Lincolnshire
COUNTY COUNCIL
Working for a better future

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director – Place	

Report to:	**Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee**
Date:	**28 November 2023**
Subject:	**Service Level Performance against the Corporate Performance Framework 2023-24 Quarter 2**

Summary:

This report summarises the Service Level Performance against the Success Framework 2023-24 for Quarter 2. All performance that can be reported in Quarter 2 is included in this report.

Full service level reporting to all scrutiny committees can be found here Service level performance data

Recommendation(s):

To consider and comment on the Environment and Economy Service Level Performance for 2023- 24 Quarter 2.

1. Background

This report details the Service Level Performance measures for the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee that can reported in Quarter 2.

- 3 measures that exceeded their target ☆
- 3 measures that achieved their target ✔
- 1 measure did not meet their target ✘
- 1 measure that does not have a target (contextual)

1.1 Economy

1.1.1 Measures that exceeded their target

PI 70 - Qualifications achieved by adults ⭐
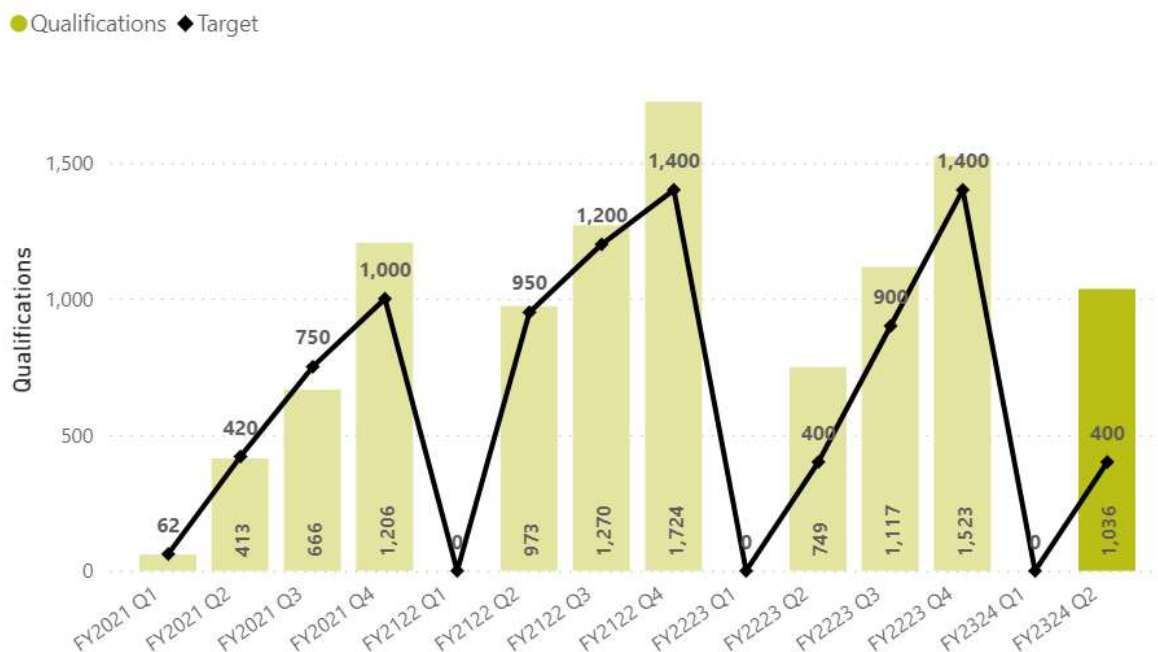April 2023- September 2023

