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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

Conference Room, Church
Square House, Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL

Wednesday 27 September 2023

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend an **ORDINARY MEETING** of the **COUNCIL** at **2.00 pm** on **THURSDAY 5 October 2023** at Church Square House, Scunthorpe (Conference Room).

1. Mayor's Remarks.
2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests.
3. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5 December 2022 and 13 February 2023 (budget meeting) and Annual Meeting of the 18 May 2023 (enclosed). (Pages 1 - 56)
4. Approval of Interim Arrangements - Report of the Assistant Director: Organisational Development. (Pages 57 - 58)
5. Youth Justice Plan 2023-2024 - Report of the Director: Children and Families. (Pages 59 - 152)
6. Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23 - Report of the Director: Outcomes. (Pages 153 - 166)
7. Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2022/2023 23 - Report of the Director: Outcomes. (Pages 167 - 194)
8. Standards Committee - Annual Report 2022/2023 - Report of the Director: Outcomes. (Pages 195 - 204)
9. Review of Local UK Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places - Report of the Director: Outcomes. (Pages 205 - 208)
10. Community Governance Review - Report of the Director: Outcomes. (Pages 209 - 232)
11. To receive the minutes of the under mentioned committees/panels/board (previously circulated) and to consider any recommendations made and to pass such resolutions as may be necessary - See Order of Business.
Planning Committee -

(30 November 2022, 11 January, 8 February, 8 March, 7 June, 4 July, and 2 August 2023)

Licensing Committee -

(1 December 2022, 12 and 19 January, 2 February, 16 and 30 March, 15 June, 20 July, 2 and 25 August and 8 September 2023)

Audit Committee -

(23 November 2022, 25 January, 15 March and 12 July 2023)

Standards Committee –

(12 December 2022, 19 January, 7 and 15 March, 29 June (x2), 10 July and 6 September 2023)

Health Scrutiny Panel –

(25 November 2022, 19 December, 26 January and 6 March 2023)

Health, Integration and Performance Scrutiny Panel

(27 July 2023)

Governance Scrutiny Panel

(26 January, 12 July (x2), 25 July and 14 August 2023)

Places Scrutiny Panel

(6 and 28 February, 7 March, 12 and 19 July 2023)

Children and Education Scrutiny Panel

(30 November, 7 December 2022, 17 January, 14 February and 29 March 2023)

Children’s Scrutiny Panel

(27 July and 13 September 2023)

Appointment and Employment Committee

(19 June, 12 July and 14 September 2023).

Health and Wellbeing Board

(18 November 2022, 30 January, 6 March and 19 June 2023)

12. To consider any questions on the discharge of the functions of the Humberside Fire Authority.
13. Questions from members of the public (including town and parish councils).
14. To consider a joint motion of which notice has been given and to pass such resolutions as may be necessary (none received).

Yours sincerely

Director: Outcomes

NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO WISHES TO PUT A QUESTION UPON OR MOVE ANY AMENDMENT TO THE MINUTES MUST INFORM THE DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES IN WRITING BEFORE 9.30 A.M. ON TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER 2023.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

5 December 2022

- Present -

THE MAYOR - Councillor John Briggs

Councillors Ali, Armiger, Armitage, Bainbridge, Clark, A Davison, J Davison, Ellerby, England, L Foster, T Foster, Gosling, Grant, Hannigan, Kirk, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, O'Sullivan, Ogg, Rayner, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Ross, Rowson, Saunby, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, Southern, Swift, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE, Wells, Wilson and Yeadon

The Council met at The Chamber, UCNL, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe.

2882 **MAYOR'S REMARKS.**

The Mayor welcomed all members and officers to the meeting. He referred to the recent sad death of former Councillor Bernard Regan and on behalf of all councillors expressed their thoughts for his family at this sad time. The council observed a minute's silence in memory of Bernard Regan.

The Mayor then summarised recent events he had attended over the past few months and in particular encouraged and welcomed members to attend his Christmas concert to be held at Normanby Hall on 8 December 2022 and participate in his charity Christmas draw. He also thanked the Deputy Mayor Councillor Janet Longcake for her support over another busy period.

2883 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

Declarations of personal interests were indicated as follows –

Member	Subject/Minute
Councillor M Ali	Taxi Licence Holder with schools transport contract. Crosby Community Association – Trustee
Councillor J Briggs	Member and Chair of Humberside Fire Authority
Councillor M Grant	Member of Humberside Fire Authority
Councillor N Sherwood	Member of Humberside Fire Authority
Councillor R Waltham MBE	Member of Humberside Fire Authority

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2884 **MINUTES -**

Resolved - That the minutes of the Ordinary Meetings of the Council held on 18 October 2022, having been circulated amongst the members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Mayor.

2885 **CALCULATING THE COUNCIL TAX BASE 2023/2024.**

The Director: Governance and Communities submitted a report requesting the council to consider and approve the council tax base to be used for each part of the council's area for formula grant and tax setting purposes. The key points in the report were to note the council tax base for grant purposes as submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), to set a tax base for setting Council Tax for the council, local parishes and major precepting authorities, and to confirm the implementation of the empty property surcharge for properties empty for longer than ten years from 2023/24.

The Director in her report explained the above key points, analysed options, addressed financial implications and set out associated information in appendices 1, 2 and 3.

Resolved – (a) That the council tax base for grant purposes set out in Appendix 1 of the report be noted; (b) that the council taxbase for the Council and other precepting bodies in 2023/24 be set at 51,270.5 band D equivalents as detailed in Appendix 2 and 3 of the report, and (c) that the empty property surcharge increased to 300% for properties empty for longer than ten years from 2023/24.

2886 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2022/23.**

The Director: Governance and Communities submitted the treasury management mid-year report for the financial year 2022-23. The report attached as an appendix provided an overview of the council's treasury performance during the first six months of 2022-23 and set out national factors that affect the council's treasury activity.

The report fulfilled the authority's legal obligation under the Local Government Act to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), previously Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Investment Guidance. The CIPFA Code required that Council received a report at the start of the financial year, mid-year and year end. The Audit Committee also received regular updates regarding treasury activity, providing assurance on the effectiveness of the council's treasury management arrangements.

The Director highlighted the key points of the mid-year report stating that –

- Investment returns in the first six months of the year amounted to £317k due to increases in interest rates.
- Interest Rates were forecast to continue to rise in the short term as the

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- bank of England seeks to manage inflation.
- Borrowing remains comfortably within the control levels set and no new borrowing was undertaken.
- Treasury activity was compliant with the Prudential Indicators set for the financial year.

Resolved – That the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2022/23 be received and noted.

2887 A DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE.

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report asking the Council to support draft proposals for devolution for Greater Lincolnshire and to enter into negotiations with Government to seek a devolution deal at the earliest opportunity.

The Deputy Chief Executive in his report explained that the levelling up white paper sets out the Government's ambitions for devolution across England and provided the framework for devolving powers to local economic geographies. The white paper was being enshrined in legislation through The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill currently in Parliament. A first wave of new devolution deals was being negotiated between the Government and upper tier councils with deals already announced in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and North Yorkshire. A second wave of deals was expected to be negotiated in 2023 and would provide upper tier councils with an opportunity to seek the transfer of a range of new powers and budgets from Government that can be targeted to local need, used to boost growth in the local economy and level up Greater Lincolnshire.

The report stated that working together, Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council, the seven district councils across Greater Lincolnshire, business and key stakeholders had developed options for a devolution deal for the economic geography of Greater Lincolnshire. This has been informed by:

- Collaboration across all 10 Councils in Greater Lincolnshire to develop a long-term vision for greater Lincolnshire to deliver a better future for the communities, visitors, and businesses of Greater Lincolnshire. A copy of the vision document was attached as Appendix B to the report,
- Business Engagement through the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership to gauge the interest, understanding and desire for devolution from local business,
- Involvement of all 10 Councils in Greater Lincolnshire including discussions with council leaders and a series of meetings of chief executives to refine proposals for devolution to meet the needs of all parts of the historical county, and
- Officer level workshops to explore the detail of skills, innovation, investment and infrastructure asks and principles for devolution.

The Deputy Chief Executive confirmed that engagement across Greater

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Lincolnshire had informed the development of proposals for devolution set out in the draft Devolution Greater Lincolnshire: Growth | Energy | Food document attached to Appendix B of the report. The proposals sought to achieve the maximum level of devolution for Greater Lincolnshire to bring greatest benefit for Greater Lincolnshire's residents and deliver on the area's ambitious strategies for growth across key sectors that would lead to more high skill, high wage jobs. The focus of the proposed deal would be to:

- Boost growth and productivity in key sectors and supply chains by levelling up infrastructure to create high skill, high wage jobs,
- Increase living standards and opportunity by levelling up skills and access to employment and new high skill, high wage jobs, and
- Target investment to level up our towns and places to deliver sustainable growth.

Key sectors of the Greater Lincolnshire economic geography were also of strategic importance to the UK and devolution for Greater Lincolnshire would support wider UK objectives for levelling up, energy security, food security and achieving net zero. A devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire would be subject to negotiation with Government and the council was invited to consider the proposals for devolution as basis for engaging with Government officials to secure a future deal.

The Deputy Chief Executive's report stated that the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill sets out the levels, requirements and process for devolution. New powers and funding would be devolved from Government to a new county combined authority and the maximum level of devolution – level 3 – would only be achieved if this also included a directly elected mayor. This new type of combined authority had an initial prescribed voting membership of the mayor and upper tier councils, identified as constituency members. It could also involve a range of stake holders including district councils and businesses as non-constituency members, scrutiny committee members and advisory boards. In return for devolution of powers the Government expected the county combined authority to provide strong and effective leadership; flexibility; and appropriate accountability.

The Government had also set out that devolution deals should be led by upper tier councils. In preparation for any negotiation upper tier councils would continue to engage with district councils, businesses, the education sector and other stakeholders to develop the strongest possible devolution proposition and negotiating position for Greater Lincolnshire. This would include building on initial local discussions to negotiate and agree the governance arrangements and principles for a mayoral county combined authority within the constraints of the legislation. Members would be asked to formally consider progress at a number of decision points including agreement to:

- seek a deal and enter into negotiation with government (report as submitted)
- consult on a draft devolution deal following negotiations with

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- Government (future report), and the final deal and to establish a mayoral county combined authority (future report).

If successful, residents across Greater Lincolnshire would be invited to elect a mayor in 2025.

Resolved - That Council (a) supports engagement with government officials to secure a devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire on the basis of the draft devolution prospectus at Appendix A of the report; (b) supports in principle, devolution to a mayoral county combined authority for Greater Lincolnshire, and (c) supports continued engagement with key stakeholders with a view to Appendix A being further developed and enhanced as the basis of the devolution bid to government to ensure that Greater Lincolnshire is in as strong a position as possible to secure a deal.

At the request of members and in accordance with Procedure Rule 1.22(d) the names of members voting for, against and abstaining from the motion are as follows –

FOR: *Councillors Armiger, Briggs, Clark, J Davison, England, T Foster, Hannigan, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, Ogg, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Ross, Rowson, Saunby, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, K. Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE, and Wells.*

AGAINST: *Councillor Kirk*

ABSTAINING: *Councillors Ali, Armitage, Bainbridge, A Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Gosling, Grant, O'Sullivan, Rayner, Sothern, Swift, Wilson and Yeadon.*

Motion Carried

2888 OUTCOMES OF OFSTED INSPECTION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES.

The Director: Children and Families submitted a report informing Council of the outcomes of the recent Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services, in which Ofsted judged North Lincolnshire to be outstanding across all areas and with no identified areas for improvement. The full report by Ofsted was attached as an appendix to the report.

The Director in her report explained that The Inspection of North Lincolnshire's Local Authority Children's Services took place between 3 and 14 October 2022. Following a period of quality assurance, the final inspection report was published on 25 November, in which the formal

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judgement grades were confirmed. This is the first judgement for North Lincolnshire's local authority children's services since 2017.

The outcomes of the Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services were that Ofsted judged North Lincolnshire to be outstanding in all areas, as follows:

- the impact of leaders on social work practice with children and families
- the experiences and progress of children who need help and protection
- the experiences and progress of children in care and care leavers; and
- overall effectiveness

The report Ofsted report highlighted that:

- Social workers worked hard to listen to children and their families when they needed extra help. They worked well with children, parents and carers to help families find their own solutions and only step in when it was really needed,
- There was a lot of work done by social workers and other professionals to help and support children to stay at home and be cared for by their parents. Sometimes this was not always possible and social workers acted quickly and took care to ask children where they would like to live. This meant that most children in care lived with foster families or with a member of their family,
- When children lived in foster families, many children said that they felt safe and well cared for and quickly felt like part of a family,
- Children and young people were supported to do their very best at school and achieve whatever they wanted to after they left school,
- Leaders had made sure that when young people left care they could still be supported as adults by children's services and for as long as they needed to, which really showed how the council cared for children and young people throughout their lives,
- Leaders and politicians worked well together to make North Lincolnshire a great place to live. They talked to parents, young people and children and listened to their views about how to make things better. Often it was children's views that were used to make positive changes, and
- The council were working hard to make North Lincolnshire a place where social workers wanted to stay and work so that children could keep the same social worker.

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Members congratulated the Director: Children and Families and her team for the outstanding Ofsted report.

Resolved - That the outcomes of the Inspection of Children's Services undertaken in October 2022 be noted.

2889 **STATUTORY CO-OPTED MEMBER VACANCY (CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL) - CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE (HAVING RECENTLY BEING APPOINTED BY THE LINCOLN ANGLICAN DIOCESE) -**

Resolved - That Dr Daphne Whiteoak be appointed as a Statutory Co-opted Member – Church of England Representative on the Children and Education Scrutiny Panel.

2890 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES, PANELS AND BOARD - PLANNING COMMITTEE -**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 7 September, 5 October and 2 November 2022 be received with the exception of minute 2284a -

2891 **APPLICATION PA/2021/1359**

With regard to the excepted portion it was -

Moved by Councillor N Sherwood and seconded by Councillor C Ross -

That the minute be received.

Motion Carried

2892 **LICENSING COMMITTEE -**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings of the Licensing Committee held on 22 September, 13 October, 3 November and 10 November 2022 be received.

2893 **STANDARDS COMMITTEE -**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings of the Standards Committee held on 27 September, 25 October and 9 November 2022 be received.

2894 **GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY PANEL -**

Resolved - That the minutes of the meetings of the Governance Scrutiny Panel held on 17 November (x2) 2022 be received with the exception of minute 122 –

2895 **MEDIA RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY MANAGEMENT POLICY**

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With regard to the excepted portion it was -

Moved by Councillor D Robinson and seconded by Councillor T Gosling -

That the minute be received.

Motion Carried

2896 PLACES SCRUTINY PANEL -

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting of the Places Scrutiny Panel held on 4 October 2022 be received.

2897 CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL -

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting of the Children and Education Scrutiny Panel held on 27 September 2022 be received with the exception of minute 106 –

2898 EARLY YEARS PROVISION IN NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

With regard to the excepted portion it was –

Moved by Councillor T Foster and seconded by Councillor L Yeadon-

That the minute be received.

Motion Carried

2899 HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD -

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 26 September 2022 be received.

2900 TO CONSIDER ANY QUESTIONS ON THE DISCHARGE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE HUMBERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

The following question was asked by Councillor S Armitage:

“How many Humberside Fire Authority meetings have each of our four North Lincolnshire Council representatives attended since May 2019 matched against the maximum number possible? Furthermore, how many of the scheduled training sessions have each of the four members attended to compliment them in carrying out their role as Humberside Fire Authority representatives?”

Councillor R Waltham MBE (Member of the Humberside Fire Authority) replied stating that as soon as he had all the information requested, he would forward this on to Councillor Armitage. He emphasised that members of the Fire Authority had a wide range of roles and responsibilities which impacted on the meetings they were requested to attend alongside any associated suggested development. Some members also had different responsibilities

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within their own member council's and this together with the impact of Covid19 on local responsibilities determined which meetings they were able to attend during unprecedented times.

The Mayor permitted a short supplementary question and answer from the above members for overall clarification.

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

13 February 2023

- Present -

THE MAYOR - Councillor John Briggs

Councillors Ali, Armiger, Armitage, Bainbridge, Clark, A Davison, J Davison, Ellerby, England, Evison, L Foster, T Foster, Gosling, Grant, Hannigan, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, O'Sullivan, Poole, Rayner, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Ross, Saunby, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, Southern, Swift, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, R Waltham MBE, Wells, Wilson and Yeadon

The Council met at Conference Room, Church Square House, Scunthorpe.

2901 **MAYOR'S REMARKS -**

The Mayor welcomed fellow councillors, officers and members of the public to the meeting of North Lincolnshire Council. He thanked all members and officers for their well-wishes following his recent illness, and especially thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor J Longcake for standing in for him at several events and functions. He also thanked Kathy Bright, Mayoral Services for her support throughout his year in office and expressed his best wishes to Sarah Newton, Mayoral Services for a speedy recovery following her recent illness.

The Mayor then stated that it was nearly a year since the Russian invasion of Ukraine and referred to the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, and asked the council to stand for a period of silence to reflect upon the thousands who had died from these countries and to think about and pray for their families and all associated people still suffering.

2902 **DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS AND SIGNIFICANT LOBBYING -**

Declarations of personal interests were indicated as follows –

Member	Subject/Minute
Councillor M Ali	Taxi Licence Holder with schools' transport contract.
Councillor M Armiger	Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board
Councillor J Briggs	Humberstone Fire Authority

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Councillor P Clark	North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board
Councillor T Ellerby	Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board.
Councillor J Evison	Humberside Fire Authority
Councillor T Foster	Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board
Councillor M Grant	Humberside Fire Authority
Councillor R Hannigan	North East Lindsey Drainage Board.
Councillor J Longcake	Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board
Councillor E Marper	Winterton Town Council and Skippingdale in Bloom
Councillor T Mitchell	Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board
Councillor N Poole	Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board;
Councillor J Reed	Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board;
Councillor D Robinson	Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board
Councillor D Rose	Isle of Axholme and North Nottinghamshire Water Management Board; North Lincolnshire Community Energy; CPRE North Lincolnshire and Yorkshire and Humber CPRE
Councillor N Sherwood	Humberside Fire Authority and Ancholme Internal Drainage Board
Councillor C Sherwood	Ancholme Internal Drainage Board
Councillor R Waltham MBE	Humberside Fire Authority

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Councillor D Wells

North East Lindsey Internal Drainage Board

2903 **BUDGET SPEECHES -**

It was moved by Councillor N Poole and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan-

That in accordance with Procedure Rule D1.19(s) the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition be allowed up to 10 minutes to deliver their respective budget speeches.

