

Public Document Pack

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

22 March 2021

Chairman: Councillor Robert Waltham
MBE

Venue: Virtual Meeting
Microsoft Teams

Time: 10.30 am

E-Mail Address:
richard.mell@northlincs.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Personal or Personal and Prejudicial interests.
2. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 1 February 2021 (Pages 1 - 10)
3. Covid19 Epidemiology Verbal Update by Director of Public Health
4. Covid 19 Mid Term Recovery Update - Report of the Director: Governance and Partnerships (Pages 11 - 22)
5. Scunthorpe Town Deal - Heads of Terms - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director : Commercial (Pages 23 - 26)
6. A Green Future : Our Plan for Positive Change - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director : Commercial (Pages 27 - 32)
7. Any other items which the Chair decides are urgent by reason of special circumstances which must be specified

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

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1 February 2021

PRESENT: - Councillor Waltham MBE in the Chair.

Councillors Hannigan (vice-chair), J Davison, Marper, Ogg, Poole, Reed, Rose and C Sherwood.

Councillors Ali, Armitage, Bainbridge, Briggs, A Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Gosling, Kirk, Rayner, Southern, Swift, Wilson and Yeadon also attended the meeting.

Denise Hyde, Simon Green, Mick Gibbs, Becky McIntyre, Helen Manderson, Karen Pavey, Stephen Pintus, Peter Thorpe, Will Bell, Adam Lovell, Moira Wilson, Richard Mell and Dean Gillon attended the meeting.

The meeting was a remote/virtual meeting through Microsoft Teams.

- 1398 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS** – There were no declarations of interest declared.
- 1399 **MINUTES - Resolved** - That the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 7 December 2021 having been circulated amongst the members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the chair.
- 1400 **2020/2021 QUARTER 3 FINANCIAL MONITORING AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN – UPDATE** - The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report, which provided the Cabinet with an update on the Council’s in-year financial position, considered an updated estimate of the specific impact that Covid-19 was having on the Council’s financial plans and set out the Council’s updated medium term financial planning position.

The Director in her report explained that the medium term financial plan represented an amalgamation of financial and non-financial assumptions which formed the basis of how much resource the Council expected to have available to invest in its priorities and to ensure it continued to meet local need effectively. Cabinet had received several reports throughout the year which had provided updates in respect of Covid-19, both financial and non-financial. Specifically: the action it had taken to date to keep its residents safe and well, the financial impact together with the additional and Covid-19 specific funding provided by the Government, and a framework setting out the Council recovery and renewal plan set in the context of the Government’s recovery strategy. This report updated Cabinet on the latest financial situation, both in year and in future years.

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The pandemic had provided a highly uncertain environment for the Council to operate within. This applied on the ground, in terms of requiring a fluid response to ensure our residents were fully supported and our communities sufficiently led through the emergency. It also applied to financial forecasts and interventions by Government, which had been based on best information at a point in time. The Council would continue to take whatever action necessary to ensure it continued to meet the needs of its residents and businesses at a very challenging time and lead the area through the pandemic. This included redistributing resource, as necessary.

The Director stated that the purpose of this report was to take stock of the in-year financial position, which was based on the position prior to the most recent announcements regarding national lockdown. It also sought to provide an update on the financial planning process. A summary explanation with supporting appendices were provided for the following –

- Revenue 2020/2021;
- Capital 2020/21;
- Reserves;
- Budget Adjustments;
- Treasury Management, and
- Medium Term Financial Plan.

Resolved – (a) That the revenue and capital budget monitoring position for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted; (b) that the medium term financial plan update in Appendix 2 be noted; (c) that the revenue budget adjustments approved under delegated powers and the revised budget position for 2020/21, summarised at Appendix 3 be noted; (d) that the revised capital investment programme 2020/23, set out at Appendix 4 be approved; (e) that the progress against the approved Treasury Management Strategy in Appendix 5 be noted, and (f) that the Director and her finance team be thanked for their continuing hard work.

- 1401 **COVID-19: UPDATE AGAINST THE MID-TERM RECOVERY PLAN** – The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report updating Cabinet on the Council’s progress responding to COVID-19 as set out in the mid-term recovery plan, and presented an overview of the most recent legislative requirements that had been introduced and guided the local response.

The report explained that the local response to COVID-19 was set within a range of legislative regulations that had been introduced. The two key ones being the Coronavirus Act 2020 and Health Protection (England) Regulations 2020. Government guidance and new regulations continue to be issued, with a summary of the most recent key requirements set out in appendix 1 to the report

The changing nature of COVID restrictions required a flexible approach to switching between response and recovery and adapting as the situation changed. Currently national restrictions were in force and this along with the local position and intelligence was shaping current activities.

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The report highlighted the council's priorities for mid-term recovery and Appendix 2 to the report provided a summary of progress against the next step actions under each priority set out in the mid-term recovery plan, along with any new areas of focus arising out of the changing environment.

Whilst the actions set out for December 2020 to March 2021 were ongoing and remained broadly the same the environment both nationally and locally continued to change. The Director therefore explained the focus of the council during February and March 2021, and also set out its strategic ambitions which would continue to meet the needs of residents as the organisation remained resilient, sustainable and recovered from the impact of the Covid19 pandemic.

The report stated that there were opportunities that supported renewal through national schemes for re-build and economic bounce back where capital investment could stimulate growth and local prosperity, however the local capacity to delivery would need to be re-assessed against the priorities of the council and to ensure critical services continued to protect the most vulnerable, who were more likely to be impacted on from the effects of the pandemic.

Resolved – (a) That the recent government guidance and requirements that underpin the Council's local response be noted; (b) that the progress update in respect of the mid-term recovery plan be noted and the continued delivery of the priority actions be supported, and (c) that all officers delivering the plan be thanked for their hard work.

1402 **COVID19 EPIDEMIOLOGY UDATE** – The Director of Public Health gave a presentation on the current position within North Lincolnshire. This included –

- **Headline status;**
- **Cases by specimen data as at 31 January 2021 and demography (national and local comparison);**
- **Daily lab-confirmed cases by specimen (locally and nationally);**
- **7-day case rate trend locally and nationally;**
- **Local testing rates and positivity with a comparison to neighbouring authorities;**
- **Latest R-number and growth rate, and**
- **Weekly death trends.**

The Director responded to several questions asked by members.

