



County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YL

22 November 2021

Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee will be held on **Tuesday, 30 November 2021 at 10.00 am in the Council Chamber, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YL** for the transaction of the business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

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

Debbie Barnes OBE
Chief Executive

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

Councillors R Wootten (Chairman), M A Griggs (Vice-Chairman), A J Baxter, M D Boles, I D Carrington, I G Fleetwood, A G Hagues, Mrs J E Killey, H Spratt, G J Taylor and L Wootten

**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2021**

Item	Title	Pages
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Declarations of Members' Interests	
3	Minutes of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19 October 2021	5 - 16
4	Announcements by the Chairman, Executive Councillors and Lead Officers	
5	Service Level Performance Reporting Against the Performance Framework 2021 - 2022 - Quarter 2 <i>(To receive a report from Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development, David Hickman, Head of Environment and Mike Reed, Head of Waste, which invites the Committee to consider and comment on the performance of the Tier 2 Service Level Performance measures for 2021/22 Quarter 2 for Economy, Flooding and Waste)</i>	17 - 40
6	Flood and Coastal Innovation Programme - the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project <i>(To receive a report from Matthew Harrison, Senior Commissioning Officer – Flood Risk - Place, which provides the Committee with an update on the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project and sets out the next steps in developing an Outline Business Case)</i>	41 - 44
7	The Levelling Up Agenda for Lincolnshire <i>(To receive a report from Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment, which invites the Committee to help shape the priorities for Levelling Up in Lincolnshire)</i>	45 - 48
8	Planning for Strategic Infrastructure in Greater Lincolnshire <i>(To receive a report from Brendan Gallagher, Strategic Planning, which invites the Committee to consider and comment on the agenda for Planning for Strategic Infrastructure for Greater Lincolnshire)</i>	49 - 88
9	Tree Strategy: "The Right Tree in the Right Place" <i>(To receive a report from Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager – Environment, which provides the Committee with an update on the Green Masterplan and the initial progress towards the Council's target to reach net zero carbon by 2050)</i>	89 - 94

10 Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

95 - 100

(To receive a report from Kiara Chatziioannou, Scrutiny Officer, which enables the Committee to comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity is focused where it can be of greatest benefit)

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

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

Contact details set out above.

Please note: This meeting will be broadcast live on the internet and access can be sought by accessing [Agenda for Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 30th November, 2021, 10.00 am \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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



**ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
19 OCTOBER 2021**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR R WOOTTEN (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors M A Griggs (Vice-Chairman), A J Baxter, M D Boles, I D Carrington, I G Fleetwood, A G Hagues, H Spratt, G J Taylor, L Wootten and R B Parker.

Councillors Ruth Carver, R J Cleaver, C J Davie, T J G Dyer, D McNally, N Sear, Ms Rose Battey and Amy Thomas attended the meeting as invited guests.

The following presenters attended the meeting virtually, via Teams:

Ruth Carver (Local Enterprise Partnership Chief Executive) and Amy Thomas (Lincolnshire Rural Support Network).

Officers in attendance:-

Justin Brown (Assistant Director Growth), Kiara Chatziioannou (Scrutiny Officer), Katrina Cope (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Mike Reed (Interim Head of Waste), Vanessa Strange (Head of Infrastructure Investment) and Sarah Wells (Business Manager, Corporate Property Team).

24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs J E Killey.

It was reported that, under Regulation 13 of the (Local Government Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, Councillor R B Parker had replaced Councillor Mrs J E Killey for this meeting only.

25 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No declaration of members' interest were made at this stage of the proceedings.

**26 MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2021**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 14 September 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

27 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND LEAD OFFICERS

The Chairman wished it to be noted that Councillors R J Cleaver and N Sear, were in attendance for agenda item five.

The Chairman invited Councillor C J Davie, Executive Councillor Economic Development, Environment and Planning to provide an update to the Committee.

The Committee were updated on the following: -

- Climate Summit – The event had provided a wide range of speakers and that the feedback received from delegates attending was the summit had proven to be a successful and inspirational event. It was highlighted that delegates were given an insight in to what the Council was doing to drive for green growth across Greater Lincolnshire, and the Green Masterplan, which now underpinned so much of the Council’s work. Areas highlighted were the launch of the consultation on the County’s Local Transport Plan, which had green transport and the environment as central themes along with supporting sectors to continue to grow and recover; and the appointment of the Considerate Group to produce a Green Tourism Toolkit;
- The continuing work of Team Lincolnshire, particular reference was made to a recent event at Hemswell Cliff, to which 70 delegates had attended the joint event organized by Team Lincolnshire and the Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce. The Committee noted that Team Lincolnshire were due to launch their new website on 26 October 2021. The new website would provide members with more support and provide them with a better platform to showcase their businesses. The website would also act as a driver for investment to both new investors to the region as well as established businesses;
- The difficulties many sectors were facing concerning supply chains and recruitment. It was highlighted that there was a noticeably high number of vacancies persisting in transport, logistics and warehousing, and that there was a lack of HGV drivers. The Committee noted that the Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) had responded to a call for evidence from the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee on these issues;
- It was hoped for some positive announcements on the Levelling Up Agenda, from the bids that had been submitted in June to the Community Renewal Fund and the Levelling Up Fund, as well as information on the coming UK Shared Prosperity Fund;
- Wednesday 20 October 2021, Team Lincolnshire were holding the second South Lincolnshire FEZ webinar. The event would be showcasing the progress to date and the wider opportunities in relation to the UKL Food Valley; and
- Thursday 4 November 2021 team Lincolnshire would be attending the Fresh produce Consortium event at the Lincolnshire Showground to showcase to investors the South Lincolnshire Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) and the UK Food Valley.

28 SUPPLEMENTARY WASTE COLLECTIONS SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report from Mike Reed, Head of Waste, which invited the Committee to consider and comment on the proposal to discontinue the Supplementary Waste Collection Services at Stamford and Mablethorpe, which was the subject of a decision by the Executive Councillor for Waste and Trading Standards being taken between 21 and 28 October 2021.

As there were several speakers for this item, the Chairman advised the Committee how he intended to proceed with this item.

The Chairman also advised that a petition had been received, which contained one specific request: "This petition demands that Lincolnshire County Council, restores the Saturday recycling materials collection from Stamford Cattle Market"

The Committee noted that emails had also been received from two Stamford residents, Mr A Margett and Ms A Nash; Councillor Mrs G Johnson, The Mayor of Stamford; Cllr K H Cooke, Leader of South Kesteven District Council; Councillor Mrs A Wheeler, South Kesteven District Councillor for Stamford St. George's Ward; Councillor S Ford Stamford Town Council; and Mr S Palmer, a former County Councillor for Alford and Sutton.

The Chairman invited Ms Rose Battey to introduce the 'Restore the Saturday Waste Recycling Waste Collection in Stamford, Lincolnshire' petition. In her five minute statement reference was made to some of the following points: the disappointment of Stamford residents to the proposed discontinuation of the supplementary waste collection services at Stamford; the failure of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership to meet their 50% recycling target; that some residents would not have vehicles available to them to travel 12 miles to Borne Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC); the effect on carbon omissions for making having to make the 24 mile round trip; the potential increase in the amount of fly tipping; that there was no reference to CO2 admissions within the report; and that the services should be restated.

The Chairman on behalf of the Committee extended thanks to Ms Rose Batty for her eloquent statement, and formally received the 'Restore the Saturday Waste Recycling Collection in Stamford, Lincolnshire' petition. It was noted that the petition would be referred to the Executive Councillor for Waste and Trading Standards who would arrange for a formal response on behalf of the Council.

Local Electoral Division Councillors R J Cleaver (Stamford West) and N Sear (Mablethorpe) were also invited to speak for a period of three minutes, both requested that the Executive Councillor for Waste and Trading Standards should reject the recommendations in the report and to pursue alternative forms of collection that ensured that Household Waste Recycling Centres' (HWRC) policy requirements were being applied correctly and consistently, that enhanced recycling and eliminated the use of landfill and deterred fly-tipping.

The Head of Waste advised the Committee that in 2016, a decision had been taken to continue with a residual waste collection service on Saturday mornings at both Stamford and Mablethorpe. This had been based on the size of the population in both towns, neither of which had a HWRC. It was highlighted Stamford was within a 12-mile radius of the HWRC at Borne and that Mablethorpe was also within the 12-mile radius of Trusthorpe. (The HWRC policy states that: "The majority of households (95%) should be within a 12- mile radius of a HWRC").

Details of the 11 HWRCs in Lincolnshire were shown in Appendix A to the Executive Councillor report; and Appendix B provided a list of the 10 strategic objectives of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS).

It was highlighted that the County Council was responsible for waste disposal and that District Councils were responsible for waste collection. The Committee noted that during Covid supplementary services had been suspended as they did not provide a safe method of collecting materials; and when restrictions were eased, a booking system was put in place within HWRCs to restrict numbers visiting a site and to aid with social distancing; this method of control was unable to be applied to the supplementary services and therefore the supplementary services had not been reintroduced.

The Committee was advised that smaller items of residual waste could be deposited in household wheelie bins and that larger residual waste items could be dealt with by bulky waste collections. It was reported that both South Kesteven District Council and East Lindsey District Council had the ability to collect bulky residual waste items and to charge for this service.

It was reported that during the 18-month suspension of the supplementary waste collection service, there had not been any noticeable increases in fly-tipping in Mablethorpe or Stamford above the expected normal levels, which suggested that behavioural change during this period, residents had disposed of material differently, such as via kerbside collection or at the closest HWRC.

It was highlighted that it was not possible to extend the supplementary waste collection service as there was an impact on costs and recycling rates, which would in turn impact on the sustainability of the HWRC services more widely and the ability of the County to meet the recycling targets adopted by the JMWMS.

During discussion, the Committee raised the following points:

- Supplementary Waste Collection Services (SWCS) were no longer required in line with the evolution of environmental services which were now more focused on recycling. It was clarified that the Stamford and Mablethorpe SWCS had not operated in the last 18 months. SWCSs were inefficient in enabling materials to be recycled and did not help with recycling targets being achieved. District Councils offered kerbside collections on a fortnightly basis which provided the opportunity for smaller items of residual waste to be deposited in household wheelie bins and that larger residual

items could be dealt with by bulky waste collections or by being taken to (HWRCs) which offered the opportunity for disposing of bulky waste that could not be collected at kerbside recycling points;

- Members emphasised the importance of utilising both kerbside (bulky waste) collection and HWRCs as means of reducing carbon emissions, and mileage incurred travelling to sites. Increased collection services were within the gift of District Councils, being collection authorities, to be decided and implemented;
- Members took a view that if services were to remain in place, it might raise a strong case for other areas to request the same service which would be unsustainable financially and environmentally;
- It was acknowledged that although the lack of means to transport waste in less affluent areas was putting a strain on residents, data gathered at HWRCs could have provided information on how far residents were travelling to dispose of their waste. Officers confirmed that advice would be sought from a legal perspective to establish whether such data could be used going forward;
- Following questions, Officers clarified that the relocation of HWRC facilities was not being considered as an option, nor was allowing cross-border disposal of waste based on residents' proximity to a facility at the edge of their district. The latter was due to burdening of Council Tax for neighbouring authorities and residents of that district. Regarding finding a bigger location to replace the use of the Cattle Market was also problematic, as a more permanent site required planning permission where segregation bins would be provided; in addition, collection of a wider variety of recyclable materials meant that the location would also be under scrutiny from the Environment Agency;
- Members argued that the recommendation of the report was based on a policy position held by the County Council and maintained that there was opportunity for working closer with District Councils and other stakeholders for performance to be improved going forward through a targeted approach including stronger messages and educating people at these challenging times;
- A member noted that lack of funding in Local Authorities had added to the lowering of recycling rates in the County that had fallen from over 50% to barely 40%. An example was given of a privately owned recycling centre in the Deepings area, the owner of which continued supporting the local residents with separating recycled items from other household waste, similar to HWRC operation model, despite the withdrawal of recycling credits, was mentioned to support a view of an alternative method that could be implemented in Stamford and Mablethorpe. Withdrawal of credits was said to have cost South Kesteven District Council circa £1m per annum. It was also emphasised that the public did not care about whether the responsibility for collection rested with District Councils and that the disposal of waste was the responsibility of the County Council, the public just wanted their waste being disposed of without driving a 25-mile return trip to Bourne:
- With reference to underachievement of objectives (page 21, Objective 5 "To contribute to the UK recycling targets of 50% by 2020 and 55% by 2025") it was noted that the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership was faced with unknown factors contributing to recycling targets not being met; Members emphasised on the need to assess what these factors had been and ask fundamental questions around these, it

was therefore proposed that the matter came under further investigation through the Scrutiny Committee function;

- Members maintained that following the potential enactment of the recommendation of the report, Stamford and Mablethorpe areas should be monitored to assess whether this had an impact on fly tipping rates. Assurance was given that evidence was being gathered and officers were working with District Council partners to create a database of itemized materials collected from locations that was helping in benchmarks being established, better flow of information between partners and that a clearer picture would be available going forward. Looking at Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by District Council was also a useful way of assessing differences in performance geographically. It was reported that KPIs were reported quarterly, but the district breakdown was not included yet;
- It was acknowledged that regardless of the decision fly tipping remained an issue in these areas. Fly tipping had increased nationally over the past 18 months which was believed to be due to illegal trade where van owners/traders took jobs via social media outlets to collect and dispose of bulky household waste and subsequently disposed these items in countryside locations, by public highways and other landfill sites. There was no evidence that household behaviour had changed, or that residents exhibited negative behaviour associated with the increase in fly-tipping. During the last 18 months it was believed that behavioural change has taken place whereby residents were using the HWRCs instead of the supplementary services as items did not appear to have been fly tipped;
- Members emphasised that more needed to be done on educating the public about recycling and how to separate items in their grey bins as it was noted that 3 out of 10 items in the bins would be unsuitable and would therefore contaminate the rest of the contents. An example of a paper wheel with items and how they should be disposed was offered to showcase that simplified solutions could be implemented in support of providing messages to the public on effective recycling. Officers assured the Committee that through working in partnership, with the public and private businesses recycling was encouraged and that a strong and positive message was carried. However, it was noted that a performance team was looking at the contamination levels to enable the development of a clear picture around where contamination had been more prominent (geographically, across the county);
- Members requested that consideration was given to alternative methods for these areas in collaboration with partners, District Councils and government departments, with the latter supporting the enforcement of fly tipping offenders being pursued, which would ultimately lead to a cleaner and safer environment. Assurance was given that the Partnership had recently implemented an Environmental Crime Initiative and was working with a variety of stakeholders including the Police, District Councils, and landowners. It was noted that stronger punitive action against fly tippers was being explored and that a particular task force of officers, whose remit was to pursue offenders, was already formed. Assurance was also given that there had been recent prosecutions of rogue traders for such offences. Covert cameras were also employed as means of capturing rogue traders and fly tippers across various locations; and

- A Member suggested exploring opportunities for the installation of textile recycling banks on County Council premises around the County. This would allow for the generation of income for the Council whilst offering an alternative outlet for recycling of materials that would otherwise end up in the landfill.

The Chairman extended his thanks on behalf of the Committee to all participants.

RESOLVED

1. That support be agreed to the proposed recommendation shown in the Executive Councillor report.
2. That the comments highlighted by the Committee be passed to the Executive Councillor for Waste and Trading Standards in relation to this item.

Note: Councillors A J Baxter and R B Parker wished it to be recorded that they had voted against the recommendation to the Executive Councillor.

29 COUNTY FARMS

Consideration was given to a report from Sarah Wells, Business Manager Corporate Property, which provided the Committee with an update on the County Farms Estate.

The report highlighted the Brexit trade agreement impact on County Farms, which included problems encountered in dealing with the new international trade regime; the difficulties tenants had reported sourcing labour, with one of the larger farming businesses reporting that their labour costs were increasing by 25% year on year.

It was noted that there had been no direct notifications of haulage issues. It was noted further that a concern had been raised regarding sourcing haulage when required and that this would inevitably feed into cost inflation.

The Committee was advised that there had been no specific reports of CO2 issues. There was, however, a concern that the prices in nitrogen fertilizer, which was a key input for all County Farms tenants, would filter through to increased costs for the 2021/22 year.

The Committee noted that the Council offered continued support to all tenants; and that a Business Resilience Programme was being offered across the wider East Midlands LEP on behalf of the area's growth hubs.

It was highlighted that it was expected there would be limited take up of the Government's proposed Lump Sum Exit Scheme, as a result of a recent survey with tenants, it was felt the proposed £100k financial cap would not provide sufficient funds, particularly for those without accommodation.

It was reported that a review of the County Farms Strategy would be concluded by December 2022; and that five schemes on the farm estate would be included in the Council's recently awarded Treescape programme, incorporating some 1200 plants, for the County Farms to play a part in the Carbon agenda.

During consideration of this item, the Committee referred to:

- Whether the shortage of labour could be a problem. It was noted that the labour shortages could be an ongoing issue, and that tenants could work together as co-operatives to help overcome some of the issues. Looking at alternative labour, a suggestion put forward was the utilization of lower grade prisoners to help in the agricultural industry. A further suggestion was providing transport for younger people in urban areas to work in Lincolnshire. Reference was also made for the need to increase rates for people working in the agricultural industry and to re-invigorate the market to encourage more people into the vacant jobs;
- Accommodation available to those working on County Farms;
- The impact of Brexit; and
- The mental health impact on the farming community.

RESOLVED

That the report be received and that the comments raised by the Committee be noted.

30 GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE PLAN FOR GROWTH

The Committee considered a report from Justin Brown, Assistant Director – Growth and Ruther Carver, LEP Chief Executive, which invited the Committee to consider and comment on the Greater Lincolnshire Plan for Growth.

The Committee was advised that the Plan for Growth was a 1–5-year economic action plan and framework for post Covid-19 recovery in Greater Lincolnshire, which had been developed in full partnership across Local Resilience Forum Business and Economy partners. Appended to the report was a copy of the Greater Lincolnshire Plan for Growth for the Committee to consider.

It was noted that the current plan comprised of 63 actions which were either current activities relating to the economic response to the pandemic or were a critical part of a longer-term ambition. Each of the actions contained in the plan were assigned to a lead organization, and that the LEP would play the ongoing role of ensuring that the actions within the plan were delivered. Page 36 of the report provided a list of the organization's involved in the development of the plan. It was highlighted that the agreed actions contained within the plan were vital to meeting the ambitions of the five core themes and the six specific sector opportunities for Lincolnshire, these were detailed on pages 36 and 37 of the report.

Pages 37 to 39 of the report provided details relating to specific projects that the Council were the current lead for, or were involved in steering, to help deliver the priorities within the plan.

During consideration of the item, the Committee raised the following comments:

- Thanks were extended to officers for the excellent report;
- Clarification was given that on page 36 the Higher Education Colleges should be Further Education Colleges;
- Page 38 of the report – reference to Health and Care. The Committee was advised that Adult Social Care and Economic Development were collaboratively working on an initiative to help care businesses to take advantage of business advice and be able to access grants;
- The value of partnership working;
- The need to encourage businesses to take on apprentices and graduates. The Committee was advised that the Council took on apprentices and graduates and encouraged contractors employed by the Council to do the same;
- Better transport provision in the County to attract people to the area. The Committee noted that the Transport Plan would address some of these issues. This item would be considered by the Committee at the January 2022 meeting;
- The need to look at alternate renewables, reference was made to onshore wind turbines and solar panels. Some concern was expressed to the use of agricultural land for this purpose;
- Clarity was sought as to who owned the document and who had the authority to change it? The Committee noted that there was collective ownership of the plan; and that the Council needed to endorse the plan as it delivered a large part of the Strategy; and
- The need to ensure that all parts of Lincolnshire benefitted from the plan.

RESOLVED

1. That the Greater Lincolnshire Plan for Growth be endorsed.
2. That the Comments raised by the Committee be received.

Note: Councillor A J Baxter wished it to be recorded that he had abstained from voting on this item.

31 LINCOLNSHIRE RURAL SUPPORT NETWORK

The Committee considered a report from Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment, which provided an introduction relating to the Lincolnshire Rural Support Network (LRSN) and the support given to LRSN from the Council in 2019, due to the work of the Committee.