Motion Carried

2904 **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES - REMUNERATION PANEL -**

The Director of Governance and Communities submitted a report requesting Council to consider the report of the North Lincolnshire Independent Remuneration Panel in order to approve a Scheme of Members' Allowances for the financial year 2023/2024 (or for a further reasonable period), in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (the Regulations). The Panel's report was attached as an appendix to the Director's report.

The Council was required to make an annual scheme of Members' Allowances for each financial year. The Council may set a scheme for a minimum of one year or for a further reasonable period; previously the Council approved a scheme for the years 2020/21 to 2022/23 – the final year being the last year of the current period of elected administration. The Council could not make or amend a scheme without first having regard to recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

The Independent Remuneration Panel currently comprised four Independent Members, two who also sat on North East Lincolnshire Councils IRP.

Moved by Councillor Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan-

(a) That the Council respectfully thanks the Remuneration Panel for their work, and (b) that all Members' Allowances for the financial year 2023/2024 be frozen (as at the levels of allowances within the scheme used for 2022/23, appendix 1 of the IRP report refers).

Move by Councillor L Foster and seconded by Councillor A Davison –

(a) That the council thanks the Independent Remuneration Panel for its work in delivering a proposed annual scheme of Members' Allowances for 2023/2024, and (b) that furthermore, Council accepts the recommended reduction in special responsibility allowances outlined in the report of the IRP but supports the retention of the present current level of basic allowance (as

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at the level within the scheme used for 2022/23, appendix 1 of the IRP report refers).

Amendment Lost
Motion Carried

Councillor L Foster during the debate on the above item referred to this being the last meeting for two longstanding councillors who would not be seeking re-election in May and therefore this would be their last council meeting. Consequently, this was the last opportunity to record and thank Councillor S Wilson and Councillor S Bainbridge for their years of dedicated public service which totalled almost a century.

Councillor Waltham also referred to this being the last meeting for Councillors Allcock, England and Evison and also paid tribute to their years of dedicated public service as North Lincolnshire councillors.

2905 **FINANCIAL STRATEGY, BUDGET 2023-2024 AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2023-26, CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2023-26, TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2023-2024 AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2023/2024 PAY POLICY STATEMENT -**

The Director: Governance and Communities submitted reports relating to: –

Financial Strategy, Budget 2023/24 and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/26,

Capital Investment Strategy 2023-26,

Treasury Management Strategy 2023/2024, and the Director: Economy and Environment submitted the following report –

Implementation of the 2023/2024 Pay Policy Statement.

Each of the above issues were addressed within separate reports. The first report set out the council's financial strategy, and within that framework to seek approval for the budget 2023/24 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/26.

The Director's report explained that the Council operated within legally defined powers to fulfil a range of duties informed by the agreed ambition and priorities set out in the Council Plan. The powers included the ability to raise funding to invest locally. The Council set an annual budget based on its spending power, which included government grant, business rates it would receive and the level of Council Tax it set. The report provided assurance on the council's financial resilience, confirmed that the estimates presented in the report were robust and that reserves were adequate. This met the requirements of section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 and provided a basis for Council to set a balanced budget. The key decisions required in accordance with Section 31 to 52 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (and subsequent modifying legislation) were:

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- To set the council's revenue budget for 2023/24
- To set the Council Tax for 2023/24
- To approve an indicative medium term financial plan for 2023/26

The Director in her report addressed the above key issues with supporting appendices.

The Council also received a report from the Director of Governance and Communities seeking approval of the Council's capital investment strategy 2023/26 which was attached as appendix 1, and to approve the £126.1m capital investment for 2023/26. The Capital Investment Strategy met the requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy: Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities. The report explained that the proposed plan for Capital Investment provided an affordable and agile approach to investment prioritisation that acted as a catalyst for investment in North Lincolnshire in support of the council plan, enhancing the quality of life for residents and ensured the safe and efficient operation of the council.

Also presented for Council's consideration and approval by the Director: Governance and Communities was the council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2023/24. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement was set out in appendix 2 of the report, which had been developed in consultation with the council's treasury management advisors, Link Asset Services Ltd. (this statement also incorporated the Investment Strategy) The report also requested the Council to approve the Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in appendix 1 of the report, adopt the Prudential Code 2021, the CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and related DLUHC Guidance, approve the proposed Prudential Indicators 23/26, approve the policy on the Minimum Revenue Provision, approve the Investment Counterparties and Limits and approve Maturity Structure of Borrowing Limits.

In addition, the implementation of the 2023/2024 Pay Policy Statement report submitted by the Director: Economy and Environment outlined and sought approval of the council's Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. The statement must articulate a council's own policy on a range of issues relating to the pay of its workforce, particularly its senior staff (or 'chief officers') and its lowest paid employees. Pay policy statements must be prepared for each financial year and must be approved annually by the Council.

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan-

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

That the recommendations contained within report 3(a) be approved and adopted, subject to the following changes and additions:

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Council Tax and Adult Social Care Precept –

In order to support our communities at this time, general council tax will be frozen and the adult social care precept will be set at 1.75% in order to support our older and disabled residents.

- a) That the proposed 2.99% increase in general council tax be amended to 0.0% for 2023/24, and,
 - b) That the proposed 2% increase in adult social care precept be amended to 1.75% for 2023/24:
 - Appendix 1 Substituted by Revised Appendix 1 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
 - Table 1, 2 and 3 in Appendix 2 substituted by Table 1, 2 and 3 in Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
 - Table 1 in Appendix 3 substituted by Table 1 in Revised Extract of Appendix 3 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
 - Appendix 4 substituted by Revised Appendix 4 of Report 3(a) (enclosed)
 - c) at the proposal retains free car parking, the imagination library and free swimming, which continue to be protected for local residents.
2. That the recommendations contained within report 3(b) be approved and adopted.
 3. That the recommendations contained within report 3(c) be approved and adopted.
 4. That the recommendations contained within report 3(d) be approved and adopted.

TECHNICAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

**Revised Appendix 1
of Report 3(a)**

That the following technical recommendations be approved:

- 1 That the general council tax band D rate be set at £1,418.91, which represents an increase of 0.0% from the total 2022/23 band D rate.
- 2 That the adult social care precept band D rate be set at £224.16, which represents an increase of 1.75% from the total 2022/23 band D rate.
- 3 At the meeting held on 5th December 2022 Council set the following

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amounts for the year **2023/24**:

- (a) **51,270.5** as its Council Tax Base for the year [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the "Act"), and
 - (b) the Council Tax Base for each part of the area as shown in **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)**, column 2
- 4 That the following amounts for **2023/24**, as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, be approved:
- (a) **£84,850,402** being the **relevant basic amount of Council tax** for 2023/24 (Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes excluding parish precepts but including special expenses)
 - (b) **£398,121,505** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils (**gross expenditure including parish precepts and special expenses**)
 - (c) **£311,527,633** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (**gross income**)
 - (d) **£86,593,873** being the amount by which the aggregate at (b) above exceeds the aggregate at (c) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its **Council Tax requirement** for the year (**Item R** in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act)
 - (e) **£1,688.96** being the amount at (d) above (Item R), divided by Item T (5(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts) (**Band D council tax including parish precepts and special expenses**)
 - (f) **£2,352,852** being the aggregate amount of all special items and Parish precepts referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as per **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)** (**Total of all Parish Precepts and Special Expenses**)

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- (g) **£1,643.07** being the amount at 4(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(f) above by Item T, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates
- (h) **£36.21** being the amounts to be added to the amount at 4(g) above being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Councils area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate
- 5 That it be noted that for the year 2023/24 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and the Humberside Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as set out in **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)**.
- 6 That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the aggregate amount of Council Tax for the year 2023/24 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings. This can be derived by combining major precepting authority precepts with individual parish or area precepts in **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)**.
- 7 That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- 8 That the robustness of the estimates used in setting the level of council tax in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1)(a) of the Act) be confirmed.
- 9 That the adequacy of reserves included in the budget is in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1) (b) of the Act), and the policy for use of reserves as set out in Section 5 of the report and at **Appendix 3 of report 3(a)** be confirmed.
- 10 That the use of capital receipts flexibility be approved enabling spending charged to the revenue budget on service transformation to be capitalised as set out at **Appendix 7 of report 3(a)**.

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Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3 (a) see:

Attachment 1 - Estimate of Spending Power

Attachment 2 - Proposed Investment by Chief Officer Delegated Responsibility

Attachment 3 – Proposed Investment by Priority

Revised Extract of Appendix 3 of Report 3(a) see:

Attachment 4 – Reserve Statement

Revised Appendix 4 of Report 3(a)see:

Attachment 5 – Parish and Major Precepting Authority Precepts 2023/24

Moved by Councillor L Foster and seconded by Councillor A Davison as an amendment –

The Council is recommended to resolve as follows:

- 1 That the recommendations contained within report 3(a) be approved and adopted, subject to the following changes and additions:

Council Tax and Adult Social Care Precept

These proposals represent a balanced budget. This will be achieved by increasing the planned use of reserves in 2023/24, and will increase the level of savings required. However we will not be looking for cuts in public services or service delivery but will re-examine the increased costs of current projects.

- a) That the proposed 2.99% increase in general council tax be amended to 0% for 2023/24, and,
- b) That the proposed 2% increase in adult social care precept be confirmed at 2% for 2023/24:

- Appendix 1 substituted by Revised Appendix 1 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Table 1, 2 and 3 in Appendix 2 substituted by Table 1, 2 and 3 in Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Table 1 in Appendix 3 substituted by Table 1 in Revised Extract of Appendix 3 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).
- Appendix 4 substituted by Revised Appendix 4 of Report 3(a) (enclosed).

- 1 That the recommendations contained within report 3(b) be approved and

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adopted.

- 2 That the recommendations contained within report 3(c) be approved and adopted.
- 3 That the recommendations contained within report 3(d) be approved and adopted.
- 4 That the recommendations contained within report 3(d) be approved and adopted.

**TECHNICAL BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Revised Appendix 1
of Report 3(a)**

That the following technical recommendations be approved:

- 5 That the general council tax band D rate be set at £1,418.91, which represents an increase of 0% from the total 2022/23 band D rate.
- 6 That the adult social care precept band D rate be set at £228.20, which represents an increase of 2.00% from the total 2022/23 band D rate.
- 7 At the meeting held on 5th December 2022 Council set the following amounts for the year **2023/24**:
 - (c) **51,270.5** as its Council Tax Base for the year [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 (the "Act"), and
 - (d) the Council Tax Base for each part of the area as shown in **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)**, column 2
- 8 That the following amounts for **2023/24**, as required by the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended, be approved:
 - (a) **£85,057,535** being the **relevant basic amount of Council tax** for 2023/24 (Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes excluding parish precepts but including special expenses)
 - (b) **£398,121,495** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils (**gross expenditure including parish precepts and special expenses**)
 - (c) **£311,320,490** being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act (**gross income**)

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- (d) **£86,801,005** being the amount by which the aggregate at (b) above exceeds the aggregate at (c) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its **Council Tax requirement** for the year (**Item R** in the formula in Section 31B(1) of the Act)
- (e) **£1,693.00** being the amount at (d) above (**Item R**), divided by **Item T** (5(a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish precepts) (**Band D council tax including parish precepts and special expenses**)
- (f) **£2,352,852** being the aggregate amount of all special items and Parish precepts referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act, as per **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a) (Total of all Parish Precepts and Special Expenses)**
- (g) **£1,647.11** being the amount at 4(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 4(f) above by **Item T**, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates
- (h) **£36.21** being the amounts to be added to the amount at 4(g) above being the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Councils area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate

9 That it be noted that for the year 2023/24 the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside and the Humberside Fire Authority have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as set out in **Revised Appendix 4 of report 3(a)**.

10 That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the aggregate amount of Council Tax for the year 2023/24 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings. This can be derived by combining major precepting authority precepts with individual parish or area precepts in **Revised Appendix 4 of**

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report 3(a).

11 That the Council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2023/24 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992.

12 That the robustness of the estimates used in setting the level of council tax in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1)(a) of the Act) be confirmed.

13 That the adequacy of reserves included in the budget is in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 requirements (Part 2 Section 25 (1) (b) of the Act), and the policy for use of reserves as set out in Section 5 of the report and at **Appendix 3 of report 3(a)** be confirmed.

14 That the use of capital receipts flexibility be approved enabling spending charged to the revenue budget on service transformation to be capitalised as set out at **Appendix 7 of report 3(a)**.

Revised Extract of Appendix 2 of Report 3 (a) see:

Attachment 6 - Estimate of Spending Power

Attachment 7 - Proposed Investment by Chief Officer Delegated Responsibility

Attachment 8 – Proposed Investment by Priority

Revised Extract of Appendix 3 of Report 3(a) see:

Attachment 9 – Reserve Statement

Revised Appendix 4 of Report 3(a) see:

Attachment 10 – Parish and Major Precepting Authority Precepts 2023/24

Following completion of the debate on the budget the council proceeded to the vote.

Members were reminded that in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 immediately after any vote was taken at a budget meeting the voting shall be recorded in the minutes to show whether each member present votes for or against a decision or who abstained from voting.

The names of members voting for, against and abstaining from the amendment are as follows: –

FOR: *Councillors Ali, Armitage, A Davison, Ellerby, L Foster,*

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*Gosling, Grant, O'Sullivan, Rayner, Southern, Swift, Wilson
and Yeadon*

AGAINST: *Councillors Armiger, Briggs, Clark, J Davison, England, Evison, T Foster, Hannigan, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, Poole, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Ross, Saunby, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE and Wells.*

ABSTAINING: *Nil*

Amendment Lost.

The names of members voting for, against and abstaining from the motion are as follows :-

FOR: *Councillors Armiger, Briggs, Clark, J Davison, England, Evison, T Foster, Hannigan, Lee, Longcake, Marper, Mitchell, Poole, Reed, Robinson, Rose, Ross, Saunby, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE and Wells.*

AGAINST: *Councillors Armitage, A Davison, L Foster, Grant, Rayner, Swift, and Yeadon.*

ABSTAINING: *Councillors Ali, Ellerby, Gosling, O'Sullivan, Southern and Wilson.*

Motion Carried.

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Revised Extract of
Appendix 2 of Report 3(a)

Table 1 – Estimate of Spending Power

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's	FORECAST SPENDING POWER	2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
	<u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT FUNDING</u>			
	Settlement Funding Assessment			
(6,426)	Revenue Support Grant	(7,281)	(7,572)	(7,572)
(33,171)	NNDR Baseline Funding	(34,412)	(35,792)	(36,481)
(39,597)	Total Settlement Funding Assessment	(41,693)	(43,364)	(44,053)
	<u>Other General Funding</u>			
(72,683)	Council Tax (0.0% 23/24, 2.99% 24/25 1.99 25/26)*	(73,358)	(76,470)	(78,849)
(9,952)	Social Care Precept (1.75% 23/24 , 2% 24/25, 1% 25/26)*	(11,493)	(13,278)	(14,277)
(673)	New Homes Bonus	(75)	(75)	0
(7,237)	Improved Better Care Fund	(7,237)	(7,237)	(7,237)
(216)	Rural Services Delivery Grant	(216)	(216)	(216)
(7,614)	Social Care Grant	(12,494)	(14,434)	(14,434)
0	Adult Social Care Market Sustainability Fund	(1,782)	(2,678)	(2,678)
(514)	Adult Social Care - Fair Cost of Care Fund	0	0	0
0	Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	(1,015)	(1,649)	(1,649)
(266)	Lower Tier Services Grant	0	0	0
(2,287)	Services Grant	(1,289)	(1,289)	(1,289)
(101,442)	Total Other Funding	(108,959)	(117,326)	(120,629)
(141,039)	TOTAL FINANCE SETTLEMENT FUNDING	(150,652)	(160,690)	(164,682)
	<u>Local Spending Power Funding</u>			
(1,456)	Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit (+): CTAX	0	0	0
(73)	Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit (+): NNDR	(1,433)	0	0
(14,777)	NNDR Rate Retention Income**	(21,445)	(22,598)	(23,337)
(16,306)	Total Local Spending Power Funding	(22,878)	(22,598)	(23,337)
(157,345)	TOTAL SPENDING POWER	(173,530)	(183,288)	(188,019)
	<u>Core Funding - Other Grants</u>			
(437)	DSG Central School Services	(495)	(495)	(495)
(9,700)	Public Health Grant	(9,894)	(10,092)	(10,294)
(10,137)	Total Core Funding - Other Grants	(10,389)	(10,587)	(10,789)
(2,369)	Use of Reserves ***	(7,567)	(2,433)	0
(169,851)	TOTAL CORE FUNDING	(191,486)	(196,308)	(198,808)

* Local amounts will differ from Government assessment figures due to local decisions

** Includes compensation for underindexing to business rates multiplier which the Government include in core spending power assessment

*** Additional £5m use of reserves approved in year in 2022/23 to address inflation pressures, increasing revised net budget to £174.9m

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Table 2 – Proposed Investment by Chief Officer delegated responsibility.

