

Minutes of a Meeting of the Overview Committee held at the Hub, Mareham Road, Horncastle, Lincolnshire LN9 6PH on Tuesday, 28th November, 2023 at 10.00 am.

#### PRESENT

Councillor Fiona M. Martin, M.B.E. (Chairman)  
Councillor Carleen Dickinson (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors Claire Arnold, Stephen Evans, Alex Hall, Neil Jones, James Knowles, Jill Makinson-Sanders and Robert Watson.

Councillor Daniel McNally attended the Meeting as a Substitute.

Councillor Daniel Simpson attended the Meeting as an Observer.

#### GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Tom Ashton	- Portfolio Holder for Planning
Councillor Chris Brewis	- South Holland District Council
Councillor Martin Foster	- Portfolio Holder for Operational Services
Councillor Graham Marsh	- Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction

#### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Victoria Burgess	- Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods
Alice Cowl	- Planning Conservation Consultant
David Dodds	- Environmental Health Service Manager- East Lindsey
James Gilbert	- Assistant Director - Corporate
Rebecca James	- Scrutiny and Policy Officer
Alice Ullathorne	- Head of Heritage for Heritage Lincolnshire
Laura Allen	- Democratic Services Officer
Lynda Eastwood	- Democratic Services Officer

#### **53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies were received from Councillor Billy Brookes.

It was noted that in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, notice had been given that Councillor Daniel McNally had been appointed to the Committee in place of Councillor Dick Edginton for this Meeting only.

#### **54. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (IF ANY):**

At this point in the Meeting, Members were invited to declare any relevant interests. None were received.

**55. MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 October 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

**56. ACTIONS:**

Members noted that the following Actions were now complete.

Actions from the Meeting held on 17 October 2023.

Action Nos. 46 (a), 46 (b), 47, and 50 – completed.

Actions from the Meeting held on 5 September 2023.

Action Nos. 33 (a), 37 (a), 39 and 22 (c) - completed.

Actions from the Meeting held on 7 March 2023.

Action Nos. 89 and 90 (b) - completed.

Comments were received as follows:

Action No. 50 - Recommendation No 1, 'To recognise the need to make Caravan Enforcement a priority for new Council, with the first priority dealing with the issue of unauthorised occupancy and to review and strengthen licence conditions' from the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023, page 29 of the Agenda refers.

A Member expressed dissatisfaction that after submitting the well-received scrutiny on the caravans, actions were not followed up and more needed to be achieved sooner than February 2024. The Chairman advised that this was to be addressed in the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker Item.

Action No. 39 - Recommendation No 10, 'ELDC will consider the feasibility of returning to house building / mixed stock holding to balance and influence our local market,' page 30 of the Agenda refers.

A Member queried if ELDC was considering the feasibility of returning to house building and if that was part of Invest East Lindsey's remit. The Chairman confirmed that this was also to be addressed in the Recommendation Tracker Item.

**57. HERITAGE UPDATE:**

The Chairman welcomed Alice Ullathorne, Head of Heritage for Heritage Lincolnshire and Councillor Tom Ashton as Portfolio Holder for Planning to provide Members with an update following the consultation on conservation areas.

Members received a presentation (a copy is attached at Appendix A to the Minutes).

The Portfolio Holder for Planning advised Members of progress made and the benefits of observing ELDC Strategic Policy 11 Historic Environment (SP11) in practice, inviting Members to examine the successful conversion of a former Railway Station at Tumbly Woodside, planning reference S/189/01386/22. This had demonstrated that derelict buildings which would have historically been refused planning permission could be effectively rebuilt because of changes in the National Planning Policy Framework which was now enabling developments to commence reusing and enhancing redundant buildings.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member expressed their dissatisfaction with the Council's progress on reviewing conservation areas, stating that Louth as a major Market Town was in a state of decay and neglect and no progress had been made since being added to the 'at risk' register in 2022. A request was made for an action plan for Louth. In response, the Portfolio Holder for Planning advised that Louth was featured in the Heritage Report and examples were evidenced where premises had been tidied and improved. Reassurance was given that all means and powers of enforcement was utilised when appropriate. A walkaround was offered to provide positive steps forward.
- A Member queried the enforcement case at Beech Grove House in Manby, referring to the perimeter fence and security cameras and whether work had been completed since the previous update. In response, the Head of Heritage advised that an update would be provided to Members at the next meeting.
- The Head of Heritage also offered to assist with a walkaround of Louth to consider any options that might be available. In response, the Chairman requested further updates were provided to the Committee on both Louth and Manby.
- A Member queried if Great and Little Carlton Parish Council was being kept updated in relation to matters in that area. It was confirmed that the Heritage Manager would provide a further update directly to the Parish Council.

No further comments or questions were received. The Chairman thanked the Head of Heritage for their presentation.

*N.B. The Head of Heritage and the Planning Conservation Consultant left the Meeting at 10.43am.*

## **58. UPDATE ON ENVIROCRIME CONTRACT:**

The Chairman welcomed David Dodds, Environmental Health Service Manager (ELDC) to provide an introduction and present Members with an update on the Envirocrime Contract.

Members received a presentation (a copy is attached at Appendix B to the Minutes).

Councillor Martin Foster as Portfolio Holder for Operational Services provided reassurances that although initial staffing issues suggested all resources were being utilised at the coast, a request was made to the Assistant Director - Regulatory to place more emphasis on inland Parishes and Towns over the winter months. Challenges submitted by the public were reviewed by the contractors Kingdom and the Council's own staff, and positive feedback was provided to complainants. Overall, it was a good year with a 10% return of income and at zero cost to the Council.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member raised issue that no points on the maps presented covered the wider coast and was mainly targeting key coastal areas such as Mablethorpe and Skegness. It was also queried what more could be done in terms of scrap metal dealers licenses. In response, the Environmental Health Service Manager advised that more was being addressed. Site inspections of scrap metal installations was being examined and further follow-up was being carried out on a greater number of unlicensed collectors.
- A Member expressed concern with the unbalanced charging system for scrap metal collectors who had premises versus those without a fixed base which could not be controlled. In response, the Environmental Health Service Manager advised that issues with mobile collectors were recognised. The current contract that was in place aimed to address the mobile collectors.
- A Member queried why fixed location collectors paid significantly higher rates compared to mobile collectors. In response, the Environmental Health Service Manager advised that the charging regime had been inherited and was currently being reassessed. It was supported that the Environmental Health Service Manager examine the charging regime and provide a report back to the Committee.
- In reference to the 10% income returned back to ELDC, a Member queried how the money was being used, noting particular need for the emptying and number of bins available in areas of high need such as Mablethorpe, and it was further queried whether the bulky waste tip could return. In response, the Portfolio Holder for Operational Services advised that waste services and street cleaning did not fall under the environmental crime team.

Furthermore, the returned income could not be used in other areas as it was ringfenced in that area of the budget. A discussion with the various teams about the frequency of emptying bins was possible. The Council always strived for the best service with the resources available.

- A Member requested clarification on what route Councillors should take to seek more patrols for their residents from the Envirocrime Contract. In response, the Environmental Health Service Manager advised that anyone with concerns could email the Envirocrime contact address and should include targeted information such as street name and times of day to be most effective. This information was to be circulated to Members following the meeting.
- A Member commented that the dropping of litter was very time specific and recommended that new housing estates should have dog bins installed as standard, with developers contributing to maintaining them.

*N.B. Councillor Claire Arnold left the Meeting at 11.15am*

- A Member queried if waste bins on new housing estates would be on the next agenda as there was issues in relation to placing them on unadopted roads. The Chairman confirmed this was to be a future agenda item in liaison with the Assistant Director for Neighbourhoods.

No further comments or questions were received.

The Chairman thanked the Environmental Health Service Manager for his report.

## **59. UPDATE ON OPERATIONAL SERVICES:**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Martin Foster, the Portfolio Holder for Operational Services and Victoria Burgess, Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods to provide Members with an update on waste service considerations for the 2024/2025 budget setting process.

Members received a presentation highlighting the context and strategic pull over the next few years, referencing the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership's (LWP) Joint Waste Strategy and the Environment Act 2021's impact on the Council's budget (a copy is attached at Appendix C to the Minutes).

*N.B. Councillor Claire Arnold returned to the Meeting at 11.18am*

The Chairman thanked the Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods for her presentation and invited Members to put their comments and questions forward.

