



LINCOLNSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Open Report on behalf of Derek Ward, Director of Public Health, Lincolnshire County Council

Report to	Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board
Date:	28 September 2021
Subject:	Joint Strategic Asset Assessment Update

Summary:

A Joint Strategic Asset Assessment (JSAA) is intended to support communities and commissioners to address the health and wellbeing needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). It enables them to build on assets that already exist and to identify gaps so that solutions can be put in place to support population health and wellbeing.

This paper outlines progress made to develop a register of physical assets and to map these to create a more visible overview of needs and opportunities. It sets out the direction of travel for the JSAA and its links with wider mapping work, to become a sustainable, meaningful and useful tool for asset-based community development to support thriving communities and healthy lifestyles.

Actions Required:

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes progress made to develop the Joint Strategic Asset Assessment and comments on its future development and sustainability.

1. Background

The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is responsible for leading on the development of the statutory JSNA. The JSNA identifies needs, concerns and gaps in communities, on matters such as financial exclusion, long-term conditions and access to services. The JSNA seeks to inform decisions about service design, delivery and funding to meet these needs appropriately.

Using an asset-based approach to complement the JSNA can allow commissioners and service providers to re-evaluate how services are delivered in a locality, taking account of local views and aspirations; and to build upon the strengths that already exist and capitalise on opportunities to do things differently. More importantly, it can give individuals and communities access to information to build their own local support networks and services, enhancing resilience and quality of life; potentially reducing reliance on formal services, although these may also be more targeted to achieve better outcomes.

“A health asset is any factor or resource which enhances the ability of individuals, communities and populations to maintain and sustain health and well-being. These assets can operate at the level of the individual, family or community as protective and promoting factors to buffer against life’s stresses.”

Antony Morgan, Associate Director
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), 2009

Assets include:

- Practical skills, capacity and knowledge of local residents;
- Networks and connections (social capital) in a community;
- Local community and voluntary associations;
- Physical resources of a place that enhance health and wellbeing; and
- Economic and practical resources

Physical resources (or environmental assets) include buildings, facilities, parks, transport and natural spaces. These can be used to improve health and wellbeing outcomes and impact positively on the wider determinants of health, such as the ability of population groups to take greater control of their own health and manage their long-term conditions.

The first phase of the project has been for Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) to work with others to develop the JSAA infrastructure and to begin mapping physical assets. Nearly two thousand physical assets have been recorded to date. Given the previous investment in Connect to Support Lincolnshire by the County Council and the Lincolnshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group, and that this already holds a directory of support services available for people with health and care needs, it was decided that the register of physical assets would be included on this website.



Venue, Buildings and Facilities

The next steps are to increase details about the assets and to overlay travel options and access routes (public footpaths, cycle routes, etc.) which will enable people to organise community events, decide where to base new or existing groups and services, and to see where there are service gaps so that they can work together to prioritise developments.

The success of the JSAA and Connect to Support Lincolnshire is dependent on capturing community-level data. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, Connect to Support Lincolnshire has been a key tool for promoting community groups and support. Building on this, LCC will be

continuing to work closely with those people and organisations with local knowledge, including county, district, town and parish councillors, community groups and voluntary organisations, as well as their informal associations and networks. This will help to identify other physical assets, but also the range of services provided by community groups to provide a rich directory of services with the ability to see these in a more visible mapped format.

By combining the asset information with data from the JSNA and other sources, it is possible to start to layer information to provide a more meaningful overview of local needs and responses. LCC's wider corporate digital mapping programme, into which the JSAA will sit, will enable information to be overlaid in such a way that:

- Existing services can be more targeted to where they are most needed or may have greatest impact, and specific needs can be catered for.
- Community groups and voluntary organisations can draw on evidence to support funding bids.
- Specific issues or clusters of need can be identified.

For example:

- Mapping those places without broadband coverage and overlaying community needs and aspirations could drive improvements in access to specific services e.g. online befriending to reduce loneliness and isolation and improve mental wellbeing.
- Mapping known flood risk areas and identifying active community groups in the immediate area will enable support to be deployed quickly and effectively in an emergency situation, enabling available resources to be maximised, particularly if a large area is affected.

The next step has been a series of district-level workshops held with communities and stakeholder organisations during September 2021. These were to establish links with key community organisations to:

- Assess the current register.
- Develop mechanisms for organisations to update information.
- Understand better what assets are valued by local communities.