The Chairman invited Amy Thomas, Head of the Charity Lincolnshire Rural Support Network, to remotely present this item to the Committee. The presentation referred to:

- Who the LRSN were. It was noted that the LRSN had been established in 1999 as a resource for the County's rural communities and businesses. It was noted further that the LRSN was now a well-established, medium sized, regional, volunteer led charity that provided help, support, and advice to members of Lincolnshire's farming and rural communities in time of crisis, stress and change;
- The role of LRSN. The Committee was advised that LRSN had 20 years' experience of offering services and support to the rural community across Lincolnshire; and that feedback from service users consistently indicated the services offered were valued. As well as professional nursing and healthcare staff, LRSN had access to a significant number of committed volunteers with knowledge and experience across a full range of issues affecting the mental health of people in rural communities. The core work included: casework, one-to-one work with individuals; a helpline which was manned between 8.00am to 8.00pm, with an emergency out of hours contact number; Health screening operating alongside drop-in advice points (Louth Market and Spalding Auction) and through 'click, book, chat' digital clinics overseen by a volunteer medical director and delivered by Registered Nurses;
- It was reported that the presenting issues which the LRSN supported varied from anxiety through to alcoholism, depression and self-harm, debt, financial and other farm business, and personal issues. It was highlighted that year-on-year the LRSN had seen an increase in the number of families and individuals needing support. The Committee was advised that for the year ending 31 March 2021, 193 families had been supported, which was a 21% increase on the previous financial year. It was highlighted that 60% of new cases were mental health related. It was highlighted further that for the current financial year as of September 2021, the team had already supported 122 families and undertaken 83 health checks. It was felt that as winter approached, and as a result of other pressures within the industry, that services would be called upon more than ever before;
- The Committee was advised that during the pandemic, LRSN had been able to respond quickly and adeptly to working in a virtual environment, with the introduction of an online health and wellbeing clinic 'Click, Book, Chat' service and extending helpline hours. The LRSN had embraced technology by hold its AGM virtually, introduced shared blogs, and shared team videos. It was noted that fundraising through the pandemic and in a virtual environment had been challenging. However, the charity had been very fortunate that supporters, individuals, corporate partners, and volunteers had continued to fundraise for the LRSN, despite the pandemic. The LRSN had also introduced the May Marathon, which had helped raise their profile with a range of audiences; and
- For the future, LRSN was planning to refresh its long-term plan and strategic goals, extending services both geographically and into new sectors whilst continuing to provide the best support to Lincolnshire's agricultural and rural communities as they faced an uncertain and challenging future. Some projects being developed were:- Delivery of the Future Farming Resilience Fund as part of the PCF Farm for the Future

Project; the introduction of a mobile health screening unit which allowed the delivery of outreach and health screening across the County; and the development of a Legacy Campaign in order to further widen the charity's already diverse funding base.

During consideration of the presentation, the Committee raised the following points:

- Thanks were extended to LRSN for way they supported rural communities;
- Some concern was expressed to the rising number of mental health issues. The Committee was reminded that the Scrutiny Panel B – Agricultural Sector Support Review would be looking at this matter;
- A request was made for Scrutiny Panel B to conduct interviews with farmers and others in the rural community to get their views and experiences;
- From personal experience, and the rise in the number of number of families requiring help, one member urged the Council to support the work of the LRSN.

The Chairman on behalf of the Committee extended his thanks to the LRSN team for all the support provided to the rural communities across Lincolnshire.

RESOLVED

1. That the report and presentation relating to the work of the Lincolnshire Rural Support Network be received and that future opportunities to support the sector be considered.
2. That comments raised by the Committee be shared with Scrutiny Panel B, who will be undertaking a Review of Support to the Agricultural Sector in Lincolnshire.

32 ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report from Kiara Chatziioannou, Scrutiny Officer, which enabled the Committee to comment on the content of its work programme for the coming year to ensure that scrutiny activity was focused where it could be of greatest benefit. Details of the Committee's work programme were shown on pages 68 to 70 of the report pack.

RESOLVED

That the work programme presented be approved.

The meeting closed at 12.42 pm.

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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	Service Level Performance Reporting against the Performance Framework 2021-2022 - Quarter 2

Summary:

This report sets out the performance of the Tier 2 Service Level Performance measures for 2021/22 Quarter 2 for Economy, Flooding and Waste which are within the remit of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is invited to consider and comment on the details of the performance contained in the report and recommend any changes or actions to the relevant Executive Councillor.

1. Background

Economy Performance Measures

The targets measure the number of businesses supported, the number of adults gaining qualifications and the amount of external funding attracted to Lincolnshire. Progress has been very good to date. The Growth department has been very innovative and resourceful and changed the mode of delivery to a virtual model very quickly; this alongside the government grants has greatly supported our learners and business community.

Businesses Supported

During Q2 433 Businesses were supported bringing the total for the year to date to 1126, above the target of 869. This is a direct result of the Lincolnshire County Council's Covid 19 business support programme which provided businesses with vital financial support to tackle the challenges and opportunities that were presented by the pandemic. These programmes included a digital voucher scheme and 3 investment funds. Overall, the Council expects to have helped around 800 businesses with these and other programmes, and

specific outputs will be reported in this report at the time that businesses have received all of the finance from the Council. It is expected that the Council's Covid 19 business support programmes will have been fully completed by the end of Q3 2021/2022.

The Council's Covid 19 business support programmes are additional to the core business support work which is provided by the Council through the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub. A Project Change Request has been submitted to repurpose funds from our European Regional Development Fund Project which, if approved, will enable further grants to be available to businesses. During Q2 the Council continued to provide support to businesses through the Growth Hub advisory team and via the Team Lincolnshire virtual coffee club meetings. In addition, 4 businesses were supported to develop and grow directly through the LCC Property Portfolio.

Qualifications Achieved

The number of qualifications achieved by adults in Q2 was 973 - higher than the original target for Q2 of 140. The figure is as a direct result of several factors relating to Covid 19 including the adoption of new delivery methods, by both Lincolnshire County Council and contracted providers. In addition, several new longer courses were delivered that had multiple qualifications attached to them, including many that are part of construction skills training courses.

The introduction of more online/distance learning in 2020 continued to grow throughout the remainder of the 2020/2021 academic year with the result that 43% of qualifications achieved in Q2 were delivered through that route. Of the qualifications delivered in classroom settings, 40% were delivered in Lincoln, 23% were delivered in Gainsborough, 15% in Grantham and 13% in Skegness/Mablethorpe.

Provision continues to be aimed at targeted learners resulting in 56% of qualifications being achieved by male learners and 36% by learners with no, or low levels of previous qualification attainment.

With a continued focus on supporting employability, the range of qualifications achieved included 83 GCSE's or Functional Skills in English or Maths as well as a further 10 ESOL qualifications. In support of Lincolnshire's priority employment sectors, 259 qualifications related to the wider care sectors, 186 to construction, 159 to hospitality and 122 to accountancy and business administration.

External Funding Attracted

During Q2 £15,230,915 of external funding has been received, against a target of £12,563,213. This includes £1,739,000 through 3 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) continuation projects now funded to deliver until June 2023: Collaboration 4 Growth £533,000, Gain Enterprise Growth 2 £502,000 and Grants 4 Growth with an additional £704,000 ERDF.

The final tranche, £12,900,000 of the £25.8 million from the Get Britain Building Fund has now been received. The Programme will deliver 6 projects over the coming year:

- Lincoln Science and Innovation Park (Phase 2)
- Greater Lincolnshire Cycle Programme
- Killingholme Pumping Station
- Centre for Innovation in Rural Health
- Holbeach Food enterprise Zone (Phase 2)
- Greater Lincolnshire Skills Capital Programme

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funding of £115,750 has been received to support the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub activity. The Business Lincolnshire Sustainable Business Growth ERDF programmes has submitted 2 claims to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for Q1 and Q2 21-22 totalling £476,165.00.

There have been further national delays of the announcement of Community Renewal Funding (CRF) and Levelling Up Funding streams, so we are yet to hear about the LCC bids of £9m for CRF and £20m for the Levelling Up Fund.

Flooding Performance Measures

The measure reported relates to one the County Council's functions as Lead Local Flood Authority under the Flood and Water management Act (2010). It is calculated on the basis of the number of formal investigations undertaken by the County Council under section 19 of the Act. Under this legislation each Lead Local Flood Authority is responsible for determining the threshold which triggers a formal investigation.

Lincolnshire County Council has set this threshold as any incident in which one or more domestic properties are flooded internally, the strategic highway network is significantly affected, or where there is significant impact on farmland or there is a significant impact on a community, for example impacts on schools, commercial property or access to important local services.

In addition, the Council also maintains a record of 'near misses' – those incidents that are reported which do not necessarily meet the formal investigation threshold, but which could indicate a potential future issue, or identify a localised issue that can be rectified in the course of service delivery.

Thirteen new formal investigations were started in quarter two, under section 19 of the Act. A total of sixteen properties were affected, mainly as a result of a period of wet weather at the end of July. This compares with three investigations affecting four properties in quarter one of this year (April to June), and fifteen investigations in quarter two of the last year.

Waste Performance Measures

There have been recent changes at Household Waste Recycling Centres which may be affecting all three waste measures and it will take time to establish the long-term trends.

The recycling rate at HWRCs is 71% which is lower than the target of 75%. The booking system was cancelled at the beginning of September and residents may have been stockpiling certain non-recyclable material in anticipation of the change. The busy nature of sites after 1 September may also have a consequence that site staff are not able to recycle as effectively. As mitigation we are planning to have more information circulated to the public on what can be recycled at HWRCs with the benefits highlighted.

The overall recycling rate for all streams is around 44% which is similar to the last quarter and still below the target of 48%. This may be as a consequence of less material being presented at HWRCs which have a higher recycling rate. We are aiming to understand this issue better by carrying out more sampling of material and are also working closer with Mid UK identify areas of improvement for kerbside collected recyclate.

The total material collected is 546kg per household and continues to be slightly lower than the target of 560kg per household. This may still be as a consequence of the pandemic and long-term trends will take time to establish if society returns to normality.

The service continually updates Senior Managers of all Districts on the recycling rates, and we will be updating the District Council members at the November meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership. We are always looking at ways of improving the recycling rates and this is primarily being done through greater engagement with the public. We are also carrying out more sampling of material to establish if there are any particular trends that we can focus on resolving.

2. Conclusion

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to review and comment on the performance information for Quarter 2 and highlight any recommendations or further actions for consideration.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Economy Performance Measures
Appendix B	Flooding Performance Measures
Appendix C	Waste Performance Measures

5. Background Papers

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

This report was written by:

- Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development, who can be contacted on 01522 550576 or samanthal.harrison@lincolnshire.gov.uk;
- David Hickman, Head of Environment, who can be contacted on 07919 045257 or David.Hickman@lincolnshire.gov.uk; and
- Mike Reed, Head of Waste, who can be contacted on 07557 169890 or Mike.Reed@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Businesses supported by the Council

Number of businesses who receive direct support and advice from services the Council commission. The council commissions a series of programmes which help business leaders to grow their business. The businesses who receive support will grow, creating jobs and other opportunities (e.g. supply chain). A higher number of businesses supported by the Council indicates a better performance.



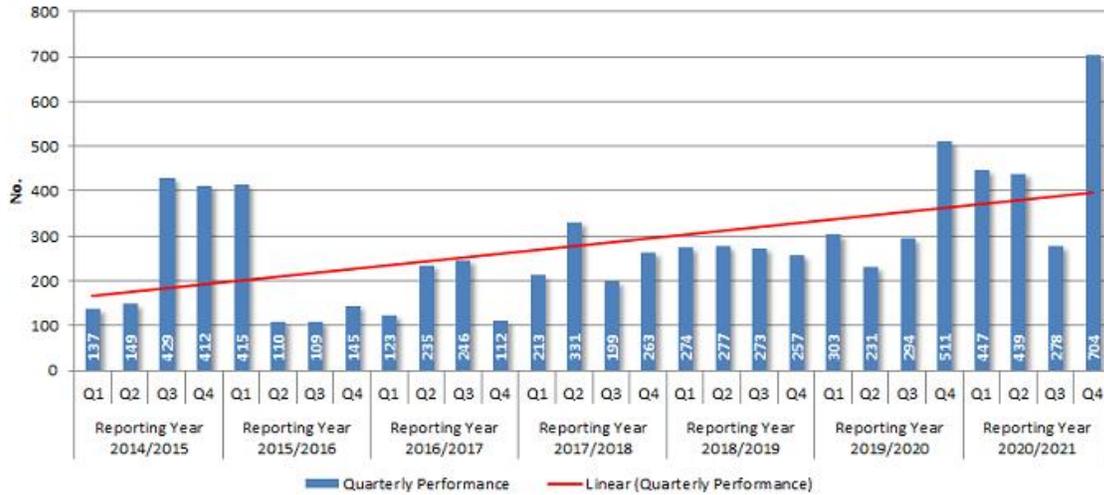
About the latest performance

During Q2 433 businesses were supported bringing the total for the year to date to 1126, above the target of 869. This is a direct result of the Lincolnshire County Council's Covid 19 business support programme which provided businesses with vital financial support to tackle the challenges and opportunities that were presented by the pandemic. These programmes included a digital voucher scheme and 3 investment funds. Overall the council expects to have helped around 800 businesses with these and other programmes, and specific outputs will be reported in this report at the time that businesses have received all of the finance from the council. It is expected that the council's Covid 19 business support programmes will have been fully completed by the end of Q3 2021/2022.

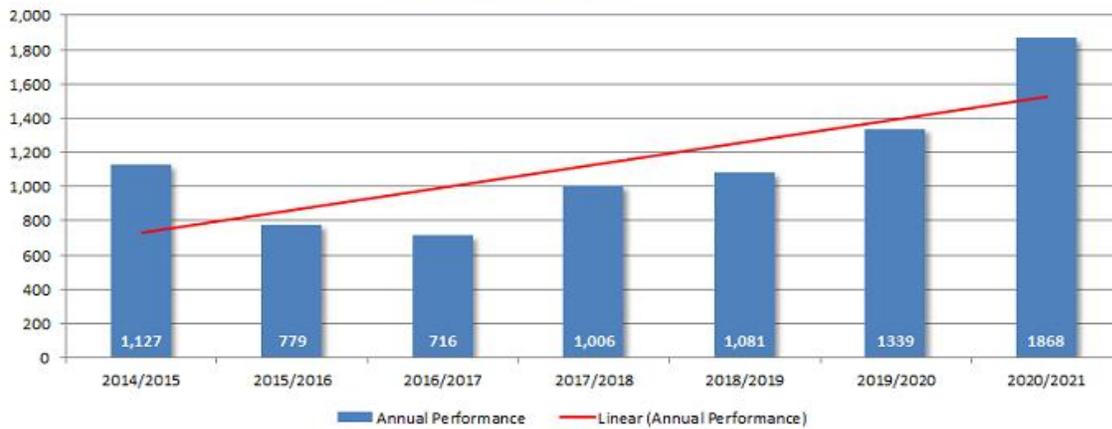
The council's Covid 19 business support programmes are additional to the core business support work which is provided by the council through the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub. A Project Change Request has been submitted to repurpose funds from our European Regional Development Fund Project which, if approved, will enable further grants to be available to businesses. During Q2 the council continued to provide support to businesses through the growth hub advisory team and via the Team Lincolnshire virtual coffee club meetings. In addition, 4 businesses were supported to develop and grow directly through the LCC Property Portfolio.

Further details

Businesses Supported by the Council



**Businesses Supported by the Council
Annual Performance**



About the target

Targets are based on previous years actuals. However, dependent on individual business needs, the level and type of support that businesses demand and seek during the course of a year may vary which will affect the performance of this measure

About the target range

The target range for this measure allows for a +/- 5% fluctuation against the target

About benchmarking

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

Qualifications achieved by adults

Number of qualifications achieved (skills programmes, vocational training programmes, adult and community learning) through programmes supported by the council. The council commissions a series of training schemes which help individuals to gain skills. These training schemes are focused on the skills that employers need. Employers can understand an individual's skill level by the qualifications that they hold, hence the reason that we count the number of qualifications achieved.

A higher number of qualifications achieved indicates a better performance.

Although this measure is reported on a quarterly basis, the data that is published spans two academic years, 2019/20 and 2020/21



About the latest performance

The number of qualifications achieved by adults in Q2 was 973 - higher than the original target for Q2 of 140. The figure is as a direct result of several factors relating to Covid 19 including the adoption of new delivery methods, by both LCC and contracted providers. In addition, several new longer courses were delivered that had multiple qualifications attached to them, including many that are part of construction skills training courses.

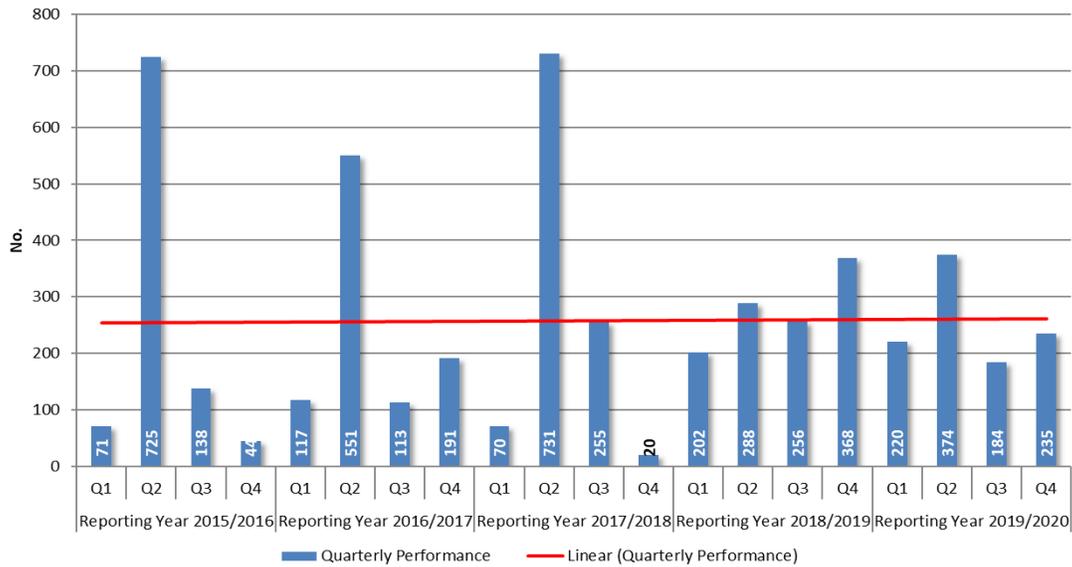
The introduction of more online/distance learning in 2020 continued to grow throughout the remainder of the 20/21 academic year with the result that 43% of qualifications achieved in Q2 were delivered through that route. Of the qualifications delivered in classroom settings, 40% were delivered in Lincoln, 23% were delivered in Gainsborough, 15% in Grantham and 13% in Skegness/Mablethorpe.

Provision continues to be aimed at targeted learners resulting in 56% of qualifications being achieved by male learners and 36% by learners with no, or low levels of previous qualification attainment.

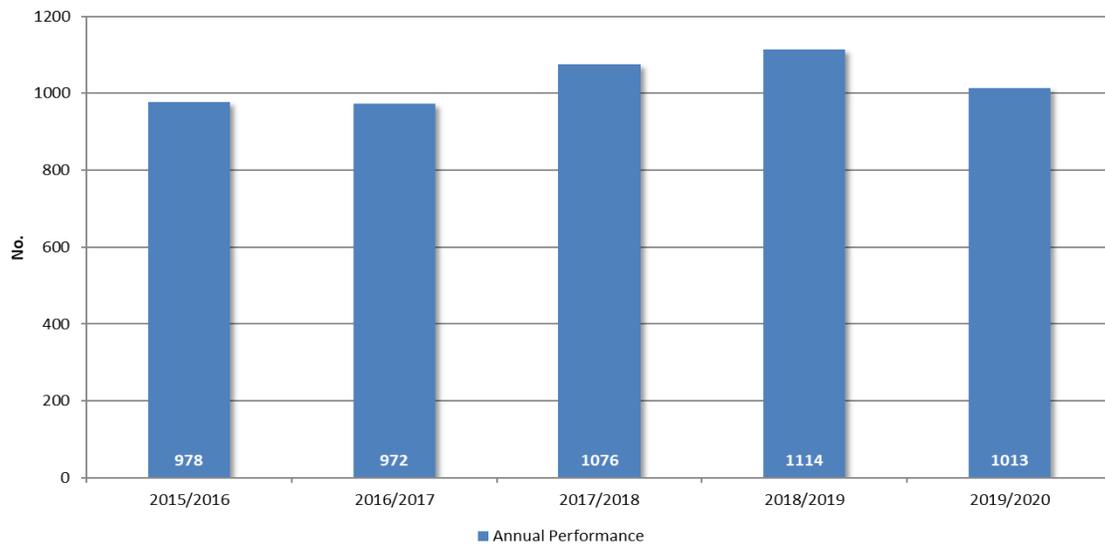
With a continued focus on supporting employability, the range of qualifications achieved included 83 GCSE's or Functional Skills in English or Maths as well as a further 10 ESOL qualifications. In support of Lincolnshire's priority employment sectors, 259 qualifications related to the wider care sectors, 186 to construction, 159 to hospitality and 122 to accountancy and business administration.

Further details

No. of Qualifications Achieved by Adults



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



About the target

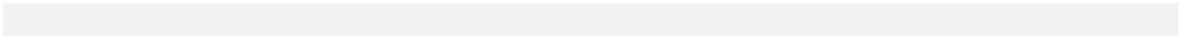
Covid-19 along with changing guidance from the DFE and Exam boards has had a negative impact on the ability to plan and deliver qualification courses during 2020-21. With few qualifications actually achieved between April and June no reporting will be recorded for Q1 with this instead being reported out at the end of Q2 for what will in effect be Summer Term provision. Q3 and Q4 reporting will continue as usual as these are already matched to planned achievements during the Autumn and Spring Terms for 2021-22.