Actual: 1,036
Quarter 2 Target: 400
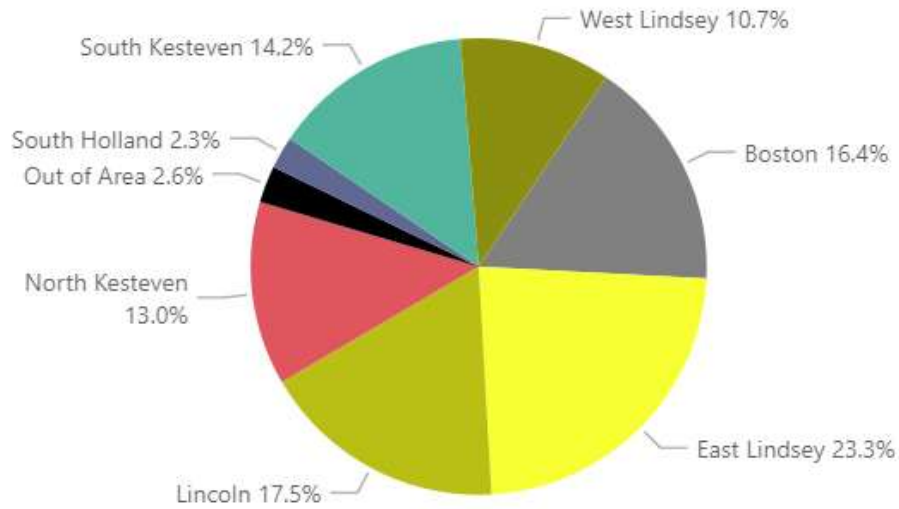**Annual Target: 1,400**

The number of qualifications achieved by adults at the end of Quarter 2 was 1,036, above the target of 400. This increase in performance is due to several factors including changes to demand in year which resulted in a significant number of courses being delivered that had multiple qualifications attached to them, as well as a general increase in learner engagement. Of the 1,036 qualifications that were achieved between April and September, 64% of them were delivered in classroom settings, with 36% delivered online.

Provision continues to be aimed at targeted learners with the effect that 56% of qualifications were achieved by male learners, 64% were achieved by unemployed learners and 33% by learners with no, or low levels of prior attainment. 54% of qualifications achieved were at Entry Level with 23% at Level 1 and 21% at Level 2.

With a continued focus on supporting employability, the range of qualifications was varied, including, General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE's) or functional skills in English or Maths as well as a host of other vocational qualifications. In support of Lincolnshire's priority employment sectors, 391 qualifications achieved related to the wider care sectors, 216 to construction, 141 to accountancy and business administration and 139 to hospitality.

Number of learners (based on learner postcode)

- South Kesteven 14.2%
- South Holland 2.3%
- Out of Area 2.6%
- North Kesteven 13.0%
- Lincoln 17.5%
- West Lindsey 10.7%
- Boston 16.4%
- East Lindsey 23.3%

Number of enrolments (based on postcode location of the course)

- East Lindsey 14.0%
- Boston 14.3%
- West Lindsey 4.0%
- South Kesteven 3.4%
- South Holland 0.9%
- Lincoln 22.4%
- North Kesteven 2.1%
- Online Learning 38.7%
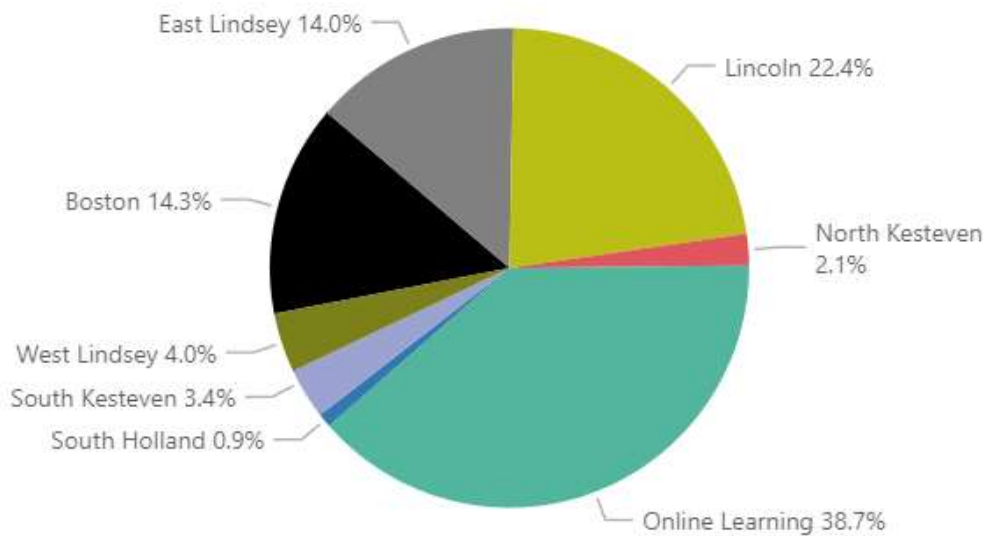
August 2023 – September 2023

