

**EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE**

1. Decision to be taken:

**To extend 'Financial First Aid' project delivered by Citizens Advice Lindsey for a further 2 years until April 2025.**

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 **Emily Spicer** after consultation with **Cllr Fry and Cllr Devereux** on behalf of ELDC Executive Board

4. Financial implications from this decision have been communicated to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Leader? Yes.

Extension of this project is part ELDC's commitment to support residents with significant increases in cost of living and has been authorised by both Portfolio Holder for Finance and Portfolio Holder for Partnerships.

5. The decision was taken on:

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

6. Contact Officer and details:

**Emily Spicer, Assistant Director, Wellbeing & Community Leadership**

**Roxanne Warrick, Healthy Living Strategic Lead**  
[roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto: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:

**Citizens Advice Lincoln and Lindsey 'Financial First Aid' Project Year 3 / 4:**



ELDC CAL Budget Yr  
3 & Yr4 Financial Firs

**'Financial First Aid' / COVID Recovery Project:**



ELDC CAL Financial  
First Aid Recovery prc

## Decision Notice Form ( ExD2)

The project initially supported East Lindsey residents to navigate their financial recovery following COVID pandemic. This is a preventative approach, to help residents to access advice before financial stress escalates to unmanageable debt and poor health.

'Financial First Aid' has provided additional capacity for the service to manage increase in demand. This project is being extended for a further 2 years due to ongoing costs of living pressures on households seeking to maximise income and reduce spending.

8. Where the documents are held and where they can be obtained from (except exempt items) when they become available: contact [roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:roxanne.warrick@e-lindsey.gov.uk)

9. The reason for the decision and other alternative options considered and rejected:

As part of its strategic recovery plan, East Lindsey District Council identified the need for practical support to help people recover from the social and economic impact of the pandemic. 'Financial First Aid' was initially established as part of the Council's COVID recovery, but ongoing cost of living pressures mean more residents are needing advice on benefit entitlements, how to manage household budgets, access affordable credit or address unmanageable debt.

Aims of Financial First Aid partnership project:

- Maximise household income
- Increase economic resilience
- Encourage financial capability
- Tackle disadvantage
- Promote independence and wellbeing

East Lindsey District Council has established relationship with Citizens Advice Lindsey who offer free, independent, impartial and confidential advice. This partnership project creates capacity in their service to meet increase in local needs. It supports [ELDC strategic priority](#) to improve quality of opportunity across the district and the new Lincolnshire District Led Health and Wellbeing Strategy objective '*Economic inclusion: Reducing economic inequality and alleviating poverty as a fundamental driver for improving mental and physical health and wellbeing*'.

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:

- [Advice Quality Standard](#) - meeting the requirements of the Advice Service Alliance Standard for advice and casework in welfare benefits and debt
- [Money and Pension Service](#) accreditation
- Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority - FRN: 617595. Only [FCA regulated](#) debt advisers can support clients with '[Breathing Space](#)'; 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 2023 and will be **extended for a further 2 years until March 2025.**

Total project costs for further 24 months (April 2023 – March 2025) **£54,791.00** from ELDC cost of living support budget.

This budget was made available by Portfolio Holder for Finance at the Council Budget setting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023: <https://democracy.e-lindsey.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=33428>

Item 70: *Portfolio Holder for Finance proposed that the following sums were made available for use in the following areas with immediate effect: £1m to provide targeted cost of Living Support for residents, including, but not limited to the following initiatives:*

- *Extending the Council's partnership with Citizens Advice Lindsey so more residents could access 'financial first aid'*

**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 – signatures should be provided overleaf on page 3)**

Robert Barlow, Joint Chief Executive

**Officer**

Emily Spicer, Assistant Director, Wellbeing & Community Leadership

**Portfolio Holder**

Cllr Sarah Devereux, Portfolio Holder for Partnerships