



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

2 December 2021

Council

A meeting of the Council will be held on **Friday, 10 December 2021 in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL, commencing at 10.30 am** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda. The attendance of all Councillors is requested.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'DBarnes'.

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

Membership of the Council
(70 Members of the Council)

Councillors M Brookes (Chairman), Mrs A M Austin (Vice-Chairman), M G Allan, P Ashleigh-Morris, T R Ashton, A J Baxter, S A J Blackburn, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, Mrs J Brockway, S Bunney, R D Butroid, I D Carrington, T A Carter, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, M R Clarke, Mrs N F Clarke, R J Cleaver, K H Cooke, P E Coupland, A Dani, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, T J G Dyer, I G Fleetwood, R A Gibson, W H Gray, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, A M Hall, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, A M Key, Mrs J E Killey, J L King, K E Lee, C S Macey, C E H Marfleet, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton MBE, Mrs M J Overton MBE, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, Mrs S Rawlins, R P H Reid, S P Roe, N Sear, P A Skinner, T Smith, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, G J Taylor, Dr M E Thompson, J Tyrrell, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R Wootten, R A Wright and T V Young

**COUNCIL AGENDA
FRIDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2021**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence	
2	Declarations of Councillors' Interests	
3	Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 September 2021	5 - 12
4	Chairman's Announcements	
5	Statements/Announcements by the Leader and Members of the Executive	13 - 70
6	Questions to the Chairman, the Leader, Executive Councillors, Chairmen of Committees and Sub-Committees	
7	Appointment of Members to the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee	71 - 78
8	The revocation of Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875 with respect to land at Anderby Creek, land at Wolla Bank, land at Marsh Yard, land at Moggs Eye, land at Huttoft Car Terrace and land at Chapel Six Marsh in the County of Lincolnshire and dated 24 September 2013	79 - 102
9	Members' Allowances Scheme 2022/23	103 - 120
10	Motions on notice submitted in accordance with the Council's Constitution	

Democratic Services Officer Contact Details

Name: **Rachel Wilson**

Direct Dial **07796 994874**

E Mail Address rachel.wilson@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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

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

Contact details set out above.

Please note: This meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and access can be sought by accessing [Agenda for Council on Friday, 10th December, 2021, 10.30 am \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

All papers for council meetings are available on:

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



COUNCIL
17 SEPTEMBER 2021

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR M BROOKES (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors Mrs A M Austin (Vice-Chairman), M G Allan, P Ashleigh-Morris, T R Ashton, A J Baxter, S A J Blackburn, M D Boles, Mrs W Bowkett, Mrs J Brockway, S Bunney, R D Butroid, I D Carrington, T A Carter, L A Cawrey, K J Clarke, R J Cleaver, P E Coupland, A Dani, C J Davie, R G Davies, P M Dilks, T J G Dyer, I G Fleetwood, R A Gibson, W H Gray, M A Griggs, A G Hagues, M J Hill OBE, R J Kendrick, J L King, K E Lee, C S Macey, C Matthews, A P Maughan, D McNally, Mrs A M Newton MBE, Mrs M J Overton MBE, R B Parker, S R Parkin, N H Pepper, Clio Perraton-Williams, Mrs S Rawlins, S P Roe, N Sear, T Smith, E J Sneath, H Spratt, A N Stokes, E W Strengiel, G J Taylor, Dr M E Thompson, J Tyrrell, M A Whittington, Mrs S Woolley, L Wootten, R A Wright and T V Young

17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Adams, Mrs P A Bradwell OBE, M R Clarke, Mrs N F Clarke, K H Cooke, R A Gibson, M A Griggs, A M Hall, A M Key, Mrs J E Killey, C E H Marfleet, R P H Reid, P A Skinner and R Wootten.

18 DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLORS' INTERESTS

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

19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 MAY 2021

It was clarified that Councillor H Spratt was not present at the previous meeting, and should be removed from the list of those present at the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2021 be signed as a correct record, subject to the amendment to those present being noted.

20 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman was delighted to be chairing a Full Council meeting in the Council Chamber for the first time since the initial lockdown and commented it was good to see members in these surroundings face-to face again, whilst still taking care to prevent the further spread of Covid-19.

As autumn approached, the Council continued to adapt to new ways of working. The Chairman took the opportunity to thank officers for their efforts to ensure important council services continued to be delivered to the high standard that Lincolnshire residents had come to expect.

As restrictions were carefully being lifted, the Chairman was looking forward to being able to continue in his role as Chairman and meet the people of Lincolnshire. He was particularly looking forward to being part of Lincolnshire Day on 1 October 2021, when for the first time, Lincolnshire would join with colleagues from North and North East Lincolnshire to celebrate its continued commitment to working together for the benefit of all residents.

On a sadder note, the Chairman reported the deaths of two former county councillors:

Reg Shore who represented the former Skellingthorpe and Hykeham South electoral division from May 2009 until his retirement in May 2017. Between May 2013 and May 2017 he was Executive Councillor for Waste and Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on the Council.

And Mike Exton who represented the former Deeping St James electoral division from June 2009 until his retirement in May 2013.

A number of councillors paid tribute to the former County Councillors.

A complete itinerary of civic engagements, since the last meeting of this Council was available from the civic officer on request.

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

Statements by Members of the Executive had been circulated with the agenda.

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

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

<u>Question by</u>	<u>Question to</u>	<u>Subject</u>
a) Mrs J Brockway	L A Cawrey	Steampunk festival
b) K E Lee	R G Davies	Pedestrian crossings at Riseholme roundabout
c) R J Cleaver	M J Hill OBE	Fairer Funding update

d) S Bunney	R G Davies	Speed restrictions between Grantham and Market Rasen
e) Mrs A M Newton MBE	D McNally	Spalding Household Waste Recycling Centre
f) A N Stokes	R G Davies	Grantham Transport Plan update
g) N Sear	M J Hill OBE	GDF at Theddlethorpe update
h) K Clarke	M J Hill OBE	Special educational needs funding for schools
i) P M Dilks	M J Hill OBE	Deepings Leisure Centre
j) S R Parkin	R G Davies	Active Travel Fund
k) I G Fleetwood	R G Davies	Allocation of additional funding for rural roads
l) R B Parker	C J Davie	GDF proposal for Theddlethorpe
m) Mrs M J Overton MBE	Mrs W Bowkett	Increasing number of adults requiring care
n) T J G Dyer	M J Hill OBE	Update following the adult social care announcement by the government
o) A J Baxter	R D Butroid	Deepings Leisure Centre
p) C Matthews	Mrs S Woolley	Update on Lincolnshire's integrated care system

23 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2020/21

It was moved, and seconded:

That the County Council was recommended to:

1. Note the carry forwards set out in paragraph 1.16 to 1.18 of the report, which are made in line with Financial Regulations.

2. Approve the use of underspend in excess of 1% referred to in paragraph 1.20 to 1.24 as follows:
 - a) The transfer to reserves for "non-business as usual" activity described in paragraph 1.20.
 - b) The creation of and transfer of £0.300m to a new earmarked reserve for Council Elections described in paragraph 1.21 and approval for underspends on election budgets to be transferred automatically to the said reserve in future years.
 - c) The transfer of £2.200m to the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve as described in paragraph 1.223.
 - d) The creation of and transfer of £2.304m to a new Coronavirus Recovery Reserve described in paragraph 1.24.
3. Note the transfers to and from reserves carried out in 2020/21 and note the position of Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2021 as shown in Table F of this report.
4. Note the position of the General Reserves as set out in paragraph 1.28 and Table G.
5. Note the financial performance in 2020/21 as set out in Table H
6. Approve the transfer of the remaining £1.8m in the Support to Business Reserve to the Financial Volatility Reserve as described in paragraph 1.25.

An amendment by the Labour Group was moved and seconded as follows:

Delete 'The transfer of £2.200m to the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve as described in paragraph 1.23' and replace with

Insert 'The Transfer of £2.2million to Children's Services to address unmet need in the current financial year for additional education provision for Children in Care, and to increase early intervention service for emotional wellbeing and mental health.

(NOTE: Councillor S R Parkin declared an interest in relation to educational tuition and left the meeting for the duration of the agenda item)

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

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried, and it was

RESOLVED

That the County Council:

1. Note the carry forwards set out in paragraph 1.16 to 1.18 of the report, which are made in line with Financial Regulations.
2. Approve the use of underspend in excess of 1% referred to in paragraph 1.20 to 1.24 as follows:
 - e) The transfer to reserves for "non-business as usual" activity described in paragraph 1.20.
 - f) The creation of and transfer of £0.300m to a new earmarked reserve for Council Elections described in paragraph 1.21 and approval for underspends on election budgets to be transferred automatically to the said reserve in future years.
 - g) The transfer of £2.200m to the Financial Volatility earmarked reserve as described in paragraph 1.223.
 - h) The creation of and transfer of £2.304m to a new Coronavirus Recovery Reserve described in paragraph 1.24.
3. Note the transfers to and from reserves carried out in 2020/21 and note the position of Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2021 as shown in Table F of this report.
4. Note the position of the General Reserves as set out in paragraph 1.28 and Table G.
5. Note the financial performance in 2020/21 as set out in Table H
6. Approve the transfer of the remaining £1.8m in the Support to Business Reserve to the Financial Volatility Reserve as described in paragraph 1.25.

24 AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

A report by the monitoring officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Council:

1. Approves the amendments to the Council's Constitution set out in Appendix A of the report with the addition of the following paragraph at the end of section 3.05(ii):

"If the Leaders of the Groups coming together to form the Opposition do not nominate a Leader of the Opposition, full Council shall determine which of the said Group Leaders will be the Leader of the Opposition";

2. Recognises the Labour Group and the Independent Group as the Opposition in accordance with Article 3.05 of the Constitution as amended in Appendix A of the report;
3. Notes the nomination of Cllr Robert Parker as Leader of the Opposition for the period between 17 September 2021 and the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

25 MEMBERSHIP OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

A report by the Executive Director responsible for Democratic Services had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That Council approve the appointment of Councillor Ashley Baxter to the Lincolnshire Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education.

26 APPOINTMENTS TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

A report by the Executive Councillor responsible for Democratic Services had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Council appoints Heather Lee and Aileen Lucas to the Lincolnshire County Council Independent Remuneration Panel with immediate effect and appoints Tony Lawlor to the Panel with effect from 1 January 2022.

27 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2020 - 21

A report by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer had been circulated.

It was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED

That the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2020-21 be approved.

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

Motion by Councillor R B Parker

It was moved and seconded as follows:

This council notes that

- The 'uplift' to Universal Credit of £20 a week (£86.67 a month) is scheduled to end on 6 October 2021.
- The latest figures show that 5.9 million people in the United Kingdom receive Universal Credit, up from 3 million before the Covid pandemic.
- Nationally, the withdrawal of the 'uplift' will affect six in every ten single parent families and that 40% of people who depend on Universal Credit are in work.
- Here in Lincolnshire, there were 33,414 Universal Credit claimants in February 2020 (before the Covid outbreak) but by July 2021 there were 65,081 claimants; an increase of 95%.

I therefore move that:

This council calls on the Leader of the Council to write to the Prime Minister urging that the £20 a week Universal Credit uplift be maintained in the short term and until such time as the number of people eligible for the benefit is substantially reduced.

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

Motion by Councillor R Cleaver

It was moved and seconded as follows:

For many of our urban and village residents road safety and speeding through villages is the biggest concern. Seventy per cent of people think that 20 mph is plenty for residential areas. This is already in place in many areas up and down the country. 21m already live in a 20mph limit, but not in Lincolnshire. We recognise enforcement is not currently possible, but it does make the message clear to all and is seen by many residents as an important part in the armoury towards better road safety in built-up areas.

I therefore move that:

This Council calls on the Leader of Council to write to the Government calling for the power to make mandatory enforceable 20mph speed limits in residential or congested areas where they are needed.

This Council agrees to assess and appropriately support communities who want to design and put in place a twenty's plenty campaign and adjust the Council's Speed Policy accordingly.

An amendment was proposed and seconded as below:

This Council agrees to refer to the Council's Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee consideration of the Council's Speed Limit Policies in relation to the use of 20mph speed limits and how the Council can assess and appropriately support communities who want to design and put in place a twenty's plenty campaign and propose any changes to the Council's Speed Limit Policies accordingly.

The mover of the motion accepted this amendment and it became the substantive motion. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

RESOLVED

This Council agrees to refer to the Council's Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee consideration of the Council's Speed Limit Policies in relation to the use of 20mph speed limits and how the Council can assess and appropriately support communities who want to design and put in place a twenty's plenty campaign and propose any changes to the Council's Speed Limit Policies accordingly.

The meeting closed at 1.20 pm

Agenda Item 5

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

Statement from: Councillor M J Hill OBE – Leader of the Council

COMMERCIAL TEAM

The Team has established a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for post-mortems and mortuary services to meet the Council's immediate needs whilst providing flexibility in the event that there is a merger of coronial areas with North Lincolnshire and/or North East Lincolnshire Council. Authorities across the country may utilise the DPS to establish contracts with some commercial benefit for the Council for hosting the service.

Work is ongoing on the re-procurement of a Framework Agreement for refuse collection vehicles and is likely to incorporate new or emerging vehicle technologies and associated infrastructure. We are also establishing a Framework Agreement for grounds maintenance services due to be live before the end of 2021.

The team has recently conducted a number of other procurements including: consultancy services, flood defences, the production of a green tourism toolkit, a digital engagement software system, psychometric testing for recruitment & progression, and topographical surveys.

The team continues to work closely with colleagues in Highways on the Highways Select Framework and on the North Hykeham Relief Road procurement.

We have also delivered several procurements for our District Council partners including a kitchen and bathrooms contract for NKDC and a contract for the regeneration of Grinter Close in North Hykeham which included the design, build and erection of affordable dwellings and the redevelopment of Grinter House.

FINANCE

Budget Setting 2022/23

Following on from the Chancellor's Budget and Spending Review 2021, we are assessing the impact of the financial settlement and how this will affect our Medium Term Financial Strategy. The Executive will make its budget proposals for consultation at its meeting on the 5 January 2022, before making final proposals for Council to consider in February.

Revenue and Capital budget monitoring Q1 and financial impact of Covid-19

The second budget monitoring reports for the current financial year 2021/22 are based on the forecast position on 30 September 2021. The reports were presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Management Board at its meeting on 25 November, with the comments of the Board presented to the Executive on 7 December 2021. The reports include the financial impacts of Covid-19 and demonstrate our continued vigilant financial management, with a satisfactory position being forecast on our revenue and capital budgets.

THEDDLETHORPE GDF (GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY)

The County Council, East Lindsey District Council and Theddlethorpe Parish Council have joined the GDF working group, which has now met twice. The working group has received updates on the key activities being undertaken by RWM in accordance with the requirements of Government Policy.

The working group has three tasks:

Engage with the public locally

The working group has received updates on the local engagement activity which currently runs to around 2000 individuals having participated in meetings or one to one briefing sessions. Some of the events had to be cancelled due to outbreaks of Covid infection within the RWM team but these along with some additional events have been rescheduled for the New Year. Work is progressing on developing Q&A information to address and respond to the main lines of enquiry being raised. A stakeholder reference group is being established of other interested groups and bodies who might be expected to become members of a community partnership if that is established and meetings are being arranged for those organisations to be briefed on the process and the work of RWM. Local research will be undertaken through focus groups and one to one interviews to provide qualitative and quantitative data on people's views and opinions. This will take place in the New Year.

Identify a search area

The options for this are to be presented to the January meeting of the Working Group for consideration. Officers have engaged in a workshop session to ensure key considerations are fully considered as part of that process.

Identify initial Community Partnership Membership

If the project proceeds to the next stage the Community Partnership will be established, and it is important that such a partnership is representative of local views so the County Council will input to the development of that group's membership although once it is established as a partnership it will be able to amend its membership accordingly.

It is currently envisaged that the work of the Working group will be completed by the spring of 2022 with the Community Partnership being established. More information about the project can be found by visiting [Working Group Theddlethorpe \(workinginpartnership.org.uk\)](http://Working Group Theddlethorpe (workinginpartnership.org.uk)).

CCN CONFERENCE

Myself, Cllrs Parker and Whittington plus the Chief Executive attended the CCN conference on November 22 2021.

In a very full agenda there were discussions on many of the issues facing local government in county areas including the soaring demand for children's care (led by our CX), changes to adult care funding, levelling up, climate change and devolution.

Michael Gove gave indications that there would be announcements about the devolution white paper before Christmas and stressed his personal preference was for economic growth decisions to be taken by locally elected people with a broad remit.

These issues are common to county councils across the country but I was reassured that Lincolnshire is better placed than many and is already looking at future solutions.

The conference sessions are available to view on:

<https://www.countycouncilsnetwork.org.uk/conference-and-events/ccn-conference/>

AMBULANCE SUMMIT

On December 1st we hosted the third Ambulance Summit with senior Lincolnshire representatives of the emergency services, the Council, the NHS and related voluntary organisations.

Building on the success of the previous summits in organising joint working to prevent hundreds of patients entering the acute health arena we investigated how we could further work collectively to further improve outcomes for residents.

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

Statement from: Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell OBE - Deputy Leader and Executive Councillor for Children's Services, Community Safety and Procurement.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Children's Health

By September 2022, we aim to introduce an improved model of integrated, community-based services for young people with mental health, emotional wellbeing and behavioural needs. There will be greater focus on self-referral, making it easier for families to access the right support at the right time.

In addition, between now and 2024, an extra £2.5million is being invested in improved mental health support for young people with complex needs. The funding was secured from NHS England (Health and Justice) through a joint bid by the council, NHS Lincolnshire CCG and Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

Children's Centres

Families are again participating in face-to-face learning and development opportunities at our 48 children's centres, with an average of 350 early years session being delivered each week. These activities have been positively received by families, and attendance is now back to pre-covid levels.

Supporting our Foster Carers

The fostering team continues to support local carers and has helped them secure their eligibility for the covid booster vaccine. In addition, a hub has been developed, which supports over 90% of foster carer households. The efforts of the 22 carer champions continues to pay dividends in carer recruitment, training and development.

We are now seeing more carers return to fostering, and we continue to encourage local businesses to become a Foster Friendly Employer, like the council, offering staff additional benefits and flexibility to help them care for foster children.

Schools

Lincolnshire schools continue to provide high-quality education, finding creative ways to deliver the curriculum both in class and at home. Students are currently being helped to prepare for next year's adapted examinations, following local success in this year's teacher assessments.

Despite the pandemic, many schools have recently received positive Ofsted inspections. Ofsted also noted the high-quality support from our education team, who continue to work closely with the Recover Lincolnshire programme and the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership.

Lincolnshire Music Service

Despite the pandemic, Lincolnshire Music Service has continued to work with young people across the county. With more families facing financial hardship, the service is finding innovative ways to access additional funding to support those most in need. Additional funding has come from Arts Council England and Music Mark UK, which has helped to launch a local cultural education partnership and develop music education strategies.

Early Help Strategy

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership has underlined its commitment to protecting young people with the launch its early help strategy. I look forward to seeing what we accomplish together as we move forward with this.

ADULT SKILLS & FAMILY LEARNING

The Adult Skills & Family Learning Service continues to deliver very good outcomes for its learners despite the on-going challenges of Covid-19 which interrupt our programme delivery.

The 5th annual Lincolnshire County Council 'Learner of the Year' awards were presented to Lama Amin, Kim Stopper, and Mark Rawlings on 10 November.

Mark was nominated by his tutor for the IT course he undertook during lockdown, using Zoom classes, and also the employability course he completed subsequently that enabled him to start a new job.

Lama was nominated by her tutor for completing the Intermediate Family ESOL course at Tower Road Academy in Boston. Although Lama's English level was lower than most of the others on the course at the time, she participated fully and she never gave up. She also encouraged others to join the class, supporting her classmates and setting up a communication channels to keep everyone involved, even during Covid lockdowns and isolation periods.

We were delighted to be asked to provide Family Learning craft courses to some of the newcomers from Afghanistan who have been residing in hotels in South Kesteven. We offered handicrafts and jewellery making as a way of engaging the mums and encouraging them to participate in activities with their children. The courses have been very well received and have now been transferred to a children's centre in the locality where there are better facilities.

Since the 1st of August we have delivered 337 courses to 1,475 learners. There has been, and continues to be, an increase in the number of qualifications undertaken. 60 qualification courses have been delivered so far this academic year in subjects such as English, maths, bookkeeping, customer service, payroll, food production and food preparation which support Lincolnshire's priority employment sectors and provide the skills and learning to equip our learners for work.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Domestic Abuse

The Domestic Abuse Act came into effect on 1 April 2021. This legislation places a new legal duty on the County Council to provide support to victims of domestic abuse and their children in refuges and other safe accommodation. The main activity in the last three months has been undertaking a full Domestic Abuse needs assessment and developing a Domestic Abuse strategy for Lincolnshire, of which a draft has been published to the partnership, and will be published in January 2022, in line with the statutory duty under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

The needs assessment has identified some key areas for development, but also a number of strengths that the partnership has to build upon. In short, many of the conditions of success for an effective partnership are already in place in Lincolnshire. There is competent, driven leadership, and a learning culture with willingness to pilot new ideas and honestly evaluate. There is also a strong sense of shared purpose, with a commitment to collaborative working.

It is recognised that Lincolnshire has a well-established and high performing DA Outreach and Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) service that supports both adults and children, and refuge spaces in the county are at recommended levels. However, in Lincolnshire we do not currently have any 'move on' accommodation that meets the safe accommodation definition within the DA Act 2021 and therefore this is a key priority going forward. Each district has a sanctuary/target hardening scheme, however the provision offered to victims across the county differs greatly and therefore achieving a consistent countywide approach will be a focus for the partnership.

The needs assessment has been an invaluable exercise and has allowed LCC to understand what work is necessary in order to ensure it meets its new duties under the DA Act 2021. The next steps are to develop a detailed partnership delivery and commissioning plan.

