

Minutes of a Meeting of the Overview Committee held at the Hub, Mareham Road, Horncastle, Lincolnshire LN9 6PH on Tuesday, 23rd July, 2024 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

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

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Graham Marsh	- Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction
Councillor Daniel Simpson	- Scrutiny Panel Chairman
John Turner	- Chief Executive NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (virtual)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

James Gilbert	- Assistant Director - Corporate
Corey Gooch	- Business Intelligence and Change Manager
Rebecca James	- Scrutiny and Policy Officer (virtual)
Laura Allen	- Democratic Services Officer
Elaine Speed	- Senior Democratic Services Officer and Civic Officer

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Councillors Danny Brookes, Dick Edginton, Alex Hall and James Knowles.

21. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (IF ANY):

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

22. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11 June 2024 were agreed as a correct record with the following amendment to Minute No. 13 (a) – Scrutiny Panel Report – To review the running of Invest East Lindsey Limited, with a particular focus on Kingfisher Caravan Park:

RESOLVED:

That the draft report of the 'To review the running of Invest East Lindsey Limited, with a particular focus on Kingfisher Caravan Park', be delegated to the Chair / Vice Chair to consider whether it has met the scope and to

circulate to Overview Committee Members for consideration and agreement prior to being recommended to be presented to Council.

23. ACTIONS:

Members noted that the following Actions were now complete.

Actions from the Meeting held on 11 June 2024

Action No. 8, 16 and 18 – completed.

Comments were received as follows:

Action No. 8 – ‘Towns Funds Projects Update’ from the Meeting held on 11 June 2024, page 41 of the Agenda refers.

A Member expressed disappointment that self-cleaning glass had not been utilised on the Sutton on Sea Colonnade development which would have saved the Council a significant amount of money in consideration of a design that was predominately glass.

A Member provided an example of glass cleaning at the North Sea Observatory which was a similar development and commented that window cleaning was undertaken as infrequently as once a month.

Action No. 16(a) – ‘Performance and Governance Framework – Quarter 4 Monitoring Report’ in relation to Key Performance Indicators from the Meeting held on 11 June 2024, page 41 of the Agenda refers.

The Assistant Director – Corporate advised Members that the figures included in the update for Action No. 16 for ‘number of working days lost to sickness absence YTD’ should be presented as number of days and not as percentages.

A Member commented that the percentages in the Monitoring Report did not provide enough information and queried the level of detail and the format of information provided to ELDC in comparison to information provided to PS2.

In response, the Assistant Director – Corporate explained to Members that the information received by the PSPS Board of Directors as a company differed to the information received by the Council. The Assistant Director – Corporate assured Members that the Directors of the Council received a significant level of detail which was reviewed quarterly and acted upon, and this included workforce profiles which examined levels of sickness absence.

The Assistant Director – Corporate further advised Members that consideration of the level of information provided on work force issues could be approached through Councillor Kirk as Portfolio Holder and the Head of HR.

A Member commented that it was the responsibility of all Council Members to look after the welfare of staff. In response, the Assistant Director – Corporate advised Members that welfare of the workforce was a matter for the Chief Executive of the Council as Head of Paid Service.

Further to a discussion, it was agreed that options to include a higher level of detail in the report would be explored.

Action No. 16(b) – ‘Performance and Governance Framework – Quarter 4 Monitoring Report’ in relation to Sand Risk from the Meeting held on 11 June 2024, page 41 of the Agenda refers.

In reference to flooding of the promenade in Mablethorpe with regards to beach nourishment, a Member highlighted the increased challenges brought about by protecting flood defences where efforts had proved counterproductive and requested that more consideration was given to protecting businesses from flooding.

Action No. 18 – ‘Executive/Council Forward Plan’ in relation to working in Partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector from the Meeting held on 11 June 2024, page 42 of the Agenda refers.

In reference to Appendix A2, a Member commented on the statement that the Council continued to work with and support Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations and queried whether further information could be provided on the role and duties of the Volunteer Co-ordinator, page 47 of the Agenda refers.

The Chairman commented on the valuable work undertaken by the Service Manager – Healthy Living and her team to provide support to volunteers in Horncastle.

A Member endorsed the new role of Volunteer Co-ordinator and recognised the value it would bring providing support to volunteers and welcomed their attendance at a future Meeting to update on progress.

