

Rough Sleeping Prevention Programme 2020/2021

People who find themselves sleeping rough in East Lindsey will benefit from a continuation of the Rough Sleeping Prevention Team in 2020/2021 thanks to a successful bid for government funding. 2020/2021 allocation is an increase on successful 2019/2020 programme and comprises £202,000 MHCLG funding plus a government agreement to carry forward projected underspend £49,000 to enhance the programme for a further year. The Rough Sleeping Prevention Team was established in 2019 and has worked tirelessly, supporting over 250 individuals across the district and achieving a significant reduction in the number of people sleeping rough across East Lindsey.

The funding for 2020/2021 will allow the Council to boost capacity to respond to homelessness quickly, allow a more flexible deployment of staff - particularly to respond to projected seasonal increases in demand - and enable a greater focus on prevention. Appropriate short term accommodation options will be developed, allowing for swift accommodation access, assessment, intervention and resettlement or where more appropriate, sustainable reconnection. Funding has also been secured to enable a flexible personalised budget, allowing our teams to tailor support to each individual's needs. The Council has demonstrated that it is willing and able to mobilise and work quickly and that we are genuinely committed to ending rough sleeping. This new round of funding will certainly have even more of an impact on the service the team is able to offer in collaboration with our partners.

Disability Confident Employer

East Lindsey District Council have renewed their commitment as a Disability Confident Employer through the Department for Work and Pensions accreditation scheme, to ensure people with health conditions and disabilities are treated equally at work.

We have been assessed under two themes to achieve Level 2 status; getting the right people for their business and keeping and developing people. Being Disability Confident helps employers recruit and retain great people by drawing from the widest possible pool of talent, securing high quality staff who are skilled, loyal and hardworking and improve employee morale and commitment.

Housing Register Progress Update

The management of the housing register returned to the Council on 1st October 2019. A new modern IT system has been implemented to simplify the process of applying and bidding for properties with further enhancements being made. Whilst there is still some work to do to refine the system we have received positive feedback from a customer, staff and stakeholder perspective. Over 1500 applicants have applied to the new system. Of those; over 550 applications have been assessed and those customers are now able to actively bid for properties through the system. A further 350 applications are pending assessment waiting for applicants to provide proofs. Not all applicants were eligible for the housing register; those that were not have been advised and supported accordingly. Applicants can now manage their applications directly through the online

portal including bidding for properties and uploading evidence. Housing surgeries are being held across the district to provide advice and support to applicants who need assistance to apply. Applicants are also provided with advice and support where required such as homelessness, debt, disrepair and safeguarding concerns.

Since 1st January 2020, over 100 social housing properties have been advertised. Housing providers are given access to the system where requested to advertise properties themselves and retrieve the list of interested applicants. Property adverts provide information about the property, local amenities and local connection restrictions. Most social housing providers have signed up to a service level agreement and are being encouraged to advertise most of their properties through our housing register. Control of the housing register not only enables us to better support customers; it will also provide us with valuable intelligence to help better understand the housing issues, needs and aspirations within the district.

Winter Pressures – Enhancing our Wellbeing Service Offer

Wellbeing Lincs has been selected as a partner to support countywide efforts to reduce a need for residents to attend hospital after a fall. For the last year Wellbeing Lincs has been working with LCC, EMAS and Lives Frist Responders to develop a service designed to help EMAS cope with high demand for services over the winter period. Three specially equipped vehicles supplied by EMAS now cover low priority ambulance calls for people who have experienced a non injury or very minor injury falls. Prior to the introduction of this service which sees Lives staff are deployed in the EMAS vehicles to these calls much quicker than a normal ambulance. Often having to wait several hours for a normal ambulance crewed by paramedics, to assist the patient of the floor resulted in an automatic conveyance to hospital, as the time spent on the floor unable to move, would have caused secondary issues that needed treatment.

While referrals in to our Wellbeing service have been encouraged, our contractual timescales for carrying out a trusted assessment have been found to be not quick enough, as patients may suffer another fall during the 7 days we have between referral and the assessment. Recognising this issue during evaluation of the service, we have agreed with LCC to trial a six month pilot to employ two trusted assessors who will carry out a full assessment for these cases within 24 hours of the referral. Should the pilot prove to be successful, LCC are likely to seek to expand Wellbeing Lincs to include this type of response for urgent cases in the longer term. This is another example of the benefits of working collaboratively to provide services that directly benefit our residents.