Safer Lincolnshire Partnership

The comprehensive and holistic review of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP), led by the Safer Communities Service, has now been completed. As a result of the review, a number of recommendations were identified, and subsequently agreed by partners, to ensure the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership remains effective and efficient as it moves into its next strategy period. The service is currently drafting an implementation plan to move forward the recommendations and will play a central role in delivery of the plan.

Running in parallel with the above, the Service has also completed a Strategic Assessment. This is a tri-board product, produced on behalf of not only the SLP, but also the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. The document analyses current and emerging issues impacting on crime and disorder and safeguarding matters. This joint approach is believed to be the first of its kind with no national precedent identified. The three partnerships are utilising the document to inform their respective priorities as well agreeing areas of cross over which will benefit from collaboration between the boards.

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

Statement from: Councillor Mrs W Bowkett – Executive Councillor for Adult Care and Public Health

ADULT CARE

Hospitals

Due to the Covid pandemic although the Adult Social care staff continued to work in the acute hospital they were not able to visit service users on wards due to the infection prevention measures that were in place. Adult care has worked closely with colleagues in the acute trust to enable adult care staff to be able to return to the wards where there is no prevalence of Covid to assess service users face to face, which has been of benefit to service users, and ensures people are discharged from hospitals safely and when they ready for discharge.

Adult care in the acute hospitals are leading on the implementation of an integrated discharge hub which will support the further development of a discharge to assess model, which will ensure that service users leaving hospital receive the right care in the right place at the right time. Work is also on-going to design a joined up therapy/reablement service between LCC, LCHS and ULHT. This will enable customers to be discharged and receive therapy at home instead of in hospital beds. The use of this model is also evolving to support customers to remain at home and prevent hospital admissions.

In 20/21 there were 11,077 discharges from acute sites where there was some intervention from the hospital teams. 22% went on to have an assessment or review. In the 6 months since April 4446 patients have been discharged with 20% requiring an assessment or review. Earlier this year the community hospital adult care teams transferred to the acute hospital services. The transfer of care team support discharges from the 34 health funded transitional care beds in care home across the county as well as the community hospitals in Louth, Skegness, Spalding and Gainsborough. In the 6 months from April 21 385 patients have been discharged 555 have required an assessment or review.

Pressure in Homecare

The executive leads across the Lincolnshire health and care system have agreed to deliver an integrated approach to occupational therapy which makes best use of the capacity across Lincolnshire. This work will enable more people to return home directly from hospital with integrated services operating with the objective of maximising independence and reducing reliance on commissioned home care. There has been an increased use of short term beds to support patients being discharged from hospital safely however a Lincolnshire County Council led project has started to work with people using interim care beds to speed up the return home by increasing independence and releasing capacity in the home care sector.

The wider Lincolnshire system continues to be challenged by availability of home care services. These issues are due to increased pressures within the acute hospital system in Lincolnshire and beyond, as well as issues faced by the home care providers. They include reduced capacity as a result of lack of low recruitment for vacancies and well as on-going issues of sickness due to Covid-19. 149 customers are currently in interim care beds awaiting

home care packages. As part of an action plan to manage this, regular meetings are taking place between home care providers and operational social care teams to review existing capacity in order to maximise it. This includes daily updates and on-going contract management by the Commercial Team. This sits alongside regular review of customers already in interim care beds to monitor their changing needs.

Extra Care Housing

The new De Wint Court extra care housing scheme is approaching the end of the construction phase and will provide 70 new homes for older people who require additional support. This is the first scheme to be delivered as part of the LCC capital grant programme and in partnership with City of Lincoln Council and Homes England. This exciting new option will maximise independence and safety for people who will have their own individual apartment with access to communal areas such as dining room and a resident's lounge. Social activities are being arranged by City of Lincoln and any personal care being commissioned by LCC. This is the first of many schemes which are being supported by LCC in collaboration with partners to achieve the objective of delivering better outcomes for people at lower costs.

At the beginning of November Executive approved the future development of a new extra care scheme in Welton. The project, in partnership with LACE Housing and West Lindsey District Council will see 62 one-bedroom apartments being developed for older people. LCC has committed £1.6million to the scheme which will enable the council to nominate people for tenancies and aid the council in reinvesting resources into preventative measures, with the aim of maximising independence, diverting individuals from residential care, and improving wellbeing. This type of accommodation will be vital going forward with the forecast increase of older aged people and vulnerable adults in the county. It will provide quality housing for people who want to remain in their own homes with the option of on-site care as they grow older.

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB)

The LSAB is making good progress against the objectives of its Early intervention and prevention strategy. The prevention subgroup of the LSAB has now been established, Chaired by Linda Mac Donnell, LCC Head of Safeguarding. Terms of reference and membership have been agreed. The group has made good progress on linking actions to work of other groups, identifying leads and seeking assurance. The subgroup is currently working to develop a Prevention Charter which will be presented to LSAB Partnership and Exec for agreement by all agencies. The Team Around the Adult initiative which is part of the prevention strategy has also been shortlisted for a national award.

In-House Day Services

Lincolnshire County Council's in house day services continue to work closely with families to support disabled people across the County. Service uptake continues to increase following the national lock downs and in October 2021, the service was operating at 87% of pre pandemic levels in terms of people supported, whilst still adhering to Covid 19 guidance. The services are supporting people to develop Person Centred Plans in order to maximise their independence.

The National Strategy for Autistic Children, Young People and Adults: 2021 to 2026

The Government has published its autism strategy, which sets out how it plans to support autistic adults and children in England over the next five years. The strategy includes six priorities:

1. Understanding and acceptance of autism within society
2. Autistic children and young people's access to education, and supporting positive transitions into adulthood
3. Supporting more autistic people into employment
4. Tackling health and care inequalities for autistic people
5. Building the right support in the community and supporting people in inpatient care
6. Improving support within the criminal and youth justice systems

Lincolnshire County Council has supported the Lincolnshire All Age Autism Partnership in arranging a number of co-production workshops in order to consider the National strategy and to agree priorities for Lincolnshire. These sessions will help to inform the development of the local strategy.

To Celebrate

We're delighted that the Community Care Nurse Specialist service we commissioned to work within the Adult Social Care Hospital Teams has been awarded the Michael Howard Award for Innovation by Hospice UK. This is the first time this award has been presented. We awarded funding to St Barnabas Hospice in 2019 (£100,000 a year over 2 years proof of concept arrangement) to improve the end of life pathway in and out of hospital. Nurses act as community/acute liaison, to support hospital and community adult care staff to facilitate and promote end of life pathways. Community Care Nurse Specialists from St Barnabas Hospice work alongside the ASC teams in Lincoln County Hospital and Pilgrim Hospital Boston to support in identifying patients in the last year of their life, design advanced care plans, and ensure that residents of Lincolnshire receive care and support in the right place, at the right time. There is no other service in Lincolnshire that provides this holistic person-centred approach. Since the start of the two-year proof of concept, 695 referrals have been received for service users from the age of 25 years upwards. A well-deserved accolade and LCC are continuing to fund this invaluable service on a permanent basis.

It's also worth highlighting our 'Team around the Adult' (TAA), a multi-agency approach to safeguarding, was recently selected as a finalist in the Lang Buisson 'Innovation in Care' category against wide-ranging national competition. TAA aims to achieve change where more traditional engagement/intervention methods have not been successful and is firmly established within the LSAB policy and protocols, with strong links to its Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy. TAA was developed in order to test a more joined-up, person-centred approach to support individuals who are reluctant to engage with services and can often 'fall through the cracks'.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Covid-19 Update

Covid-19 continues to threaten the health of the population in Lincolnshire. Throughout the winter months, it is anticipated that the combined burden of Covid-19 and Flu may place

strain on our NHS. Consequently, I would like to reiterate the importance of eligible individuals getting the flu vaccine and the Covid-19 booster vaccine.

The key messages remain the same:

- Wash your hands regularly
- Social distance wherever possible
- Wear a face covering where recommended
- If you have symptoms, self-isolate and take a PCR test
- If you test positive, self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms

Over the past two months, a framework has been developed by the Council Health Protection Team to assist schools with mitigating and managing Covid outbreaks. This framework specifies the level of response that schools should consider according to the severity of the outbreak.

In order to protect the most clinically vulnerable individuals, Lincolnshire has continued to implement mandatory vaccinations for staff who enter care homes. In addition, one-to-one sessions have been delivered to address vaccine hesitancy among staff; these sessions were well-received. Care staff who are medically exempt from vaccination have been supported through implementation of the medical exemption process via the NHS Covid Pass.

Know Your Numbers

Over the next few months we will be working with local health colleagues to develop a local Know Your Numbers campaign. This campaign is intended to raise awareness of hypertension by encouraging all adults to have their blood pressure checked. Work is currently focused on gaining a deeper understanding of need and to develop the local campaign, which will run from April until September 2022.

Mental Health and Suicide

A proposed set of actions for 2022 have been identified following collaboration between Public Health and the Mental Health, Learning Disabilities and Autism Group. These actions will support mental health promotion and prevent mental illness across Lincolnshire. More information on these actions will soon be available.

The Suicide Prevention Steering Group is also in the process of developing the Suicide Prevention Action Plan for 2022, following the completion of the 2021 action plan. Using recent data on suicide cases will enable the Suicide Prevention Support Group to work at pace around suicide prevention.

Lincolnshire Rural Strategic Partnership with the Centre for Ageing Better

I was delighted to meet colleagues from the Centre for Ageing Better on 1 December to review the first year of our five-year partnership to improve outcomes for those approaching later life. Despite the impact of the pandemic, good progress has been made. I attended the national launch of the Good Homes Enquiry commissioned by Ageing Better. Stemming from this, work is hand to test what a Good Homes Agency could look like in to better align services and provide a one stop shop for information, advice and support. The aim is that what we develop in Lincolnshire becomes the blueprint for similar services nationally. Discussions are

also progressing to support those in later life in the workforce and those currently outside the workforce to fulfil their ambitions, through the Fulfilling Employment Theme.

A new partnership Manager, Navaz Sutton, started in post in October, employed by Ageing Better and hosted in our Public Health Team. Navaz has extensive knowledge of Lincolnshire, and of preventative services, from his previous roles with Active Lincolnshire.

Digital Services

I am pleased to announce that Lincolnshire has been successful in obtaining digital support funding for the next six months. The Local Government Association will fund collaboration between Lincolnshire County Council and Rethink partners as we work towards the aim of achieving digital “Access for All”. This will educate residents on where to find digital solutions and how these solutions can be utilised for care and wellbeing purposes.

Our financial assessments self-service online form is being offered to people with a mental health social care need from 1st December. The trials of this form showed that the forms were popular with LPFT staff and service users by allowing people to fill out when they were comfortable to do so and having supporting text and films to help.

Our [Adult Care Charges Calculator](#) is now available so people can find out if, or an estimate of how much they are likely to pay towards the costs of their care. It takes about 5 minutes to complete, and people do not need to give their name or address or have had a care needs assessment to fill out.

We have started our ‘Technology first’ sessions with social work teams, gathering ideas, caser studies and understanding barriers on use of tech in care situations. The sessions have allowed our staff to trial smart speakers and communications apps as part of care packages to help understand how they can benefit people.

I urge my fellow councillors to continue to promote Connect to Support Lincolnshire to the groups and services they interact with. Connect to Support Lincolnshire is currently accessible via telephone, email and an online live chat service to provide information and advice relating to care and support, care providers, community assets, activities, events and care homes. Lincolnshire is awaiting approval from Apple and Android to launch the Connect to Support mobile app. This app will provide another access route to Connect to Support Lincolnshire, further engaging the local population and widening the reach of the information and aid available.

Afghan Families in Lincolnshire

Councillor colleagues will have seen the huge efforts in recent months to bring people out of Afghanistan. Since the summer, agencies in Lincolnshire have worked together through the Lincolnshire Resettlement Partnership, convened by North Kesteven District Council to ensure that those temporarily housed in the county have had their needs met. Children’s Services colleagues are leading on behalf of LCC, ensuring that the needs of the children and their parents are met. Public Health colleagues are supporting infection prevention measures. Whilst some evacuees remain in the county awaiting offers of suitable accommodation, many have now moved into settled into accommodation across the country.

The efforts of our staff and those of our partners, have been recognised nationally as having been excellent. We applaud everyone in Lincolnshire who has played a part in helping with this national and international relief effort.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

Statement from: Councillor R D Butroid – Executive Councillor for People Management, Legal and Corporate Property

CORPORATE PROPERTY

Smarter Working

As part of our aspiration to be an 'employer of choice' and support the Council's new People Strategy, the Smarter Working Policy was launched on 23 September 2021. This establishes for the first time (initially at the Newland Campus) new working arrangements of shared managed workspace, service hubs and a dedicated work area for senior leaders; in addition to working from home.

This policy provides our employees with choice and flexibility, as part of the commitment for more distributed and compassionate leadership within the Council, with evidence demonstrating that with high trust, comes high performance. This is therefore the first step on developing a new employment culture.

In addition to the Council's first managed workspace at Lancaster House, which opened on 2nd August, a Leadership Hub has now opened for senior leaders. This provides a variety of workspaces including drop-in spaces, desks, informal and formal meeting spaces which will include Teams technology to enable hybrid meetings. A VIP room has also been included where the Council will be able to meet with external guests.

Work is on-going to repurpose space at County Offices in Lincoln for collaborative working and interim Service Hubs whilst Orchard House B is being refurbished.

Special Schools Programme

In addition to Boston Endeavour, a new special school opening in August, a further two new buildings have been successfully completed. These are The Eresby School in Spilsby and Willoughby Academy, Bourne. Both were opened on time and significantly further improve the learning environment for young people.

Lincoln Castle

Following the successful bid for Historic England funding, embankment stabilisation works were completed earlier this year. This has resulted in the castle being removed from Historic England's buildings at risk register, and the restoration works will secure the building for future generations.

Former Linelands Care Home site

Following a successful marketing exercise the Council has received an offer of £660,000 for the former care home site in Nettleham. The capital receipt exceeded expectations.

PFM award

The VINCI contract managed by Corporate Property has won the prize for the Partners in Corporate category at the prestigious annual PFM (Premises and Facilities Management) Awards.

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are an important aspect of the Council's Corporate Plan and People Strategy, to aid attraction and retention. There continues to be healthy take up, including across maintained schools and corporate areas.

The Council continues to support apprenticeships through the levy transfer scheme through which we support 29 apprentices. The apprenticeships that are being supported in our County include:

- Trainee Nursing Associate
- Adult Care Workers
- Senior Healthcare Support Workers
- Leadership and Management (Care Sector)
- Community Activator Coach (Education Sector)
- Community Health and Sport Officer
- Teaching Assistants
- Production Chef (Care Sector)

Currently the total number of apprentices is 294 on roll, with a levy allocation of £2.7m. This is an increase of 59 apprenticeships since this was last reported in September 2021. 68% of training provision is also being delivered by local providers, which is a further 7% increase.

Health and Wellbeing

The Council continues to promote health and wellbeing as an important role in being a good employer. A recent development has been the launch of the Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Programme in which over 50 council employees have been fully trained and accredited by Mental Health England and have been selected for their high level of empathy and sensitivity.

The MHFA's work in service areas across the breadth of LCC and have skills, qualities, and knowledge to support the workforce.

It is pleasing to see that Council's sickness absence remains below its target of 7.5 days per employee per annum, reporting in at 7.1 days as of 30 September 2021.

LEGAL

Recruitment and retention continues to be a challenge, particularly in the area of Child Care law where there is a national shortage of candidates together with a significant locum agency market which makes attracting permanent members of staff difficult. One response to this is for LSL to develop bespoke training contracts in which individuals wishing to qualify as solicitors can undertake their professional training within the Council with a specific focus on a particular subject area where the Council struggles to recruit.

We currently have two trainees undertaking child care training contracts and the process has been very successful. At the end of the training contract in September 2022, we will potentially be able to appoint to two full time vacancies currently covered by agency staff.

To build on this model we are currently recruiting to a third bespoke child care training contract with plans to expand the model to another hard to recruit to area – highways and planning.

In another development relating to Child Care law the court digitisation process has gone live and is underway. Currently all non-urgent cases are issued on the system with this expected to be expanded to further cases in the coming weeks.

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

**Statement from: Councillor L A Cawrey, Executive Councillor for
Fire & Rescue and Culture Services**

FIRE & RESCUE

Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS)

Following initial feedback from HMI about our inspection earlier this year, we have received confirmation from HMI they are satisfied with our plans and the progress that we have made.

We have continued to liaise with HMI representatives ahead of publication of the formal report for LFR that we expect to be released in mid-December.

Response

Our operational response to emergency incidents has returned to the pre-Covid levels of 2019/20. However, trends have changed in line with the blended approach to work - as more people are working from home, more dwelling fires taking place in the daytime. The main reason for the increase in incidents is due to careless or negligent use of household equipment.

To support our Ambulance colleagues, our co-responding activity is still delivering a vital service to the county with 1,379 incidents attended already this year. The service currently has over 160 responders operating from 27 stations.

In line with the potential seasonal threat of flooding, two new trailer mounted flood pumps have been put online at Alford and Holbeach stations. These additional pumps were purchased through LCC funding as Lead Local Flood Authority and will supplement the two existing pumps which are located at Gainsborough and Wragby.

Our control room personnel continue to deliver our call handling, mobilising, management and communications effectively through the continued partnership with the East Coast Consortium. This is improving our resilience, and the local partnership with Lincolnshire Police control room personnel is delivering an improved multi-agency response when the situation dictates.

Fire Protection

With four new Fire Safety Inspectors coming into the team, we have been able to focus on the completion of their training and provide practical experience of auditing non-domestic premises. Aligning to the national competence framework, with the first level of their qualifications achieved, they have been able to deliver against our risk based inspection programme, (RBIP).

We have continued to focus on developing policies and procedures in line with HMICFRS requirements, with a clear plan of how to deliver our RBIP and visit the county's high risk premises in a twelve month period. A robust plan has been developed and implemented that allows us to monitor progress and shows we are on target for this year. Other areas of focus

have been a review of our quality assurance process for protection activities, and the continued administration of our protection files.

There remains a great deal of focus on fire protection at a national level and we have been supporting and contributing to the consultations driven by the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC). The national Building Risk Review exercise (provision of information on all known high rise residential buildings) concludes at the end of December and we are able to confirm that the seventeen buildings we have identified have returned the required details.

Following the launch of the Fire Protection Standard from the Fire Standards Board, the team have completed a gap analysis to identify areas where further development work will need to be carried out. The gap analysis results were positive and whilst it identified a number of areas that will require some work, it was positive to see that the current planning and direction has demonstrated that we are aligning to the national standard set.

Fire Prevention

With the NFCC launching their online home fire safety check tool, LFR have been looking at how this process can support our delivery strategy. The online tool allows members of the public to access and carry out an initial safety check, prior to being referred to us, if the assessment deems it necessary and there is a risk identified. To support the check, generic fire safety information will also be provided, with the option of referring straight to us if there are concerns. Whilst this process will not replace our face to face Safe and Well checks, it will allow us to maximise our contact with our communities and ensure that our physical resources continue to focus on those who most need our support.

Our Resource to Risk strategy has resulted in a number of high risk areas across the county being identified, for example, communities and individuals in Mablethorpe. Working closely with the Integrated Risk team to ensure that risk information is accurate, focused intervention work by the local crews has been carried out in a proactive manner, engaging and carrying out Safe and Well checks. This updated element of our delivery strategy has complemented the partnership working and the receipt of referrals from partner agencies. Our dedicated engagement advocate has been working closely with one of newest partners, AgeUK, and we have seen a rise in the number of referrals that we have received.

With a number of specialist community safety advocates focusing on our most vulnerable individuals in our communities, an area that we have been able to develop is the support for those people that hoard. As hoarding has been identified as a significant fire risk, our hoarding advocate has been working closely with LCC colleagues to promote the Hoarding Protocol, offering guidance and information to colleagues, as well as referral pathways for support.

Developing and embedding the SHERMAN concept, we have been able to contribute to the Lincolnshire Homes for Independence Blueprint for the Housing, Health and Care delivery group. Recognising that our aim is to try and keep people safer in their homes for longer, we have been able to establish the importance of support that the prevention team can offer in not only establishing required standards but also ongoing support for those who might need us.

As stakeholders in the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership we have been supporting the review of current priorities, analysing data and ensuring that the partnership focuses efforts on areas identified risks - current and emerging. Being data- and intelligence-driven is a positive, that allows us to evidence required prevention interventions and support our communities.

People

We continue to have full intake on our initial on-call recruit courses and will be commencing our trial Safe to Ride modular course in January. We have had a very successful wholetime recruitment campaign receiving a total of 662 applications resulting in 8 of our existing on-call being successful, commencing their course in January 2022 and a further 12 new trainees commencing in February 2022.

Integrated Risk Management and Operational Support

The IRM team have been working hard this year to develop our operational performance reporting. The use of In-phase as a portal to monitor tasks and activities in relation to the Service Plan has proven to be very effective. This system continues to develop to enhance our performance reporting and to reflect progress against our latest inspection.

Our Health and Safety team are working hard to implement the new LCC reporting tool, Evosafe, into the organisation. We are also reviewing our IOSH and NEBOSH training for managers to ensure the levels of knowledge increase across LFR.

LFR's business continuity plans are continually reviewed and exercised to identify gaps and mitigation so that the organisation can continue to operate in any event or risk realisation. Lessons identified from the Covid outbreak have been embedded within many of our plans.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

On 1 September 2021, the Emergency Planning and Business Continuity team transferred over from Fire and Rescue to the Resources Directorate and now sit within Public Protection.

The team continues to play a significant role in the multi-agency recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. The team is co-ordinating the involvement of Lincolnshire County Council services and voluntary organisations and ensuring that our internal plans and business continuity arrangements dovetail with those of the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum (LRF). When the formal LRF command structure is stepped-down this month, the team will become the first point of contact for the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, (formally MHCLG) for all Covid related communications.