Action No. 66(a) – ‘Executive/Council Forward Plan’ in relation to representation on the Local Partnership Group and Theme Group from the Meeting held on 28 November 2024, page 43 of the Agenda refers.

In reference to Appendix A3, a Member queried the process for obtaining seats on Theme Groups and the East Lindsey District Partnership Sub-Group, pages 49 and 50 of the Agenda refer. A Member further queried the area of operation for the Supporting Local Business Theme Group.

Further to a discussion, it was agreed that further information would be requested on the measures taken which ensured that East Lindsey businesses and groups had local representation.

24. UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, NHS LINCOLNSHIRE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD:

The Chairman welcomed John Turner, Chief Executive, NHS Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) to the Meeting who had been invited to update the Committee on topics put forward by Members. Following an introduction and a general overview of NHS matters and the strategic role of the NHS Lincolnshire ICB, the responses to the topics and questions and comments raised by Members were noted as follows:

How are we supporting the middle years where we know the foundations are laid for a healthier, longer life? And given the 40,000 caravans on the east coast and the associated healthcare challenges, what strategies are in place led by the Integrated Care Board?

Members were assured that the ICB worked with a wide range of partners to support all demographics and recognised that increased elderly population and child and adult obesity were significant challenges in East Lindsey particularly along the coast.

The Chief Executive of the ICB advised Members that prevention strategies which encouraged healthy living and to improve the health and wellbeing of the population remained a primary focus. Members were further advised that East Lindsey district had secured £15 million in funding for a new Community Diagnostics Centre in Skegness which was the largest investment the NHS has made in Skegness to date, and that the ICB continued to undertake innovative pieces of work and provide support for various initiatives including the Campus for Future Living in Mablethorpe to help deliver significant benefits for the local community.

- In reference to the Community Diagnostics Centre (CDC) in Skegness, a Member queried the effect that had been forecasted on Skegness Hospital. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB confirmed that Skegness Hospital remained separate to the CDC and was an important asset to the community which would be maintained for the long term. The Chief Executive of the ICB confirmed that the CDC would serve Skegness and the east coast and support the hospital with a wide range of services. Members were informed that a similar centre created in Grantham had proven very successful.
- In reference to the 1.7billion national funding formula, a Member queried who was responsible for making a decision on the amount and whether it was the correct amount when taking into account special circumstances in Lincolnshire. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB informed Members that the funding formula took into account all characteristics and assured Members that the ICB took every opportunity to secure additional NHS England funding.

Availability of GP appointments and ease of access to and communication with GP practices. Specifically, how easy it is for residents to get in touch with their surgery.

Members were informed that 16 GP practices operated in East Lindsey in comparison to 81 practices across Lincolnshire, and that 14 were rated as good and 2 required improvement by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The Chief Executive of the ICB informed Members that the ICB recognised that East Lindsey had significant deprivation on the coast and that the issues continued to be an area of focus.

Members were advised that the total number of GP appointments offered had increased by 20% in the last 12 months and that East Lindsey had been above the Lincolnshire average for residents seen on the same day and had been average for patients seen within 2 weeks.

In relation to communication, Members were informed that patient feedback was consistently received in relation to phone and website access and that all East Lindsey practices had moved to digital telephony and digital access services to provide improved services.

Members were advised that the development of the Additional Roles and Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) had enabled the creation of additional roles and that £2.3m had been spent on them during 2023-24 with plans to extend spending to £4.9m in the East Lindsey area for 2024-25.

- In reference to the 20% increase in dental appointment availability, a Member queried whether face-to-face appointments were included in the statistics and highlighted issues where residents with hearing issues had experienced difficulty obtaining face-to-face appointments. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB confirmed expectations that appointments had increased both in person and on the phone and encouraged those with hearing difficulties to raise any concerns directly with their GP practice or if necessary, with the NHS ICB team.
- A Member commented that strategies that were not always what residents were looking for and highlighted the struggles that local residents were faced with in relation to NHS appointments and hospital accessibility due to lack of transport and further stated that urgent treatment in Louth was a critical service which required continued support.
- A Member highlighted the difference in strategies for dental and doctor provision in prisons compared to the provisions for the general public and commented that virtual appointments were not satisfactory for the elderly population when there were capability issues.