Better Ageing

The increasing ageing population means that by 2037, a quarter of the total UK population will be over 65. Lincolnshire, and in particular East Lindsey will continue to have a higher than national average number of older residents. Projected numbers state that by 2041 30% of the population of Lincolnshire will be over 65; while in East Lindsey 40% of people will be over 65. (Office for National Statistics 2017) This has huge implications for future service delivery and the local economy. The way in which we can best support an ageing population

is of local and national interest. It creates a challenge regarding demand on public services but also an opportunity to embrace and support an ageing population to maintain health, wellbeing and independence and to maximise economic activity. ELDC has actively embraced this agenda and in February 2020 shared a report with the Lincolnshire Health & Wellbeing Board on its work and learnings date, concluding that whilst an ageing population presents challenges, it is possible to work proactively and positively to maximise health, wellbeing, independence and community resilience whilst also maximising economic activity and outcomes.

Positive work and outcomes in East Lindsey have been accelerated through the Big Lottery Ageing Better programme and provides an evidence and learning base that offers insight and a blueprint for supporting and enabling Better Ageing across Lincolnshire. Report: 'Better Ageing in Rural Areas – Learning from East Lindsey' can be accessed [here](#).

Land Charges Team

ELDC team shortlisted for the Land Data Awards 2020 - Most Improved Award Category (improvement the service between 1st November 2018 and 31st October 2019 – reduced search turnaround times during that period – 13.57 days to 5.6 days representing a 59% improvement). Current turnaround time: 1-2 days. Achieved alongside a major Land Registry Migration Project – data migration due to be completed by 31st March 2020 – projected 'go-live' date of 1st April. Pilot site ahead of rollout of national transition. The team will have attended the awards event on 2nd March 2020 and we wish them the very best of luck!

Democratic Services

I would like to congratulate Elaine Speed, Democratic Services Officer in successfully completing the Association of Democratic Service Officers 'Certificate in Democratic Knowledge'.

Bin collection round changes in East Lindsey

From April 6, 2020 waste collection rounds for the majority of East Lindsey households will change. Due to the increasing number of properties needed to be collected from, the collection arrangements required revision to ensure the service runs as efficiently as possible. Residents that are affected will receive a letter with their new collection calendar. During this time, the Council is also updating its waste collection fleet of vehicles at a cost of £3.5million.

The current vehicles have covered over 3 million miles around the district and emptied over 28 million wheelie bins. The distance is equivalent to driving around the Earth 120 times. The new vehicles have a steering rear axle and have a narrower body to help with negotiating the streets and country roads of the district and the new developments. They are also more environmentally friendly producing less emissions and reducing the Nitrogen Oxide levels from 0.18g/km to 0.08g/km.

Councillor Marsh

Councillor Marsh has now been appointed as Portfolio Holder for Climate Change.

Vital and Viable Workshops update

Following the last Louth workshop a number of actions have been undertaken, including:

1. Working with LCC to commission a Public Realm Strategy for the Market Towns, which links with the Destination Strategy;
2. Fixed the Clock at the Bus Station in Louth;
3. Supported the sharing of information regarding the upkeep and improvement of 'welcome' signs into Louth;
4. Commissioned Taste Lincolnshire to deliver a business engagement event on 4th Feb focussed on food and drink businesses in the town in partnership with Bottomley Distillery. This includes a new Food Trail (printed and online) with supporting marketing, promotion of the Louth Pie Day event, bespoke business support and sponsorship/presence at the Lincolnshire Show and a feature in Good Taste magazine (Lincolnshire Life publication which reaches a county wide and national audience);
5. Actively supporting Louth Pie Day (branding, promotion, support);
6. Produced and issued two Louth e-newsletters – first after the Louth workshop and second promoting the engagement event with Taste Lincolnshire, third in progress;
7. Met with Zero Degrees (Art Festival) and subsequently requested quotes for research to demonstrate value of event. Ensuring connection with new Cultural Strategy for District and Destination Strategy;
8. Met with website providers of Love Lincolnshire Wolds to commission Louth website and to brief businesses requirements;
9. Met with video producers to commission new Louth promotional video;
10. Market Town Improvement Fund proposition outlined in Briefing paper.

All future workshops are now booked for the remaining market towns, as well as specific meetings with individual businesses in Alford (relating to Alford Manor House), Horncastle (business club) and Spilsby (Sessions House).

Sutton on Sea Colonnade consultation event

The community in Sutton on Sea were invited to a drop in event on February 12th, hosted by the Bacchus Hotel, where plans for a major redevelopment of Sutton on Sea colonnade were unveiled.

The event, organised by ELDC in partnership with Community Lincs, followed on from the two consultation sessions that took place in 2019. Residents, businesses and local groups were able to view the plans and see how the community helped shape the vision for the future of the Colonnade.

The feedback session was facilitated by Community Lincs, with both our Officers and architects from CPMG also on hand to talk through the plans and how the updated Colonnade will enhance the surrounding area, including the Pleasure Gardens and the nearby paddling pool.