Resolved – That the Director be thanked for his very interesting presentation, and he and his staff be thanked for their continuing hard work during the pandemic.

COVID19 RESPONSE UPDATE REPORTS – Reports were submitted to Cabinet providing members with a detailed update on the current position in respect of the COVID-19 response from across council' services as set out below. The Council's approach to its business continuity response to the COVID-19 outbreak and actions taken to implement government guidance had been routed in the values, principles and ambitions of the council plan, the COVID-19 Mid-Term Recovery Plan and furthered

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through the strong partnerships within North Lincolnshire, framed under the following priorities:

- Keeping people safe and well
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Enabling communities to remain resilient
- Protecting the local economy

Whilst at the same time ensuring good governance and sound financial practice across the Council. National advice and guidance had been incorporated into the local response as it had become available. The most recent national restrictions were announced on 4 January 2021 and The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 3) and (All Tiers) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 came into force on 6 January 2021.

The following update reports were considered by the Cabinet -

- 1403 **(i) Covid19 Response Update: Operations** – Report submitted by the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director: Commercial.

Resolved - That the response to Covid19 as outlined in the report be noted.

- 1404 **(ii) Covid19 Response Update: Adults and Community Wellbeing** – Report submitted by the Director: Adults and Community Wellbeing.

Resolved – That the response to COVID19 as outlined in the report be noted.

- 1405 **(iii) Covid19 Response Update: Business Development** – Report of the Director: Business Development.

Resolved - That the response to Covid19 as outlined in the report be noted.

- 1406 **(iv) Covid19 Response Update: Children and Community Resilience** – Report of the Director: Community Resilience.

Resolved – That the response to COVID19 as outlined in the report be noted.

- 1407 **(v) Covid19 Response Update: Learning, Skills and Culture** – Report of the Director: Learning, Skills and Culture.

Resolved - That the response to Covid19 as outlined in the report be noted.

- 1408 **(vi) Covid19 Response Update: Governance and Partnerships** – Report of the Director: Governance and Partnerships.

Resolved – (a) That the response to COVID19 as outlined in the report be noted, and (b) that all officers and their teams across the council be thanked for their dedicated, hard work throughout the pandemic.

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1409 **ADULT SOCIAL CARE END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE 2019/2020** – The Director Adults and Community Wellbeing submitted a report seeking approval to publish the end of year performance outturn for the council’s Adult services. The Council continued to support people to remain safe and well and remained in the top ten in England for the number of Adult Social Care Outcomes measures in the top quartile.

The report explained that the National Adult Social Care Outcome Framework (ASCOF) comparator information for 2019/20 had been published, enabling North Lincolnshire Council to understand outcomes for local people and compare performance with other Councils in England, regionally and our comparator authorities. These measures helped the council to understand how it enabled the people of North Lincolnshire to be Safe, Well, Prosperous and Connected and how it was contributing to North Lincolnshire’s priorities of 2019/20, which were: Growing the economy; Keeping people safe and well, and Enabling communities to flourish.

The Director in her report outlined her services performance under the following headings used within the ‘National Adult Social Care User Survey’ –

- Feedback from people who receive support;
- Feedback from carers;
- People’s needs are clearly met;
- Choice and control;
- People who are able to live independently, and
- Employment.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted and the performance outturn for adults be published, and (b) that the Director and her team be thanked for continuing to deliver high quality services.

1410 **LOCAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD (LSAB) ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020** – The Director: Adults and Community Wellbeing submitted a report requesting Cabinet to note the publication of the Local Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2019/2020, outlining its work and the delivery of the objectives of the strategic plan. The contents of the report should be considered in relation to planning, commissioning and budget setting. The annual report demonstrated that the LSAB:

- listened and responded to the voices of adults with care and support needs, and adults with the lived experience;
- was effective in providing help and protection to adults with care and support needs;
- effectively met statutory obligations;
- benefitted from strong and consistent leadership, and
- had made good progress on delivering the strategic objectives laid out within the strategic plan

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The Annual Report had also been distributed through relevant governance routes across safeguarding partner organisations including the Local Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable, chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch.

The Independent Chair of the Board, Moira Wilson, introduced and summarised the annual report. The annual report was attached as an appendix to the Director's report. She explained that the LSAB has a statutory requirement to publish an annual report, which offered assurance that local safeguarding arrangements and partnerships helped and protected adults with care and support needs in its area. The annual report detailed the work of the LSAB during the year to achieve its main objectives, and deliver the strategic plan priorities, as well as detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) that may have been undertaken. Key achievements and future priorities were also summarised.

Members commented on the contents of the annual report and thanked everyone involved for their work.

Resolved – (a) That Moira Wilson be thanked for attending the meeting and summarising key aspects of the annual report, and (b) that the LSAB Annual Report for 2019/2020 be received and it be considered where relevant in relation to planning, commissioning and budget setting processes.

1411 **FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND** – The Director: Business Development submitted a report updating Cabinet on the recent announcement from Government on the Future High Street Fund on 26 December 2020 that North Lincolnshire Council had received a provisional funding offer of £10,675,323. The funding offer was subject to updating the proposal to reflect the funding envelope, a revenue grant of £5,000 had been accepted to enable the council to adapt its plan. The Council was working towards submitting its revised plan before 26 February 2021 and would have a confirmed offer from Government by the end of March 2021.

The proposal would deliver the following objectives and themes:

Objectives:

- Connectivity - to improve connectivity within the town centre and surrounding area;
- Housing - to support the development of housing in the town centre;
- Employment - to provide conditions to strengthen employment opportunities;
- Quarters - to create the conditions for prosperous quarters, and
- Quality - to improve the quality of life for those living, working, and visiting the town centre.