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's	MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY	2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
49,639	Adults & Health	61,320	64,566	65,866
25,879	Children & Families	26,515	26,515	26,515
44,598	Economy & Environment	47,925	48,934	48,934
21,517	Governance & Communities (Core)	23,238	22,938	22,938
20,923	Governance & Communities (Technical)	25,171	34,439	38,639
7,295	Public Health	7,317	7,317	7,317
169,851	SERVICE TOTAL	191,486	204,709	210,209
	One Council Transformation Efficiencies	-	(8,401)	(11,401)
169,851	NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	196,308	198,808

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Table 3 – Proposed Investment by Priority

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's	PRIORITY INVESTMENT	2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
79,973	Keeping People Safe And Well	90,530	93,449	94,749
29,826	Enabling Communities To Flourish	29,621	29,641	29,641
9,032	Grow ing The Economy	8,729	8,581	8,581
30,901	Running the Business (Organisation)	35,203	36,387	36,387
14,119	Running the Business (Technical)	9,754	13,419	14,119
163,851	PRIORITY TOTAL	173,837	181,477	183,477
6,000	Inflationary Provisions	17,649	23,232	26,732
6,000	OTHER BUDGETS	17,649	23,232	26,732
169,851	PROVISIONAL NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	204,709	210,209
-	One Council Transformation Efficiencies	-	(8,401)	(11,401)
169,851	NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	196,308	198,808

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RESERVES STATEMENT AND STRATEGY

Revised Extract of
Appendix 3 of Report 3(a)

Table 1 - Reserves Statement

2021/22 £000's Actual	2022/23 £000's Estimate		2023/24 £000's Estimate	2024/25 £000's Estimate	2025/26 £000's Estimate
		REVENUE RESERVES			
		Organisational Reserves			
8,493	8,993	General Fund	10,000	10,394	10,394
31,081	26,004	Risk and Transformation	17,440	14,613	14,613
2,563	2,563	NNDR Returned Levy	2,563	2,563	2,563
2,337	1,820	Public Health	1,357	908	1,318
44,474	39,379	Total Organisational Reserves	31,359	28,477	28,887
		Earmarked Reserves			
212	106	Adult Social Care	106	106	106
450	450	DSG - Delegated Items	450	450	450
289	289	Taxi Licensing	208	208	208
1,183	883	Other Earmarked Reserves	752	752	752
2,134	1,728	Total Earmarked Reserves	1,516	1,516	1,516
		Grant Reserves			
917	617	Rural Mobility Grant	309	0	0
446	-	Syrian Resettlement Grant	0	0	0
748	559	Troubled Families Grant	370	181	0
3,864	336	Covid-19 LA Support	61	30	30
919	-	Covid-19 Contain Outbreak Manage	0	0	0
6,779	1,948	Other Grant Reserves	1605	1331	1331
13,673	3,461	Total Grant Reserves	2,345	1,542	1,361
60,281	44,568	TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES	35,221	31,535	31,764
		School Reserves			
6,856	6,856	Schools Balances	6,856	6,856	6,856
5,565	5,565	Dedicated Schools Grant	5,565	5,565	5,565
12,421	12,421	Total School Reserves	12,421	12,421	12,421
72,702	56,988	TOTAL RESERVES	47,641	43,956	44,185

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Parish and Major Precepting Authority Precepts 2023/24

Revised Appendix 4

of Report 3(a)

Parish or Area	Taxbase	Precept (£)	BAND (all figures in £)							
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Alkborough	165.8	6,152.00	24.74	28.86	32.98	37.10	45.35	53.60	61.84	74.21
Amcotts	76.7	4,864.00	42.28	49.32	56.37	63.42	77.51	91.60	105.69	126.83
Appleby	236.7	11,862.00	33.41	38.98	44.55	50.11	61.25	72.39	83.52	100.23
Ashby Parkland	241.1	5,000.00	13.83	16.13	18.43	20.74	25.35	29.96	34.56	41.48
Barnetby le Wold	564.4	25,000.00	29.53	34.45	39.37	44.29	54.14	63.98	73.82	88.59
Barrow on Humber	1,055.9	55,000.00	34.73	40.51	46.30	52.09	63.66	75.24	86.81	104.18
Barton upon Humber	3,782.0	166,750.00	29.39	34.29	39.19	44.09	53.89	63.69	73.48	88.18
Belton	1,187.6	39,000.00	21.89	25.54	29.19	32.84	40.14	47.43	54.73	65.68
Bonby	196.7	12,911.39	43.76	51.05	58.35	65.64	80.23	94.81	109.40	131.28
Bottesford	3,642.2	91,000.00	16.66	19.43	22.21	24.98	30.54	36.09	41.64	49.97
Brigg	1,734.2	120,578.93	46.35	54.08	61.80	69.53	84.98	100.43	115.88	139.06
Broughton	1,709.3	122,524.00	47.79	55.75	63.72	71.68	87.61	103.54	119.47	143.36
Burringham	216.8	18,738.00	57.62	67.22	76.83	86.43	105.64	124.84	144.05	172.86
Burton upon Stather	958.2	77,502.00	53.92	62.91	71.90	80.88	98.86	116.83	134.80	161.77
Cadney cum Howsham	156.0	6,000.00	25.64	29.91	34.19	38.46	47.01	55.56	64.10	76.92
Crowley	1,639.7	68,250.00	27.75	32.37	37.00	41.62	50.87	60.12	69.37	83.25
East Butterwick	44.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
East Halton	205.0	8,514.00	27.69	32.30	36.92	41.53	50.76	59.99	69.22	83.06
Eastoft	148.6	6,000.00	26.92	31.40	35.89	40.38	49.35	58.32	67.29	80.75
Elsam	170.2	8,000.00	31.34	36.56	41.78	47.00	57.45	67.89	78.34	94.01
Epworth	1,593.6	76,176.00	31.87	37.18	42.49	47.80	58.42	69.05	79.67	95.60
Flixborough	537.0	20,839.00	25.87	30.18	34.49	38.81	47.43	56.05	64.68	77.61
Garthorpe & Fockerby	145.3	9,000.00	41.29	48.18	55.06	61.94	75.71	89.47	103.23	123.88
Goxhill	815.6	74,400.00	60.81	70.95	81.09	91.22	111.49	131.76	152.04	182.44
Gunness	639.4	38,340.00	39.97	46.64	53.30	59.96	73.29	86.61	99.94	119.92
Haxey	1,709.4	39,538.00	15.42	17.99	20.56	23.13	28.27	33.41	38.55	46.26
Hibaldstow	823.2	19,965.00	16.17	18.86	21.56	24.25	29.64	35.03	40.42	48.51
Horkstow	60.8	1,800.00	19.74	23.03	26.32	29.61	36.18	42.76	49.34	59.21
Keadby with Althorpe	504.6	37,116.56	49.04	57.21	65.38	73.56	89.90	106.25	122.59	147.11
Kirmington & Croxton	136.8	14,252.00	69.45	81.03	92.61	104.18	127.33	150.48	173.64	208.36
Kirton in Lindsey	1,132.7	103,875.00	61.14	71.33	81.52	91.71	112.08	132.46	152.84	183.41
Luddington & Haldenby	120.0	6,000.00	33.33	38.89	44.44	50.00	61.11	72.22	83.33	100.00
Manton	44.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Melton Ross	74.6	4,800.00	42.90	50.04	57.19	64.34	78.64	92.94	107.24	128.69
Messingham	1,328.1	71,000.00	35.64	41.58	47.52	53.46	65.34	77.22	89.10	106.92
New Holland	262.8	14,000.00	35.51	41.43	47.35	53.27	65.11	76.95	88.79	106.54
North Killingholme	90.8	6,918.00	50.79	59.26	67.72	76.19	93.12	110.05	126.98	152.38
Owston Ferry	464.9	33,892.98	48.60	56.70	64.80	72.90	89.10	105.31	121.51	145.81
Redbourne	163.8	12,500.00	50.88	59.35	67.83	76.31	93.27	110.23	127.19	152.63
Roxby cum Risby	157.2	8,000.00	33.93	39.58	45.24	50.89	62.20	73.51	84.82	101.78
Saxby all Saints	90.0	6,850.00	50.74	59.20	67.65	76.11	93.02	109.94	126.85	152.22
Scawby cum Sturton	825.6	35,000.00	28.26	32.97	37.68	42.39	51.81	61.23	70.66	84.79
Scunthorpe *	16,829.1	609,381.71	24.14	28.16	32.19	36.21	44.26	52.30	60.35	72.42
South Ferriby	215.9	12,619.36	38.97	45.46	51.96	58.45	71.44	84.43	97.42	116.90
South Killingholme	315.8	18,843.79	39.78	46.41	53.04	59.67	72.93	86.19	99.45	119.34
Thornton Curtis	102.3	2,614.00	17.03	19.87	22.71	25.55	31.23	36.91	42.59	51.10
Ulceby	589.3	20,000.00	22.63	26.40	30.17	33.94	41.48	49.02	56.56	67.88
West Butterwick	286.6	2,300.00	5.35	6.24	7.13	8.03	9.81	11.59	13.38	16.05
West Halton	116.5	5,000.00	28.61	33.38	38.15	42.92	52.46	61.99	71.53	85.84
Whitton	85.6	2,567.00	19.99	23.32	26.66	29.99	36.65	43.32	49.98	59.98
Winteringham	341.5	20,500.00	40.02	46.69	53.36	60.03	73.37	86.71	100.05	120.06
Winterton	1,427.3	120,035.93	56.07	65.41	74.76	84.10	102.79	121.48	140.17	168.20
Wootton	197.8	9,000.00	30.33	35.39	40.44	45.50	55.61	65.72	75.83	91.00
Worlaby	201.0	16,000.00	53.07	61.91	70.76	79.60	97.29	114.98	132.67	159.20
Wrawby	525.8	15,774.00	20.00	23.33	26.67	30.00	36.67	43.33	50.00	60.00
Wroot	183.7	10,307.41	37.41	43.64	49.88	56.11	68.58	81.05	93.52	112.22
51,270.50	2,352,852.06									

Major Precepting Authority	Taxbase	Precept (£)	BAND (all figures in £)							
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
North Lincolnshire Council *	51,270.5	72,748,225.16	945.94	1,103.60	1,261.25	1418.91	1,734.22	2,049.54	2,364.85	2,837.82
Adult Social Care Precept *	51,270.5	11,492,795.28	149.44	174.35	199.25	224.16	273.97	323.79	373.60	448.32
Humberside Police	51,270.5	13,750,235.40	178.79	208.59	238.39	268.19	327.79	387.39	446.98	536.38
Humberside Fire Authority	51,270.5	4,875,824.55	63.40	73.97	84.53	95.10	116.23	137.37	158.50	190.20

* Changed from Appendix 4 of report 3(a)

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Revised Extract of
Appendix 2 of Report 3(a)

Table 1 – Estimate of Spending Power

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's	FORECAST SPENDING POWER	2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
	<u>LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT FUNDING</u>			
	<u>Settlement Funding Assessment</u>			
(6,426)	Revenue Support Grant	(7,281)	(7,572)	(7,572)
(33,171)	NNDR Baseline Funding	(34,412)	(35,792)	(36,481)
(39,597)	Total Settlement Funding Assessment	(41,693)	(43,364)	(44,053)
	<u>Other General Funding</u>			
(72,683)	Council Tax (0% 23/24, 2.99% 2024/25, 1.99% 25/26)*	(73,358)	(76,476)	(78,860)
(9,952)	Social Care Precept (2% 23/24 & 2024/25, 1% 25/26)*	(11,700)	(13,491)	(14,494)
(673)	New Homes Bonus	(75)	(75)	0
(7,237)	Improved Better Care Fund	(7,237)	(7,237)	(7,237)
(216)	Rural Services Delivery Grant	(216)	(216)	(216)
(7,614)	Social Care Grant	(12,494)	(14,434)	(14,434)
0	Adult Social Care Market Sustainability Fund	(1,782)	(2,678)	(2,678)
(514)	Adult Social Care - Fair Cost of Care Fund	0	0	0
0	Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	(1,015)	(1,649)	(1,649)
(266)	Lower Tier Services Grant	0	0	0
(2,287)	Services Grant	(1,289)	(1,289)	(1,289)
(101,442)	Total Other Funding	(109,166)	(117,545)	(120,857)
(141,039)	TOTAL FINANCE SETTLEMENT FUNDING	(150,859)	(160,909)	(164,910)
	<u>Local Spending Power Funding</u>			
(1,456)	Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit (+): CTAX	0	0	0
(73)	Collection Fund Surplus (-) / Deficit (+): NNDR	(1,433)	0	0
(14,777)	NNDR Rate Retention Income**	(21,445)	(22,598)	(23,337)
(16,306)	Total Local Spending Power Funding	(22,878)	(22,598)	(23,337)
(157,345)	TOTAL SPENDING POWER	(173,737)	(183,507)	(188,247)
	<u>Core Funding - Other Grants</u>			
(437)	DSG Central School Services	(495)	(495)	(495)
(9,700)	Public Health Grant	(9,894)	(10,092)	(10,294)
(10,137)	Total Core Funding - Other Grants	(10,389)	(10,587)	(10,789)
(2,369)	Use of Reserves ***	(7,360)	(2,640)	0
(169,851)	TOTAL CORE FUNDING	(191,486)	(196,734)	(199,036)

* Local amounts will differ from Government assessment figures due to local decisions

** Includes compensation for underindexing to business rates multiplier which the Government include in core spending power assessment

*** Additional £5m use of reserves approved in year in 2022/23 to address inflation pressures, increasing revised net budget to £174.9m

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Table 2 – Proposed Investment by Chief Officer delegated responsibility.

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's	MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY	2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
49,639	Adults & Health	61,320	64,566	65,866
25,879	Children & Families	26,515	26,515	26,515
44,598	Economy & Environment	47,925	48,934	48,934
21,517	Governance & Communities (Core)	23,238	22,938	22,938
20,923	Governance & Communities (Technical)	25,171	34,439	38,639
7,295	Public Health	7,317	7,317	7,317
169,851	SERVICE TOTAL	191,486	204,709	210,209
	One Council transformation efficiencies	0	(7,975)	(11,173)
169,851	NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	196,734	199,036

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Table 3 – Proposed Investment by Priority

2022/23 Approved Budget £000's		2023/24 Provisional Budget £000's	2024/25 Provisional Budget £000's	2025/26 Provisional Budget £000's
	PRIORITY INVESTMENT			
79,973	Keeping People Safe And Well	90,530	93,449	94,749
29,826	Enabling Communities To Flourish	29,621	29,641	29,641
9,032	Grow ing The Economy	8,729	8,581	8,581
30,901	Running the Business (Organisation)	35,203	36,387	36,387
14,119	Running the Business (Technical)	9,754	13,419	14,119
163,851	PRIORITY TOTAL	173,837	181,477	183,477
6,000	Inflationary Provisions	17,649	23,232	26,732
6,000	OTHER BUDGETS	17,649	23,232	26,732
169,851	PROVISIONAL NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	204,709	210,209
0	One Council transformation efficiencies	0	(7,975)	(11,173)
169,851	NET OPERATING EXPENDITURE	191,486	196,734	199,036

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**Revised Extract of
Appendix 3 of Report 3(a)**

Table 1 – Reserve Statement

2021/22 £000's Actual	2022/23 £000's Estimate		2023/24 £000's Estimate	2024/25 £000's Estimate	2025/26 £000's Estimate
REVENUE RESERVES					
Organisational Reserves					
8,493	8,993	General Fund	10,000	10,394	10,394
31,081	26,004	Risk and Transformation	17,647	14,613	14,613
2,563	2,563	NNDR Returned Levy	2,563	2,563	2,563
2,337	1,820	Public Health	1,357	908	1,318
44,474	39,379	Total Organisational Reserves	31,566	28,477	28,887
Earmarked Reserves					
212	106	Adult Social Care	106	106	106
450	450	DSG - Delegated Items	450	450	450
289	289	Taxi Licensing	208	208	208
1,183	883	Other Earmarked Reserves	752	752	752
2,134	1,728	Total Earmarked Reserves	1,516	1,516	1,516
Grant Reserves					
917	617	Rural Mobility Grant	309	-	-
446	-	Syrian Resettlement Grant	-	-	-
748	559	Troubled Families Grant	370	181	-
3,864	336	Covid-19 LA Support	61	30	30
919	-	Covid-19 Contain Outbreak Management	-	-	-
6,779	1,948	Other Grant Reserves	1,605	1,331	1,331
13,673	3,461	Total Grant Reserves	2,345	1,542	1,361
60,281	44,568	TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES	35,428	31,535	31,764
School Reserves					
6,856	6,856	Schools Balances	6,856	6,856	6,856
5,565	5,565	Dedicated Schools Grant	5,565	5,565	5,565
12,421	12,421	Total School Reserves	12,421	12,421	12,421
72,702	56,988	TOTAL RESERVES	47,848	43,956	44,185

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**Revised Extract of
Appendix 4 of Report 3(a)**