A multi-agency intelligence winter preparedness group chaired by the team has been established to both gather and share information relating to Covid, driver shortages, fuel, food chain issues, hospital winter pressures and any other foreseeable risks that will be useful as the LRF move into the traditional flood and severe weather season. Early sight of existing pressures will allow for better use of both staff and resources when dealing with these types of incidents.

The Secretary of State has approved an LRF Funding Pilot with a budget of £7.5m nationally. Each LRF has received an allocation based upon a combination of population size and the Index of Multiple Deprivation; in Lincolnshire's case this amounts to £179,187.00. The purpose of this funding is to support the LRF's building core strategic capacity and capability, to take an active role in developing and delivering national priorities as set out in the Integrated Review and to provide evidence to feed into the National Resilience Strategy and review of the Civil Contingencies Act.

The team have picked up this project on behalf of the LRF for the duration of the pilot funding scheme. It is also seen as an opportunity to help shape the future of emergency planning and LRFs nationally through involvement in the Integrated Review and the Civil Contingencies Act. All costs associated with the project are being met by the LRF. As part of this project, the team have submitted five bids for additional central funding. These projects are seen as being important to our LRF but could also be used nationally by others. At present, the bids are with cabinet ministers for final approval and the team are hopeful that at least one of them has been successful. A monthly newsletter detailing project activities has been made available to all partners via Resilience Direct.

During the first week of October, the LRF's annual major exercise took place at both the Fire and Rescue training site at Waddington and the County Emergency Centre (CEC). The scenario involved a collision between two military aircraft, one of which came down in a built-up environment. The annual exercise takes a full year to plan and the team have both chaired the multi-agency planning team and also been actively involved in all aspects of planning and delivery. Participants included the emergency services, military, local authorities, health, local community volunteers, media and Lincoln College. Early feedback suggests that the exercise has been extremely well-received and beneficial to all that took part. A full debrief took place during November and all recommendations will be incorporated into future plans and procedures. Planning will soon commence on the next one which will be part of a national flooding exercise (FloodEx 2022). This will see Lincolnshire work alongside Humberside in the response to an East Coast tidal event.

On a final note, the team have a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with all but one District Council for provision of emergency planning and business continuity advice, training and liaison with community groups. Five years ago, South Holland District Council left the SLA but I am pleased to report that - as part of the strategic alliance that now exists between East Lindsey, Boston Borough and South Holland - they have decided to re-join. This is great news for the team - and the communities in South Holland - and will ensure better continuity across the county.

CULTURE

Visit England Awards

Lincoln Castle and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre have both received Welcome Accolades, recognising the venues as amongst the best visitor attractions in the country. Judges from Visit England scour the country for the best quality attractions, and the highest scoring venues are awarded their prestigious Attraction Accolades. The two Lincolnshire venues are part of a list of just 76 attractions across the country that have been highlighted for the warm and friendly welcome they provide to visitors.

Visit England – Digital Marketing Case Study

Our service has been selected by Visit England as one of six visitor attractions in England to be a case study for a Digital Marketing Toolkit being created to support attractions in the Visit England scheme with their digital output. We have been selected as our digital marketing is a 'stand-out' amongst visitor attractions in the scheme, particularly regarding our social media platform TikTok. The toolkit will be available to visitor attractions later in the year.

TikTok

In May this year, Cultural Services launched their first TikTok channel. This was a new development and aligned strongly with our strategic Covid recovery objectives.

Cultural Services successfully pivoted to digital engagement as a result of the impact of Covid-19. The option to integrate TikTok into this engagement provided a great opportunity for us to meaningfully engage with a younger audience and showcase our sites, collections and characters through inspiring, appealing and accessible content.

A small team of enthusiastic staff members from across a variety of roles within the service have all contributed to the channel's content – some have even become recognisable TikTok stars with many visitors to Lincoln Castle recognising our Visitor Experience Officer, Wayne. @Lincsmuseums now has 30k followers from across the globe. The most successful video to date has been viewed over 700,000 times and featured an ordinary household item with a particularly sinister and extraordinary past.

The platform has both a local and global audience and - most importantly - our content has acted as a motivator to visit our sites.

Agreements on the future of the Usher Gallery and City owned collections finalised.

The agreements detail the new arrangement whereby, as well as continuing to run the Usher Gallery as an art gallery, we are now able to use the space more flexibly, allowing us to host ceremonies, educational workshops and private hire. It is a much-improved solution – bringing more visitors to the site, for more reasons and more often.

As part of the arrangements, we are also pleased to announce a new collections management agreement (CMA) is now in place between Lincolnshire County Council and the City of Lincoln Council. This has secured the future of those museum and gallery artefacts representing the county's history, where legal title sits with the City of Lincoln Council. As a result of the new agreement, the artefacts have been secured to remain in the county, under the management and care of Lincolnshire County Council, as they have been since 1974. The agreement comprises new, modern, fit for purpose arrangements for collections, which provides for updated best practice measures for collections review and rationalisation, including provision for the legal title of designated artefacts, to be permanently transferred to Lincolnshire County Council, where appropriate to do so.

Exhibitions at The Collection

The Natural History Museum's Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition opened at The Collection on 3 July and ran until 26 September, being seen by over 2,500 people. This included Friday late-night opening at the museum during August, with wildlife talks, birds of

prey handling, artisan food and craft activities. Alongside this, we also ran our own Wildlife Photography Competition which had 166 entrants. The winning entries, plus judges' favourites, were exhibited at the North Sea Observatory from 31 August through to 24 September.

Due to the interest shown in the competition, we have since installed this community competition at The Collection courtyard gallery and are looking to expand the number of entries displayed with a larger exhibition at the Usher Gallery soon.

'Our Plastic Ocean', an exhibition by international award-winning photographer, Mandy Barker, featuring items collected from shorelines across the world transformed into powerful and captivating images is now on display at The Collection. We have made links with the sustainability team in the Council to work with them and link this exhibition to the Green Master Plan.

A Season of Festivals and a Festival for all Seasons.

A brand new event celebrating the very best food, drink and beer in the county will be coming to Lincoln Castle during next summer. The event will showcase the wealth of fantastic food, drink and beer producers we have across Greater Lincolnshire. Lincoln Castle will be collaborating with local event producers Major Label, to host this special event.

The celebration of food and drink will be part of a huge summer of events at the Castle throughout June, July and August. There will be something for everyone with live music, food and drink and family fun, incorporating all our bank holidays and key celebrations.

The launch event will be the Great British Outdoor picnic, a chance for people to come together over the Queen's Jubilee bank holiday weekend in June and culminate with the return of the Steampunk Festival over the August bank holiday weekend.

Lincoln Castle Grounds

Since April this year, 400,000 visitors have taken the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful green open space set within the historical grounds. It has been wonderful to see such an uptake in visitors especially throughout the seasons. A popular autumnal activity appears to be rolling down the castle banks and through the fallen leaves.

We are looking forward to providing our visitors with a different take on this much loved space as part of the Lincoln Castle Illuminated event which will run from 11-23 December.

Libraries

Delivery of the Library Services continues to be received positively from customers, whether they are accessing books and information physically or digitally. Feedback received from customers shows they are a real lifeline to many and further illustrates how important this service is to our community.

Events and activities have recommenced at most sites throughout the autumn and, whilst some users have been reluctant to stay for a prolonged period, customers do welcome their return. Especially popular has been the initiative taken by the team to create activity packs

that can be taken away to ensure continuous participation can remain whilst allowing people to choose where the crafts are enjoyed.

Lincoln Central Library has been announced as one of 15 UK cities participating in the National 'StoryTrails' event; a unique storytelling experience where untold stories from the past are brought to life through 3D internet, using augmented and virtual reality to reanimate public spaces. Audiences in Lincoln will be able to time-travel via using new technologies to experience untold local histories where they happened. The project will start in July 2022.

Community Hubs

GLL continue to provide support to our 36 community hubs through dedicated Library Development Officers. Of these, 34 hubs are community group run. They continue to thrive and have proven to be well embedded within the communities they serve.

Discussions are ongoing between LCC and Bishop Grosseteste University over management of the Ermine Community Hub and we aim to be in a position to re-open the library in the coming months

This page is intentionally left blank

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

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

GROWTH

Economic Infrastructure

The South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone near Holbeach continues to progress rapidly. Grid reinforcement works to provide electricity are on target for completion by the end of the year, and this will complete the servicing of the whole of the 15-acre phase 1.

The Council's new, three-storey Hub building, funded by the Government's Getting Building Fund – a Covid-19 economic recovery initiative – is also under construction and due for completion in Spring 2022. This will provide high-quality office, laboratory and collaboration space for small and start-up businesses working in the agri-tech sector and related businesses in the food supply chain and will be the flagship of the development.

In addition, the University of Lincoln's new Food Centre of Excellence opened in September, and its new Institute of Technology opened in November, forming the start of the 'National Centre for Food Manufacturing - South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone Campus'.

In March the marketing launch took place – South Lincolnshire FEZ, at the heart of the UK Food Valley – and this and the work of the appointed Agents has met with rapid success; interest in the long leasehold serviced plots has been very strong and 10 of the 12 plots are now either under offer or subject to an offer.

There is also already strong interest in phase 2, the 27-acre site for which the Council made history in March by jointly purchasing and now jointly owning with South Holland District Council; this is the Council's first joint land purchase. The interest is from both potential investors and occupiers, with the significant scale of the now enlarged development generating this confidence.

In November the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership launched the UK Food Valley initiative to support growth and encourage inward investment to the area and ensure that existing food sector companies and new investors are supported. The South Lincolnshire FEZ was heavily promoted as being central to this.

In East Lindsey, the Skegness Countryside Business Park extension, completed in May, will provide a much-needed opportunity for employers to expand in sectors which will help to diversify the coastal economy. Our appointed agents are promoting this scheme to local developers and small businesses, and the first plot has already been sold, which will lead to the construction of a number of small commercial units for local small businesses.

Nearby in Huttoft, the new Boatshed Beach Café is scheduled to open early in the New Year and will help to raise the quality of our tourism offer.

In South Kesteven, construction started in November to spatially reconfigure the Eventus business centre in Market Deeping, to provide grow-on space and adapt to small businesses' new ways of working. The scheme is due for completion next summer and will provide a test bed for new forms of business accommodation, which could be developed elsewhere.

Across the county, we continue to support our small business tenants, which total around 140, in our five business centres and many industrial and commercial units. The resilience of local businesses continues to be strong, and the occupancy levels across the portfolio is at least as good as pre-Covid-19 levels.

Economic Development

Place and Investment A brand new Team Lincolnshire website launched on 26 October 2021. This new platform had been developed in order to support Team Lincolnshire ambassadors but importantly drive investment into Lincolnshire. A new area includes support to businesses already located in Lincolnshire and the support on offer to those wanting to locate here. There has been a fantastic response since the launch with several new ambassadors joining including Global Berry – an agrifood company who LCC have supported with their investment in Nocton and other sites. The total number of Team Lincolnshire ambassadors now stands at 129. Please share the website widely with your networks: www.teamlincolnshire.com

We are continuing to see a vast number of inward investment enquiries with 61 being received since April 21 - 46 being from foreign investors and 15 UK. They are from a diverse range of sectors with 44% being from the agrifood sector. A second South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone webinar took place on 20 October giving attendees an insight into the progress of the FEZ, the future aspirations and the opportunities the UK Food Valley will bring to the county. Further promotion took place at the Fresh Produce Consortium Futures and Careers event at the Lincolnshire Showground on 4 November. The two FPC events featured the latest technology from the region, UK and internationally as well as inspirational presentations on future opportunities.

Greater Lincolnshire has been at the forefront of tackling technology development for the industry, notably through automation to increase labour efficiency and supply chain efficiency. 1,000 delegates and students were in attendance including a Dutch delegation. SJW Robotics, a Canadian company that has been supported by Lincolnshire County Council have now taken up a virtual tenancy at LCC's Eventus Business Centre in Market Deeping. This is hoped to be a stepping stone onto them gaining a physical presence in the county.

The **Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub** Team continue to be busy providing much needed support to local businesses. In Quarter 2, 381 businesses have been supported, predominantly from payments through the Digital Voucher Scheme, but we also saw the first payments of the Invest for the Future Grant being made for those projects that have been completed. Both schemes were part of the suite of support provided by the County Council to assist the recovery and restart of businesses post Covid.

There has been increased take up of the core business Lincolnshire Growth Hub services, as well as the new schemes around Business Resilience, Empowering SMEs in International Trade and a further phase of the Peer Network scheme, which are all now in delivery. However, business owners continue to face significant challenges around increasing costs, recruitment, supply chain issues as well as the ongoing impact of Covid on sickness and absenteeism within the workplace. All of these aspects impact on business owners and managers having time free to take up advisory support programmes, and this is causing a slight downturn in new enquiry levels and challenges around attendees making last minute cancellations.

That said, there continues to be active Growth Hub Adviser provision across the county as well as a full business events calendar, and there has been further growth in face-to-face client visits and event activity, with Growth Hub presence at the recent Climate Summit and GLLEP conference – both large face to face events with really encouraging levels of attendance. It is true to say there is a trend towards more large-scale business conferences right around the county.

As a result of the support provided in Quarter 1, 215 jobs were safeguarded, particularly as a result of uptake by businesses of the Digital Voucher Scheme and Invest for the Future Grants which have both been highly successful. These schemes have been vital for businesses in surviving and recovering after the effects of Covid-19. Through the support provided by the Growth Hub Advisers, and even against such a difficult economic backdrop, there continues to be growth in new jobs created with 39.75 new jobs evidenced between April and June, which is slightly down on the previous quarter but nevertheless a positive result.

Visitor Economy: The recommendations of the Tourism Commission have now been in delivery for nearly nine months. The re-developed www.visitlincolnshire.com continues to be added to and receives 40,000 visits per month, and our search engine optimisation now means that it is frequently coming top in searches. A social media campaign is supporting its growth.

An area of the site is being developed as www.business.visitlincolnshire.com and this will launch on 30 November. This is slightly later than planned, but as tourism businesses had a very busy summer, we feel that this launch timing fits well with their business cycle. The site features 60 video masterclasses, factsheets, checklists and downloadable templates; everything is aimed at the visitor economy and is as jargon free as possible. A separate social media campaign will promote its use to businesses.

The *Green Tourism Toolkit* is underway and should be ready in the New Year. Businesses have been sent surveys and to encourage take-up, in return they will receive a free personalised summary report detailing their current sustainability performance and guidance to areas for improvement. We are majoring on a number of product development areas: cycling, walking, heritage, natural coast, generation alpha and business tourism. We support Visit Lincoln who are leading on Cycle Lincolnshire and are working with Active Lincolnshire on walking. We are developing a Coastal Bird Trail with the GLNP and the Lincolnshire Bird Club. A Business Tourism Study is nearing completion and we will soon be ready to get to a delivery stage.

Working with Team Lincolnshire, a Visitor Economy Investor Proposition is being developed and this will be ready shortly.

Infrastructure Investment

Payments for **Rural Business Grants**, as featured in the coming edition of County News, continue to be processed and the businesses supported. 112 grants have been contracted by the team, payments of £1.2m have been made with a further 41 projects on target for completion and payment of the remaining £0.25m.

UK Community Renewal Fund awarded £800,979 to two Lincolnshire employment projects. These are now in the early stages of contracting and set up to enable successful delivery by 30 June 2022. UK CRF is part of the HMG's levelling up investment agenda and is being seen as a forerunner for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The Levelling Up Fund application for LCC has been successful in securing £20m of external funding addressing connectivity issues on the A16. The scheme will support our sectors as they continue to grow and recover, including the UK Food Valley as it develops as a world leader. Importantly, this funding focusses on access to jobs and training opportunities as well as supporting access to markets for our businesses.

LEADER – we have recently drawn in additional funding from a national underspend to support more businesses in the county. The team is undertaking Eligibility and Completeness Checks for 8 live applications requesting grant totalling £519k with a view to applications being determined by January 2022. Monitoring and inspections work is also underway for completed activity with 3 live projects remaining from earlier calls.

Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) - Work continues to deliver at pace to maximise the impact of the remaining balance of the £370k funding awarded to the county. This includes the development of leisure/green skills and training activities. Further, the National Coastal Tourism Academy has been commissioned to undertake specific research into the coastal Visitor Economy to develop robust data and evidence to support future aspirations, investment and skills participation along the Lincolnshire coast and to help understand the unique set of needs and opportunities that the coastal economy presents – including its demography, environment and its seasonality.

Other coastal activity continues including the Coastal Communities Alliance and on-going work with the APPG, One Coast and the Coastal Developers Forum to drive the best opportunities for inclusive growth in the Lincolnshire coastal economy, raise productivity and to position the coast to benefit from the government's Levelling up agenda.

COMMUNITIES

Planning Services

Development Management

During the past few months the work of the planning application team has been dominated by a number of energy related projects for the county. These cover the full spectrum of energy from production of fossil fuels to significant renewable energy projects and carbon capture.

In November the Planning and Regulation Committee refused an application to produce up to 28 million barrels of oil from under the Lincolnshire Wolds at Biscarthorpe. The Committee was held in Louth to enable the local community to view and hear the debate. The application and Committee's decision attracted significant national and local media interest. It is expected that the company will appeal the decision to refuse the application and the appeal will be heard later next year.

At the other end of the energy scale the Council has been notified of the intention to bring five significant solar park projects to the county. Due to the size of the projects rather than the planning applications being determined at the local level these are all classed as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) which will be determined by the Secretary of State. The County Council as a host authority will have the opportunity for our voice to be fully heard during the examination process.

These projects are planned to use over 10,000 acres of the county's valuable agricultural land and we will be looking very carefully at them including the carbon balancing arguments of installing vast areas of solar panels on productive arable land in the bread basket of England.

We will consider very carefully how the County Council can make our very best representations on these proposals.

The team are also involved in another NSIP project that has the potential to bring to Boston the largest energy from waste facility in the country with a proposed 1.2 million tonnes of refused derived fuel being transported by boat to the site in Boston. During the summer, the Planning and Regulation Committee resolved to give the Council's support to this project. The application is currently at the examination stage of the process which will continue to April 2022 with a decision from the Secretary of State expected by September 2022.

Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

The first stage in the review of the Plan is the preparation of an Issues and Options Consultation Draft. Work has already commenced on this document together with the evidence base that will underpin it. This is programmed to be published for public consultation next spring. This is the opportunity for issues to come forward from both the minerals and waste industry and local communities to identify the issues that the new Plan should take into account.

This will be followed by the preparation of a Preferred Options Consultation Draft, which will take into account the findings from the earlier stage. This is programmed to be published for public consultation in spring 2023.

Then in spring 2024, the final Draft, known as the Publication Draft, is programmed to be published for public consultation.

The three draft stages of the plan will be subject to the scrutiny of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee and will require the approval of the Executive before they are published for consultation.

Following this final phase of consultation, the approval of the full County Council will be sought to submit the Publication Draft for examination to the Secretary of State, together with any proposed modifications arising from the final consultation. It is anticipated that this will take place in summer 2024.

The examination will be conducted by a Planning Inspector and will include a public hearing. On completion of the examination, the Inspector will issue a report setting out whether the plan is sound and legally compliant and, if not, whether it could be made so by the inclusion of modifications. If a positive recommendation is received from the Inspector, the full County Council can then consider whether to adopt the plan, but it will only be able to do so if it incorporates any modifications recommended by the Inspector. It is anticipated that this will take place in winter 2024/2025.

The new plan will be informed throughout its preparation by a sustainability appraisal undertaken by an independent consultant. This process should demonstrate how the plan has addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives, including opportunities for net gains.

Planning and Archaeology

We continue to provide advice on archaeology to District Councils in Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire. We recover the cost of this service and are developing a standard contract for these commissioned services.

A recent trend has been the increase in the number of NSIP projects for solar farms. We are working across Planning Services to develop a 'team approach' to the response to these proposals and to ensure a consistency of approach.

We also provide advice to government agencies and others responsible for change in our historic environment. One area of work which has taken a lot of time recently is the advice we give to Natural England on Countryside Stewardship. We are funded by the Rural Payments Agency for the advice we give.

Historic Environment Record (HER)

The HER has been a victim of its own success. We have had so much use of our website, Lincolnshire Heritage Explorer, that we have exceeded the permissible level of map use as provided by Bing. We are investigating what can be done to solve this issue.

Local Listing project

The local listing project is continuing apace. We are drawing up criteria for what might make it onto a local heritage list. Local communities are beginning to engage with the project which is great because the Government wants local people to nominate heritage assets for addition to the list. The big test for the project will be encouraging LPAs to adopt the process across the historic county of Lincolnshire.

A website has been created for the project which will be the public front end for the scheme. It will be launched in the coming few weeks and it will be through this website that members of the public will be able to nominate heritage assets for local listing.

Inns on the Edge

The project is progressing producing a gazetteer of over 250 pubs and beer houses in the study area which existed over time. We are now starting to record pubs on the ground and are encouraging pubs to participate in recording social histories. The number of pubs to record is far greater than originally estimated so we are facing quite a challenge.

We shall be producing a briefing note shortly for those councillors situated within the project area. The project will culminate with an exhibition at the North Sea Observatory in June 2022.

In order to engage with people, we are developing an area within the new website Let's Talk Lincolnshire. We are hoping to use this to blog about the progress of the project, the pubs we record and the people we meet. This public access point will go live soon and will coincide with the fieldwork starting and visits being made to historic pubs.

Extensive Urban Survey (EUS)

As part of a national programme being funded by Historic England, we are undertaking a survey of the 30 historic towns of the Greater Lincolnshire. The idea is to understand how each town has developed and how we can read the history in the townscape as it looks today. The towns of Lincolnshire are hugely varied. We hope the evidence we produce will feed into local plans and inward investment opportunities for new economic and social development.

Given the Government's announcement of an Office of Place within the MHCLG and the drive towards more 'beautiful' outcomes from the planning system, the EUS is well-placed to influence local design codes. We are beginning to plan what might come next for the skills the team has developed and how we can deploy them to serve the best interests of colleagues within the local authority as well as the people of Lincolnshire.