About the target range

The target range for this measure allows for a +/- 5% fluctuation against the target

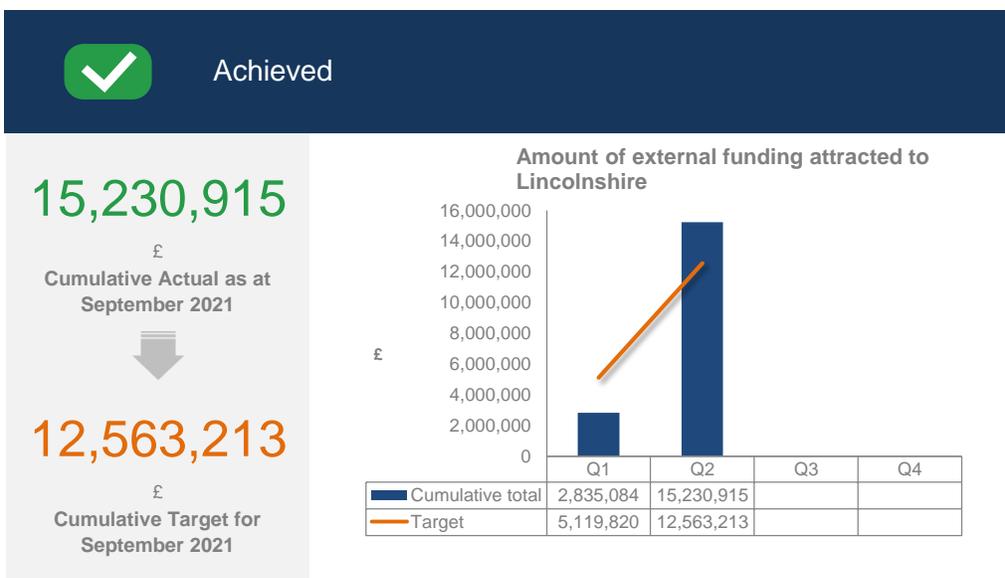
About benchmarking

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



Amount of external funding attracted to Lincolnshire

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



About the latest performance

During Q2 £15,230,915 of external funding has been received, against a target of £12,563,213. This includes £1,739,000 through 3 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) continuation projects now funded to deliver until June 2023: Collaboration 4 Growth £533,000, Gain Enterprise Growth 2 £502,000 and Grants 4 Growth with an additional £704,000 ERDF.

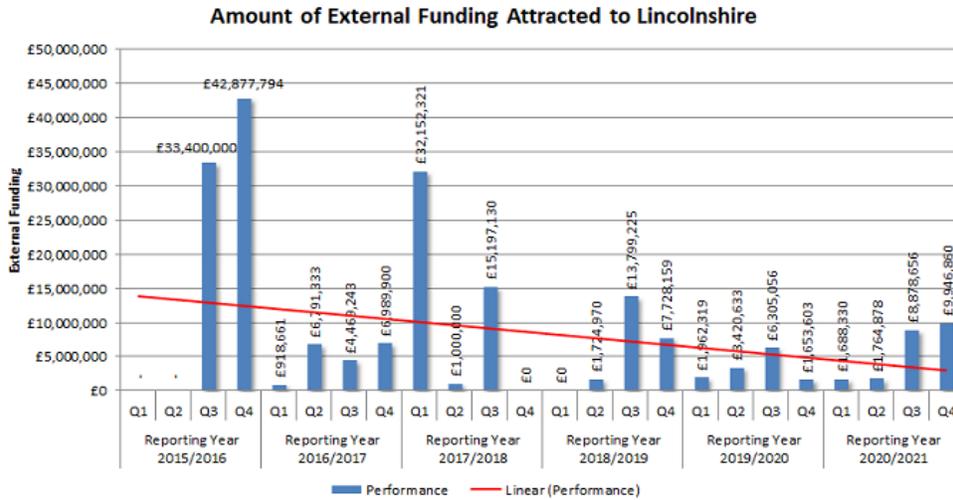
The final tranche, £12,900,000 of the £25.8 million from the Get Britain Building Fund has now been received. The Programme will deliver 6 projects over the coming year:

- *Lincoln Science and Innovation Park (Phase 2)
- *Greater Lincolnshire Cycle Programme
- *Killingholme Pumping Station
- *Centre for Innovation in Rural Health
- *Holbeach Food enterprise Zone (Phase 2)
- *Greater Lincolnshire Skills Capital Programme

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funding of £115,750 has been received to support the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub activity. The Business Lincolnshire Sustainable Business Growth ERDF programmes has submitted 2 claims to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for Q1 and Q2 21-22 totaling £476,165.00.

There have been further national delays of the announcement of Community Renewal Funding (CRF) and Levelling Up Funding streams, so we are yet to hear about the LCC bids of £9m for CRF and £20m for the Levelling Up Fund.

Further details



About the target

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

About the target range

The target range for this measure allows for a +/- 5% fluctuation against the target.

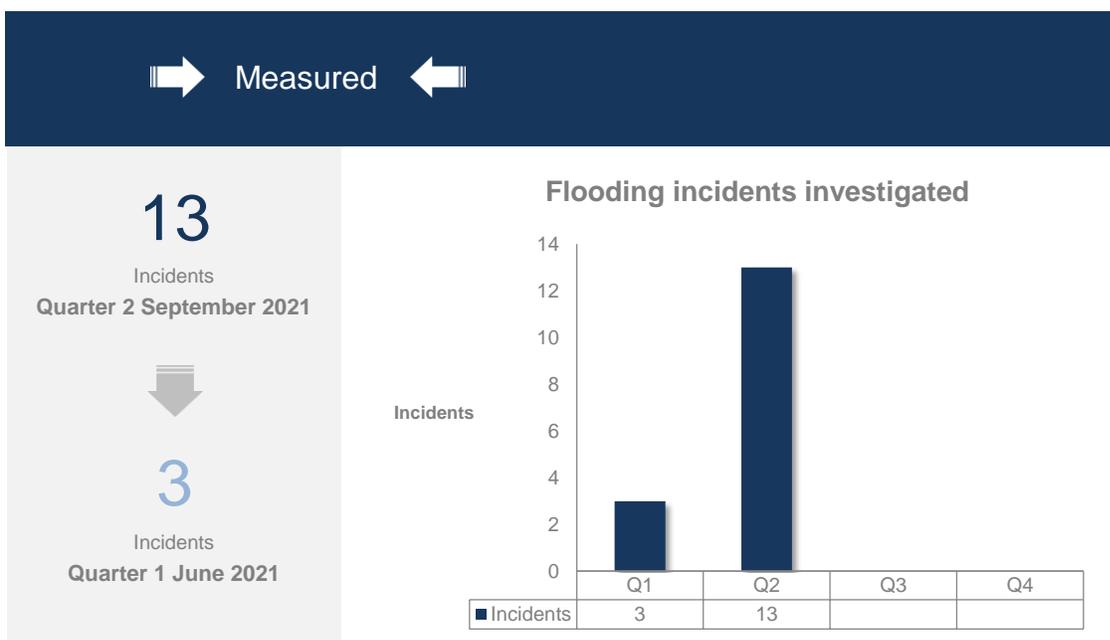
About benchmarking

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

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Flooding incidents investigated

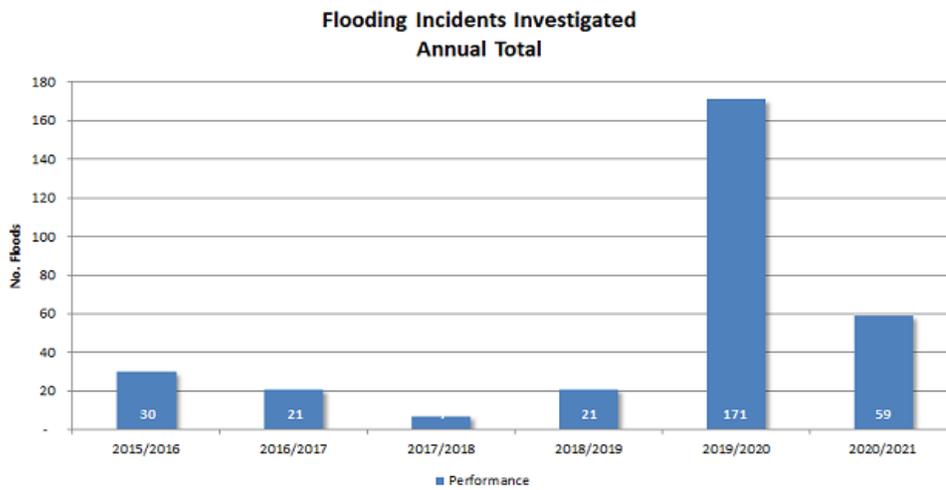
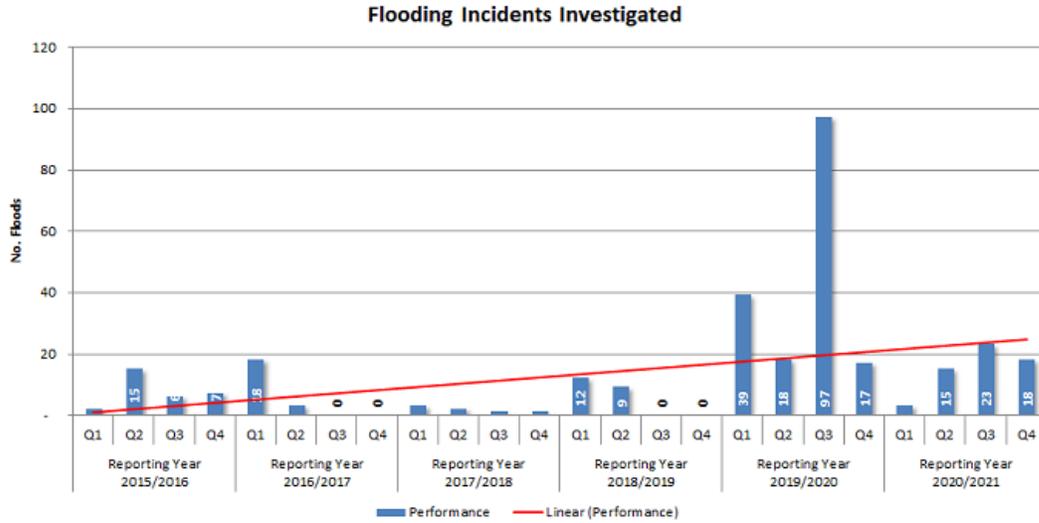
This measure is calculated on the basis of the number of formal investigations undertaken by the County Council under section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. Lincolnshire County Council has interpreted a flooding incident to be any in which one or more domestic properties are flooded internally; the strategic highway network is significantly affected; there is significant impact on farmland or there is a significant impact on the community e.g. schools or commercial property



About the latest performance

There were 13 S.19 investigations started in Q2, affecting 16 properties, mainly as a result of a wet end to July. This compares with three investigations affecting four properties in Q1, and 15 S.19 investigations in Q2 last year.

Further details



About the target

This measure is reported to provide context. It is not appropriate to set a target for this measure.

About the target range

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

About benchmarking

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

Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres

This measure excludes all sites which are not owned by Lincolnshire County Council as the Council has limited control and influence over what streams are recycled.

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

A higher percentage of recycling indicates a better performance.



Not achieved

71.28

%

Quarter 2 September 2021

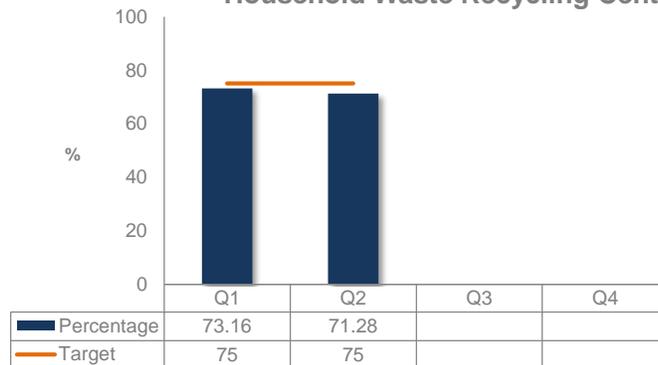


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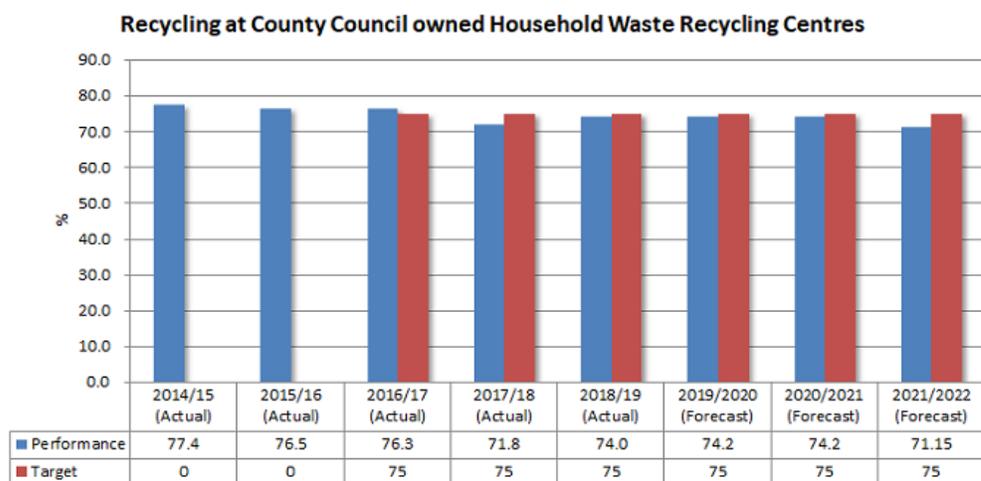
%

Target for September 2021

Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres



Further details



About the target

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

About the target range

No target range has been set for this measure.

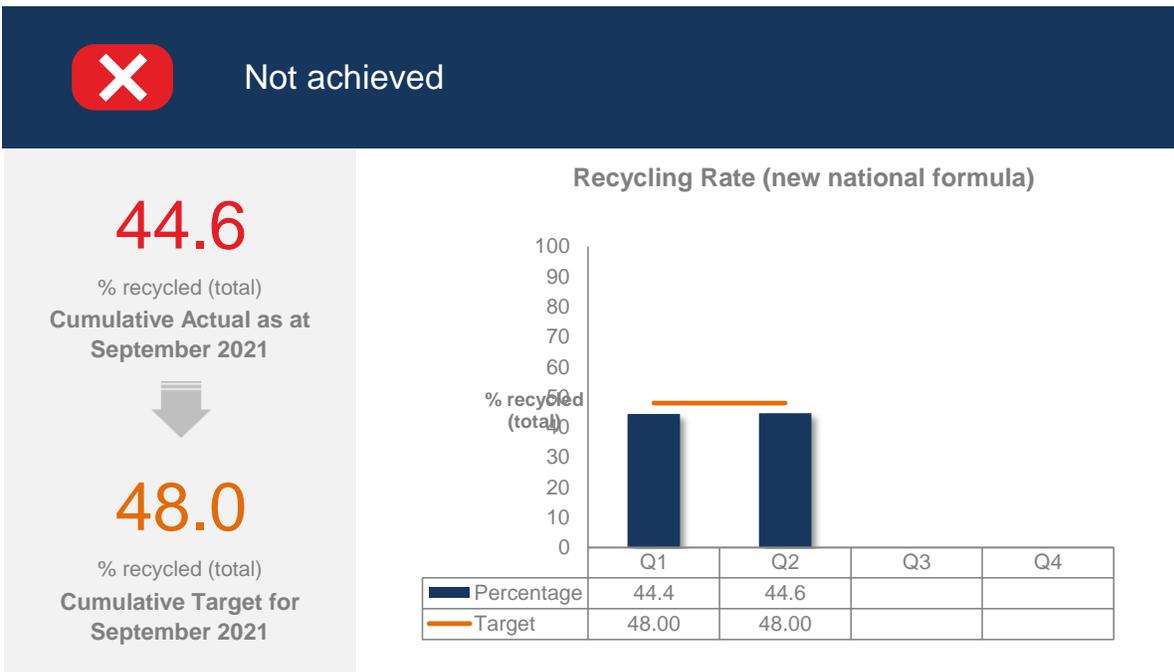
About benchmarking

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

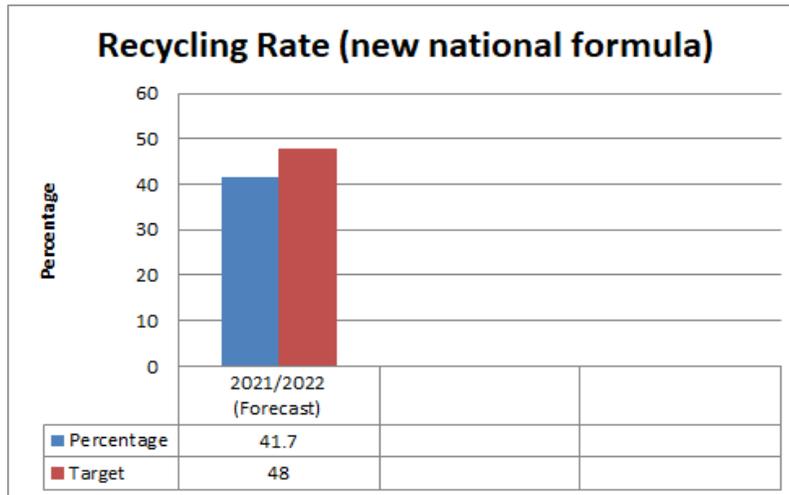
Recycling Rate (new national formula)

Uses the same definition as that used for the national recycling rate and includes recycling, reuse and composting from all sources not just kerbside collections.

Performance includes some estimates where actual figures are not yet available. Officially approved data is available four months after the end of the quarter to which it applies. A higher percentage of household waste recycled indicates a better performance.



Further details



About the target

To contribute to the UK recycling target of 50% by 2020 and 55% by 2025 this links to objective 5 of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy adopted in Jan 2019

About the target range

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

About benchmarking

As a part of the recently-adopted Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership is committed to the development of a number of Key Performance Indicators in addition to the performance indicators already being reported. These additional measures include the level of contamination in the recycling, the overall carbon footprint of waste operations and a measure of public satisfaction with the services being received, and it is recommended that benchmarking be pursued once these have been adopted.

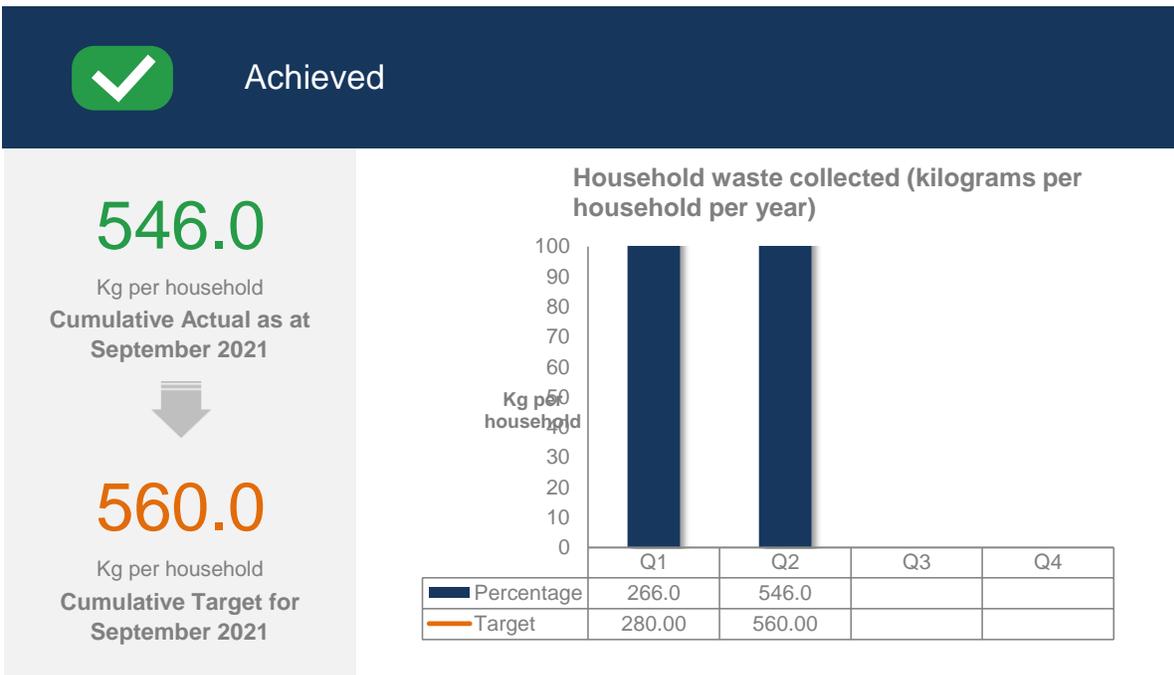
Household waste collected (kilograms per household per year)

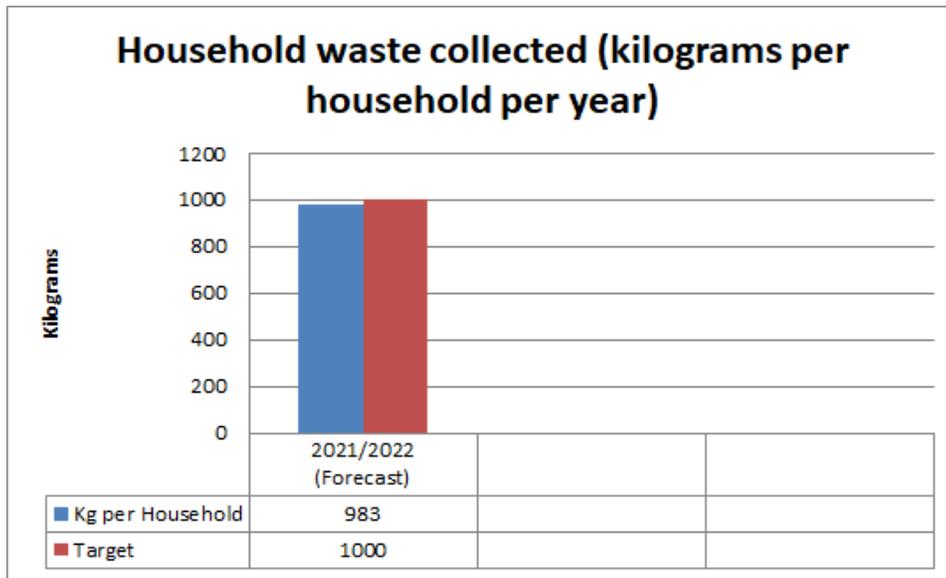
Includes all sources not just kerbside collections.

