

Local Government Reorganisation

As you'll be aware the Partnership submitted its LGR proposal – A Greater Lincolnshire For All – at the end of November. Since that time we've continued to engage with a range of Partners, including MPs. In February, we expect the Government will launch a 7-week statutory consultation in the 21 areas going through the Reorganisation process. We look forward to engaging in that consultation to ensure all the strategic partners being invited to respond understand our proposals and the opportunity they present to the region.

Early Careers Programme

- New programme, launched in November. Designed for officers 25 and under to support with the transition into full-time work and working in local government. This will be delivered via 5 face-to-face sessions over 18 months, bringing officers from across the SELCP to support delivery. Each session is based around an organisation value. The first session in November was “We Trust”, the next session in February is “We Work Together”. 14 officers are currently enrolled across the SELCP.

Future Leaders Programme

- This established programme is currently on its 6th cohort who are nearing the end of their first year on the programme. Their recent sessions have included the SELCP Challenge in January, where officers became the Senior Leadership Team of a fictional Council for the day and had to manage its affairs amongst a variety of competing demands on their time.
- We are currently open to applications for the 7th intake of the programme. Successful applications will be inducted in March 2026.
- There are 52 Future Leaders since October 2021 (launch of the SELCP), of which 54% are now in management roles – this figure is 71% when we consider all cohorts since 2019.

Homelessness Pods in Skegness Now Operational

I'm pleased to report that the new homelessness pods (four) in Skegness are now in use. These units provide safe, temporary accommodation for individuals experiencing homelessness, offering warmth, security, and access to support services. This initiative is part of our wider commitment to tackling homelessness and ensuring vulnerable residents have a pathway to more stable housing. Early feedback from partners and service users has been positive, and we will continue to monitor and review the impact of this provision.

A National Plan to End Homelessness

On 11th December the cross government Strategy on Homelessness and Rough Sleeping - A National Plan to End Homelessness was published. The strategy sets out how the Government will drive long-term sustainable change to address the root causes of homelessness – how they will build more homes, ensure homes go to people who need them, reform renters rights, and tackle poverty.

Homelessness, Rough Sleeping and Domestic Abuse Grant Funding confirmed until 2029

On 17 December, the Government announced provisional funding allocations for Councils.

Several grants have been combined into one payment, including:

- Homelessness Prevention
- Rough Sleeping
- Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme
- Domestic Abuse

The Council has been provisionally allocated £3.48m for 2026–2029, with final confirmation expected soon.

Previously, the Homelessness Prevention Grant could be used for provision and management of temporary accommodation, but from April this will no longer be allowed. Instead, an allocation of £427k for 2026/27 will be included in the Revenue Support Grant.

Overall, for 26/27 this is an increase of about £227k.

Local Authority Housing Fund

I am pleased to report that 3 properties from LAHF3 have now been occupied, and the remaining property has been matched to a family, awaiting their arrival. To date 15 properties have been purchased consisting of resettlement homes and temporary accommodation for homeless households

The Council has submitted an expression of interest for a further round. Funding has initially been prioritised to areas with the highest usage of unsuitable temporary accommodation which does not include East Lindsey. Councils who have not been received an initial allocation will be considered for any unclaimed funds. If successful, this would provide a further 3 properties.

UKSPF

East Lindsey District's UK Shared Prosperity and Rural England Prosperity Fund Programme continues to deliver at pace. The Fund is fully committed and two-thirds distributed. The Fund will conclude this year. Since UKSPF was launched in March 2023, £8m has been provided to East Lindsey District Council. The Council chose to distribute nearly all of the money through grant schemes designed to encourage businesses and communities to co-invest with us. Through co-investment, we have attracted significant additional funding for projects - that £8m has grown to a massive £14m in direct cash investment made over the last three years. Our sub-regional business support offer, Grants4Growth and Advice4Growth, has powered much of this, supporting the creation of local jobs and economic growth. In 2025-6, G4G has awarded over £600,000 in grants to 68 businesses in East Lindsey. These have unlocked £1.1m in further private sector investment, leading to a projected total cash investment in East Lindsey's businesses of over £1.7m, made in a single year. This year will also see the Fund deliver, in partnership with East Mercia Rivers Trust, a new nature reserve in Horncastle and a new community garden in Mablethorpe. It has secured the long-term future of the Sir Joseph Banks Centre and a refurbishment of the Louth Riverhead Theatre too.