The proposals will deliver four themes for change:

- Stimulate development: Support and undertake key developments to instigate larger scale development by the private sector;
- Higher Value Employment: Support and encourage the creation of higher value employment;

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- Diversify the offer: Increase the offer of the town centre, including leisure, education, social and employment opportunities to draw more visitors, and
- Densify the Town Centre: Increase the number of people living and working in the town centre to support the local economy.

The delivery of this proposal, alongside Towns Fund and Local Growth Fund, was creating a series of showpiece projects that were succinct with our ambitious plans for North Lincolnshire that could draw visitors from further afield and begin the journey of diversifying our economic future.

Resolved – (a) That the funding allocation of £10.67m from Government be welcomed, and (b) that Cabinet receive a further update following confirmation of the revised funding offer in April 2020.

1412 **SCHOOLS FUNDING FORMULA 2021/2022** – The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report updating Cabinet on the 2021-22 funding allocations for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the amount available for Individual School Budgets. The report also sought approval to allocate funding to North Lincolnshire mainstream schools by the North Lincolnshire Local Funding Formula.

The report explained that the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) published an operational guide annually outlining the arrangements to help local authorities and their Schools Forum plan the local implementation, calculation and allocation of school funding formulas for the forthcoming financial year. On 17th December 2020 the ESFA published the 2021-22 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Allocations, based on October 2020 School Census data. The allocation for North Lincolnshire was £152.810m, an increase of £10.574m from last year. The element of DSG which was available for the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) for all mainstream schools was £121.080m, an increase of £8.410m from last year. The Operational guide sets out how ISB shares could be calculated and the report also outlined a number of factors that had to be taken into consideration for 2021/2022 (Appendix 1 of the report also refers).

The Director stated that in order to continue the introduction of the National Funding Formula (NFF) the DfE intended to consult on forward plans to move to a ‘hard’ NFF in the future so that resources were distributed based on the individual needs and characteristics of every school in the country.

North Lincolnshire Councils’ local formula now reflected the NFF for all factors except for the variation to use pupils travel distance to school measured by road or footpath, rather than ‘as the crow flies’ when applying the criteria for sparsity. The DfE continued to work on a more suitable formula to allocate sparsity funding.

Resolved – (a) The factors detailed in Appendix 1 of the report be used to calculate the individual schools budget shares for mainstream schools within North Lincolnshire for 2021-22, and (b) that the minimum funding guarantee be set at the

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maximum of 2% and that the schools block earmarked reserve be used to finance the shortfall of £183k.

- 1413 **DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE AND VISION** – The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report updating Cabinet on the council’s digital development and vision going forward.

The Director in her report explained that the Covid-19 pandemic had highlighted the importance of digital connectivity and capability. The council’s response occurred at a pace of change that required its workforce to operate in a wholly agile way, at scale, demonstrating flexibility and responsiveness, strengthening its collaborative approach and in doing so informing the next phase of its organisational development. New operating models were designed based on agile principles to meet new requirements and had accelerated progressive and sustainable ways of working, enabled by new technological solutions. Examples were listed in the report.

The pandemic also highlighted the importance of digital inclusion for enabling residents to access employment, education, essential services and wellbeing opportunities. To help ensure that no resident was disadvantaged due to digital access, the report highlighted a range of support offers and arrangements put in place by the council.

The report stated that to build on the above progress and to frame the council’s digital ambition going forward, a digital vision 2021-2024 has been determined. Its aims was to draw together current and future thinking, initiatives and activities in driving towards a ‘Digital Council’ and a ‘Digital Place’ which underpinned the Council Plan. This dual approach aimed to enable the council’s priorities through modern, digitally enabled service delivery and as a stimulus for investment and local economic growth and prosperity. The key themes of the ‘Digital Council’ and ‘Digital Place’ vision were highlighted in the Director’s report.

Resolved – That the digital update and priorities going forward associated with the digital vision 2021- 2024 be noted.

- 1414 **REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS 2000 (RIPA) UPDATE** – The Director: Governance and Partnerships submitted a report informing members of the Council’s activity relating to surveillance matters under the RIPA regime for the period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020.

The report explained that RIPA provided a legislative framework which detailed a system of authorisation which existed to secure the lawfulness of surveillance activities

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and ensure that they were consistent with obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998. The different types of authorisation included covert surveillance directed at a person(s); the use of a "covert human intelligence source" (CHIS) which involved the establishing of a relationship for the covert purpose of obtaining information and access to communications data such as telephone subscriber details and itemised phone logs.

Between 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2020 the Council did not grant any RIPA authorisations as no RIPA applications were presented to the Authorising Officers. The reason for this is that the nature of enforcement activity changed during 2020 due to the impact of COVID 19 on businesses and intelligence was gathered using different methods. The Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office did conduct an arms-length inspection of the Council's RIPA Policy and procedures in July 2020. The inspection was satisfied that the information provided by the Council Officers demonstrated a good level of compliance and that the RIPA Policy and procedures currently in place remained fit for purpose.

Resolved - That the report be noted and the existing RIPA Policy be approved.

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COVID-19: MID-TERM RECOVERY UPDATE

1. **OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To update Cabinet on the Council's progress responding to COVID-19 as set out in the mid-term recovery plan.
- 1.2 Provide an overview of the national COVID-19 Response – Spring 2021 and Road Map which will inform actions within our Mid-term recovery plan.

2. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 In March 2020, the council was required to establish business continuity arrangements in order to respond to the COVID-19 global pandemic. As COVID-19 continues to be a significant issue the council continues its focus and operating environment on this, while concurrently planning for recovery and renewal.
- 2.2 In June 2020, the North Lincolnshire COVID-19 recovery and renewal framework was presented to Cabinet. Subsequent to this a mid-term recovery plan was approved by Cabinet in December 2020. Both of these have been framed around the priorities set out in the North Lincolnshire Council Plan and provide a framework for minimising and mitigating impact from COVID-19 across North Lincolnshire.
- 2.3 Our priorities for mid-term recovery are:
 - Keep people safe and well,
 - Protect vulnerable people,
 - Enable communities to be resilient,
 - Protect and enable the local economy,
 - Well led council.
- 2.4 Appendix 1 provides an update against the mid-term recovery plan. Since the last report to Cabinet key highlights include:
 - We have enabled eligible staff to access the vaccination under the Priority 1 and 2

- We continue to work in partnership with health colleagues on the successful roll-out of the national vaccination programme
- We have extended our support offer to residents identified as clinically extremely vulnerable
- There are over 200 trusted community voices active as community champions
- We have provided financial support to around 2,000 families with children as part of the Winter Fund scheme
- We maintained a health and wellbeing offer to residents
- We set a balanced budget for 2021/22

2.5 The local response to COVID-19 is set within a range of legislative regulations that have been introduced. The two key ones being the Coronavirus Act 2020 and Health Protection (England) Regulations 2020. Government guidance and new regulations continue to be issued which are applied to council operational and strategic response as relevant.