PI 71 - Amount of external funding attracted to Lincolnshire ⭐
April 2023- September 2023

Actual: £8,360,151
Quarter 2 Target: £4,283,737
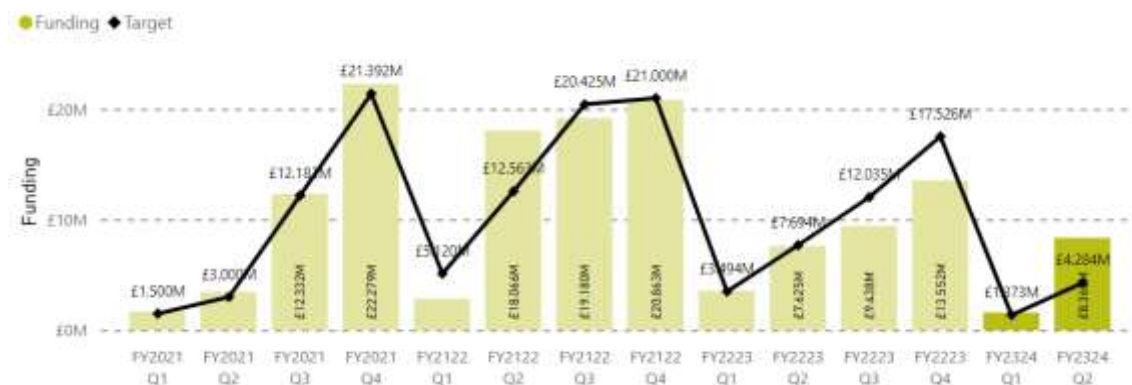**Annual target: £14m**

During Quarter 2 an additional £6,754,577 of external funding was received bringing the total received to date of £8,360,151 which is above the target of £4,283,737.

Funding received in Quarter 2 is broken down as follows:

- Funding of £97,733 was secured from the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) for the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub service.
- UK Shared Prosperity Funds of £416,662 to provide Service Delivery to 7 Local Authorities across the Greater Lincolnshire Region.
- The Department for Business and Trade (DBT) contribution for Quarter 2 of £23,750 to support foreign owned businesses who are being key account managed across the region.

Further funding received during Quarter 2 is:

- Adult Education Budget from the Department for Education (DfE) £481,511.
- Multiply numeracy Programme £154,010.
  - Local Enterprise Partnership funding received of £5,531,224.
  - £5.5 million for the Levelling up Funding allocation for the A16.
  - Remainder from grant drawdown for career Hub activity and sponsorship for the Defence Board.
- Made Smarter Government Initiative £49,687.

1.1.2 Measures that achieved their target

PI 69 Businesses supported by the Council ✔
April 2023- September 2023

Actual: 710
Quarter 2 Target: 704
Annual target: 1,700

Performance for Quarter 2 has seen an additional 312 Businesses Supported bringing the total for 23/24 to 710 - above the target of 704.

The Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub has supported 186 businesses in Quarter 2, with this being the first financial quarter of a new United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Shared Service model. This has seen several new services commissioned. The scope of delivery includes generalist and specialist support for Manufacturing, Low Carbon, Retail Leisure & Hospitality, Agriculture and Horticulture, Finance Readiness, and Digitalisation as well as Scale Up, Start-up and Social Economy. There will also be a new events programme that incorporates online webinars, face-to-face workshops and larger conference events.