As part of our commitment to support every corner of our District, UKSPF has again provided funding for the popular Lincolnshire Community Foundation-administered GRASSroots Scheme, which awards grants below £25,000 for community facilities and projects. However, in 2025-6, we went further and separately contributed £1m of the Council's own funds to LCF GRASSroots through our East Lindsey Investment Fund ('ELIF LCF GRASSroots'). Together, the two Programmes have generated a cash investment of over £1.9m for 62 community facilities across East Lindsey. These include new indoor facilities at Jubilee Park, Woodhall Spa, support for a new library building in Burgh le Marsh and renovations to the Wragby Youth Centre.* Most of these projects are concluding in the first half of this year and it is our hope that residents will be pleased with the scale and pace of the transformation happening, supported through grant funding.

DCN

The District Council's Network has supported the Special Interest Group for Internal Drainage Board levies in raising the need for more Government funding to support Councils that pay IDB Special Levies. At present the Government is providing £5m of support to Councils most impacted, the pressure they face since 22/23 is over £12m.

The DCN, working with the SIG, issued a press release highlighting cuts to river maintenance and the impact this will have on councils and Internal Drainage Boards, resulting in higher levies.

The release included a quote from Cllr Paul Redgate, chairman of the Special Interest Group which highlighted the impact this would have on already stretched budgets and the affordability of services, while again, urging the Government for funding reform.

The news article was picked up by the national and regional press and we thank the DCN for their ongoing support in highlighting this significant issue affecting councils in IDB areas.

Update from Councillor Gray, Portfolio Holder for Communities and Better Ageing - Campus for Future Living, Mablethorpe

Introduction

The Campus for Future Living (CFL) is a flagship project under the Mablethorpe Town Deal, designed to transform health, wellbeing, research and community services along the Lincolnshire coast.

This briefing outlines the background and provides an update on partnerships and delivery 6 months since the launch which will be expanded on with a verbal update from Cllr William Gray, Portfolio Holder for Housing, Communities & Ageing Well and political sponsor for this project.

Background

In 2019, the UK Government invited 101 towns to develop proposals for a Town Deal under the £3.6 billion national Towns Funding. East Lindsey District Council secured two Town Deals for Skegness and Mablethorpe, each worth up to £20 million. The Campus for Future Living is one of six projects initially developed in the Mablethorpe Town Investment Plan, supporting three strategic aims:

- A Healthy Community
- An Enterprising Community
- A Balanced Community

The business case for project secured £8.6 million Towns Fund investment. Acis Group has been appointed as the operator under a lease agreement with East Lindsey District Council. The CFL become operational from April 2025, with an official opening event held in June 2025.

Key Achievements

- Established partnership with Lincoln Institute of Rural & Coastal Health. Researchers now based on site to develop studies to better understand coastal health inequalities
- On-site health services responding to local need from bringing services closer to the community including podiatry, physiotherapy & counselling

Leader Report January 2026

- Wellbeing Hub providing a range of activities reducing social isolation and supporting health and wellbeing
- Education and Training delivered by CLIP includes a range of adult learning, wellbeing and employability skills
- NHS estates 'Commercial property standard enquiries' governance undertaken to expand provision of NHS services delivered on-site
- Lincolnshire Action Trust supporting people in the criminal justice system, their families, and communities through rehabilitation services
- Newly established community-led wellbeing garden providing the opportunity to meet new people and gain new skills through horticulture workshops and peer learning

Membership and Partnerships

The Campus for future Living is based on a membership and partnership model that enables use of the facilities either as tenant or site user for outreach purposes. A summary of site users as of January 2026

Acis Group (AGL)
Active Lincolnshire
Bro Pro Uk
Carers First
Cheryl Robinson Counselling & Psychotherapy
Childrens Links
Citizens Advice
Community & Learning in Partnership (CLIP)
Coastal Crafts
DWP
East Lindsey District Council (ELDC)
First Coast Primary Care Network (NHS)
HS Health (physiotherapy)
Lincoln Action Trust
Lincoln Institute for Rural and Coastal Health (LIRCH)
Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Services (LCVS)
Lincolnshire County Council – 'Future for me' service
Lincolnshire Training Hub
Lincs Digital
LIVES
Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust (LPFT) NHS Mental Health Services
One You Lincolnshire
Potter's podiatry
Riverside Training
Salvation Army
Skills Centre Plus
SoundLincs

“The Campus for Future Living continues to develop as a sustainable, place-based model that brings partners together, supports neighbourhood working and contributes to improved health, wellbeing and resilience across the community”

Further Information is available at:

Campus for Future Living: www.campusforfutureliving.co.uk

Connected Coast: www.connectedcoast.co.uk