Report Steven Batchelor, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership
2	Fire and Rescue Statement of Assurance 2019-20 Les Britzman, Chief Fire Officer

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 Public Protection and Communities 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 Public Protection and Communities 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

Open Report on behalf of Les Britzman, Chief Fire Officer

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	28 July 2020
Subject:	Response to Domestic Abuse in Lincolnshire

Summary:

This report provides the Committee with an overview and update of the work that is being undertaken in relation to Domestic Abuse (DA) within Lincolnshire, especially in light of COVID-19 and advises on future developments that are likely to have an impact for the county's response to domestic abuse.

Actions Required:

Members of the Committee are invited to consider and comment on the contents of this report, and the Councils role in driving forward the domestic abuse agenda in Lincolnshire.

1. Key areas of activity

Tackling DA and improving the outcomes for those exposed to DA is a core priority for the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, and Lincolnshire County Council is a key agency in providing both funding and resources to support work in this field; in terms of strategic planning and oversight, commissioning, coordination and administration.

Domestic abuse has a significant impact upon the communities and public services of Lincolnshire. The latest available estimates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) suggest that for the three year period between April 2013 and March 2016, an estimated 7.0% of the resident population of Lincolnshire aged 16-59 years experienced at least one domestic abuse incident (approximately 27,400 people). This is above the national average of 6.2%, and places Lincolnshire 13th out of 42 police force areas in terms of its domestic abuse prevalence. (Source: Office of National Statistics)

In the last four years, on average there are over 10,000 domestic abuse incidents reported to Lincolnshire Police every year. Of these, 6,500 are standard risk incidents, equivalent to around 3 in 5 domestic abuse incidents reported. A quarter of domestic abuse incidents are graded as medium risk while 8% are high risk. There were 997 victims who were at high risk of serious harm or death referred into the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) by partner agencies in 2019-2020, which represents a 23% increase from the previous year. Since the introduction of the Statutory Domestic Homicide Reviews in April 2011 there have been 17 cases involving 25 deaths that have met the criteria for a domestic homicide review in Lincolnshire.

Over the last four months during COVID-19 DA referrals to MARAC and the DA Outreach service (EDAN Lincs) have remained stable, with some fluctuations week on week; however nothing that has caused concern. General enquires to EDAN lincs by way of telephone calls, emails and the website have increased, however this has not translated into referrals at this stage. Refuges in Lincolnshire have remained at usual capacity with no increase in demand and incidents reported to the police have remained stable with some uplift seen on bank holiday weekends.

Below is a summary of the how the key areas of activity in respect of DA have been operating over the last 4 months:

The DA Core Priority Group has continued to meet through this period of time and decided it would be prudent to meet on a fortnightly basis. All partners have been fully engaged in this process and it has supported the effective management of the DA agenda in Lincolnshire. As well as this partnership updates have been sent to all partner agencies on a weekly basis and for a period of time a separate update was also sent to the Corporate Leadership Team, ensuring everyone was sighted on any key issues, emerging themes and developments etc.

Data – In order to ensure that the DA agenda was being managed effectively through the COVID-19 period a data collection and monitoring process was developed which started on the 13th April and includes weekly data collection and analysis from various agencies, including the Police, EDAN Lincs, MARAC, District Councils, Refuge services. This has allowed the partnership to response to changes in demand and prepare for this if needed.

MARAC - has continued to operate on a weekly basis with all partners engaged in the process. All forums are being held virtually using telephone conferencing facilities. A number of adjustments have been put in place to ensure that cases can be managed effectively and this is working really well.

EDAN (Outreach and IDVA Service) – All outreach and IDVA services have continued to operate effectively and support the needs of victims, children and families. Most of the support to clients is being undertaken through telephone and video consultation which is working really well at this time. Where needed EDAN are redeploying staff within the organisation to focus resources on the elements of the business that are most critical and are managing this really well. Through the commissioning arrangements we are in almost daily contact with EDAN, ensuring that if or when anything changes we can be proactive in our response.

- EDAN are in the process of getting an online chat facility set up to be available within working hours.
- Face to face meetings with clients will begin to happen in July as part of the recovery plans.

Refuges – All refuges in Lincolnshire have continued to operate and support victims and children of Domestic Abuse, they have including relevant questions relating to COVID-19 within their triage process and operating a timetable for communal areas and following social distancing guidance. The National system and referral process has been working as usual with no problems placing people into refuges when needed.