The Growth Hub also provides International Trade Support including the Export Peer Network, Roundtable and the Empowering Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in International Trade programmes. There is also funded activity through the Mosaic Digital Hub which focuses on the Growth of the Digital sector. In terms of Made Smarter (a Programme designed to champion the UK's manufacturing revolution), 52 businesses on stage 1 of the Programme were engaged with – this involves data capture, assessment, progress options on the programme or signposting.
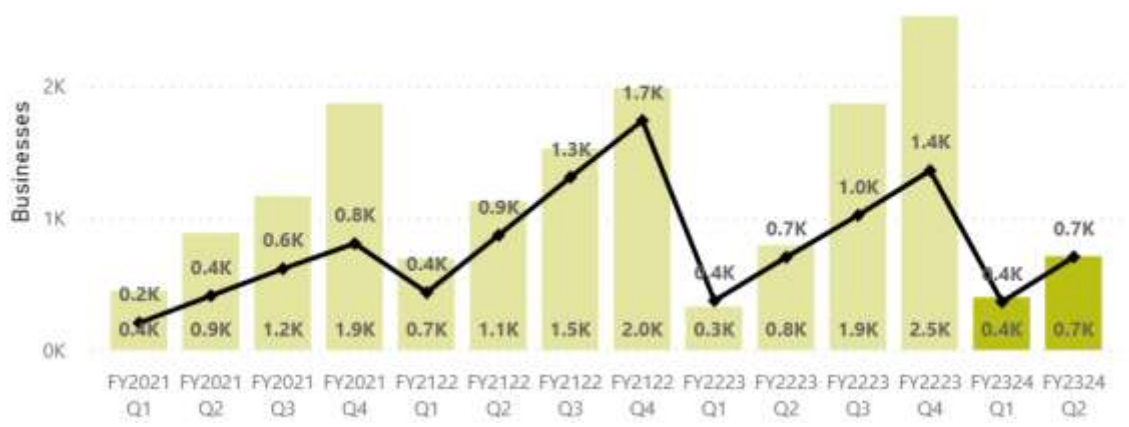
Our Inward Investment Service includes Team Lincolnshire (TL), Inward Investment enquiry handing and the account management of Foreign Owned Businesses. Through these services 70 Businesses were supported during Quarter 2. Support has included well-attended Team Lincolnshire Coffee Clubs focussing on Artificial Intelligence, and a number of Foreign Direct Investment meetings which attracted significant interest and enquiries.

The Economic Infrastructure Business Accommodation Portfolio consists of leasehold units in six business centres, 48 industrial workshops and eight miscellaneous premises across 24 estates in 17 towns. The overarching aim of the service is to provide suitable premises and tenancies to support new and young small and medium businesses and enhance economic growth and job creation across Lincolnshire.
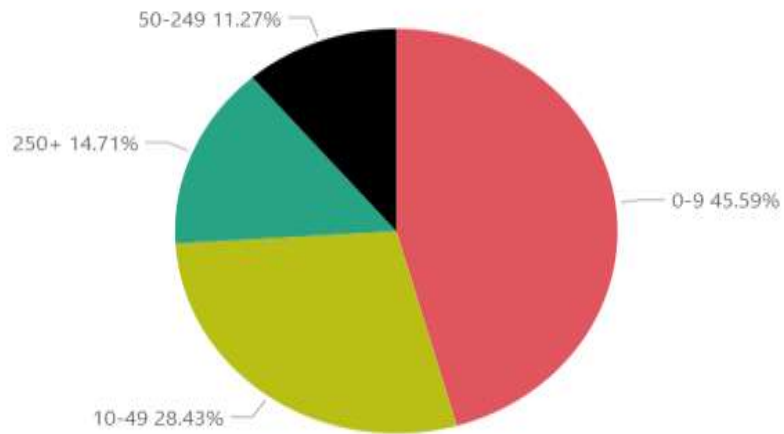
The Economic Infrastructure Portfolio team enhances that service level to its tenants, continuing to support them by nurturing though effective relationships and physical and financial support. The team also refers businesses to enable them access to advice, support, and potential upskilling from Business Lincolnshire to assist them and help them to grow.