- The Portfolio Holder for Operational Services commented that there was a lot of uncertainty with ongoing revenue costs needing to be in place year on year. There was an effective team with good officers and the Council was on track to meet and address challenges in future years.
- In relation to financial burdens, a Member queried if the funding of £295 million was a national figure and whether it was on a first come first serve basis. In response, the Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods advised that it was a national figure and that money was allocated using a funding formula and that the special circumstances of the area was taken into consideration. The Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) was providing a lot of research and support to DEFRA. WRAP's work with the SELP had indicated what the costs could be and it was hoped it would assist with placing the Council in a good position.
- A Member queried if new vehicles were bought outright or leased to include parts and maintenance. The Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods advised that vehicles were bought outright under contract as a capital purchase as this was more cost effective. The Council also performed their own maintenance on the vehicles.
- A Member commented that despite the funding made available to the Council, there was going to be an additional cost to collect waste in rural areas, especially where tourism had created further need. It was further highlighted that policy makers were out of touch with the real world and there was likely to be opposition from the public to having additional food waste bins. It was queried how the Council would overcome the implications for this area. The Chairman advised that it was a recognised and longstanding challenge to obtain facts about delivering services in sparsely populated areas.
- A Member commented on the uncertainty of the Council meeting the unknown needs and necessities for collecting waste and provided an example of how waste collection systems in other countries differed.
- A Member stated their recognition for the difficult job waste services performed and commented that food waste collection was not a new concept in other areas of this country. In response, the Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods advised that the focus was on England alone and that waste minimisation should be the main focus, achieved by engaging and educating people. While DEFRA has advised against moving to three and four weekly residual waste collections, they had not required anything specific on waste minimisation. However, through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) producers should reduce their packaging.

- A Member requested the information was shared with the wider public. The Chairman confirmed that it was already part of the ongoing education that the Operational Services team was looking at. The Assistant Director - Neighbourhoods advised that a link could be provided on the Council's website and that more certainty on the impact of the Environment Act 2021 was needed before providing messages to the public. There was also feedback to DEFRA to examine the need for wider national communication on the changes.

No further comments or questions were received.

In closing, the Portfolio Holder for Operational Services provided an update on car parking, advising that revenues were down this year due to various factors including a poor summer. Economic downturn issues meant that the Executive Board had decided not to increase fees and charges for 2024/25. A wider piece of work was to be revisited within the next 12 months to assess the charges; however, charges had not increased since 2017 and a further review would continue.

*N.B. Councillor Robert Watson left the Meeting at 11.56am.*

**60. SCRUTINY REPORT - JOINT SCRUTINY OF THE SOUTH & EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP:**

The Scrutiny Panel Chair Councillor Chris Brewis, South Holland District Council provided Members with a report that detailed the Joint Scrutiny of the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership, pages 45 to 74 of the Agenda refer.

Councillor Brewis thanked all the members of the task and finish group which had undertaken a review of the progress on the opportunities identified in the approved business case for South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership including all Staff, Councillors and Officers who had supported the process. In summary, the overall impression was good, however, more work was needed to make the Partnership more effective, and it was recognised that this part of the country was a vital area for the national economy. A special interest group of the LGA was recently formed and had its first meeting thanks to the national weight the Partnership had exerted. It was optimistic that the Partnership was to become exemplars for excellent local government behaviour.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member queried if a longstanding ICT issue had been rectified and if there was to be progress any time soon. It was further queried, what was the purpose of the Joint Scrutiny Report being brought to the Overview Committee.

In response, the Chairman advised of the purpose. The Scrutiny and Policy Officer confirmed that report was to be presented to the

Executive Board for comment and the recommendations would be added to the tracker. The purpose of Overview Committee reviewing the report was that it had the opportunity to add any further comments before referring to the Executive Board.

Councillor Brewis advised Members that more focus was needed in future including target dates for aims and actions.

The Assistant Director – Corporate responded in relation to ICT, confirming that it was a recurring recommendation from over a year ago. Members were advised that progress had been made and highlighted that ICT was a big piece of work centred around a single 365 tenancy across the Partnership. Background work had been completed and the cost to deliver the project came back at £800,000. As Microsoft was developing its own product including the ability of tenancies to talk to one and other which may resolve the issues, the decision to invest was not being rushed.

It was recognised that frustrations existed in the organisation around service systems and that service reviews across the Partnership were necessary. Issues were present where contracts all ended at different points in time and aligning those contracts could enable single services. The Council had been successful with a single telephony system across the Partnership using Ring Central and with a single website system for document sharing. The priority for the Partnership was continuing to overcome service specific issues.

- A Member commented that salaries were not consistent across the Partnership which was one of the main concerns of workers at ELDC and should have been a top priority. In response, the Chairman advised that there was a cost implication to consider. The Assistant Director – Corporate clarified that there was no intention to have a single pay structure across the three councils as it was not affordable to Boston and East Lindsey to accept South Holland's pay structure across all service areas. Instead, the Council had made a commitment to a shared officer pay structure which recognised two or three-way sharing between councils. These staff would still be working for one authority and the job they initially applied for. The task in hand was to overlay the Partnership aspects to the dynamic rather than change sovereign council salaries.
- A Member further expressed that East Lindsey workers were disadvantaged by the pay structure and the impact should have been examined before the councils merged. The Chairman advised that the three sovereign councils remained the same as before the Partnership and that any issues needing to be addressed would take time. Councillor Brewis further advised Members that the issues were recognised, page 51 of the Agenda refers.



- A Member referred to Appendix C, page 55 of the Agenda refers. It was queried if the improvements and focus areas were singular responses. The Scrutiny and Policy Officer advised that approximately 47 of the responses were recurring themes with a 39% anonymous response rate. The reported responses aimed to assist the task group to focus on the Councillor's concerns which occurred more than once.
- A Member made further reference to the statement to focus on core services to ensure capacity of staff, which suggested there was an issue in the delivery of services and transformation. The Chairman explained that staff should not be expected to take on extra responsibilities within their job and that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund was a good example of asking for outside help to assist with capacity.

The Assistant Director – Corporate advised that reports now showed implications which included capacity. Offloading work to others within the organisation was a recognised issue, however funding streams such as Levelling Up and Town's Funds had provided capacity funding. This was to be utilised to appropriately resource the organisation. In addition, there was a drive from the corporate management team to ensure resources and skills were brought in rather than adding to existing staff's workload.

- A Member queried if bringing in external staff resources came at a cost to the authority. In response, the Chairman advised that cost was not affected when it was from extra funding coming in.
- A Member queried what the statement that collaborative working with ELDC, EA, LCC in development of EA funding bid towards an Investment Plan for the coast referred to and how members of the public would comprehend the language used in the report, page 72 of the Agenda refers. In response, Councillor Brewis advised of the responsibility to make the sure the food producing part of Great Britain was well protected and that awareness was maintained on all levels.

The Assistant Director – Corporate advised that the document was produced for the Joint Strategy Board and was to inform on the work that had been performed across the Partnership. It was written for Councillors and Officers rather than members of the public. Further clarification was to be sought from the Assistant Director – Planning and Strategic Infrastructure on what the work incorporated.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Scrutiny Report on the Joint Scrutiny of the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership be noted and presented to the Executive Board.

**61. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS POLICY:**

Rebecca James, Scrutiny and Policy Officer presented Members with a report that detailed the updated Freedom of Information (FOI) and Environmental Information Regulations Policy (EIR), pages 33 to 40 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that the policy was a statutory requirement and was a single aligned policy for the Partnership which included EIR for the first time. The policy was an update for East Lindsey and South Holland Councils and was a new policy for Boston Borough Council.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

A Member queried why Boston did not have a policy beforehand. The Scrutiny and Policy Officer explained that Boston did not have a standalone policy previously but were compliant by incorporating it in a statement on their website, whereas ELDC and South Holland already had a separate policy.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Policy be noted and presented to the Executive Board for approval.

**62. HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE - UPDATE:**

The Chairman referred Members to the briefing papers from Councillor Jill Makinson-Sanders, the Outside Body Appointee to the Health Scrutiny Committee (HSC) for Lincolnshire following its Meeting held on 8th November 2023, pages 41 to 44 of the Agenda refer.

