

Appendix Two - Child Poverty Action Plan 2013-14

	Activity / Resource Area	Narrative on activity	Brief description of example updates suggested	Recommended Accountable Officer
<b>Poverty of Access</b>	<b>Reducing Digital Exclusion</b> - with the roll out of universal credit being digital increasing access to the internet is essential. This needs to be tackled through increasing technology, access to IT equipment, sufficient Internet time and basic training	<p>The Governments Digital Strategy, Digital by Default standards and move towards online processing particularly for DWP and benefit claimants will significantly impact on individuals from lower income households. Reducing Digital exclusion will occur on two fronts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Up skilling individuals to give them the knowledge to utilise the internet via a network of community based, voluntary and commissioned training providers (OnLincolnshire) this also links to the adult training available through 2Aspire</li> <li>2. Providing a digital service that is accessible to all Lincolnshire residents throughout the county. The target for this is by 2016 around 90 per cent of the county will have superfast broadband</li> </ol> <p>Digital Champions have been appointed who are focused on: 1. Demand Stimulation, 2. Skills development and 3. Final Mile Solutions across the County.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress update on the digital programme in Lincolnshire and how this is being accessed by the identified groups</li> <li>• Identification of training opportunities and face to face support that can be accessed by residents</li> <li>• Work of the Digital Champions</li> <li>• Events and training activities update</li> </ul>	Judith Hetherington-Smith: Performance & Governance; IMT

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	<p><b>Transport Exclusion</b> - the role of transport in shaping the experience of poverty for families is crucial and can affect young peoples employment opportunities</p>	<p>Areas of activity should include activities to aid young people to travel around the county. These could include Cycle Hire schemes within the City and surrounding towns, Moped and bicycle loans for young people including training on road safety. Independent travel training and advice on how to access and utilise public transport. Influence with private transport companies to ensure maximum coverage in rural areas and further expanding of the Callconnect programme and integration with regional railways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on identified work streams to assist young people gain transport independence such as travel training</li> <li>• Update on the Lincolnshire Transport Policy and how this directly supports the identified groups</li> <li>• Progress made on increasing transport links in the most rural and deprived areas of the county</li> </ul>	<p>Paul Coathup: Communities; Highways &amp; Transportation</p>
<p><b>Economic Poverty</b></p>	<p><b>Communicating Welfare Changes</b> to affected groups to maximise uptake of benefits and to enable effective groups to increase resilience with the help of guidance, advice and financial planning</p>	<p>Much of the work around the welfare changes and communicating these to relevant groups will be coordinated within the District Councils utilising a range of partner organisations to target individuals and families. The use of voluntary and community based action groups, CAB, Housing Associations and Financial inclusion officers. A coordinated approach should be modelled to prevent duplication and ensure partners can manage issues and maximise potential solutions arising from the welfare reforms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current arrangements in place to identify and communicate changes to identified families</li> <li>• Areas of work with individual families identified as being the most vulnerable in Lincolnshire</li> <li>• Arrangements with partner agencies to disseminate information, help and advise and signposting to the most appropriate agency</li> </ul>	<p>District Councils: Angela Andrews; Lincoln Daren Turner; S Kesteven Alan Thomas; N Kesteven Russel Stone; W Lindsey Rob Barlow; Boston Elizabeth Jones; S Holland and E Lindsey (Shared with Compass Point)</p>