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) – In line with Home Office guidance some DHR's were put on hold due to the level of resource they would have required (particularly on health agencies) in relation to research, writing agency reports etc. However since the beginning June all DHR's have been managed as they usually would be, following normal processes.

Communications –

- Social Media - A number of national and local organisations have produced communications packages about DA that agencies have been using over the last 4 months. This is been a coordinated effort to ensure that victims, children and perpetrators continued to be aware of the support services available to them.
- Boots launched a National Campaign led by Hestia where all boots stores are offering a safe space for victims of Domestic Abuse. <https://www.hestia.org/news/press-release-campaign-launches-safe-space-in-boots-stores-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse-across-the-uk>
- Businesses and agencies – The Co-op agreed to display posters and leaflets in all of their stores and pharmacies across Lincolnshire and reinforce the work that the DA Project Officer has been doing with them to raise awareness of DA amongst their workforce and how to manage and support people that require help. Sainsbury's also agreed to display posters, stickers in customer toilets and leaflets throughout all of their stores in Lincolnshire. District Councils did some extra work with their waste management teams to ensure that they were up to date with DA training and knew what to do if they saw anything in relation to DA.
- The DA website has been updated with COVID-19 advice and a new page re DA added to the COVID-19 section on the LCC website.
- Hidden Harms Summit - The government announced that a code word scheme for victims of domestic abuse will be launched. The scheme, championed by the independent Victims and Domestic Abuse commissioners, as well as a number of domestic abuse charities, will mean that victims will be able to signal to staff in participating outlets, such as supermarkets and pharmacies, that they need immediate support. The Home Office is currently working with partners, including charities and the business sector, such as the National Pharmacy Association and British Retail Consortium, on the scheme, with more details to be announced in due course.

Training – all face to face training has been cancelled until 31st July at this stage, however this is likely to be extended until September 2020 and beyond. Therefore a number of developments are taking place to look at alternative ways to deliver this training with a view to this starting in September. In addition there are a number of online e learning packages that people have been using.

The Make a Change community based perpetrator programme - has continued to support clients in Lincolnshire, and is continually reviewing its service provision in line with updates to the Government's social distancing guidance.

As an immediate response to the UK-wide lockdown, Make a Change's in-person group-work programme was suspended and practitioners focused on providing crisis and stress management to clients, delivered via telephone and/or video-conferencing where possible.

Make a Change subsequently provided clients who had previously been on the programme with a series of worksheets supplemented with telephone calls. These focused on maintaining clients' motivation for embarking on a behavioural change programme, formulating risk and safety plans for themselves, and remaining non-abusive and child-centred in their behaviour and attitudes.

Over the past few weeks, Make a Change have been working to adapt materials for online delivery; our priorities remain engaging and intervening with people who use abusive behaviour in the safest and most effective way possible for survivors and their children.

2. Next steps/further developments

The key elements of focus over the next 6 months for the partnership alongside maintaining all services in relation to DA are:

- Recovery planning and preparing for changes in government guidance.
- To proceed with the planned consultation in relation to the DA Bill and governance arrangements in Lincolnshire.

The government reintroduced the domestic abuse bill in parliament on 3rd March 2020; it had its second reading in April and is now in the committee Stage. The Public Bill Committee will scrutinise the Bill line by line and is scheduled to report by Thursday 25 June 2020. A summary of the Bill 2020-2021 is:

To make provision in relation to domestic abuse; to make provision for and in connection with the establishment of a Domestic Abuse Commissioner; to prohibit cross-examination in person in family proceedings in certain circumstances; to make provision about certain violent or sexual offences, and offences involving other abusive behaviour, committed outside the United Kingdom; and for connected purposes.