2.6 The Cabinet Office published the COVID-19 Response – Spring 2021 on 22 February 2021 which sets out the roadmap for easing of restrictions in England. This report provides the key points from the national plan (Appendix 2).

2.7 The national plan confirms that we will need to continue to work with health protection at the heart of the organisation. As place leader the Council will maintain attention on living with and mitigating the risk of COVID-19. The COVID-19 Response sets out key tests that will determine each stage of the roadmap:

- **Test 1:** The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.
- **Test 2:** Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.
- **Test 3:** Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.
- **Test 4:** The assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern.

2.8 There is a clear role for local authorities in achieving a successful easing of national restrictions and the steps outlined in the Road Map provide a frame for the Council's emergence from the pandemic and reopening and return to some level of normality. These are consistent with our priorities and actions within the mid-term recovery plan which will be revised in line with the road map. The national response document focus on the things that need to be in place and prioritised at national and regional level :

- Healthcare response (Supporting NHS, Vaccines and Therapeutics)
- Keeping people safe and responding to threats (Behaviours, Test, Trace & Isolate and Responding to variants of concern)
- Economic and social support (Economic support, Support for vulnerable people and communities and Support for care homes)
- Long Term (Transition from pandemic to epidemic, Living with COVID)

and Resilience for future pandemics)

- 2.9 As well as continuing to meet council priorities and responsibilities the council will need to ensure that there is capacity to respond to the above requirements and emerging national policy changes, in the context of the pandemic.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Cabinet is invited to note the contents of this report and support the continued delivery of priority actions.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 A continued focus on the priorities and actions set out in the mid-term recovery plan enable the council to provide an effective local response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4.2 The national COVID-19 Response and associated Roadmap provide specific milestones for the local re-open planning for council activity and functions. As in our previous response to easing of restrictions, all information about opening of facilities will be communicated with relevant stakeholder and updates provided through the council's website and media channels.
- 4.3 The COVID-19 Response will be used to inform the strategic plans for the Council and update provided at the next Cabinet meeting.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

- 5.1 Resources associated with the council's response to the COVID-19 and the delivery of the mid-term recovery plan continue to be monitored and managed.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

- 6.1 A council-wide approach to assessing and monitoring the implications and risks associated with COVID-19 has been adopted with mitigations being implemented as necessary in accordance with the legislative framework.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

- 7.1 Not applicable.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 Ongoing consultation and collaboration with a range of national, regional, place partners and other key stakeholders is integral to our local response, recovery and renewal.

8.2 There are no conflicts of interests associated with this report.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That cabinet note the content of the report and support the continued delivery of priority actions.

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NR
Author: Becky McIntyre
Date: 8 March 2021

Cabinet Office: COVID-19 Response – Spring 2021: Summary of Key Points

Objectives (of plans):

- a. To restore freedoms sustainably, equitably and as quickly as possible without putting unsustainable pressure on the NHS, and avoiding a further lockdown. The Government will take a gradual and cautious approach to reopening in England, guided by science and the data, with resuming face-to-face teaching in schools the priority.
- b. To deploy the vaccine as quickly as possible to maximise protections as restrictions are eased. The more quickly people are vaccinated, the lower their risk of developing the kind of serious infection that requires hospital treatment and may lead to death.
- c. To protect the public and the NHS by having effective long-term contingency plans. The Government will ensure it has the tools to manage local outbreaks, as well as the means quickly and effectively to combat dangerous new Variants of Concern, both domestically and at the border, in close partnership with the Devolved Administrations.
- d. To plan and deliver a national recovery. As the country recovers from the crisis, the Government is committed to building back better, supporting the key public services on which citizens and businesses depend, and working with global partners as the disease moves from a pandemic to an endemic state.

Roadmap

The roadmap is a step-by-step plan to ease restrictions in England cautiously, starting with schools and colleges. Restrictions will be eased at the same time across the whole of England. Decisions on easing restrictions will be led by data rather than dates. There will be at least five weeks between the steps in the roadmap (based upon having sufficient time to analyse impact of lifting restrictions and to allow a weeks notice of changes). The indicative, 'no earlier than' dates in the roadmap are all contingent on the data and subject to change. Returning face-to-face education in schools and colleges is a national priority. Outdoor activity has been prioritised because the likelihood of COVID-19 transmission is substantially lower in the open air than indoors.

Before taking each step, the Government will review the latest data on the impact of the previous step against **four tests**. The tests are:

- **Test 1:** The vaccine deployment programme continues successfully.
- **Test 2:** Evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths in those vaccinated.
- **Test 3:** Infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS.
- **Test 4:** The assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new Variants of Concern.

Step 1: 8 March

- Schools and colleges are open for all students. Practical Higher Education Courses.
- Recreation or exercise outdoors with household or one other person. No household mixing indoors.
- Wraparound childcare.
- Stay at home.
- Funerals (30), wakes and weddings (6)

29 March

- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors. No household mixing indoors.
- Outdoor sport and leisure facilities.
- Organised outdoor sport allowed (children and adults).
- Minimise travel. No holidays.
- Outdoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents).

Step 2: At least five weeks after Step 1, no earlier than 12 April.