In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB informed Members that GP practices and their teams were fully committed to trying to meet

their needs of their patients and that the ICB continually listened to the feedback Lincolnshire residents raised to support GPs and primary care teams to manage the level of demand. The Chief Executive of the ICB further advised Members of a number of measures being taken which included an increase in multi-disciplinary roles to assist and expand the range of services and confirmed that Louth Urgent Treatment Centre was an important asset which would receive long term support.

- A Member queried how more GPs could be attracted to rural Lincolnshire. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB advised Members of progress made and that the recruitment of salaried GPs had proven less challenging than the recruitment of Partners.

The Chief Executive of the ICB further advised Members that the new Medical School in Lincoln was encouraging GPs to stay and work in the area where they had trained and that the ICB were continuing to ensure that Lincolnshire was an attractive place to work in health and care and provided a unique opportunity to work in rural coastal medicine.

Availability of NHS dentistry, particularly in areas of higher deprivation

Members were advised that dentist availability was a national issue and that 11 contracts were in place for East Lindsey with extended access in Louth and Skegness and that a contract had recently been awarded in Mablethorpe with a new dental provider.

The Chief Executive of the ICB assured Members that the ICB had strong working relationships with the North Lincolnshire and Goole Health Trusts and that the ICB continued to recognise the issues with dentist availability and supported national strategies which ensured change.

Members were further advised that the Dental Access Recovery Programme had enabled more funding for public practices alongside the Golden Hello dental incentive scheme for 2024/25 from NHS England and that Lincoln had been identified for future mobile NHS Dental Clinics.

- A Member queried promises that were made for Mablethorpe residents to obtain NHS dental appointments. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB advised Members that a contract had been awarded and that the ICB was working with the provider to commence the service as quickly as possible.

Fluoridation of the water supply

Members were informed that the ICB were very supportive of fluoridation of the water supply as it had a positive impact for the population. The Chief Executive of the ICB further advised Members that fluoridation had been part of the previous Government's strategy and that there were

significant differences observed in oral health along the east coast of Lincolnshire where water had not been fluorinated.

- A Member commented that a significant factor for dental health was that the west of Lincolnshire was more affluent and less deprived compared to those who lived in the east of the county. In response, the Chief Executive of the ICB acknowledged that a divide existed between east and west Lincolnshire and confirmed that oral health was affected by a number of factors not limited to fluoridisation of the water supply. The Chief Executive of the ICB further advised Members that there was significant national pressure on the need for new contracts for dentists and that dentists were currently paid by the NHS by a variety of mechanisms and that with the release of the government's Dental Recovery Plan, the ICB were looking to encourage more dentists to engage with NHS care.

Ambulance waiting times, particularly in remote areas.

Members were advised that Category 2 Ambulance performance for a range of conditions that were not immediately life threatening had a national target of providing a response within 30 minutes and that Lincolnshire had been over target during the last few months.

The Chief Executive of the ICB acknowledged that more work was required to reduce ambulance wait times including reducing handover delays at hospitals and that significant improvement had been made with an increased recruitment of East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) staff which aimed to enable a reduction in ambulance waiting times over the next 6-9 months.

No further comments or questions were received.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Executive of the ICB for his informative update.

N.B. John Turner, Chief Executive of the ICB left the Meeting at 11.12am.

25. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY:

N.B. This item was brought forward at the Chairman's discretion.

The Chairman welcomed Corey Gooch, Business Intelligence and Change Manager and Councillor Graham Marsh as Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction to the Meeting.

The Business Intelligence and Change Manager, presented Members with the Artificial Intelligence Policy, pages 73 to 86 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised that Artificial Intelligence (AI) was the development of ICT systems that could perform tasks that typically

required human intelligence and that as a Council, it was important to have a policy in place to set out the governance surrounding the use of AI.

The Partnership policy attached at Appendix A provided a framework for how the Council would use AI and would establish clear accountability mechanisms for managing associated risk, pages 77 to 86 of the Agenda refer.

The Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction commented on his disappointment on the attendance by Members at the virtual AI briefing held on the 22nd July 2024 and encouraged that all Members attend further sessions as AI was the future and that it was essential for Members to develop a good understanding.