Portable Antiquities Scheme

The Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) in the Historic Places Team is funded by the British Museum to identify and record objects collected by members of the public from across Lincolnshire. Some finds are of such significance that the location from which they were discovered requires investigation. This is what happened at Cammeringham where a previously unknown Anglo-Saxon cemetery was investigated following some finds being recovered by metal detectorists. These finds prove what a wealth of archaeological artefacts remains to be discovered across the county. A Heritage Open Day organised at Ingham Village Hall about the project was a huge success.

Heritage and Wellbeing

The pandemic has shone a light on issues of loneliness and social isolation. As we emerge from the lockdowns we are working with partners to seek funding for projects which will encourage people to engage with places in such a way that it enhances their physical and mental wellbeing. This might be through formal 'social prescribing' but is more likely to be through partnership projects. A network of organisations called the **Improve Network** has been established to maximise the potential of linkages across the natural and historic environment as well culture and the arts.

Natural Environment and Countryside

Flood Management

The County Council has long recognised the economic and environmental potential of our coastal areas and have been working closely with our partners over many years to ensure that the best solutions are put in place to manage the risk from coastal flooding, while securing a prosperous future for businesses and communities in these areas.

We have now entered a partnership agreement with the Environment Agency and the University of Lincoln to put these plans on a more robust footing for the future, with a new assessment of the possible impacts of sea level to form a jointly agreed and transparent evidence base that will help those on Lincolnshire's coast plan how they can best adapt to meet the challenges of climate change, and continue to thrive and realise the coast's potential economic contribution to the region and the country.

Members will be kept abreast of this initiative and I expect to begin reporting progress early in the new year.

We have also recently procured two additional trailer-mounted pumps to assist Fire & Rescue with the emergency response to flooding of homes, roads and other infrastructure. Cllr Dyer has attended an event recently where all four pump and vehicle sets were demonstrated by the Service.

We have also bolstered the response to localised flooding with a new protocol being drawn up by the authority which sets out how a multi-agency response to localised flooding affecting a single District area will be undertaken. Previously, flooding would have had to be widespread before being escalated to the level of the Local Resilience Forum. The new protocol provides for a response to be led by Emergency Planning and will ensure a much more co-ordinated response across multiple agencies to localised flooding events than previously undertaken.

The Property Flood Resilience Assistance project has also commenced its 12 month trial with a target to assist up to 35 residential property owners to protect their property from flooding. This innovative project has received national interest, including a parliamentary question being asked about government support for a national roll-out of similar projects.

We are also proposing to undertake a trial to move away from the use of sandbags as an operational response to flooding, utilising instead modern alternatives which are easier to store, easier to deploy to site and be more efficient at resisting flood water.

Sustainability and Natural Environment

In October, the Council held its first Lincolnshire Climate Summit at the Epic Centre. The event was the official launch of the Council's Green Masterplan with the morning session featuring speakers talking on national environmental issues and with a particular focus on the United Nations COP26 Conference in Glasgow. The afternoon sessions were focussed on more local action and had speakers outlining Lincolnshire based projects to reduce carbon emissions including in the agriculture and tourism sectors.

The event also featured an exhibition of 35 stands from local and national businesses and was attended by around 300 people from whom the feedback was very positive. Prior to the in-person event, the Sustainability Team also led six online webinars on various environmental topics aimed at specific groups such as the construction sector and local communities.

As part of the Smarter Working programme and the work to reduce the Council's own carbon emissions, a new Travel Plan is currently being developed for the Council's own operations. This will look at developing the infrastructure to allow greater levels of sustainable travel and is likely to include funding bids for electric vehicle charging points at council operated sites.

With regard to the ongoing commitment to deliver against the Council's Green Master Plan, a Green Lincolnshire bid was made to the UK Community Renewal Fund. Unfortunately, this ultimately proved unsuccessful. However, there were a number of projects within the bid that can be started over the next few months whilst seeking additional funding from other sources. Examples include the Zero Carbon Parishes Project and the Eco-Schools project. The bidding process highlighted the need to encourage a Lincolnshire based capacity to deliver environmental projects from the private sector.

The Council was, however, successful in obtaining £170k from the Forestry Commission for the Local Authorities Treescapes Fund. The Fund is to encourage tree planting in non-woodland settings. Planting sites have been identified on some of the Council's own land and every parish council in the county was contacted for any tree planting opportunities on their land. The funding should enable planting of around 15,000 trees and for their maintenance over the next three years. Around 60 parish councils have proposed sites. In addition, some District Council sites and farmland sites have been proposed. Some of the planting sites will have trees to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee through the Queen's Green Canopy project.

The funding has allowed partnerships to be built up with landowners and public sector partners – which will enable the second phase of the tree planting project to do larger scale planting to progress towards the Tree for Every Resident target.

On 9 November 2021 the Environment Act 2021 was given royal assent. The Act covers a wide range of areas including water resources management and waste management, however, specific to the Sustainability and Natural Environment areas are the requirements for the authority to develop Local Nature Recovery Strategies and the Biodiversity Net Gain process.

The Biodiversity Net Gain system will put an obligation on developments to enhance the biodiversity value of the site or area as part of the development process and a biodiversity

metric has been developed to quantify the value of sites. The net gain system represents an opportunity to improve the habitats within the county whilst also offering a way of supporting development. Officers are seeking to identify a series of suitable large scale biodiversity projects where we can make the process of complying with the net gain regulations straightforward for developers.

Also within the Act is the requirement to develop Local Nature Recovery Strategies. These are a new system of spatial strategies for nature which will plan, map, and help drive more co-ordinated, practical, focussed action and investment in nature's recovery. The strategies are expected to include the wider environmental benefits of nature recovery, including nature-based solutions that counter the effects of climate change, such as natural flood management. The initial pilot areas have shown the potential for these recovery strategies to bring together land use planning and land management and we will be engaging closely with this, and with the implementation of Nature Recovery Networks with our partners over the coming months and years.

Countryside Access

In tandem with the work being undertaken on promoting access to Lincolnshire's outstanding countryside in the Greater Lincolnshire Tourism Action Plan, I am pleased to learn that Natural England have submitted the final reports for the two remaining stretches of the England Coast Path in Lincolnshire from Sutton Bridge to Skegness and from Mablethorpe to the Humber Bridge. Once final approval from the Secretary of State is obtained for these stretches, provisionally outlined for February 2022, officers will then be engaged with establishing the route on the ground funded by Government Grant in Aid and ultimately the ongoing management of the route as a National Trail. This ongoing management commitment will be achieved in partnership with our unitary neighbours at North and North-East Lincolnshire Councils.

Lincolnshire Wolds AONB Partnership

Within our Wolds Partnership team a new Government funded initiative has been launched known as Farming in Protected Landscapes. In managing this grant fund, the partnership will aid farmers and other land managers in the protected landscape to help them diversify their income streams, delivering schemes consistent with the wider AONB Management Plan and lay the groundwork for the Government's forthcoming Environmental Land Management offer. This will help grow businesses, create green jobs, enhance biodiversity and invest in infrastructure to attract more diverse visitors to support local economies.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

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

HIGHWAYS

Major Projects/Advanced Design Block

Grantham Southern Relief Road

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

Phase 2 consists of tunnelling underneath the A1 while keeping the running lanes live to create a new grade separated junction with the A1 Southwest of Grantham. The main works commenced in September 2019 being constructed by Galliford Try. The project is nearing completion with the main bridge completed and the underpass excavated. The existing cattle creep has been filled in with the majority of final surfacing on the slip roads installed. Final works include signage, final surfacing under the bridge, landscaping and defect correction. Planned completion of this phase is December 2021.

Phase 3 is the final phase of the project and is the largest and most complex to deliver. It consists of a five span viaduct carrying the road over the East Coast Mainline railway and the River Witham. Works commenced April 2021 and have focussed on extensive ground works, embankment preparation, ground water management and pre-bridge foundation preparation. Planned completion of this phase is 2023, however there are many risks between now and then they may impact on this planned completion.

North Hykeham Relief Road

When complete, this new road will link the A15 Lincoln Eastern Bypass with the A46 Western Bypass at Pennells Roundabout to create a full ring road around Lincoln. The project also aims to:

- Assist the sustainable economic growth of Lincoln and Lincolnshire
- Maximise accessibility to Lincoln
- Improve journey times and road safety in Lincoln

In December LCC was informed that the project had achieved programme entry approval from the DfT, which also secured £110m towards the project from the DfT. LCC accepted the terms of the funding agreement, and the projects is now being progressed with an aspirational start in 2025. Works are currently focussed on a feasibility stage with the potential contractor and designer. Following this stage, which is planned to be complete by the end of this year a detailed cost forecast and programme will have been developed. These details will be presented to the Executive for a key decision on 5 April 2022 and if approved LCC will enter contract with the Design and Build Contractor. Following that the next milestone will be a planning application submission in 2023.

Spalding Western Relief Road

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

The land transfer agreements have now been formally completed and the contractor is completing the final target cost estimate for mid November 2021. The costs are very likely to increase as a result of material price increases and the previous bridge manufacturer going into administration. Works are planned to start January 2022.

Holdingham Roundabout, Sleaford

This scheme will ease congestion at Holdingham roundabout, increase capacity and improve traffic flow in all directions. The project entails constructing additional lanes at each approach, widening the circulatory on the roundabout and installing traffic lights to control the flow.

The works commenced in February 2021 and are on programme to be completed by the end of 2021. Construction works are largely complete with the focus now on installing the traffic signals and optimising the phasing.

Roman Bank, Skegness

The Skegness Roman Bank Improvement scheme will see the full reconstruction of a 550-metre section of carriageway and footway between the Burgh Road/Castleton Boulevard junction to just past Elmhurst Avenue. The works include new road lining, half a mile of new drainage facilities, refurbishing the pedestrian crossing near the junction of Roman Bank and Sea View Road and rebuilding the footways on both sides of the carriageway.

Work started on site September 2020 and were progressing well, however in February/March 2021 Cadent Gas informed LCC that they would need to divert a gas main that they had previously informed the delivery team didn't need diverting. This caused a significant delay to the project and resulted in the works spanning Summer 2021 period. To avoid the road works affecting the summer tourism period they were postponed and recommenced in September 2021. Due to the need to accommodate Cadent Gas this has extended to programme by months which when combined with vacating the site between May and September has caused the completion date to move to Spring 2022.

Lincolnshire Coastal Highway

Lincolnshire County Council investigated potential improvements to the A158 across the county from the A1 to the North Sea coast, known as the 'Lincolnshire Coastal Highway'. This looked at the options for intervention along the route. In identifying improvements to the Highway, consideration was given to being future-ready, building in capacity to support growth, investigating options across a range of modes and building in resilience and lower longer-term costs for management of infrastructure.

A Horncastle bypass concept paper was completed which identified expected costs and benefits. Due to the DfT scoring mechanism, the benefits are very low in comparison to the cost and therefore would not attract any central government funding. This project is therefore currently not being progressed but is included in the Council's pipeline of projects to consider in the future.

A Skegness Relief Road concept paper has also been completed which indicates a route that attracts a medium 'Benefit to Cost Ratio' score meaning that it may attract third party funding should a funding opportunity be presented.

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

Further projects related to the Lincolnshire Coastal Highway are currently being considered.

Levelling Up Fund Projects (LUF)

LCC submitted a bid to central government under the LUF initiative, this consisted of the following projects:

- A16/A151 Springfield roundabout capacity improvement
- A16 Greencell roundabout (Spalding Power Station) capacity improvement
- A16 Kirton four-way signalised junction – with associated small section of dual carriageway leading into and out of the junction along the A16
- A16 Marsh Lane Roundabout – designated north bound lane
- Boston Active travel schemes

In October 2021 it was announced that the bid had been successful. In advance of the positive outcome detailed feasibility studies for each project were being progressed, which are planned to be completed February/March 2022. Following the completion of the feasibilities the projects will commence detailed design with a view to them all being completed by the end of 2024.

Major Route Network (MRN)

Midlands Connect announced an opportunity to bid for a small amount of revenue funds, if successful these funds can be used to progress a desired scheme to a Strategic Outline Business Case Stage. This is a rolling fund to be used over three financial years, with the intention to build-up a sizable 'pool' of credible business cases that the region can then prioritise for submission to DfT when the next MRN fund and Regional Evidence Base process is called. A date for which is unknown at this stage, but it could possibly be in 2023.

In early October LCC was informed they had been successful with the bid to develop the business case for dualling the A17 between the east and west junctions of Heckington. The Business Case is due to be completed Summer 2022.

Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership (LRSP)

Fatal Figures per year 1 January – 31st October:

Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Fatalities	35	44	43	39	51

2021 Fatal Casualties:

Drivers - 19

Motorcyclist - 9

Passengers - 4

Pedal Cyclists - 2

Pedestrians - 1

Good progress continues with Lincolnshire's DfT Safer Road Fund. Works on the A18 are nearing completion with the 50mph speed limit now in place. Reactive signs are imminent. Resurfacing works are complete on both sections of the A631 and the new 50mph speed limit is being publicly advertised. In addition, surfacing work is now complete along the A1084 and the new 50mph speed limit is also in place. Additional signing is being progressed along the route to give an overall uplift.

BikeSafe held its last course for 2021 on Oct 3rd. All courses have been at capacity with 120 motorcycle riders benefitting from the intervention this year.

RSP staff have completed plans for a proposed average speed camera system on the A631 between Ludford and Market Rasen and the tender process will commence before Christmas.

Lincolnshire's Prince Michael International Road Safety Award Winning 2fast2Soon initiative has now returned and performances have started in sixth forms and colleges. The production has been updated and improved for the 2021/2022 year.

The LRSP Education team have fully returned to providing education in schools. This coincides with a comprehensive review of all educational packages and the roll out of new digital road safety newsletters for parents and pupils.

LRSP are delivering classroom National Speed Awareness courses from Lincoln (Boston from December) as part of a blended approach. Online course demand has been higher than anticipated.

Course attendee numbers:

July – 2,239

August – 2,512

September – 2,253

October – 2063

Highway Maintenance Update

The team are busy preparing for the winter season with our first gritting runs completed. Pressures from the national issues with HGV drivers are being acutely felt within the contract and together with the wider resource issues for both materials and staff are providing a significant risk to service delivery.

Pothole repairs become an ever-increasing challenge over this period and the teams are actively trying to plan ahead to mitigate this as far as possible. A new Pothole Pro repair machine is being brought on to the contract by Balfour Beatty to aid this work and will be working on the Lincolnshire network from the start of December onwards.

The major project "Enigma" focusing on the reactive service continues at pace and is looking to introduce improvements to defect identification, scheduling and work productivity. New scheduling hubs in the North (Sturton by Stow) and South (Pode Hole) will be going live in the next two weeks following a period of recruitment.

Within the Traffic Signals contract, both capital and reactive work programmes continue on schedule based out of the main office in Grantham. Colas have completed a major CCTV upgrade within Lincoln, Grantham and Boston. LCC are now finalising the CCTV access in a software system that combines all the video feeds. Once complete, the project will provide improved visibility of the network and will be remotely monitored by the LCC Traffic Signals Team.

In combination with the LCC Technical Service Partnership, our design partners WSP continue to deliver a busy programme of works, offering top up advice and support on highway design, transport modelling and other specialist advice. WSP continue to offer professional service to a number of clients across the Place directorate.

26 Councillor scheme nominations forms were received as part of the initial request from myself. All schemes have now been evaluated by the LCC Project team and sites visits are underway to determine full extent of the works. Balfour Beatty, Colas and WSP have been engaged and are working with the LCC team to move some of the 26 sites forward. It is envisaged that some of the simpler projects will commence prior to Christmas. Councillors who made nominations are likely to receive updates on the status of their scheme in the next two weeks. The volunteering day commitment is a contract commitment from all partners and will continue for the duration of the contract and forms part of the broader community benefits which can be leveraged from our contracts.

Passenger Transport

Public Transport Services

The Covid pandemic continues to impact on the use of Local Bus Services, with overall passenger numbers just above 70% of pre-covid levels. CallConnect services have been recording closer to 90% recently whilst ENCT concessionary bus pass travel is still low at c.55%.

Bus Recovery Grant (Sept 2021 to Mar 2022) - For their commercial routes, Operators are receiving payments from the DfT. LCC was issued just c.£13,300 pr mth to cover the tendered

services. The Government based all grant calculations on anticipated passenger levels much higher than they currently are, so it is unlikely that BRG will last until the financial year end without further top-up.

The Council submitted its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) at the end of October. No timeline is yet confirmed for assessment. A copy of the LCC bid can be accessed at <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/directory-record/67053/bus-service-improvement-plan>

Following submission of the BSIP, work is now commencing on the next phase which is to establish a statutory Enhanced Partnership with Operators, Districts and the LEP. Subject to receipt of the necessary Government funding, the Partnership will work together to deliver the measures identified within the BSIP. A limited funding allocation will see these measures scaled back appropriately.

A number of operators are reporting significant driver shortages which have resulted in major service disruptions and some handing back of tendered routes. Stagecoach introduced reduced timetables on some Lincoln Services from 4th October and Brylaine are now operating to a reduced Saturday timetable throughout the week on some routes. Operators are hoping that the situation will improve in the New Year, so that services can be reintroduced. Driver shortages are also continuing to have a big impact on availability and cost of Home to School transport provision in many parts of the county.

Tentative discussions have been held with Boston College to explore the opportunity for a Driver/Transport Crew training academy. This will form one of the measures under the BSIP if sufficient funding is received.

Group representatives attended a meeting with ULHT regarding Active Travel and the potential for Real Time displays at the 3 main Lincolnshire hospitals. Again the BSIP could support this if funding becomes available.

Printed Information displays have been updated in Lincoln bus shelters and the Traveline Journey Planner is now available from the Lincsbuss website.

The Poacherline CRP is continuing work on existing projects including promotional video, Poacher PLUS and Routes of Remembrance (formally the Poppy Express).

Changes made to Winter Maintenance arrangements are proving positive with the new Gritters delivered and calibrated and all 47 vehicles defect free prior to the first run of the season.

We have just completed installation of some new shelters in Gainsborough, using s106 developer contributions.

Remedial work is also being progressed for a number of existing shelters around the county.

During the last month our Inspection Team carried out 10 Pupil Risk Assessments, 89 Contract Inspections, 29 PUDO assessments, 6 Operator Audits, 4 safe walking route assessments, specification & delivery of various specialist restraints & equipment, 15 Max Respect classroom sessions and arranged medical awareness training for 18 transport staff.

The team are currently supporting audits of various Covid Grants received in support of Home to School and Local Bus Services during the pandemic.

We are also working with consultants and our colleagues in Children Services on the Home to School Transport Transformation project and the on-going project to expand in-county SEND educational provision.

IMT SERVICES

Demand for the support desk has been very elevated over the last months due to acceleration of the Modern Device Management & Office 365 deployment across nearly 5000 devices. End of service notification from Microsoft required the program to increase batch sizes to the limits of the services resources to deal with project fall-out, even though these were further augmented by additional resource from Serco's partner, Microland.

Unfortunately, One Batch failed leaving staff unable to use their machines, due to a modest change introducing a bug, which overwhelmed the support desk and created a significant backlog which took 3 weeks to recover to the previous levels. During this period Users struggled to get telephone calls through to IMT Service desk and tickets were delayed. This has been brought under control and our Service Partner Serco have worked tirelessly to do so.

The worldwide uplift in IMT activity continues to challenge in the retention and recruitment of senior technical staff across the service. This is affecting both our internal IMT team and our partners.

The following work items have been the significant focus of IMT:

Corporate Support Services Review (CSSR)

The IMT Management working with the Commercial Team continue to spend significant time on the CSSR programme and soft market engagement with potential suppliers of IMT Services has been completed. This work endorsed the proposed service design and will help move that design to the next level of detail and the creation of the budgetary framework. The quality of the engagements were extremely encouraging and demonstrated our service strategy is aligned to the emerging models in a Cloud Computing world.

The re-procurement of the Councils Wide Area network (WAN) has also been progressed working with EMPSN. The recent takeover of KCom Services caused some delays in getting essential information on the as is service but work is progressing.

Modern Device Management (MDM) & Office 365

Over 80% of Council staff are now migrated to Modern Device Management and Office 365 and the batch approach has 3 more planned batches for the remaining staff, ending mid December.

However, it has been necessary to slow the migration of Children's Services due to their heavy reliance on a very high level of availability across that service. Any remaining CS staff will be included in the sweep up mini batches to capture tailenders typical of End User Computing projects involving thousands of devices.

The project architects are now concentrating on the solution to migrating LFR into the same services. Our support contracts with Microsoft are now giving the highest level of engagement and expertise to solve the particular challenges in that piece.

Azure Migration

The majority of our services have now been migrated from Sungard hosting to Microsoft Azure, a public cloud hosting solution that meets .gov.uk security requirements. A key environment within Sungard's Government Services is being taken offline and decommissioned on 31st December and a very tight timeline existed for the planned migrations of hundreds of Servers to take effect.

A significant and late Project Change involved bringing the Business World platform into scope, due to other delays in a planned migration to Hoople Hosting. BWO was migrated during November with a limited number of issues which has reduced the risk from critical back to controlled. In this and other application moves IMT have had to ask for significant resource from busy department teams to enable testing and pilots. It is pleasing to report that solid engagement was given in the majority of cases demonstrating a team ethos to business problems.

The remaining systems are now planned and there is reasonable confidence that all loads will be moved by mid December. Only one important technical system remains and around 12 others for which a fall back plan could be devised.

The Azure program has been a significant one and is the best example of a complex IMT project delivery in LCC's recent history

LINCOLNSHIRE BROADBAND UPDATE

The BDUK/LCC contracts 1 and 2 are now fully completed with over 170K premises upgraded to Superfast Broadband (Superfast is defined as speeds above 24Mb/s for the purposes of these contracts). At the time of writing this report, overall Superfast coverage across the county sits at a little under 95%. With ongoing work as a result of a third contract, we expect to hit 97% in the spring of 2022. Contracts 1 and 2 were completed with a significant underspend which has been reinvested into a third contract which will deliver a further 8K premises at what we term 'ultrafast broadband' speeds (ultrafast is defined as download speeds > 100Mb/s) by the end of 2022. Discussions are ongoing to look to extend this number at a further 2K premises by mid-2023.

