

Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2018-19



Foreword

I am pleased to present the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report for 2018-19. The report contains a look back to scrutiny activity over the last year and what we will be doing in the coming year. First, a reminder of what the key aims of scrutiny work are in local councils:-

- Provide healthy and constructive challenge
- Give voice to public concerns
- Support improvement in services
- Provide an independent review

In May 2017, a new Overview and Scrutiny committee structure and procedures was implemented following an in-depth review. As part of the approval of the new structure, it was also agreed to do a further review of the new scrutiny arrangements after implementation. I look forward to the outcomes and lessons learnt from this review and will be reporting back with progress made.

The financial failings at Northamptonshire County Council (NCC), as outlined in the NCC Best Value Inspection report, has been a timely reminder to look at what we do as a Council around scrutinising the financial resilience of the Council. It has led to closer working with the Audit Committee to examine what lessons can be learnt from NCC in terms of financial resilience, culture and accountability. A joint workshop has already been held to scrutinise financial resilience, and a further joint workshop is due to take place on culture and accountability. Further information on this work is included under the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

Should you want to know more about our overview and scrutiny work then please feel free to get in touch using the contact details at the end of the report.



Councillor Robert Parker
Chairman, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Introduction to Overview and Scrutiny

Overview and scrutiny is the process whereby non-executive councillors of the Council examine the authority's functions and services, plus those of partner organisations. It is a function of local authorities in England and Wales. It was introduced by the Local Government Act 2000 which created separate Executive and Overview and Scrutiny functions within councils. All non-Executive councillors are eligible to participate in the work of scrutiny. Joining them to scrutinise particular issues are parent governors, church representatives, councillors from the district councils and representatives from other local organisations.

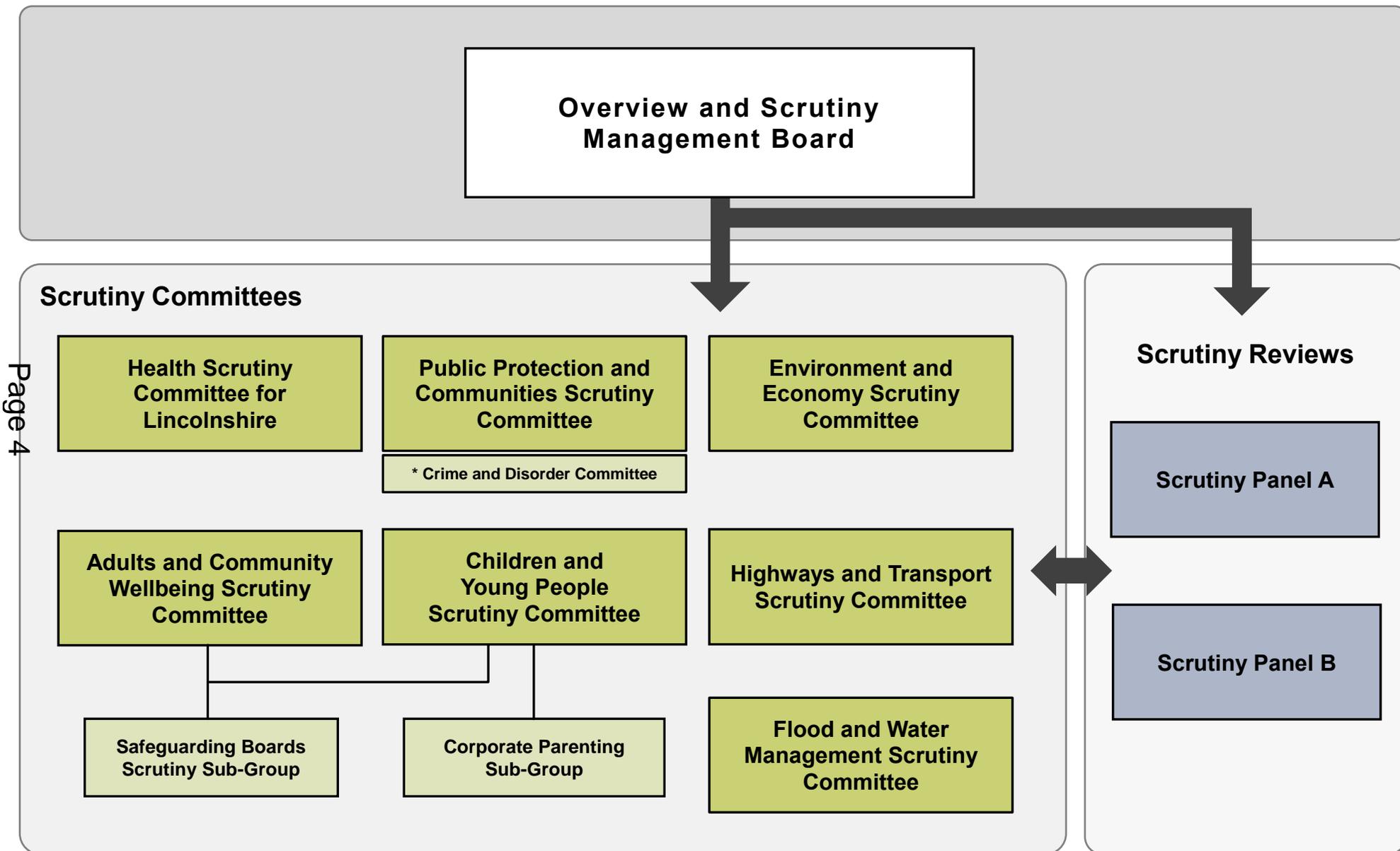
The Council has eight overview and scrutiny committees that consider new policies and strategies, existing policies to see how well they are working and performance information to check that the Council is meeting the standards that have been set.