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

A lower figure means less waste is being produced and collected.

Using the number of households published on waste data flow (WDF) in their calculation of NI191





About the target

To explore new opportunities of promoting waste minimisation and of using all waste as a resource in accordance with the waste hierarchy

About the target range

A maximum value of 1000kg has been set for this

About benchmarking

As a part of the recently-adopted Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership is committed to the development of a number of Key Performance Indicators in addition to the performance indicators already being reported. These additional measures include the level of contamination in the recycling, the overall carbon footprint of waste operations and a measure of public



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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	Flood and Coastal Innovation Programme - the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project

Summary:

To provide an update on the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project and sets out the next steps in Developing an Outline Business Case.

Following a successful bid for funding into the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Innovation Resilience Fund this report provides the Committee with an update on progress in developing the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project and specifically that of working towards the completion of an Outline Business Case by April 2022.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are requested to consider and comment on the report and provide guidance as required to help shape the Outline Business Case that will be further brought back for pre-decision scrutiny in 2022, ahead of the final submission in April 2022.

1. Background

In the 2020 Budget, the government announced a £200 million fund for a flood and coastal resilience innovation programme to help deliver the government's policy statement on flooding and coastal erosion and the Environment Agency's National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England.

The programme will allocate £150 million of the £200 million to 25 local areas, which could be a county, city, town or village, or also mean a river catchment, a tidal estuary or part of the coast. Areas making a successful bid will, on average, receive £6 million between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2027.

Lincolnshire County Council is leading on the development of a collaborative approach founded on the flood and water management partnership and based on the Greater Lincolnshire geography. This includes North Lincolnshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, North Kesteven and East Lindsey District Councils, Internal Drainage Boards, the Environment Agency and Water Companies. Within the Council a range of internal services are engaged, including Highways, Emergency Planning & Business Continuity and Countryside Services. The overall emphasis is on the management of current and future groundwater flood risk an area much less understood than coastal, fluvial and surface water risks. The partnership has recognised there is an identifiable impact of groundwater on residents and infrastructure across the Greater Lincolnshire area, and this little-understood subject offers opportunities for innovative approaches to be taken making a strong bid.

The Partnership prepared an Expression of Interest (EOI) to bid for funding and in January 2021 an Executive Councillor decision notice approved the submission of an EOI by LCC on behalf of the partnership. Subsequently LCC were informed of the success of the application and acceptance on to the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation (FCRI) programme. It confirmed that capital funding will be received over the next six years to take forward the actions and interventions identified in the EOI. The £150 million FCRI programme was re-confirmed in the Government spending review and confirmation was received that following Ministerial approval, the Environment Agency can now allocate and pay-out this funding for this financial year.

All projects will have to complete an Outline Business Case (OBC) for assurance and approval by the Environment Agency's national project assurance groups. Initial allocations of funding for the supporting studies required to complete an OBC had to be claimed via submission of form FCERM7: Application for approval of studies. This was completed by members of the partnership and outlined key packages of work that will be required to lead to the development of the OBC and the associated indicative costs.

Current actions and next steps

As identified above the first major milestone of the project is to produce an Outline Business Case. This will support the development of a multi-functional Integrated Catchment Model. This model will involve using innovative methods to assess groundwater flood risk at a catchment level and will incorporate input data from partners across Greater Lincolnshire. The capability of the models will be adapted so that it is fit for purpose to be able to assess water resource opportunities and also identify where groundwater flooding is likely to occur. Whilst the modelling work will be core to the development of the overall project other areas which will be explored include potential environmental benefits and resilience to climate change and a key focus on community engagement to better understand the risk of groundwater flooding. To support this, and in developing a robust OBC the key packages of work currently identified by the project team are as follows:

Project Team Resource

- To establish dedicated resource within the project team to manage the overall programme and undertake day to day tasks such as engagement, procurement, technical input and completion of the OBC. This dedicated resource is seen as fundamental to ensuring deliverables are produced to programme and meet the quality standards expected. This resource will entirely be externally funded for the duration of the project.
- Recruitment of a National Flood Forum Community Engagement Officer to establish effective community groups and facilitate a multi-agency approach to help the residents deliver outcomes.

Strategic Groundwater Assessment and Gap Analysis

The Strategic Groundwater Assessment has been identified as the first phase of work in assessing what data is available within the wider partnership, what methods can be used and enhanced for modelling and where there are gaps in resource, knowledge or data. The Strategic Groundwater Assessment will consist of the following tasks:

- Desktop review of the Rapid Evidence Assessment (REA) of Groundwater flooding;
- Review national mapping products for capability;
- Capability Assessment of the Greater Limestone and Chalk models;
- Collection of localised data to assist with the Integrated Catchment Modelling; and
- Gap analysis – consisting of scope of works for Catchment Modelling and any other required tools

The project team have engaged with consultants who built the Lincolnshire Limestone and Chalk models and will work with them moving forward to refine the criteria for the submission of the OBC.

Confirmation has been received from the Environment agency national team that this project has already been assessed against the criteria relating to project viability and deliverability and it is expected this next stage of project development, will provide the opportunity to further refine the scope of the project and reduce critical areas of risk and uncertainty. Support is available through the Environment Agency to review the business case and, where necessary, will make recommendations which help the project get off to the best start possible to enable the partnership to achieve the planned benefits and outcomes for the project.

2. Conclusion

The Flood & Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme provides the opportunity to develop understanding of a broad range of groundwater risks and opportunities across multiple LLFA areas, leading to a range of practical actions delivered in partnership over the next six years. It is intended that these actions should incorporate multiple benefits, such that environmental and social resilience is built into the approaches developed.

The Expression of Interest form, developed in a relatively short period of time, required the rapid establishment of a partnership involving a broad range of partners from across the Greater Lincolnshire area. The successful establishment of this partnership and the active collaboration of its members indicates the recognition across the region of the climate change challenges faced by our residents, businesses and environment.

With the success of the EOI and acceptance of the FCERM7 (Approval of studies) form, development of a robust Outline Business Case, and drawdown of funds to support that development, will be the focus of the partnership leading up to the submission deadline of April 2022. Once the OBC has been submitted, and approved, the partnership will then be committed to delivering on the objectives set out for this project. Comments and guidance by members of this committee would be welcomed on this process and the project as a whole as this develops further.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Risk and Impact analysis will be carried out as the project develops as part of the consideration for full business case.

4. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Matthew Harrison, Senior Commissioning Officer - Flood Risk who can be contacted on 07771837565 or matthew.harrison@lincolnshire.gov.uk.



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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	The Levelling Up Agenda for Lincolnshire

Summary:

The report invites Members of the Committee to debate and help to shape the ambitions for Levelling Up in Lincolnshire. The paper provides an overview of information currently available, of the funding received and the anticipated funding coming forward.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee are invited to shape priorities for officers to develop in the coming months and request progress updates to the Committee during 2022.

1. Background

“Levelling Up” is the phrase used by government to describe their plans to invest in outcomes that will make opportunities more equal across the Country. Thus far, we have seen investment across Lincolnshire, through several funding streams under the Levelling Up heading including the Towns Fund, the Levelling Up Fund and UK Community Renewal Fund.

The committee reviewed Greater Lincolnshire’s Plan for Growth in October and at today’s meeting will also hear about the work being done to understand and articulate infrastructure delivery. The government's Levelling Up Agenda is one potential funding vehicle to support this work.

2. Current LCC funding through “Levelling Up”

The Levelling Up Fund

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) successfully bid for a transport scheme to the Levelling Up Fund, focussing on improvements around the A16 corridor. The project is designed to be both deliverable by 31st March 2024 and appropriate to the finance that is available – i.e., that it is similar to the Department for Transport pinch-point funding that was used to create the Levelling Up Fund. The successful bid draws in £20 million of funding.

UKCRF

LCC, as the nominated lead body, submitted a bid to UK Community Renewal Fund (UKCRF) for grant support to deliver a Lincolnshire programme of activities focused on the national priorities of: skills, local business, place and communities and support for people entering employment.

The fund was significantly oversubscribed, and Lincolnshire was awarded £800,979 to deliver 2 revenue projects between November 2021 and 30th June 2022. Officers continue to work with civil servants to ensure that learning points are understood from the process and project delivery.

3. The Funding and Policy Landscape

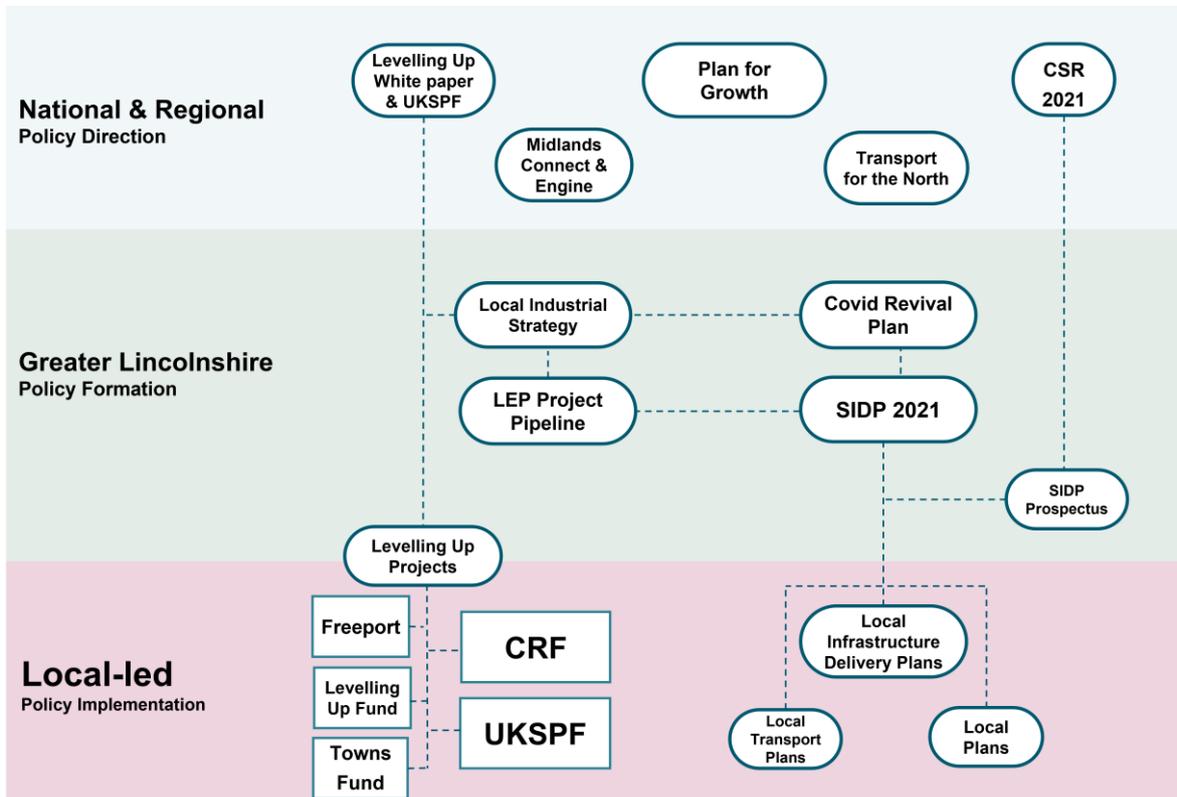


Figure 1 Funding and Policy Landscape

4. The Levelling Up White Paper

The Chancellor announced during the Comprehensive Spending Review 2021 that a Levelling Up White Paper will be published by the end of 2021. This paper will set out a framework and next steps towards levelling up, alongside details of new devolution deals (to include “County Deals”) and investment in research and development.

Levelling up will be underpinned by 4 principles:

- 1) Spreading opportunity and improving public services – particularly where they are weaker**
- 2) Boosting living standards, particularly where they are lower**
- 3) Restoring local pride, and**
- 4) Empowering local leaders and communities**

The Levelling Up spend profile:

- 21/2 £0.2bn
- 22/3 0.9bn
- 23/4 £1.4
- 24/5 £1.4

5. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

Aimed at delivering sustainable, inclusive growth the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will enable areas to invest in local priorities to support people, community and local business. To date there is little advice on how it will be allocated or delivered at the local or regional level. The Comprehensive Spending Review ‘21 announced that UKSPF is funding the £560m Multiply programme (UK adult numeracy programme) which indicates that there is likely to be other national top slicing, and this may also link to future business support programmes combining an equity dimension and potentially this will be more nationally determined.

There remains a continued commitment that UKSPF will total £2.6bn over the next 3 years, and commitment to “at a minimum match the size of EU funds”. However, the “EU match” is only achieved at year 3:

- 22/3 £0.4bn
- 23/4 £0.7bn
- 24/5 £1.5bn

From the local perspective spending time preparing for these funding programmes is essential. Internal work is already underway to ensure that Lincolnshire is able to respond to the White Paper, including more on UKSPF, devolution, levelling up and Net Zero. The work is also focussed on local priorities including growing productivity gaps, coastal

deprivation, rurality, digital exclusion and labour shortages. Infrastructure planning work and the Lincolnshire Plan for Growth are essential elements of this work too.

The Place Directorate are using the process of Towns Fund, Levelling Up and UKCRF to anticipate what the funding opportunities might be and to start to shape priorities for Lincolnshire.

6. Questions for the committee

- What challenges, for communities, individuals and businesses, are affecting Lincolnshire that we must consider for future UKSPF including?
- Do we need to develop work specific to the rural nature of our county?

7. Conclusion

Members of the Committee are invited to debate the priorities currently being examined by officers and share recommendations for areas of focus or changes to existing considerations, particularly in terms of where the County Council can deliver activity.

8. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable.

9. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment who can be contacted on 07917781627 or by e-mail at vanessa.strange@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	Planning for Strategic Infrastructure in Greater Lincolnshire

Summary:

This report invites Members of this Committee to consider and debate the agenda of Planning for Strategic Infrastructure for Greater Lincolnshire.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is invited to:

- 1) agree to the priorities for officers to develop an up-to-date evidence base on infrastructure matters; and
- 2) if relevant, suggest additional or alternative priorities.

1. Background

Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) is working collaboratively in its strategic planning role with other Authorities in Greater Lincolnshire and key stakeholders, including the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), to understand and articulate infrastructure needs and opportunities to provide a stronger position for funding opportunities. The Authorities have sought to promote their collective readiness for infrastructure funding opportunities, primarily by responding to “calls” via Government, through preparation of relevant evidence and documentation. Example opportunities from Central Government would be its current Levelling Up agenda.

At a local level, each District Council in the country is required to prepare a Local Plan for its area and maintain relevant evidence on strategic planning matters. Local Plans will usually be accompanied by an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) or a similar document with proposals for infrastructure to underpin growth within the Plan area. IDPs provide a detailed and usually costed assessment of the necessary investment required to support sustainable growth. County Councils are statutory consultees for all Local Plans within their area and for neighbouring areas too.

LCC would consider Local Plans (including supporting documentation) and respond to relevant consultations accordingly. Particularly because of responsibilities in, for example, services such as transport and education, LCC has taken a keen interest in Local Plans and IDPs for the seven Lincolnshire districts. In some circumstances, LCC has also provided resources and officer time to carry out certain Local Plan evidence and to develop relevant policy solutions. There are four Local Plan areas in Lincolnshire itself: City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey have joined (with LCC) to create a statutory committee in Central Lincolnshire; Boston and South Holland (with LCC) formed a similar committee in South East Lincolnshire; East Lindsey and South Kesteven maintain their own statutory responsibility to prepare Local Plans. LCC also takes an interest in neighbouring Local Plans, including those for the three areas now in Greater Lincolnshire: North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire and Rutland.

Councils at both district and county level, since December 2020, have also been required to produce annual Infrastructure Funding Statements (IFS). These documents include information on developer contributions: Community Infrastructure Levy, Planning Obligations (Section 106) and, optionally, Highways Agreements (Section 38 and Section 278). The second LCC IFS, subject to Executive approval of the draft format and contents, will be published soon after 7th December 2021. The seven district IFS documents will be prepared by them to similar timetables.

In 2016, the Greater Lincolnshire Leadership Board was established, constituted of the Leaders of each Local Authority in Greater Lincolnshire. Also in 2016, the Authorities agreed to work together on some policy and evidence matters, including preparing documentation around planning for strategic (major) infrastructure projects to facilitate development. The main document to be drafted here was called the Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP). This has been revisited on an ad hoc basis, with both a 2019 SIDP and 2021 SIDP.

The SIDP has been an opportunity to bring together some of the strategic context of:

- Local Plans, including a synopsis of their ambitions,
- Collective delivery against Local Plan targets,
- The approaches of (trans-)regional documents, most notably the Greater Lincolnshire Plan for Growth,
- others such documents ranging from strategies from Midlands Connect to Town Masterplan.

However, more is anticipated in regard to setting this strategic context in future SIDP documents (further detail below at conclusions).

In agreeing the 2021 SIDP, partners (through the Leadership Board and elsewhere) have stated an objective to annually review the SIDP to, for example, inform Spending Review “ask”.

The 2021 SIDP process went further than others in providing a detailed, locally developed and accessible database of evidence on infrastructure projects. The “nuts and bolts” of SIDP documents have previously been projects volunteered by partners via detailed pro formas but until 2021, these were assessed, recorded, and managed by external consultants. The Core Evidence from the SIDP is a list of proposals, projects, and programmes with an evidence-based suggestion for prioritisation. Equally this evidence provides total outputs on outputs including potential housing units and potential full-time equivalent jobs that could generated. However, with locally accessible database, stakeholders using a few clicks could, for example, ‘sort’ that data by a particular output, such as housing units, or ‘filter’ to a certain part of the Greater Lincolnshire geography.

Once the 2021 SIDP evidence was produced, Greater Lincolnshire Authorities agreed to prepare an Infrastructure Summary to highlight projects and programmes within the 2021 SIDP. The Infrastructure Summary also links the SIDP further to from the National Infrastructure Strategy to the Greater Lincolnshire Plan for Growth and several between. The Infrastructure Summary (as attached) also includes concise place-based statement on each of the ‘spatial corridors’ first considered in the Greater Lincolnshire Local Industrial Strategy.

2. Conclusion

In 2022 and working on this agenda, officers aim to ensure Greater Lincolnshire is in the best possible place to respond positively to any infrastructure funding opportunities that arise. The proposed 2022 Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP) and the anticipated suite of related documentation, evidence and programme management processes will become clearer throughout the year. However, the culmination will be a pipeline of proposals, programmes and projects that is even better positioned than previous years. Officers, with other organisations, are concluding a gap analysis process (taking stock) following the work in 2021 and previous years. The gap analysis has already identified:

- thematic gaps to be addressed by further research, evidence or engagement.
- needs to be step-change in inclusively and proactively engaging partners, particularly recognizable because of the challenging working practices (remote working) in 2020 and 2021
- is a clear need for greater openness and sensitivity to longer-term programmes and projects so that they can be assessed more fairly against more short-term clearly defined proposals – the latter will have clearer benefits (outputs or outcomes) than the former, likewise for delivery considerations such as attention to risk management – so this has skewed results of previous years.

In short, officer’s approach will aim establish a comprehensive pipeline of relevant shovel-ready projects and a range of longer-term projects or programmes with strong strategic fit. LCC officers will aim to promotes all Greater Lincolnshire Authorities and organisations capacity, capability and agility to respond positively to future funding opportunities.

3. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Greater Lincolnshire Infrastructure Summary

5. 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
The Green Book (HM Treasury)	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-green-book-appraisal-and-evaluation-in-central-government/the-green-book-2020
"The Blue Book" - Guide To Developing The Project Business Case	Project Business Case 2018

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Infrastructure Summary

Greater Lincolnshire SIDP 2021



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Produced by:



Introduction

This is a moment of opportunity for Greater Lincolnshire. The region is focused on economic growth and levelling up, working together to identify and address opportunities and challenges through 'Protecting, Progressing, Prospering' – Greater Lincolnshire's economic plan for growth. Strategic infrastructure has a pivotal role to play in making this happen, and the Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Plan (SIDP) sets out some of the infrastructure projects which require public investment in 2021 to deliver the 3 SIDP priorities: *drive economic recovery*; *address levelling up challenges*; and *deliver decarbonisation and climate adaptation*. This document provides a summary of this work, set within the wider place context.

This summary document represents a moment in time, highlighting projects and programmes submitted in the 2021 SIDP process and some of the broader strategic infrastructure thinking ongoing in the region. This is a snapshot of the far broader range of projects that partners in Greater Lincolnshire are delivering and propose to initiate which will deliver against national priorities for infrastructure and the economy, including activities related to pan-regional agendas such as Midlands Engine and climate change. Some of this is set out on pages 32-34 where we look at some of the broad range of initiatives in Greater Lincolnshire.