Contract 3, signed with Quickline Communications Ltd and under the BDUK umbrella is ongoing and at this point, over 2K premises have been upgraded to Ultrafast broadband. Within this contract, we are also looking to utilise an enhanced fixed wireless technology that is capable of delivering gigabit capable speeds via a wireless link. This technology has now finally been approved by BDUK and we expect to start rolling it out to some areas early in 2022.

We are currently engaged in a collaborative role with BDUK to roll out their Project Gigabit. This project was originally named 'Outside-In' and is the main vessel for the delivery of the Government's pledge to upgrade 85% of UK premises to gigabit capability by 2025. We have signed an agreement, similar to all other Local Bodies, where we will work with BDUK and suppliers to ensure a successful delivery of the project.

The project seeks to focus on areas that are not considered commercially viable to the main providers and will utilise public funding (currently £1.2 Billion) to work with a successful supplier to reach the more rural areas. To that end, BDUK has broken the eligible premises in the UK down to what they terms 'Lots'. They have 2 types of 'Lots', small lots of up to around 8K premises (also known as type A lots) and large lots up to around 100K premises (type B lots). It is hoped that when these lots have been clearly defined, that a tendering process can begin to engage with interested providers. Lincolnshire, North and North East Lincolnshire and the East Riding of Yorkshire is defined as a Type B lot and comprises over 85K eligible premises. This particular lot will not go to tender until 2023 and we suspect that this later position in the queue is driven by the amount of private investment in full fibre networks currently ongoing in the county.

LCC has raised concerns that we have a significant number of very rural areas that are in urgent need of upgrade and to that end, a meeting was held in September with the then Digital Minister Matt Warman, Andrew Field, BDUK lead on Project Gigabit, Cllrs Davies and Davie, our CEO Debbie Barnes and executive directors to discuss this matter. It was emphasised to the minister that LCC, working with local organisations, had identified a number of small lots that we felt could be released much earlier to tender than planned. Data and mapping was subsequently produced to BDUK who has agreed to prioritise these areas. Whilst there are no actual tenders out at present, we are assured that BDUK are working through the detail and we will have a decision before year end.

With regard to private investment in the county; it is pleasing to note that we have no less than 4 separate organisations actively deploying full fibre to the premises (FTTP) in the county, primarily around the larger urban areas and in Boston, Stamford and Spalding, customers are already enjoying gigabit speeds over FTTP. Work is scheduled to continue over the next 2 years and we expect to see over 150K premises upgraded to FTTP by the end of this period. Another pleasing aspect of this work is that these investors are all employing local resource and one investor has set up their UK head office in Spalding and will employ around 30 people at this facility on a permanent basis. A number of these investors are actively engaged with the LCC Broadband team to identify opportunities to expand their networks via the BDUK Gigabit Voucher Scheme.

With regard to the Gigabit Voucher Scheme, we have a number of communities that are at various stages of the voucher scheme and we have over 4K premises in total that we expect to see upgraded to FTTP by the end of 2022. The Broadband team are working with BT and Quickline to identify and initiate viable schemes. To that end, the team are attending parish council meetings to explain the scheme to interested communities.

Openreach are continuing with their commercial deployment of FTTP and in addition, we are informed by them that they will upgrade circa 120K premises to FTTP, all of which are located in 41 different rural telephone exchange areas. Work is scheduled to be completed by 2026. One note of caution is that we expect to see some over-building of FTTP in the larger urban areas as the competition heats up and on that basis, the 120K premises described by them needs to be tempered with the reality that they may not all be unique deployments. Nevertheless, it is still very positive news.

Virgin Media has now merged with O2 and has declared that they will upgrade and potentially expand their existing networks in the county to gigabit capability by 2023. At this point, this is mainly of concern to Lincoln and outlying areas, Grantham and parts of Louth.

Finally, 4G and 5G mobile is progressing in the county as operators look to expand. At the moment, we have some 5G in Lincoln and this is moving into other larger towns, although it must be emphasised that 4G coverage is required to allow 5G to function. We have seen examples recently where 5G masts have been refused planning permission and clearly this will impact on deployment levels. It should be considered that the spread of adequate 4G coverage is of greater priority than 5G at this present time and we do not expect to see 5G in the more rural areas anytime soon.

For the avoidance of doubt, 5G is deemed a safe technology that operates in what is termed the 'non-ionising' part of the electro-magnetic spectrum and sits way back from the dangers posed by the 'ionising' part of the spectrum. Given the requirement for 5G transmitters to be closer together than 4G, it allows these transmitters to operate at a much lower power output, making them even safer.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

Statement from: Councillor D McNally, Executive Councillor for Waste and Trading Standards

WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Waste Services has continued to deliver services despite the challenges of Covid-19 and driver shortages. Both our contractors and district council partners have had staff shortages, but we have all worked well together and supported each other in these difficult times. The most significant impact for us has been our haulage contractors who have not always been able to service the containers at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). This has led to some materials being refused at busy periods at certain sites. In September following the discontinuation of the booking system, HWRCs were particularly busy and the combination of this and the national driver shortage meant containers could not be emptied at sites such as Spalding HWRC. This type of issue is always a possibility with national staff shortages, but we now have more proactive monitoring and reporting set up with our contractors to identify potential problems sooner. We also have a better protocol for communicating such issues with the public via the Comms Team. Thankfully we appear to be over the worst of this current problem, but we are now better placed to deal with future issues.

The overall picture of how much waste we have to dispose of is not significantly different to expected levels. More people working from home might be contributing to a slight increase in how much material is collected at the kerbside compared to predictions. Conversely, we appear to be having less material presented at HWRCs and it will take time to establish how much behavioural change has taken place with residents.

Even though we have had some difficult issues in the last year we have also had some real successes. The partnership project to introduce separate collections of paper and cardboard continues to progress, it has been a real success in Boston and is now being rolled out in North Kesteven. There are plans to continue this in West Lindsey in the new year and then other districts will follow. The separation of this material at kerbside will improve recycling and as contamination is reduced financial savings will be made. One of the keys to this success has been the positive engagement carried out by our Officers who have been on the ground talking to residents about what needs to be put in each bin.

The principles and experience developed with this separate collection of paper and card will be critical in meeting the demands of the proposed Environment Bill. The Bill will require separate food waste collection and our Officers will have to work with residents to create behavioural change. We will also need to adapt our handling and processing to service this new demand. To this end we are currently modelling how this affects our Waste Transfer Stations where we may need to invest to make the required alterations. We will also need to deliver a food waste treatment solution which can service the whole county. These changes will need investment but should create long term financial and environmental savings.

The project to provide a new HWRC at Tattershall has faced some obstacles due to environmental concerns raised by local residents. These concerns stem from the fact that the

site is a closed landfill and has required us to provide a detailed remediation strategy for the Environment Agency which has delayed the project. However, we are now in a position to start site construction at the end of November and the works should be completed in May 2022 which will provide a better facility for the residents of the Horncastle area.

TRADING STANDARDS

Over the summer the Trading Standard's Service has been actively promoting the changes to the law in respect of the labelling of allergens for food that is prepacked for direct sale. These changes are also known as "Natasha's Law", following the death of teenager Natasha Ednan-Laperouse in 2016 from an allergic reaction caused by a prepacked baguette which, at the time, did not require allergen labelling.

The service has used social media and issued press releases to raise awareness of the new requirements and promoting the Food Standards Agency prepacked for direct sale toolkit. In addition, Trading Standards have written directly to a number of businesses providing advice and guidance, as well as delivered a presentation to school cooks to explain how the changes will impact school meals.

Trading Standards have conducted a review of all incidents of non-compliance with Bovine Tuberculosis testing and identified several premises requiring interventions. The service is working in partnership with the Animal and Plant Health Agency and an action plan has been produced, including joint inspections, to those premises causing the greatest concern. This has included work with one premises placed under restrictions for failing to carry out TB testing. Whilst the testing has now been completed, Officers are continuing to work with the business to address other areas of concern before those restrictions are lifted.

Primary Authority is a means for businesses to receive assured and tailored advice on meeting environmental health, trading standards or fire safety regulations through a single point of contact. This ensures start-ups get it right at the outset and enables all businesses to invest with confidence in products, practices, and procedures, knowing that the resources they devote to compliance are well spent.

Over the summer Trading Standards entered into a partnership agreement with Korbond, providing a comprehensive assessment of a large selection of their product inventory. The Service has also provided advice to a national firework wholesaler who took over retail concessions in all Morrisons supermarkets.

The work we undertake with our Primary Authority partnership businesses has been recognised by the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) who exercise the statutory responsibility for the operation of Primary Authority. They have showcased the work we undertake with two of our businesses as case studies to promote the benefit to them as a business and as an example of a Primary Authority partnership with a BAME business.

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 10 DECEMBER 2021

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

NHS LIAISON

Lincolnshire Integrated Care System

As you will be aware the local health system is currently going through a significant period of change. The legislation to introduce Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) from 1 April 2022 is still going through the parliamentary process and is expected to receive Royal Assent in early 2022.

The ICS structure will have two parts. The first part will be an ICS NHS Body with an Integrated Care Board (ICB) that will oversee the day to day running of the NHS locally. The ICS NHS Body will take on the commissioning functions currently held by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG). The second element of the statutory ICS will be an Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). ICBs and upper tier local authorities will establish the ICP and be statutory members. The ICP will bring together health, social care, public health and wider partners to develop a broader strategic health, public health and social care plan for the ICS. I am delighted to say that in Lincolnshire the Health and Wellbeing Board is taking on the mantle of the ICS Partnership, building on an existing and mature forum rather than imposing something new.

Over the past few months NHSEI (NHS England and Improvement) has published the latest set of guidance on ICS development. This is the second tranche of information to be published, with a third and final set to be issued in the coming months. The content of this guidance covers a wider range of aspects which the Council will need to consider, especially the development of the ICP. The expectation is for the ICP to be established by summer 2022.

Conversations have begun through the Health and Wellbeing Board. At our meeting in December the Board considered a paper summarising the key points of the guidance. Work is now ongoing to progress the partnership arrangements for the ICS subject to further guidance being issued.

Finally, I would like to advise colleagues that the recruitment process for the ICS Body Chair and Chief Executive has taken place with a formal announcement expected in December 2021.

Acute Services Review

On 30 September 2021, NHS Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) launched its formal consultation exercise on the future of four local hospital services. The 12-week public consultation, which is due to end on 23 December 2021, is enabling people from across the county to give their views on how these services might be delivered in the future. The services being consulted on are:

- Orthopaedics (elective and non-elective) countywide
- Stroke services countywide

- Urgent and emergency care at Grantham hospital
- Acute medicine at Grantham hospital

Anyone wanting to take part will be invited to complete a questionnaire as well as a range of other opportunities to get involved including public meetings, virtual meetings, marketplace meet ups and website events. I would urge colleagues to engage with this exercise and also encourage local residents to feed their views into the consultation before it closes on 23 December 2021. Full details on all the ways to get involved can be found on the Lincolnshire NHS website – www.lincolnshire.nhs.uk

LGA Sport and Physical Activity: Leadership Essentials

As part of the Sport England and LGA Leadership Essentials programme, the LGA ran a series of workshops in November for members with responsibility for, or a strategic interest in, physical activity. On 5 November 2021, I provided a presentation at the second session on understanding the health and social care landscape and working with partners to improve health and wellbeing.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council's Engagement Activities

Between 1 April 2021 and 30 October 2021 the Engagement team supported 72 engagement activities carried out by services across the council. This includes 4 consultations, 49 public and wider stakeholder engagements and 15 internal engagements, with 31 activities being supported at the time of writing this update.

Our council objective is to engage with our communities and stakeholders, both internal and external, to enable evidence-based, informed decision making with accountability and transparency at all stages of our work. We actively seek ways to involve and collaborate with others, so they are engaged, onboard and part of solutions. Committing to engagement demonstrates that we value and respect our communities and stakeholders and helps us to deliver our services and messages confident that we do all we can to meet their needs. The engagement team are working hard to realise these ambitions and have a number of strategies and projects to help them succeed.

Each directorate now has a designated Senior Engagement Officer to ensure continuity and consistency. They will be working actively with elected portfolio holders and service areas to be involved from the early scoping of projects onwards. They will ensure successful engagement is well planned and embedded fully into projects and work streams, providing engagement expertise at the early stages and throughout project life cycles. This will maximise engagement opportunities and impacts to help projects to be successful.

The Engagement team are developing a forward-looking engagement plan to provide a roadmap of engagement and consultation for the year ahead. This will enable proactive and well-planned approaches and will ensure they can contribute fully to ensuring project success. Conversations with Director Leadership Teams about engagement and a need for more strategic forward planning are in progress.

Let's Talk Lincolnshire

From 6 September 2021, the Council has been utilising the new online engagement platform called Let's Talk Lincolnshire. The platform has 8 engagement tools including traditional online surveys as well as forums, ideas boards and a map, where residents can comment and vote on each other's suggestions, making it much more interactive. These tools are available to teams in service areas to carry out their engagement. The platform allows for better intelligence, data analysis and reporting and contributes to better decisions being made. As well as building the size and scope of our audience for engagement through the new platform, the team are developing lists of stakeholder groups, representatives' networks and linkages to datasets held by others to ensure the right audiences can be effectively reached.

From September 2021 there have been 8 surveys and 3 place maps added across 7 public engagement activities. To date over 3,300 participants have contributed or provided feedback to those web-based engagement activities. We have 346 registered users on the platform.

Not engaging fully or effectively increases reputational risks. If communities and stakeholders feel they don't understand a vision, strategy or change or feel that they haven't been able to contribute to them, then tensions can arise and barriers to change can materialise. This erodes trust due to a lack of transparency and clarity on how decisions are made. Engaging fully contributes to having a compelling vision and a clear supporting story, enhancing reputation and success.

County Views Citizens' Panel

The County Views Citizen's Panel had grown by September to 503 members with 305 people taking part in the most recent survey, the highest number since the first survey in March 2020.

County Views has now moved to our new engagement platform and signing up to join the panel is part of the registration process for the site. In September, the existing panel were invited to sign up to continue taking part. This transition has led, as anticipated, to an initially smaller panel. At the start of November, the panel had 284 members which represents 83% of the people who have registered on Let's Talk. Although not all the previous panel have signed up yet, new members have joined, possibly as a result of ongoing communication campaigns and participating in online engagement. Over time, as engagement on the platform increases, diversifies, and generates greater participation, it is hoped that this will encourage more people to join County Views. We have ambitious targets to increase the size of the panel and are planning and carrying out a range of communication and outreach strategies, to increase the size of the panel and to make it an inclusive, diverse and representative group of people from across Greater Lincolnshire.

In response to the local area statements in the latest survey, the most favourable response was 70% agreeing that "my local area is a great place to live" whilst 65% of people agreed that they feel safe in their local area. Other statements were less positively viewed with 25% agreeing that communities have a strong voice and have opportunities to make a difference in their local area and 23% agreeing that roads and transport infrastructure meet their needs. At a county level 70% feel Lincolnshire is a great place to live although 43% agree the county offers good leisure, tourism, and cultural activities. Less positively, 19% agree that the county

is a great place to start a career and 17% agree that councils in Lincolnshire engage, listen, and respond to people.

Looking across all the statements in the survey, both at local and county level there is a clear trend towards more neutral and negative responses since earlier this year and more markedly still over time from the first survey in March 2020. The top 3 most important areas for respondents remain access to nature, coast, parks and open spaces, safety, and education provision, with safety rising to second spot for the first time. The top 3 areas needing improvement remain unchanged with road networks and highways management, public transport and job prospects being the highest priorities for the panel.

The summer survey also asked for the public's views on their personal response to climate change. 54% of respondents agreed that they felt positive that their actions can make a difference to tackling climate change. When asked in which ways they felt they could have the most impact, recycling, driving less, reducing plastic consumption, and moving toward renewable energy sources were the most common responses. In terms of their own personal commitments 92% were on board with avoiding / minimising throwing away food. 82% try to minimise the amount of energy used at home whilst just 10% of respondents are already driving an electric or hybrid car.

Funding Portal

Discussions continue regarding the future of the Funding Portal and whether the contract should be renewed, or investment directed in other ways. As part of this process, discussions are now planned externally with Voluntary Centre Services to look at this as an alternative option.

Statistics for the Lincolnshire Funding Portal from April 2021 to October 2021

Since the last report and during the period of August 2021 to end October 2021 numbers and demand has remained high for the Lincolnshire Funding Portal including the number of funding searches.

Month	Total unique registered users logged into the site (incl. out of county)	Increase / Decrease % from the same month in 2020	Number of funding searches	Number of wards* in Lincolnshire with enquiries
April 2021	400 (54)	56.9%	136	121
May 2021	356 (40)	34.3%	125	134
June 2021	350 (51)	29.6%	106	119
July 2021	294 (41)	-6.7%	140	121
August 2021	272 (38)	-10.2%	91	104
September 2021	306 (36)	25.4%	110	117
October 2021	336 (40)	7.3%	136	132

*181 wards in Lincolnshire have registered users

Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (LALC)

Over the last few months, councils have gradually resumed to face to face meetings, with some still meeting remotely for other matters that do not require a constituted meeting. This had been done with caution and in line with Government restrictions which were lifted on 19 July although advisory measures were still in place.

Annual Training Scheme

Subscribing councils have unlimited access to core training for all members and employees. This covers essential training that is common to all councils. Non-core training includes sessions that do not apply to all councils and is provided at additional cost.

	2020-2021	2021-2022 to date
Number of councils subscribing to LALC	154	158
New subscriptions - didn't subscribe in the previous year	19 councils	30 councils

The next Clerks' networking day will be held on 10 December 2021.

Voluntary Centre Services (VCS) (Quarter 2 update)

Voluntary Centre Services and Lincolnshire CVS are the county's two generic infrastructure organisations, providing a range of support to community and voluntary sector organisations including volunteering development, funding advice, capacity building and specific programmes supporting individuals such as the Social Prescribing service and the Greater Lincolnshire MOVE Project.

Supporting Volunteering

Volunteers have been a vital part of the response to the coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak and the aim has been to help both organisations and members of the public wishing to volunteer with safe and practical advice and guidance; to minimise the spread of coronavirus and keep volunteers safe. This support continues to be delivered largely remotely, although some of their own staff and volunteers are beginning to work more from the offices once again.

Their role in recruiting volunteers for the Covid-19 vaccination programme has continued to reduce this quarter with local vaccination sites scaling down their service.

Traditional volunteering opportunities are steadily increasing, and local groups and charities are starting to consider their needs over the next phase of recovery. Figures are still down on what we are used to, but signs are encouraging that volunteering is getting back to normal.

During the quarter, 465 volunteers have been support to access volunteering opportunities

Volunteering – emerging trends and local needs:

- Interest in volunteering appointments varies across Lincolnshire. A significant number of appointments are being generated by referrals from our own Social Prescribing colleagues, or from external organisations such as housing providers and the Job Centre.

- Interest is more varied than before although we still get a high number of people wanting to volunteer in something related to animals and outdoor opportunities – maybe there is a direct link to what people feel safe doing and also roles which may help their own mental health?
- A number of people who enquire about volunteering are experiencing high levels of anxiety and other mental health related issues and aren't always ready to commit.
- A steady flow of new organisations and opportunities are being registered across a broader variety of areas/interests.
- April saw around 50 opportunities for volunteers being advertised across the Lincolnshire Volunteer Centres (other than Covid volunteers); this has now increased to over 350.
- There has been a significant increase in the number of expressions of interest relating to the care home volunteer project due to extensive promotion, although this has slowed since Covid case numbers have risen again.
- There has been a loss of vaccine programme volunteers who have been active since January – this is due to changes in personal circumstances as people have returned to a more “normal” way of life.
- Volunteers seem more confident with getting involved with hands-on and face-to-face volunteering again overall.
- Looking at overall numbers, some people are still quite cautious about getting involved, but in terms of organisations needing volunteers and opportunities available this demonstrates real growth in them managing their needs in line with the pandemic.
- Planning a volunteer recruitment campaign #Givetoyourcommunity for the next quarter.

Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV)

Support teams of staff from BT, RAF Waddington and Lincolnshire Hospital Trust are to carry out group volunteering opportunities. We are working with Lincoln County hospital to develop an ESV policy.

Online training portal

The online training platform continues to be popular with 39 new volunteers accessing training within the quarter. Since April 2021, 259 courses have been completed. The most popular courses were Safeguarding Awareness, Equality & Diversity, Autism Awareness and GDPR.

Volunteer Management Workshops

We have developed a new programme of Volunteer Management workshops which will be delivered over 5 half day sessions virtually on Zoom and will cover the volunteer journey from preparing your group for volunteers, to recruiting and supporting your volunteers to saying goodbye.

Support for Local Groups and Organisations

Services delivery has been adapted to provide ongoing support for local groups as organisations navigate the ongoing challenges and support the recovery of the community and voluntary sector as lockdown measures continue to fluctuate, finding new ways of

operating and delivering services, whilst providing ongoing support to their staff, volunteers, and clients. They anticipate there to be a period of significant change for the sector as the pandemic continues to have a catastrophic effect on those services that have been needed more than ever.