Committees can also establish working groups to work in a less formal way either working independently or in collaboration with Council officers. These working groups have responded to national consultations, reviewed existing policies and looked to develop new policies in conjunction with officers.

The Council also has two scrutiny panels to undertake reviews that focus on a particular issue and consider it in greater detail than is possible at Committee. These reviews will typically last around six months and will include a mixture of interviews with relevant council officers, research of best practice elsewhere, meetings with service users and community groups and consultation with wider parts of the community. These reviews culminate in a final report with recommendations which are then presented to a meeting of the Council's Executive.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY STRUCTURE

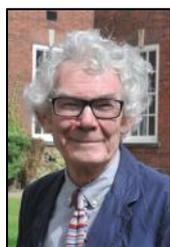
May 2017



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* The Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee also serves as the Crime and Disorder Committee.

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board



Chairman

**Councillor Robert
Parker**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Ray
Wootten**

The Board undertakes two main roles: firstly, it oversees the work programmes of the other scrutiny committees; and secondly it scrutinises the activities within its own remit, such as corporate services, finance, information technology, people services as well as the overall performance against the Council's business plan.

The corporate services support contract has been a significant element of our work programme in the last year, and the Board has received regular updates from the contractor, Serco. We are pleased to have seen improvements in the contractor's performance against the key performance indicators. The contract has now also been extended by two years. As a result, we will now be considering performance reports less frequently from the contractor.

The Council has experienced several information technology challenges over the last year and the Board has monitored the top twenty key information technology projects to address these challenges. We have also advised decision makers on a number of specific projects such as the renewal of notebooks and laptops. Overall the last year has seen an improvement in the functioning of the Council's information technology.

As part of our remit to scrutinise people services (the Council's human resource function) we have monitored the workforce through the employee survey and the people management and workforce plan. We will continue to include people services within our work programme, as we recognise the importance of staff in delivering the Council's aims and objectives.

The Board itself receives regular budget monitoring reports and we will be looking at how other scrutiny committees can further improve their monitoring of the budget and capital programme in the coming year.

The Board is pleased to report that it has worked jointly with the Audit Committee, which has included a workshop on the lessons to be learned following a best value report on the challenges facing another county council, which required national intervention. There are several strands of work arising from this workshop, which include capital programme monitoring, financial planning and risk management. These will be progressed in the coming year. We will be holding a further joint workshop with the Audit Committee in May 2019 to look at culture and accountability.

We have continued to monitor performance against the indicators in the Council's business plan on quarterly basis and our comments have been passed on to the Executive. Each scrutiny committee has continued to scrutinise business plan performance within their own remits, and we will be exploring ways to streamline the consideration of performance information in the coming year, to avoid duplication.

As stated above, overseeing the work programme of each scrutiny committee is a key component of the Board's remit. We undertake this by receiving reports from each chairman on a quarterly basis and make a judgement on the content of each work programme.

The Board also oversees the scrutiny review process, by approving the topics for in-depth scrutiny review by the two scrutiny panels, and there is more information on their activities in the relevant section of this report.