Parish and Major Precepting Authority Precepts 2023/24

Parish or Area	Taxbase	Precept (£)	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Alkborough	165.8	6,152.00	24.74	28.86	32.98	37.10	45.35	53.60	61.84	74.21
Amcotts	76.7	4,864.00	42.28	49.32	56.37	63.42	77.51	91.60	105.69	126.83
Appleby	236.7	11,862.00	33.41	38.98	44.55	50.11	61.25	72.39	83.52	100.23
Ashby Parkland	241.1	5,000.00	13.83	16.13	18.43	20.74	25.35	29.96	34.56	41.48
Barnetby le Wold	564.4	25,000.00	29.53	34.45	39.37	44.29	54.14	63.98	73.82	88.59
Barrow on Humber	1,055.9	55,000.00	34.73	40.51	46.30	52.09	63.66	75.24	86.81	104.18
Barton upon Humber	3,782.0	166,750.00	29.39	34.29	39.19	44.09	53.89	63.69	73.48	88.18
Belton	1,187.6	39,000.00	21.89	25.54	29.19	32.84	40.14	47.43	54.73	65.68
Bonby	196.7	12,911.39	43.76	51.05	58.35	65.64	80.23	94.81	109.40	131.28
Bottesford	3,642.2	91,000.00	16.66	19.43	22.21	24.98	30.54	36.09	41.64	49.97
Brigg	1,734.2	120,578.93	46.35	54.08	61.80	69.53	84.98	100.43	115.88	139.06
Broughton	1,709.3	122,524.00	47.79	55.75	63.72	71.68	87.61	103.54	119.47	143.36
Burringham	216.8	18,738.00	57.62	67.22	76.83	86.43	105.64	124.84	144.05	172.86
Burton upon Stather	958.2	77,502.00	53.92	62.91	71.90	80.88	98.86	116.83	134.80	161.77
Cadney cum Howsham	156.0	6,000.00	25.64	29.91	34.19	38.46	47.01	55.56	64.10	76.92
Crowley	1,639.7	68,250.00	27.75	32.37	37.00	41.62	50.87	60.12	69.37	83.25
East Butterwick	44.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
East Halton	205.0	8,514.00	27.69	32.30	36.92	41.53	50.76	59.99	69.22	83.06
Eastoft	148.6	6,000.00	26.92	31.40	35.89	40.38	49.35	58.32	67.29	80.75
Elsham	170.2	8,000.00	31.34	36.56	41.78	47.00	57.45	67.89	78.34	94.01
Epworth	1,593.6	76,176.00	31.87	37.18	42.49	47.80	58.42	69.05	79.67	95.60
Flixborough	537.0	20,839.00	25.87	30.18	34.49	38.81	47.43	56.05	64.68	77.61
Garthorpe & Fockerby	145.3	9,000.00	41.29	48.18	55.06	61.94	75.71	89.47	103.23	123.88
Goxhill	815.6	74,400.00	60.81	70.95	81.09	91.22	111.49	131.76	152.04	182.44
Gunness	639.4	38,340.00	39.97	46.64	53.30	59.96	73.29	86.61	99.94	119.92
Haxey	1,709.4	39,538.00	15.42	17.99	20.56	23.13	28.27	33.41	38.55	46.26
Hibaldstow	823.2	19,965.00	16.17	18.86	21.56	24.25	29.64	35.03	40.42	48.51
Horkstow	60.8	1,800.00	19.74	23.03	26.32	29.61	36.18	42.76	49.34	59.21
Keadby with Althorpe	504.6	37,116.56	49.04	57.21	65.38	73.56	89.90	106.25	122.59	147.11
Kirmington & Croxton	136.8	14,252.00	69.45	81.03	92.61	104.18	127.33	150.48	173.64	208.36
Kirton in Lindsey	1,132.7	103,875.00	61.14	71.33	81.52	91.71	112.08	132.46	152.84	183.41
Luddington & Haldenby	120.0	6,000.00	33.33	38.89	44.44	50.00	61.11	72.22	83.33	100.00
Manton	44.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Melton Ross	74.6	4,800.00	42.90	50.04	57.19	64.34	78.64	92.94	107.24	128.69
Messingham	1,328.1	71,000.00	35.64	41.58	47.52	53.46	65.34	77.22	89.10	106.92
New Holland	262.8	14,000.00	35.51	41.43	47.35	53.27	65.11	76.95	88.79	106.54
North Killingholme	90.8	6,918.00	50.79	59.26	67.72	76.19	93.12	110.05	126.98	152.38
Owston Ferry	464.9	33,892.98	48.60	56.70	64.80	72.90	89.10	105.31	121.51	145.81
Redbourne	163.8	12,500.00	50.88	59.35	67.83	76.31	93.27	110.23	127.19	152.63
Roxby cum Risby	157.2	8,000.00	33.93	39.58	45.24	50.89	62.20	73.51	84.82	101.78
Saxby all Saints	90.0	6,850.00	50.74	59.20	67.65	76.11	93.02	109.94	126.85	152.22
Scawby cum Sturton	825.6	35,000.00	28.26	32.97	37.68	42.39	51.81	61.23	70.66	84.79
Scunthorpe *	16,829.1	609,381.71	24.14	28.16	32.19	36.21	44.26	52.30	60.35	72.42
South Ferriby	215.9	12,619.36	38.97	45.46	51.96	58.45	71.44	84.43	97.42	116.90
South Killingholme	315.8	18,843.79	39.78	46.41	53.04	59.67	72.93	86.19	99.45	119.34
Thornton Curtis	102.3	2,614.00	17.03	19.87	22.71	25.55	31.23	36.91	42.59	51.10
Ulceby	589.3	20,000.00	22.63	26.40	30.17	33.94	41.48	49.02	56.56	67.88
West Butterwick	286.6	2,300.00	5.35	6.24	7.13	8.03	9.81	11.59	13.38	16.05
West Halton	116.5	5,000.00	28.61	33.38	38.15	42.92	52.46	61.99	71.53	85.84
Whitton	85.6	2,567.00	19.99	23.32	26.66	29.99	36.65	43.32	49.98	59.98
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Winterton	1,427.3	120,035.93	56.07	65.41	74.76	84.10	102.79	121.48	140.17	168.20
Wootton	197.8	9,000.00	30.33	35.39	40.44	45.50	55.61	65.72	75.83	91.00
Worlaby	201.0	16,000.00	53.07	61.91	70.76	79.60	97.29	114.98	132.67	159.20
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Wroot	183.7	10,307.41	37.41	43.64	49.88	56.11	68.58	81.05	93.52	112.22
	51,270.50	2,352,852.06								

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Adult Social Care Precept *	51,270.5	11,699,928.10	152.13	177.49	202.84	228.20	278.91	329.62	380.33	456.40
Humberside Police	51,270.5	13,750,235.40	178.79	208.59	238.39	268.19	327.79	387.39	446.98	536.38
Humberside Fire Authority	51,270.5	4,875,824.55	63.40	73.97	84.53	95.10	116.23	137.37	158.50	190.20

* Changed from Appendix 4 of report 3(a)

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

18 May 2023

- Present -

THE MAYOR - Councillor John Briggs

Councillors Ahmed, Ali, Armitage, Bell, Clark, A Davison, J Davison, Ellerby, L Foster, Garritt, Gosling, Grant, Hannigan, Kennedy, Longcake, Marper, Matthews, Mitchell, O'Sullivan, Ogg, Patterson, Poole, Reed, Rose, Ross, Rowson, C Sherwood, N Sherwood, Southern, Swift, K Vickers, P Vickers, Walshe, Waltham MBE, Wells, and Yates.

The Council met at Normanby Hall, Normanby.

2906 **WELCOME AND SPEECH OF THE RETIRING MAYOR**

The Mayor welcomed councillors, officers and guests to the meeting. He outlined some of the highlights of his year of office which included the proclamation of the new King Charles III locally following the death of the late Queen Elizabeth II, and said that it had been a great honour and privilege to represent North Lincolnshire as Mayor for a second time. He emphasised that North Lincolnshire was the best place to live, work and visit and he had met many more fantastic residents of North Lincolnshire during his second term. He also thanked all those who had supported him throughout his year especially during his period of ill health, particularly the Deputy Mayor Janet Longcake for standing in at many events, his Mayoress, Joanne Brown, his chaplain Reverend Graham Lines, Councillor Julie Reed his fellow ward councillor, the Young Mayor, Mayor's Cadet, charity organisers and officers of Mayoral Services. Finally, he presented cheques to representatives of his charities the Fire Fighters Charity, Magic Moments and Starlight Arts, and expressed his best wishes to the newly elected mayor for 2023/24.

2907 **TO ELECT A MAYOR FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2023/24**

Following the opening remarks made by Councillor John Briggs the council proceeded to elect a Mayor for the council year 2023/24 -

Moved by Councillor J Davison and seconded by Councillor N Poole -

That Councillor Janet Longcake be elected Mayor of North Lincolnshire Council for the ensuing year.

Motion Carried

At this point in the meeting Councillor Longcake took the chair.

Councillor Longcake then expressed her thanks to the council for her election, announced her consort, her chaplain, her charities as part of her appeal fund, her Mayor's cadet and spoke of her hopes for her year in office.

**COUNCIL
18 May 2023**

2908 VOTE THANKS TO RETIRING MAYOR

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor L Foster -

That the council expresses to Councillor John Briggs its sincere thanks for carrying out the duties of Mayor of North Lincolnshire Council over the past year.

Motion Carried

2909 TO APPOINT A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2023/24

The council then proceeded to the appointment of a Deputy Mayor -

Moved by Councillor J Reed and seconded by Councillor R Waltham MBE -

That Councillor John Briggs be appointed Deputy Mayor of North Lincolnshire Council for the ensuing year.

Motion Carried

At this point in the proceedings the meeting was adjourned briefly and was then reconvened for the formal business of the meeting.

2910 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (IF ANY).

Declarations of personal interests were indicated as follows –

Member

Subject/Minute

Councillor M Ali

Taxi Licence Holder with schools' transport contract.

2911 ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS - REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the election of councillors following the local elections on 4 May 2023.

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hanningan -

That the report be noted.

Motion Carried

2912 MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL 2023/2024

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan -

That meetings of the council be held at the time indicated on the following dates -

Thursday 5 October 2023 - 2.00 p.m.

**COUNCIL
18 May 2023**

Friday 1 December 2023 - 2.00 p.m.
Thursday 22 February 2024 - 2.00 p.m. (Budget Meeting)
Thursday 16 May, 2024 - (Annual Meeting) 10.30am.

Motion Carried

2913 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING ACT 1989 - POLITICAL BALANCE OF THE COUNCIL**

The Director: Governance and Communities submitted a report which in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 reviewed the political composition of the council following its local elections held on 4 May 2023, and the proposed allocation of seats available to appointed political groups/members on the size of committees/panels to be considered and appointed by Council.

The political balance following the 4 May 2023 elections of the council was Conservative- 27 and Labour -16. Appendix A to the report set out details how this ratio of members was shown in the allocation of members to committees/panels, depending on the total number of members on each committee/panel and in accordance with the proportionality rules and principles contained in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. Appendix B set out the current range of committees 2022/23 (pre-election) for information with their total membership.

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan -

That following a review of the political balance of its committees in accordance with the principles of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the proposed allocation of seats available to political groups/members on the size of committees/panels appointed as set of below, be approved.

POLITICAL BALANCE ARRANGEMENTS - 2023/24

COUNCIL
18 May 2023

(Based on 27 (*63%) Conservative and 16 (*37%) Labour Political Proportionality)

Committee	No. of Members	Conservative	Labour
Planning Committee	8	5	3
Licensing Committee	12	7	5
Appeals Committee (Drawn from a pool of 12 members – 8 Conservative and 4 Labour)	3	2	1
Audit Committee	7	4	3
Governance Scrutiny Panel	3	2	1
Health, Integration and Performance Scrutiny Panel	3	2	1
Place Scrutiny Panel	3	2	1
Children’s Scrutiny Panel **	7	6	1
Standards Committee	7	4	3
Appointment and Employment Committee	5	3	2
Total Seats	58	37	21
Proportionality		*63.7%	*36.2%

**Majority of seats on the committee/panel to be maintained by the majority political group. This panel includes 4 statutory co-opted members - two Church Representatives – voting, plus two Parent Governors Representatives – voting, in relation to Education Issues only.

COUNCIL
18 May 2023

Motion Carried

2914 **NOTIFICATION OF GROUP LEADERS, DEPUTY LEADERS AND SECRETARIES.**

That the following appointments below be noted –

GROUP	LEADER	DEPUTY LEADER	SECRETARY
Conservative	Councillor R Waltham MBE	Councillor R Hannigan	Councillor N Poole
Labour	Councillor L Foster	Councillor T Gosling	Councillor S Swift

2915 **ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

Moved by Councillor R Hannigan and seconded by Councillor J England –

That Councillor R Waltham MBE be elected Leader of the Council for a four-year term.

Motion Carried

2916 **NUMBER AND NAMES OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET AND THEIR CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIOS, AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES/PANELS**

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan -

- (a) That the number, names below and portfolios of Cabinet Members (see appendix 1 of the Working Papers) be noted, and
(b) that Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committees/Panels/Board as listed below be appointed -

Councillor	Cabinet Member Portfolio, Chair or Vice -Chair
Councillor A Davison	Vice Chair - Governance Scrutiny Panel
Councillor J Davison	Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities (Ashby, Bottesford, Scunthorpe)
Councillor T Foster	Vice Chair – Audit Committee Chair – Children’s Scrutiny Panel

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Councillor R Hannigan	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adults, Health Families and Communities Vice Chair – Appointment and Employment Committee
Councillor J Kennedy	Chair – Place Scrutiny Panel
Councillor J Lee	Chair – Governance Scrutiny Panel
Councillor E Marper	Cabinet Member for Investment, Outcomes and Governance
Councillor T Mitchell	Cabinet Member for Connectivity
Councillor O’Sullivan	Vice Chair – Health, Integration and Performance Scrutiny Panel
Councillor N Poole	Cabinet Member for Environment Operations Chair – Standards Committee
Councillor J Reed	Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Communities
Councillor D Rose	Cabinet Member for Environment and Strategy
Councillor D Robinson	Chair – Health, Integration and Performance Scrutiny Panel
Councillor C Ross	Vice Chair – Planning Committee
Councillor C Sherwood	Cabinet Member for Safer, Stronger Communities (Rural)
Councillor N Sherwood	Chair – Planning Committee
Councillor S Swift	Vice Chair - Place Scrutiny Panel
Councillor K Vickers	Chair – Licensing Committee Chair – Audit Committee
Councillor P Vickers	Vice Chair – Licensing Committee
Councillor R Waltham MBE	Leader and Cabinet Member for Place Shaping, Steel and Heavy Industry, Chair – Health and Wellbeing Board Chair – Appointment and Employment Committee
Councillor L Yeadon	Vice Chair – Children’s Scrutiny Panel

Motion Carried

COUNCIL
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2917 TO ESTABLISH AND APPOINT MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES, SCRUTINY PANELS AND KEY OUTSIDE BODIES.

Having regard to the report of the Director: Governance and Communities entitled 'Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - Political Balance of the Council' (minute 2913 refers) it was -

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan-

(a) That in accordance with the requirements of Item 8(a) on this agenda, minute 2913 refers – the Committees/Panels/Board as named below be appointed until the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2024 or such earlier date as may be determined from time to time by the Council, and the number of members and appointments be as shown, and (b) that the number of members be appointed to key outside bodies (names to be notified) as listed below until the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2024 or such earlier date as may be determined from time to time by the council-

PLANNING COMMITTEE (8 Members)

Conservative (5)

Councillors:
N Sherwood (c)
Ross (vc)
J Davison
Patterson
Wells

Labour (3)

Councillors:
Bell
Grant
Southern

LICENSING COMMITTEE (12 Members)

Conservative (7)

Councillors:
K Vickers (c)
P Vickers (vc)
Clark
Kennedy
Mitchell

Labour (5)

Councillors:
Ahmed
Armitage
Ellerby
Matthews
Rayner

Rowson
C Sherwood

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (7 Members)

Conservative (4) (vc tbc)

Councillors:
Poole(c)
Ogg

Labour (3)

Councillors:
Ali
O'Sullivan

COUNCIL
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Ross
Wells

Swift

Independent Persons - (Non-Voting)

Mr A Forbes
Dr W Harvie
Mr R Johnson

APPEALS COMMITTEE (3 Members, *two Conservative and one Labour*)

Membership of appeals committees to deal with individual cases to be appointed as required from eligible members as set out below -

Conservative (8)

Councillors:
Armiger
Clark
Longcake
Ogg
Poole
Ross
Rowson
Wells

Labour (4)

Councillors:
O'Sullivan
Southern
Swift
Yates

AUDIT COMMITTEE (7 Members)

Conservative (4)

Councillors:
K Vickers (c)
T Foster (vc)
Clark
Mitchell

Labour (3)

Councillors:
A Davison
Yates
Yeadon

CHILDREN'S SCRUTINY PANEL (7 Members)

Conservative (6)

Councillors:
T Foster (c)
Armiger
Longcake
Patterson

Labour (1)

Councillors:
Yeadon (vc)

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Ross
Wells

Church Representatives

**Parent Governor
Representatives**

Dr D Whiteoak
(Vacancy)

Mr C Howsam
Mr J Mitcheson

Note: The majority of seats on the panel to be maintained by the majority political group. This panel includes four statutory co-opted members, two Church Representatives -voting, plus two Parent Governor Representatives – voting, in relation education issues only.

GOVERNANCE SCRUTINY PANEL (3 Members)

Conservative (2)
Councillors:
Lee (c)
Rowson

Labour (1)
Councillors:
A Davison (vc)

HEALTH, INTEGRATION AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY PANEL (3 Members)

Conservative (2)
Councillors:
Robinson (c)
Armiger

Labour (1)
Councillors:
O'Sullivan (vc)

PLACES SCRUTINY PANEL (3 Members)

Conservative (2)
Councillors:
Kennedy (c)
P Vickers

Labour (1)
Councillors:
Swift (vc)

APPOINTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (5 Members)

Conservative (3)
Councillors:
Hannigan (vc)
Poole
Waltham MBE (c)

Labour (2)
Councillors:
L Foster
T Gosling

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HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Conservative (1 Voting Member)

Councillor:
Waltham MBE

Conservative (2 Non-Voting Members)

Councillors:
Hannigan
Reed

Key Outside Bodies	Number of Members	Conservative Members	Labour Members
Humberside Combined Fire Authority	4	3	1
Humberside Bridge Board	1	1	-
Humberside Airport Board	1	1	-
North Lincolnshire Adoption Panel.	2	1	1
Humberside Police and Crime Panel	To be appointed in line with all member council's joint political balance/proportionality arrangements.		

Motion Carried

2918 **APPOINTMENT OF LEAD MEMBERS**

Moved by Councillor R Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor R Hannigan -

(a) That lead members be appointed to champion the following :-

Councillor Armiger	Communities

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Councillor Clark	Culture
Councillor Garritt	Public Protection
Councillor Ogg	Ambassador/Cabinet Support for Flooding, Farming and Rural Communities
Councillor Patterson	Ambassador/Cabinet Support for Environment
Councillor Ross	Ambassador/Cabinet Support for Connectivity
Councillor Rowson	Health
Councillor P Vickers	Small Businesses
Councillor Walshe	Young People and Leisure
Councillor Wells	Highways

Motion Carried

2919 **TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2023/24**

The Director: Governance and Communities submitted a proposed timetable of meetings for 2023/2024.