In Quarter 2, 138 small business tenants received accommodation support alongside 3 public sector tenants, making 141 in total. However, some organisations leased more than one unit, resulting in 165 units being leased overall. As a result of enhanced relationship management 4 Businesses received additional support during the Quarter.
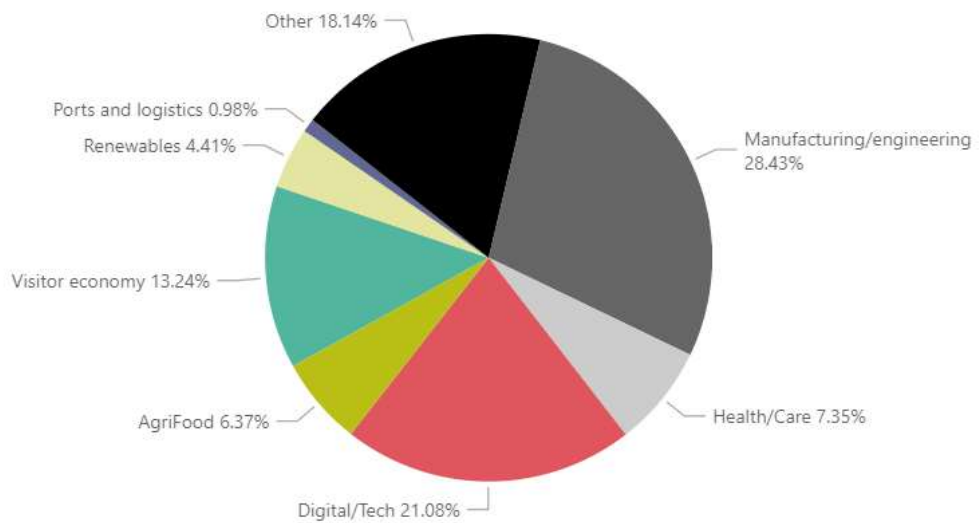
Businesses ● Businesses ◆ Target

	FY2021 Q1	FY2021 Q2	FY2021 Q3	FY2021 Q4	FY2122 Q1	FY2122 Q2	FY2122 Q3	FY2122 Q4	FY2223 Q1	FY2223 Q2	FY2223 Q3	FY2223 Q4	FY2324 Q1	FY2324 Q2
Businesses	0.2K	0.4K	0.6K	0.8K	0.4K	0.9K	1.3K	1.7K	0.4K	0.7K	1.0K	1.4K	0.4K	0.7K
Target	0.4K	0.9K	1.2K	1.9K	0.7K	1.1K	1.5K	2.0K	0.3K	0.8K	1.9K	2.5K	0.4K	0.7K

Businesses by Size

- 50-249 11.27%
- 250+ 14.71%
- 0-9 45.59%
- 10-49 28.43%

Businesses by Priority Sectors

- Other 18.14%
- Ports and logistics 0.98%
- Renewables 4.41%
- Visitor economy 13.24%
- AgriFood 6.37%
- Digital/Tech 21.08%
- Manufacturing/engineering 28.43%
- Health/Care 7.35%

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1.1.3 Measures that did not meet their target

None in Quarter 2

1.2 Flooding

1.2.1 All Flooding PIs are reported as Measured (do not have targets)

PI 72 Flooding incidents investigated
July 2023- September 2023

There were 9 Section 19 Investigations started in Quarter 2 affecting 13 properties (10 residential and 3 commercial). As at the end of the Quarter 2 period (July to September 2023), there were a total 53 ongoing Section 19 reports being prepared as a result of investigations being undertaken, spanning from 2019 to present.
Work continues to complete investigations in a timely manner, noting that some are more detailed and complex than others, and the process undertaken by Lincolnshire County Council has been streamlined to address a backlog of investigations following exceptional numbers generated during a series of flooding events during 2019 and 2020.

As an authority we work closely with other Risk Management Authorities to make them aware of recommendations so that future works may be considered. Equally, where opportunities arise, Lincolnshire County Council work in collaboration with other organisations to seek joint solutions to flooding issues wherever possible.

On the weekend of 18-21 October Storm Babet caused significant damage and disruption throughout Lincolnshire. As of 14 November the County has had 609 properties reported as being affected by internal flooding with a further 491 properties suffering from external flooding of gardens or outbuildings. There were also 48 instances of a road needing to be closed alongside 98 further cases of highway flooding. There are a further 206 reports received from partners that require further investigation to establish if they are of internal or external flooding.

Thus far it is understood that 167 new Section 19 reports of varying complexity will be required to understand the causality of flooding at various locations, often affecting multiple households.

