

Scrutiny Topic Suggestion Form

Please complete the sections below if you wish to suggest a topic for scrutiny or policy development. If you require assistance whilst completing this form, please contact the Scrutiny Officer on:

Telephone: 01507 613410 / 07766 421653

Email: rebecca.james@e-lindsey.gov.uk

Suggested topics must meet one or both of the following criteria:

- A High level/strategic topics that impact on how services are delivered and/or how the council works**
 - B Issues that have a significant impact on the East Lindsey community**
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1. Topic title

Broad band and phone connectivity in ELDC area

2. Which of the above criteria does your topic suggestion meet – A or B (please highlight one or both) - and explain how.

B

3. Reasons why the subject should be reviewed. If applicable, please state whether this topic is:

- (a) post-decision scrutiny; **The decision is by LCC (I understand)**
- (b) pre-decision scrutiny; or
- (c) policy development

4. What is the relationship to the corporate priorities as identified in the Corporate Plan?

I can't say, however a better broadband and phone service should be the basic priority for all- We live in the 21st century and 3rd world countries have better connectivity than the rural areas of England. I find it appalling that in a stretch from Wragby to Horncastle, I need 3 different cell phone providers to be able to have connectivity throughout. Only people who can afford Starlink have any hope to have a solid connectivity, which is unacceptable, as the 'internet' is not a rad concept, it's a basic requirement for anyone to get anything done- from your groceries to calling from help we need data.

Portfolio Responsibility if known: Cllr Marsh

5. Evidence (What evidence is there to support the need for scrutiny? What are the facts?)

The fact that our area has relative lower connectivity than the national average and the fact post Covid, people work from home more than they ever did before, should be enough to convince anyone this is a topic worth looking at. <https://rsnonline.org.uk/nfu-survey-results->

Desired Outcomes (What would be achieved for the council or district by undertaking this topic?)

We as a council are injecting money into our coastal towns to increase tourism, but with tourism comes the responsibility to enhance the experience of all, not just visitors, but the one's who live here. We may see more than just caravans if we have a better connectivity to the rest of the world- business outings, corporate retreats, and the like.

<https://rsnonline.org.uk/nfu-survey-results-show-rural-areas-still-significantly-behind-national-averages-for-broadband-and-mobile-connectivity>

Topic proposed by: Ruchira Yarsley

Date: June 28th

Office use only

- Overview Meeting:
- Accept/ Reject:

Please note, if you wish to see more details about how Overview Committee assesses scrutiny topics, please ask the Scrutiny Officer for a copy of the Scrutiny & Policy Panel Operational Guidelines.