During the second quarter of 2021-22, 338 groups were supported across Lincolnshire with:

- Practical advice and resources
- Online forums and regular networking opportunities
- Funding advice/securing funding
- Funding readiness, online training and support
- Support to develop new roles and recruit volunteers
- Advice and support with DBS checks
- Online training platform for their volunteers
- Online Voluntary sector forums, volunteer co-ordinator forums and marketing
- Digital funding

Funding Readiness Programme

21 community organisations are benefiting from the training, with organisations offered follow-up support to assist them in applying for grants, develop project plans etc. Following our support funding secured by community groups and organisations during the quarter amounts to £92,936

Citizens Advice Lincolnshire (CAL) Quarter 2 update

Citizens Advice Lincolnshire (CAL) provides free, impartial, and confidential advice, information, and support on a wide range of practical and civil legal issues such as debt, benefits, employment and housing to Lincolnshire residents. CAL is a consortium of four independent local charities, Citizens Advice Lindsey, Citizens Advice Lincoln, Citizens Advice South Lincolnshire and Citizens Advice Mid Lincolnshire.

The core service has seen a general increase across advice areas; benefits and tax credits and Universal Credit remain our most significant advice areas. There has been a noticeable increase in these categories as well as debt, employment, housing and relationships and family.

These increases were anticipated as protective measures introduced through the pandemic have come to an end, including furlough and the £20 universal credit increase. Whilst the economy as a whole is performing better than anticipated, households are struggling following the pandemic coupled with rising prices and we do not anticipate this changing any time soon.

Trends

Benefits, Tax Credits and Universal Credit

- Requests for support in relation to Personal Independence Payments remain consistently high
- A 19% (137-169) increase in requests for support with Attendance Allowance Claims, including increases in challenging decisions and appeals

- Supporting more clients on 'passport benefits', this is key to income maximisation and ensuring that residents are claiming as much as they are entitled to

Housing

- Beginning to see an increase in clients requesting support in relation to threatened and actual homelessness, as well as the number of clients seeking support to deal with rent and mortgage arrears

Debt

- Beginning to see a consistent increase in requests for support with debt issues
- Supported 61 clients to make 'Breathing Space' applications
- A 24% (283-351) increase in issues related to fuel debts and with the increase in prices that we are seeing, we anticipate this demand will increase
- Issues related to Council Tax arrears have increased by 28% (271-347)
- Debt Relief Orders make up the highest debt issue category; this is a specialist area that most providers of debt support are unable to complete.

Employment

- Started to see an increase in requests for support on issues related to dismissal and redundancy
- A 60% increase in requests for support on Coronavirus employment issues (22-34 clients); these are generally in relation to furlough ending and concerns related to unsafe workplaces

Universal Credit

- There is a steady increase in requests for support from clients who are 'post initial claim'. This is an area we will be monitoring as the DWP assess claims processed during the Covid period where eligibility requirements were relaxed and is an advice area related to Universal Credit that is not covered by the Help to Claim service.

National Issues which will impact local residents

Financial Pressures

People on the lowest incomes who have been hardest hit by the pandemic are now most at risk as we head into a tough winter. There are warning signs of pressure piling on families through our frontline services. The Household Support fund is designed to help some of those most in need, but we are concerned that many will still struggle

Nationally they are urging the Government to:

- Support the growing number of people in debt by ensuring debt collection is fair and affordable, especially for government debts like council tax arrears
- Increase the level of next year's Warm Home Discount payments to tackle rising energy bills
- Provide funding to extend additional Council Tax Support so that we avoid a cliff edge in April

REGISTRATION AND CORONERS

Registration

The Registration Service continues to remain open to the public and still operates within a Covid safe environment, with protective screens and sanitising stations remaining in place. The service is currently recruiting a number of registrars to ensure it is fully staffed to meet the demands of 2022.

Death registrations have remained the priority during 2021. The Registration Service continues to play a key role in the death management process and continues to use the Coronavirus Act easements with all deaths being registered via telephone. The Coronavirus Act will be in place until March 2022 and the Registration Service will continue the easements contained in the Act relating to telephone death registrations until then.

Winter planning is in place to ensure the Registration Service is prepared and can cope with the increased demand for appointment availability. We expect the winter to be a challenging period for the service.

Birth appointments have been available to the public throughout 2021 and this continues to remain the case. HMRC easements to claim Child Benefit without registering the event have now ceased and the Registration Service is currently requisitioning all outstanding births to ensure the registration is completed.

Marriage, Civil Partnership and Citizenship ceremonies all continue to be undertaken. Bookings for 2022 will again put pressure on the service to meet the level of demand. All ceremony types continue to be undertaken face to face, however the service is mindful of government restrictions on gatherings and social distancing could potentially once again impact the delivery of ceremonies during 2022.

2022 will see a new IT system introduced within the Registration Service, making the service more accessible to the public; with the introduction of online appointment bookings, prepayment for registration services and certificates and online communications directly from the Registration Service. In addition, we will be improving the current process for wedding ceremonies with the introduction of an online ceremony planner for the public along with new wedding packages enabling more choice and flexibility.

Coroner's

The Coroner's Service remains a key part of the death management process and continues to experience an increase in the number of referrals going to inquest. Along with this increase, the complexity and the information required to take a case to inquest remains an added pressure on the service.

The Coroner's Service in Lincoln relocated from Lindum Road to Myle Cross on 7 October, with the Senior Coroner, Coroner's Inquest Officers and support function all working from the same location. The service continues to operate a flexible working model with referral officers continuing to work from home.

The service recently opened its first dedicated court room in Lincoln to hold jury inquests, removing the historic requirement of privately hiring venues to hold inquests. The first of these took place at Myle Cross during October and a timetable planned to hold future jury inquests is in place. 2022 will see the completion of a second court room, jury facilities and dedicated waiting and office space.

Lincolnshire Coroner's Service has submitted its merger bid to the Chief Coroner to create a Greater Lincolnshire Coroner's Service with North and North East Lincolnshire. The bid is one of two bids submitted alongside a bid from Hull. The Chief Coroner will review and enter into parliamentary consultation in due course.



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

Report to:	County Council
Date:	10 December 2021
Subject:	Appointment of Members to the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee

Summary:

The Council is invited to appoint five county councillors as voting members on the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee. These appointments are not subject to political balance and the appointees cannot be councillors elected by the residents of Bourne.

Recommendation:

That the Council appoints five voting members to serve on the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee.

1. Background

History of Bourne Town Hall

In 1821 Bourne Town Hall, which is now a grade II listed building, was granted by way of deed of gift by the Marquis of Exeter to be held on trust for the benefit of the people of Bourne. The deed refers to the provision of a town hall and market for Bourne, for the benefit of the public, which would contribute towards the town's general prosperity and welfare. In providing such a facility, the gift was aimed at accommodating and enhancing various public functions, including the judicial, military, civic and commercial functions of the town.

In 1974 following local government reorganisation Lincolnshire County Council acquired Bourne Town Hall as a trust, and the Council became the sole corporate trustee. Any decisions on Bourne Town Hall were made by the Council meeting.

In February 2015, specialist legal advice was reported to the Council, which made a number of suggestions including the establishment of a committee as the appropriate mechanism for the Council to carry out its duties and responsibilities as corporate trustee. A committee was duly established with five voting members, who on the legal advice received needed to be individuals who had no personal interest in or loyalties to any other body with whom the interests of the Trust would conflict. Thus, the committee did not include members who were elected by the town of Bourne. The terms of reference of the Committee are set out in the Council's Constitution and are attached as Appendix A to this report.

In May 2016, following consideration of a report on the future options, the Council approved a preferred option, whereby the ownership of Bourne Town Hall would be transferred to a new or existing charity to be held on charitable trusts consistent with the spirit of the original deed of gift. This would enable the Town Hall to be used for the benefit of the people of Bourne, as intended by the Marquis of Exeter.

In 2017, Bourne Town Hall Trust was constituted as a charity with the objects of restoring the Town Hall and converting it to public use, and thereafter administering the building. The Trust is composed of volunteers. The Trust aims to repair and restore as much of the original Georgian interior as possible; and to create an arts and entertainment centre for the whole community. To achieve these intentions the Trust sought and received funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, and the Architectural Heritage Fund for the early viability and options appraisal for the project.

The Council has let the building for short term duration to the Bourne Town Hall Trust to enable the Trust to promote the venue while fundraising. There is also a contract in place for the Council to transfer the building to the Bourne Town Hall Trust conditional on the Trust obtaining planning for the desired works and sufficient funding for such works. At present the Council remains bound by the original trust and obliged to fulfil its responsibilities as trustee which it does through the Committee.

Current Position of Bourne Town Hall Trust

Progress with the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Architectural Heritage Fund to undertake the repair and restoration work has been affected by the pandemic. However, local volunteers running the project are preparing to step up their efforts now that restrictions on the use of the building have been lifted. A programme of events has been taking place at Bourne Town Hall during the autumn of 2021.

Membership of Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee

The Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee is not subject to the political balance provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Any appointed councillors may not be elected by the residents of Bourne. This rules out the councillors representing the two divisions of Bourne North and Morton; and Bourne South and Thurlby.

Of the five councillors who had previously been appointed to the Committee, none are current county councillors.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

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

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

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

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

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

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

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to tackle prejudice, and promote understanding. Compliance with the duties in section 149 may involve treating some persons more favourably than others.

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

There are no implications under the Equality Act 2010 arising from the decision to re-appoint of the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee.

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

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

There are no implications for the JSNA of JHWS arising from the re-appointment of the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee.

Crime and Disorder

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

There are no implications in relation to Crime and Disorder arising from the re-appointment of the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee.

3. Conclusion

The Council is invited to appoint five members to the Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee

4. Legal Comments:

As set out in the Report the Council is considering the report in its capacity as charity trustee responsible for the control and management of the administration of Bourne Town Hall, which is an independent charitable trust, with a charitable purpose that is wholly separate from the activities of the Council.

The legal considerations governing the appointment of members to the Committee are set out in the Report and are based on specialist charity law advice.

The decision is within the remit of the Council.

5. Resource Comments:

Accepting the recommendation in the report, should have no material impact on the budgets of the Council.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Risks and Impact Analysis

n/a

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Article 7.8 of the Lincolnshire County Council Constitution – Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee

8. Background Papers

The following background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

Item	Available at:
Report to Lincolnshire County Council on 20 February 2015: Bourne Town Hall	Agenda for Council on Friday, 20th February, 2015, 10.00 am (moderngov.co.uk)
Report to Lincolnshire County Council on 20 May 2016: The Future Use of Bourne Town Hall	Agenda for Council on Friday, 20th May, 2016, 10.30 am (moderngov.co.uk)

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

Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee – Terms of Reference

(As set out in Article 7.8 of the County Council's Constitution)

There will be a Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee. The Committee will comprise of:-

- a) a minimum of five Councillors not being Councillors elected by the residents of Bourne town ("the Voting Members") as appointed by the Council. The five Councillors appointed by the Council are not required to reflect the political balance of the Council as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989; and
- b) such members of staff and supporting officers as selected and considered reasonable and appropriate by the Council from time to time, having regard to all relevant circumstances ("the Supporting Members").

The Supporting Members shall not have voting rights and as such, shall not be able to vote on any decision of the Committee.

Functions

The Bourne Town Hall Trust Management Committee shall have the authority to undertake the following activities ("Delegated Activities") should they be required on behalf of the Council as trustee of the Charity:

- a) Monitor the progress of the steering group established to explore options for the future use of the Hall.
- b) Determine the ultimate viability of any proposals presented by the steering group or any other body in relation to the future use of the Hall and any potential transfer of ownership of the building.
- c) Oversee the transfer of the Hall to another organisation or entity.
- d) Determine whether or not the options for the transfer of the Hall to another charity or charitable trust are viable.
- e) After all options for the transfer of the Hall to another charity or charitable trust have been reasonably considered and exhausted, to determine whether or not selling the Hall is the only viable option remaining.
- f) Oversee the sale of the Hall and make any necessary arrangements for the sale proceeds to be used for the benefit of the residents of Bourne, including corresponding with the Charity Commission.
- g) Continue to take specialist legal advice as may reasonably be required.

- h) The Committee may refer to the Council any matter falling within the Delegated Activities for recommendation or decision as it sees fit.

Quorum

The Quorum of the Committee shall be three Voting Members in person or by proxy.

Frequency and Notice of Meetings

The Committee shall hold such meetings as required from time to time. Notice of such meetings must be given at least 14 days in advance and must specify the date, time and place of the meeting. Notice may be given electronically and the Voting Members may agree to accept a lesser period of notice by way of simple majority.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman

A Chairman and Vice Chairman") shall be selected by the Committee at the beginning of the first meeting of the Committee by way of simple majority.

Voting

Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote and decisions will be made by a simple majority. The Chairman (or in the Chairman's absence the Vice Chairman) shall have a casting vote.

This page is intentionally left blank



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

Report to:	County Council
Date:	10 December 2021
Subject:	The revocation of Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875 with respect to land at Anderby Creek, land at Wolla Bank, land at Marsh Yard, land at Moggs Eye, land at Huttoft Car Terrace and land at Chapel Six Marsh in the County of Lincolnshire and dated 24 September 2013

Summary:

Following the introduction of new car parking management regimes at the six listed sites there is a need to revoke the previous regime of byelaws

Recommendation(s):

That Council

1. approve the making of and the affixing of the Council's seal to the byelaw attached at Appendix A, revoking the byelaw made by the Council on 24 April 2013 and confirmed by the Secretary of State on 24 September 2013 and attached at Appendix B;
2. delegates to the Executive Director – Place authority to take all further steps necessary to make the said byelaw effective

1. Background

To aid in the management of 6 coastal access car parks where concerns had been raised from members of the public and Members about various activities particularly at night time, the County Council introduced a set of Byelaws to enable enforcement to be undertaken against such activities and predominantly prohibit overnight camping on the site.

The Byelaws were confirmed by the Secretary of State on 24 September 2013 and are attached at Appendix B.

Over the 8 years since their introduction, managing the enforcement of the Byelaws has proved problematic in terms of both resourcing and that it could only be achieved by prosecution of offenders. Such prosecutions have not been fully successful in their aims, and the issues associated with overnight camping at the car parks have persisted.

Following a review of options the Council has now implemented a new regime of management through the provision of an Off-Street Parking Order following approval from the Planning & Regulation Committee of 6 September 2021. This regime allows for parking charges to be levied and for a penalty charge notice to be immediately issued for any contraventions.

The new parking management regime renders the existing byelaws unnecessary as they cover all previous prohibitions under the byelaws. It is now, therefore, appropriate that the Byelaws relating to the former management regime are revoked to avoid the confusion caused by two regulatory and enforcement regimes relating to the same sites

Process

To provide maximum transparency the Council has followed the process set out in the Byelaws (Alternative Procedure) (England) Regulations 2016. The proposed draft revocation Byelaw was published in a local newspaper, and on the Council's website. Additionally site notices were placed at all relevant car parks, and the documents could be inspected in person at the County Offices reception from 19th August 2021 until 16th September 2021.

During this period two relevant representations were received objecting to the proposed revocation. The objections have been assessed as part of this report and are attached at Appendices C & D in redacted form together with the Officer's assessment.

Neither of the two formally received objections are considered to undermine the case for revoking the existing byelaws and it is recommended that the revocation proceeds.

If Members approve the making of the revocation byelaw as per officer recommendation, the byelaw will be submitted to the Secretary of State for confirmation.

At least one month before application for confirmation of the byelaws is made, notice of the intention to apply for confirmation will need to be given in one or more local newspapers circulating in the area to which the byelaws are to apply and a copy of the byelaws will need to be deposited at County Offices and be open to public inspection without payment at all reasonable hours.

The byelaw will come into effect on the date specified by the Secretary of State or if no date is given on the expiry of 30 days from the date of confirmation.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

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

Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.

Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Equality Act duty has been taken into account and the revocation of the byelaws is not considered to give rise to any detrimental impacts on people with a protected characteristic

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

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

The 6 listed sites provide access to the Lincolnshire Coast in the area known as the Coastal Country Park. Access to these facilities remains as previously and it is only the management of how vehicles access and stay at the site that has changed. Maintained access to the sites will ensure continuing contribution to both the physical and mental wellbeing agendas of the JSNA & JHWS

Crime and Disorder

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

The change of regime to one of consistent enforcement through the issuing of penalty charge notices will be more effective and efficient than that which could be achieved through the existing Byelaws. This will have a positive effect on crime and disorder at the listed sites and especially at the Huttoft Car Terrace which has seen an increase in anti-social night-time activity over recent years,

3. Conclusion

No objections have been received regarding the revocation of the byelaws which undermine the case for revocation. Officer recommendation is that the revocation byelaw be made to ensure that there is no ongoing overlap between the two different enforcement regimes.

3. Legal Comments:

The Council has power under section 235 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make the byelaw proposed.

The decision is within the remit of full Council

4. Resource Comments:

Approval of the recommendations does not have any direct resource implications as implementation and management of the process is expected to be accommodated within existing staff resources already budgeted for in the Council's approved revenue budget.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

Yes

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

Yes

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Risks and Impact Analysis

It is not considered that there is a risk in the revocation of the existing byelaws. The new management regime of charges and enforcement through the Off Street Parking Order enables the authority to manage the car park in a more proactive and efficient manner. This new regime is already available and operational.

6. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Proposed Byelaws revoking existing byelaw under seal E014026 dated 24 September 2013
Appendix B	Copy of existing Byelaws under seal E014026 dated 24 September 2013
Appendix C	Objection One (Redacted) to the draft revocation byelaw
Appendix D	Objection Two (Redacted) to the draft revocation byelaw

7. Background Papers

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

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
County Council Report & Minutes 12 April 2013	https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk
Planning & Regulation Committee Reports & minutes 6 September 2021	https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk

This report was written by Chris Miller - Deputy Head of Environment, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or chris.miller@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

REVOCATION BYELAW

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
REVOCATION BYELAW NO.1234

Byelaw made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875 by the Lincolnshire County Council with respect to Pleasure Grounds, Public Walks and Open Spaces

REVOCATION

The byelaws made by the Lincolnshire County Council on 24 April 2013 and confirmed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 24 September 2013 are revoked.

The Common Seal Of
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
was hereunto affixed this
of 2021 in the presence of

)
)
)
)

Authorised Signatory

This page is intentionally left blank

Lincolnshire County Council

**BYELAWS FOR PLEASURE GROUNDS, PUBLIC
WALKS AND OPEN SPACES**

ARRANGEMENT OF BYELAWS

PART 1

GENERAL

1. General interpretation
2. Application

PART 2

PROTECTION OF THE GROUND, ITS WILDLIFE AND THE PUBLIC

3. Camping

PART 3

HORSES, CYCLES AND VEHICLES

4. Interpretation of Part 3
5. Overnight parking

PART 4

MISCELLANEOUS

6. Obstruction
7. Savings
8. Removal of offenders
9. Penalty

SCHEDULE - Grounds to which byelaws apply generally

Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875 by the Lincolnshire County Council with respect to land at Anderby Creek, land at Wolla Bank, land at Marsh Yard, land at Moggs Eye, land at Huttoft Car Terrace and land at Chapel Six Marsh in the County of Lincolnshire

PART 1

GENERAL

General Interpretation

1. In these byelaws:

"the Council" means Lincolnshire County Council

"the ground" means any of the grounds listed in the Schedule

"designated area" means an area in the ground which is set aside for a specified purpose, that area and its purpose to be indicated by notices placed in a conspicuous position;

"invalid carriage" means a vehicle, whether mechanically propelled or not,

- (a) the unladen weight of which does not exceed 150 kilograms,
- (b) the width of which does not exceed 0.85 metres, and
- (c) which has been constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of a person suffering from a disability, and used solely by such a person.

Application

2. These byelaws apply to all of the grounds listed in the Schedule unless otherwise stated.

PART 2

PROTECTION OF THE GROUND, ITS WILDLIFE AND THE PUBLIC

Camping

3. No person shall without the consent of the Council erect a tent or use a vehicle, caravan or any other structure for the purpose of camping except in a designated area for camping.

PART 3

HORSES, CYCLES AND VEHICLES

Interpretation of Part 3

4. In this Part:

"motor cycle" means a mechanically-propelled vehicle, not being an invalid carriage, with less than four wheels and the weight of which does not exceed 410 kilograms;

"motor vehicle" means any mechanically-propelled vehicle other than a motor cycle or an invalid carriage;

Overnight parking

5. No person shall without the consent of the Council leave or cause or permit to be left any motor vehicle in the ground between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m..

PART 4

MISCELLANEOUS

Obstruction

6. No person shall obstruct:

- (a) any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duties;
- (b) any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council; or
- (c) any other person in the proper use of the ground.

Savings

7. (1) It shall not be an offence under these byelaws for an officer of the Council or any person acting in accordance with a contract with the Council to do anything necessary to the proper execution of his duty.
- (2) Nothing in or done under these byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way through the ground, or the rights of any person acting lawfully by virtue of some estate, right or interest in, over or affecting the ground or any part of the ground.

Removal of offenders

8. Any person offending against any of these byelaws may be removed from the ground by an officer of the Council or a constable.