The Outside Body Appointee advised Members of a meeting that was taking place the following day in the Conoco Room at Louth Library where the consultation team would be present. Members of the Health Scrutiny Committee were previously asked to make comments and the opportunity was taken to highlight the problems for the East Coast getting ambulances and travelling long distances, for example to Scunthorpe General Hospital if a resident had a stroke.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member expressed their appreciation on behalf of the residents of Mablethorpe that a dental service was finally being provided.
- A Member stated their support for addressing stroke issues where response time was critical for positive outcomes. Reports of people moved from hospital to hospital and poor response times was a worrying development. In contrast, a Member stated they felt the opposite was true and that moving to specialist places of excellence when stabilised was more important than location.
- A Member queried the reference to the £5 million Government funding for mental health support and if that was for Lincolnshire alone. The Outside Body Appointee confirmed that this was a nationwide figure and Lincolnshire received very little.
- A Member requested further information on the young people's mental health hubs mentioned in the report. In response, the Outside Body Appointee advised that clarification would be sought.
- The Chairman enquired if information was provided on how strategies or outcomes were monitored. The Outside Body Appointee advised that information presented to the HSC for Lincolnshire was effectively supported by statistics and figures, and reassured Members that it was a very well-run scrutiny group with informative research and discussions.
- A Member requested clarification on a statement in the report that noted that hospitals experienced significant demand in contrast to not being attractive for people to work there. In response, the Outside Body Appointee advised it was related to the Royal College which sets the number of people required to perform a procedure safely. Risk was a huge problem, and the situation was ruled by reaching the thresholds set by the Royal College.

No further comments or questions were received.

The Chairman thanked the Outside Body Appointee for her contribution on reporting back from the HSC.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire briefing papers be noted.

**63. UPDATES FROM SCRUTINY AND POLICY PANELS INCLUDING QUALITY CHECKING OF FINAL REPORTS:**

**(A) UPDATE - TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MAGNA VITAE'S 5-YEAR PLAN, INCLUDING KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:**

Rebecca James, Scrutiny and Policy Officer referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 75 to 76 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that the Panel had met five times to date. It was arranged for speakers on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 from the Property Team and 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from the Climate Change Team. The Panel would examine the final report before making recommendations.

A Member queried if further detail was available at this time. The Chairman advised that an interim or full report was to be brought to the Committee at a future date.

**(B) UPDATE - TO CONSIDER PUBLIC CONVENIENCE PROVISION IN EAST LINDSEY:**

Rebecca James, Scrutiny and Policy Officer referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 77 to 80 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that the Panel had met four times to date. At the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023, concerns were raised over the detail of the scoping document, and it was suggested that alterations were sent to the Overview Committee for consideration. A further meeting was planned for 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 to examine the draft report and emerging recommendations.

The Chairman referred to the original scoping document and advised that there was some previous confusion over the extent of the work the panel was looking at, which was originally to include free public toilets and not the toilets that were operated by Danfo. The panel had asked to clarify the scope which now stated that it was the cost of providing public conveniences that were free at the point of use and in free to use buildings. It was clarified that taking on additional toilets was only an expression of interest at this stage, and a separate tendering exercise was currently being undertaken by Danfo which was not part of this review.

A Member requested that the Chairman's name was included when updates were provided to Committee. In response, the Scrutiny and Policy advised that Councillor Stef Bristow was Chairman of the Public Convenience Panel.

**(C) UPDATE - TO REVIEW THE RUNNING OF INVEST EAST LINDSEY LIMITED, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON KINGFISHER CARAVAN PARK:**

Rebecca James, Scrutiny and Policy Officer referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 81 to 82 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that the Panel had met four times to date. Speakers were invited during November and December 2023, including the Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and the Section 151 Officer. An interim or final report was to be brought to the January 2024 Overview Committee Meeting.

A Member requested clarification if the report was presented to the Executive Board. In response, the Scrutiny and Policy Officer advised that scrutiny reports were presented to Overview Committee and then to Full Council. The recommendations contained within the report were then considered by the Executive Board through the relevant Portfolio Holder, with the decision on whether to accept each recommendations being reported to Overview. Following which, the recommendations would be added to the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations Tracker.

A Member queried if it was possible to comment about Members appointed to the panel failing to attend scrutiny panel meetings. The Chairman advised that it was a recurring issue and it was hoped that attendance was considered essential by panel members where mutually acceptable dates had been agreed.

**(D) UPDATE - JOINT SCRUTINY PANELS:**

Rebecca James, Scrutiny and Policy Officer referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 83 to 84 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that the Joint Scrutiny Panel had its first meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and further meetings on 31<sup>st</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023. A Chair (Councillor Dick Edginton) and Vice Chair (Councillor Mark Le Sage SHDC) were elected, and it was planned to meet again in December 2023 to receive a report from Active Lincolnshire. Future meetings aimed to examine shared issues across the Partnership.

**64. PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK Q2 2023/23:**

James Gilbert, Assistant Director - Corporate presented Members with the Performance and Governance Framework – Quarter 2 Monitoring Report 2023/24 (July to September 2023), pages 85 to 142 of the Agenda refer.

The report brought together information relating to the Council's Performance and Governance Framework at the end of Quarter 2 2023/24.

The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that three questions were received in advance of the meeting:

- Number of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) Issued – Fly Tipping, page 97 of the Agenda Refers. Clarification was requested on why this item was duplicated. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised there was an error on the indicator and that the one directly above

the bottom indicator should have stated Kingdom Contract: Number FPN's paid.

- Number of swimming lessons, page 99 of the Agenda refers. It was queried if the decline in Quarter 2 was due to school holidays and there being no school swimming lessons. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised it was the Q2 outturn and this was a seasonal dip, generally it was expected to see peaks and troughs.
- Partnership Table, page 120 of the Agenda refers. It was queried what the figures related to. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised this was to be titled as "The external funding secured across the Partnership".

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member enquired why the format had changed, pages 91 to 120 of the Agenda refer. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that the format had changed on trend indicators. The previous report had only included the current quarter's trend and was not effective without historic data. The past four months were now included to give a fuller picture.
- A Member further commented that the commentary underneath the indicators was no longer present, pages 91 to 119 of the Agenda refer. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that comments were still included for red or amber indicators, where red and amber was below performance but were within a set tolerance level. The overall aim was to achieve consistent metrics across the Partnership year on year. It was further advised that the information being collected was to ensure a stable position in terms of KPI's which were reviewed every year. The KPI's were discussed with the Portfolio holders and metrics were agreed, this has been consistent since the last quarter.
- A Member queried percentages in relation to company income, pages 116 to 119 of the Agenda refer. The Assistant Director (Corporate) advised that when looking at rental and car parking income, it was recently highlighted by Senior Leadership Team that the financial position should be detailed and not just as a percentage against the budget. The information was to be made available going forward.
- Referring to homelessness on page 91 of the Agenda, a Member queried if immigration in Skegness was having any effect on figures. In addition further clarification was requested on the new register of strategic risks, page 88 of the Agenda refers.

The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that the organisation managed risks at three levels, strategic risks which were reported quarterly, operational risks within services and the current risks

which could have the greatest impact. These were evidenced in the report with indicators to show whether there had been any changes in severity or impact, and there had been no changes since the last time they were reported. In addition, new strategic risks have been added for consistency across the Partnership, page 88 of the Agenda refers. Further information was to be sought and brought back to the Committee in relation to the question on homelessness.

- A Member expressed lack of clarity on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) risks. In response, the Assistant Director - Corporate advised that LGR was something the Council was aware of and was present in government and political discussions. It was identified as a risk to the authority, however it was unknown what impact it would have.
- A Member queried if the number of fixed penalty notices was for low level or large-scale fly tipping, page 97 of the Agenda refers. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that further information would be obtained and reported back to the Committee.
- Referring to Business Centre Occupation, page 116 of the Agenda refers. A Member commented that it would be useful to know what percentage of occupiers was using the virtual office rather than the internal space.
- A further Member enquired if third party service delivery included PS2 and who the third-party service was quoted to, page 132 of the Agenda refers. It was additionally queried why Invest East Lindsey was not considered as a risk in the event that it failed and left a lot of debt. The Assistant Director - Corporate advised that further information would be obtained and reported back to the Committee.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Performance and Governance Framework Q2 2023/23 Report be noted.

#### **65. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION TRACKER:**

Members were referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker, pages 143 to 160 of the Agenda refer.

Members were invited to review the tracker and to put their comments and questions forward.

Overview Standing Reference Group – Sutton on Sea Colonnade Project.

Recommendation No 1, 'To recognise the need to make Caravan Enforcement a priority for new Council, with the first priority dealing with the issue of unauthorised occupancy and to review and strengthen licence conditions,' page 147 of the Agenda refers.

In relation to Caravan Licensing and Enforcement, a Member expressed disappointment and queried why it was taking three months until February 2024 when it should have been addressed years ago. In response, the Chairman advised that some recommendations were completed and some work was ongoing. A Member continued to state that progress should be made with organising a meeting, especially as caravans were an essential part of tourism in the East Lindsey area.