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	<p><b>Free School Meals (FSM) and Pupil Premium</b> - Increase the registration of Free School Meals for eligible parents and ensuring meal take up by children and young people. Maximise Pupil Premium income for schools.</p>	<p>School meals can provide important health benefits and contribute to the education of the children that receive them. The meals can also help children to develop healthy eating habits and can potentially decrease health inequalities. Free School Meals save parents approx. £400 a year, and for children living in poverty - this may be the only nutritious meal they receive that day. From September 2014, every child up to Year 2 will receive a free school meal regardless of family income. Eligibility for Pupil Premium is based on the numbers of registered FSM pupils. From April 2014 this is expected to be approx. £1,200 per pupil and schools are able to utilise this money to increase the life chances of that individual. In addition to this the Service Premium offers schools £300 per service child as targeted support enabling them to attain their full potential. From Year3 onwards, parents must complete FSM registration to ensure continued PP income.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is Pupil Premium Funding being maximised and how can this be improved further?</li> <li>• How many Pupils are eligible for Free School Meals and choose to take them up post Year 3?</li> <li>• Clarify Pupil Premium funding criteria pre Year 3</li> <li>• How many schools have hot school meals and what is the quality of the meals?</li> <li>• Ensure the Service Premium is being claimed and income maximised by all schools</li> </ul>	<p>Richard Cumbers: Public Health; Children's Health</p> <p>Tim Culpin: Children's Services ; School Improvement Service</p>
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	<p><b>Maximise Family Income</b> - through Financial Income and Literacy</p>	<p>Lincolnshire Community Assistance Scheme came into the Council in April 2013 to help people going through unexpected difficulties and who need urgent assistance. Where all other avenues of assistance have been exhausted the scheme can provide help in meeting basic needs, such as: Food and drinking water, Clothes and shoes, Personal hygiene products, Essential household items such as beds, chairs and cooking equipment, One-off support for household heating or lighting payments, One-off payment of rent or lodging costs if your local housing department cannot help, Essential travel It also acts to signpost individuals to other agencies to ensure benefits are maximised.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current arrangements in place to manage the Social Fund and levels of take up</li> <li>• Mapping of credit unions and associated local levels of Debt</li> <li>• How are families incomes being maximised – what additional strategies could be utilised</li> <li>• Re-application rates by individuals and resilience factors</li> <li>• Case study's or scenarios of how this has made a real difference to lives</li> </ul>	<p>Tony McGinty: Public Health; Adults &amp; Vulnerable People</p>
	<p><b>Tacking Fuel poverty</b></p>	<p>Lincolnshire has seen a sharp rise in fuel poverty resulting from lower household income and rising fuel costs. A high proportion of housing is off the GAs network grid and face high oil costs and older housing stock makes heating the property harder and less efficient. The Lincolnshire Affordable Warmth Strategy seeks to support local authorities to provide affordable warmth for all households in Lincolnshire by developing a program of actions and engaging a range of partners to eradicate fuel poverty and to support a reduction in carbon emissions from housing stock.</p>	<p>Update on work streams to tackle issues around fuel poverty could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising awareness of fuel poverty and its solutions</li> <li>• Targeting actions at fuel poor households</li> <li>• Improving the energy efficiency of all housing tenures</li> <li>• Maximising the income of households at risk from fuel poverty</li> <li>• Improving access to fuel services and renewable energy</li> <li>• Community Lincs and affordable warmth</li> <li>• Bulk oil buying schemes /</li> </ul>	<p>Sean Johnson: Home Energy Lincs Partnership (HELP) NKDC</p>

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			switching schemes /energy saving advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green deal assistance</li> </ul>	
<b>Poverty of Aspiration</b>	<b>Skills Development</b> within schools and young adults so young people are ready for work with skills that can be best utilised within the Lincolnshire economy	14-19 service to work closely with schools to deliver a range of services and programmes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for Delivery of Off-Site Provision – including training and support for all institutions and individuals involved in the delivery of provision.</li> <li>• Strategies for Increasing Participation in Post-16 Education and Training</li> <li>• Support for all professionals involved in preparing for the implementation of the statutory raising of the participation age.</li> <li>• Support for Post-16 Curriculum</li> <li>• Supporting schools to identify areas of the curriculum that need developing to enhance learning experience of its pupils</li> <li>• Support in developing effective management of the curriculum</li> <li>• Support in developing effective teaching and learning for the qualifications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on real case scenarios to show how schools and local partners have worked together to improve life chances of young people to ensure they have the maximum qualifications, skills and knowledge to make them work-ready</li> <li>• Impact of activity on NEET numbers around the County</li> <li>• Outcomes of Targeted projects or activities in certain areas or schools</li> <li>• Support provided to vulnerable groups such as Looked After Children</li> </ul>	Keith Batty: Children's Services; 14-19 Service
	<b>Reduce Worklessness</b> within the Adult Population by developing employability skills	There is a range of programs and courses available throughout Lincolnshire provided by community and voluntary organisations. Lincolnshire has 3 approaches to its adult learning course. Some are delivered in community settings such as Children's Centres, one is 2Aspire which is a web based hub of information on courses, qualifications and availability throughout Lincolnshire. the on-line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on up skilling the adult population, for example Adult education classes held in Children's centres around the County</li> <li>• Uptake of courses and increase in basic numeracy and literacy levels around the county.</li> </ul>	Jenny Gammon: Communities; Economy & Culture

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		<p>resource also includes advertising of the call connect Service and links to transport networks. There are also more formal qualifications that can be obtained from various learning providers around the County for unemployed individuals to get them work ready</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share good practice cases and how these can be enhanced by on-going work of other agencies and projects</li></ul>	
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