There are several elements to the Bill explaining in detail the intention of the Bill that can be found in the [DA Bill factsheets](#). The Bill will create, for the first time, a cross-government [statutory definition of domestic abuse](#), to ensure that domestic abuse is properly understood, considered unacceptable and actively challenged across statutory agencies and in public attitudes. In terms of the partnership element, possible changes and impact that might have on practice are included mainly in the [statutory duties on accommodation-based services factsheet](#). However in summary this says:

The Bill will put in place a 4 part statutory framework for the delivery of support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in safe accommodation and provide clarity over governance and accountability:

1. Place a duty on each tier one local authority in England (county and unitary councils (other than London Boroughs), the Greater London Authority and the Isles of Scilly Council) to appoint a multi-agency Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board which it will consult as it performs certain specified functions. These are to:
 - assess the need for accommodation-based domestic abuse support for all victims in their area, including those who require cross-border support
 - develop and publish a strategy for the provision of such support to cover their locality, having regard to the need's assessment
 - give effect to the strategy (through commissioning / de-commissioning decisions)
 - monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy
 - report back to central government
2. Require local authorities to have regard to statutory guidance in exercising their functions.
3. Require the Secretary of State to produce statutory guidance, having consulted the Domestic Abuse Commissioner, local authorities and such other persons as considered appropriate.
4. Require tier two councils (district or borough councils, and London Boroughs) to co-operate with the lead local authority, so far as is reasonably practicable.

In addition to these two key focuses the partnership continues to implement the findings of the MARAC review that took place last year, focusing on delivering a service that meets the needs of high risk victims of DA, children, families and perpetrators in Lincolnshire. Some of the key areas for development include an escalation process to better manage repeat and complex cases, introducing a central repository for all cases/incidents deemed as standard to medium risk in order to identify patterns of abuse that happen over time and a system and process that supports the management of child to parent/carer abuse cases more effectively.

The partnership will support the implementation of the new make a change programme that is being procured at the moment, of which funding from the big lottery has been secured until the end of March 2023, as well as exploring options of how we can develop a sustainable, long term programme for Lincolnshire.

3. Domestic Abuse Commissioned Services

The contract to deliver the specialist DA services in Lincolnshire was awarded by Lincolnshire County Council to a single provider, now called EDAN Lincs (Ending Domestic Abuse Now in Lincolnshire) and the new service commenced on 1st August 2018. One service provider for the county means residents can now access the same support provision from the same provider, wherever they reside in Lincolnshire.

The following are the support services offered by EDAN Lincs across the county:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service
- Hospital-based IDVA
- Outreach Domestic Abuse Support Service - Support for Adults (Women and Men)
- Outreach Domestic Abuse Support Service – Support for Children/ Families

The annual review took place in November/December 2019 and EDAN were awarded outstanding in every area of assessment being Contract Compliance, Quality Assurance, Staffing, Continuous Improvement and Engagement.

In the financial year 2019/20 EDAN received 1445 adult referrals. In the last quarter January to March 2020 a total of 408 adult referrals were received into the service. This is the highest quarterly volume seen during the contract to date, with January 2020 representing the highest monthly figure to date. 100% of Q4 2019-20 referrals were triaged and individuals contacted within 48 hours of the referral being received (72 hours at weekends). The service has consistently met this important target throughout 2019-20.

In Quarter 4 of 2019-20 the service engaged with 65 children and young people (CYP). This consisted of 159 one to one therapeutic support sessions with 54 Early Help assessments also completed.

Data and performance development will allow differentiation between direct and indirect support provision to CYP as well as enhanced pathway and timescale monitoring. It is known 575 CYP were associated/connected to an engaged adult referral within the outreach service during Q4 2019-20, the enhanced reporting will clearly determine the number of these who went on to receive direct support from the targeted CYP outreach service.

In addition to the Outreach Service EDAN Lincs have been successful in procuring the refuge contract for the County and are in the mobilisation stage.

4. Domestic Abuse related funding opportunities

Lincolnshire County Council were successful in receiving funding from a bid to MHCLG for £187,000. This is to support the development of consistent Countywide sanctuary scheme to help people suffering from DA to stay in their own homes where appropriate. In addition EDAN and SoLDAS have been successful in receiving funding from MHCLG in relation to COVID-19 to support accommodation based services for DA victims and LCC on behalf of EDAN has been successful at securing £64,000 from the MOJ for DA support until the end of October.

5. Summary

It is hoped that the information in this report demonstrates to the Committee the amount of work being undertaken in relation to DA, and the pivotal role that Lincolnshire County Council has in delivering this work. These key areas of work, as well as the commissioned DA services, complement each other and create a holistic response to victims, perpetrators and children affected by Domestic Abuse.

6. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

Not Applicable

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not Applicable

8. 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 Jade Sullivan, who can be contacted on 07780 339157 or jade.sullivan@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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