Further to a discussion, it was agreed that the Overview Committee expressed its disappointment to the Portfolio Holder for Coastal Economy that a meeting had not yet been arranged.

Recommendation No 14, 'Support relevant outcomes from Floodex and establish closer working relationships with staff at Skegness and Louth Fire Stations,' page 154 of the Agenda refers.

A Member commented that the team had had several meetings with emergency planning and better liaison had begun to amend documents which addressed risks to the coast.

Recommendation No 18, 'Seek to work in partnership with Lincolnshire Trading Standards,' page 156 of the Agenda refers.

A Member highlighted that Lincolnshire Trading Standards had significant workload and was taking many months to catch up which could affect partnership working.

Recommendation No 10, 'ELDC will consider the feasibility of returning to house building/mixed stock holding to balance and influence our local market,' page 158 of the Agenda refers.

Further to discussion, the Assistant Director - Corporate advised that two issues may have been confused, one was in relation to Chapel St Leonards and the other the purchase of houses which was a different scheme to bring forward. More clarity was agreed to be sought and the item would remain on the tracker.

No further questions or comments were received.  
RESOLVED:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations Tracker be noted.



**66. EXECUTIVE/COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN:**

Members were presented with the Executive/Council Forward Plan 2023-24, pages 161 to 166 of the Agenda refer and were invited for their comments.

- In reference to 'Investment of Funds to meet housing need in East Lindsey', a Member expressed their concern that more public money could potentially go to Invest East Lindsey when the company had already failed to repay loans, page 161 of the Agenda refers. In response, the Chairman clarified that no decision was to be taken earlier than 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and that money was not being committed, it was only the business plan that was being approved.
- A Member referred to the item 'To outline a proposed Protocol on the use of Community Reserve to provide loans to Parish Councils for capital works' page 163 of the Agenda Refers. Further information was requested to ensure that the money was repaid, and the Council was not just acting like a bank. In response, the Chairman advised that the Protocol would cover all aspects of how it would work.

Further to discussion, it was agreed that pre-decision scrutiny would be requested for the January 2024 meeting.

- In relation to the South & East Lincolnshire Community Lottery – 1 Year Update, a Member queried the reason it had been revised, page 164 of the Agenda refers. The Chairman advised that an update would be requested and presented to Members at the January 2024 Meeting.
- A Member enquired if the Executive Board reviewed the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Trackers. In response, the Chairman advised that the Scrutiny Officer always requested an update from the Officer or Portfolio Holder to be provided before a meeting.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

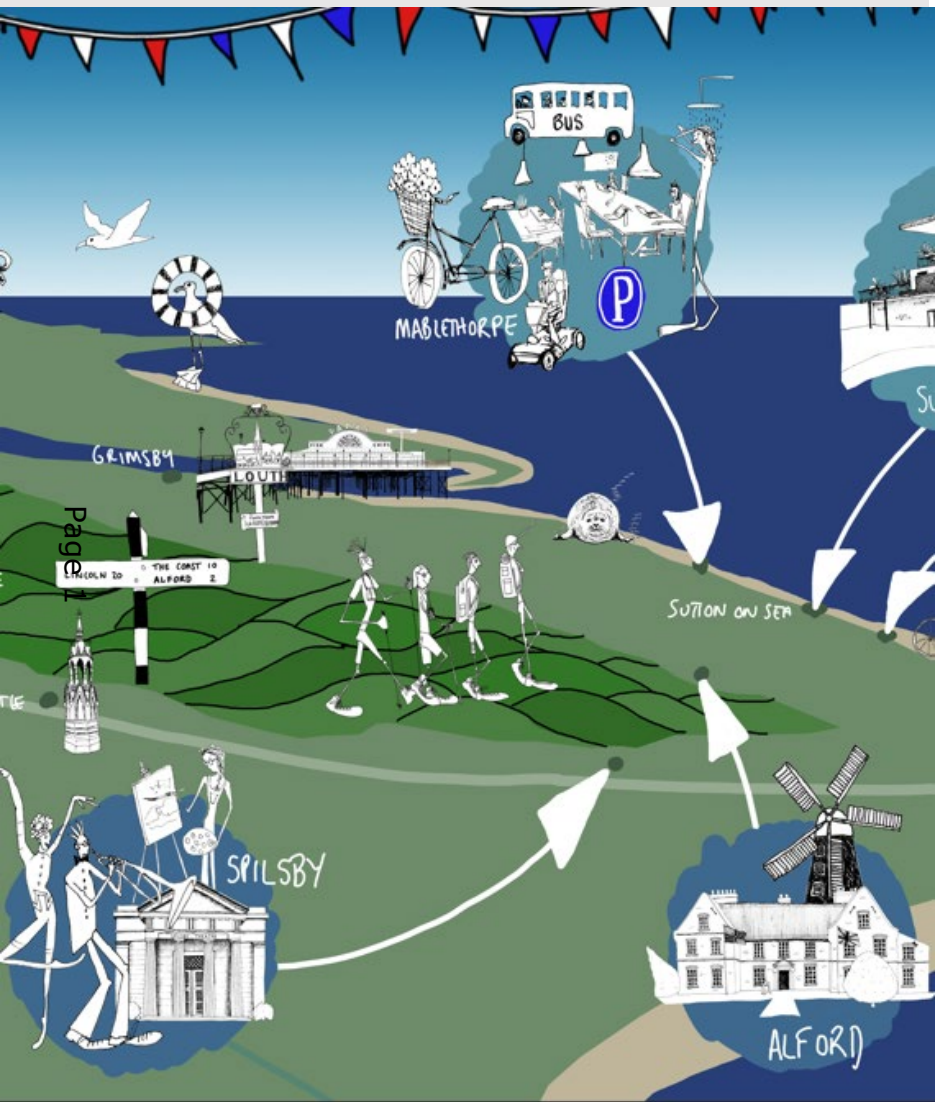
That the Executive/Council Forward Plan 2023-24 be noted.

**67. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The programmed date for the next Meeting of this Committee was noted as 23 January 2024.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

The Meeting closed at 1.27 pm.



Appendix A



*served by One Team*

● ● ● ●

# HERITAGE UPDATE

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Emilie Wales  
Heritage Manager  
East Lindsey and Boston





# ONGOING

## Planning

- Conservation Leaflets for all 17 Conservation Areas in printable and web versions – to be uploaded onto website Nov
- Reviewing 4 conservation areas, producing Conservation Area Appraisals
  - Alford – to be shared with TC Dec then public consultation
  - Horncastle – to be shared with TC Dec then public consultation
  - Spilsby – to be shared with TC Dec then public consultation
  - Wainfleet – to be shared with TC Dec then public consultation
- Case work (30-40 consultations per month)
- Enforcement (Reactive and Pro-active) ongoing
- Buildings at Risk – HE due to publish any day
- Contract with Heritage Lincolnshire – reviewed, going well
- Local List (SP11 non-designated heritage assets) – long list compiled needs to be refined plan for Summer 24
- Briefs currently being written for Boston, Spalding and Holbeach Conservation Area Appraisals to include a Design Guide which will cover/be relevant to all three districts.

## Economic Development

- Skegness and Mablethorpe Town Centre Transformation Projects – ongoing c50% allocated works start any day, expo 17<sup>th</sup> Nov
- Vital and Viable
  - Alford – triggered Conservation Area Appraisal
  - Louth – added to the at risk register in 22
  - Horncastle – triggered Conservation Area Appraisal
  - Mablethorpe – has town deal fund ongoing
  - Spilsby – triggered Conservation Area Appraisal
  - Wainfleet – triggered Conservation Area Appraisal
- Pop Up Museum (LCC) – Wragby and Skeg being considered
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund – market town grant scheme rejected
- High Street Task Force – Horncastle
- Levelling Up Fund - LINCOLNSHIRE WOLDS CULTURE AND HERITAGE PROGRAMME – Frameworks in place by Dec, emergency works ongoing at SSH and AMH, planning expected in new year with works on site due to run Aug 2024 to Mar 26.



# TEAM

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## Emilie Wales Heritage Manager (EDLC)

I will be going off on maternity leave December 23 to August 24, however the following team is in place to continue to deliver all our Heritage Projects. Jeffery Kenyon (Economic Growth Service Manager) will maintain relationship with Heritage Lincolnshire my absence.

