EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE

1. Decision to be taken:

To fund Citizens Advice Lindsey to deliver 'Financial First Aid' COVID recovery project from September 2021 until April 2023.

Working in partnership with ELDC to:

- Maximise household income
- Increase economic resilience
- Encourage financial capability
- Tackle disadvantage
- Promote independence and wellbeing
- 2. This is a:

PORTFOLIO HOLDER SUPPORTED OFFICER DECISION

Note: This form should not be used for Key Decisions

3. The following is the decision making body or person:

OFFICER Michelle Howard after consultation with Cllr Graham Marsh

- 4. Financial implications from this decision have been communicated to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Leader? Yes. This recovery project is part of Strategic Alliance COVID 19 Recovery Plan approved by <u>ELDC Executive Board on 31/03/21</u> and it's implementation authorised.
- 5. The decision was taken on: 18.06.21

Note: - the above date to be completed by Democratic Services upon publication

6. Contact Officer and details :

Michelle Howard, Assistant Director (Housing and Wellbeing) <u>michelle.howard@e-lindsey.gov.uk</u>

Roxanne Warrick, Prosperous Communities Lead roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk

7. List of documents submitted for consideration in relation to the matter in respect of which the decision is to be made:

Strategic Alliance COVID 19 Recovery Plan:



The Plan set out a range of practical measures calculated to help the people and businesses of Boston and East Lindsey bounce back from the harm that had been

caused to the areas' economies and civil society by the "lockdowns" imposed on local businesses and communities to contain COVID 19.

East Lindsey District Council and Citizens Advice Lindsey Financial First Aid / Recovery Project:



The project will support East Lindsey residents to navigate their financial recovery as Government support schemes come to an end in September 2021. This is a preventative approach, to help residents to access advice before financial stress escalates to unmanageable debt and poor health.

- 8. Where the documents are held and where they can be obtained from (except exempt items) when they become available: contact <u>roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk</u>
- 9. The reason for the decision and other alternative options considered and rejected:

As part of its strategic recovery plan, East Lindsey District Council has identified the need for practical support to help people recover from the social and economic impact of the COVID pandemic. Collaborating with Citizens Advice Lindsey is an opportunity to deliver support based on evidence of need and local demand for advice, to help East Lindsey residents strengthen their economic resilience and wellbeing.

East Lindsey District Council has established relationship with Citizens Advice Lindsey who offer free, independent, impartial and confidential advice. A partnership project will create capacity in their service to meet increase in local needs and support <u>ELDC</u> <u>strategic prioritiy</u> to improve quality of opportunity across the district and in targeted areas.

Citizens Advice Lindsey is a registered charity (Charity number 1099145) and a company limited by guarantee (Company number 4740511) and holds the required accreditation to deliver this project:

- <u>Advice Quality Standard</u> meeting the requirements of the Advice Service Alliance Standard for advice and casework in welfare benefits and debt
- <u>Money and Pension Service</u> accreditation
- Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN: 617595. Only <u>FCA regulated</u> debt advisers can support clients with '<u>Breathing Space</u>; The Debt Respite Scheme (Breathing Space Moratorium and Mental Health Crisis Moratorium) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 introduced in May 2021.
- 10. Declaration of any conflicts of interest of the decision making body or the individual: None
- 11. Provide a note of any subsequent dispensations granted by the Head of Paid service: N/A
- 12. Financial Implications of this Decision:

Project to run initially from Sept 2021 to March 2022 to determine take up and need. To reviewed at a three and six month intervals to determine 2022/3 delivery.

Decision Notice Form (ExD2)

Total project costs for 19 months (September 2021 – April 2023) £43,268 from ELDC deprivation budget.

N.B. Please enter names below, signatures will be retained as a hard copy and will not be published therefore should be provided on page 3 of this form:

13. This decision has been signed off by:

Head of Paid Service/S151 Officer or person presiding (insert name – <u>signatures should be provided overleaf on page 3)</u>

Robert Barlow, Joint Chief Executive

Officer

Michelle Howard, Assistant Director (Housing & Wellbeing)

Portfolio Holder

Cllr Graham Marsh, Portfolio Holder for Partnerships