Details of all current Section 19 investigations, along with their status, can be found on the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee meeting page on the Lincolnshire County Council website Browse meetings - Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee (moderngov.co.uk)
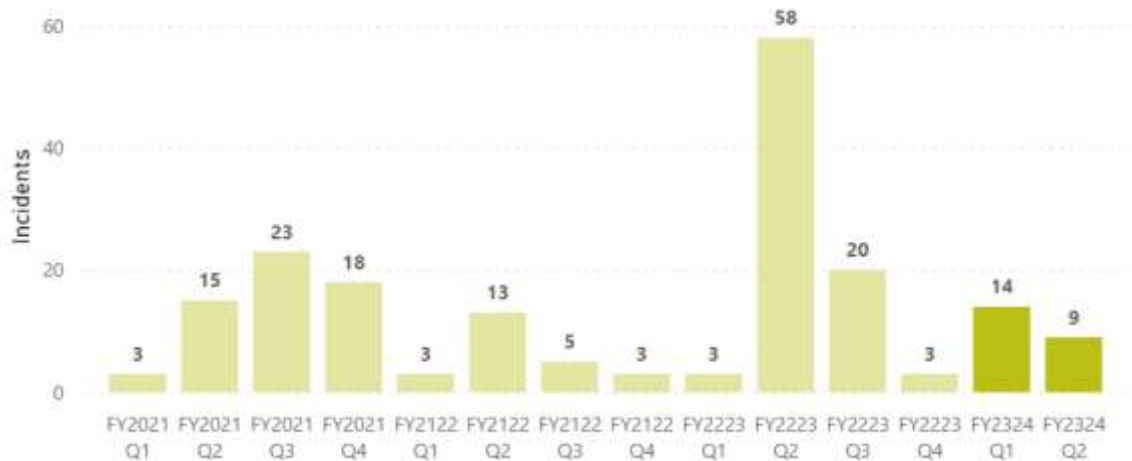
1.3 Waste

1.3.1 Glossary of terms of the waste hierarchy

All local authorities and businesses have a legal responsibility to apply the "waste hierarchy" in dealing with waste. The waste hierarchy is a simple ranking system used for the different waste management options according to which is the best for the environment. The most preferred option is to prevent waste, and the least preferred choice is disposal in landfill sites.

Prevention

Reducing the amount of waste which is produced in the first place is the highest priority as it helps sustain raw materials for longer which is a major objective of a Circular Economy. This can be achieved by using less material in design and manufacture and keeping products for longer. We have a KPI for the amount of "Household Waste Collected" in kilograms per household which has an annual target of 1000kg/HH. This can be affected by economic factors as people produce less waste if they spend less money but overall and is difficult to influence. However, it does show the trends in how much waste we produce.

Re-use

Preparing materials for re-use in their original form is the second best approach to dealing with waste. This can be achieved by checking, cleaning, repairing and refurbishing items. Using charity shops is a good method of reusing. In Lincolnshire we are planning to introduce a re-use process at Household Waste Recycling Centres whereby residents can present materials which is then passed onto other residents without having to recycle or incinerate.

Recycling

Recycling involves processing materials that would otherwise be sent to landfills and turning them into new products. It's the third step of the waste management hierarchy because of the extra energy and resources that go into creating a new product. We measure recycling rates for all material which is presented at Household Waste Recycling Centres where it is delivered by the public. We also measure the overall recycling rate which includes all materials including wheely bins at the kerbside and recycling centres. Treatment of food and organic waste by Anaerobic Digestion is classed as recycling which is why it is preferrable to incineration.

Recovery

When further recycling is not practical or possible, waste can be treated through such processes as incineration to recover energy. In Lincolnshire we operate an Energy from Waste facility which turned 57% of our waste into energy in 2020/21 which was sold as electricity to the National Grid. Material for recovery is normally collected in the black bin at each household or can be collected at recycling centres. This is preferable to landfilling waste as there is less impact on the environment as greenhouse gases are reduced.

Disposal

When all else fails, materials that cannot be reused, recycled or recovered for energy will be landfilled. This is an unsustainable method of waste management because waste that sits in landfills can continue to have a damaging environmental impact as such sites continuously release large amounts of damaging carbon into the atmosphere. In 2020/21 we sent 3% of our waste to landfill and such material includes hazardous waste which cannot be treated and certain inert materials such as soil and rubble. Landfills can also leak chemicals and toxic liquids that can contaminate the soil and groundwater.