Page 3

### Planning Conservation Consultant

Alice Cowl –

[Alice.cowl@heritagelincolnshire.org](mailto:Alice.cowl@heritagelincolnshire.org)

Alice Ullathorne –

[alice.ullathorne@heritagelincolnshire.org](mailto:alice.ullathorne@heritagelincolnshire.org)

### Planning Archaeological Consultants

Denise Drury

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Vicky Mellor

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### Project Managers

Alice Ullathorne – Skegness Town Centre Transformation

[alice.ullathorne@heritagelincolnshire.org](mailto:alice.ullathorne@heritagelincolnshire.org)

Isabelle Richards – Mablethorpe Town Centre Transformation

[Isabelle@heritagelincolnshire.org](mailto:Isabelle@heritagelincolnshire.org)

David Garner – INTERIM Levelling Up

[David.Garner@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:David.Garner@e-lindsey.gov.uk)



# EXAMPLE – CA LEAFLETS



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## Brief History / Description

North Thoresby is a small village located between Louth and Grimsby on the A16. North Thoresby was designated as a Conservation Area in 1991.

North Thoresby has seen some form of occupation since the Roman period with evidence of settlement and industry recorded.

Today North Thoresby is mostly a 19th century village with some earlier buildings – most notably St. Helen's a 15th century church with later Victorian restoration, and The Farmhouse in the Square, which is 17th century with later additions, and is one of the best kept examples of a Mud and Stud building in Lincolnshire.

The railway came through North Thoresby as part of the East Lincolnshire Railway, opening in 1848 on Fen Lane. The line was closed in 1970 but reopened as a heritage attraction in the 2000s.

Historic buildings are generally small in scale being mostly of two storeys, red brick (some painted) with slate roofed cottages, terraces and some villa houses.



## What is a Conservation Area?

Conservation Areas are designated by the Council for those areas of special, architectural or historic interest. In East Lindsey we have 17 Conservation Areas. Often, they represent a familiar and valued local scene thus, are given greater protection against alterations to properties and from damage to trees.

One of the most important effects of being in a Conservation Area is the greater emphasis placed on design. We, as a Council, are required to pay 'special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance' of Conservation Areas when considering planning applications. This does not mean that things will never change. Instead, it means that new development should respect the character of the area.

Conservation Areas are also intended to encourage local appreciation of the fabric, history and character of the area.

## Further Information

Historic England: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/local/conservation-areas/>

ELDC: <https://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/article/6142/Conservation-Areas>

## Contact Us:

ELDC Planning: 01507 601111 / [development.control@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@e-lindsey.gov.uk)

LCC Historic Environment Record: 01522 782070 / [lincsrm@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:lincsrm@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

ELDC Building Control: 08707 551696 / [lbc@lincsbc.gov.uk](mailto:lbc@lincsbc.gov.uk)

## Understanding your Conservation Area



## What this means for you...

Living in a Conservation Area reduces Permitted Development Rights. Therefore, planning permission may be required for alterations to dwellings, for:

1. Substantial demolition of unlisted buildings and structures - proposals will not usually be supported where the affected building or structure makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the area. A proposal for the redevelopment of a site will normally be required before consent for demolition is granted.
2. Cladding of the exterior of a building.
3. Construction of an extension to the side or front elevation of a dwelling house.
4. Construction of an extension exceeding one storey on the rear of a dwelling house.
5. Any enlargement consisting of addition to, or alteration of the roof.
6. A building, shed, enclosure, pool or container within the curtilage between a wall for forming a side elevation and the boundary of the dwelling house.
7. Installation of a chimney, flue, or soil and vent pipe on a wall or roof slope fronting a highway and forming the principal or side elevation of a dwelling house.
8. Installation of microwave antenna (e.g. satellite dish) on a chimney wall, or roof slope facing onto or visible from a highway, or on a building greater than 15m high.
9. Installation of solar panels within the grounds, or on a wall or building within the curtilage of a dwelling house where visible from a highway - these should be positioned with regard to minimising the effect upon the external appearance of a building, and the amenity of the area.

Flats and Commercial premises such as shops are not dwellings, thus have different Permitted Development Rights. Generally, most external alterations to these are likely to require planning permission.

Permitted development is always changing so for the latest rules and site specific advice please check with our Planning team.

## Trees

In a Conservation Area the council requires six weeks' written notice prior to any lopping, chopping or felling of trees (with trunks of more than 75mm diameter at 1.2 metres height). During which time a Tree Preservation Order may be served.

## Article 4 Directions

An Article 4 Direction is a tool that can be used by the Council to restrict Permitted Development Rights. They do not prevent development altogether, but ensure proposals which may threaten the character of an area, require planning permission.

North Thoresby Conservation Area shown on the map overlay does not have currently have an Article 4 Direction but one could be introduced in the future to protect the area's character and appearance. The protection can be tailored to meet the specific needs of the area in order to preserve those features which give the area its special interest.

## Appropriate Design

Design of new development or alterations to existing buildings in a Conservation Area must respect and complement the historic character of the area.

Proposals should be underpinned by a detailed understanding of the significance of the heritage assets they affect and the setting, the character of the Conservation Area and the impact of the proposed development on any of these heritage assets.

The use of traditional skills and materials contribute to an area's character and appearance, it is these features which give a Conservation Area special interest. Therefore, the loss of historic detailing such as traditional timber windows and doors and their replacement with uPVC is not appropriate.

Reinstatement of historic detailing is encouraged. Applications should seek to preserve or enhance the significance of the historic environment.

## Advertisements

Advertisements in a Conservation Area should be designed to be sympathetic to the area's character and appearance and not detract from the building it is situated on. Advertisement Consent is likely to be required for most new adverts, especially:

- Illuminated advertisements
- Captive balloon adverts
- Flag advertisements at house building sites
- Poster hoardings around construction sites.

## Building Regulations

There are allowances within the Building Act for 'historic buildings' including exemptions, where meeting the requirements would compromise the character of the building or adversely affect the performance of the building's fabric. However, the aim should always be to make reasonable improvements without causing harm.

## Energy Performance Certificates (EPC)

All properties now require an EPC when being sold or rented. If the rating falls below the standard E, the new owner may be required to make improvements to the property unless it is eligible to register for an exemption.

Exemptions differ depending on the type of property, use and for lease/sale. However, in general, if the recommendations for property improvements would unacceptably alter the building's character or appearance (and the building is within a Conservation Area or is listed), or £3,500 of works would not improve the rating above E then the property should be eligible to register for an exemption. See:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/private-rented-sector-minimum-energy-efficiency-standards-exemptions/guidance-on-eps-exemptions-and-exemptions-register-evidence-requirements>

# ENFORCEMENT OPTIONS

ACT	NOTES	
<b>Do nothing</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority.</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not considered expedient to take enforcement action.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time Saving.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No improvements made to the site, site worsens over time.</li> <li>Undermines future enforcement, encourages more breaches/neglect.</li> </ul>
<b>Section 29 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority.</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The building(s) is not effectively secured or have become a danger to public health and therefore there is a need to prevent access.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action can be taken after 48 hours.</li> <li>Need not give notice if works deemed immediately necessary.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can only be used on unoccupied buildings.</li> </ul>
<b>Dangerous Structures] Section 7/78 of the Building Act 1984</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Magistrates Court.</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A building or structure, or part of a building or structure, is in such a condition, or is used to carry such loads, as to be dangerous.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can specify a wide range of works necessary to remove the danger.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subject to Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act.</li> </ul>
<b>Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 / [Community Protection Notice] Section of the 43 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The amenity of a part of the area, or of an adjoining area, is adversely affected by the condition of land / The conduct of the individual or body is having a detrimental effect, of a persistent or continuing nature, on the quality of life of those in the locality, and the conduct is unreasonable.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can cover land, buildings and individuals.</li> <li>Can specify a wide range of works to limit or remove nuisance.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A period of no less than 28 days shall be given.</li> <li>Cannot specify works that would require Planning Permission or Listed building Consent.</li> </ul>
<b>Enforcement Notice of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990</b>	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returning to a previous point may not always be ideal, <u>E.g.</u> swapping one inappropriate window for another inappropriate window.</li> </ul>
<b>Control of Advertisements Section 224 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For advertisements that do not benefit from prior consent.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quick, can just go in and remove inappropriate signage.</li> <li>Can issue a fine.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can only deal with signs.</li> <li>Must be brought within 6 months of the offence.</li> </ul>

