

### CORPORATE PLAN SUCCESS FRAMEWORK 2022/23 - QUARTER 2

#### STATEMENT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

At its meeting on 24 November 2022, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board considered the report and unanimously agreed to support the recommendation to the Executive.

During its discussion, the Board explored the following topics:

- **Waste and Recycling**

*(Section 4.2 of the report: PI 39: Percentage of Household waste to landfill)*

The majority of waste in Lincolnshire goes through the Energy for Waste plant. If the amount of waste going to landfill started to increase, then this would imply that more waste was being created and could not be disposed of through the Energy for Waste plant or for other reasons. It was highlighted that as the Energy for Waste plant largely worked at capacity, there was a risk of having a greater landfill figure if there was a greater presentation of waste.

*(Section 4.4 of the report: PI 37: Recycling Rate (new national formula) and PI 38: Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC))*

As part of the Board's exploration of these indicators, it was confirmed that in relation to the new national formula, different categories of waste were categorised differently by the Government at different times, and these subtle changes affect the overall recycling rate figures. As an example, wood was now classed as recoverable materials rather than recycled materials so instead of being automatically recycled, any opportunity to reuse the wood would be considered first.

An educational campaign was ongoing across Lincolnshire between the County Council and district councils to improve residents understanding of what can go into the different bins. The underlying trends of recycling rates indicate that this was having a positive impact. It was confirmed that a breakdown of the waste and recycling data by district was considered by the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, and each of the partners could influence and address this agenda and try to work collaboratively and consistently across the county. The Chairman of the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee highlighted that more detailed waste and recycling information had been requested at the Committee's last meeting in October 2022 to look at the variations by district and to see if there were any changes in behaviour that could be positively influenced to drive the recycling rate up.

The Board also explored the reasons for lower presentation of waste at Household Waste Recycling Centres and whether a contributory factor could be the cost of living crisis which was causing people to buy less, and as a result less waste was being generated.

- **Education**

*(Section 4.4 of the report – PI 1: Percentage of schools that are judged good or outstanding and PI 2: Percentage of pupils in outstanding or good schools)*

There was a combination of reasons for schools not being judged good or outstanding, which included the quality of teaching and learning, safeguarding issues and the quality assurance process for children educated off site at an alternative provision setting. It was confirmed that there were some issues in terms of the quality of teaching and learning which had been highlighted in some of the Ofsted Inspection reports and the Council was following up on these with the Regional Schools Commissioner.

- **Early Years**

*(Section 4.3 of the report: PI 67: Percentage of eligible 2-year-olds who are in receipt of their Early Years Entitlement)*

The Board reflected on the 80% target and questioned whether the Council should be aiming for 100% to ensure all young children were engaged in an Early Years setting.