In addition to the items identified above, in the coming year, the Board will:

- receive the outcomes from Scrutiny Panel B's review of Transitions; and
- determine new topics for consideration by the scrutiny panels.

We will also aim to ensure that the Board's activities provide constructive challenge and supports improvement in services provided to Lincolnshire residents.

DRAFT

Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Hugo
Marfleet**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Mrs Elizabeth
Sneath**

Adult care and community wellbeing constitute the largest budget area for the County Council (£221 million allocated for 2018-19), and because of this, the Committee has continued to receive regular budget monitoring reports. These reports have enabled us to review the Better Care Fund allocations, which provided £56.2 million to the County Council during 2018-19. We are pleased to record that the projected outturn for adult care and community wellbeing is in line with its approved budget.

During the year, we have reviewed the five commissioning strategies under our remit: Adult Frailty and Long Term Conditions; Adult Safeguarding; Carers; Community Wellbeing; and Specialist Adult Services. Each strategy is at a different phase of implementation, and as a result, some are due for revision in the coming year and we will be timetabling these on our work programme at the appropriate time.

The Committee has supported a decision to procure Integrated Lifestyle Support Service, which will provide adults with information and support on the four lifestyle behaviours with the greatest impact on health and wellbeing: tobacco smoking; obesity; physical inactivity; and excess alcohol consumption. This service will be launched in July 2019, and the Committee has recorded the importance of primary care, including GPs, to guide people to these lifestyle support services. We will be receiving update reports on outcomes of the service, when these are available.

The Committee has given its support to the Lincolnshire Joint Strategy for Dementia, which was jointly developed by the County Council and the Lincolnshire NHS. The emphasis in the strategy is the improvement of care experience for people with dementia, from diagnosis to end of life; and the involvement of partners in personalised support. We have also supported a proposal to re-procure the Council's own dementia support service, which will aim to provide information and advice to people diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment. We expect this service to complement the national emphasis on early diagnosis.

In January 2019, NHS England published the *NHS Long Term Plan*. We considered this at our February 2019 meeting and focused on those elements of the Plan, where the County Council would be working with the NHS. There was disappointment that the publication of *NHS Long Term Plan* had not been accompanied by the publication of the Government's Green Paper on *Care and Support for Older People*, which had been expected during the autumn of 2018. In anticipation of the green paper, we established a working group, which reviewed the discussion papers published by organisations such as the County Councils Network and the Local Government Association in advance of the Green Paper's publication in the summer

of 2018. The Committee remains committed to giving detailed consideration to the Green Paper, once it is published.

We have also reviewed the introduction of the 'integrated community care portfolio' - an initiative also known as neighbourhood team working, which is being introduced across Lincolnshire, with the most developed teams operating in Gainsborough and Stamford. We explored the links between neighbourhood teams and primary care networks and recorded our concerns that residents in rural locations may not be well served by this initiative.

We have also received a presentation from the provider of sexual health services in Lincolnshire - one of several public health services for which the County Council is now responsible for commissioning. We found that these services are provided from several locations across the county and that Lincolnshire benefited from an integrated sexual health service. We observed that young people in some rural areas would not be able to access these services as easily as their counterparts in urban locations.

In December 2018, the provider of the home-based re-ablement service ceased operations, and within a ten day period the contract had been novated to a new provider, Libertas. Representatives of the new contractor have attended the Committee and reported that the performance against key indicators has improved since December. The Committee has recognised both the achievement of the seamless change of contractor at short notice and the improved performance since that time.

We have reviewed a memorandum of understanding to support joint action in Lincolnshire on improving health and wellbeing through the home. This is a significant partnership, which has brought together the County Council, the seven district councils, the three Lincolnshire-based NHS providers and LACE Housing. The memorandum of understanding outlines the benefits of collaborative working, and emphasises the collaborative role that housing can play in prevention and achieving good health outcomes. Our feedback referred to the natural environment, including public open spaces, as something that promotes good mental health.

In addition to the updates mentioned above, in the coming year the Committee will be considering items on rural and coastal communities in Lincolnshire; the homes for independence strategy; and the Government Green Paper on Prevention.

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Robert
Foulkes**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Robert
Kendrick**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee is responsible for scrutinising a range of services relating to children and young people, including education matters, children's health services and children's social care.