<b>[Urgent Works Notice] Section 54 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas Act) 1990</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority</li> <li>Secretary of State (non-listed building)</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works which appear to be urgently necessary for the preservation of a listed buildings.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can be used for non-listed buildings in conservation areas if directed by the Secretary of State.</li> <li>Works may consist of or include works for affording temporary support or shelter for the building.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works must be urgently necessary (need a trigger)</li> <li>Works must be cost effective.</li> <li>Can only be used on unoccupied buildings, or unoccupied parts of buildings.</li> <li>No less than 7 days' notice shall be given.</li> <li>Cannot be served on buildings in ecclesial use or on Crown land.</li> <li>Needs to be holistic thus will need internal access to assess full extent of works needed.</li> </ul>
<b>[Repairs Notice] Section 48 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas Act) 1990</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority with Secretary of State Approval</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works which appear to be urgently necessary for the preservation of a listed buildings.</li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wide variety of works reasonably necessary for the proper presentation.</li> <li>Allows for minimum compensation to be paid where the building has deliberately been allowed to fall into disrepair.</li> <li>No right to appeal, but can dispute works.</li> </ul>
	<b>Limitations:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No less than 2months notice given prior to compulsory</li> <li>Cannot require works to improve its condition beyond condition at point of listing (unless weather proofing).</li> <li>Needs to be holistic thus will need internal access to assess full extent of works needed.</li> </ul>
<b>Listed Building Enforcement Notice of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas Act) 1990 / Planning</b>	<b>Who:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority</li> </ul>
	<b>When:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alterations which needed permission but have been carried out without the benefit of planning permission or listed building <u>consent.</u></li> </ul>
	<b>Benefits:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can return a property back to condition before the breach occurred.</li> <li>Can be very specific down to paint colour etc.</li> <li>Works can be carried out in default.</li> </ul>







# Buildings at Risk

- National At Risk Register
  - [Heritage at Risk Registers and Publications | Historic England](#)
  - Save Britains Heritage List
  - [Search the Register | Save Britain's Heritage \(savebritainsheritage.org\)](#)
- East Lindsey's Buildings At risk Register (informal)



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# Levelling Up - ALFORD MANOR HOUSE

## Alford Manor House (Grade II\*)

100-120 seater function Space, including repairs and energy efficiencies.

**Total Costs:** **£2,100,000**  
inclusive of 4.76% PM fees (£100,000)

**Total LUF:** **£2,050,000**

**Total Match:** **£50,000**  
(Trust reserves)



Heritage at **Risk**





# Levelling Up - ALFORD WINDMILL

**Phase 1 (2023)** – Holiday Cottages and existing café and outbuildings (£172k)

**Phase 2 (2024)** – New visitor centre and car park (£940k)

**Phase 3 (2025)** – Windmill repairs (in excess of £500k LCC funded)

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## Alford Windmill (Grade I)

Mill repairs, holiday cottage, café, museum and visitor centre and car park.

**Total Costs:** **£1,624,350**  
inclusive of 4.76% PM fees (£77,350)

**Total LUF:** **£1,112,679.75**

**Total Match:** **£511,670.25**  
(LCC and ATC)





# Levelling Up -SPILSBY SESSIONS HOUSE

Phase 1 (2023) – Emergency Works (£65k)

Phase 2 (2024/5) – Repairs (£5m)

Phase 3 (2025...) – Activities (£300k)



Heritage at **Risk**

## Spilsby Sessions House (Grade II)

Building repairs and multifunctional reuse of spaces (theatre, museum, café, offices and creative workspaces).

**Total Costs:** £5,328,750  
inclusive of 4.76% PM fees (£253,648.50)

**Total LUF:** £4,929,093.75

**Total Match:** £399,656.25  
(NLHF, AC, HE, TT)





# Heritage Champion

- Help local authorities manage the historic environment of their area
- Promote heritage within your local authority, generating enthusiasm for and awareness of the importance of the local historic environment
- Help ensure that commitment to the proper care of the historic environment is embedded in all relevant activities and plans of the local authority; for example, helping to ensure good quality planning decisions are made
- Support your authority's local historic environment services (both archaeological and historic buildings conservation officers). Influence and communicate with others to ensure benefits for the historic environment

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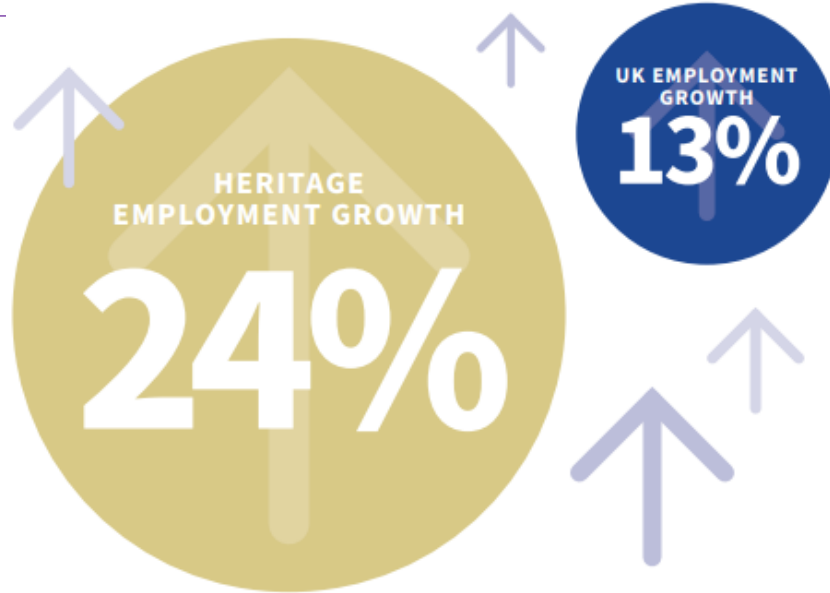


[Heritage Skills & CPD | Historic England](#)



# Heritage Counts

Heritage employment growth outstripped the rest of the UK economy, **growing almost twice as fast between 2011 to 2019.**



SOURCE: CEBR 2020

*“The greenest building is the one that already exists”*

*Carl Elefante, former president of the American Institute of Architects*

*“The development of our historic built environment can drive wider regeneration, job creation, business growth and prosperity.”*

*Culture White Paper (DCMS, 2016)*

## 5. Heritage fosters a strong sense of belonging and attachment to place

The links that people develop with places that matter to them, like historic places, reinforces their sense of belonging. Higher sense of belonging is linked to better self and community identification, higher community cohesion, and satisfaction with the place one lives.

## Heritage as the brand: why local distinctiveness can be key to high street renewal

High streets have traditionally not only been the focus of local commerce, but also the backdrop to where communities gather. They are places that bring people of all ages and backgrounds together to buy, sell, eat and drink.

**Historic assets form a significant part of our retail environment and our high streets with up to 48% of all national retail stock built before 1919 (Valuation Office Agency).**

Historic high-streets have been severely affected by COVID-19, as the pandemic has significantly accelerated the shift away from in-store shopping to online shopping. According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS, 2020) while sales had recovered in September 2020, in store sales were down 10% while online shopping was up nearly 50% since February 2020. The current trends suggest significant risk to heritage assets as they could potentially become functionally obsolete leaving the assets vacant, underused or decaying.

But despite all of this, high streets are not dying - they are evolving. Whilst we are in a period of heightened change, change is a constant. There is currently a pressing need for them to adapt to better meet local needs (Lloyd-James, 2020).

High streets that are becoming more experiential, offering more than just somewhere you buy and sell goods, are finding relative success. In these places the character and quality of local buildings, and their relationship to the space around them, are central to what they are able to offer visitors. Heritage has the power to attract people and businesses to place.

*“We need communities to take the responsibility for their towns and to compete for people to live, work, play and visit, based on their heritage... Experiences in towns based on heritage, activities and events are not wishy-washy; they actually work. If you go to Stockton-on-Tees, which has 97 events a year, it creates footfall and, as a consequence, you get commerce around it, so it does work.”*

Bill Grimsey, Previously chief executive of companies such as Wickes, Iceland and Focus Do It All; Author of the Grimsey Review 2013, 2018, 2020 (November 2020).

**But many high streets require intervention. Historic England’s High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme** is investing £95m in high streets up and down the country to help bring people back to high streets. The funds will help make high streets more vibrant and exciting places where businesses can thrive as well as continue to provide one of the few places where people from all backgrounds can meet and engage with each other (Lloyd-James, 2020).

**Distinctive and characterful places and working spaces attract businesses and customers contributing to the competitiveness of businesses and places.** Research has shown that for 69% of commercial listed building occupiers “Historic buildings give a positive image to customers and clients”, and similarly 62% of the respondents replied that the historic nature of their building improved their business (Heritage Counts, 2018).