Penalty

9. Any person offending against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

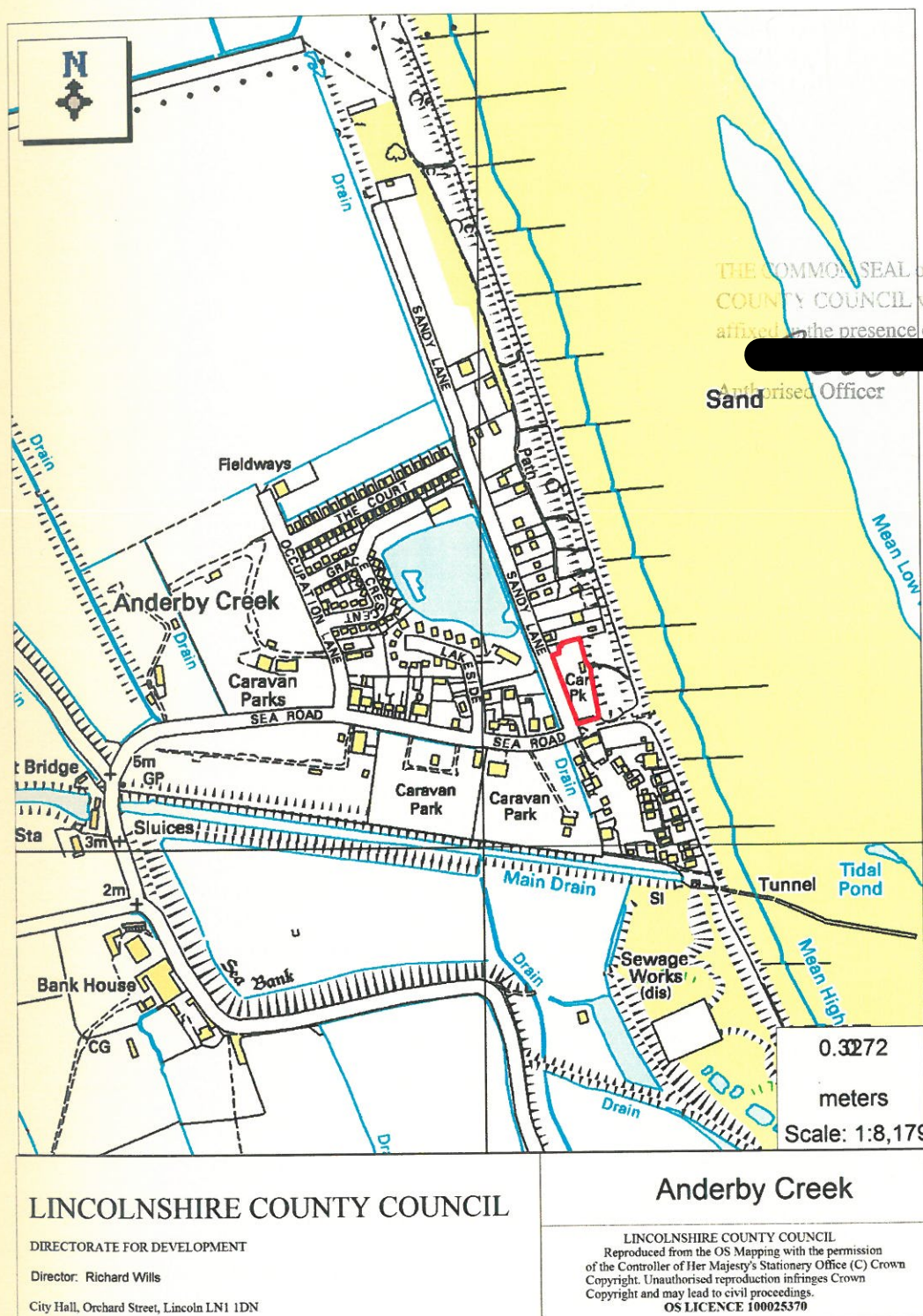
SCHEDULE

GROUND TO WHICH BYELAWS APPLY

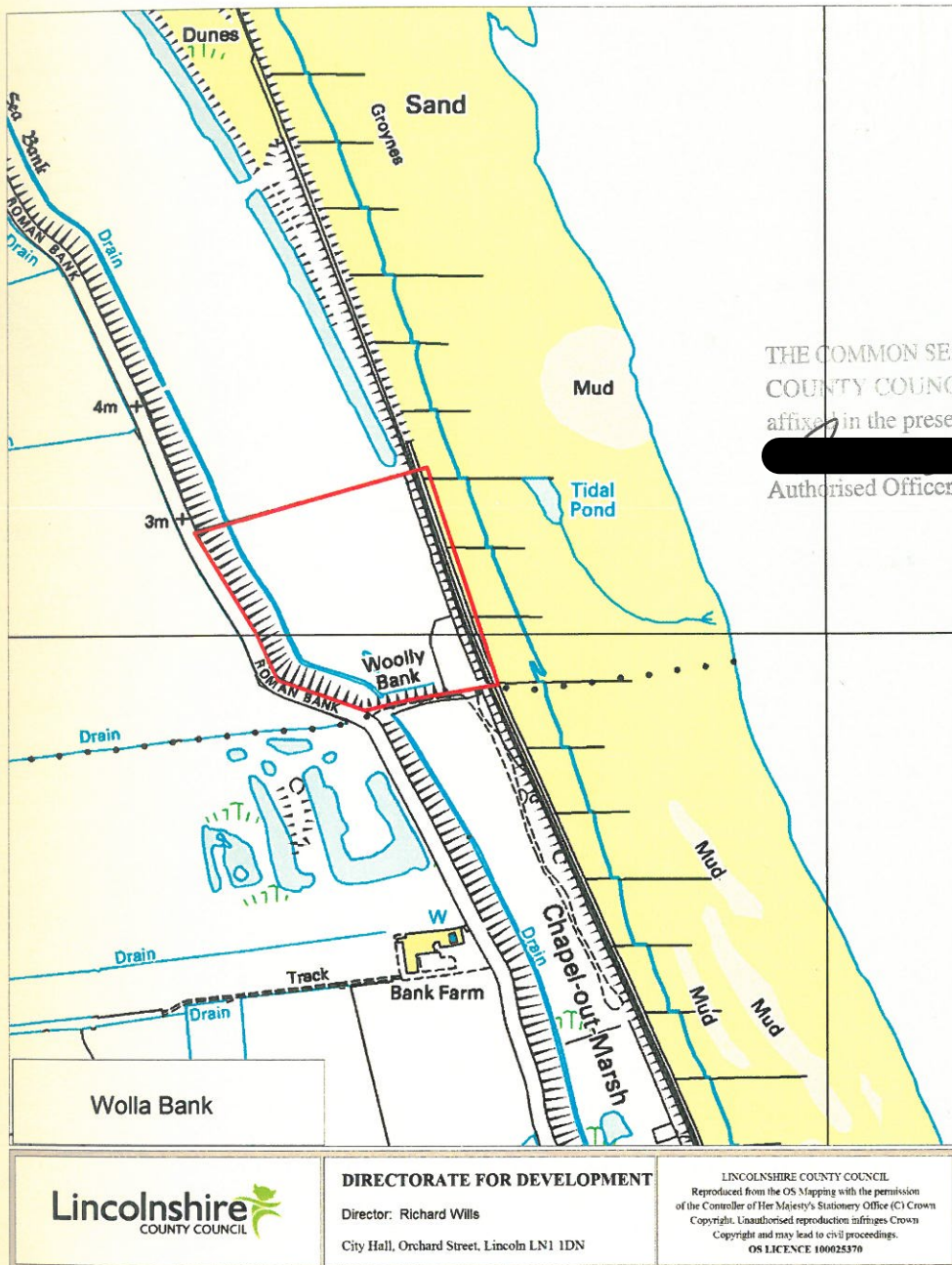
The grounds referred to in byelaw 2 are:

- (1) Land known as Anderby Creek, Skegness, Lincolnshire shown coloured red on plan 1 attached hereto
- (2) Land at Wolla Bank, Anderby Road, Chapel St Leonards, Lincolnshire coloured red on plan 2 attached hereto
- (3) Land at Marsh Yard, Roman Bank, Sandilands, Lincolnshire shown coloured red on plan 3 attached hereto
- (4) Land at Moggs Eye, Roman Bank, Sandilands, Lincolnshire shown coloured red on plan 4 attached hereto
- (5) Land at Huttoft Car Terrace, Roman Bank, Sandilands, Lincolnshire shown coloured red on plan 5 attached hereto
- (6) Land at Chapel Six Marsh, Anderby Road, Chapel St Leonards, Lincolnshire shown coloured red on plan 6 attached hereto

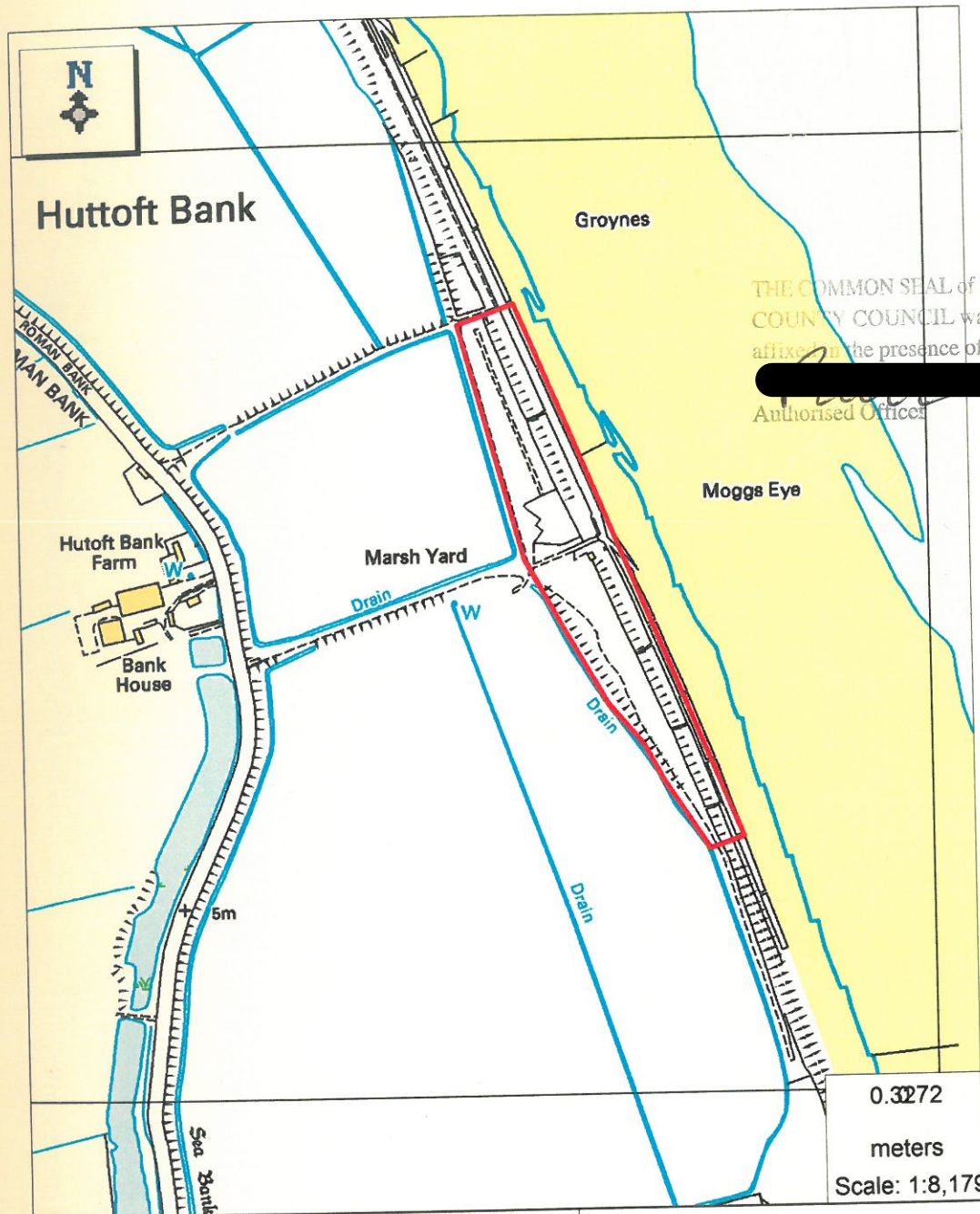
Page 92



Plan 2



Plan 3



No. In Seal
E014026
Book

THE COMMON SEAL of LINCOLNSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:
[Redacted Signature]
Authorised Officer

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DIRECTORATE FOR DEVELOPMENT

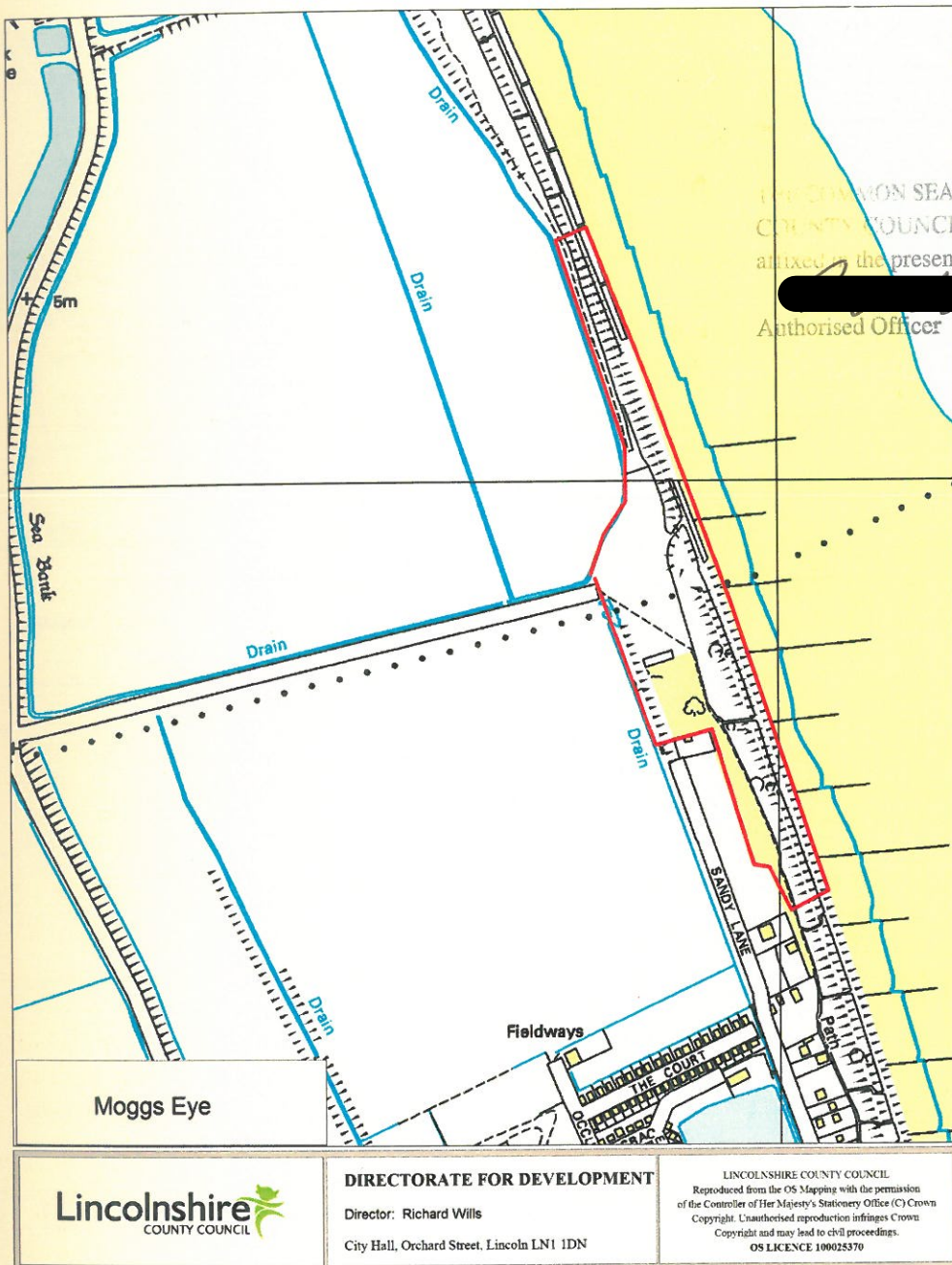
Director: Richard Wills

City Hall, Orchard Street, Lincoln LN1 1DN

Marsh Yard

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.
Reproduced from the OS Mapping with the permission
of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (C) Crown
Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown
Copyright and may lead to civil proceedings.
OS LICENCE 100025370

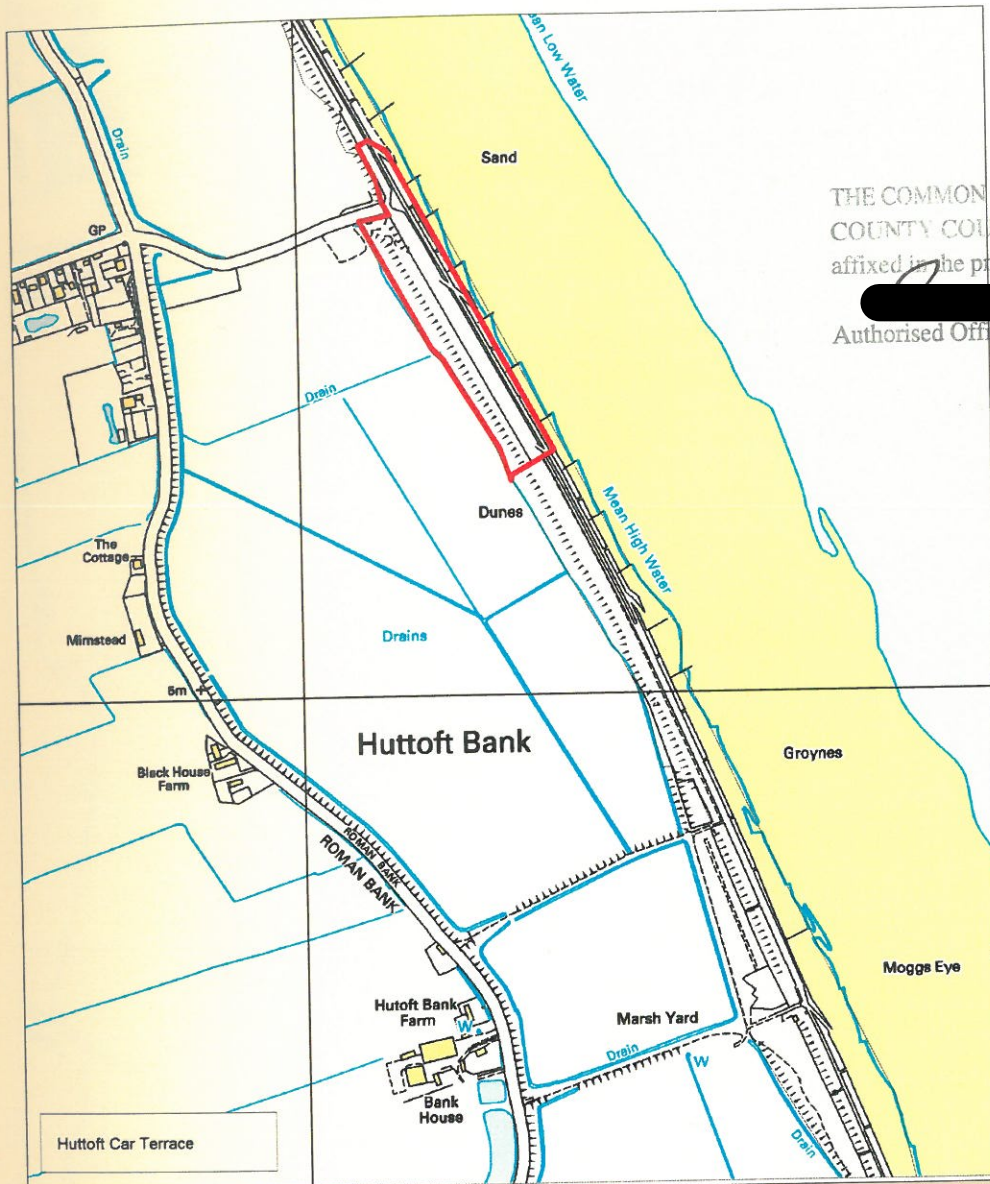
Plan 4



No. In Seal
E 014026
Book

THE COMMON SEAL of LINCOLNSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:
Authorised Officer

Plan 5



No. in Seal
E014026
Book

THE COMMON SEAL of LINCOLNSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:

Authorised Officer

Lincolnshire
COUNTY COUNCIL

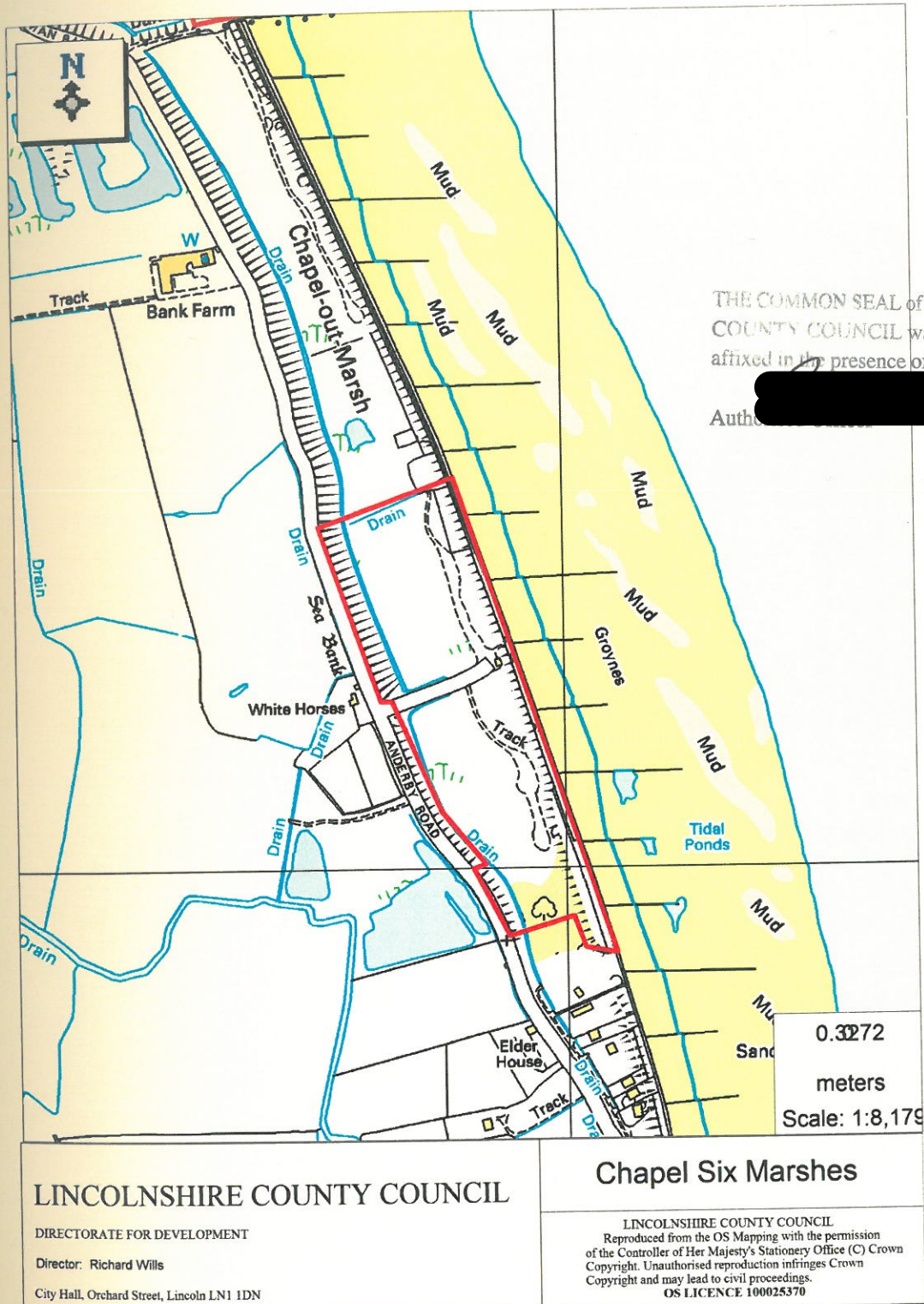
DIRECTORATE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Director: Richard Wills

City Hall, Orchard Street, Lincoln LN1 1DN

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Reproduced from the OS Mapping with the permission
of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (C) Crown
Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown
Copyright and may lead to civil proceedings.
OS LICENCE 100025370

Plan 6



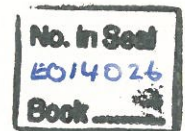
No. In Seal
2014026
Book

THE COMMON SEAL of LINCOLNSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL was hereunto
affixed in the presence of:

Author

The Common Seal of)
LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)
was hereunto affixed this 24th)
April day of 2013 in the presence of)

Authorised Signatory



The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation one calendar month after the date of confirmation.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

Paul Rowsell

A senior civil servant in the Department for Communities and Local Government

Date: 24 September 2013

OBJECTION ONE

I refer to the Notice of revocation of byelaw under section 164 of Public Health Act 1875 at various county council coastal car parks relating to following Lincolnshire County Council car parks:

- Huttoft Car Terrace, Sea Lane (East) Huttoft, LN13 9RR
- Marsh Yard Car Park – off Roman Bank, Huttoft, LN13 9RT
- Moggs Eye Car Park – off Roman Bank, Anderby, PE24 5XJ
- Anderby Creek Car Park, Sea Road, Anderby Creek, PE24 5XX
- Wolla Bank Car Park, off Anderby Road, Anderby, PE24 5XH, and
- Chapel Six Marsh Car Park, off Anderby Road, Chapel St Leonards, PE24 5XG

I object to the revocation on two grounds:

- 1) The revocation was proposed before the proposal to change the regulations governing the use of the car parks was agreed by the planning and regulation committee on 6th September

LCC RESPONSE – This is incorrect. The new off street parking order was made operative following approval from the Planning and Regulation Committee on 6 September 2021. The revocation of the byelaws is a part of that process and will be heard by Full Council on 10 December 2021.