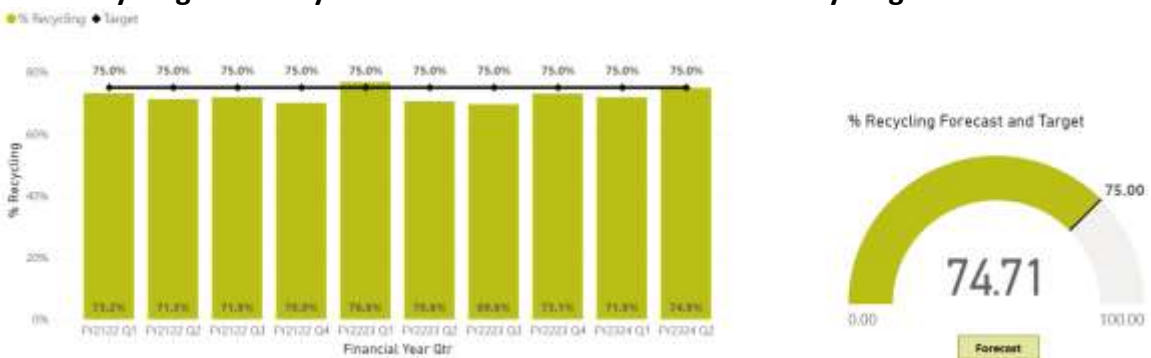## 1.3.2 Quarter 2 Waste performance graphs

PI 161 - Household waste collected (kilograms per household) ✓
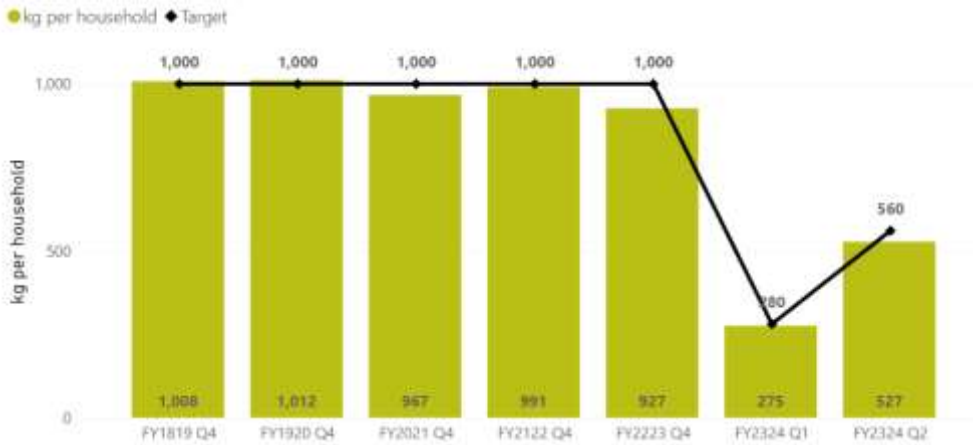
PI 160 Recycling Rate (new national formula) ✗
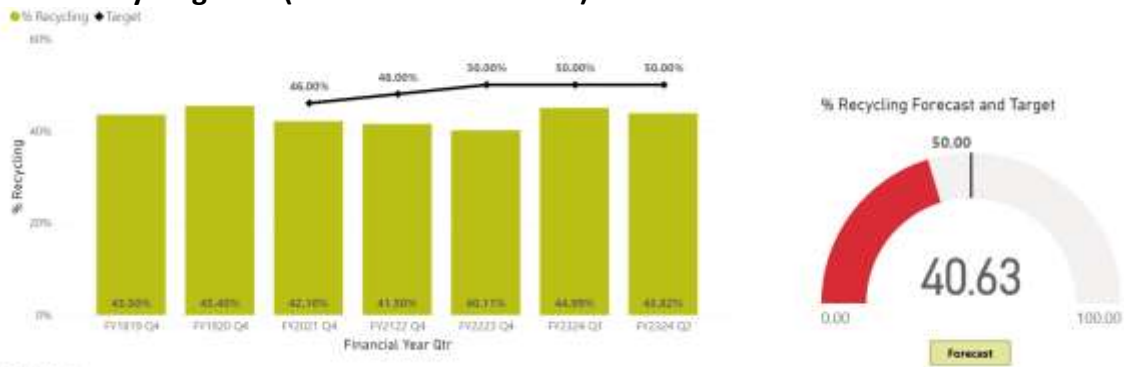
PI 76 Recycling at County Council owned Household Waste Recycling Centres ✓