# David Dodds – Environmental Health Service Manager

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# Envirocrime Contract Update



*served by One Team*

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Minute Item 58



# Key Points Since January



*served by One Team*

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

- Contract went live mid-January 2023
- Staffing/Recruitment issues – Contractor
- Level of staff now at full contract level in ELDC since early October.
- Resolving issues around fly-tipping enforcement capacity.
- Contractor is now dealing with a wider scope of offences
- Non-payment cases are now going through courts
- CCTV is on its way in ELDC mid-December



# Statistics – August 22 – End October 23

October 2023	To date Since August 2022
FPN's Issued - 124	1386
FPN's paid - 52	925
Income – £9,800	£133,251
Percentage Paid – 41.9355%	66.5945%

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## Court Cases

Year to date	All cases
Cases	-19
Cases won	-19

## In October

- Dog Walkers Stopped for means to pick up – 59
- Issued for Failed to produce means to pick up: 3
- Dog Walker who produced means to pick up: 56

Most cases result in £220 Fine £249 costs & are dealt with through the Single Justice Procedure process

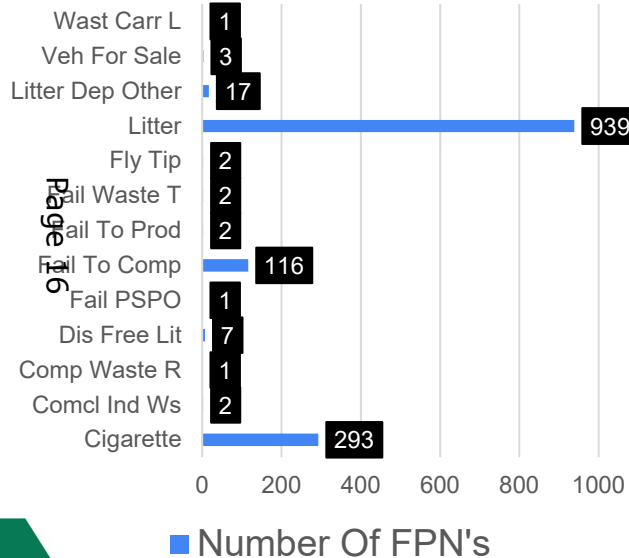
# FPN's To Date



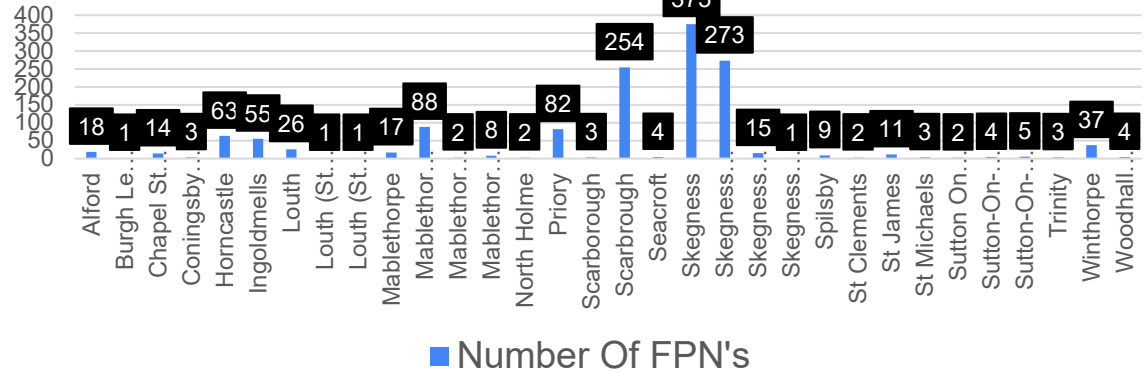
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South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

