

MHCLG Pilot Fund

ELDC has been chosen to be part of the MHCLG Pilot Fund - Healthy Homes Project. The Council has been selected to be part of the Treatment Group and is receiving £130k to provide training, resources, equipment, enforcement activity and KPI data that will be measured against the other Treatment and Control Groups across the country. After months of planning the pilot is under way and we are starting to receive our first referrals as the weather starts to get colder. The Housing Standards Team is working with the Good Homes Alliance to incorporate the pilot work, so as to compliment that which is already being delivered by their case officers.

Staff Development

Organisational Development has been working closely with our Assistant Directors to develop a Managers Development Programme (IMPACT – Leading with Influence) under the umbrella of the S&ELCP Academy. It is a 12 month programme aimed at Group Managers, Service Managers and Senior Team Leaders designed to provide the fundamental skills required for a leader to effectively work in local government, enabling those leaders to be equipped with transferable skills. We will be running it as a pilot and so the delegates will also play a key role in helping to shape a programme for future managers also.

After interview, thirteen colleagues from across the Partnership have been accepted on to the pilot programme, and their Induction will take place in early December. The interviews demonstrated the level of passion and talent that we have across our workforce and we wish them well on the programme.

East Lindsey Community Ambassador Awards

On 7th November East Lindsey District Council held its first recognition award event, with over 300 nominations for individuals in the district who go above and beyond in their community. The judges had the difficult task of selecting the winners – who were:-

- Summer Willets has been fundraising since the age of 8, raising over £42,000 for charities in Skegness. She is an inspiration to many and loves to make people smile.
- Sam Brown is known for his determination to raise money for various charities. He has raised thousands of pounds, including over £26,000 for the Notts and Lincs Air Ambulance by driving his vintage tractor 375 miles in six days during the Tour de Lincolnshire.
- Bundles of Joy supports local families with everything a baby needs from birth to early years. They provide a listening ear, signposting services, and distribute the Household Support Fund to local families.
- Derek Ashton is passionate about helping the Horncastle community. His voluntary contributions over the years, often done with great humility, have made a significant impact.

The event was held at the Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa a fantastic evening allowing us to celebrate the dedication and hard work that truly makes East Lindsey a wonderful place to live, work and visit.

Event sponsors – South & East Lincolnshire Community Lottery, Magna Vitae, MKM, Micronclean. Plus local florists Bud & Bloom, Seacroft flowers, Tillow & Co, Horncastle Florist, Willow House, Scentiments Floral Designs, the Flowers Shop and Flower by Maxine

Social Isolation Grant

Building on the success of our Social Isolation funding from 23/24 which supported 34 community groups an additional £60,000 has been allocated to the Social Isolation Fund. This funds supports groups who are addressing social isolation challenges across East Lindsey. So far in 2024 over 12 groups have accessed the funding. Applications are now open, contact Nichola Holderness, Community Leadership Manager for further information or www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/socialisolationgrant

Household Support Fund

In September, the Government confirmed that the Household Support Fund (HSF) would be extended for a further 6 months. As with previous schemes, the fund has been made available to County Councils to support vulnerable households most in need with the cost of essentials. Lincolnshire has an overall allocation of £5.5 million for the benefit of residents most in need of support.

As with previous rounds, a proportion of the funding has been allocated to schools and early years providers to distribute 'cost of living support' to children eligible for free school meals. This will help an estimated 35,000 low-income families in Lincolnshire.

The remainder has been allocated to District Councils for local schemes that meet the specific needs of our communities. I am pleased to confirm that East Lindsey has been allocated a provisional £445,000 to directly help households this winter.

Under Cllr Devereux's Portfolio Holder guidance and based on discussions at the last Council meeting around the changes to winter fuel payment eligibility and concerns that some households will be at increased risk of cold homes, Age UK Lindsey will be supporting deliver of the local scheme.

As before, we will be working with Lincolnshire Community Foundation to deliver an application scheme and low-income households will be able to apply for crisis support from January.

Scrutiny Review

Following on from the Scrutiny Review of Invest East Lindsey presented by Cllr Simpson to the last Full Council on the 9th October, I am now pleased to say that the Exec Board has agreed the recommendations with an action plan of implementation dates. I will forward a summary of the responses after this meeting to Cllr Simpson and once again I thank him and other members of the Scrutiny Panel for their work and input on this.

East Lindsey Investment Fund

By the end of the year, the East Lindsey Investment Fund has made significant strides with the approval of the £10m Investment Plan by the Executive Board. The plan focuses on four key areas: Pride in Place, Tourism and Events, Community Development, and Business Growth and Development. With a clear allocation of funds and a robust governance structure, the initiative is set to deliver tangible impacts over the next two years. A programme manager will soon be in place to ensure efficient delivery, and the fund will support a variety of projects, with funding opportunities open to the community, town and parish councils, and businesses across East Lindsey from the New Year. The fund supports a variety of projects, from enhancing digital literacy and community hubs to boosting tourism and business growth. This progress marks a promising step towards revitalising the region and fostering sustainable development, building on over £100m of investment already benefiting East Lindsey.