The SIDP and Greater Lincolnshire's wider project pipeline must be seen in this context and we set out three broad priorities on page 4 in this document, which link to national policy and also to local delivery. We look forward to the publication of the Levelling Up White Paper and are at the heart of the drive to level up places. Across Greater Lincolnshire, 3 towns have been awarded over £30m for Future High Street Fund, the Towns Fund represents £155.6m in confirmed across the six towns, while the region submitted £234m of bids into the Levelling Up Fund, alongside community renewal fund proposals.

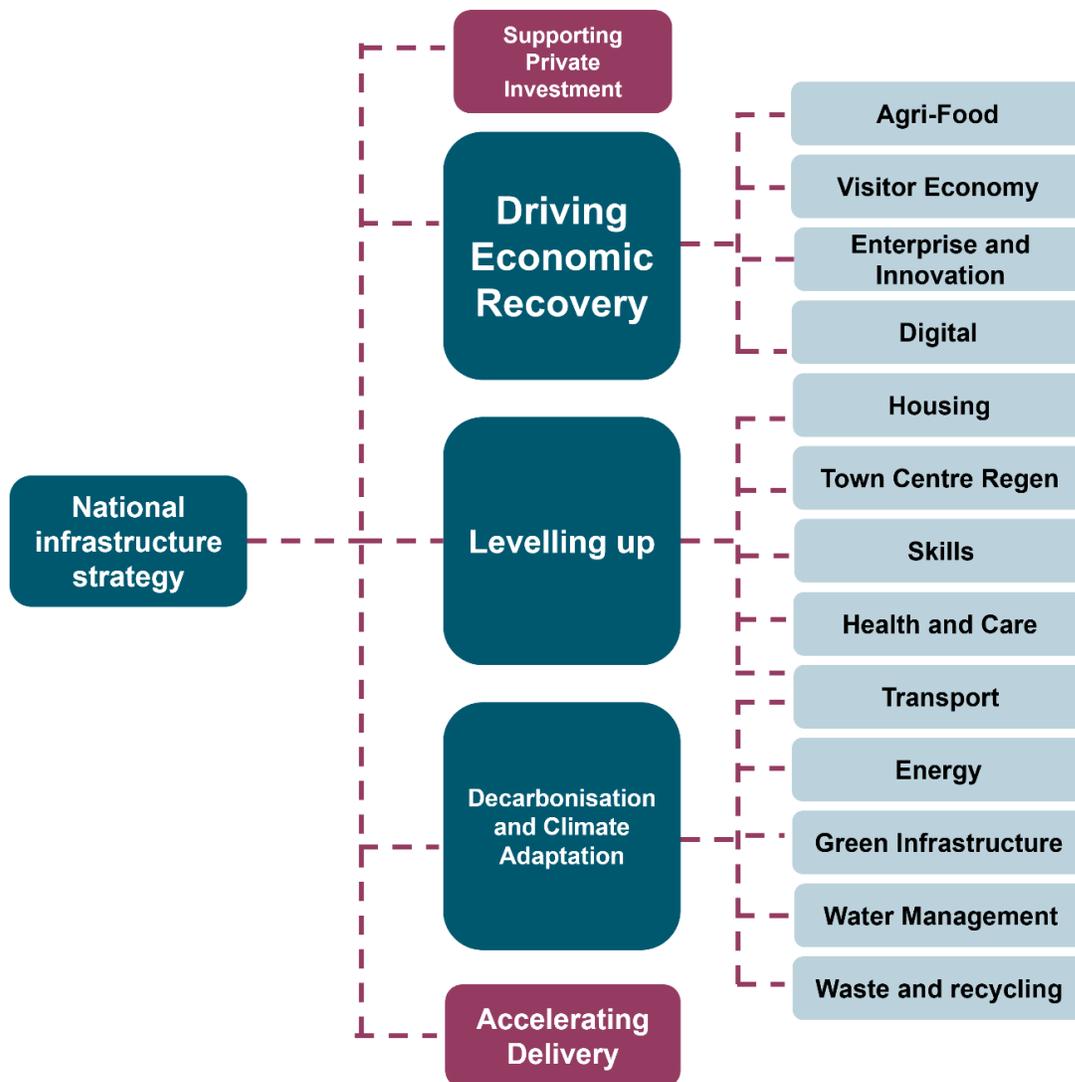
We are already delivering. We are home to the landmark £67m Greater Grimsby town deal in 2018, which sparked government thinking to expand the programme into the £3.6bn Towns Fund. We secured £180m of growth-related funding in Single Local Growth Fund, unlocking new jobs and business growth. We will soon be home to one of the country's first Freeports and we have a nationally significant agrifood and energy assets. The 2020 Skills Capital programme is investing in capital projects that will result in improved training and learning facilities for young people and adults; a highlight investment of the programme, set out in the 2021 LEP Local Skills Report, is the Engineering Manufacturing and Technology Centre at Boston College, which opened in March 2020.

New projects have emerged since this list was compiled and other projects will have been completed. Partners continue to collaborate on new ideas to transform the economy and level up Greater Lincolnshire. The SIDP and Greater Lincolnshire infrastructure officer group provide much of the foundations and mechanism focused on infrastructure to make this

happen. Greater Lincolnshire is working more together where it matters and there are strong links between partners including the local authorities, NHS, skills providers, business, and national organisations.

Greater Lincolnshire has identified three delivery priorities in this plan, each of which includes multiple SIDP infrastructure themes. These priorities align with the National Infrastructure Strategy, which frames the government’s £27bn infrastructure investment. We have built from these national priorities to develop overarching infrastructure priorities which work for Greater Lincolnshire. The themes reflect the breadth of projects received for the 2021 SIDP. For the 2022 SIDP these themes will likely expand to include projects in Defence and other strategic opportunities.

Figure 1. Greater Lincolnshire SIDP Priorities in the National Context



Links to wider policy and strategy

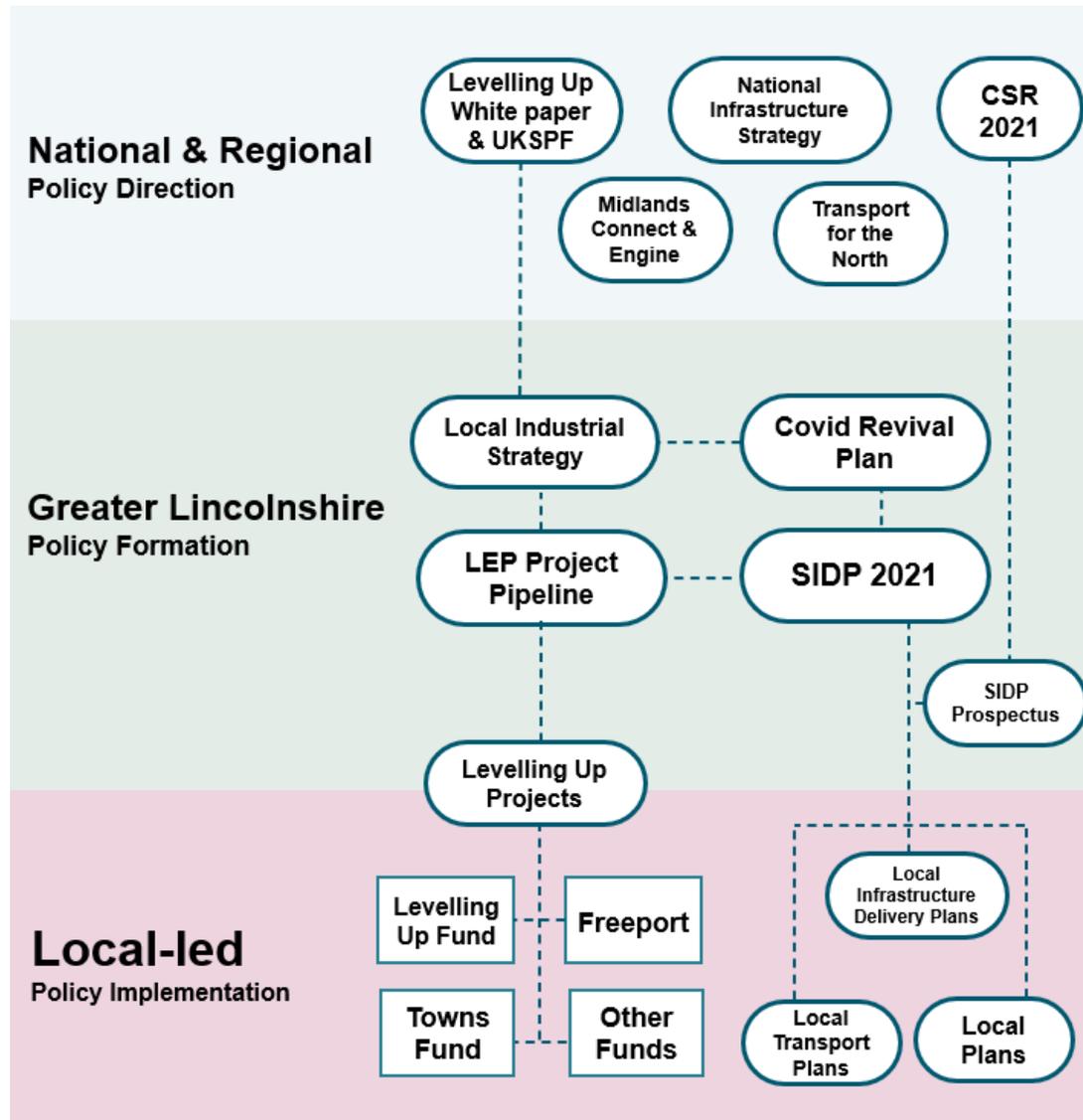
Strategic infrastructure is grounded in national policy and funding, which includes areas ranging from levelling up, the ten point plan for green industrial revolution, the national infrastructure commission, and the NHS new hospitals programme. Locally Greater Lincolnshire has developed an economic plan for growth, alongside the local industrial strategy and strategic economic plan.

Housing is an increasingly important aspect of UK economic policy, with the national government setting a target of 300,000 new houses built per year by the mid-twenties. The Planning White Paper intends to liberalise the planning process and increase the supply of housing by designating areas of growth and renewal, while reformed design codes intend to standardise a national standard of design and housing aesthetics.

This diverse and distinctive economy has well defined priorities that are important to level up Greater Lincolnshire and grow the UK economy. We are investing in a broad range of projects to deliver growth. This includes the Freeport, Humber Estuary, UK Food Valley and Energy Test-Bed projects, 6 Towns Fund deals, the Institute of Technology, and submissions to the Levelling Up and Community Renewal Funds. Many of these projects and programmes relate to the distinctive elements of the Greater Lincolnshire economy. The UK Food Valley, as one example, will develop the already nationally significant Greater Lincolnshire Agrifood offer.

There is an opportunity to secure long term benefits to level up Greater Lincolnshire with the right investment in infrastructure at the right time. Transport and digital infrastructure ensure that the region is connected for work, housing and learning. Investment in innovation and technical advancements are leading the country in new food production methods. Water management is vital to water-intensive sectors like agriculture, while flood defence provides confidence for growth, including new homes. Energy infrastructure is the catalyst to reach net zero and create green jobs. Employment land attracts and grows the business base. The SIDP represents one of Greater Lincolnshire's plans to deliver this.

Figure 2. SIDP and policy context



SIDP 2021

This summary accompanies the longer, technical 2021 Strategic Infrastructure Development Plan. This is the third SIDP, which is frequently refreshed as projects are completed and new understanding of needs emerges. It is the result of a thorough evaluation process by partners across Greater Lincolnshire, starting with a call for projects from public and private stakeholders. It will be important to continue to engage different kinds of stakeholders in infrastructure evidence.

Its development has been led by the Infrastructure Group, overseeing the SIDP working group, facilitated by Lincolnshire County Council in partnership with districts and unitary authorities. The Local Authorities and LEP engaged with businesses in the preparation of the 2021 SIDP

and project pipeline. Districts, unitary authorities and relevant partners created outline business cases in response to the call for submissions. Projects were scored according to a qualitative assessment of strategic fit, economic case, deliverability and impact, by a panel of internal and external experts. The SIDP scoring process identified 11 “High Priority” projects, which scored highly on the metrics of Strategic Fit, Economic Case, Deliverability and Impact. These are:

- **Keadby Terminal TAO Pumping Station Project:** Renewing the Keadby station, which protects tens of thousands of homes and energy assets across the Isle of Axholme
- **Elsoms Seeds R&D Centre:** A research centre with laboratories focusing on biotechnology, and supporting commercial engagement with academia
- **North Hykeham Relief Road:** Additional support to ensure the viability of this project, completed in 2027, which will unlock substantial housing growth across Lincoln
- **Full Fibre North Lincolnshire Schools:** A programme aimed at local schools, addressing barriers in digital access and supporting local economic growth
- **Sleaford Moor Enterprise Park:** Addressing infrastructure barriers to development of a Strategic Employment Site in Central Lincolnshire
- **National Flood Resilience Centre:** The Ark Centre will develop innovative flood prevention techniques and train emergency responders in a full-scale floodable street
- **Centre of Skills for Employment and Enterprise:** Based at Grantham College, this project will deliver a space for employment support and business development
- **Cleethorpes Regeneration Phase 2:** A package of infrastructure and public realm projects supporting the local visitor economy
- **Health and Social Care for the Future:** Based at North Lindsey college, this project will deliver facilities for health and social care provision, training and education
- **Grimsby West Urban Extension:** A new strategic link road unlocking the development of new housing sites, and expanding access to the South Humber Bank for local industry
- **Somerby Park:** Infrastructure support to unlock allocated employment land in Somerby park in Gainsborough, expanding local opportunities for advanced manufacturing

The combined pipeline totals almost a billion pounds of planned investment in Greater Lincolnshire, spanning a wide number of themes relevant to the Greater Lincolnshire economy and ready for investment in 2021. It complements the broad range of public and private sector investment ongoing in the area – the commercial sector in agrifood, transport and energy for

example are making huge investments in the area and there is ongoing investment by Homes England and others to unlock development. The SIDP 2021 is linked with the wider LEP project pipeline, highlighting the infrastructure required for wider projects.

Strengthening process and content in SIDP 2022

Following SIDP 2021, the SIDP will be renewed on an annual basis. This will allow for a dynamic pipeline of prioritised projects and the needs of the economy in the face of technological, environmental and social change. In developing the 2022 document, the project leads will be reviewing this process, including further engagement with businesses on the 2022 method and in seeking projects and evidence for the document itself.

We have identified a number of areas where there is potential to strengthen the SIDP 2022. These lessons will inform the next SIDP to ensure a greater breadth of projects to cover all parts of Greater Lincolnshire.

Defining what is strategic infrastructure. The 2021 SIDP grouped projects with transport emerging as the largest group. Given Greater Lincolnshire's connectivity challenges transport is likely to remain a major infrastructure priority, but we want to challenge ourselves to think creatively about what strategic infrastructure means and what is needed to level up. This means we will think about areas such as green, innovation, health, skills, housing, parks, digital, and heritage infrastructure alongside road and rail improvements.

Addressing thematic gaps. The SIDP 2021 is good, but there are noticeable gaps. Gap analysis is currently under consideration to identify areas for further development. Work is continuing on studies for Education and Health Infrastructure elements, and projects are being developed in Defence and Ports & Logistics.

Assessing social value. The 2021 project appraisal process could be strengthened by including more at outline business case stage on social value. This would both be in the proforma – ensuring that project owners consider how the project could be delivered to realise social value – and also in the scoring so that social value is actively considered in prioritising projects.

More interactive. The SIDP represents a moment in time, but the project cycle is continuous and funding pots and policy are announced throughout the year. The Infrastructure Group will consider how to address these two points. One option may be to develop interactive strategic infrastructure maps that can be updated through the year.

An inclusive process. The process and partnerships that have developed the SIDP have strengthened, but we want to continue to work together to ensure that the projects in the 2022 SIDP reflect all people and places in Greater Lincolnshire. In particular this means working together as local authorities and with businesses to codevelop a process and governance that is inclusive and collaborative.

1 The Case for Levelling Up

Covering an area more than 4.5 times larger than Greater London, Greater Lincolnshire is a large and polycentric place. It has a dispersed economy made up of distinctive market towns interspersed between rural, coastal and urban areas, as well as concentrations of industrial activity. Greater Lincolnshire possesses an attractive quality of place offering, with low population density, plenty of rural space and a spread of built-up areas. There are fewer built-up areas compared to most other regions of the UK.

Greater Lincolnshire extends from the south bank of the Humber in the north to Stamford in the south (a distance of 140 km by road with a 2 hour drive time). This scale makes it challenging to reach businesses and individuals. Networks are more difficult to establish and often recruitment and access to training is a challenge. There is also a large inclusion challenge given the spatial inequalities within the area. This is prevalent not only in rural and coastal locations but also in some of the towns. Providing solutions to promote inclusive growth is vital in terms of human capital, health inequalities and increasing the prosperity of places and people.

Greater Lincolnshire has a strong case for investment, supported by the local industrial strategy evidence base and local plans. This solid foundation is already reaping rewards through the amount of funding secured and the number of projects underway across the region. However, there is an opportunity to do more faster in order to address levelling up challenges within Greater Lincolnshire and between the regional economy and rest of the UK.

Greater Lincolnshire benefits from effective partnership working across the eleven upper and lower tier local authorities and the Greater Lincolnshire LEP and working closely with others such as the University of Lincoln around innovation. Building on the growth of the key sectors, circumstances and appropriate national support provide the opportunity for Greater Lincolnshire to be a successful example of levelling up.

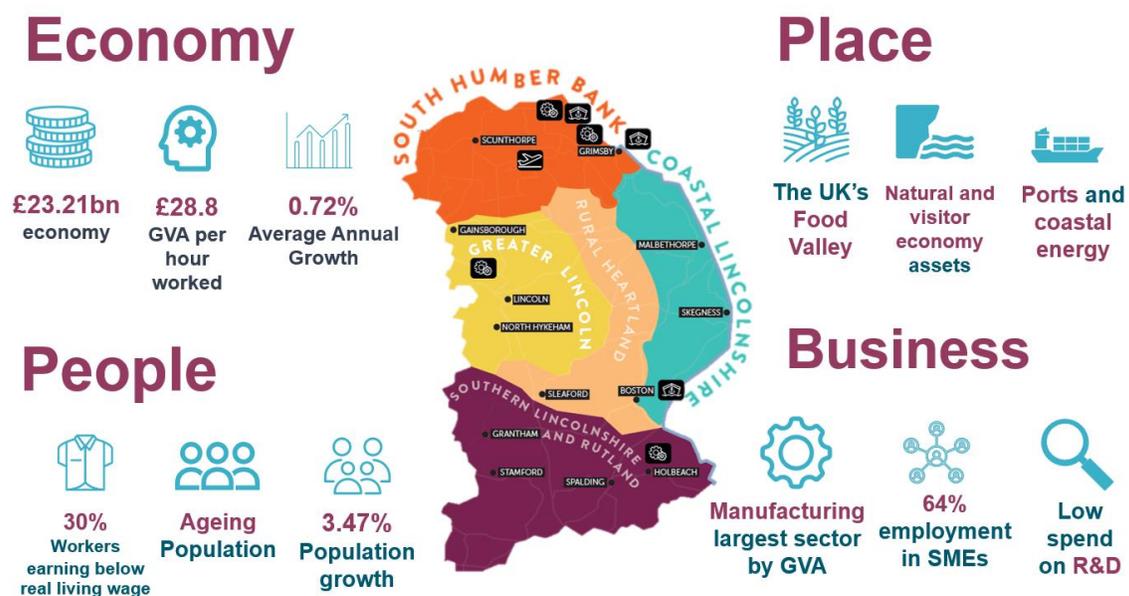
Strengths and Opportunities

The Local Industrial Strategy sets out local economic strengths and opportunities. Producing 12% of UK food, Greater Lincolnshire is the heart of the UK's food production; as the UK's Food Valley, with ongoing investment in Holbeach Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) and the opportunities of the Hemswell Cliff FEZ, the area is well placed to capitalise on the trends towards shortened supply chains following Brexit and Covid. The size and importance of the Energy and Manufacturing sectors offers the opportunity to make national significant progress on the Green & low carbon economy in the Humber Estuary.

The central location of Greater Lincolnshire provides access to the Midlands' only ports, and the area is an important UK location for trade; this is increasingly important given the Midlands' growing role as a hub of logistics and distribution. The Freeport and the Towns Fund investments around Boston Port will be transformational for the area.

Greater Lincolnshire's key sectors combined with changing circumstances offer the potential to drive growth. The region's ageing and dispersed population makes it an ideal testbed for innovation in Health and Care provision. Increased demand for domestic tourism points to the potential for growth in Visitor Economy. And there is the potential to attract more high-output firms, especially in the small but fast-growing Defense sector.

Figure 3. Greater Lincolnshire economic overview



Land and housing are relatively affordable; meanwhile, changing patterns of housing demand have seen rising demand for market towns, rural and coastal areas, and the quality of life that Greater Lincolnshire can provide. Capitalising on the 'Zoomshock' offers the region the chance to attract more professionals to live, or work, suggesting that the East Coast Mainline (and onward connections within Greater Lincolnshire) will be increasingly important for commuting. And the landscape is a strong natural asset, both to the visitor economy and in the quality of life offer that will become increasingly important under remote working.