Development could take a theme e.g. people wanting to increase their physical activity levels, changing from being sedentary to being somewhat active, and the assets available in a locality to support this. Alternatively, it could take an asset which is currently under-utilised e.g. a village hall, to consider how this might be used more. This will establish a methodology to be applied to other topics / themes, particularly to secure positive impacts on health and wellbeing, and wider community resilience.

Key organisations include those who work within communities and who either do or could use the JSAA on a regular basis. By working collaboratively, we will enable community groups and representative organisations e.g. parish councils, Community Information Points, Good Neighbour Schemes, etc., to influence what is available through the register. It will also reduce LCC resource on managing updates as groups can update their own asset information.

2. Conclusion

The first phase of developing the JSAA has provided a platform on which to build to drive out greater gains from understanding community needs and existing resources in those places.

Discussions are underway to locate the JSAA within LCC’s corporate Geographic Information System (GIS) project, for use across LCC and the developing Integrated Care System (ICS). This may improve the mapping functionality on the Connect to Support Lincolnshire website, adding value to the work already achieved to establish a single online service directory.

Key to its ongoing development and sustainability is to ensure that the JSAA captures community knowledge and aspirations. The second phase, including the district-level workshops, is now underway.

3. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

The Council and Clinical Commissioning Group must have regard to the JSNA and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The development of a JSAA is not linked to an individual JSNA chapter. However, the new format JSNA will consider a life-course approach to health and wellbeing needs across a wide range of areas.

The JSAA addresses the solutions to some of the ‘deficits’ identified in the JSNA. For example, public use of green spaces and woodland can be improved by identifying accessible resources that exist and the facilities that these have, and developing new resources and facilities to fill gaps.

In turn, this contributes to priorities in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (e.g. to tackle mental health issues and improve emotional resilience and increase opportunities for physical activity) for people of all ages and abilities; thus reducing health inequalities. For other priorities, the JSAA will help carers find venues with necessary facilities and activities they can do with those they care for.

4. Consultation

There has been no formal consultation exercise to develop the JSAA thus far. However, the Project Officer has been in regular communication with LCC Community Engagement colleagues, district councils and people and associations representing communities, including the Voluntary Executive Team (VET). LCC has consulted on the development of a new Community Strategy and the plan is for the future development of the JSAA to be linked to that action plan. Potential for its future maintenance being owned by communities is being explored with Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service (LCVS). Phase 2, through the district-level workshops, will take this further with community organisations and their representative bodies.

5. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Journey through the Connect to Support Lincolnshire Venues, Buildings and Facilities Directory

6. Background Papers

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

This report was written by Sean Johnson, who can be contacted on 0791770718 or sean.johnson@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

Appendix A – Journey through the Connect to Support Lincolnshire Venues, Buildings and Facilities Directory