The Chairman queried whether the invitation for the September briefing could be reissued to Members. In response, the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Leisure and Culture, and Carbon Reduction confirmed to Members that invitations would be resent and that further reminders would be issued as the briefing date approached.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- A Member expressed dissatisfaction with communications regarding the invitations to the AI briefing hosted by Boston Borough Council and commented that more detailed understanding was required by Members before the AI policy was agreed.
- A Member supported the need for greater understanding on the utilisation of AI within the Council and highlighted that AI was considered the next industrial revolution for saving.
- A Member requested clarification on the abbreviations of SIRO and API, pages 81 and 84 of the Agenda refer. In response, the Assistant Director – Corporate confirmed that SIRO referred to Senior Information Risk Owner which was the responsibility of Adrian Sibley. The Business Intelligence and Change Manager further explained that API was an IT term and that full clarification of the definition would be provided in a future update to Committee Members.
- In reference to the statement in Paragraph 3.8.1 in relation to all information generated by AI must be reviewed and edited for accuracy prior to use, a Member queried whether the statement was written correctly in the event that lost time negated any possible savings. In response, the Business Intelligence and Change Manager confirmed that information needed to be reviewed and considered and that the information generated by AI could be counterproductive. The Business Intelligence and Change Manager further advised Members that work would be undertaken with the Chief Delivery Officer to update the wording to rectify any

potentialities. The Chairman further commented that it was important to ensure that policies were written in language that Councillors could understand.

- The Assistant Director – Corporate informed Members that a policy had been necessary before AI work was undertaken to ensure that governance controls were in place to prevent and mitigate any future risks to the authority. The Assistant Director – Corporate presented Members with the option of deferring the approval of the policy until later in the year.
- A Member commented on the availability of a Local Government Association conference on AI which Members could access online to assist with greater understanding.
- The Chairman suggested that Members were updated on the progress of the AI policy through Members' Point Brief.

No further comments or questions were received.

The Chairman thanked the Business Intelligence and Change Manager for his report.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Draft Artificial Intelligence Policy be noted and that presentation to the Executive Board for approval would be deferred pending Members attendance at additional briefings on AI and consideration of the Committee's comments by the Business Intelligence and Change Manager and relevant Portfolio Holder.

26. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS:

N.B. This item was brought forward at the Chairman's discretion.

Members noted that the meeting would not enter private session unless attendees wished to discuss the restricted information contained at Appendix A1 to the Scrutiny Panel Report: To review the running of Invest East Lindsey Limited, with a particular focus on Kingfisher Caravan Park.

27. SCRUTINY PANEL REPORT - TO REVIEW THE RUNNING OF INVEST EAST LINDSEY LIMITED, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON KINGFISHER CARAVAN PARK:

The Chairman introduced the final draft report from the Scrutiny Panel 'To review the running of Invest East Lindsey Limited, with a particular focus on Kingfisher Caravan Park', pages 87 to 206 of the Agenda refer.

Members were reminded that the report and associated appendices were Open with the exclusion of Appendix A1 which was Exempt.

The Chairman thanked the Scrutiny Panel for their hard work and referred Members to the 'Quality Check Criteria' to consider whether the scope of the scrutiny had been met by the report, page 109 to 112 of the Agenda refer.

Councillor Daniel Simpson as Chairman of the Scrutiny Panel provided Members with a brief introduction and provided justification for the inclusion of the Exempt appendix.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- Referring to the Paragraph which stated that 'A point of concern to Scrutiny was the churn of members of these Boards', the Chairman requested clarification on the context, page 101 of the Agenda refers. In response, the Scrutiny Panel Chairman advised Members that the churn was the number of people in the early years of Invest East Lindsey that were appointed to and subsequently left the Board. The Scrutiny Panel Chairman further advised Members that the time served on the Board was limited to a set period which could be renewed and that in that in the early days of the company, the churn of Board members was greater than the agreed timeframe.
- In reference to the statement 'To date Invest East Lindsey has borrowed around £6 million from ELDC and has outstanding debt of £4 million', the Chairman noted that the same paragraph was repeated twice, pages 96 and 102 of the Agenda refer. In response, the Chairman of the Scrutiny Panel confirmed that the duplication was intentional to emphasise a point.
- A Member commented that it was essential when setting up a company to have good governance and an active risk management plan and that the report evidenced this was lacking for Invest East Lindsey. In response, the Chairman commented that the same principles applied across a range of Council activities.
- A Member queried whether Invest East Lindsey had plans to overcome challenges identified in the key lines of enquiry. In response, the Scrutiny Panel Chairman confirmed to Members that steps had been taken to overcome some of the challenges where future plans could have been compromised and that the report had highlighted and made reference to the measures they had taken.
- The Scrutiny Panel Chairman highlighted the complexity of the financial information that was examined and noted that the Audit and Governance Committee had received the internal audit report. The Scrutiny Panel Chairman further commented that a forensic accountant may have been more effective at drawing out specific

pieces of information to determine whether the business was financially viable and concluded that Scrutiny Panels were facilitators rather than trying to examine information as professionals.