Challenges

Greater Lincolnshire experiences low productivity, which contributes to the region punching below its weight in output and to lower wages. There is spatial inequality, with pockets of deprivation and health inequality within the region. Many employees are paid below the real living wage. With notable exceptions, Greater Lincolnshire lacks high-output knowledge

economy work, while the region's low R&D spend is concentrated in a small number of innovative companies.

The region is held back by poor connectivity with a reliance on roads to reach amenities. This impacts accessibility and opportunity around travel to work and learn patterns, contributing to greater inequality. This is a large geography with limited public transport networks to support local labour markets. The Local Industrial Strategy identified the link between transport connectivity and skills gaps, with 42% of young people citing high travel costs as a barrier to career advancement.¹ There is an opportunity for digital connectivity here, however broadband coverage is currently a barrier to economic development, especially for rural areas. And as online retail grows, there is a need to improve the resilience of local high streets.

Energy grid capacity is holding back development in some areas, and poses a potential risk as demands on the grid rise as fossil fuels are phased out. Climate change poses an unusually large threat given the low-lying nature of the region. Large parts of Greater Lincolnshire, including locations like the Humber (covered by strategies like Humber 2100+) that are important to the national economy, are at flood risk, and the crucial importance of the supply of water to water-dependent businesses means that water management takes an atypical high priority in planning Greater Lincolnshire's development.

¹ GLLEP. *Local Industrial Strategy Evidence Base*, (2019)

2 Driving Economic Recovery

We have the opportunity to use infrastructure investment to enable a rapid and effective Covid recovery for businesses and residents, focused on productive growth and jobs.

Recovery is important for Greater Lincolnshire. The pandemic has had a hard impact on local businesses. Across Greater Lincolnshire, over half a billion pounds of government aid has been distributed, £312 million of which has been in the form of business support grants.² The majority of our businesses are small and micro businesses, who may lack the resilience and cashflow to bounce back quickly. Investment in more high quality employment land and commercial premises represents an opportunity to attract and grow the business base.

Prioritising investment in the infrastructure linked to the strategic opportunities identified in the Local Industrial Strategy and Economic Plan for Growth will support local growth sectors. Our projects invest in areas where there is an opportunity to accelerate growth – in particular considering the LEP’s ‘Game changers’ that have been developed around UK Food Valley; Humber Freeport; Clean Growth plan; and Growth of the RAF.

The projects detailed overleaf represent our contribution in the SIDP to the national goal of a swift recovery from Covid-19.

² UK Government. *Covid Support Statistics by local authority*, 2021.

SIDP Economic Recovery Projects

 Agrifood	 Digital	 Enterprise and Innovation	 Visitor Economy	 Ports
Elsoms Seeds R&D Centre	5G4GIE	Cleethorpes Business Centre	Connected Coast and Danelaw Path	Port of Boston
		Fairfield Industrial Estate Extension		
		Horncastle Industrial Estate Extension		
		Pioneer Business Park Speculative Builds		
Europarc III FEZ New Build factory Space		Port of Boston	Riverside Gateway Marina	
		Sleaford Moor Enterprise Park		
		Somerby Park		

3 Levelling Up

Government has recognised the importance of levelling up in Greater Lincolnshire, with six of the towns chosen for the Towns Fund within the area, while 56% of Greater Lincolnshire’s population live in priority category 1 districts for the Levelling Up Fund.

Greater Lincolnshire is well placed to enact the Government’s Levelling Up Agenda, through projects with support from national government like freeports, the Towns Fund and the Levelling Up Fund.

The Levelling Up agenda offers Greater Lincolnshire the opportunity to revitalise all our places, towns and communities, with the recent launch of the Levelling Up Fund and the forthcoming Levelling Up White Paper. Towns like Skegness, Grimsby, and Mablethorpe are among the 10% most deprived in the country and are also experiencing population decline. Local leaders are responding with locally developed and ambitious plans.

In the past six months many of our places have focused on Towns Fund and Levelling Up fund. We have applied for significant and transformative projects. Maps for the six Town Investment Plans are set out on pages 18-30 of this document. They are an essential complement to the SIDP projects set out here and all must be considered together in order to derive maximum benefit for Greater Lincolnshire’s people and places. And this is only the start of Greater Lincolnshire’s levelling up plans. There will be future rounds of the Levelling Up Fund, soon to be accompanied by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The 2022 SIDP will be able to draw from these projects and ensure that we continue to deliver high quality projects to level up.

We are already investing in the strategic road network but need to do more to increase connectivity within Greater Lincolnshire and externally to the major road network, ports and rail. For example, the gateways into Lincolnshire can expand the amount of freight, tourism and commuting across boundaries, something that is being promoted through Midlands Connect.

Meanwhile the rise of remote working offers Greater Lincolnshire the opportunity to accelerate the trend of attracting high productivity workers from around the UK with a high quality of life offer. Greater Lincolnshire has the objective to build around 100,000 new homes as laid out in the timescales for the respective local plans – investment will unlock more sites faster.

The projects overleaf detail our SIDP proposals for Levelling Up.

SIDP Levelling Up Projects

 Health and care	 Housing	 Skills	 Transport	 Town Centre
Health and Social Care for the Future	A52/A1 Roundabout	Centre Of Skills for Employment & Enterprise	Barton Link Road Brigg Link Road Rail Journey Time Improvements Europarc Bus Bridge	Cleethorpes Regeneration Programme Phase 2
South East of City of Lincoln Health Hub	Grimsby West Urban Extension	Full Fibre North Lincolnshire Schools	Gainsborough Bridge Road Area Improvement Nettleham Roundabout Improvements Scheme North Hykeham Relief Road	Cleethorpes Regeneration Programme Phase 3
South of Lincoln Health Hub	Skegness Gateway Queen Elizabeth Road, Lincoln	Meeting Future Digital Expectations	Sleaford Growth Project (2) Tallington By Pass and Bridge over East Coast Main Line Washingborough Parkway Interchange Upgrade to A15	Heart of Sleaford

4 Decarbonisation and climate adaptation

Infrastructure is fundamental to Greater Lincolnshire's contribution to better carbon management, delivering the UK's target of reaching net zero emissions by 2050 and increasing the resilience of local communities.

Government has set out a number of priorities in this area. Government's Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution calls for an acceleration of the shift to zero emission vehicles and a modal shift in transport. The Transport Decarbonisation Plan, launched in July 2021, lays out the UK's decarbonisation strategy, committing to increased active travel, zero emission mass transit and decarbonising rail and maritime travel.

Greater Lincolnshire already has an existing strong energy sector with significant investment in various forms of energy generation. The Humber Estuary is connected to over 25% of the UK's energy production; as the UK's Energy Estuary, it will play a huge role in transitioning towards net zero, pioneering the emerging green technologies and enabling innovation through the Freeport project. The region hosts large industrial sites and a particular concentration of high intensity energy users in the north, which means there's an opportunity to create new green jobs, maximising the number of new jobs nationally which are based in the region and accessible to local residents.

Transport has emerged as the single largest polluting sector nationally, accounting for 34% of emissions, and requires focus from decarbonisation. In Greater Lincolnshire, transport related emissions have risen as a share of total emissions from 29% to 32% since 2005, and the region has a legal obligation to reduce emissions, in line with compliance to the 2015 Paris Agreement.

With coastal and low-lying regions, water management is a crucial aspect of climate resilience, and Greater Lincolnshire has plans to become a rural innovation testbed for energy and water management. Given the low-lying and coastal nature of much of the region, and the vital importance of water to the food sector, Greater Lincolnshire will be at the forefront of the UK's climate adaptation building on strategies including Humber 2100+.

Overleaf, the projects from the SIDP are detailed.

SIDP Decarbonisation and climate adaptation projects

 Energy	 Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport	 Waste and recycling	 Water management
Future Energy Centre	Gainsborough Green Grid	Resource Park including Household Recycling Centre	Barton to New Holland Flood Alleviation Scheme
Greater Lincolnshire Energy Testbed			Halton Marshes Phase 2
Heat & electricity from Hykeham Energy from Waste facility	Wilder Witham		Humberston Fitties Sea Defence
Recycling food waste to generate renewable fuel/energy	Sustainable Travel Initiatives Cycling and Walking	Humberside TPP	Keadby TAO Pumping Station Project
Grantham Southern Gateway Sustainable Electricity Supply			National Flood Resilience Centre
H2Refuel	Lincoln Overbridge		Saltfleet to Gibraltar Point Coastal Defences
			Stallingborough
Wainfleet Flood Resilience			

5 Distinctive Places

Greater Lincolnshire's dispersed and diverse economy brings opportunities and challenges. In the Local Industrial Strategy Greater Lincolnshire described 'spatial corridors' conceptually to think about places in Greater Lincolnshire.³ These are not exact, but rather one of the ways of describing the diverse and distinctive parts of Greater Lincolnshire. We have used these here simply to visualise and showcase the wealth of activity underway across districts, county and unitary local authorities, including some of the infrastructure projects underway and planned across Greater Lincolnshire which help address challenges and capitalise on local strengths.

Each spatial corridor has opportunities and challenges which must be supported and nurtured and we have looked to give examples below. This includes projects submitted to the SIDP 2021 and Towns Fund alongside examples of ongoing and future infrastructure projects, such as Levelling Up fund.

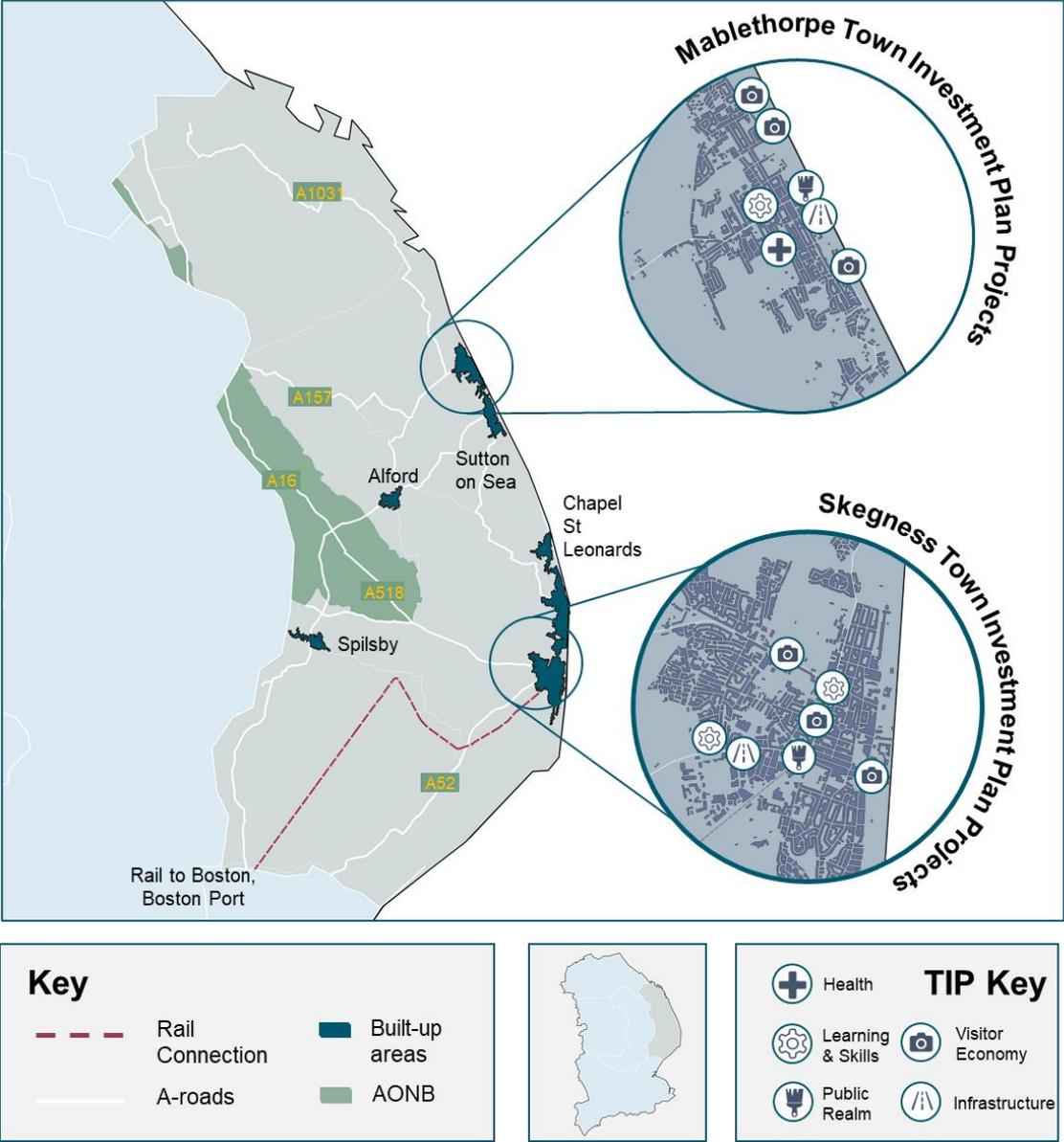
Greater Lincolnshire's natural capital will play a vital role in helping the area achieve net zero carbon emissions and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change. The identity of the Rural and Coastal areas in Greater Lincolnshire is strong, although the peripherality and sense of isolation from other parts of the UK in some of these areas must be managed carefully. The region's natural capital supports substantial employment in industries including agrifood, energy, and tourism. Larger urban areas provide diverse heritage, industry and living which can and should be supported. The urban areas are driving innovative and creative industries in the local area and are showing potential for further growth.

Connecting and sustaining much of Greater Lincolnshire are the market towns. The strength of the market towns provides a network of local centres that support the sparser rural populations. Towns play a vital role for their local communities and are poised for considerable housing and employment growth.

³ The information in this section is all drawn from the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Local Industrial Strategy and associated evidence base

Coastal Lincolnshire

Figure 4. Coastal Lincolnshire



Greater Lincolnshire is unique within the Midlands in that it is the only part of the Midlands Engine which has a coastline. There are 50 miles of coastline in Greater Lincolnshire and Skegness is the UK’s 4th most popular holiday resort. They provide a strong sense of place, identity, and cultural offer. The traditional coastal resort towns such as Mablethorpe and Skegness have different economies, challenges and opportunities to other towns in Greater Lincolnshire. They are seeing considerable investment through Towns Fund.

The strong visitor economy (a priority sector for the region) contributes more than £2bn to the Greater Lincolnshire economy and supports at least 30,000 full time equivalent jobs, many in these coastal resort towns. The national nature reserves at Gibraltar Point and Donna Nook

combine with the Wolds AONB to draw a national and international audience. This benefits from growing local access and the inclusivity promoted by the development of accessible networks such as the English Coastal Path, the Coastal Observatory and the coastal country park. Investing in connectivity and natural assets can capitalise on greater demand for domestic tourism.

However, the labour market is markedly seasonal compared to other areas and connectivity is a major constraint. It is difficult for workers, students and visitors to travel to and from Coastal Lincolnshire, particularly if relying on public transport. Improvements to the road network, plus enhancements to the quality and frequency of rail and bus services, will help address connectivity issues.

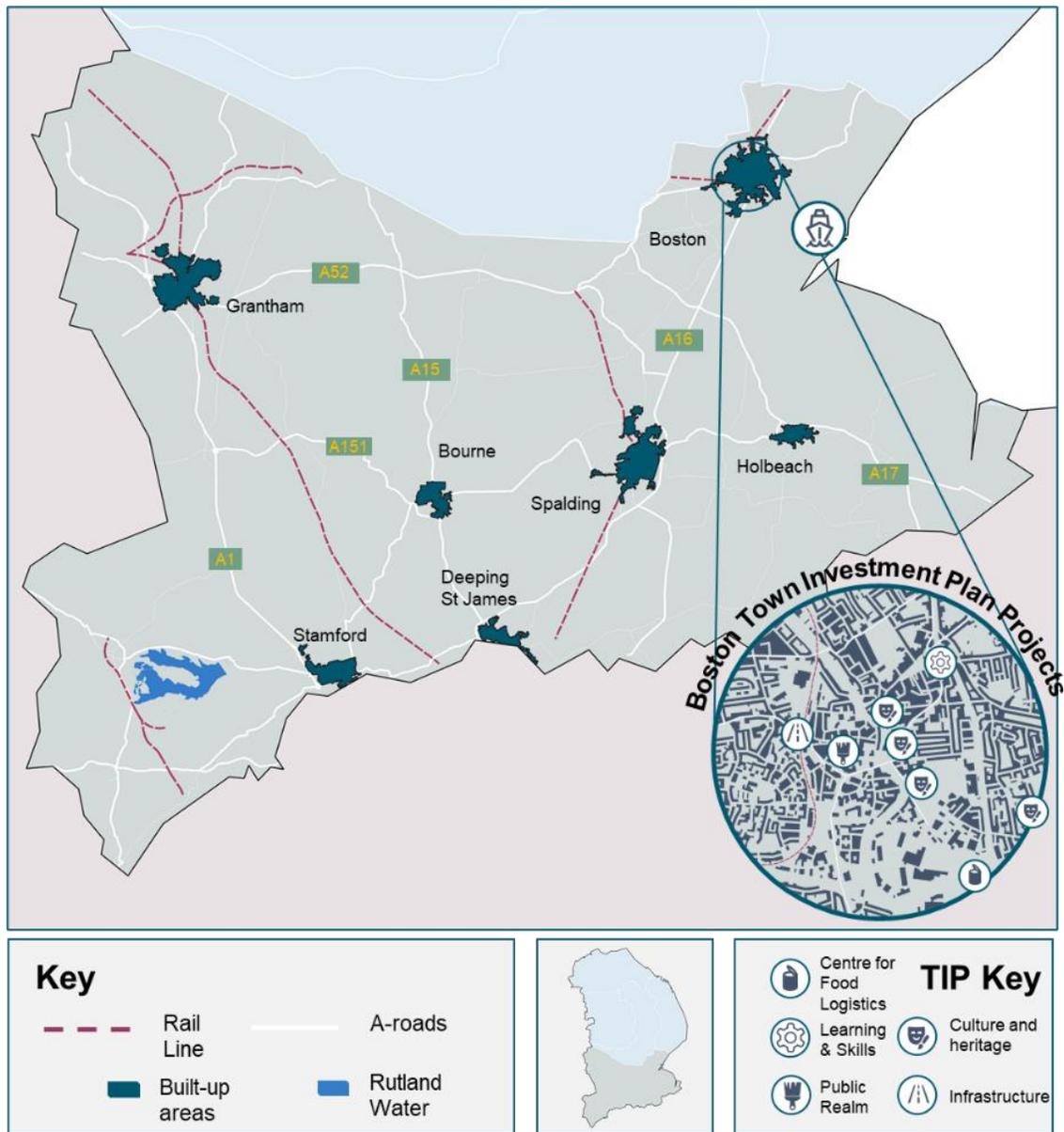
There are other challenges which are important to consider when thinking about infrastructure requirements. The distribution of good broadband connectivity is often poor in coastal regions. The risk of coastal flooding restricts housing and business growth. When looking at health deprivation, coastal settings see an ageing demographic profile and certain vital sectors such as health and care have seen a dependency on migrant labour to address local skills shortages and hard to fill vacancies.

Infrastructure projects within Coastal Lincolnshire

 Current projects	 SIDP Projects	 Future Projects
Mablethorpe Town Investment Plan	5G4GIE	5G solutions in Skegness
Skegness Town Investment Plan	Fairfield Industrial Estate	Skegness Mobility Hub
Go Skegness Local Growth Funds Investment	Wainfleet Flood Resilience Scheme	Skegness Foreshore
East Lindsey Levelling Up Fund Bid	Skegness Gateway Urban Extension	Coastal Highway
East Lindsey Levelling Up Fund Bid	Connected Coast and Danelaw Path	Sutton-on-Sea Colonnade
East Lindsey Levelling Up Fund Bid	Saltfleet to Gibraltar Point Coastal Defences	East Lindsey Levelling Up Fund bid

Southern Lincolnshire and Rutland

Figure 5. South Lincolnshire and Rutland



The South of Lincolnshire is an area dominated by agriculture, food production and logistics. The Southern Lincolnshire spatial corridor borders significant regional economic hubs like Nottingham, Leicester and Peterborough, which link to a growing concentration of Logistics jobs around Spalding as well as a substantial freight and logistics sector in Boston. In Boston, the port serves as a focal point for the town and is an integral part of Boston's Town Investment Plan.

The A17 and A16 create a major corridor and are central to Greater Lincolnshire's nationally important food sector. Southern Lincolnshire is relatively well connected compared to other

places within Lincolnshire, including access to the East Coast Mainline, although cars remain the pre-dominant form of transport. Towns like Grantham, Bourne and Stamford offer a high quality of life with commuter access to local employment hubs. Improving road and rail connectivity will help remove car dependency and support the efficiency and environmentally sustainability of the logistics industry.

It will be important to continue to build on the successful development the Food Enterprise Zone, developing a 'Food Valley UK' concept. Within the key towns of Boston, Spalding and Holbeach, up to 40% of employment is within the food sector and its associated supply chain. And it is not just the towns who benefit from the strong Agrifood sector. Rutland has been classed as the most rural county or unitary authority in England and Wales with a high proportion of land in agricultural use. The area's assets, such as the National Centre for Food Manufacture, Boston College's Engineering, Manufacturing and Technology Centre, and the Holbeach Food Enterprise Zone, capitalise on the existing strength of the local economic base. Infrastructure considerations must include water management, which is vital in this area, as it is across the border in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire.