- Indoor leisure (including gyms) open for use individually or within household groups.
- Rule of 6 or two households outdoors. No household mixing indoors.
- Outdoor attractions such as zoos, theme parks and drive-in cinemas.
- Libraries and community centres.
- Personal care premises.
- All retail.
- Outdoor hospitality.
- All children's activities, indoor parent & child groups (up to 15 parents).
- Domestic overnight stays (household only).
- Self-contained accommodation (household only).
- Funerals (30), wakes, weddings and receptions (15).
- Minimise travel. No international holidays.
- Event pilots begin.

Step 3: At least five weeks after Step 2, no earlier than 17 May.

- Indoor entertainment and attractions.
- 30 person limit outdoors. Rule of 6 or two households (subject to review).
- Domestic overnight stays.
- Organised indoor adult sport.
- Most significant life events (30).
- Remaining outdoor entertainment (including performances).

- Remaining accommodation.
- Some large events (expect for pilots) - capacity limits apply.
 - Indoor events: 1,000 or 50%.
 - Outdoor other events: 4,000 or 50%.
 - Outdoor seated events: 10,000 or 25%.
- International travel - subject to review.

Step 4: At least five weeks after Step 3, **no earlier than 21 June.**

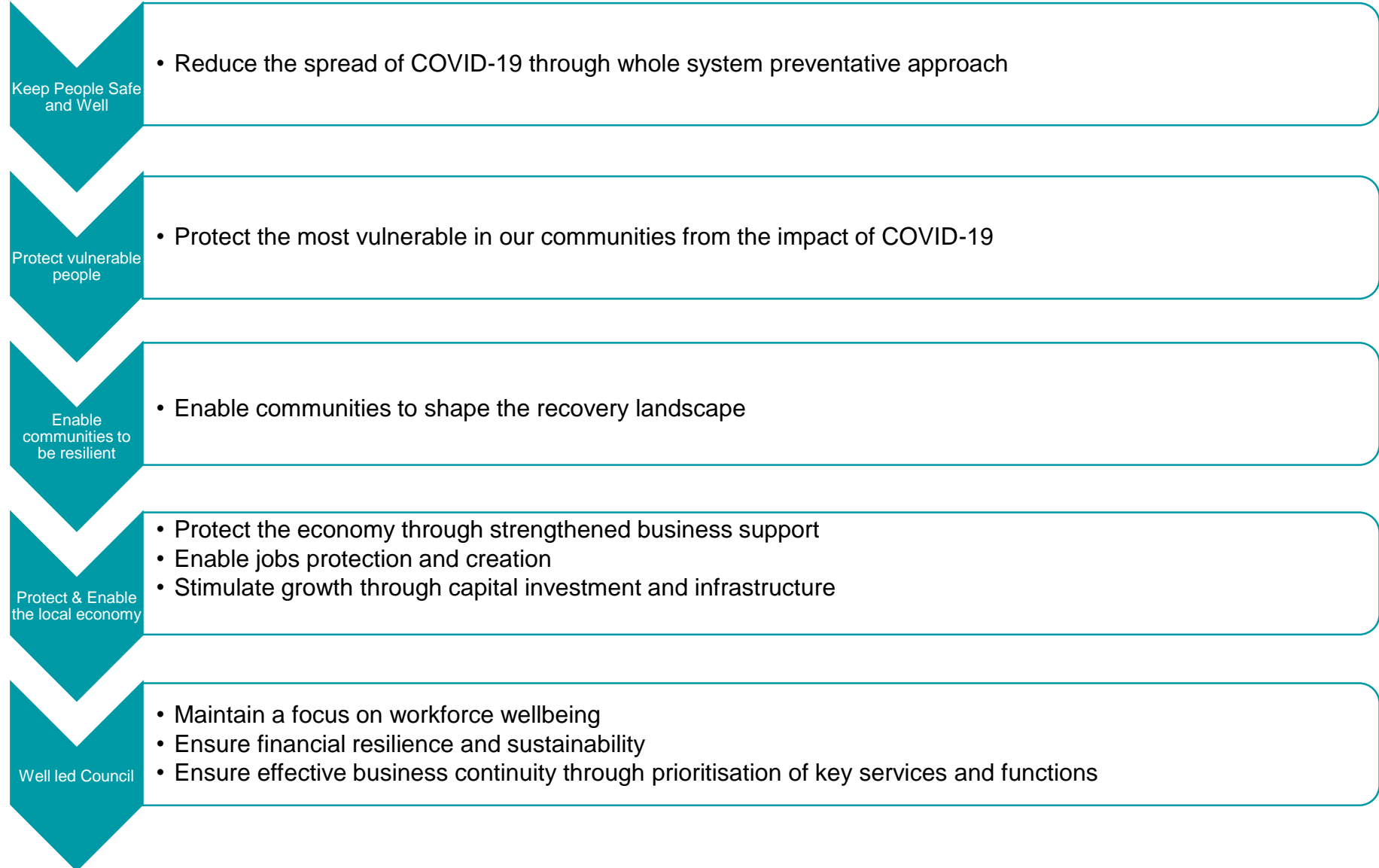
By Step 4, the Government hopes to be able to introduce the following (subject to review):

- No legal limits on social contact
- Nightclubs.
- Larger events.
- No legal limit on life events.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COVID-19 MID-TERM RECOVERY PLAN

OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS (March 2021)

Enhance digital technologies in order to deliver our council priorities
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Value added through partnerships

- In response to the increasing transmission rates the government introduced National Restrictions on 4 January 2021, necessitating response and recovery to operate simultaneously. Our approach is rooted in the values, principles and ambitions of the council plan and our response focuses on key priorities to ensure the Council remains resilient throughout the crisis and sustained through the recovery and renewal.
- As well as responding to the implications of national restrictions, the council continued to keep services running and adapting to the changing environment, led the prevention and management of local outbreaks and work with businesses to drive economic recovery and growth and worked in partnership with NHS to enable the successful commencement of the vaccination programme to the priority groups.