- 2) The associated Traffic Regulation Order (LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (ANDERBY CREEK, HUTTOFT, MOGGS EYE, SIX MARSHES & WOLLA BANK – COASTAL CAR PARKS)

(PAY BY PHONE) ORDER 2021) was also proposed prior to the agreement of the planning and regulation committee on 6th September

LCC RESPONSE – This is correct however it is the normal procedure of Council business for a proposal to be made and consulted on before approval from the appropriate decision maker(s)

This page is intentionally left blank

Objection Two

I wish to oppose the revoking of the byelaw 164 public health act 1875 regarding car park at Anderby Creek and all other car park affected by this on this part of the coast.

Charges will not help residents at all and hinders access to the coast. LCC need to get another car park. My MP passed my car park request onto you almost 2years ago. Why have you done nothing?

LCC RESPONSE – The objection is not relevant to the revocation of the byelaws and relates to the provision of the new off street parking order. Consideration of further parking provision is not related to the revocation of the Byelaws.

This page is intentionally left blank



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

Report to:	County Council
Date:	10 December 2021
Subject:	Members' Allowances Scheme 2022/23

Summary:

The Council has to agree its Members' Allowances Scheme every year. This report presents the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) convened in November 2021 and a revised Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2022/23 that implements the IRP's recommendations.

Recommendation(s):

1. That the Council considers the IRP report and recommendations.
2. That the Council approves the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2021/22 as the Lincolnshire County Council Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2022/23 subject to:-
 - a) the amendments shown in Appendix B to the Report; and
 - b) the amount of the Allowances within Schedule 1 to the 2021/22 Scheme of Members' Allowances being increased by the average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the last 12 months

1. Background

The County Council agrees a Scheme of Members' Allowances and expenses each year in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the 2003 Regulations') and other relevant legislation.

The 2003 Regulations require that an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) is convened to make recommendations to the Council. The Council is required to consider any IRP report and recommendations before agreeing a scheme, but is not required to accept the IRP's recommendations.

The IRP was convened on 11 November 2021 and its report, findings and recommendations are attached at Appendix A.

Council must vote to adopt a scheme each year. If the recommendations here are agreed then the vote for each of the next three years could be, for example, to simply apply the indexing provisions contained within it. The Regulations stipulate that agreed indexing provisions can only be implemented for a maximum of four years before they are reviewed.

The table below shows the IRP recommendations and how they might be reflected in amendments to the 2021/22 Scheme of Allowances to create the Members' Scheme of Allowances for 2022/23.

IRP 2021 Recommendation	Comments
<p>Recommendation 1:</p> <p>The IRP recommends that the Members' Allowances Scheme continues to be linked to the average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the last 12 months.</p>	<p>The average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services has yet to be determined for the current financial year. If this recommendation is accepted, the Allowances set out in Schedule 1 to the 2021/22 scheme will be adjusted at the appropriate time to reflect any increase in pay to take effect from 1 April 2022.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2:</p> <p>Based on the evidence presented the IRP considers the role of the Chairman of the Planning and Regulation Committee and the Chairman of the Pensions Committee should sit within the same allowance band as the Chairman of the Audit Committee, i.e Band 4.</p>	<p>Recommended change incorporated in the amended scheme attached at Appendix B to this report.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3:</p> <p>Given the recommended change of band for the role of Chairman of the Planning and Regulation Committee and the Chairman of the Pensions Committee, the IRP recommends that the vice-chairmen of those committees should sit within the same allowance band as the vice-chairman of the Audit Committee, i.e. Band 9.</p>	<p>Recommended change incorporated in the amended scheme attached at Appendix B to this report.</p>

Appendix B shows the amendments that would need to be made to 2021/22 Scheme as a result of Recommendations 1 and 2 of the IRP's recommendations.

In addition to these changes the amounts of the Allowances shown in Schedule 1 to the Scheme in Appendix B will be uplifted by the average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the current financial year once that figure is known to reflect IRP recommendation 1.

Alternatively, as the Council is required to have regard to, but not necessarily to follow, the IRP's recommendations, the Council is asked to consider and determine any alternative proposals.

2. Legal Issues:

Equality Act 2010

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The decision to adopt the Members' Allowances Scheme enhances equality of opportunity, as it enables more people to stand as councillors.

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

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

There are no implications for the JSNA or JHWS in relation to approval of this Scheme.

Crime and Disorder

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

There are no implications in relation to Crime and Disorder from approval of this Scheme.

3. Conclusion

The Council is required to convene the IRP and has done so. The IRP has made recommendations that the Council must take into account when setting a Scheme of Members' Allowances.

4. Legal Comments:

Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires the Council to make a Scheme of Members' Allowances prior to 1 April in every year.

Before making such a Scheme the Council must have regard to the recommendations made in relation to the Scheme by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Approval of the Scheme of Members' Allowances is reserved to full Council.

5. Resource Comments:

The costs arising from acceptance of the recommendations in this report can be funded from within the existing budget provision.

6. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

7. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Minutes of the Independent Remuneration Panel - 11 November 2021
Appendix B	Amendments to Members' Allowances Scheme 2021/22 to reflect IRP recommendations 2 and 3. Please note: Subject to the decision on Recommendation 1 above, the Scheme will also be amended in line with the average % increase in pay for employees when that figure is determined.

8. Background Papers

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Members' Allowances Scheme 2021/22	https://lincolnshire.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s42916/CONSTITUTION%20-%202022.02.19%20-%20Part%206%20-%20Members%20Allowances%20Scheme%202019-20%20revised.pdf

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

This page is intentionally left blank

Notes of a meeting of the Lincolnshire County Council Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) held at County Offices, Lincoln on Thursday 11th November 2021.

Present:

Colin Childs, Peter Clay (chairman), Heather Lee, Aileen Lucas, Richard Quirk.

Officers present:

Devon Moore (minutes secretary), Nigel West

Apologies:

There were none.

Background:

The IRP had been tasked with carrying out a fundamental review of the Members' Allowances Scheme. As four years had passed since the last review of the Scheme's index-linking there was also a requirement for this element of the scheme to be re-considered.

The IRP had met informally on 19 October 2021, when it had been agreed to reach out to all councillors for any views they might have on the scheme, prior to the review starting on 11 November.

Councillors were offered a number of methods of engagement, including a short survey, interview via Microsoft Teams on 11 November, comments directly to the Chairman of the IRP and comments directly to the Panel via the Head of Democratic Services. In total there were five responses from councillors

In addition the IRP compared levels of remuneration in the LCC Members' Allowances Scheme to the levels of other county councils, where it showed that approximately half of the authorities paid more, while the other half paid less.

Consideration of councillor comments:

None of those who responded felt that there was a need for any marked increase in the allowances.

One member highlighted the extra time required to travel to meetings at County Offices in Lincoln for those who lived in the far reaches of the county, compared with those who were Lincoln-based. Panel members had previously considered this point and, having consulted councillors, the Panel felt that this would be difficult to administer and as members were entitled to a reasonable basic allowance and were entitled to make mileage claims, they would again not be recommending changes to take into account extra travelling time.

One of the survey responses had highlighted the disparity between the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the Chairmen of two other regulatory committees at the Council, Planning and Regulation and Pensions. The Panel consulted councillors on this point and, after consideration of the changing nature of the workload of the Planning and Regulation Committee and Pensions Committee, agreed that this should be on a par with the Chairman of Audit (Band 4 from Band 6). Likewise, they felt the SRAs of the vice-chairmen of those committees should be lifted to Band 9 from Band 10.

One member, in a written response to the Panel, commented that they felt there was a case for a skills audit, record of time spent on public duties and basic performance measures. The Panel acknowledged this input, but felt that such ideas were outside the scope of the IRP, whose terms of reference were governed by the 2003 Regulations.

There was general discussion about the cross-party role of the Chief Whip and the Panel agreed to consider further representations regarding the role at a future meeting of the Panel.

Recommendations:

1. That the index to be applied to the LCC Members' Allowances Scheme should be the average % increase in pay covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the previous 12 months (usually referred to as 'Green Book ' employees).
2. That the Special Responsibility Allowance for the roles of Chairman of Planning and Regulation Committee and Pensions Committee be included in Band 4.
3. That the Special Responsibility Allowance for the roles of vice-chairman of Planning and Regulation Committee and Pensions Committee be included in Band 9.

Signed _____ Date _____

Part 6

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

approved version 22.02.19

Members' Allowances and Travel and Subsistence Scheme

General

This Members' Allowance Scheme for Lincolnshire County Council has been prepared in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the 2003 Regulations') and other appropriate legislation. In particular, the Scheme takes account of recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel reporting to Council in February 2019.

This Scheme is effective from 1 April 2019. It is applicable to all elected Members of the County Council. Specific provisions relating to co-opted members are also included.

Within the scheme:

- 'year' refers to the financial year ending on the 31 March and
- 'day' and 'daily' refers to a 24 hour period beginning at 3am
- 'approved duties' are those defined in Schedule 2

An Elected Member who is a member of two separate authorities may not receive an allowance from each authority in respect of the same duties or for the same purpose.

Administrative guidelines relating to Members allowances, travel and subsistence will be published separately.

Members should initially seek advice from the Head of Democratic Services if necessary. In all cases of interpreting this Scheme, the decision of the Monitoring Officer shall be final.

Record of allowances

The 2003 Regulations require the County Council to maintain records of payments made under this scheme specifying the name of the recipient of the payment, the amount and the nature of each payment. The records must be available for inspection at any reasonable time by members of the public.

The 2003 Regulations also require annual publication of the total paid to each recipient for each of the types of allowance and expenses in this scheme. Lincolnshire County Council publishes these on our website.

Government transparency legislation may require additional information regarding Members' allowances to be published.

Allowances for Elected Members

There is no power to pay an attendance allowance to Members.

There are three types of Elected Members allowance in this Scheme:

Basic Allowance payable to all Elected Members – see Schedule 1 for values.

Special Responsibility Allowance payable in addition to those Elected Members who hold the posts shown in Schedule 1 to the values shown in that Schedule. In the event of one Member holding more than one Special Responsibility post, only one Special Responsibility Allowance, whichever is the greater, will be paid.

Childcare and Dependants' Carers' Allowance payable in addition to reimburse Elected Members for the cost of caring for their children or dependent relatives whilst undertaking approved duties. The maximum rate payable is set out in Schedule 1.

Claims and payments

Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances will normally be paid monthly into Members' bank accounts. Such allowances are paid in respect of each year or part year. For example, in the event of a Member giving up a Special Responsibility Allowance mid-year the part-year allowances are paid on a pro-rata daily basis for the period of a year to which they apply.

Claims for travel and subsistence expenses and for Childcare and Dependant's Carer's Allowance should be supported by receipts and made in accordance with any guidance issued by the County Council. Claims must normally be made within two months of the duty for which the claim is made.

Renouncing allowances

A Member may elect to forego any or all of their entitlement to any allowance under this Scheme. Election must be made by written notice to the Head of Democratic Services and will continue until amended by a further notice.

Travel and Subsistence Expenses

Travel expenses incurred whilst on approved duties as defined in Schedule 2 will be paid in accordance with rates set out in Schedule 3.

Subsistence expenses incurred whilst on approved duties as defined in Schedule 2 will be paid in accordance with rates set out in Schedule 3 except that subsistence expenses will not be paid for '*County Councillors' activities within their Division including surgeries, formal meetings of any relevant Parish Council, Residents Association or similar organisation.*'

approved version 22.02.19

6/4

All reasonable steps should be taken to minimise the need to travel by using telephone or video conferencing, telephone or e-mail or by combining meetings at the same location.

Suspension of Payments to Members

The County Council has resolved to exercise the power available to it under the 2003 Regulations to withdraw all allowances (including travel & subsistence) from any Member of the Council who has been or is in custody pursuant to a custodial sentence.

In the event that any Member is in custody pursuant to a custodial sentence, their entitlement to allowances will cease from the point of conviction. Allowances will only recommence at a point when they are no longer in custody and are able to perform the full range of duties. No retrospective payment of allowances forgone will be made in any circumstances.

Where payment of any allowance has already been made in respect of any period during which the member concerned ceases to be a member of the County Council; or is in any other way not entitled to receive the allowance in respect of that period, the County Council may require that such part of the allowance as relates to any such period be repaid to the County Council.

Annual Increases (Indexing) of Allowances

The County Council has resolved to exercise the power available to it under the 2003 Regulations to increase allowances annually in line with the movement in an appropriate index.

The index to be applied is the average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the previous 12 months (usually referred to as 'Green Book' employees).

Indexation will be applied to the basic, special responsibility and co-opted members' allowances for the four-year period up to ~~May-April 2022-2026~~ unless the Council resolves otherwise. (The 2003 Regulations allow indexing for a maximum of four years but also require that Council votes to adopt a Scheme of Members' Allowances each year.)

Backdating Of Allowances

The County Council has resolved to adopt the backdating provisions in the 2003 Regulations.

Where an amendment is made which affects an allowance payable for the year in which the amendment is made, the amendment will apply from the beginning of the year in which the amendment is made or such later date as specified by the County Council.

Co-opted Members Allowance

The County Council has resolved to exercise the power available to it under the 2003 Regulations to pay a co-optee's allowance in respect of the attendance of individuals co-opted onto committees, sub-committees, working groups and scrutiny panels of the Council. The allowance will cover attendance at such meetings and any other activity arising directly from that role (e.g. seminars, conferences, training courses, etc.).

The Co-opted Members Allowance is set out in Schedule 1.

The Council Committees etc. relevant to this allowance are those set out in the Articles of the Constitution.

Entitlement to this allowance will be restricted to co-optees who are not remunerated by way of an allowance, salary, etc. from another body as a direct result of their membership of the Committee in question. For example, a District Councillor representing that body would not qualify for this allowance.

The allowance will be paid monthly and in the case of part year service, pro-rata to the service undertaken.

Where a co-optee undertakes any role that would otherwise qualify for receiving a Special Responsibility Allowance set out in Schedule 1 they will receive the relevant Special Responsibility Allowance (but not the basic allowance) that would have been paid to an Elected Member discharging that role. In such circumstances the co-optee will not also receive the standard co-optees allowance for the period they are in receipt of the Special Responsibility Allowance.

The provisions of this scheme relating to renunciation, travel and subsistence expenses, suspension of payments, annual increases and backdating also apply to the Co-opted Members Allowance.

IT Related expenses

The Council will facilitate use of Information Technology to assist Elected Members and Co-opted Members (Members) in their approved duties.

Revised Schedule 1 – Allowances

Responsibilities and allowances within bands 1-12 in the table below are 'Special Responsibility Allowances'.

Band	Responsibility	Allowance
-	Basic Allowance	£11,055.27
1	Leader of the Council	£35,026.42
2	Deputy Leader of the Council	£22,986.04
3	Members of the Executive	£19,702.32
4	Chairman of the County Council	£13,266.24
	Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	
	Chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire	
	Chairman of the Audit Committee	
	Chairman of Health and Wellbeing Board	
	Chairman of Pensions Committee	
	Chairman of Planning and Regulation Committee	
5	Chief Whip	£10,499.08
6	Chairmen of the Scrutiny Committees	£9,949.73
	Chairman of the Planning & Regulation Committee	
	Leader of the Opposition	
	Chairman of the Pensions Committee	
7	Executive Support Councillor	£8,756.67
	Chairmen of the Scrutiny Panels	
8	Minority Group Leaders	£5,472.95
9	Vice-Chairman of the County Council	£4,422.16
	Vice-Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee	
	Vice-Chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire	
	Vice-Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board	
	Vice-Chairman of the Audit Committee	
	Chairman of the Definitive Map & Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub Committee	
	Vice-Chairman of Pensions Committee	
	Vice-Chairman of Planning and Regulation Committee	
	Chairman of the Councillor Development Group	
10	Vice-Chairmen of the Scrutiny Committees	£3,316.63
	Vice-Chairman of the Planning & Regulation	

	Committee	
	Vice-Chairman of the Pensions Committee	
11	Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Panels	£2,918.89
12	Vice-Chairman of the Definitive Map & Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub Committee	£1,105.54
	Member of the Shadow Executive	
-	Childcare and dependents' carers' allowance The Monitoring Officer has discretion to increase the rate in particular cases of need.	An hourly rate equivalent to the National Minimum Wage for the time being
-	Co-opted Member	£821.00

Schedule 2 – Approved Duties

The 2003 Regulations specify the circumstances in which dependant's carer's allowance travel and subsistence expenses may be paid. These are all encompassed in the definition of 'approved duties' below.

Approved duties are duties undertaken in exercise of the role of County Councillor

That includes, but is not limited to:

- Meetings of, and activities related to, the County Council, any of its Committees, Executive functions or any bodies of which the County Council is a Member or appoints members
- Any legislative requirement for Members to be present
- Any Standing Orders of the County Council
- The exercise of any function of the County Council
- Any meeting where two or more political groups are invited by an Officer
- Any meeting where one political group is invited by the Chief Executive or an Executive Director
- County Councillors' activities within their Division including surgeries, formal meetings of any relevant Parish Council, Residents Association or similar organisation

Meetings and other activities related to the management or operation of any political group or political party are not approved duties.

Schedule 3 - Travelling & Subsistence and Other Allowances

Public Transport

Travel by public transport should be made at the lowest rate available for the journey(s) in question.

Air travel, foreign travel and, in exceptional cases, travel at rates higher than lowest available fares should be approved in advance by the Head of Democratic Services.

Travel costs will be reimbursed at the actual cost incurred with claims supported by receipts.

Members are encouraged to order tickets for travel by public transport through their administrative support who will use the County Council's travel procurement arrangements to secure good value for money that will normally be paid direct by the County Council.

Private vehicles and car parking

Rates payable for travel by a private vehicle used by a Member and for official passengers will be those equivalent to HM Revenue & Customs Approved Mileage Rates for the time being. Rates and changes in rates will be notified to Members.

Members are responsible for ensuring that private vehicles used by them comply with all relevant legislation for the purposes for which they are used including safety, taxation and insurance.

Car parking will be reimbursed at the actual cost incurred with claims supported by receipts.

Taxis

In cases of urgency, or where no public transport is reasonably available, Members may travel by taxi and claim the amount of the actual cost incurred, supported by receipts.

Subsistence Expenses

In cases where the County Council provides a meal no other meal allowance will be paid. On County Council meeting days Members will be provided with a lunch in the County Restaurant and will consequently not be entitled to claim expenses.

In other cases, the County Council will reimburse reasonable costs of meals incurred whilst undertaking approved duties except that subsistence expenses will not be paid

for 'County Councillors' activities within their Division including surgeries, meetings of any relevant Parish Council, Residents Association or similar organisation.'

Claims must be for actual costs incurred supported by receipts.

Overnight accommodation should be booked in advance on behalf of the Member by their administrative support using the County Council's standard procurement arrangements to secure best value for money that will normally be paid direct by the County Council.

In cases where a Member incurs reasonable costs for overnight accommodation, it will be reimbursed at actual cost incurred with claims supported by receipts.