Moved by Councillor Waltham MBE and seconded by Councillor Hannigan -

(a) That the timetable of meetings for 2023/2024 attached as Appendix 2 to the Working Papers be approved and adopted, and (b) that a fixed timetable of meetings be set by Scrutiny Panels at their first meetings.

Motion Carried

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

APPROVAL OF INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

<p>1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT</p> <p>1.1 For Council to approve the interim arrangements for the Head of Paid Service (including Returning Officer) following the agreement in principle by the Appointments and Employment Committee on 14th September 2023</p>

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Under the Officer Employment Procedures it is required that Chief Officers are appointed by a Committee of the Council.

2.2 Appointments and Employment Committee is discharged on the Council's behalf (in line with the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in part D rule 8 of the Constitution) all relevant functions. These relate to the appointment, dismissal and associated decisions on terms and conditions, including the designation of statutory Chief Officers.

2.3 It should be noted that Council must approve the appointment of the Council's Head of Paid Service before an offer of appointment is made.

2.4 The Appointments and Employment Committee convened on 14th September 2023 and approved some temporary changes to the senior management structure. Part of those temporary changes included the Director: Economy & Environment (now Director Outcomes) be appointed as the Head of Paid Service (including Returning Officer) on an interim basis until the executive recruitment process has been concluded and a new Chief Executive is in place.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 To approve the interim arrangements for the role of Head of Paid Service (including Returning Officer).

3.2 To reject the proposals outlined in this report.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 The Council has embarked on an executive recruitment process and therefore an interim arrangement is required to discharge statutory responsibilities until a new Chief Executive is in place.

4.2 In order to ensure the capacity at a senior level to discharge statutory responsibilities and ensure appropriate cover arrangements are in place temporary changes to the senior management structure have been made.

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

5.1 There are no additional staffing costs associated with this process.

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

6.1 None identified.

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

7.1 N/A

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

8.1 Trade Unions have been consulted on this issue.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 Council approves the interim appointment to the Head of Paid Service (including Returning Officer) until a new Chief Executive is in place.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Church Square House

SCUNTHORPE

North Lincolnshire

Post Code DN15 6NL

Author: Leanne Dudhill, Assistant Director Organisational Development

Date: 27th September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report – Minutes of the Appointments and Employment Committee 14th September 2023.

Report of the Director:
Children and Families

Item Number: 5
Meeting: 5 October 2023

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

Youth Justice Plan 2023/24

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 For Council to approve the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 which sets out the shared ambition and priorities of the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that it is the duty for each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan setting out:
- how youth justice partnerships in the area are provided and funded
 - how the Youth Justice Partnership is composed and funded, how it operates, and the functions it carries out
- 2.2 In March 2023 the Youth Justice Board (YJB) provided updated guidance on the required format and contents of youth justice plans. This included a new template that had to be utilised to support and facilitate the YJB oversight and analysis of plans.
- 2.3 Annual youth justice plans are an opportunity to review performance and developments over a single year period and plan for the next year. This allows partnerships to be able to respond to any changes that have taken place in the previous year, including new legislation, demographic changes, delivery of key performance indicators, and developments in delivery.
- 2.4 The planning and production of a youth justice plan is beneficial to partnership working and partnership delivery to ensure the best outcomes for children.
- 2.5 The annual youth justice plan considers local and regional priorities including:
- Reducing first time entrants to the youth justice system
 - Reducing the use of custody
 - Reducing reoffending rates

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 This report is to seek approval from Full Council regarding the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 which sets out the shared ambition and priorities of the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership.
- 3.2 Localised priorities have been reviewed and updated. Individual partner board members have been identified as leads and have responsibility for providing regular updates at each board meeting outlining the progress against their lead priority area, ensuring accountability across the partnership board.
- 3.3 The plan sets out the local key priorities as:
- Diversion and Out of Court
 - Reduction of Child Exploitation and Serious Violence
 - Transition to Adulthood process
 - Engagement in Education, Employment and Training
 - Improve the Emotional and Physical Health of children involved with youth justice.
 - Diversity and Disproportionality

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Endorsement of the Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 to support the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board to provide system-wide leadership and advocate the child first principle and diversion away from the criminal justice system. In keeping with North Lincolnshire One Family Approach to support children and young people **thrive in their families, achieve in their schools and flourish in their communities.**
- 4.2 Not to support the Youth Justice Plan 2023/24

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

- 5.1 Following receipt of delegated budget from the Ministry of Justice, The Youth Justice Board (YJB) was delegated £92.5m for grants in 2023/2024, this is an increase of 4.5% from 2022/23.
- 5.2 It was recognised that youth justice partnerships face significant inflationary pressures, as well as (in many parts of the country) an increase in both the volume and complexity of the children with whom we work with. In determining its budget allocation to the YJB, the Ministry of Justice had to take account of wider financial pressures facing the department and government.

This increase in funding is an uplift on last year's funding which was, in turn, the largest for many years and is an acknowledgment of the

challenging context in which youth justice partnerships are delivering critical youth justice services.

- 5.3 Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act outlines our statutory duty to prepare and submit an annual youth justice plan. The plan must be written following the Guidance published by the Youth Justice Board and must be signed off by the chair of the management board.
- 5.4 This duty is also outlined as a requirement of the terms and conditions of grant.
- 5.5 The Youth Justice Partnership are required to publish a youth justice plan in line with relevant legislation.
- 5.6 The Grant is provided by the Authority under its power in section 41 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Funding Period starts on 01/04/2023 and ends on 31/03/2024 unless terminated earlier in accordance with this Grant Funding Agreement.

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

- 6.1 **Crime and Disorder; Equalities; Council Plan:** The Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 reviews the progress and successes achieved and how the partnership will continue to deliver improved outcomes for some of the most vulnerable young people with a focus on reducing anti-social behaviour and offending.

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

- 7.1 N/A

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

- 8.1 The Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 sets out the **shared vision and priorities** for North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership. The plan has been developed alongside partners and board members utilising development session discussions to ensure we are confident of the priorities set and assurance that the **child first** principle is fully embedded.
- 8.2 The plan was submitted to the Youth Justice Board on 07/08/23 which was an extension from the 30/06/23 as a result of the North Lincolnshire HMIP Inspection.
- 8.3 The plan was also considered at the Children's Scrutiny Panel on 13 September 2023 at which it was very well received.

8.4 The Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 will be presented to Full Council for final endorsement.

8.5 A child and young person friendly version of the plan is in development and will be published alongside the formal plan.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 For Council to approve the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 which is a key document in the delivery of youth justice provision in the area.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Church Square House

SCUNTHORPE

North Lincolnshire

DN15 6NL

Author: Emma Young – Lead Officer Youth Justice Partnership

Date: 08/08/23

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Youth Justice Plan 2023/24

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2023-2024



Youth Justice Partnership
North Lincolnshire

Annex A – Youth Justice Plan

Partnership	North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership
Lead Officer	Emma Young
Chair of YJSP Board	Edwina Harrison

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Introduction, vision and strategy

Foreword by the Independent Chair of the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board

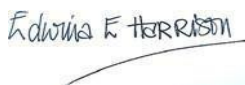
It is not always easy to motivate people around plans, but we really do try hard to do so in the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board. We do so by involving children and families, the Youth Justice Team and the Board members. We have reviewed our priorities and made some changes and will continue to monitor the impact throughout 2023-24.

During 2022-23 we have continued with the established model of having lead roles for the statutory partners on the Board, and they have made a significant contribution to this Plan as well as to the meetings. The success of this coordinated approach can be seen in the very positive performance data, which is reported regularly to the YJB, as well as through the excellent support across the agencies who work with children.

During the year we have welcomed attendance at the Board by representatives of the YJB regional team. We also welcome recent changes in the arrangements which will bring more contact and communication at local level. We are in a strong position to report on the additional 10 new Key Performance Indicators which have been introduced from April 2023.

As part of our commitment to transparency and to a learning culture we requested a Peer Review by the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership. The team joined us in early March 2023 to look at areas which had been jointly identified beforehand. The process was positive and useful, involving children and families as well as practitioners and YJSPB members.

The Review team had not been gone long before we were notified that the long awaited HMIP inspection would take place in May 2023, although the report is not due to be published until autumn. This Plan incorporates any findings from these visits, and I hope that as well as learning about the achievements of the past year, you also find that it is a forward looking and interesting document.



Edwina Harrison
Independent Chair
July 2023

Executive Summary

This Youth Justice Plan sets out the vision and priorities for North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership. The plan has been developed alongside partners and board members utilising development session discussions to ensure we are confident of the priorities set and assurance that the child first principle is fully embedded.

Children and Young people have been consulted and shared their views to support the plan.

The workforce has equally contributed and written some of the plan content, setting out the vision of the partnership and providing key updates from the last 12 months alongside their perceived priorities for the year ahead.

The plan builds on our achievements in 2022/23 and sets out our strong partnership commitment to early help, prevention and diversion and introduces new strategies that are being implemented across the region to strengthen this further. It outlines our commitment to reducing first time entrants, reducing re-offending and sustaining our current performance in ensuring children are diverted from custody.

During 2022/23 North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership have been subject to intensive external scrutiny through a Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership (YJSIP) Peer Review in March 2023 and subsequent HMIP Inspection in May 2023. Whilst awaiting formal publication, learning and reflection from these processes and the feedback received has supported us to compile a strong plan with added assurance for the priorities set to aid our continued development.

Localised priorities have been reviewed and updated. Individual partner board members have been identified as leads and have responsibility for providing regular updates at each board meeting outlining the progress against their lead priority area, ensuring accountability across the partnership board.

The plan sets out the local key priorities for 2023/24 as:

- **Prevention, Diversion and Out of Court,**
- **Reduction of Child Exploitation and Serious Violence,**
- **Transition to Adulthood process,**
- **Engagement in Education, Employment and Training,**
- **Improve the Emotional and Physical Health of children involved with youth justice,**
- **Children from groups which are over-represented (Diversity & Disproportionality)**

The plan summarises North Lincolnshire's Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) Approach and progress to date whilst outlining our ongoing journey and interface with other local and national strategic plans.

Risks and challenges are clearly defined in the risk log which identifies how we will seek to overcome barriers and challenges to ensure business continuity.

Finally, the plan outlines our ongoing work to strengthen and develop practice and assurance.

Vision and Strategy

The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) places a statutory responsibility on local authorities, acting with statutory partner agencies, to establish a Youth Offending Team (YOT). The statutory function of the YOT is to co-ordinate the provision of Youth Justice Partnerships. Section 40

of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out responsibilities in relation to the production of an annual Youth Justice Plan. It is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan setting out:

- how youth justice partnerships in their area are to be provided and funded.
- how the YOT will be composed and funded, how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out.

Under the auspices of the **Council Plan**, as a council and working with partners, we are ambitious for North Lincolnshire and we want our area to be the **#BestPlace** for our residents.

We are committed to ensuring that our children, young people and families are **safe, well, prosperous and connected**.

Our plan is aligned with existing policy initiatives including North Lincolnshire's '**One Family Approach**' (OFA). OFA, as endorsed by the Integrated Children's Trust, underpins the values, principles and how we collectively respond to the needs of Children and Families in North Lincolnshire. Through our One Family Approach, we will work together with schools as the primary partner, wider partners and the community to build on and further strengthen our integrated offer for all children and young people, so that they can **thrive in their families, achieve in their schools and flourish in their communities**.

We want our children and young people to feel loved, to feel warmth and care and to feel included and happy. We want to continue to move forward and be ambitious for our children, young people and families across the place and neighbourhoods of North Lincolnshire

Our statutory Youth Justice Partnership is situated in Children and Families within North Lincolnshire Council, and as a multi-agency partnership, it is an integral part of our integrated offer for children and families across North Lincolnshire. The Youth Justice Partnership and delivery of the Youth Justice Plan is overseen by the independently chaired Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board, at which there is high support and high challenge.

The Youth Justice Partnership aims to reduce and prevent offending by children and young people through a partnership approach that builds resilience. At the heart of the partnership is the belief that children and young people within the youth justice system should be seen as children first, which aligns with our One Family Approach, and which is demonstrated in our practice.

Traditionally known as a Youth Offending Service, the partnership demonstrated our commitment to 'Child First' and became a '**Youth Justice Partnership**' understanding that language describing children as 'offender' and 'young offender' serves only to "encourage the stigmatisation and criminalisation of children" and "reinforces a feeling of exclusion and discourages positive re-integration into society" (Youth Justice Legal Centre, 2020).

Over the next 12 months we intend to strengthen this commitment further aligned to our **children and families transformation** with a 'shine a light' focus on improving outcomes for children and young people with vulnerabilities and further development of our **integrated youth offer** ensuring help is provided at the right level by the right person using the fewest, best interventions.

The Youth Justice Plan clarifies our local youth justice arrangements, sets out the shared ambition and priorities across the Youth Justice Partnership and reinforces our focus on **system wide leadership** so that children are diverted away from the youth justice system wherever possible.

Our focus on both reducing and preventing offending, is enabled through early help, family

help and protection, health provision, education, training and employment opportunities and suitable accommodation. This is further supported through enabling and empowering children and young people to participate and engage in the young people's offer across the place and neighbourhoods of North Lincolnshire.

We utilise the Serious Youth Violence Stocktake and the Ethnic Disproportionality Toolkit, which supports us to address any issues of over-representation of particular ethnic groups and reflect on the partnership offer. The Serious Youth Violence Data toolkit is designed to help us identify gaps and strengths in the work we are doing to reduce serious youth violence.

In North Lincolnshire, all children and young people matter, and we are focused on ensuring extra care and commitment to those open to our Youth Justice Partnership. Through the collaborative work that we do, the determination of partners, we are making a positive difference and we will continue our focus on listening, learning, reviewing and adapting to improve outcomes for our children, young people and families.

Local context

North Lincolnshire is a small Local Authority on the south bank of the Humber estuary, which borders onto North East Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire, South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. Scunthorpe lies at the urban centre of the area, which is otherwise predominantly rural, made up of a number of historic market towns and surrounded by large and small villages and hamlets, as well as an attractive countryside.

There are robust partnership working arrangements across the place of North Lincolnshire and the wider footprint, including across other Local Authority areas in the Humber region (North East Lincolnshire, Hull and East Riding), who share the same police force (Humberside Police). We also have strong relationships with local health providers (NLAG and RDASH) who are coterminous with other Local Authorities, and we have a strong interface with the Yorkshire and South Humber Integrated Care Board, through the North Lincolnshire Health and Care Partnership.

Living in North Lincolnshire, children, young people and families:

- can enjoy extensive footpaths, cycleways, open spaces, public gardens and parks, as well as a wide-ranging sport, leisure and cultural offer
- have access to house prices lower than the national average and good levels of employment, of which 40% of local jobs are classed as highly skilled.
- can benefit from above average quality early years and school settings.
- can benefit from an effective early help, family help and protection delivered by agencies committed to intervening early, supporting the whole family, and preventing escalation of need through the fewest, best interventions.

North Lincolnshire is home to 172,005 people (mid 2018 ONS population estimate). This has risen steadily since 2005 and is expected to continue to grow by a further 3.68% over the next 25 years. It is anticipated that there are 47,292 young people under the age of 25 years living in the area, of which 37,491 are aged 0 to 18.

North Lincolnshire is ranked as the 127th most deprived local authority area in England (of 326) (compared to a ranking of 120th most deprived in 2010). The most recent Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) show that the number of our Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in the 10% most deprived areas in the country has reduced and the number of LSOAs in the least deprived areas has increased since 2010. 9% of the area's LSOAs are in the 10% most deprived nationally, and the main pockets of deprivation in North Lincolnshire are concentrated in the Scunthorpe urban area.

As at January 2022, there are 24,774 children on a school roll. In March 2022, 90% of schools are currently judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. 100% of schools have been judged by Ofsted to have effective arrangements for safeguarding children.

As at January 2022, 13.1% of the pupil population in North Lincolnshire were identified as having SEN support, with 3.1% having an EHCP. Nationally in 2021, 12.2% of pupils were identified with SEN Support, with 3.7% having an EHCP.

There are 79 schools in North Lincolnshire (15 secondary schools, 4 junior schools, 5 infant schools, 53 primary schools. Within which there are two special schools (one primary and one secondary). We also have a university technical college, an academy Alternative Provider and two colleges. 3 secondary schools have sixth forms offering a wide range of courses and quality post 16 provision. We also have a University Campus (UCNL), and four independent special schools two of which also provide post-16 provision.

The vast majority of our children and young people with SEND are educated in our mainstream early years 'settings, schools or colleges.

Between 2016 and 2022 the North Lincolnshire primary school black and minority ethnic cohort has increased from 15.2% to 17.7%, and in secondary schools from 11.9% to 14.1%.

As at January 2022 the proportion of children eligible for and claiming free school meals:

- In primary schools is 26.9% (national 21.6% -2021)
- In secondary schools is 25.2% (national 18.9%-2021)
- In special schools is 42.2% (national 43.2% -2021)

Child First

The principle ‘**Child First**’ guides the work of the Youth Justice Board and underpins our work and values in North Lincolnshire. We recognise that children in the justice system often have multiple and complex needs and we will prioritise these needs and seek to identify any structural barriers they may face. Where possible, we seek to divert children from the justice system entirely and address these needs recognising that interventions focusing on the root causes of offending behaviour seeks to support safer communities with fewer victims.

For those who do offend, our core focus continues to be rehabilitation, tackling underlying causes of youth offending, and delivering a system that gives children the support they need to break the cycle of offending and build productive and fulfilling lives. ‘Child First’ is now an evidenced based approach to delivering youth justice and North Lincolnshire will continue to adopt and embed this approach across the partnership in line with our One Family Approach model.

The guiding principle for the youth justice system

Child First means that all youth justice services...

As children	Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their particular needs, capacities, rights and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.
Building pro-social identity	Promote children’s individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.
Collaborating with children	Encourage children’s active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion. All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers.
Diverting from stigma	Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system.