- The Chairman commented that there was a clear divide between the roles of Audit and Governance and Overview Committee, and that the Council could consider finding the resources should there be a need for independent scrutiny.
- A Member voiced concern with the findings of the internal audit report noting that the Council had lent the organisation over £4 million of public money and agreed that the findings should be emphasised in the scrutiny report.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Simpson and the Scrutiny Panel for their contribution.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

- That the draft report of the 'To review the running of Invest East Lindsey Limited, with a particular focus on Kingfisher Caravan Park' Scrutiny Panel be noted.
- That Overview Committee recommended the report for consideration at the next Council meeting.

28. CENTRE FOR GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY REPORT:

The Chairman introduced the Audit, Scrutiny and Risk report from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS), pages 51 to 72 of the Agenda refer.

The Chairman spoke of the past benefits of attending the Annual CfGS conference and queried the absence of a report following the conference in December 2021. In response, the Assistant Director – Corporate confirmed to Members that a report had not materialised.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

A Member commented on the value of risk training for all councillors and spoke of the importance of the report being dually presented to the Audit and Governance Committee.

Further to a discussion on the overlap between Overview and Audit and Governance, it was agreed that the report be forwarded for the consideration of Audit and Governance Committee and that the Chairman

and Vice-Chairman of both Committees consider attending future CfGS conferences.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which, it was

RESOLVED:

That the Audit, Scrutiny & Risk Report for March 2024 from the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) be noted.

29. HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR LINCOLNSHIRE - UPDATE:

The Outside Body Appointee advised Members that her report from the HSC Meeting held on 17 July 2024 had been circulated to Members by email prior to the Meeting (a copy is attached at Appendix A to the Minutes).

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

- In reference to Section 106 Planning Agreements, the Outside Body Appointee queried the justification for East Lindsey being allocated the lowest multiplier as part of the NHS formula and receiving the lowest payment in Lincolnshire per dwelling compared to other districts.
- A Member commented that GP practices in Stickney had not received any S106 funds as originally intended and queried how the process worked in relation to trigger points for financial payments.

Further to a discussion, Members agreed that clarification would be requested from the Section 106 Officer on East Lindsey being allocated the lowest multiplier and payments as part of the NHS formula and for an update to be provided on the process for local surgeries receiving S106 payments.

- A Member queried obtaining access to examples of implemented S106 agreements on the Lincolnshire County Council Website. In response, the Outside Body Appointee confirmed that a link could be provided by e-mail.
- A Member expressed concern for the reconfiguration of hospital services and queried the benefits gained. In response, the Outside Body Appointee advised Members of the differences in Hospital services and provisions in Hull and North Lincolnshire and that services moving from Scunthorpe to Grimsby intended to be advantageous had not been adequately considered.
- A Member further commented that there needed to be clear guidance and a decision on the future of hospitals on the south of the Humber and that the future of Scunthorpe Hospital needed

greater consideration because of the important stroke units provided.

No further comments or questions were received.

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

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

(a) Scrutiny Panel Update - Review of the Carbon Reduction Plan and associated carbon reduction activity at ELDC:

James Gilbert, Assistant Director - Corporate referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 207 to 208 of the Agenda refer.

The briefing paper informed Members that the panel had met four times to date, with further meetings planned on Wednesdays. The meeting planner had been updated to reflect key issues needing further investigation and review.

During June 2024, officers from North Kesteven, South Kesteven and West Lindsey District Councils answered questions on their Carbon Reduction Plans and associated activities and provided insight into their priorities for the next twelve months. The most recent meeting had enabled the Panel to compare approaches and look for commonality and areas of best practice and future meetings would explore how different service areas within ELDC were considering Carbon Reduction within various process such as projects and procurement.

(b) Scrutiny Panel Update - Project Management Analysis:

James Gilbert, Assistant Director – Corporate advised the Committee that one Member had come forward to sit on the Project Management Analysis Scrutiny Panel and that a request for additional Panel Members would be advertised within the next few days.

