

## **East Lindsey District Council – Audit & Governance – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Exemptions Register**

In the 6-month period from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025, there have been 10 exemptions signed off. This is lower than the previous 6-month period, where there were 20 exemptions.

Please see below brief details on each of the exemptions:

**NPO Funded – Illuminate Parade and associated workshops for a 2-year period (£60,000)** – This is regarding a commission to engage Transported Arts to develop an illuminate parade during Boston's Christmas celebrations.

ELDC have been successful in receiving National Portfolio Organisation status from Arts Council England (ACE), having received c£2,000,000 over a 3-year period from 2023-2026. The funding that ELDC have received is on behalf of Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council too, with ELDC facilitating the spend of the grant-funded money.

**Subscription for 2024/25 with Destination Lincolnshire to provide core activities supporting the Visitor Economy (£12,300)** – An exemption was sought and signed off on the basis that Destination Lincolnshire are the only organisation that represents the tourism and visitor economy sector in Lincolnshire in an active promotional way.

**Fitting out of Campus for Future Living (£1,507,000)** – Lindum Group carried out the main build contract, from which the fit-out was removed due to uncertainty of an operator at the time of practical completion of the shell. An operator was then identified soon after practical completion. With this in mind, Lindum were then best-placed to undertake the fit-out works as they were supposed to initially.

**Fleet Telematics Equipment and Service (£75,554.48)** – An exemption was sought and signed off on the basis of a unique product/service offering. The purchase of this telematic-equipment, along with the associated monthly service/software fees, offers ELDC an opportunity to recoup fuel-cost savings through the course of the contract. There is a targeted 10% reduction in fuel consumption – should this target be met, there will be savings from Year 1 that cover the cost of the equipment and fees, as well as offering significant fuel cost savings beyond this.

**Pension Credit Campaign – Winter Fuel Payments to Vulnerable Households (£17,000)** – A commission to deliver a Pension Credit campaign across ELDC due to changes in Winter Fuel Allowance Eligibility and local need to increase Pension Credit claimants. This exemption was sought and signed off due to urgency as it was a time sensitive campaign.

**Specialist financial advice (RSG and NNDR modelling) (£20,000)** – Specialist advice regarding National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) and Rate Support Grant (RSG) funding linked to the Internal Drainage Boards.

**NPO Funded – Production and Delivery of Ayscoughfee Hall Light Night (March 2025) (£50,000)** – This is regarding a commission to engage Heroine City to produce and deliver a light night at Ayscoughfee Hall (South Holland District Council).

**Consultancy for Horncastle Hub Solar PV (£60,000)** – This consultant was previously procured for previous stages through a compliant framework. This framework no longer exists but it makes sense to stay with this consultant due to their knowledge and prior work on the project. Their services are relating to planning application and delivery phases of this project. The supplier has frozen the fee in line with the previous framework rates.

**Election Printing for May 2025 Elections (£39,458.11)** – A re-tender procurement exercise was undertaken and failed due to suppliers being unclear on financials on a number of the responses. The selected supplier was the previous supplier being successful in a procurement process and their bid on this occasion was comparable with others, proving value for money.