Voice of the child

The voice of young people is at the heart of all we do. Young people’s views and experiences are central to our culture of listening, learning, reviewing and adapting to achieve improved outcomes. We acknowledge that our workforce is our greatest asset in achieving our ambition for children to thrive in their families, achieve in their schools and flourish in their communities.

Our Council Plan sets out our promise to the people of North Lincolnshire, including children, young people and families, that it will be the best place for our residents and that the people and place of North Lincolnshire will be safe, well, prosperous and connected. The voices of children are families are strong, they are listened to and acted upon throughout.

In North Lincolnshire we have an established range of mechanisms to ensure that the views of young people shape and influence developments, policy, practice and inform individual plans.

The **Children and Families Voice and Engagement Framework** articulates our local approach outlining:

- the scope of voice and engagement in North Lincolnshire.
- our commitment to engaging with children, young people and families and to enabling their voice to shape and influence all that we do.
- our engagement mechanisms and arrangements across Children and Families, the Council and the wider partnership.
- our core engagement activity.

Our **V&E Steering Group** and **Operational Group** bring together leaders and lead officers across children and families to ensure that:

1. voice is central to our work.
2. voice informs strategic development, policy, practice and planning.
3. we listen, take action and develop our offer in true partnership.

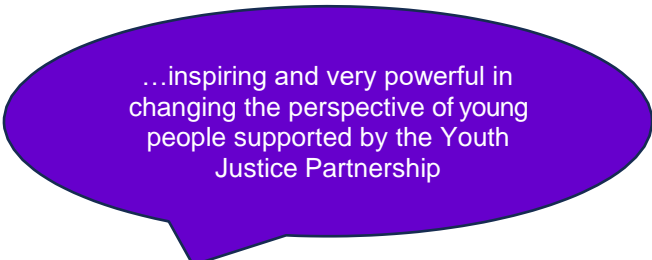
Children have been consulted to support the development of this plan, utilising their direct experiences of the support they have received and what we need to do to make this better.

The Independent Chair of the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board has equally been hearing directly from children to enable their voice to make a difference to the provisions which are provided. The independent chair has had the opportunity to visit some of the groups that take place under the partnership and looks forward to future opportunities to hear directly from the children in the youth justice partnership.

Learning from COVID-19 we moved away from our traditional feedback forms and self-assessments and have been creative in our approaches including utilising digital platforms such as survey monkey to obtain feedback and support analysis of this.

Throughout 2022/23 we developed this further and have worked directly with children and young people to co-produce a series of short and impactful animations that can be used as a resource to explain the Youth Justice Partnership offer. Narrated by young people and using their words, the animations present young people's views of the YJP, how they found things and the difference it made.

The Board recently described the animation as:



...inspiring and very powerful in changing the perspective of young people supported by the Youth Justice Partnership

We utilise our framework, '**you asked, you said, and we did**' to demonstrate our response. Some examples of this in action include:

- We asked young people about the type of places and spaces they would like to access and following consultation undertook a mapping exercise of premises that were available and accessible. We identified existing spaces for direct work with young people that we will continue to develop in line with the views of young people.
- The YJP work closely with colleagues across the partnership to develop funding opportunities and co-ordinate a variety of projects based on what young people tell us they want.

Other key developments to enhance how we capture the voice of children and young people include:

- Feedback obtained through the YJSIP Peer Review and HMIP Inspection
- Children and Families quarterly thematic consultation
- Strengthened approach to quality assurance (feedback, consultation and observation to inform monthly audit activity)
- Children and young people are involved in recruitment.
- Media co-production projects – Not in our community, Animation, Lifestyle Project
- Group Work Projects and Positive Activities
- Strong partnership working with the North Lincs Voice and Engagement Team
- North Lincolnshire are signed up to the YJB Youth Advisory Network.
- Voice is a recurrent agenda item at the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board.
- DCS Assurance Events – focused on voice and participation.
- Questionnaires used to inform self-evaluations.

XXX was a pleasure to have as a YJP worker, she took the time to understand my child and his disabilities. She is an asset to the team.

My YJ worker "She comes to my school which is easier for me, she is nice, she respects me."

Child C said.... "the worker is great, very happy with the support, she is someone to talk to and really helps "

A parent said ". (the worker) is like one of the family"

Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

Governance and Leadership

Our statutory Youth Justice Partnership (YJP) is part of the Children and Families area within North Lincolnshire Council, and as a multi-agency partnership, it is an integral part of our integrated offer for children and families across North Lincolnshire.

The Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board (YJSPB) has an independent chair, Edwina Harrison who brings extensive experience to the role including senior management within youth justice and as a longstanding independent chair of the North Lincolnshire Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Edwina has a good understanding of the role, and work of the Youth Justice Partnership and provides confident leadership to the board.

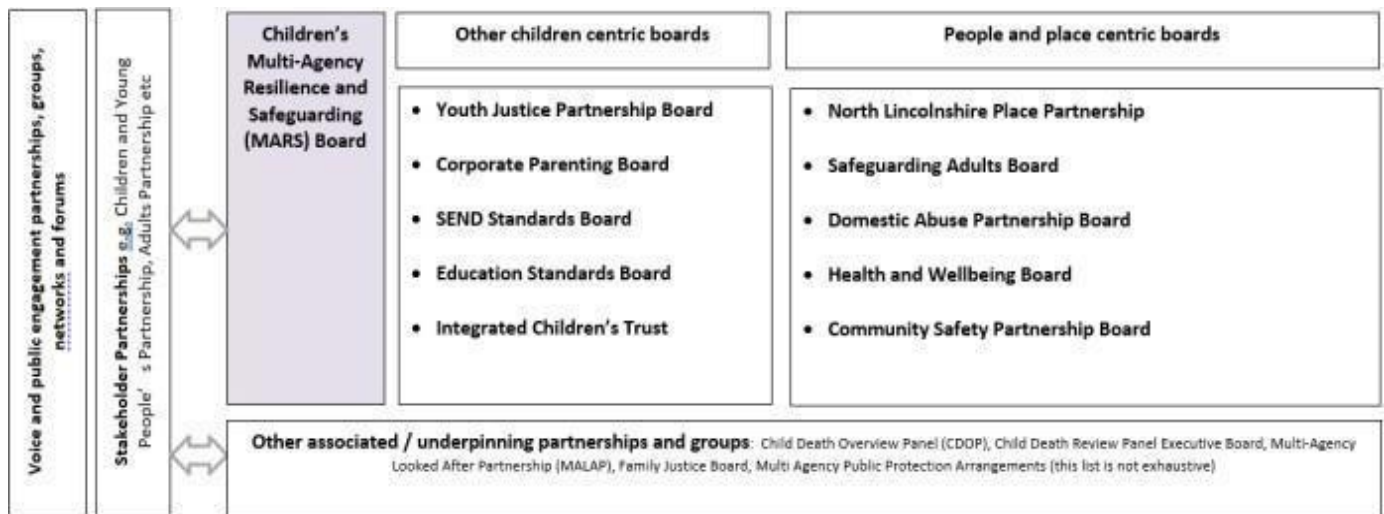
The YJSPB meets quarterly and oversees strategic management, funding arrangements, partnership working and access to partner agency provisions. The Board receives quarterly management reports and closely monitors performance against the key performance indicators, staffing arrangements, generic workforce issues, and specific projects. The YJSPB also oversees action plans, policies, procedures and partnership protocols.

The Youth Justice Lead Officer reports quarterly and annually on new initiatives and financial issues that have budget implications for the overall expenditure. The line management of the Youth Justice Lead Officer falls within the remit of the Director of Children and Families.

The Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board interfaces with the wider strategic partnerships and boards within North Lincolnshire including the Children’s Multi-Agency Safeguarding and Resilience Board (CMARS), the Community Safety Partnership, Violence Prevention Partnership Board and the Integrated Care Board.

More recently, there has been a cross board development session which brought together the Safeguarding Adults Board, Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, Childrens MARS Board, Community Safety Partnership and Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board. This aim of the session was to consider any cross-cutting priorities and workstreams. This session enabled board managers to map out who needed to be invited to a larger scale development session which is planned for the Autumn.

Locally, there is a culture of challenge and holding partners to account. There are embedded systems and processes for professional challenge across the safeguarding system and evidence of scrutiny and assurance arrangements in place at all levels across our safeguarding partner organisations. Anything that requires further escalation from the YJSPB will report to the MARS board.



Key aspects of the YJSPB include:

- Senior representatives attend the board who add value through support and challenge and ensure child first principles underpin practice at all levels of organisations.
- Regular well attended meetings and development sessions take place with board members to build on strong relationships between partner agencies.
- Lead roles group meets between board to maintain momentum and members work with specific Youth Justice team members.
- Subgroups are developed to resolve issues.
- Regular Performance and budget information underpins planning process.
- Thorough induction process is in place for new board members.
- Partnership advocacy and commitment to ‘Child First’
- Engaging and incorporating the views of children to deliver a high quality, individualised responsive offer.

- Formulation and implementation of the Youth Justice Plan
- Strategic oversight of the standards for children in the youth justice system
- Leadership that promotes valuing, equality and diversity

Partnerships

Section 39 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the co-operation of the named statutory partners to form a YOT. Section 38 (1, 2) identifies the statutory partners and places a duty on them to co-operate to secure youth justice partnerships appropriate to their area.

These statutory partners are:

- The local authority (this includes children's social care and education).
- The police.
- The probation service.
- Health.

The YJP is constituted of staff seconded from or employed by these agencies. To support the YJP, additional partners may also be recruited to provide specific provisions and support to children.

In North Lincolnshire, our One Family Approach aims to create a system that works for all children, young people and families where we work together to provide and commission an integrated offer for children and young people. We want to build on the collective strengths of our people and place to innovate and change through integration and system redesign.

In North Lincolnshire there is a comprehensive range of high-quality support offers in place to enable personalised and responsive provision for all children. The Youth Justice Partnership is an active member of the Humberside Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) which is attended by the Youth Justice and Children's Social Care managers and works closely with probation services, the police and partners to reduce offending.

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership is also an active member of the Humberside Criminal Justice Board, Community Safety Partnership and Violence Prevention Partnership Board.

The Youth Justice Partnership is represented on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) panels, is a core member of the Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) Group at the HSB Panel strategic and practitioner levels, part of the strategic group to develop our approach to Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) and part of the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) process.

The North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan is linked to a range of partnership strategies and plans including:

- North Lincolnshire Council Plan 2022-25
- Humberside Police and Crime Plan
- North Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership Plan (CSP)
- Risk Outside the Home Strategy 2022-25
- Helping Children and Families 2020-24
- Children's Commissioning Strategy 2020-24
- SEND and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024
- Humber Modern Slavery Strategy 2020-23
- CMARS | Policies, procedures and guidance
- Humberside Police Early Intervention Strategy

The Humber Violence Prevention Partnership is working with CSPs and other partners to develop a **Response Strategy** for serious violence. Each CSP will have its own Delivery Plan, forming part of the strategy, tailored to local needs.

Involvement in the criminal justice system can impact adversely on a child's life chances, intervening at the earliest point provides the opportunity to deliver partnership models of preventative work that consider risk outside the home, desistance, and the relational approach. In North Lincolnshire, our early intervention work is in partnership with the Drug Education Liaison Treatment Agency (DELTA), the Child Exploitation Team (CEIT), The Outreach Youth Offer and the statutory Youth Justice Team which currently forms 'The Youth Justice Partnership' and is overseen by the Joint Decision Making Panel (Diversion and Out of Court) and Prevention Allocations Meeting Panel.

The work encompasses a variety of themes, from substance misuse, exploitation, ASB, crime, domestic abuse, and emotional/mental health to ensure that a holistic programme of support is available to the young people.

Other key partnership arrangements and activities include:

- Working with partners to identify alternatives to remand and more robust community bail packages.
- Close partnership liaison to support the disruption of Organised Crime Groups who pose a risk to children in North Lincolnshire.
- A custody pathway that concentrates planning for young people at the point of entry to custody and provides immediate input on release re ETE, Health, Substance misuse, accommodation and family relationships.
- Working with partners to support vulnerable groups including children in and leaving care, children who are unaccompanied and seeking asylum, children identified as having SEND.
- Close links with the North Lincolnshire Fostering offer to identify alternative placements that avoid remands to custody, and provision of PACE beds.

Service Level Agreement and Partnership Arrangement Review Process

To assure effective partnership working, Service Level Agreements (SLA) exist between the Youth Justice Partnerships and key partner agencies, including police, probation, CAMHS and Children's Social Care with emphasis on Children in Care and substance misuse provision.

SLAs are subject to annual review and specify designated roles, accountabilities, responsibilities, recruitment processes, supervision, practice and delivery, and management of performance.

There have been a number of revised and developed protocols and agreements over the last 12 months including:

- Children in Custody Joint Protocol
- Prevention, Diversion and Out of Court Policy and Procedures
- Risk Management Policy
- Resettlement Policy
- Transitions Protocol

All SLA's and protocols/agreements are endorsed by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board.

Regional & National Partnerships

North Lincolnshire have developed excellent joint working arrangements with colleagues regionally and nationally. Regional partnership arrangements include:

- Reciprocal audit arrangements.
- Chair of Humber region quarterly head of service meetings.
- Joint Appropriate Adult arrangements.
- Consortium bid applications.
- Joint training.

Board Development

The YJB expects local management boards to take responsibility for all aspects of youth justice partnership governance; to lead strategically across relevant partners and to ensure a high-quality offer is provided to all children. In 2021 the YJB provided updated guidance on youth justice partnership governance and leadership to support this. A self-assessment survey, alongside the updated guidance was circulated with all board members to review their role and contribution against the guidance.

Management board members are provided with information and training when important changes take place within youth justice or their locality which will impact on how the partnership operates and delivers its priorities. There is a robust induction in place for new board members which outlines the requirements of attendance at the board ensuring there is a commitment to regularly attend, to scrutinise, check and challenge information which is presented and contribute to oversight of the Youth Justice Partnership and its functions.

Annual board development/training sessions take place and there are plans for board members to attend a joint training session on trauma informed practice in the next 12 months.

Board members met on 21st June 2023 to produce this plan and agree priorities for 2023/24. This session welcomed new board members and was equally attended by our newly appointed regional YJB representative.

Resources and services

As an accountable and publicly funded body, the Youth Justice Partnership is committed to ensuring value for money via robust budget management and effective delivery. The partnership ensures that resources are deployed appropriately to meet the changing demands of a smaller convicted cohort, with increased preventative and out of court disposal interventions.

The Youth Justice Partnership continues to achieve a balanced budget comprised in the main from Local Authority core funding and the Youth Justice Board Grant, supplemented by partner contributions and additional grant funding opportunities. There is ongoing commitment from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to continue to support the work of the YJP in diverting from and preventing youth crime. The PCC has agreed core funding allocations until 2025 providing some level of stability and continuity. The continued funding will be subject to submission of regular reports on delivery of outputs and outcomes.

Recent communication from the YJB outlined that the YJB was delegated £92.5m for the 23/24 youth justice core grant, an uplift of 4.5% from the previous financial year.

The 4.5% uplift reflects a balance of the current fiscal challenges of all departments and recognises the complex, vulnerable caseload in youth justice and inflationary pressures faced by partnerships. Grant funding is not currently able to be confirmed for multiple years (due to the political and economic climate).

Appendix 2 reflects the North Lincolnshire YJSPB Budget Costs and Contributions for 2023/24.

The Budget Costs and Contributions table clearly identifies additional funding opportunities that have arisen for 2023/23 including funding from the Home Office following the successful development of a Humberside Violence Reduction Unit (Violence Prevention Partnership).

This funding has been utilised to bolster our prevention, diversion and out of court offer, develop sports programmes to divert children and young people away from crime and ASB and further develop our outreach youth offer. This funding is temporary and therefore there are risks as the capacity and resource added to the team is currently on a fixed term basis.

North Lincolnshire have been granted the total sum of £241,948.46 for the period from December 2022 to March 2025 for the Turnaround programme. The annual breakdown of the grant amount is set out in appendix 2. This funding has equally enabled us to create additional resource and capacity in the team to deliver our robust preventative and diversion offer. Funding is equally being utilised to promote positive interventions with children and families to divert them away from the criminal justice system.

North Lincolnshire have worked in partnership with Humberside Police to receive additional funding from the Home Office GRIP funding. GRIP funding is a Home Office initiative aimed at cutting violence by giving additional funding to forces to support short-term suppression of levels of serious violence, as well as longer-term problem-solving strategies in hotspot areas. Through our effective partnership working Humberside Police have successfully obtained funding to commission a Virtual Reality Education Project in schools across North Lincolnshire and to purchase a detached mobile unit that will be gifted to the local authority to deliver interventions with young people in the community and aligned to our outreach youth offer.

North Lincolnshire will receive funding in 2023/24 to become a 'test and learn' pilot site as part of the Humber Coast and Vale Trauma Informed Youth Justice Pilot. There will be approximately £300k per year available to develop our model and work is ongoing across the system to consider how this funding will be utilised. The test and learn pilot will be funded for 2 years but the project is a total of 10 years and therefore a potential for funding to exceed.

Progress of previous plan

Case Management/Supervision

In line with the revised case management guidance, all children referred to the Youth Justice Partnership will be allocated a worker who is responsible for:

- engaging the child and building a positive relationship
- ensuring assessments are undertaken, kept up to date and regularly reviewed.
- ensuring any specific requirements of the court are addressed in the order, or if adjustments need to be made, taking appropriate action (e.g., variation of the order, change activity within the scope of the order)
- working with the child and their parents or carers to plan engagement and work to be undertaken.

- providing supervision through regular and agreed contact and being accessible to the child (and their parents or carers) throughout the period of contact with the YJP (includes maintaining contact with children who are remanded or sentenced to custody)
- reviewing the progress of the order when there is significant change (and at least every three months) with the child (and their parents or carers) and adjusting if a re-assessment or re-formulation of plans is necessary to achieve positive outcomes.
- managing transitions to adult or other providers
- managing closure of the order/contact with the child (including early revocation of the order because of positive progress made). In doing so ensuring that the child has their needs and rights met as well as any on-going support required to maintain progress beyond the end of an intervention

Over the past 12 months the workforce has experienced increased referrals into the partnership and vacancies have impacted on staff capacity. The plan for the next 12 months is to ensure all vacant posts are recruited to and that new staff are appropriately trained to deliver high level casework practice.