Priority	Overview of progress
Keeping People Safe and Well: Reduce the spread Page 20	<p>Safe working practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued to operate working from home arrangements and limited access to office environments. Risk assessments kept under review and updated according to any change in operational procedures or in use of buildings, including use of PPE for those working in the community and in people’s homes. • In line with national guidance eligible roles within the workforce have been offered and accessed the COVID-19 vaccination and targeted use of lateral flow testing for specific roles has also been introduced as a preventative measure to minimise the risk of transmission from a-symptomatic people. <p>Outbreak management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and prevention outbreaks continues to be a priority focus area and progress is reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board on a monthly basis. The schools, care homes and high risk business have responded well to identification, control and mitigation of outbreaks across the settings. Learning and best practice continues to be shared across sectors. <p>Safe places and enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid prevention assistants continue to undertake proactive work on an intelligence led basis to ensure communities are safe through visits and attendance at venues and places throughout North Lincolnshire. • Public protection team continue to undertake assessments and enforce regulations as appropriate, in close partnership working with Humberside Police. <p>Test, Trace, Self-Isolate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have provided information advice and guidance for eligible organisations to access the national schemes for lateral flow testing, including providing community testing facilities for specified cohorts, including early years providers, taxi and bus drivers, police and fire and rescue. • The local testing site for residents with symptoms continues to operate from Centenary Way. This site is also designated as collection site for home testing kits for school aged families. • Local contact tracing arrangements are in place and are operating well with a contact rate of circa 96% • Financial support to help eligible people to self-isolate continues to be paid and the scheme has been extended to the summer.

Priority	Overview of progress
Protect vulnerable people Page 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NHS COVID-19 Vaccination programme has been prioritised to protect those most at risk from the infection in terms of risk of infection, severity of illness and hospitalisation or morbidity. We have continued to work in partnership with the NHS to ensure effective deployment through each cohort. North Lincolnshire achieved the mid-February national target for the priority 1-4 cohorts and roll out continues for the priority 5-9 cohorts. • Worked in partnership with health colleagues on the successful roll-out of the national vaccination programme. • In response to the national extension of the criteria for people deemed clinically extremely vulnerable, our local offer was made available to c4,000 more residents, over 11,000 in total. Working through communities to provide support for basic needs. • Where possible rough sleepers continue to be offered temporary accommodation – we have entered into a partnership with Ongo for 6 units with support which are now occupied. In addition, funding has been secured in partnership with Framework for 6 empty homes to be brought back into use for step down accommodation which is currently in development. • In light of national restrictions being introduced a renewed focus on wider vulnerable groups and communities has been initiated, with a particular focus on encouraging communities to look out for and support one another. • The Winter Grant continues to be rolled out: Free school meal vouchers were supplied to eligible families for the half term holidays and financial support has been provided for around 2,000 vulnerable households and families with children to date, with the majority of requests being for white goods, followed by food and utilities. The Winter Grant is now extended to 16 April 2021 therefore we will provide free school meal vouchers for the Easter holidays. Work has commenced to maximize opportunities through the Holiday Activities and Food programme, which will be a largely home-based offer for Easter due to national restrictions. • Needs of vulnerable children and adults identified, risk assessed and met
Enable resilient communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are over 200 ‘trusted’ community voices active as North Lincolnshire community champions who are enhancing the understanding of public health messages within communities as the pandemic develops. Community Champions receive up to date information regarding Covid-19 on a weekly basis, along with ideas on how to support people within their communities who may be more vulnerable at this time. In return, Community Champions inform the council about what is working and what more might be done to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Many examples of strong engagement within our ethnically diverse communities. • New community hub facilities completed for Crowle, Brigg and Ashby.

Priority	Overview of progress
<p>Protect the economy</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local/national restrictions grants have been paid to around 1,300 eligible business including the new national restrictions grant. As at 12/3/21 6,965 grant payments have been made totalling £13.7m since November 2020. • The application system is being updated in readiness for the new restart grant available from April. • A further discretionary grant scheme has been developed to support local economic recovery • Newsletters and hosted Webinars to share learning from managing outbreaks continue alongside provision of information advice and guidance regarding COVID-19 support schemes such as Jobs Retention Scheme • Kick start scheme programme bid has been approved and as the broker we have 100 businesses signed up to provide 6 month work placements for 16-24 year olds. • Local economy projects have continued to timescales such as the Northern Roundabout and the Urban Park which work is progressing well.
<p>Well led council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council set a balanced budget for 2021/22 and has managed the response to the pandemic within the resources allocated. • The council continues to prioritise business as usual of its operations and responds and adapts flexibly to overcome any pressures and issues as they arise. The vast majority of council services and functions continue to be provided with limited disruption and where national restrictions have been applied, a range of on-line mechanisms have been made available to enable residents' wellbeing, from audio borrow books to virtual Adult Education tuition. • In response to the national Roadmap preparations have commenced for the re-opening of facilities and activities, prioritising aspects that contribute towards public health and wellbeing, while balancing competing demands for workforce deployment • Regular updates have been provided to the workforce in respect of COVID-19 through bulletins and webinars. • The council has maintained robust governance arrangements and decision making continues to operate virtually for all executive and non-executive functions, including Full Council, Planning Committee and Licensing Committee for example.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

SCUNTHORPE TOWN DEAL – HEADS OF TERMS

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To approve the recommendation of the Towns Fund Board to accept and sign the Heads of Terms for Scunthorpe Town Deal.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Scunthorpe's Town Investment Plan (TIP) was submitted to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for approval of £26.9m in December 2020 for 7 projects.
- 2.2 Our Town Investment Plan was deemed to be of a strong standard which has enabled us to move forward to a Draft Heads of Terms (HoT) received on the 3 March 2021. MHCLG have confirmed through the Heads of Terms that the Scunthorpe allocation is £20.9m.
- 2.3 The Heads of Terms offer to Scunthorpe is the start of stage 2, is not a contractually binding document and the offer is subject to various conditions being met. The Heads of Terms will act as a Memorandum of Understanding for the future development and delivery of Scunthorpe's Town Investment Plan and project proposals.

It sets out joint expectations as we enter the business case development phase.