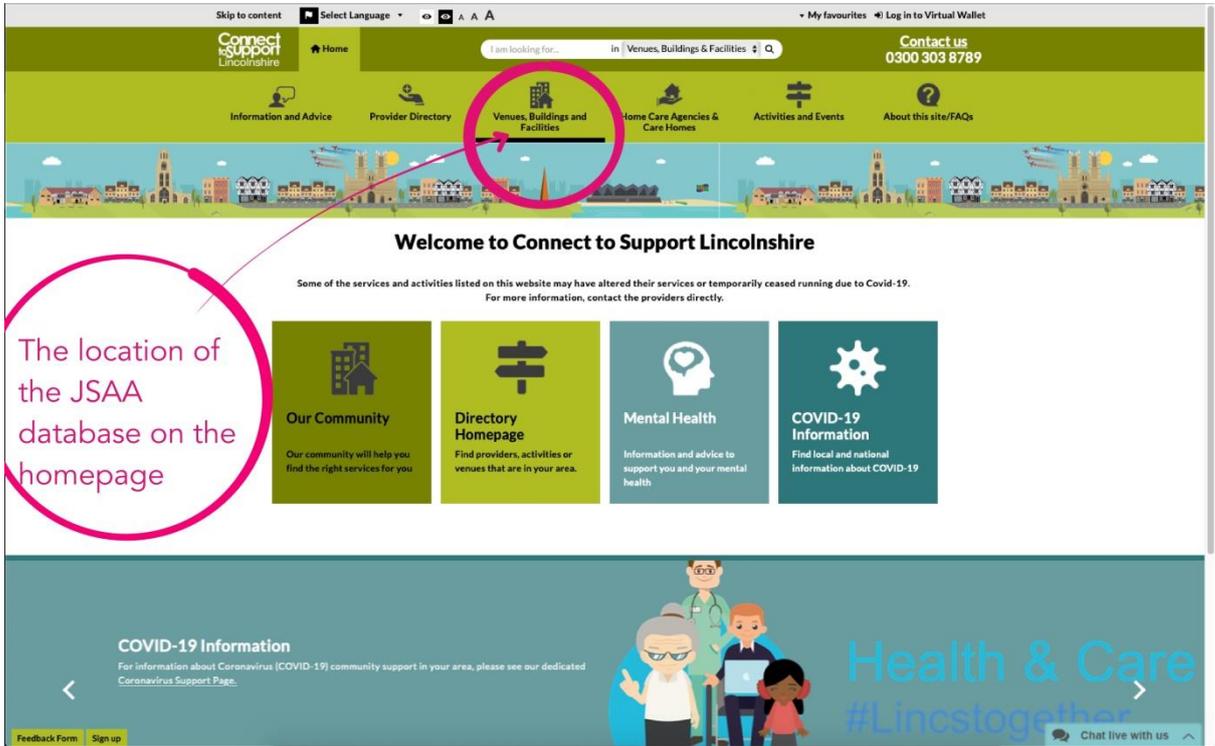


Figure 1. Location of the asset database from the home page

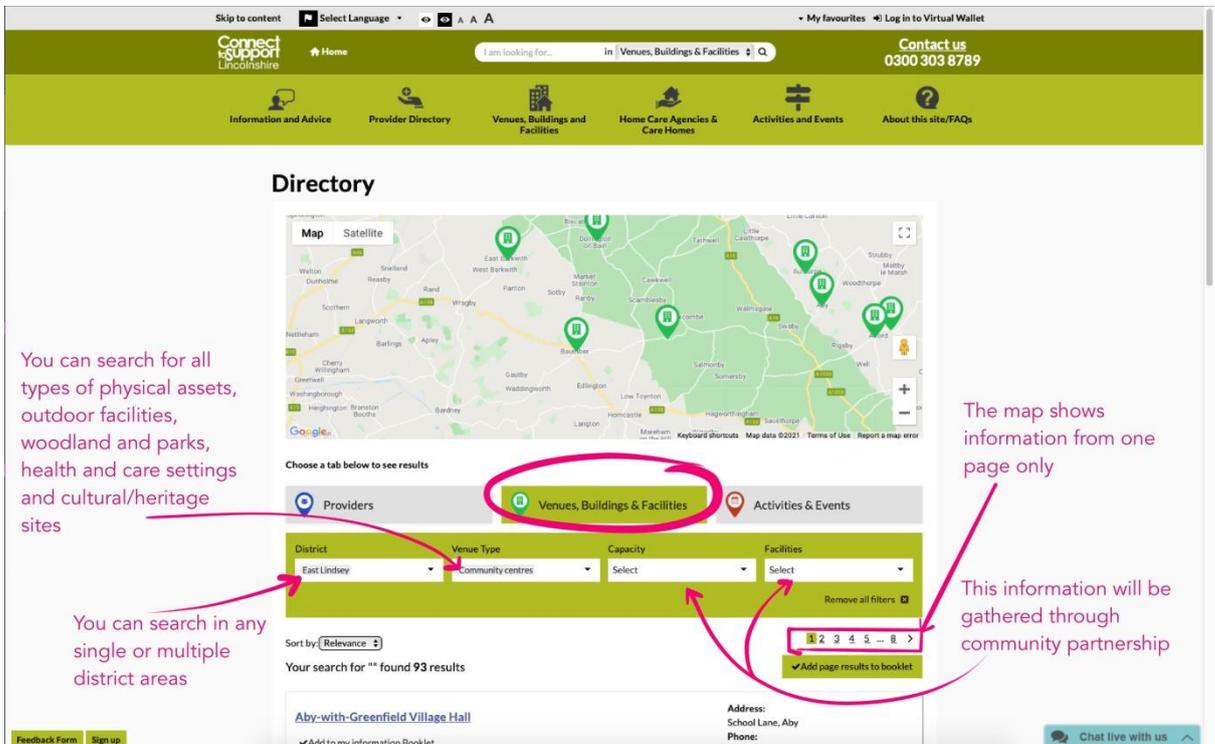