Connected Coast Board

In September 2019 it was announced that two of our towns, Mablethorpe and Skegness, would have the opportunity to bid for up to £25m each as part of the Government's Towns Fund. This is a hugely exciting opportunity and presents us with the chance to secure funding and bring about transformative change for the coast and the district as a whole. We have now established a joint Towns Fund Board, called Connected Coast. The Board comprises a mix of partners from the public and private sector and will be responsible for pulling together a Town Investment Plan. The Plan will be our proposition to government outlining how the funding will be used to deliver economic growth and regeneration. The Connected Coast Board are currently working to identify and develop a number of exciting projects that will form the basis of the Investment Plan. To support the Board we have also formed two place reference groups, one for Mablethorpe and one for Skegness. These groups will provide valuable local knowledge and experience to the Board as the Investment Plan is developed.

The timescales for the Towns Fund are very short and it's crucial that we're able to turn things around quickly. In order to help us do this, we have capacity funding from the government. We'll be using this funding to bring expertise around project management, master planning, consultation and communications. An evidence pack containing a summary of the following information has been developed:

- A high level assessment of all relevant activities currently in train or planned for both town areas which are relevant to the Towns Fund Agenda
- A review of all extant planning permissions with an employment focus for both areas
- A literature review of all the relevant policies and plans likely to impact on the development of the Town Investment Plans with both a local and a regional/national focus
- An updating of the statistical evidence base (socio-economic profile) of the area to ensure this reflects feedback on the first evidence base provided

A temporary web page has been established with details of the Connected Coast Board on ELDC's site: <https://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/TownsFund> - minutes of previous meetings and presentations are available here too. The next Connected Coast Board meeting takes place on 6th March.

Culture Strategy funding update

ELDC is entering a new and exciting phase and has secured funding to oversee the commissioning and delivery of the first distinctive place – based Cultural Strategy for East Lindsey.

ELDC is dedicated to bringing together people from across a broad range of cultural activities to create the right climate in which creative energies can thrive. By joining existing ideas together we find different solutions to how culture can drive economic growth through tourism, innovation in business and creative solutions to wellbeing whilst attracting, engaging and inspiring people, talent and children.

ELDC has high ambitions for the District. We aim to champion a breadth of cultural opportunities by celebrating the unique qualities of place and fostering opportunities for creativity. The new Cultural Strategy will improve the resilience and develop the ambition of East Lindsey arts and culture sector by creating new connections to other sectors and themes that define the Districts future. For the first time, a transformational collaboration between the stakeholders will support these artistic and cultural ambitions, ensuring they are integrated within the Districts broader strategic planning (such as the 2020 Corporate Plan). Cultural advocacy will be jointly owned and shared by the sector. Key stakeholders will maximise artistic and cultural impacts whilst supporting, championing and adding benefit to East Lindsey's Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation, its cultural partner Magna Vitae and other cultural organisations. East Lindsey and its stakeholders are ambitious to attract and retain creative talent, leading to a rich and growing creative ecosystem that embeds arts and culture in all aspects of life, benefits the communities, residents and businesses and is resolutely international and diverse in outlook.

Climate Change and Environment Manager

The Council have already made a commitment to reduce carbon emissions and are also looking for a Climate Change and Environment Manager to successfully develop and deliver the Council's new carbon reduction strategy. The post holder will be responsible for the development, delivery and general management of environmental projects with a focus on Climate Change as well as wider environmental themes.

British Parking Awards

ELDC's notice processing partner, Nottinghamshire County Council, have been nominated for an award in the Parking Partnership category at the forthcoming British Parking Awards which are due to be held on 6th March 2020.

ELDC has been in a partnership arrangement with Nottinghamshire County Council to process all of its off street parking contraventions since 2014. Throughout the duration of the contract, colleagues from Nottinghamshire County Council have performed in an exemplary manner at all times and have provided a first class notice processing service for this council.

Staff from the notice processing team have proved to be exceptionally knowledgeable in all parking related matters and have provided a customer focused and fully time bound service to this council. Using Nottinghamshire County Council's notice processing team has proved to be an extremely cost effective option for this council, as well as providing a level of service resilience in what have been very challenging times for local government.

Public Health funding secured to support us to enable prosperous, resilient communities

We are delighted to announce that ELDC have been selected as just one of six localities nationally to pilot the Royal Society of Public Health's new Community Spirit framework. Strengthening community spirit is particularly important for the health and wellbeing of economically deprived communities and this project aims to better understand the barriers to, and factors which support, strong, healthy and prosperous communities.

We have been successful in this unique opportunity thanks to our innovative collaboration with local health partners, and we are pleased that this work has been recognised by a national organisation who have invited us to help influence and develop policy on social inequality. Officers will be attending a briefing in Birmingham in the coming weeks before holding a community event in the spring to explore how communities can help people grow, live, work and age well.