- 2.4 The HoT were presented to the Towns Fund Board on the 8th March 2021 with a timeline (Appendix A). The board unanimously made the recommendation to the Accountable Body to accept the Heads of Terms by submitting them to MHCLG on the 24th March 2021 and move to the next stage.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 – Support and approve the recommendation of the Towns Fund Board to the Accountable Body (NLC) to accept the Heads of Terms.
- 3.2 Option 2 - Do not support and approve the recommendation of the Towns Fund Board.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Option 1 is the recommended option as it provides the opportunity for North Lincolnshire to draw down £20.9m of investment for Scunthorpe as part of a 5-year programme. The 7 projects submitted as part of our Town Investment Plan will support the delivery of our Economic Growth Plan and Council Plan moving us from planning and into delivery.

The HoTs is not a contractual arrangement with MHCLG but an agreement that there is £20.9m of funding available to the Accountable Body to deliver the programme subject to conditions and full business case.

- 4.2 Option 2 would bring a halt to the Towns Fund Deal and programme for Scunthorpe and was not the recommendation of the Towns Fund Board.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 **Financial**

Not applicable.

5.2 **Staffing**

Staffing resources for the delivery of stage 2 will be from within existing capacity.

5.3 **Property**

There are no Land implications associated with the HoTs.

5.4 **IT**

There are no IT implications.

6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

- 6.1 Nothing to report at this stage in the programme.

7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

- 7.1 We will undertake programme-wide level impact assessment, relevant project-level impact assessment and relevant Environmental Impact Assessments through Stage 2 of the programme.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 Consultation has taken place with the Towns Fund Board, MHCLG and the Executive prior to presenting this report. No issues have been raised.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Cabinet supports and approve the recommendation of the Towns Fund Board to accept the Heads of Terms for Scunthorpe Town Deal.

9.2 That Cabinet delegate the signing of the Heads of Terms to the Chief Executive and S151 Officer on behalf of the Accountable Body.

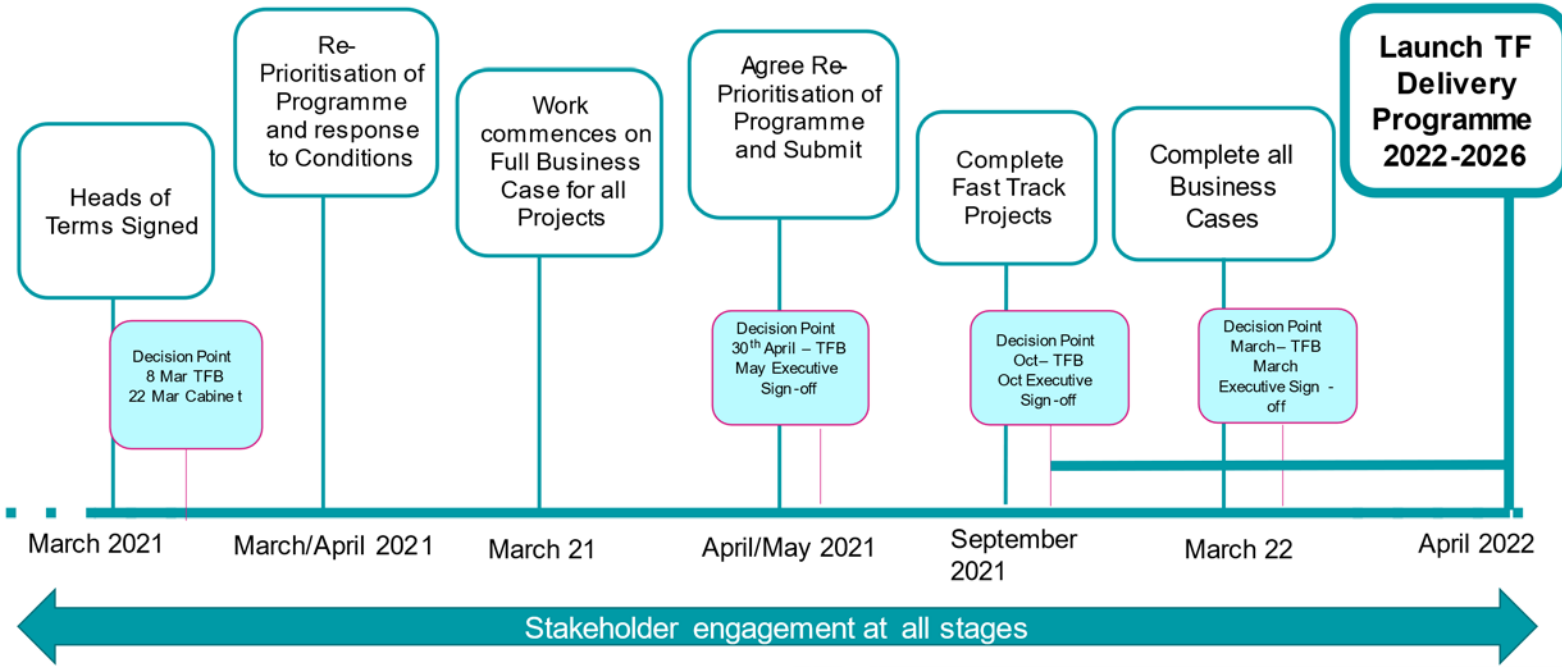
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: COMMERCIAL

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Date: 5 March 2021

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –

- HOTs

Timeline: Towns Fund Stage 2



NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

A GREEN FUTURE: OUR PLAN FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1 The council has developed 'A Green Future', which is a plan to deliver the positive change we need to create a cleaner, greener, healthier and more sustainable North Lincolnshire.

1.2 It is centred on a vision that:

North Lincolnshire is a 'net zero' area. The environment is integral to all our decision making and everyone has a positive relationship with the environment. We all play our part in making our area a cleaner, greener, healthier and more sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit.

1.3 To achieve this vision will need area wide ownership and action. With this in mind, area wide engagement is planned.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Internationally, we know:

- The accelerating impact of climate change in this country and around the world is of profound concern.
- The consequence of climate change is damaging to nature with species loss, habitat erosion and the disappearance of cherished wildlife.
- The concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG's) in the earth's atmosphere is directly linked to the average global temperature on earth.

- The concentration has been rising steadily, and mean global temperatures along with it, since the time of the Industrial Revolution.
- The most abundant GHG, accounting for about two-thirds of GHGs, carbon dioxide (CO₂), is largely the product of burning fossil fuels.