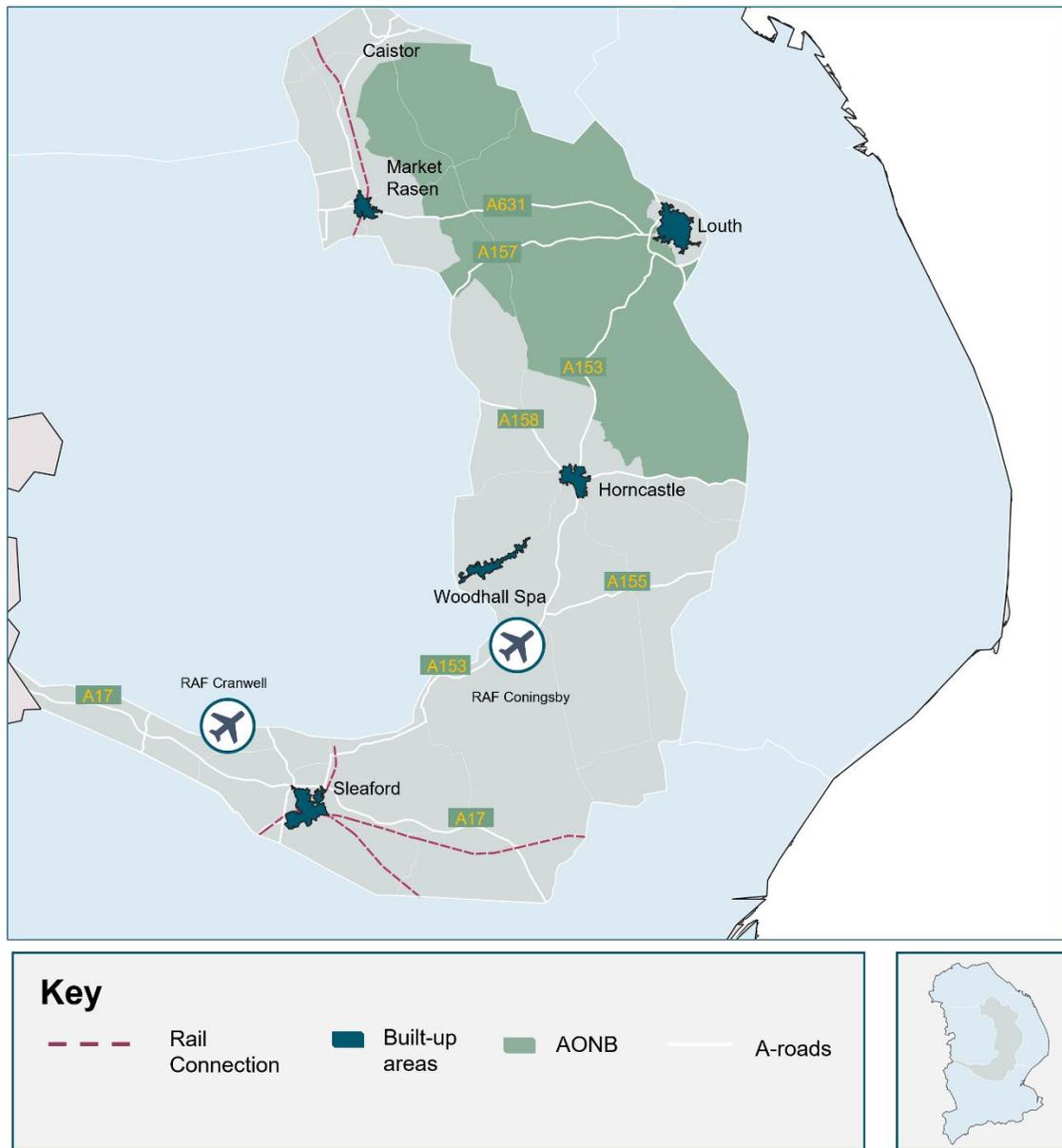
The corridor has stronger access to amenities and health services than some parts of Greater Lincolnshire. Rutland also benefits from a Visitor Economy asset in Rutland Water (is the largest man made lake in England) and surrounding rural environment attracting tourists from across the Midlands. However, housing affordability is a challenge, especially around Grantham. Generally, Southern Lincolnshire scores better on deprivation than the rest of Greater Lincolnshire, although with pockets of deprivation in Grantham and on the Eastern Coast, while Boston sees higher levels of deprivation and a more youthful and growing population which has grown rapidly in the past 20 years.

Infrastructure projects within Southern Lincolnshire and Rutland

 Current projects	 SIDP Projects	 Future Projects
Holbeach Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ)	Elsoms Seeds R&D project	A1/A16/A17 Improvements
Grantham Future High Streets Fund	Centre of Skills for Employment and Enterprise	Cross Keys Bridge Improvements
Spalding Western Relief Road	The Port of Boston	East Coast Mainline Improvements
Boston Town Investment Fund	Grantham Southern Gateway Electricity Supply	Holbeach FEZ Phase 2
		Holbeach Power Project
		Spalding Western Relief Road (Next Phase)
		South Lincolnshire Reservoir
		Rutland Cycling Project
		Boston Buses
		Boston Alternative Energy Facility
		Boston Levelling Up Fund

Rural Heartland

Figure 6. Rural Heartland



At the heart of Lincolnshire, the rural spatial corridor is central to Greater Lincolnshire’s status as the UK’s Food Valley. Combined with the coast and large amount of Grade 1 agricultural land, the Rural Heartland is endowed with a variety of natural assets, which make a strong contribution to the economy and quality of place. The area has food production, defence assets in RAF Cranwell and Coningsby, manufacturing, and with access out to the growing port of Boston and coastal visitor assets. Horncastle presents opportunities as a gateway to the AONB and the coast. Access to the coast via a proposed Coastal Highway will become a major connectivity route.

The area includes market towns like Sleaford, Horncastle, Louth, Woodhall Spa and Market Rasen. Transport – particularly public transport – connectivity is challenging in Market Rasen and Caistor.

Sleaford is an important rural hub that is located centrally to the region, with some good connections to the other Greater Lincolnshire corridors and Strategic Road Network and rail network, however rail service frequency can be poor. Sleaford has low unemployment and thriving industrial estates; recent years saw rapid population growth; and there are further housing and regeneration opportunities.

The Rural Heartland includes natural assets, like Lincolnshire’s Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Lincolnshire’s Wolds, which is a substantial Visitor Economy strength with 14 sites of special scientific interest, as well as small settlements. Given the expanse of green space, there is potential to expand the AONB as environmental tourism is increasing in significance.

Rurality brings challenges too. A specific example is access to the AONB by public transport. Parts of the Heartland are undergoing rapid population ageing, and deprivation is relatively high. There is employment growth in the corridor but wages remain lower than the regional average. Many rural residents have limited access to local amenities and public services. In some places less than 10% of the population are aged between 20 and 34; some locations have limited energy supply (no access to the grid); and low levels of connectivity (broadband, public transport and roads); the result is pockets of significant deprivation and isolation.

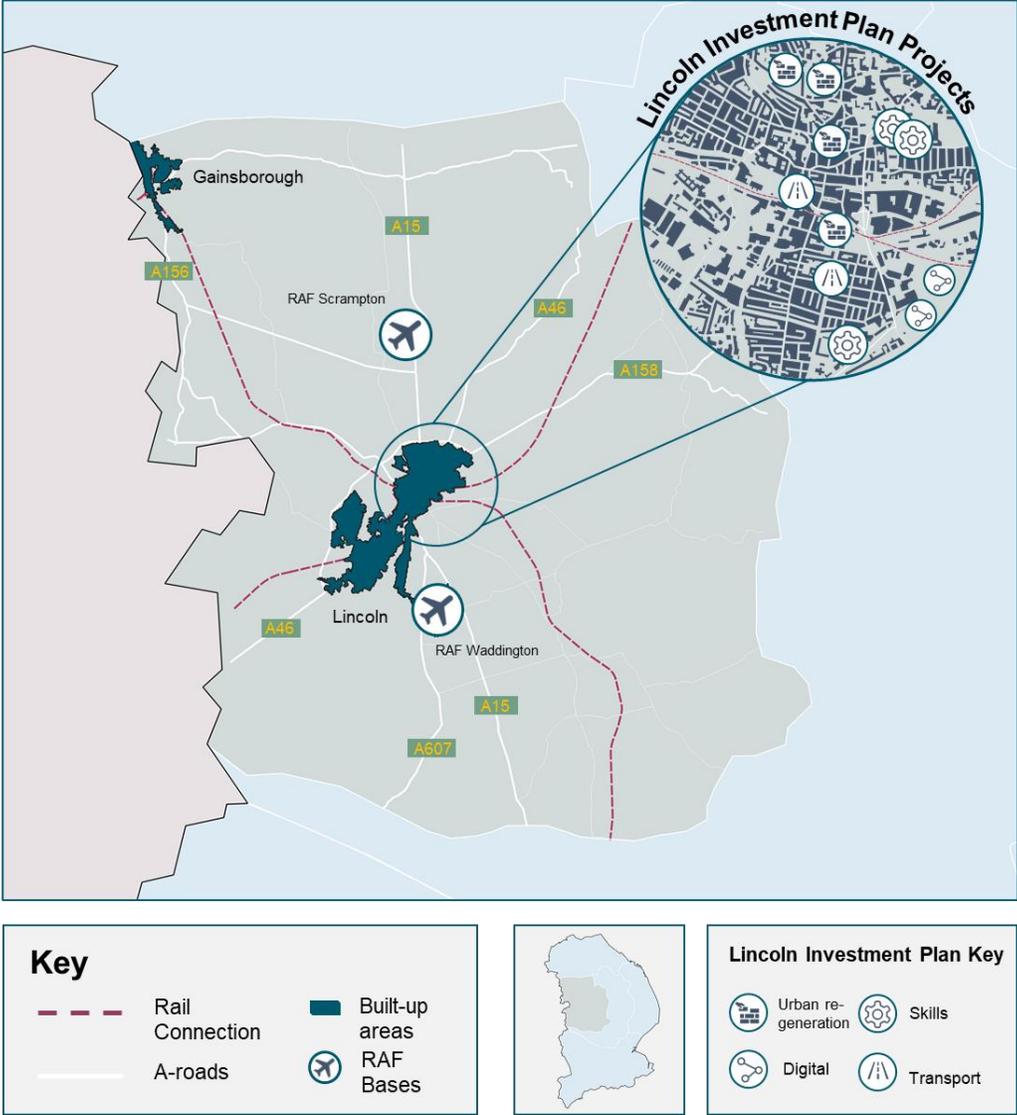
Digital connectivity is vital to support the rural economy and supports many aspects of business growth, including support for increasing home/agile working. Full Fibre to the Premises is key to increasing digital connectivity and Greater Lincolnshire is a prime location for increasing rural digital connectivity.

Infrastructure projects within the Rural Heartland

 Current projects	 SIDP Projects	 Future Projects
Fibre Broadband & 4G coverage	Horncastle Industrial Estate Extension	East Lindsey Levelling Up Fund Bid
	Sleaford Moor Enterprise Park	A17 Improvements
		Coastal Highway
		Delivering Cycling and Walking Routes Upgrades

Greater Lincoln

Figure 7. Greater Lincoln



This area covers Lincoln, Gainsborough, and their surroundings. Greater Lincoln has Lincolnshire’s highest concentration of innovation-linked jobs, linking to the University, the growing asset of the Lincoln Science and Innovation park and Lincolnshire-wide Health and Care facilities. Gainsborough and Lincoln see concentrations of Manufacturing jobs, while the highly specialised and growing Defence Sector draws on a concentration of RAF bases across Greater Lincoln and the Rural Heartland, which provides an opportunity for growth.

Lincoln is a historic cathedral city with a population of almost 100,000 and the highest jobs density and the second highest business density in Greater Lincolnshire. Gainsborough is a gateway between Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Sheffield City Region. Gainsborough is a growth point with Housing Zone status due to its availability and affordability of land and

proximity to towns and assets such as Scunthorpe, Lincoln, Doncaster and Doncaster Sheffield International Airport.

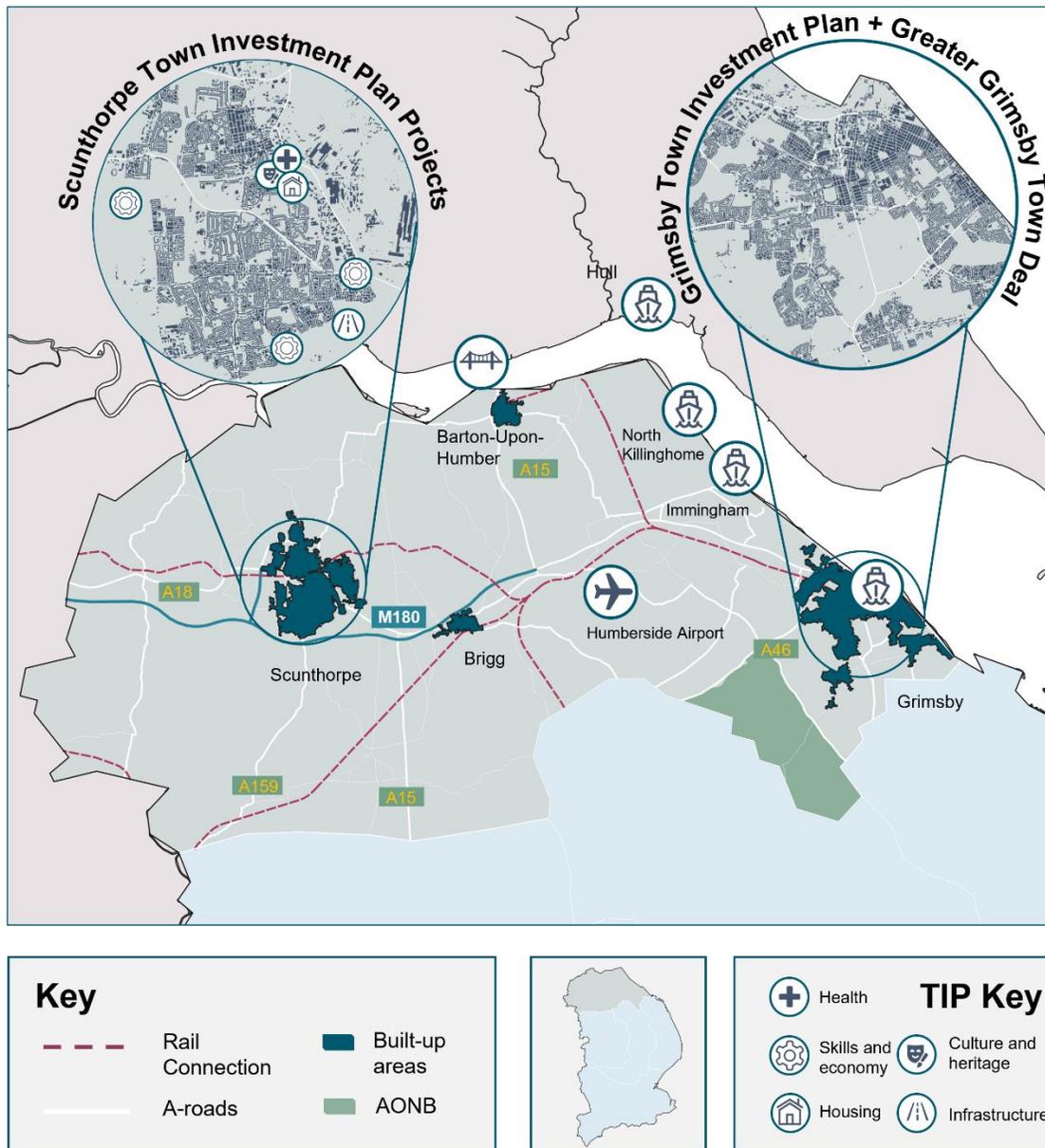
Both Lincoln and Gainsborough have youthful age profiles, and are seeing population growth, especially in Central Lincoln; supporting this population growth to stay and work in the area is a local priority. This means encouraging investment in work and leisure facilities and supporting road and rail connectivity for commuters and business engagement. However, there are distinct challenges in Lincoln and in Gainsborough, with clusters of deprivation similar to Coastal Lincolnshire. For example, there are still pockets of significant deprivation in Gainsborough with low levels of employment.

Infrastructure projects within Greater Lincoln

 Current projects	 SIDP Projects	 Future Projects
Lincoln Investment Plan	North Hykeham Relief Road	A15 improvements
	Somerset Park	
	Lincoln Sustainable Growth Programme	Lincoln Rail station
Gainsborough Regeneration	Riverside Gateway Marina	
	Queen Elizabeth Road	Lincoln Mobility Hub
West Lindsey Levelling Up Fund Projects	Wilder Witham	
	Nettleham Roundabout Improvements	Newark Flat Crossing Improvement
Lincoln Levelling Up Fund Projects	Greater Lincolnshire Energy Testbed	Nottingham-Lincoln Rail Speed Improvement
	Lincoln Overbridge	
	Gainsborough Green Grid	Trans-Midlands Trade Corridor

South Humber Bank

Figure 8. South Humber Bank



The South Humber Bank spatial corridor is linked to Hull by the Humber Bridge, with assets on both sides of the estuary serving as a nationally significant Energy cluster with growth in Offshore Wind. A well-established cluster of offshore wind Operations & Maintenance businesses signposts future growth opportunities in the sector. Manufacturing is also a key sector locally with some of the highest concentrations in Greater Lincolnshire.

Port and Logistics is growing as a sector and the area is set to be home to one of the first Freeports in the country. Launching Humber Freeport, which includes the South Bank Ports of

Grimsby, Immingham and Able will attract FDI and local business growth through incentives and investment opportunities.

Connectivity in the corridor is strengthened by the M180 motorway allowing access to the North and West and rail links, alongside the Humberside Airport, which offers potential to attract more international visitors to the area on top of the strong domestic market which already exists.

There has been significant investment in the area with the 2018 Greater Grimsby Town Deal followed by two allocations from the Towns Fund for Grimsby and Scunthorpe. Grimsby is a major industrial centre on the Humber Bank. It is Greater Lincolnshire's largest town by population, and 47% of these residents are below the age of 35. It has a strong heritage in food production, most notably in its fishing and seafood processing industry and is home to the largest port by tonnage in the UK. Scunthorpe has a substantial manufacturing industry, including a steel industry, which provides employment for over 3,000 people and is integral to local and national supply chains.

South Humber bank has some high concentrations of relative deprivation, for example in parts of Grimsby and Scunthorpe, and parts of the spatial corridor are seeing population decline and poor health outcomes. The pace and scale of industrial change in the area has created low wages and productivity, high unemployment and challenges retaining businesses and skills.

Infrastructure projects within South Humber Bank

 Current projects	 SIDP Projects	 Future Projects	
Greater Grimsby Towns Deal	Keadby Terminal Assisted Outfall (TAO) Pumping Station Project	A15 improvements	
Grimsby Future High Streets Fund	Full Fibre North Lincolnshire Schools		
	National Flood Resilience Centre		
	Cleethorpes Regeneration Programme Phase 2		
	Health and Social Care for the Future		
Grimsby Town Deal	Grimsby West Urban Extension		Humber Estuary Freeport
	Halton Marshes Phase 2		
	Meeting Future Digital Expectations		
Scunthorpe Future High Streets Fund	Stallingborough Phase 3 Sea Defences		
	Humberston Fitties Sea Defence		
	Barton to New Holland Flood Alleviation Scheme		
Scunthorpe Town Deal	Europarc III North East Lincolnshire FEZ New Build factory Space	Trans-Midlands Trade Corridor	
	H2Refuel		
	Cleethorpes Regeneration Programme Phase 3: Category B		
Humber Energy Estuary	Pioneer Business Park Speculative Builds		Trans-Midlands Trade Corridor
	Future Energy Centre		
	Rail Journey Time Improvements		
	Brigg Link Road		
	Cleethorpes Business Centre		
	Europarc Bus Bridge		

The Importance of Housing

Greater Lincolnshire is preparing for an acceleration in housing delivery, with 7 Local Plans either adopted or in development stages. While the pressure in the housing market has been primarily concentrated in the Greater South East, too many people in Greater Lincolnshire cannot buy a local house for the average local wage. Local Authorities are responding to this with work ongoing through the Towns and Levelling Up fund submissions; some places, such as Gainsborough, have ambitions for substantial growth encompassing up to 47% increase in home numbers, which will require substantial facilitating infrastructure. Together, the 7 Local Plans will set out our transformational plans for growth based around the needs of the local communities and economies.

Central Lincolnshire's Local Plan plans for the delivery of 29,150 new dwellings and the creation of around 15,000 new jobs, supporting growth in the urban centres of Lincoln, Gainsborough and Sleaford.

East Lindsey's Local Plan responds to challenges from climate change, relocating new housing development further inland to the market towns such as Louth, Wragby and Woodhall Spa.

North Lincolnshire Council is preparing a new single Local Plan for North Lincolnshire. Under the emerging local plan, this equates to 7,128 dwellings over the plan period, 2020-2038, in areas such as Brigg, Lincolnshire Lakes, and Scunthorpe.