Figure 2. Search functions in the directory

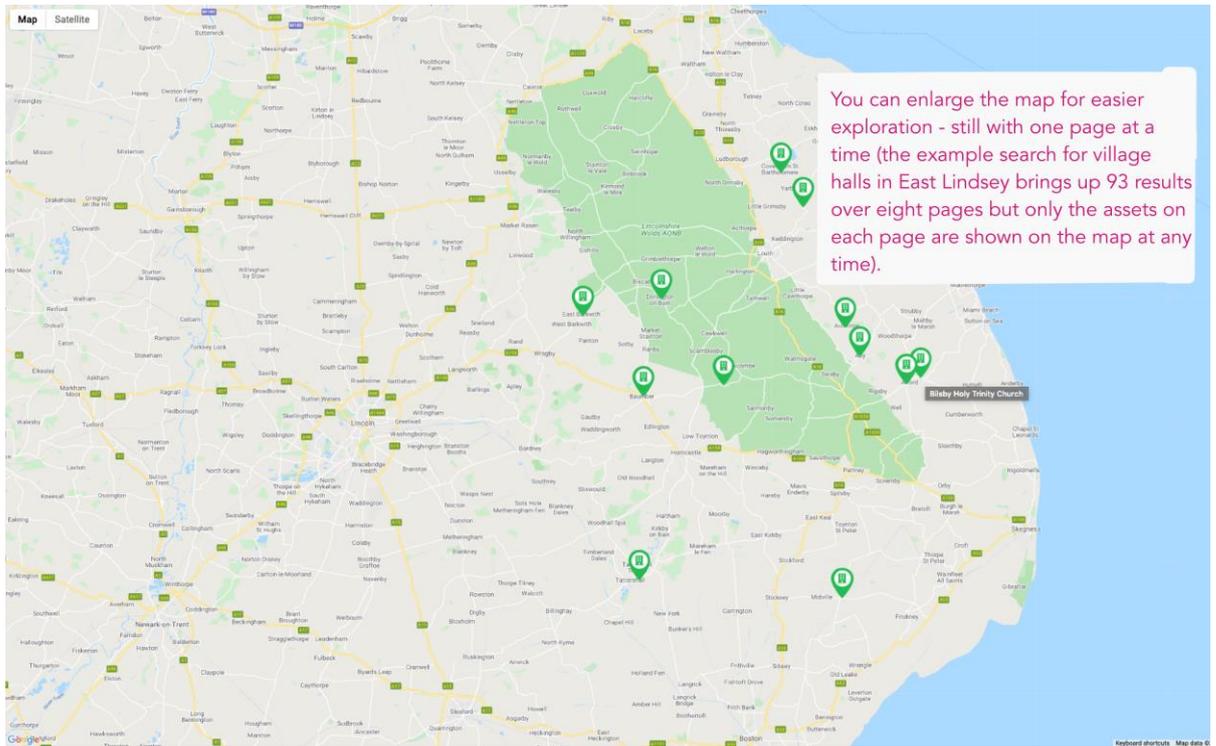


Figure 3. Enlarging the map for easier viewing