## FPN's By Offence



## FPN By Ward



## To Date

FPN's issued – 1386

FPN's paid – 925

Income – £133,251

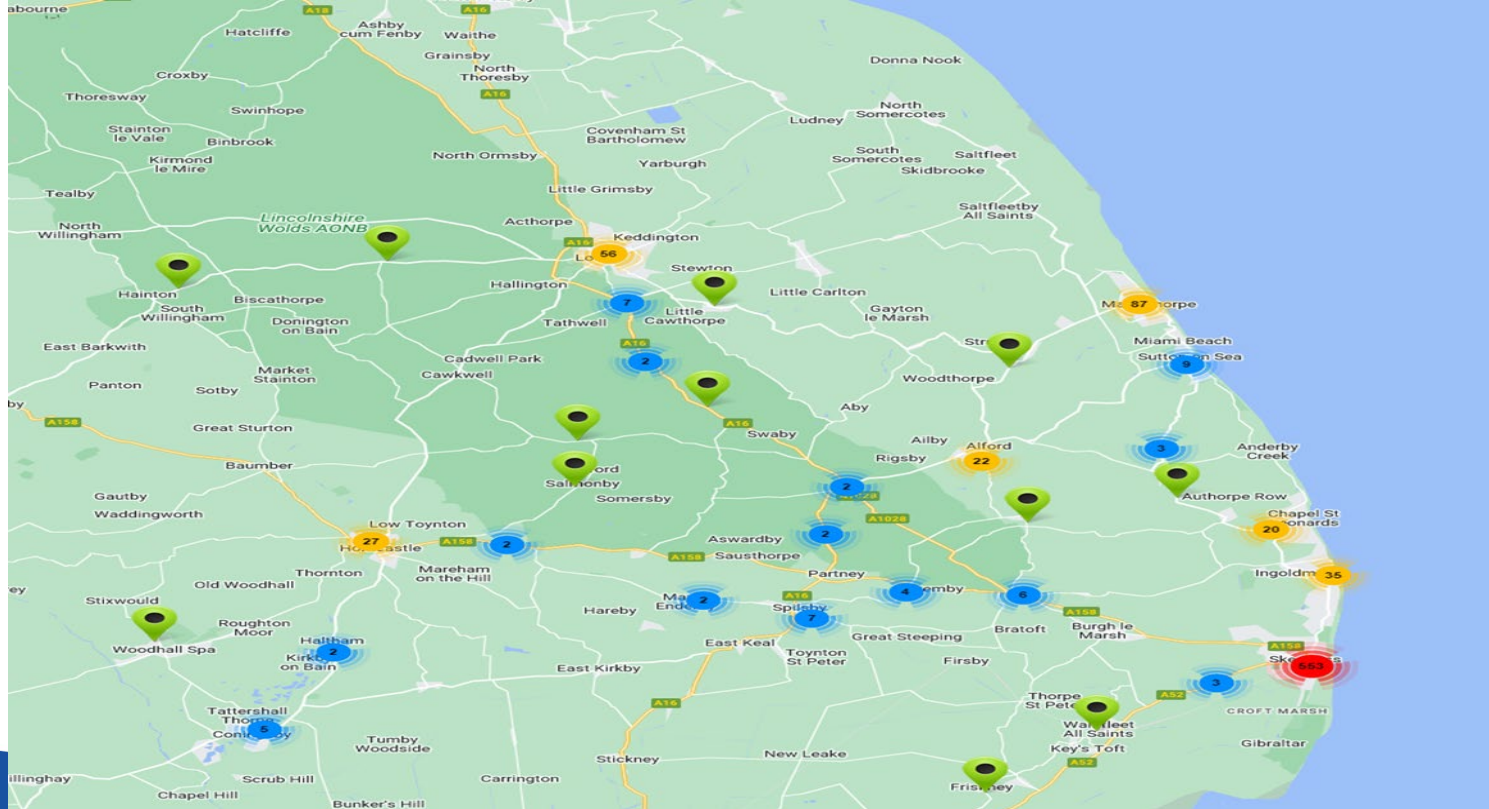
Payment rate – 66.5945%

# Offence Locations



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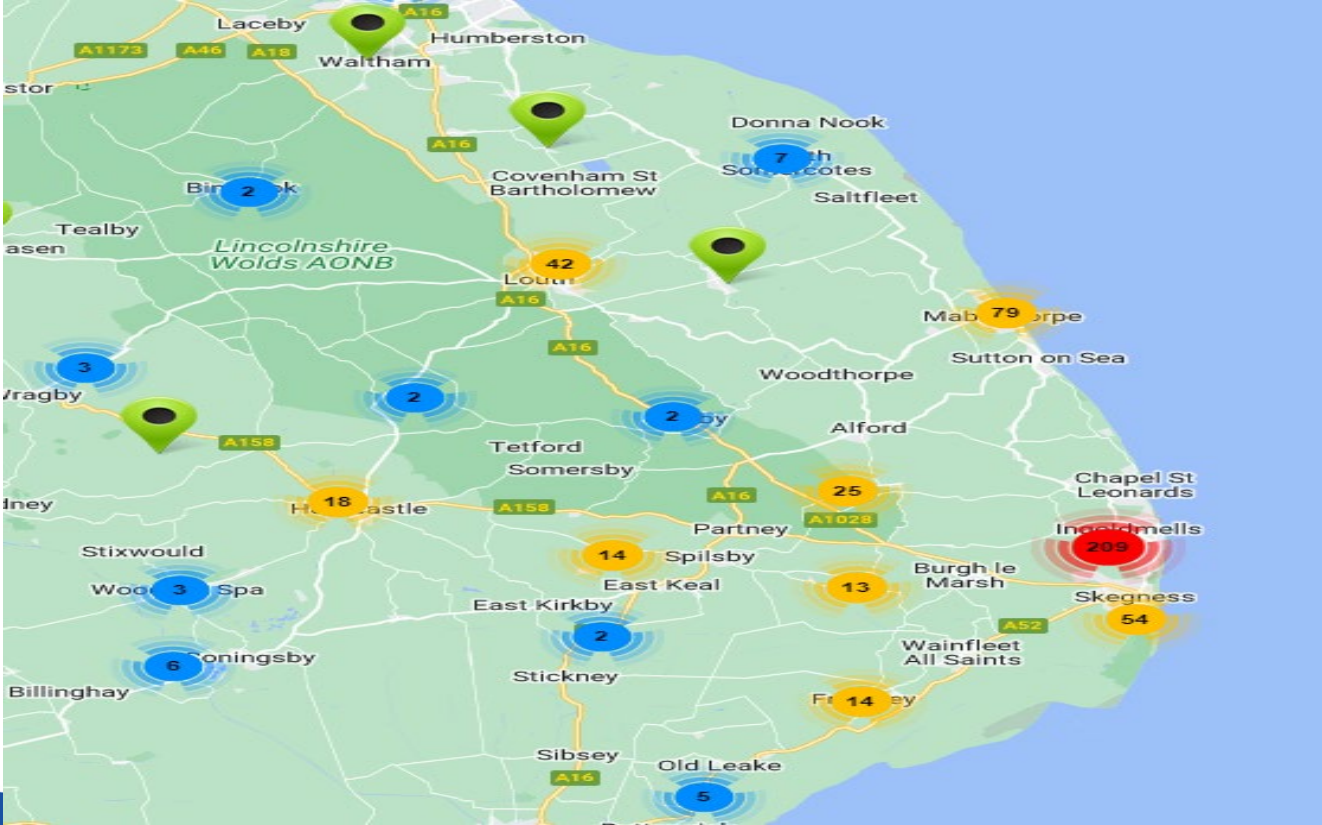


# Offender Locations



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South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

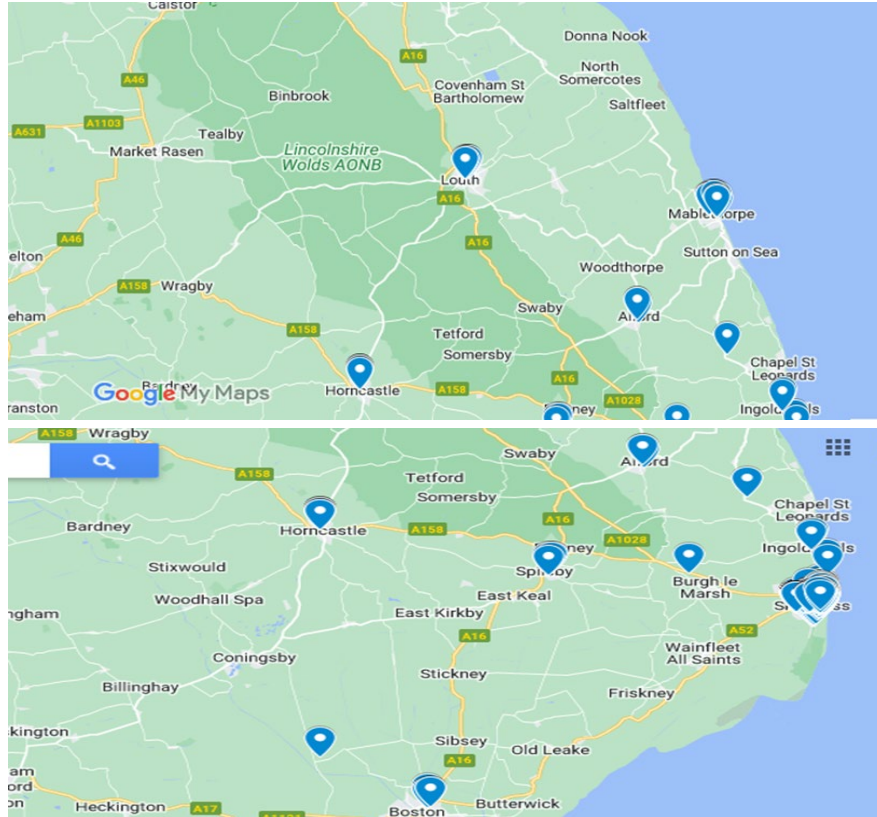


# Patrols October



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# Joint Working – Targeting Problem Area



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South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership



# Conclusion



*served by One Team*

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

- Important to remember contract is at zero cost to ELDC + now contract is live 10% of income comes back to ELDC.
- The level of FPNs has significantly increased since the use of contractors compared to previously.
- Dedicated 2x FTE in-house team now able to focus on this and scrap metal licensing work.
- The Enforcement Liaison role is busy ensuring that contractors are targeted as issues/intelligence comes in.
- Increasing the level of cross-department working with Neighbourhood Services to tackle problem areas.



*served by One Team*

South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership





# Waste Service Budget Considerations

Overview Committee  
28 November 2023

# 2023/24 budget

Budget 2023/24 baseline	Gross Budget £000's	Income £000's	Net Budget £000's
Waste services	4,235	-1,524	2,711

- Equates to around £40 cost per household per year
- Vehicle purchase costs are increasing
- Service running costs are increasing (parts, staffing, etc)
- Number of properties are increasing

# Strategic context

- **LWP Joint Municipal Waste Strategy**
  - Consultation 2018, Adopted 2019, Revised 2023
- **Environment Act 2021**
  - pEPR – producers pay the cost of collection and disposal of packaging waste from 2025/26
  - Simpler Recycling – all households and businesses to receive the same range of materials collected by 31 March 2026
  - Food waste – weekly collections to all households from 31 March 2026
  - Deposit Return Scheme – consumers pay deposit on drinks containers to be claimed back when returned from October 2025



Policy framework	Impact on current collection costs?	Funding?
<p><b>Extended Producer Responsibility</b> (packaging) – producer pays</p>	<p>Unsure – dependent on guidance of what is an ‘efficient and effective’ service</p> <p>Deductions will be made for councils who are not ‘efficient and effective’</p> <p>Improvement plans for councils not meeting standards after Year 1 (2025/26)</p>	<p>Year 1 (2025/26) payments modelled with authorities grouped and benchmarked. Unknown if this will fully fund collection costs – estimated payment determination due by 1 Nov 2024.</p> <p>Year 1, Qs 1,2,3 payments made December 2025, Q4 March 2026</p> <p>Effective &amp; Efficiency assessments will be used to determine payments from Year 2 (2026/27)</p>
<p><b>Simpler Recycling</b> – glass, metal, plastic, paper and card</p>	<p>Unsure - Twin stream collections have improved quality of recyclate at no additional cost</p>	<p>pEPR for packaging – payments may be reduced down to 80% of what a council is eligible for dependent on E &amp; E assessments</p>
<p><b>Simpler Recycling</b> – weekly food waste</p>	<p>Yes – initial work suggests 12 additional vehicles required, with associated staff and vehicle running costs</p>	<p>New Burdens – reasonable costs. £295m capital allocated to support purchase of bins and vehicles (via funding formula) from 2023/24</p> <p>Defra estimating funding required for revenue costs. Process for transitional costs (roll out) from 2024/25</p> <p>New Burdens for revenue costs will be available after duty is in place from April 2026</p>
<p><b>Deposit Return Scheme</b></p>	<p>Unsure – detail to be confirmed by the Deposit Management Organisation (yet to be appointed)</p>	<p>Expected to reduce the amount of litter on the street and in street litter bins.</p> <p>Reduced amount in grey recycling bins?</p>

# Budget setting

## Challenges

- ‘Modelling’, ‘estimates’ and unknowns
- Defra are bidding to HMT for funding required for revenue costs of food waste collections at the next Spending Review
- The impact on depot infrastructure
- Demand for vehicles and delivery times

## Mitigation

- Regular updates from Defra, attendance at Steering Groups
- Implementation plans being developed
- Lincolnshire Waste Partnership
- Project working group (Finance, Customer contact, communications etc)

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