

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills
Executive Director of Environment & Economy**

Report to:	Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Date:	18 September 2018
Subject:	Economy Quarter 1 Performance Measures 2018/19

Summary:

This report describes performance against the four economic development performance indicators. It shows that outcomes have been achieved, and indeed exceeded, for three of the indicators. The report also provides some economic context for the activity that is undertaken, using the LEP/Chamber of Commerce/University of Lincoln quarterly economic survey.

Actions Required:

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is required to consider and comment on the detail of performance contained in the report and review the progress made against each indicator.

1. Background

The latest Quarterly Business Briefing shows that businesses retain confidence in their future prospects. Domestic sales are decreasing, but they remain strong, whilst overseas sales appear to be decreasing. Businesses expect to recruit in the future, but they are wary of needing to raise the prices of their goods.

This situation indicates that support for businesses should continue to be offered, especially regarding the development of new markets both domestically and internationally. The previous Environment and Economy scrutiny meeting discussed exporting and support for exporters. In terms of developing new domestic markets, a new facility has been added to the www.businesslincolnshire.com website which helps business to find local customers/suppliers. The site will continue to be populated steadily over the coming months.

The situation also indicates that training and employment support continues to be relevant to the local economy. LCC commissions a substantial amount of adult learning, and works with Greater Lincolnshire LEP to commission schemes to train employees in higher level skills and to describe the opportunities in local business to unemployed people. Another report at today's Environment and Economy

scrutiny committee will consider skills, and apprenticeships in particular, in more depth.

Turning to performance, activity to deliver business support and training has exceeded target. This has led to a high level of job creation/safeguarding.

Because of the way that the funding programmes operate, no funding approvals were anticipated in this quarter.

2. Conclusion

Performance against indicators continues to be strong, and the Quarterly Business Briefing suggests that businesses remain confident in their future.

3. Consultation

a) Have Risks and Impact Analysis been carried out?

No

b) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Economy Quarter 1 Performance
Appendix B	GLEP Quarterly Business Briefing

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 Justin Brown, who can be contacted on 01522550630 or justin.brown@lincolnshire.gov.uk.