2.2 Nationally, we know:

- By using our land more sustainably and creating new habitats for wildlife, including by planting more trees, we can arrest the decline in native species and improve our biodiversity.
- By tackling the scourge of waste plastic we can make our oceans cleaner and healthier.
- Connecting more people with the environment will promote greater well-being.
- By making the most of emerging technologies, we can build a cleaner, greener country and reap the economic rewards of the clean growth revolution.

2.3 And in North Lincolnshire, we know we face a number of challenges:

- Areas of poor air quality and high CO₂ emissions, primarily associated with industrial activity
- Increasing flood risks arising from changing weather patterns and rising sea levels and storm surges
- High levels of waste collected per head of population
- Declines in priority habitats and species

2.4 Nationally, the Environment Bill, A Green Future: A 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment and The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution sets out an approach to deliver the government's environment vision. Government asserts that local government has an essential role to play responding to challenges at a local level, leading specific and locally appropriate responses and driving innovation. This all comes together as we set out a plan to build back better, support green jobs and accelerate our path to net zero as we recover from the impact of coronavirus on our lives. 'A Green Future' is our plan to deliver the positive change we need.

2.5 Our plan has 8 key aims:

Aim 1: By 2030, North Lincolnshire Council will achieve 'net zero' and we will end the council's contribution to global warming.

Aim 2: Clean Growth - net zero industry and commerce and good air quality.

Aim 3: The shift to net zero embeds decarbonisation in our economic growth. We use decarbonisation as the foundation of our future prosperity.

- Aim 4:** Net zero living is easy and accessible. It benefits the environment and improves peoples lives.
- Aim 5:** Resources are used more efficiently. The amount of waste North Lincolnshire produces is minimised.
- Aim 6:** Everyone is connected with our environment. We enhance and protect it.
- Aim 7:** Everyone has a stake in our environment and everyone can feel the benefit.
- Aim 8:** A Network to achieve our vision for 'A Green Future'

2.8 To achieve these aims requires significant change. Everyone in North Lincolnshire will need to play their part – residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 It is proposed that the council now engages with residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations across North Lincolnshire about the aims of 'A Green Future'. This should include seeking feedback on a range of actions that should help us achieve these aims.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 By engaging with residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations as set out in paragraph 3.1 we will develop a greater understanding of how we best support everyone to play their part in achieving the best environmental outcomes for North Lincolnshire. This is critical if we are all to work to the same environmental outcomes, take responsibility for achieving those outcomes and are enabled to take positive action on the environment.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 Following the engagement noted in paragraph 3.1 we expect to bring forward for consideration and approval a new Environment Policy and Programme. This will set out the specific actions we will all need to take across North Lincolnshire - residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations – to achieve the vision and aims of 'A Green Future'. This will take account of all the resources North Lincolnshire will need to prioritise use of across North Lincolnshire in support of 'A Green Future'. We expect this process to be iterative and dynamic. This will enable North Lincolnshire to achieve the best outcomes and that we are always able to maximise benefit realisation – this is important in a rapidly developing environmental and 'green tech' landscape.

6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

6.1 'A Green Future' is by its very nature inclusive – everybody must play their part if we are to achieve our vision for 'A Green Future'. The proposed engagement will ensure everyone is able to have a voice in this. All individuals will be considered. Their differing needs will be taken into account in the Policy and Programme noted above and the proposed engagement is a key part of ensuring this happens.

6.2 'A Green Future' is driven by the Council Plan. It takes an outcome focused approach to making our area a cleaner, greener, healthier and more sustainable and attractive place to live, work and visit. Key in this is:

- We will end our contribution to global warming
This help will keep North Lincolnshire safe
- We are protecting our places and spaces and helping people to make the most of them
This will help keep North Lincolnshire well
- We are making sure we grow in a sustainable way
This will help keep North Lincolnshire prosperous
- We are bringing people together to make North Lincolnshire the best it can be
This will help keep North Lincolnshire connected

6.3 'A Green Future' is also built around our for goals of sustainable, commercial, enabling and progressive. Examples of this are set out below.

- **Sustainable** – We increase, enhance and protect a range of habitats across North Lincolnshire to support carbon capture and biodiversity. Every day, we leave the environment in a better state than we find it. Our environment is safe, self-sustaining and provides opportunities for everyone.
- **Commercial** – We will make the most of the opportunities that tackling climate change presents to further strengthen and grow our local economy. Clean growth is at the heart of our area wide boost in productivity. Improved skills and good job creation increase earning power. Economic growth is decoupled from carbon emissions.
- **Enabling** – We achieve our shared vision as a Network. Residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations take responsibility and are enabled to take positive action on the environment.

- **Progressive** – positive environmental change happens, now and for future generations.

6.4 'A Green Future' will ensure we take positive action to address the climate and environment related challenges we face – locally, nationally and internationally. The vision included at paragraph 2.2 sets out how significant a change we will achieve for North Lincolnshire.

6.5 There are no Crime and Disorder Act 1998 implications.

7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 Not applicable.

8. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 The council's Leadership and Senior Management have been consulted during the development of 'A Green Future', together with the Local Government Association. The council's 'Enhancing our Environment' Group (a stakeholder group of key officer and elected members) have also been consulted. All have indicated strong support for the approach set out in this paper. Officers in Legal and Democratic Services have advised the approach provides the most robust foundation for swift Policy approval following the proposed engagement.

8.2 The proposed engagement will enable everyone to have a voice about plans for 'A Green Future'. It will enable us to develop a greater understanding of how we best support everyone to play their part in achieving the best environmental outcomes for North Lincolnshire.

8.3 There are no declared conflicts of interest.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 It is recommended that:

1. the vision, outcomes, goals and aims of 'A Green Future' are noted and endorsed, and
2. engagement with residents, businesses, the public sector and non-profit organisations is progressed with the intent of developing a greater understanding of how we best support and enable everyone to play their part in owning and taking action to achieve 'A Green Future' for North Lincolnshire.

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:COMMERCIAL

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Date: 8 March 2021

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

None