North East Lincolnshire adopted a Plan for Growth in 2018, highlighting ambitious plans that respond to the evidence which shows that around 10,000 homes will be needed to meet the demands of the growing population. This will mean change for all parts of the Borough.

Rutland's adopted development plan comprises a Core Strategy, Mineral Core Strategy and the Site Allocations and Policies DPD. The Council is about to begin preparing a new Local Plan which will cover an extended plan period beyond 2036 to address development needs and climate change.

South East Lincolnshire's Local Plan is managing housing growth sustainably. Currently Boston is delivering a new affordable home almost every 2.5 days. Holbeach is also identified for significant growth with a Sustainable Urban Extension and Food Enterprise Zone and there is ongoing investment through Homes England in the Spalding Western Relief Road which will ultimately unlock 6,000 new homes.

In **South Kesteven's Local Plan**, four market towns of Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and The Deepings are the main focus for development (65% of the district's population lives here), and the Grantham Southern Relief Road will assist in the economic development in the town.

6 Next Steps

The projects set out in this plan are backed up with detailed plans for investment and delivery. Greater Lincolnshire will accelerate delivery of projects where possible and ensure that the SIDP is aligned with wider projects and initiatives that emerge. The SIDP identified 11 high priority projects, representing a pipeline of almost £95 million, as part of the wider delivery plan of just under £1 billion.

The SIDP has provisionally identified thematic gaps, where further development will be required in order to achieve a balance pipeline of projects. These themes are: Digital, Health and Care, Defence, Housing, Waste and Recycling, and Energy. Responding to these gaps will be crucial in informing the next iteration of the SIDP, and the call for projects that will go out, in determining what areas need to be addressed.

Greater Lincolnshire intends to take action to address these gaps in time for the next SIDP with the following commitments:

- The Infrastructure Group will work with project owners to identify how best to quickly move to delivery on more projects. This will include supporting officers with business case training to build stronger strategic and economic cases.
- We will work with the local NHS providers to develop the local Health Infrastructure priorities in preparation for a bid over the next year, supported by local partners, that will address some of the gaps in the existing SIDP.
- We will set out an overall education requirement for Greater Lincolnshire for future SIDP work
- We will review the potential for rail and passenger freight
- We will engage widely with business in seeking projects and evidence
- We will review current Outline Business Cases for further analysis on capital cost requirements, and the potential for match funding
- We will discuss gaps with local authorities and partners and aim to address in time for the next call for projects for the 2022 SIDP
- We will discuss SIDP scoring outcomes with local authorities and partners in order to ensure all projects are given a fair chance of scoring highly, and addressing spatial gaps in the current priority pipeline

Future iterations of the SIDP will draw on projects that were still in development during 2021, but will play a crucial role in the future pipeline. The tables on pages 18-30 set out some of planned projects in Greater Lincolnshire which were not at a stage to be submitted for the 2021 SIDP, but likely will form part of future iterations of the SIDP. They should not be viewed as an exhaustive or definitive list but rather showcase some of the upcoming projects across the whole area. This includes, for example:

- Towns Fund and Levelling UP fund investments (at FBC / approval stage)
- Freeport proposal (at FBC stage)
- Projects highlighted for inclusion by the Infrastructure working group

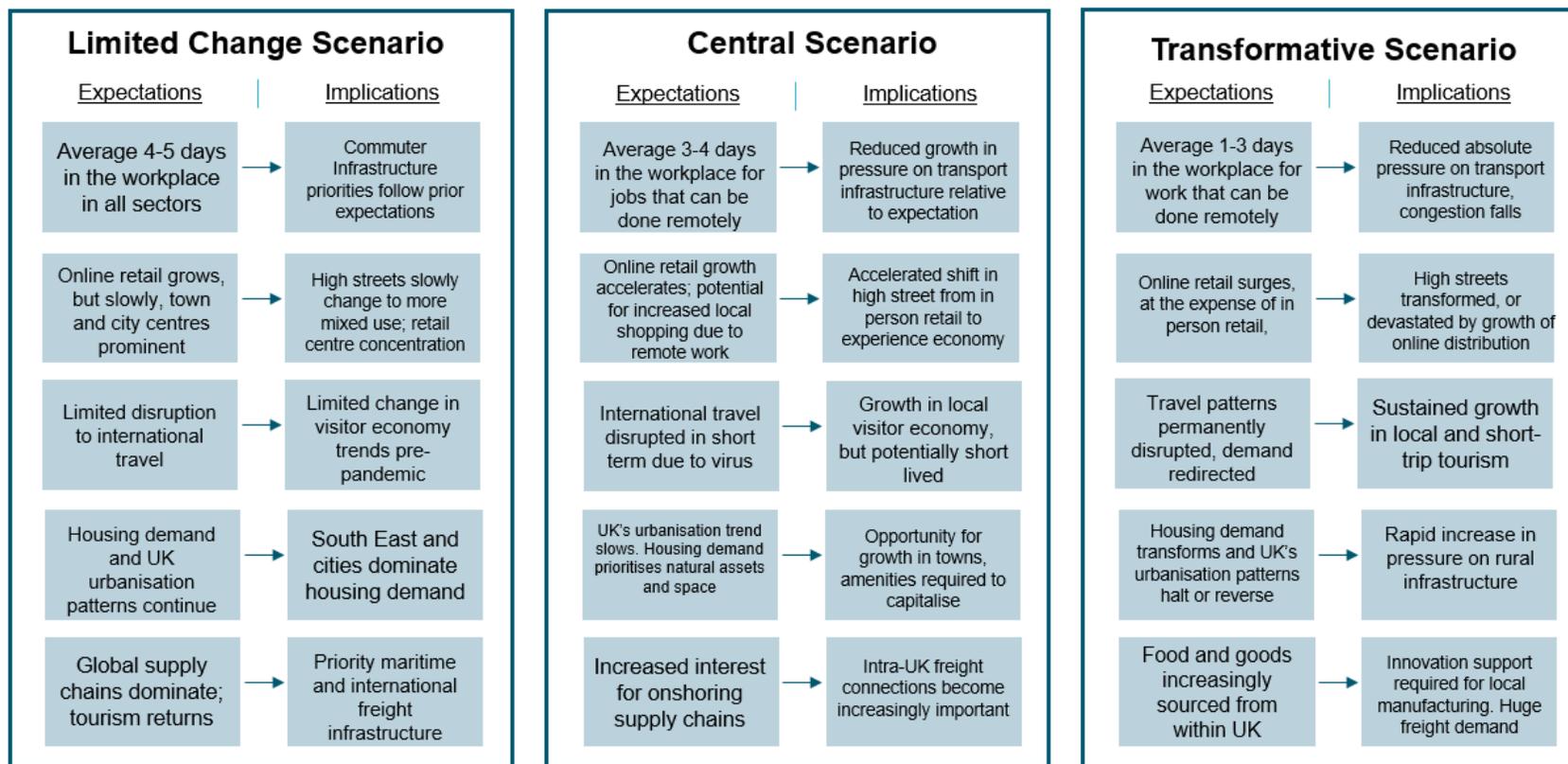
Future strategy and scenarios

The Infrastructure Group will oversee development of an overall infrastructure strategy which, informed by future scenarios, long term trends and emerging recovery data, will set out the direction of travel and priorities for each area and Greater Lincolnshire overall. This might include highlighting projects of the scale that will require in-depth feasibility study, and setting a framework for further case development. The infrastructure strategy will expand on this summary's consideration of the pan-regional, Greater Lincolnshire and local strategic context.

Long term infrastructure planning will establish how we collaboratively plan for significant infrastructure improvements needed to unlock growth. It will help Greater Lincolnshire understand the gaps in infrastructure that need to be addressed to maximise the growth, regeneration and levelling up opportunities across places. Out of this will emerge the priority projects – covering infrastructure in the widest sense – which require funding to support the achievement of those outcomes.

Rigid predictions are unlikely to pay off, but thinking through the consequences of changes will be key to preparation for the future. Drawing on post-Covid scenario planning from Transport for the North, Transport for Greater Manchester and work with London Councils, we have developed some indicative scenarios, which follow on the next page. The pandemic has led to substantial shifts in how we live and work, and at least some of these are likely to be permanent. Covid-19 is an opportunity to reassess expectations for the shape of future growth. New opportunities will emerge, some priorities may fall in importance while others will be more important than ever could have been expected before March 2020. Future versions of the SIDP will aim to reflect the nature of planning for growth in the post-crisis world, once the outline of future trends become clear.

Post Covid Scenarios



Transport for the North: *Future Travel Scenarios: Just About Managing, Prioritised Places, Digitally Distributed* (2021), pp51-72

Transport for Greater Manchester. *Covid-19 impact on bus franchising; Back Towards Normality, New Travel Demand, Poorer and More Local* (2021), pp13-20

Metro Dynamics: *Building Sustainable Renewal; Bounce back to a new normal, Sustainable Renewal, Covid-19 Induced Downturn* (2021), pp64-77

The SIDP in summary

Across the 58 projects, the SIDP represents a strong package of investment opportunities for Greater Lincolnshire. The projects address some of the gaps in infrastructure plans and develop a package of projects which together can deliver a step change for Greater Lincolnshire's people and places.

Scale of opportunity identified in SIDP 2021 projects



Framed by Towns and Levelling Up fund and aligned with regional economic growth plans, the SIDP process offers an opportunity to direct the process of infrastructure development in line with Greater Lincolnshire's strategic goals.

None of these projects can be seen in isolation, and we need a co-ordinated approach to investment including levelling up bids and the Town Deals alongside the SIDP. And we need to address the gaps identified in the 2021 process. With the SIDP process moving onto an annual basis, a rolling process of review will maintain an effective and deliverable pipeline of projects. The Covid-19 crisis has highlighted the value of a dynamic, iterative approach to infrastructure development, and future iterations of the SIDP should aim to equip Greater Lincolnshire for the challenges and opportunities of the day.



Metro — Dynamics

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

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	Tree Strategy: "The Right Tree in the Right Place"

Summary:
This report provides a progress update on the Green Masterplan and outlines the initial progress towards the Council's targets to reach net zero carbon by 2050.

Actions Required:
The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee:

- 1) Is asked to give support to submitting an application to the Trees Call for Action Fund; and
- 2) is invited to review and comment on progress towards developing a Tree Strategy for the County.

1. Background

At the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee in September 2021 the item on the Green Masterplan Progress included an update on the tree planting work and progress towards the Council's target of planting a tree for every resident in the county. This report provides a further update on the tree planting work, the development of a tree strategy and options to obtain further funding to enable tree planting.

2. Local Authorities Treescapes Fund

As reported previously, the Council was successful with a funding bid to the Forestry Commission for tree planting in non-woodland locations. The total funding allocated was £169k for tree planting in the 2021/22 planting season and the first tranche of this funding has now been received.

Every Parish Council in the county was contacted to see if they were interested in having tree planting within their areas and had suitable sites for planting within their control. In addition, the district councils were asked for any suitable sites. A tender for the supply of trees, tree planting and maintenance was sent out at the start of November and the contract is expected to be let in early December.



Figure One: Map of Treescapes Fund Planting Locations

Figure One shows the locations of tree planting schemes that have been identified for the Treescapes Project. As well as Parish and District Councils some of the sites are on farmland. Some of the new trees will replace trees that have been lost to ash dieback disease.

The map shows that the project team has been able to identify a good spread of sites right across the county. Every district is represented within the planting plan.

The project team has undertaken a due diligence exercise to make sure that the planting sites are appropriate and do not have other protected features – such as habitat and archaeological value.

Planting will begin in January 2022 and the Sustainability Team are working with the Communications Team to develop a programme of events and news releases around the planting dates.

3. Trees Call for Action Fund

The Trees Call to Action Fund (TCAF) is a new funding stream to support the development of new and existing projects and partnerships, helping to deliver the England Trees Action Plan. This is part of the Nature for Climate Fund, which the government has created to treble tree planting rates in England by 2025.

The Treescapes Project has highlighted that to reach the target of planting a tree for every resident the Council will need to work in close partnership with the District Councils, landowners and organisations such as the Woodland Trust and Forestry Commission.

TCAF aims to build the capacity of organisations working with the trees and forestry sector in England. These projects should aim to deliver the objectives of the England Trees Action Plan:

- expanding and connecting our trees and woodlands
- trees and woodlands as part of the green economy
- protecting and improving our trees and woodlands
- connecting people with trees and woodlands

The funding is for grants of £250,000 to £500,000, for projects to deliver by March 2025.

The funding can be used for the capital costs of tree planting, but it can also pay for revenue costs for staff time. An objective of the funding would be to get funding for an officer who can undertake liaison work with landowners to identify larger scale tree planting sites and look for funding to develop them. Another important objective of any bid to the Fund would be to look at improving public access and interpretation for visitors to the woodland sites.

Initial discussions have been held with the district councils and North East Lincolnshire Council to submit a partnership application to the fund that covers the Greater

Lincolnshire area. The partnership would also include the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership.

An initial expression of interest has been submitted for the Fund. The final bid has to be submitted by 20th January 2022.

4. Tree Strategy for Lincolnshire

The work undertaken so far on the tree planting target has identified that Lincolnshire has one of the lowest tree coverage rates in the UK. The tree coverage level is around 3.8% compared to a national rate of 13%.

It would be unrealistic to raise the tree cover level to the national rate, but there are opportunities to increase tree cover around the county.

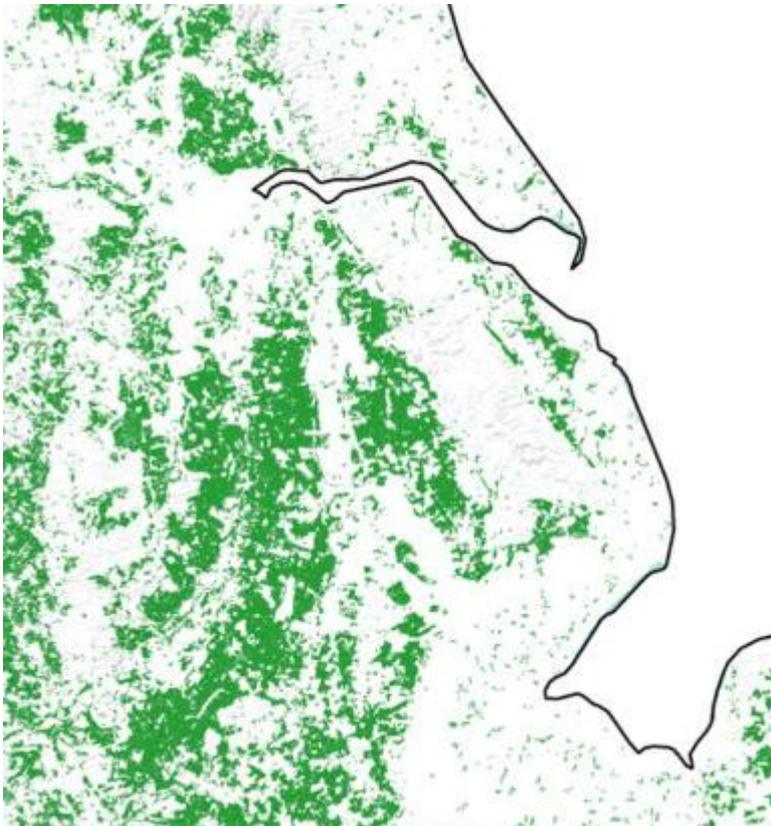


Figure Two: Low Risk Woodland Creation Areas

Figure Two shows an exercise that was undertaken by the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, which maps all areas that are likely to be suitable for woodland creation around England. The areas excludes high grade agricultural land and sites that already have a high habitat values.

Any tree planting programme needs to be based on the principle of planting the right tree in the right place. The Council does not wish to plant on high grade agricultural land, areas of habitat value, archaeological sites and land which could be put to better habitat creation uses.

In order to ensure that the right tree in the right place principle is followed a tree strategy for the county is required.

The Woodland Trust has developed a draft content list for local authority tree strategies. It is proposed to use this as a framework for developing the Lincolnshire Tree Strategy

The Woodland Trust Tree Strategy Guide has the following suggested content:

Theme 1: Community, place and heritage - Community woodland - Place and design – street trees - Heritage and culture

Theme 2: Sustainability, climate change and natural capital - Sustainability and green infrastructure - Climate change, pests and tree disease - Natural Capital and Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES)

Theme 3: Planning - Duties under NERC Act 2006 and NPPF - National and local planning policy – trees and development - Protecting trees - TPOs and conservation areas - Developer obligations

Theme 4: Woodland management - Wildlife and landscape – PAWS restoration - Woodland creation and management - accessible woodland - Wood products - Certification - Grants and funding

Theme 5: Council trees - Street and trees in residential areas - Parks and open spaces - Woodland - Urban woodlands - Village and rural trees - New and replacement planting - Asset management and standards of service

IMPLEMENTATION - Action plan - Future strategy review

APPENDICES - National policy - Local policy (including Local Plan/ Core Strategy) - Case studies - Glossary

It is proposed to bring a draft tree strategy to the Committee in the first quarter of 2022.

5. Conclusion

Members of the Committee are invited to review progress on producing a tree strategy for the county and to support the application to the Trees Call for Action Fund.

6. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

Not applicable.

7. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager- Environment, who can be contacted on 07825 607157 or by e-mail at Dan.Clayton@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham, Executive Director - Resources	
Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	30 November 2021
Subject:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

Summary:

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

Actions Required:

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

1. Background

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

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

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

2. Work Programme

30 November 2021		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Service Level Performance Reporting Against the Performance Framework 2021 - 2022 – Quarter 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy • Flooding • Waste 	Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development David Hickman, Head of Environment Mike Reed, Head of Waste
2.	Flood and Coastal Innovation Programme - the Greater Lincolnshire Groundwater Project	David Hickman, Head of Environment Paul Brookes, Flood Risk Manager – Environment Matthew Harrison, Senior Commissioning Officer - Flood Risk - Place
3.	The Levelling Up Agenda for Lincolnshire	Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment
4.	Infrastructure Planning	Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment
5.	Tree Strategy: “The right Tree in the Right Place”	Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager - Environment

18 January 2022		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Revenue and Capital Budget Proposals 2021/22 <i>[Pre-decision Scrutiny] (Executive Decision – 1 February 2022 and County Council Decision 18 February 2022)</i>	Keith Noyland, Head of Finance, Communities
2.	Carbon Reporting Tool	Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager - Environment
3.	Property Flood Resilience Trial	Paul Brookes, Flood Risk Manager – Environment
4.	Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty -Key Priorities Update	Chris Miller, Team Leader - Countryside Services
5.	Internationalisation Strategy	Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development
6.	Local Transport Plan V <i>[Information only Item]</i>	Vanessa Strange, Head of Infrastructure Investment Jason Cooper, Transport and Growth Manager

22 February 2022		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Programme - Submission of Outline Business Case <i>[Pre-decision Scrutiny] (Executive Decision on 5 April 2022)</i>	David Hickman, Head of Environment Paul Brookes, Flood Risk Manager – Environment
2.	Service Level Performance Reporting Against the Performance Framework 2021 - 2022 – Quarter 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy • Flooding • Waste 	Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development David Hickman, Head of Environment Nicole Hilton, Mike Reed and Rachel Stamp are the Waste Management Team
3.	Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership presentation	Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager – Environment
4.	UK Share Prosperity Fund	Mandy Ramm, Funding and Investment Manager

12 April 2022		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Property Green Agenda – potential guest presentation facilitated by Sustainability	Chris Miller, Team Leader - Countryside Services

24 May 2022		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Study Visit Gibraltar Point	Chris Miller, Team Leader - Countryside Services
2.	Sustainable Transport	Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager - Environment
3.	Joint presentation on Local Transport Plan focusing on the Green Agenda	Dan Clayton, Sustainability Manager – Environment (...)

12 July 2022		
	Item	Contributor
1.	Service Level Performance Reporting Against the Performance Framework 2021 - 2022 – Quarter 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy • Flooding • Waste 	Samantha Harrison, Head of Economic Development David Hickman, Head of Environment Mike Reed, Head of Waste

Items to be Programmed

- Historic Places Team Strategy
- Verge Biomass

- Humber and East Coast Strategies
- Review of Land Sales Policy – Regeneration (SW- County Farms)
- Skegness Business Park
- Planning White Paper
- Green Technology Grant
- Coastal Car Park Strategy
- Updating the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Issues and Options [early 2022- Jan Feb] - Adrian Winkley, Minerals and Waste Policy and Compliance Manager

3. Conclusion

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

4. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

5. Appendices

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

6. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Kiara Chatziioannou, Scrutiny Officer, who can be contacted on 07500 571868 or by e-mail at kiara.chatziioannou@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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

MATTERS FOR DECISION	DATE OF DECISION	DECISION MAKER	PEOPLE/GROUPS CONSULTED PRIOR TO DECISION	HOW AND WHEN TO COMMENT PRIOR TO THE DECISION BEING TAKEN	KEY DECISION YES/NO	DIVISIONS AFFECTED
Flood and Coastal Resilience and Innovation Programme - submission of outline business case 1022487	5 April 2022	Executive	Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee; Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee; partner organisations; local communities	David Hickman, Head of Environment, E-mail: david.hickman@lincolnshire.gov.uk	Yes	Louth Wolds; Market Rasen Wolds; Metheringham Rural; North Wolds

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