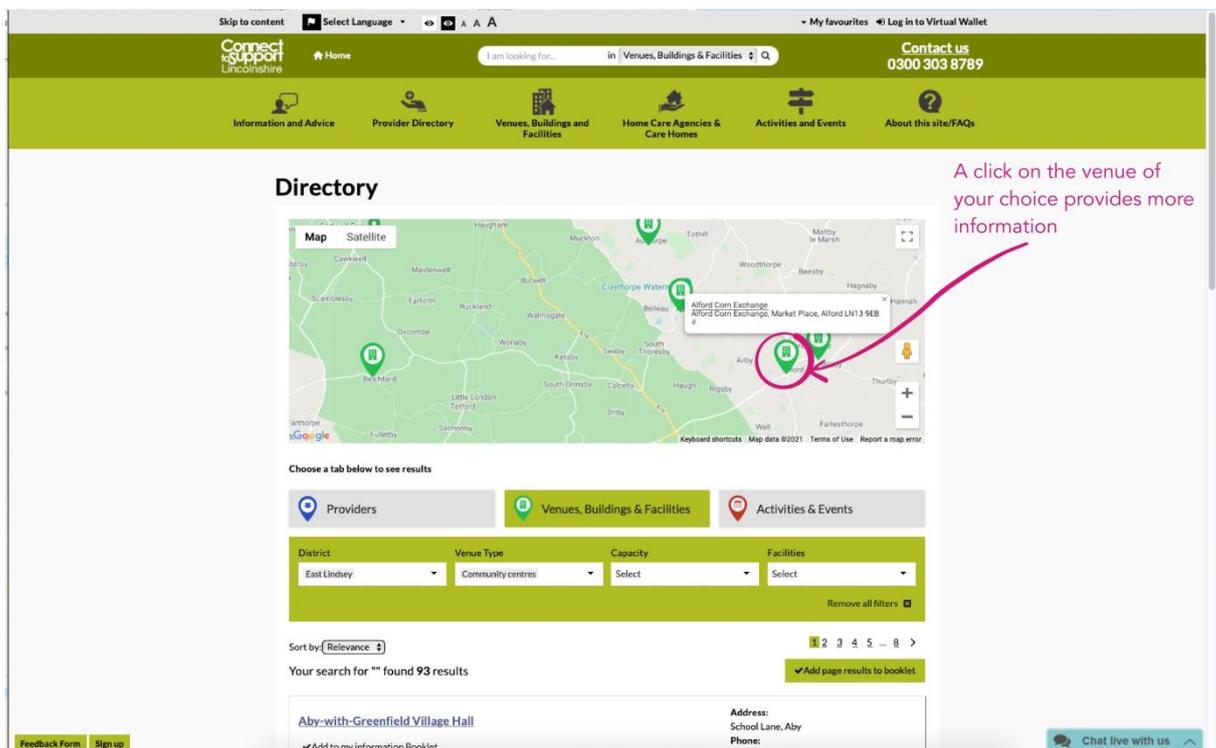


Figure 4. Finding a venue

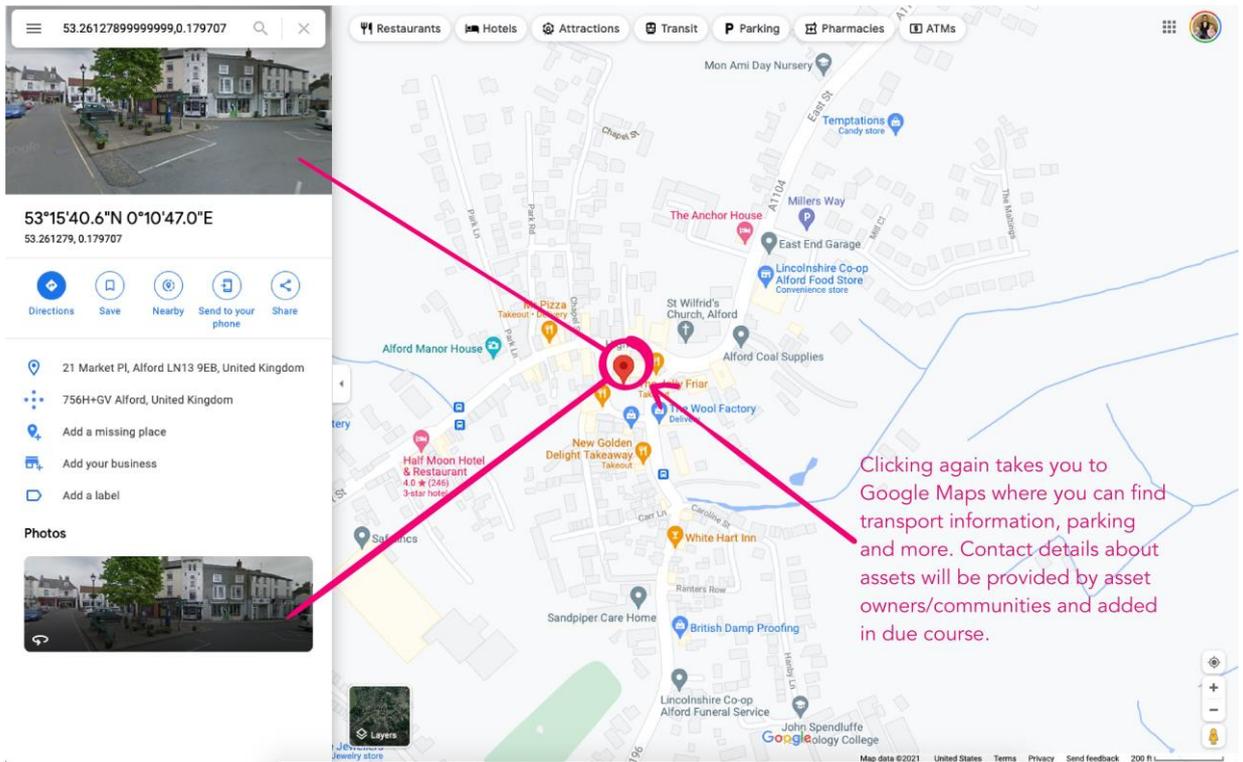


Figure 5. Finding more information and planning your journey