From 1 April 2018, the Council's remit has been extended to offer support to all care leavers up to the age of 25. To address this, the Committee established a working group to support officers in the development of a strategy. This change and other developments were reflected in the *Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy 2018-21*, which was unanimously supported by the Committee on 8 June 2018. The Strategy has set the Council seven key priorities over the next three years to improve how looked after children and care leavers are enabled to realise their potential, through nurturing, resilient parenting and support.

The review of education provision for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) continues to be of significant interest to the Committee. At its October 2018 meeting, the Committee considered a report on *Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy* prior to a decision by the Executive on 6 November 2018. The Committee heard from the Executive Head Teacher of the Priory School, the Garth School and the John Fielding School, who spoke on behalf of all the special schools in support of the Strategy, and the Chair of the Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum, which had been invited by the Council to be involved in the process. The Committee emphasised strong support for enabling pupils to attend their local special school and the greater integration in their local communities which the Strategy would bring. We will be monitoring the changes as the Strategy is implemented over the next few years.

In November 2018, the Committee received a presentation on *Prevent* activity in Lincolnshire during 2017/18 and the implications for children and young people. The *Prevent Duty Guidance for Schools and Educational Providers* involves advising schools, childcare providers, and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) on Pathways to Extremism and the Prevent Programme; providing training courses; and educating against hate. The take up of training by schools in Lincolnshire was high and over 250 *Safeguarding Against Extremists* workshops had been delivered to young people by the Lincolnshire Police Prevent Officers in schools, colleges and other establishments. The Committee was reassured by the level of work being undertaken to protect children and young people from extremism.

A Local Area SEND inspection by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission took place in October 2018. We considered the outcomes from the inspection in January 2019 and identified many strengths in Lincolnshire, which included strong arrangements for jointly commissioning services in the local area; and children and young people feeling very positive about the support they receive from education,

health and care professionals. Areas for improvement included completion rates for the health visitor mandatory health assessments at two and a half years; children and young people were waiting too long for a diagnosis of autism because of delays in completing the steps in the autism pathway; and variability in the quality of Education, Health and Care plans, where health outcomes were too general and provision did not meet the specific needs of the child or young person. The Committee will be monitoring the action plan put in place to address these areas for improvement.

The Committee will be receiving updates on restorative practice and how well the Lincolnshire Joint Diversionary Panels introduced in June 2017 are reducing youth offending rates. The most recent published first time entrants figure for Lincolnshire was 89 young people for the period of July 2017 to June 2018, against a target of 203 young people. This new project has resulted in a significant reduction in those young people coming into the criminal justice system for the first time. The forecasted figure for the forthcoming year is expected to show further, although smaller, reductions.

We will also be reviewing the outcomes from a Care Quality Commission Inspection on Children's Health Services, following the integration of the 0-19 Children's Health Service within the Children's Services Locality Teams. In addition, we will be looking at how schools use the *Armed Forces Pupil Premium* to support the *Armed Forces Covenant* and armed forces children and young people to excel in their education. This grant is provided by the Department for Education in recognition of the specific challenges children for service families and is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need.

Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Barry
Dobson**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Mrs Wendy
Bowkett**

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee combines two areas of responsibility around protecting and sustaining the environment and sustaining and growing business and the economy. The Committee work to provide an opportunity to join these areas and encourage a more holistic approach and has a greater focus on strategic outcomes. We have considered a wide range of subjects over the past year, including:

- trends in the nation's high streets and the work on high street vitality, including the various steps which could be taken to support high streets through this period of change;
- the commissioning of employment and skills provision, including the *Department for Education Career Learning Pilot* testing what works in getting more adults into learning that will enhance their careers;
- scrutiny of the hotel investment action plan, developed to consider demand and potential supply of new hotels in Greater Lincolnshire and the Council's role to promote the growth of the tourism sector;
- consideration of the *Anglian Water Draft Water Resources Management Plan* to shape and guide the response to the consultation;
- the development of a local industrial strategy, whereby the Committee endorsed the County Council playing a strong role in supporting the Local Enterprise Partnership's production of the strategy;
- monitoring the development and implementation of the *Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy* and the formation of a working group by the Committee to consider responses to national waste strategy consultations;
- monitoring the implementation of the Lincolnshire broadband programme, with which the Committee was satisfied that as the broadband programme looks to move into a third deployment, it appears very clear consideration will need to be given to alternative technologies to reach more rural areas in Lincolnshire;
- consideration of the Agriculture Bill as it progressed through Parliament and the major issues being raised by the farming sector;
- scrutiny of the third *Carbon Management Plan 2018 to 2023* as a key strategy for reducing carbon emissions; the Committee welcomed the *Carbon Management Plan* and recommended the Executive consider climate change as part of wider decision making and consider how Lincolnshire can become nationally recognised as a leader for environmental improvement; and
- considering the Team Lincolnshire Ambassador Programme's objectives and two year 'Activity Plan', the Committee endorsed the partnership between the private and public sector in attracting and supporting business investment in Lincolnshire.