All staff are supported to complete the Youth Justice Effective Practice Certificate (YJEP) if they don't already have this, and some staff have been supported to complete the Level 5 Youth Justice Foundation Degree to develop the knowledge and youth justice experience within the team.

All practitioners work in line with the standards for children in the youth justice system which provide a framework to ensure good practice and quality is maintained.

Standard 2: At Court

The Court Team have continued to provide an excellent offer when advocating for the children and young people we work with. They adopt a child centred approach, while recognising the seriousness of certain offences, and recommendations for sentencing are proportionate. The team have been praised for the quality of their pre-sentence reports with Magistrates consistently minded to follow the recommendation of the report writer. Feedback is requested from the Magistrates following the completion of a report, to allow for challenge, and to highlight the good practice from the team which is celebrated.

Prior to each court sitting, a multi-agency pre-court meeting is held to ensure that everything is in place for the hearing. This includes ensuring the child and their parent/carers are able to get to the hearing, and they are supported with transport if not. In this meeting the offences are discussed, and recommendations are considered, including the request for a matter to be sent back for an Out of Court Disposal if deemed appropriate. Colleagues in social care are made aware of court hearings if a child is open to them i.e., Child Protection, Child in Need, Early Help to ensure all professionals involved with the child/family are available to support.

The court team have continued to strengthen their professional relationship with the court and advocate a trauma informed approach sharing their knowledge of the child and protected characteristics, which underpins the assessment of risk to the public and any relevant safeguarding issues. The team share knowledge of exploitation and are confident in presenting information to the court when there is a National Referral Mechanism referral in place.

The Court Team are skilled and experienced and keep up to date with relevant legislation, including the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act which brought about changes for sentencing, including the use of custody and remand. They utilise up to date policy and guidance including the YJB Case Management Guidance and revised legal CPS guidance.

Standard 3: in the community (court orders)

Referral Orders

Referral Orders continue to be utilised as a statutory disposal for children who are not deemed suitable for an Out of Court Disposal. As a partnership we advocate for children to avoid remaining in the court arena, however when this is not possible, we advocate for the child to receive a sentence proportionate to the offence, while considering the impact on victims. When a child we are working with becomes an adult prior to sentencing, there is communication with the Probation Service to ensure that sentencing reflects their age when the offence was committed.

Referral Orders directly involve the local community, by means of volunteer youth justice panel members and as beneficiaries of reparation. Referral Order panels conduct meetings in accordance with restorative principles and practice. These meetings enable children to recognise the consequences of their offending and to be accountable for their actions. A 'contract' is agreed between the child and the referral order panel. The contract will include a range of goals and activities, with the aim of supporting the child towards living a safe and crime-free life and making a positive contribution to society. Restorative interventions will play a vital role involving those harmed by the child's offence(s). The child's progress against the contract will be monitored by the youth offender panel through review meetings.

Referral Order panels continue to be completed taking into account the child's ability and learning needs. Whilst we advocate for the panels to be face to face where possible, each child is assessed individually and if it is deemed more appropriate to complete a shuttle panel, or virtual panel, this course of action will be taken. The positive use of technology is something that has been developed throughout the pandemic, and something we continue to utilise.

There continues to be a committed team of volunteers supporting with the panel meetings, and those who have been in the position for some time, have been excellent in supporting newly trained panel members. The panel members continue to adopt a child first approach and there is a strong focus on the wishes and feelings of the victims.

Youth Rehabilitation Orders

Whilst we advocate that children are supported at the lowest level; over the past 12 months we have seen a small increase in the number of Youth Rehabilitation Orders imposed in court. These are for children who continue to offend and are deemed proportionate due to the nature of offending and risk posed.

Our court officers are highly skilled and trained in writing pre-sentence reports, incorporating recommendations which are routinely followed by the court. The wide range of requirements that can be attached to the Youth Rehabilitation Order are well understood and tailored to individual children and young people dependent on need and risk.

For children subject to Youth Rehabilitation Orders and turning 18 years old during the period, we ensure a smooth transition to the Probation Service, in line with our joint protocol and positive partnership working between the case manager and the seconded probation officer.

Volunteers

The North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership support and invest in all their volunteers. The nature and requirement of the role require them to be over the age of 18. Many of our volunteers are recruited through our interface with our local college/university and are often

individuals are currently undertaking degrees who wish to gain experience of working with children and families and want to make a difference to the lives of children. The selection process of volunteers follows a rigorous and robust recruitment process to ensure that every volunteer is suitable for this role of working with children. Volunteer roles include restorative Referral Order Panel Members, Appropriate Adults.

The last 12 months has seen the main demand for volunteers to be appropriate adults for children who are being interviewed in police custody. All volunteers undergo extensive training including Foundation, Appropriate Adult and Referral Order Panel training, to ensure that they understand the One Family Approach and the importance of working under the child first principle when carrying out any intervention with children. They are offered the opportunity to shadow others already completing the role to instill confidence and provided with regular supervision to ensure their own safety and wellbeing, as well as to discuss any questions or concerns that may arise while carrying out their roles. In addition, refresher training is offered when there are any changes to policies and procedures, or they have been in the role for a significant period of time.

North Lincolnshire recognises the value of volunteers and the roles they undertake are core functions for the partnership. Training took place in December 2023 and this enabled us to deliver training to our neighbouring authorities' volunteers who share the same custody suite with us to ensure consistency of information shared.

Over the next twelve months we plan to further develop our structure to enhance the management, support and supervision volunteers receive. We also plan to develop the interface between our volunteers and the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board.

Risk Outside the Home

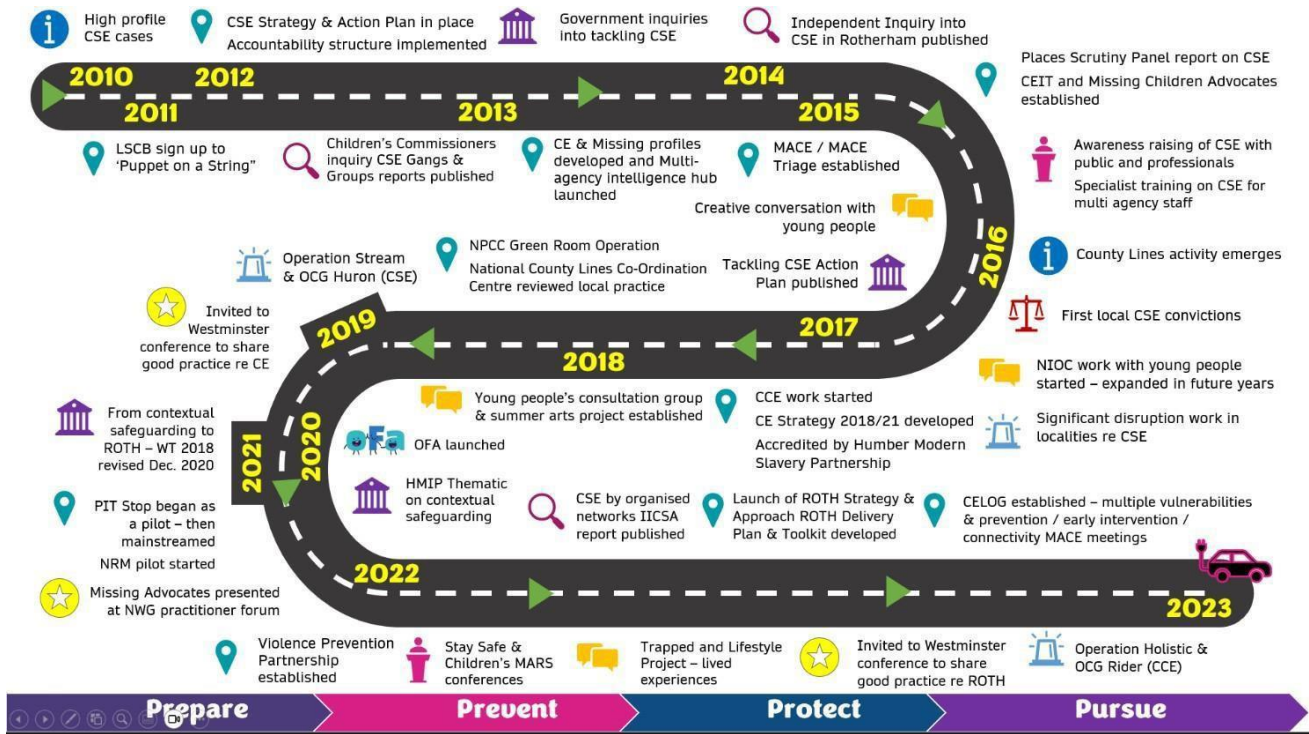
The phrase 'risk outside the home' (ROTH) was incorporated into the December 2020 update of statutory guidance Working Together 2018, which tells us that 'alongside risks to children from within their family, children may also be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. This may include adults, groups of adults or locations that pose a risk to children. This may include schools and other educational establishments, peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online'. The North Lincolnshire Helping Children and Families Document reflects the changes in statutory guidance.

North Lincolnshire have been on a journey to further develop the multi-agency approach taken towards risk outside the home (extra-familial harm). Subsequently, following consultation with partners it was agreed to move away from the language 'contextual safeguarding' and move towards 'risk outside the home'. The rationale being to broaden our response to child exploitation in its widest sense incorporating:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Child Criminal Exploitation
- Serious Youth Violence
- Child Trafficking
- Modern Day Slavery
- Online abuse
- Teenage relationship abuse
- Bullying
- Child on child sexual violence and harassment and harmful sexual behaviour
- Children vulnerable to radicalisation

The North Lincolnshire risk outside the home approach was formally launched in May 2022 and not only draws upon years of local learning and experience about ‘what works’, it has also been shaped heavily by the views of children, young people and families.

The roadmap below was developed to showcase the journey North Lincolnshire have been on to tackle risk outside the home, highlighting how we have adapted and shaped our practice following serious reviews, new legislation/guidance, and our commitment to continue to enhance this offer.



Within North Lincolnshire, there are longstanding robust strategic and operating frameworks to reduce the risks to children from outside the home. Our approach is based on the values and principles set out in our one family approach. We are strengths based and work in collaboration with our partners, children and families and the local community to utilise the range of resources and legislation available to us to understand the themes, trends and hotspots and focus our interventions early to prevent need from escalating alongside dismantling and disrupting organised crime to ensure children are protected from harm and the burden is placed firmly on the perpetrator and children are enabled to remain within their families and communities.

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership have a range of experience in representing the local authority on a local, regional and national platform including showcasing best practice examples in relation to child exploitation. There are further plans for North Lincolnshire to showcase the strong partnership commitment to tackling child exploitation at the NWG conference in October 2023.

Home Office – Devolved Decision Making for Child Victims of Modern Day Slavery Pilot

North Lincolnshire were successful in the bid to participate in a Home Office pilot ‘Devolved Decision Making for Child Victims of Modern Day Slavery’ which has enabled us to utilise our current safeguarding processes to make decisions on the National Referral Mechanism. The funding was utilised to develop a Modern Day Slavery Co-ordinator role within the authority that supports the co-ordination of referrals. The pilot is currently being evaluated and the Home

Office have confirmed that the pilot will be extended until March 2025. The pilot extension will enable further analysis of the local approach being taken and will inform national practice in the future.

The pilot has proved positive to North Lincolnshire developing a better awareness of modern day slavery across the workforce and enabling decisions about whether a child is a victim of modern slavery to be made by those involved in their care. Decisions made are multi-agency and closely aligned with the provision of local, needs-based support and any law enforcement response. The pilot has improved timescales in decision making and assurance that children are being recognised as victims first and foremost.

Safety Awareness Days

The Youth Justice Partnership, Police and education continue to work together to deliver Safety Awareness sessions within schools across North Lincolnshire. This programme is an updated version of the Crime Awareness Day, which provided information to smaller groups of school children who were identified by the schools as needing some intervention.

The Safety Awareness programme aims to target a wider audience of school children, initially in secondary schools. The programme is delivered to children from years 7 to 11 and also includes alternative provisions. The programme is delivered to full year groups, with the option to deliver to smaller/bespoke groups where need is identified.

The programme is delivered by skilled practitioners from the Youth Justice Partnership, with support from education and the Police. There are a number of topics covered on a rolling programme including, Child Criminal and Sexual Exploitation, County Lines, Youth Justice and Substance Misuse.

Humberside Police and YJP also teamed up to commission the award-winning author, Christina Gabbittas to educate primary school children in North Lincolnshire on the signs of being groomed, the dangers of drugs and the consequences of carrying knives. The "No More Knives or County Lines" lessons are delivered in a thought-provoking talk by Ms Gabbittas which delves into some situations some young people might experience at the hands of people trying to groom them. She uses a range of illustrated stories, poems and even an animated video to help get her message across. The lessons have also proved useful for teachers as it gives them an insight into what their children might be facing outside the classroom.

Trauma Informed Practice

In 2021, an opportunity arose to bid for funding from NHS England's National Health and Justice Team, to develop a systems approach to enhancing support for vulnerable Children and Young People who have or may have experienced trauma or adversity and those at risk of encountering the Youth Justice System. Partners from across the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care System (formerly known as Humber, Coast and Vale) including Health, Local Authorities and the VCS worked together to develop this bid and ensure that its aims and implementation aligns with - and compliments - the broader transformation work already underway across the geography. Our bid was successful and 'The Children and Young People's Trauma Informed Care Programme' is one of 12 Vanguards delivering this work across the country. This work will be a 10-year programme which commenced in 2022 with ringfenced funding for the programme from NHSE. The Programme sits within the Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Collaborative in the Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership.

The model of the 'The Children and Young People's Trauma Informed Care Programme' has two main aspects. One is delivering system change across the Partnership to develop and embed a consistent Trauma Informed approach across all partners working with vulnerable Children and Young People at risk of offending. The target cohort for years 1-3 are Children and Young People aged 10-19 who are at risk of becoming first time entrants or of reoffending in the Youth Justice System: The other is to test new interventions (known as Test and Learn sites) which divert young people from becoming first time entrants into the Youth Justice System.

North Lincolnshire plan to become a Test and Learn Pilot Site in 2023/24 and subgroups are currently meeting regularly to look at the model to be implemented.

All YJP staff have been trained in The Attachment, Regulation and Competency (ARC) Framework which is a flexible, components-based intervention developed for children and adolescents who have experienced complex trauma, along with their caregiving systems.

ARC's foundation is built upon four key areas of study: normative childhood development, traumatic stress, attachment, and risk and resilience. Drawing from these areas, ARC identifies important childhood skills and competencies which are routinely shown to be negatively affected by traumatic stress and by attachment disruptions, and which, when addressed predict a resilient outcome.

ARC is designed as both an individual-level clinical intervention, to be used in treatment settings for youth and families, and as an organisational framework, to be used in systems to support trauma-informed care. The concepts identified by ARC may be applied to individuals from birth through young adulthood and have been effectively used with youth with a range of developmental and cognitive functioning levels, and with a wide range of symptom presentations. Caregiver goals are designed to translate across many different types of caregiving systems, including primary (i.e. biological, kin, and foster parents), milieu (i.e. residential, group home), and organisational (i.e. teachers, youth program providers) systems of care.

The aim of the training is to help and support organisations to progress through the 4 stages below and ultimately become fully Trauma Informed:

Trauma-Aware

- Individuals and the organisation at all levels understand trauma, its effects and that behaviour is the adaptation that children needed to survive.

Trauma-Sensitive

- Individuals and the organisation at all levels can operationalise some concepts of a Trauma-Informed approach.

Trauma-Responsive

- Individuals and the organisation recognise and respond to trauma, enabling changes in behaviour and strengthening resilience and protective factors.

Trauma-Informed

- The culture of the whole system, including all work practices and settings reflects a Trauma-Informed approach.

Violence Prevention Partnership

The Humber Violence Prevention Partnership (VPP) launched in July 2022 and exists to lead and co-ordinate the local response to preventing and reducing Serious Violence through a public health approach. It is one of 20 Home Office-funded Violence Reduction Units across England and Wales. North Lincolnshire YJP are an active member of the Violence Prevention Partnership Board.

The Serious Violence Duty was created by the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.

It requires specified authorities – local authorities, police, Fire and Rescue Authorities, the Probation Service, Youth Justice Teams, and Integrated Care Boards – to collaborate and plan to prevent and reduce serious violence.

The Humber VPP is working collaboratively with the specified authorities for the Duty and the four Humber Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) (North Lincolnshire, East Riding, Hull and North East Lincolnshire) to deliver a coordinated approach across the Humberside Police force area.

The Humber VPP has produced a Strategic Needs Assessment, setting out the drivers and extent of serious violence in the Humber area. CSPs will supplement this with annexes incorporating additional data and drawing out the key conclusions for their areas.

The Humber VPP is also working with CSPs and other partners, including North Lincolnshire YJP to develop a Response Strategy for serious violence. Each CSP will have its own Delivery Plan, forming part of the strategy, tailored to local needs.

As a result of the Serious Violence Duty, CSPs have a statutory responsibility to prevent people from becoming involved in, and to reduce instances of, serious violence. CSPs are governed by boards made up of the specified authorities and other partner organisations. The Humber VPP Board will lead the development of Humber-wide products and support collaboration across the area.

Information sharing is a core part of the Serious Violence Duty. The Humber VPP is supplementing CSPs' existing information sharing agreements by mapping and facilitating access to additional data and supporting collaborative work on data analysis.

Prevention

North Lincolnshire have an established prevention offer which has recently been further enhanced through receipt of Turnaround Programme funding.

Prevention is support and intervention with children (and their parents/carers) who may be displaying behaviours which may indicate underlying needs or vulnerability. In practice this involves a tiered approach of early and targeted prevention. The aim being to address unmet needs, safeguard, promote positive outcomes and stop children entering the formal youth justice system.