(c) Joint Scrutiny Panel for Leisure Facilities Operator Update:

James Gilbert, Assistant Director - Corporate referred Members to the briefing paper, pages 209 to 210 of the Agenda refer.

Members were advised on the pre-scrutiny taking place during July 2024 and it was highlighted that the lines of enquiry were agreed to ensure that Members across the Partnership were fully informed about the upcoming process. The final step was to take the report to each Council's sovereign scrutiny committees during September 2024.

Members were invited to put their comments and questions forward.

No comments or questions were received.

31. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION TRACKER:

Members were referred to the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker, pages 211 to 232 of the Agenda refer. Members were invited to review the tracker and put their comments and questions forward.

To explore the issues surrounding caravan licensing and enforcement

Recommendation No 1 'To recognise the need to make Caravan Enforcement a priority for the new Council with the first priorities dealing with the issue of unauthorised occupancy and to review and strengthen licence conditions', page 215 of the Agenda refers.

A Member expressed dissatisfaction with the delay for the report being presented to the Executive Board and highlighted that the issues in relation to funding for caravan enforcement had been ongoing for forty years. In response, the Chairman informed Members that further updates were expected by September and October 2024 and that the Executive Board would be made aware of the Committee's comments.

A Member expressed further concern for the capacity of the enforcement service.

Recommendation No 9 'Obtain specialist legal opinions on how a charging regime could be introduced for holiday sites, and a further opinion on strengthening licencing conditions, including the internal quality of accommodation', page 221 of the Agenda refers.

A Member commented on the update for July 2024 that the recommendation was awaiting further clarification. The Chairman confirmed to Members that further updates would be expected as an item on the next Agenda.

Members expressed disappointment that the Recommendation Tracker remained Amber throughout.

Recommendation No 16 'Consider reviewing the Planning Policy in relation to caravan sites and any restrictions as part of the local plan review', page 223 of the Agenda refers.

A Member commented that caravan sites on the east coast were not only related to tourism and that tourism should not remain the Council's only focus when many caravan sites were residential.

Recommendation No 17 'As part of their remit, the portfolio holder for the coast to arrange regular meetings with coastal operators', page 224 of the Agenda refers.

In reference to the ceasing of meetings during the pandemic, a Member suggested that the wording should use the term 'reinstated.'

Recommendation No 18 'Seek to work in partnership with Lincolnshire Trading Standard to investigate 'rogue' operators', page 224 of the Agenda refers.

A Member commented that non-compliant operators may not wish to be referred to as 'rogue' operators.

How can ELDC help improve the design, quality, and choice of new and existing housing in the district?

Recommendation No 5 'Builders and architects will be supported and encouraged to ensure home interiors and landscaping are designed for accessibility for all, in all homes – providing homes', page 226 of the Agenda refers.

A Member expressed concern that architectural design could be undertaken by someone with no formal design qualifications and queried whether the Interim Planning Policy Service Manager was taking on architectural design responsibilities.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their comments.

No comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation Tracker be noted.

32. EXECUTIVE/COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN:

Members were presented with the Executive/Council Forward Plan 2024-25, pages 233 to 240 of the Agenda refer and were invited for their comments.

No further comments or questions were received.

Following which it was,

RESOLVED:

That the Executive/Council Forward Plan 2024-25 be noted.

33. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The programmed date for the next Meeting of this Committee was noted as 3rd September 2024.

The Meeting closed at 12.20 pm.

Lincolnshire Health Scrutiny Committee for Lincolnshire – 17 July 2024

There was no meeting in June because of the General Election, so the review of Urgent Treatment Centres has been adjourned until September and the Lincolnshire Suicide Prevention Strategy is now due in October.

Teaching Hospital Status: A final decision is still awaited.

Whooping Cough: Cases have been increasing during 2024 with 4793 recorded cases in England between January and April this year, with eight infant deaths. This is the highest number since 2012. The importance of vaccination of mothers during pregnancy, infants and children under 10 was stressed, particularly as vaccination rates have dropped from 75% in December 2017 to 59% in December 2023.

Learning Disability and Autism Services: there is a review of services in place which will include Community Home Assessment and Treatment Team and Transforming Care Liaison Service. Feedback has been sought from people with autism, with learning disabilities, their families or carers to restructure two current teams to provide enhanced community care, enhanced in-reach Mental Health Hospitals and Community Liaison. The enhanced model would provide:

- 7 day 8am - 8pm support for people at risk of placement breakdown or hospital admission
- Support for up to 12 weeks with access to psychiatry, psychology, speech and language therapy and occupational therapy
- Liaison with mainstream services to support reasonable adjustments
- In-reach into mainstream mental health services to ensure timely discharge.