We have also held a number of meetings offsite to develop a greater awareness of the key developments and activity across the County. The Committee visited Mortons Media Group in Horncastle to gain a greater awareness of the Lincolnshire Technology Hubs, Riseholme Park in Lincoln for an update on the verge biomass project, the Aura Business Centre in Skegness to meet with businesses who use the County Council provided Business Centres and the excellent North Sea Observatory at Chapel St Leonards funded by Lincolnshire County Council to facilitate greater understanding and appreciation of the North Sea and the marine environment.

In 2019/20, we aim to continue to promote the clear link between protecting and sustaining the environment and sustaining and growing business and the economy, as a Committee we plan to:

- continue to promote the skills agenda within Lincolnshire, as skills and employment initiatives remain vital to the local economy;
- consider the emerging priorities of Lincolnshire's relationship with Hunan Province in China;
- continue to review and input into the development of the Local Industrial Strategy which will set the economic priorities through to 2030 and beyond;
- monitor and input on the continued development of the *UK Shared Prosperity Fund* to help deliver sustainable, inclusive growth that works for Lincolnshire as a replacement to current European Investment Funds; and
- scrutinise the performance of the Business Growth Hub's *Scale up Business Advice* programme and make recommendations on enhancing the service.

Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Bob
Adams**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Paul
Skinner**

The Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee considers Lincolnshire County Council's delivery of its local leadership role in relation to flood and water management. The Committee also considers the effectiveness of the Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Partnership and related partnership developments. The Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee has considered a wide range of subjects over the past year. This has included:

- considering the development of the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Strategy and welcomed a more strategic approach to economic development into the strategy; the importance of Internal Drainage Boards and District Councils in the Partnership was also highlighted;
- reviewing the work undertaken to introduce the *Sustainable Drainage Design and Evaluation Guide* as an important tool for new developers and others to understand what was required;
- monitoring the progress with the Boston Barrier where completion of the work is due by the end of 2020;
- considering the Local Resilience Forum's *Resilience Communities Project* which is open to all community groups, parish, town and ward councils and councillors; and businesses; the Committee supported the work being undertaken to develop Resilience Communities across the County;
- the Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) consultation to shape and guide the Council's response. In developing a formal response to the WRMP consultation, it is intended that it should be a joint response between partners as far as possible, including aligning closely with the response of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership;
- scrutiny of the work being undertaken towards developing strategic priorities for the revision of the *Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy*, a revision of which we will continue to consider the development at future meetings; and
- input into the review of the coastal strategy area between Saltfleet and Gibraltar Point and the need to maintain higher beach levels, where the Environment Agency has been exploring beach nourishment alongside a range of viable alternative options/approaches to ensure that a sustainable and affordable long-term flood risk management solution was maintained along the Lincolnshire coast line.

We continue to engage with all partner authorities, in line with the Joint Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy.

Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire



Chairman

**Councillor Carl
Macey**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Chris
Brewis**

The primary focus of the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire is the review and scrutiny of NHS-funded health care for Lincolnshire residents. In accordance with the national guidance, the Committee focuses on both the commissioners and the providers of NHS funded services.

Activity derived from the Lincolnshire Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP) has continued as a significant feature of the Committee's work programme in the last year. Although the Committee has focused on various strands of STP, such as mental health and integrated community care, it has been frustrated by the absence of any detailed information and consultation on the STP's acute services review, in effect a review of hospital services. However, in January 2019, NHS England launched the *NHS Long Term Plan*, which includes a requirement on local health systems to engage on how they would support the implementation of the *Plan*. This requirement led to the Lincolnshire STP launching its own engagement exercise: *Healthy Conversation 2019*, which will be a significant element of the Committee's work programme in the coming months. This will enable the Committee to provide initial feedback to the local NHS on its plans for acute hospitals, in advance of formal consultation.