PI 162 Household waste to landfill (percentage) ☆

Household waste to landfill (percentage)

5.00

0.03

Actual

0.00   10.00

Household waste to landfill (percentage)

5.00

0.71

Forecast

0.00   10.00

1.3.3 Quarter 2 Summary of Waste performance

The household waste collected for Quarter 2 is 527kg per household and that is below the target of 560kg which is good news as prevention is the highest objective of the waste hierarchy. This means that less waste is being presented by the public with less haulage and processing needed.

The overall recycling rate for all waste streams is 43.82% which is below the target of 50%. It is impossible to understand why kerbside recycling continues to struggle but it is hoped that with the government's new guidelines for "Simpler Recycling", we will be able to considerably improve in this area, in particular the separation collection of food waste should provide an increase of approximately 7%.

The recycling rate at Household Waste Recycling Centres is 74.9% for Quarter 2 which is a big increase from Quarter 1 (71.89%). This is within tolerance of the 75% target and the increase could be due to a higher proportion of garden waste coupled with increased engagement on sites. We have new contractors operating sites and as a consequence we have found better engagement between staff and residents.

The performance indicator for landfill waste continues to be very low which is excellent news. The target for the full year is 5% but we are projecting an actual rate of 0.71%. Landfill has historically been used where we have unplanned outages at the Energy from Waste facility and is the last resort. However, we recently had several weeks of disruption where the Waste team secured alternative locations at short notice to prevent using landfill.

National Context

The 4 performance indicators show good trends in how we manage waste and it should be noted that we are already meeting most of the government's planned changes. Simpler Recycling aims to minimise waste and drive up recycling rates to meet the targets of the Environment Act 2021. Nationally, between 2000 and 2022 there has been an increase of 11% in recycling rates to 42%. However, in recent years household recycling rates have plateaued at around 42% to 44% which reflects what has happened in Lincolnshire.

Simpler Recycling requires the following materials to be collected across all authorities:

- paper and card,
- plastic,
- glass,
- metal,
- food waste,
- garden waste

However, it should be noted that the government is concerned about the number of bins households may need and have therefore relaxed the approach to allow co-mingled recycled materials. Fortunately, Lincolnshire has successfully met this requirement for many years and therefore the only change we will have to make is to have separate food waste collections by April 2026. Separate food waste will require capital expenditure to our Waste Transfer Stations, but there should be significant revenue savings once collections of food begins. It is estimated that Lincolnshire residents produce approximately 30,000 tonnes of food waste per year which is currently mixed with other material in residents' black bins and processed at the Energy from Waste facility at a cost of £65 - £99 per tonne. If we dispose of food waste at an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility the disposal cost will be significantly lower and may be nett £0 which could provide an annual revenue income of £2m - £3m. This is similar to the recent approach with paper and card whereby the material is collected separately and recycled at a paper mill. The paper and card is much cleaner as it is uncontaminated and has much greater value which provides a constant income for the authority.

A second benefit of separate food waste disposal will be an improvement in our recycling rate. AD is classed as recycling which will move the food waste from Recovery to Recycling on the Waste Hierarchy and will provide an approximate 7% improvement in the overall recycling rate.

There is a great deal of government emphasis on improving recycling rates but waste prevention should always be our highest priority and disposal of material through landfilling should always be our last resort. Overall Lincolnshire has excellent services already in place but the Environment Act requirements represent a commercial opportunity which will further benefit the environment.

2. Conclusion

The Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee is requested to consider and comment on the report.

3. Consultation

  a) **Risks and Impact Analysis**

  N/A.

4. Appendices

None used.

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

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