Ash Villa: An inspection in June of Ash Villa, a 15-bed acute mental health treatment ward at Greylees near Sleaford, was conducted after concerns about medicine management. The CQC found these claims to be without substance.

Hospital Service Reconfiguration in Grimsby and Scunthorpe: A consultation exercise between September 2023 and January 2024 by the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and the results were made public this month. Almost 4000 responded to the consultation and the main reasons for support were faster and better access to specialist care, overcoming long standing staffing issues, enhancing skills and competencies and delivering a more sustainable future service. However, concerns were raised about the system's ability to respond to major incidents, safety concerns related to the potential need for out of hours emergency surgery and the impact of proposed changes on paediatric care for children. Travel problems were highlighted as well as the impact on ambulances and current targets and the impact on current staff of any proposed move. The future of Scunthorpe Hospital was also raised. Benefits, impacts and mitigations were also considered. It was felt the consultation had not been conducted effectively so it was agreed to refer the matter to the Secretary of State.

Grantham Urgent Treatment Centre: Following up a consultation exercise in May 2022 it was agreed that Grantham should step down as an Accident and Emergency Department to become a 24/7 Urgent Treatment Centre. Taking a structured approach a phased implementation plan was brought in supporting both walk in and booked appointment system. Phase 1 was introduced in October 2023, phase A1 followed in December and Phase 2 came in February 2024 and is now fully operational. Nurse staffing modelling was planned to ensure safe and effective patient care was provided and has been well received and there is now an expectation within the next 18 months prescribing courses will be offered so staff will be able to operate as autonomous practitioners. The medical rotation is

currently also fully established but may be increased if the level of demand continues. There has been an increase in attendances of 45% since the scheme went live - an average of 36 extra patients per day, which is at the upper end of the modelling, so this will be monitored, and appropriate action then taken. The service change was deemed a tremendous success. "The service change has been a good example of system working with all partners to deliver a long-term strategy for the people of Lincolnshire and should be celebrated by all."

Section 106 Planning Agreements: Financial contributions towards medical improvements to meet the needs of increasing numbers of residents can be requested as part of the planning process. This is known as Section 106 of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act and as such is legally binding. In the past the process was managed by NHS England but in 2020 this was paused due to the pandemic. Then late in 2020 the process was transferred to the Lincolnshire CCG and subsequently to the Integrated Care Board. This has seen a strengthening of the process and a more consistent approach to all developments of 10 or more homes. An officer now works regularly with the districts to secure funding for infrastructure projects i.e. capital projects rather than staffing costs. Development contributions can only be made to GP practices with registered patient lists where there is a direct link between a service in a specific area and a housing development. There are legal tests which ensure:

- It is necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms
- Directly related to the development
- Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development - the ICB calculates the maximum that can be requested based on factors such as the type and number of dwellings.

In return the ICB must release information on:

- Where the money will be going and why
- Provide evidence the contribution is required
- Details of the project and explanation of how this will mitigate the impact of the proposed development.

In Lincolnshire 48 GP practices are owned and 66 have rented accommodation.

East Lindsey receives the lowest payment in Lincolnshire- the multiplier is 2.2 and £ per dwelling is £605; this compares with 2.4 multiplier and £660 in Boston and South Holland. For a single bed occupancy in a care home situation the multiplier is 1.43 and £393.25 per dwelling and a multiplier of 2.86 and £786.50 for double bed occupancy.

The monies are usually paid when a trigger point is reached but lost if the money is not spent within the stipulated period. There are examples of how this has been implemented on the Lincolnshire County Council health scrutiny website.

Extended Temporary Closure of Manthorpe Unit, Grantham: The 18-bed unit caring for older people with dementia needs was temporarily closed in April 2020 due to the COVID crisis affecting staffing. Since then, new ways of working have been piloted and this has seen positive clinical outcomes with significantly fewer people admitted to hospital. There is now a countywide Dementia Home Treatment Service operating as a hospital at home. The service is now being evaluated by the East Midlands Clinical Senate and there is on-going consultation with recipients of care and their families about extending the closure and enhancing the pilot model.