In January 2018, the Health Scrutiny Committee referred the continued overnight closure of the Grantham accident and emergency department to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on the grounds of absence of consultation on the decision to keep it closed. A decision on the referral has not yet been made by the Secretary of State, but the launch of the *Healthy Conversation 2019* engagement exercise refers to proposals for Grantham accident and emergency department to become an urgent treatment centre. As a result of this and proposals for urgent treatment centres in other parts of Lincolnshire, the Committee has given the urgent and emergency care strand of the *Healthy Conversation 2019* a high priority and it will be considering this first in its forthcoming programme.

Throughout the last year, the Committee has received regular reports on Children and Young Persons Services at United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust, in particular the arrangements at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston. From August 2018, an interim model of care was put in place, which includes a paediatric assessment and observation unit. These arrangements arose from a shortage of specialist paediatric staff. The Committee has continued to monitor the impacts of these arrangements on patients and their families, with the latest report indicating that 98% of paediatric activity has remained at Pilgrim Hospital. The Committee will continue to monitor this matter.

Non-emergency patient transport has continued to be a major concern for the Committee. Thames Ambulance Service Ltd (TASL) has been providing this service since 1 July 2017, but throughout this time TASL has struggled to meet any of its key performance indicators. Its performance issues have been compounded by an 'inadequate' rating from the Care Quality Commission in February 2019. Because of the lack of progress, the Committee has recorded its advice to the commissioners to issue a notice of termination to TASL, as soon as strategically possible.

The Committee is made aware of the main inspection reports issued by the Care Quality Commission. In the last year, Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust has been rated as 'outstanding' and Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust has been rated as 'good'. Inevitably the Committee focuses on those providers with lower CQC ratings. United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust (ULHT) now has a 'requires improvement' rating. The Committee will continue to monitor the response of ULHT to the findings, requirements and recommendations of the CQC.

The Committee has continued to receive regular reports from the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS).

As stated above, in the coming months, the Committee will be focusing on *Healthy Conversation 2019* and has adopted an outline programme of activity from May to October, which includes urgent and emergency care; mental health; orthopaedics and trauma; and women's and children's services. In each case the Committee will be providing initial feedback to the local NHS in advance of formal consultation.

Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Michael
Brookes**



Vice-Chairman

Councillor Stephen Roe

The Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee considers key areas of public interest including highway network management and highways maintenance arrangements, transport commissioning and investments, and highways improvements. As a Committee we have considered a wide range of subjects over the past year. This has included:

- monitoring Major Highways Schemes which are a key priority for Lincolnshire including the Lincoln Eastern Bypass (LEB), North Hykeham Relief Road, Grantham Southern Relief Road (GSRR), Spalding Western Relief Road and the Boston Distributor Road;
- reviewing quarterly performance of the Lincolnshire Highways Alliance, which delivers the majority of highway services through a number of contracts;
- reviewing the winter maintenance arrangements for the County on an annual basis to ensure local priorities are maintained;
- endorsing the Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Plan, which sets out the policies and standards around highways maintenance and aligns with the *Well Maintained Highways Code of Practice*;
- monitoring the effectiveness of highways communication activity to ensure and promote that highways service users are consulted, communicated and informed appropriately in a timely and accurate manner;
- reviewing the 2019 Street Lighting Policy revisions, including the actions included as a result of the Part Night Street Lighting Scrutiny Review
- reviewing proposals by the Department for Transport to create a major road network comprising the most economically important local authority A roads;
- engaging with Network Rail to promote the delivery of key rail schemes within the County; and
- reviewing the progress of the *Boston Transport Strategy*, including efforts to ease existing problems and support the future development of the town, including progress towards the future development of the Boston distributor road.

In the coming year, we will look to:

- review of the Highways Capital Programme on a regular basis from July 2019 to ensure greater oversight and scrutiny of the capital programme;
- monitor the key milestones and implementation of the Highways 2020 project, which will replace the Lincolnshire Highways Alliance contracts;
- introduce a 'Route and Place Based Transport Strategies Annual Report' to monitor the overall progress of Transport Strategies across the County. This is in addition to monitoring individual strategies on a more frequent basis to review proposals to deliver improved transport corridors;

- establish a CCTV pilot scheme Working Group, to consider and make formal recommendations on the future of the on-going pilot scheme for CCTV parking enforcement outside of schools;
- promote a greater focus on passenger transport issues, including bus services and cycling strategy; and
- examine the performance of the highways fault reporting system to consider performance against published response times

We also aim to continue to build positive relationships with key outside bodies and seek to engage with Highways England and the successful bidder of the East Midlands Rail Franchise later in 2019.

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Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee



Chairman

**Councillor Nigel
Pepper**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Adam
Stokes**

The Committee continues to scrutinise the services covered within Public Protection and Communities remit. This includes County Public Protection, Community Resilience and Assets and Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue. We have considered a comprehensive work programme over the past year including the following topics:

- reviewing consultation and engagement activity and how this helps the Council to effectively engage people to be better informed to improve service provision. The Committee also agreed to receive an annual review of consultation and engagement activity in the future;
- performance of the out-sourced Library Contract to Greenwich Leisure Limited. The Committee reviewed the second year performance and key performance indicators for the Library Services Contract;
- the annual review of the Road Safety Partnership including information on fatal, killed and serious injury figures for Lincolnshire. The Committee also requested future update provides the opportunity to consider the Road Safety Partnerships action plan and priorities for the coming year;
- performance and service status of the Lincolnshire Registration, Celebratory and Coroners Services. The Committee considered the national discussion and debate on the removal of the costs of copy certificates at the point of registration for stillbirths, and the possible extension to all deaths of those under the age of 18. The Committee unanimously supported a request to the Executive Councillor to review the waiver of fees in these circumstances;
- endorsing a recommendation to conduct a public consultation on proposed changes to the Council's Heritage service and the need to seek ideas and ensure the public had the opportunity to comment and input into the proposals to help shape potential future developments;
- scrutinising the outcome from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services report of Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue and the service action plan; and
- considering the delivery of Trading Standards Services for the financial year 2017-2018 and having input into future priorities.

In 2019/20, the Committee plans to continue to undertake an active work programme, including:

- undertaking a visit to the Collection and Usher Art Gallery and continue to consider outcome of public engagement and final proposals for the Future Model of the Heritage Service;
- monitoring the implementation of the Fire and Rescue Services Action Plan following the recent Fire and Rescue inspection;

- considering the current position and future arrangements of the Joint Ambulance Conveyance Project; and
- considering the latest position on crime statistics in relation to the introduction of part night street lighting as part of the outcome from the part night street lighting scrutiny review.

Sitting as the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee the Committee has reviewed the work of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, the multi-agency forum for addressing community safety issues across Lincolnshire and has considered the key priorities of anti-social behaviour, domestic abuse, reducing offending and serious and organised crime.

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SCRUTINY PANELS

In March 2018, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed new topics for the two Scrutiny Panels to review.

Roundabouts Sponsorship and Advertising



**Chairman of Scrutiny
Panel A**

**Councillor Linda
Wootten**

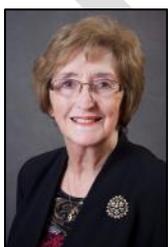


**Vice-Chairman of
Scrutiny Panel A**

**Councillor Sarah
Parkin**

Scrutiny Panel A, chaired by Councillor Linda Wootten, was tasked with looking at Roundabouts Sponsorship and Advertising. The Scrutiny Panel was asked to review the current *Sponsorship of Highway Planting* policy which has operated since 1996. The policy had been considered by the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee on a number of occasions and at its meeting in January 2018, the Committee unanimously recommended that it should be put forward for an in-depth scrutiny review. The Scrutiny Panel has examined the current policy and data regarding the suitability of roundabouts in each district for sponsorship and advertising. It has also approached each district council to find out what the current situation is with roundabout sponsorship across Lincolnshire. The Scrutiny Panel will be recommending a new policy based on its findings. The final report from the Scrutiny Panel, which will set out its recommendations to the Executive Councillor for Highways, Transport and IT, is in the process of being finalised before being presented to the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee for approval.

Transitions



**Chairman of Scrutiny
Panel B**

**Councillor Mrs Angela
Newton**



**Vice-Chairman of
Scrutiny Panel B**

**Councillor Tony
Turner MBE**

Scrutiny Panel B, chaired by Councillor Mrs Angela Newton, was established with the purpose of reviewing the individual experiences of young people transitioning into adulthood for those young people with more complex educational needs. This includes those young people who receive support through an *Education, Health and Care Plan*; and for those young people who are Looked After Children.

During the review the Panel concluded that overall transition arrangements in Lincolnshire are good with strong working relationships between Adult Care and Children's Services and other agencies with respect to the transition of young people.

The Panel highlighted the need to continue to work to reduce service user frustration and resolve issues as effectively as possible. The recommendations of the Panel seek to improve what is already a good process.

The Scrutiny Panel supported implementing the work identified as part of the SEND Steering Group Action Plan, related specifically to the areas of development identified through the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Inspection of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in late 2018.

The final report will be submitted to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for approval and will be submitted to the Executive on 4 June 2019.

DRAFT

SUB GROUPS

Corporate Parenting Sub Group



Chairman

**Councillor
David Brailsford**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Clio
Perraton-Williams**

The Corporate Parenting Sub Group is an internal meeting which meets quarterly and reports into the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee. Its role is to scrutinise and monitor services provided for Looked After Children and Care Leavers. This includes receiving regular reports on fostering, adoption, residential homes, health and education relating to Looked After Children and Care Leavers, and the leaving care service provided by Barnardo's.

Over the past year, we have contributed to the development of the refreshed Corporate Parenting Strategy and the Looked After Children and Care Leaver Strategy. The Corporate Parenting Strategy was approved by the County Council in September 2018 and the Looked After Children and Care Leaver Strategy was approved by the Executive in July 2018.

Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub Group regularly attend events with Looked After Children and Care Leavers and are keen to have councillor representation at all V4C meetings. V4C aims to bring looked after children and young people in Lincolnshire together for social activities and to share views on Lincolnshire care services. Members of the Corporate Parenting Sub Group attend to input into the discussions and hear about any issues which are raised to feed into the improvement of Children's Services in Lincolnshire.

FAB! Fantastic, Amazing, Brilliant! is the annual celebration of achievement event for Looked After Children and Care Leavers. Members of the Sub Group attended the *FAB!* Future event on 30 June 2018 at the University of Lincoln. The event had a theme of 'The Future' so the award ceremony and the activities provided afterwards were all high tech and aspirational. *FAB! 2019* is due to take place on 22 June 2019 and the event will run with eco-friendly activities and information stands in the morning with the awards ceremony taking place in the afternoon.

The Corporate Parenting Sub Group continues to promote the role of visiting members for children's homes. This important role provides additional scrutiny on culture, customs and practice within the home environment and thus further strengthens safeguarding. The role provides Councillors with the opportunity to consider needs of the home and children and give suggestions on improvements and is something the Sub Group considers of a regular basis.

The Corporate Parenting Sub Group will continue with its activities across all the areas outlined above.

Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub Group



Chairman

**Councillor Sarah
Parkin**



Vice-Chairman

**Councillor Robert
Foulkes**

The Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub Group is an internal meeting which meets on a quarterly basis. Its role is to scrutinise and monitor the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB).

A member of the Sub Group attends each meeting of the LSCB and LSAB as an observer and their report is included on the next Sub Group agenda. This helps the Sub Group to confirm that the agencies and organisations represented on each partnership board are working well together.

The LSCB is responsible for serious case reviews and the LSAB is responsible for safeguarding adult reviews. Final review reports are considered by the Sub Group, enabling it seeks its own assurance that both the LSCB and the LSAB are taking forward any required actions and recommendations.

This year we have adopted a themed approach to our meetings, which is enabling us to focus in some detail on a particular topic at each meeting, as well as considering our standard items, such as review reports and reports from LSAB and LSCB observers. One of our themes has been 'Signs of Safety', where we considered a detailed presentation from Children's Services on how they are developing this initiative.

A further theme we have considered is safeguarding awareness training, in particular the online training, which is available to a wide range of agencies and individuals. The Sub Group focused on taxi drivers, who can be an asset in the detection and prevention of abuse or neglect of children and vulnerable adults, if they are aware of the signs of potential abuse and know where to turn to if they suspect that a child or vulnerable adult is at risk of harm or is in immediate danger. We acknowledge the efforts of the LSCB and LSAB in providing this training free of charge to taxi drivers.

In the coming year, we will be continuing with our themes, and as part of this approach we plan to look at modern day slavery and knife crime.

Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding the overview and scrutiny process, or any of the work we have undertaken then please get in touch with one of the officers listed below.

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- Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee
- Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee
- Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
- Corporate Parenting Sub Group
- Scrutiny Panel - Transitions

Or write to us at The Scrutiny Team, Lincolnshire County Council, Room 5, County Offices, Lincoln, LN1 1YL

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