Early Prevention is support for children (with no linked offence) to address unmet needs/welfare concerns, usually delivered by mainstream and the voluntary sector. The YJS Management Board may have an oversight role in monitoring and advocating on behalf of vulnerable children. YJS's may also share youth justice / adolescent expertise to improve outcomes for children.

Targeted Prevention is specialist support for children who have had some contact with criminal justice agencies but are not currently being supported through diversion, an out of court disposal or statutory order (this could include children who have had previous YJS intervention). This is to address unmet needs / welfare concerns. The aim is to improve outcomes through positive interaction while minimising harmful experiences for children.

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership have a **prevention pathway** where any agency can refer a child/young person where there are emerging concerns.

Within North Lincolnshire YJP, our early intervention work is in partnership with the Drug Education Liaison Treatment Agency (DELTA), the Child Exploitation Team (CEIT), and the statutory Youth Justice Team which forms 'The Youth Justice Partnership'. The work encompasses a variety of themes, from substance misuse, exploitation, ASB, crime, domestic abuse, and emotional/mental health to ensure that a holistic programme of support is available to children and young people.

Every referral is considered on an individual basis and will consider the presenting needs which helps to support the panel to identify the most appropriate agency to support the child/family and avoid duplication in line with our One Family Approach.

The prevention programme allows us to work with children on the periphery of exploitation, criminality or substance misuse. This is a voluntary programme and consent is required from the young person and parent, obtained by the referrer (and can include self/family referrals). Some examples (but not exhaustive) of prevention referrals include education, PITSTOP, or a request from SPOC/IMAP. Cases will not be discussed at the panel if consent has not been obtained.

An offence does not have to have been committed for a referral to the prevention programme. The referral can be based around intelligence, emerging concerning behaviours within the home, school or anti-social behaviour in the community. A prevention programme is not recorded on the police national computer.

At present, a SQAT assessment and intervention plan (or equivalent early help assessment/plan) is completed for children referred to the partnership for prevention. This supports practitioners to work with the child/young person and their family to determine areas of strength/key issues to focus the intervention around. However, there are plans to develop out prevention approach aligned to the Children and Families transformation and practitioners are going to pilot the use of the North Lincolnshire Early Help Assessment as opposed to a SQAT in readiness for the new YJB diversion assessment tool being mandated.

The Drug Education Liaison Treatment Agency (DELTA)

The Drug Education Liaison Treatment Agency (DELTA) is a community-based offer delivered within North Lincolnshire and forms part of the Youth Justice Partnership. It provides an offer that will support young people, to reduce the harms their substance misuse (including alcohol) can lead to, with the emphasis on reducing the risk factors in relation to the development of problematic substance use in adulthood. Delta delivers a project supporting children and young people living in substance using families (Hidden Harm Project). As part of transitional arrangements, a robust multi agency protocol has been developed with the local adult substance misuse provider.

Since the Hidden Harm programme began in 2012, only 12 of the 460 children who have been referred to the project have gone on to become first time entrant evidencing the success of the programme and impact it has in diverting children away from the criminal justice system.

Referrals into DELTA regarding direct substance misuse by children and young people who have previously worked on the hidden harm programme are also low. Only 14 out of the 460 cases have been referred in relation to their own substance misuse, all 14 were for cannabis use.

DELTA adheres to North Lincolnshire's One Family Approach, in understanding the importance of practitioner's relationship with the young person/family and ensuring that the right offer is there at the right time using the fewest, best interventions. Delta will support other professionals working with families who require substance use information and/or support, this includes sharing of information, knowledge, skills and resources.

Cannabis remains the primary reason that young people are referred into the partnership, this mirrors national drug trends. Other substances feature as part of drug trends locally are MDMA (Ecstasy) Cocaine, Benzodiazepine (Diazepam, Pregabalin, Xanax)

The latest drug strategy 'Harm to Hope' promotes the importance of early intervention for young people and families at the greatest risk of developing difficulties with substance use either directly or indirectly. Part of this process is to ensure all children and young people are provided with high quality education on health and relationships to help to prevent the use of substances. Delta worked closely with Public Health colleagues and funding opportunities were explored and supported which has led us to develop an additional post who works directly with our transitioning young people (18-25) and closely with our partners in probation.

Drug Information Briefing Sessions (DIBS) are a joint venture between Police and DELTA to promote early intervention and diversion. These relate to children who are stopped and searched and found in possession of substances and rather than being referred to youth justice they are afforded the opportunity to undertake some sessions with DELTA in a bid to prevent further offending and support harm minimisation work to occur at the earliest opportunity. An assessment is completed on every child and therefore if there are any additional risks identified then these are considered holistically.

In the last 12 months, 41 young people have been referred for a DIBS session. Of the 41 referred, 36 have attended and participated in their session. 5 were returned back to the police as they were either uncontactable or declined to attend their session. We retain in line with GDPR demographic information to monitor cases for a further six months to ascertain if they come to the police's attention or are stopped again. To date, none of the 36 who completed their DIBS session have been re-referred.

Over the next 12 months, there are plans to expand the DIBS sessions to incorporate Nitrous Oxide. This is following the government taking the decision to control nitrous oxide as a Class C drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

DELTA have a specialist nurse attached to the team who works directly with children and young people. The Delta nurse is fully accessible to the Youth Justice Partnership and attends the Joint Decision Allocation Panel (JDAP) and completes health screening checks to identify any health needs to inform the assessment process. Referrals for more specialist support can be made directly to the Delta nurse.

The Delta nurse provides monthly health clinics, including a dental clinic and an asthma clinic. The dental clinic enables young people who are struggling to access a dental practice the opportunity to have access to the community dentist and be supported with referrals or signposting.

The asthma clinic was developed following a theme identified in relation to young people smoking cannabis and/or tobacco who have a diagnosis to provide additional support. The clinic is delivered in partnership by the Delta nurse and a specialist asthma nurse and takes place at the Ironstone Centre.

Child Exploitation Intervention Team (CEIT)

The CEIT Team provide bespoke and innovative packages of support for children and young people who are at risk and/or vulnerable to Child Exploitation, this support is extended to other family members where needed.

CEIT consists of a skilled group of professionals who have expert knowledge of child exploitation, and their fundamental role is to work with children and families at the earliest opportunity to prevent increased risk or children being directly exploited. The CEIT team support with NRM submissions, mapping meetings, represent at MACE and are recognised across the partnership as individuals who can provide advice and guidance to other professionals when they are working with children and families where child exploitation is a feature.

More recently, CEIT have taken over the lead for the Home Office, Devolved Decision Making Pilot for child victims of modern day slavery. Over the last 12 months, the team have all been trained by the Home Office and are confident in providing advice and guidance to other colleagues and partners where required. The CEIT Senior leads on coordinating all the referrals and decisions made and supports monitoring of data and performance for NRM submissions.

Over the next 12 months, the CEIT team will be supported to have further training to increase their skills and knowledge further in relation to child criminal exploitation. The team will equally lead on supporting the workforce development offer and delivering child exploitation training and NRM workshops which are planned to become mandatory as part of staff induction. Referrals into CEIT and through the Youth Justice prevention pathway which supports the One Family Approach in North Lincolnshire and reduces the risk of duplication across partnerships. For example, taking a relational approach, the CEIT team also oversee youth justice prevention and diversion disposals to avoid the need to introduce another professional where this can be avoided. It has strengthened our partnership working and ensured we are working together to provide the best offer for children and families in North Lincolnshire to achieve the best outcomes.

In addition to holding cases, the CEIT team support with training and education and regularly go into schools to deliver bespoke group work and/or 1:1 intervention. The PITSTOP in place in North Lincolnshire supports us to identify problem hotspots and locations and captures key themes which support us to prioritise the provisions we target.

CEIT offer weekly group work sessions in the community which were named by young people and called 'Little Mix' and 'Teenage Kicks'. These are well attended, and children and parents provide positive feedback on the support these provide. CEIT also provide positive activities during school holiday periods to ensure children and young people are visible and engaged with activities that are raising their confidence and self-esteem.

Outreach Youth Offer

The Outreach Youth Team is a group of detached youth workers who take a place based approach and work out of hours to maximise opportunities for engaging with children and young people, particularly those in the community who may be more vulnerable or who need help.

The Outreach Youth Team have continued to visit locations and hotspot identified in relation to anti-social behaviour or where concerns are present for children being exploited. The Outreach Youth Team work closely with multi-agency partners to develop an increased understanding about the local picture as this is consistently changing and have undertaken joint patrols with police partners and the safer neighbourhoods team to share practice wisdom and develop an understanding of partners roles within the community.

The Youth Justice Partnership continues to work closely with partners in the police. Operation Priam was developed which is a bespoke operation targeting vulnerable children identified at risk of child exploitation and is tasked through arenas such as MACE. Over the next 12 months, there will be further emphasis on the development of this offer.

There are also plans to develop Operation Python which will be tailored towards anti-social behaviour utilising a problem orientated policing approach. This operation will support joint patrols with safer neighbourhoods and the police to target hotspots/locations where there are high levels of ASB.

The outreach youth team has been reviewed in order to best meet the needs of children and achieve maximum impact. This has led to a re-shaping of the team, increasing the Assertive Outreach Worker posts who work evenings and weekends in the community. Recruitment activity has commenced, and visits are being made to colleges/universities to promote applicants.

Funding from the Violence Prevention Partnership has also been utilised to create a full time Senior Outreach Worker and a full time Assertive Outreach Worker who are going to lead on further enhancing the offer over the next 12 months. Home Office GRIP funding has also enabled Humberside Police to purchase a detached mobile vehicle which is currently being adapted and will be utilised by the outreach team.

The mobile unit will enable youth workers to travel to various hot spots/locations where there is a demand and enable youth workers to build meaningful relationships and positively engage with young people. The mobile unit will create a tool to get young people engaged with youth workers in areas that may not have had any provision. It will support our problem orientated approach enabling us to be flexible in the locations we visit and ensure a high visible presence in key locations where the need arises.

The mobile unit will be stocked with sports, craft, games and musical equipment for use in a range of settings to allow young people to be active, be challenged and a safe space to talk about the issues they face. Interior seating, internet access, facilities for providing drinks, gazebo and / or side extension when on site, are just some of the things on our wish list whilst the mobile unit /youth space in adapted.

The proposal of a detached mobile unit was favourable amongst the North Lincolnshire Youth Activity Partnership which has a strong representation from the VCS. It is anticipated that the unit will be utilised across the partnership and as part of the wider integrated youth offer.

A new community Positive Lifestyles project commenced in one of our rural villages, bringing together community members of all ages, finding common ground to develop a child friendly space and activities, whilst celebrating community cohesion and reducing ASB. The Outreach Team will expand this model of engagement across North Lincolnshire over the following 12 months.

Harmful Sexualised Behaviour (HSB)

In North Lincolnshire, agencies are collaborating in a programme to provide a specialist offer to children and young people who have engaged in harmful sexual behaviour (HSB). This includes harm to other children, young people and themselves.

In addition, there is a HSB Panel, with multi-agency management representation. In general terms, the purpose of the Panel is to act as a steering group for the programme; act as the referral and allocation route for the HSB offer; and act as a source of knowledge, expertise and support for the practitioner team.

A number of the YJP workforce have been trained to complete AIM2 and AIM3 assessments and will hold HSB cases. There have been new dates booked and the training has been promoted to encourage new starters and partners from across the LA and externally to complete this and undertake this work.

Reparation

We have seen an increase in the number of statutory orders imposed by the court in the past year. This has included both Referral Orders and Youth Rehabilitation Orders and an increase in the number of reparation hours to be completed.

Reparation when required should benefit the community or go some way to make amends for the offence that has been committed, it is also important that the young person is given the opportunity to take some pride in this activity, learn new skills and develop whilst also ensuring that this is meaningful and relevant. Reparation projects that have been utilised by the Youth Justice Partnership are tailored to the young person and their circumstances. This can include community based projects as well as work within the family home, particularly when a parent or family member is the identified victim or has been impacted by the child's behaviour.

Over the past twelve months, children open to the YJP were instrumental in developing an area of land, in the local area into a memorial garden. This is now a valuable community resource and will offer the opportunity for on-going reparation projects going forward as the YJP have taken responsibility for maintaining this garden. This project led to the young people and staff involved receiving awards for the hard work and dedication that they demonstrated throughout this project and resulted in two of the young people winning a PGL residential trip and attending an awards ceremony in London.

Children also participate in jobs around the house and care home settings which build relationships with family members and carers and allows them to support their families and gain a sense of achievement. Often, where this is utilised the parents/ carers have been the victim, so it provides the opportunity to not only build trust and positive relationships but also allows the young person to make amends to the direct victim of their behaviour, whilst being supported to do so by the YJP.

Whilst the benefits of reparation in the home are evident, the YJP recognise the importance of reparation benefiting either the direct victim and/or the local community and over the next 12 month we will seek to focus more on this aspect of reparation. Ensuring young people complete these activities in their local communities where possible through creative projects that will continue to be developed.

Positive Activities

The Youth Justice Partnership run a number of individual and group activities to engage children and young people in positive activities.

The Boys Group was introduced in early 2022 where children / young people meet on a weekly basis and have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities. Some activities include fishing, bowling, go-karting, swimming, football and cooking sessions. The group is extremely successful and as such the decision was made to expand and split into 2 groups each week, allowing us to focus on these being age appropriate.

We incorporate learning into positive activities and invite guest speakers to provide inputs on certain topics at the start of the sessions before moving into the activity. We also incorporate life skills with them such as budgeting and cooking.

YJP staff have recently been trained to deliver 'The Girl I Want to Be' programme with the first group starting in summer 2023. This programme aims to support girls involved with the partnership, raising self-esteem, confidence and aspirations for this targeted group.

Funding from the Violence Prevention Partnership was utilised to purchase 10 VR headsets. Alongside utilising the headsets to support education in schools we will be using these within our group work and outreach sessions. The VR headsets can be uploaded with educational content alongside games that can be used in these settings.

The Youth Justice Partnership ran the summer arts college over 3 weeks in August 2022 and saw 11 children and young people take part and be successfully presented with their awards. A celebration event took place where Assistant Director Paul Cowling and Supt Paul French presented children with their certificates. Parents and carers were also present to see the work the children and young people had produced.



UNITAS have since ceased funding to support the summer arts project and therefore coordinators are being innovative and creative developing new projects that are running over the summer in 2023. These range from an accredited Summer Arts Course, Motor Bike Sessions, Outward Bound Day, River Boat Trip, Horse Riding, Swimming and Safer Water Classes, First Aid and Food Hygiene and some fun days out, all with the aim of preventing anti-social and offending behaviour through positive engagement and building self-esteem and is offered to all children / young people across the partnership.

Lifestyle Project

The YJP supported a team to complete Lifestyle 2022. This team was made up of three young males aged 12-16 years old and the team name was TBZ. The project that they chose to undertake was to create a memorial garden in their community of Crosby and Park to offer everyone a place to regroup and reflect. The memorial garden was set up specifically to remember a young person who is the older brother of two of the team members who tragically took his own life in May 2021. The team raised funds through activities such as cake sales and wrote letters to businesses asking for donations.

This project took a lot of determination and teamwork from the group and the end outcome was amazing, a safe space for young people to share memories and to speak about mental health and any difficulties they are having. It also helped the young people enhance their skills in social interactions, practical work and planning.



“As a worker who supported this project from start to where we are now I am so extremely proud of our young people who are continuing to achieve more than they thought they ever could and will carry on making a difference in their community”



As an outcome of this project the team came runners up and won a 5 day stay at PGL Wales where they were able to take part in new activities and were supported by trusted staff. The team was also put forward for the National Crimebeat Awards and came third winning £1000 to expand and build the project along with an overnight stay in London and an open top bus ride around London. The next 12 months for this project will allow the young people to continue to develop and maintain the area to ensure that it reaches its full potential.

SEND/Speech & Language

Children in North Lincolnshire identified as having SEND are supported via one of two ways:

1. **SEND Support** - this is where SEND needs have been identified which are, typically provided by schools.
2. **Education Health and Care Planning** - this is where more complex SEND needs have been identified, which has resulted in an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) statutory assessment, leading to an EHCP being agreed and developed.

In North Lincolnshire we have clear and strong processes to help identify and support children and young people's needs in our schools and settings.

As of January 2023

- 14 % of CYP in North Lincolnshire were identified as having SEND support,
- 4.3 % having an Education, Health and Care Plan.

A young person's SEND is considered within categories of need within EHCP planning. The current picture (2022 data) is demonstrated below:

Category	Cohort (Primary)	% (Primary)	Cohort (Secondary)	% (Secondary)
Specific Learning Difficulty	309	14.6%	327	17.6%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	301	14.2%	357	19.2%
Severe Learning Difficulty	2	0.1%	4	0.2%
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulty	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health	404	19.1%	529	28.4%
Speech, Language and Communications Needs	668	31.6%	131	7.0%
Hearing Impairment	30	1.4%	37	2.0%
Visual Impairment	21	1.0%	17	0.9%
Multi-Sensory Impairment	0	0.0%	2	0.1%
Physical Disability	80	3.8%	62	3.3%
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	229	10.8%	297	16.0%
Other Difficulty/Disability	27	1.3%	50	2.7%
SEN Support but no specialist assessment of type of need	45	2.1%	49	2.6%

It is recognised locally that those children of primary age are often categorised as 'speech, language and communication needs' which translates to social, emotional and mental health within secondary. The challenge (in line with national research) is that the speech, language and communication needs remain but may be misperceived due to changes in presentation (perceived behaviour).

In April 2023 **49%** of young people supported by the Youth Justice Partnership (YJP) were identified as have SEND of these:

- **31%** were supported via SEND support
- **18%** were supported via an EHCP

Of those supported via an EHCP primary need was categorised as;

- **83%** Social Emotional and Mental Health
- **11%** Moderate Learning Difficulty
- **5%** ASD

We know that children with SEND are disproportionately represented within the YJP cohort (**49%**), when compared to the overall education cohort (**14.1%**). To ensure interventions are meaningful and that young people can engage their learning style, and need is pivotal to successful outcomes.

Where young people enter the YJP who do not have an identified SEND consideration needs to be given to if this is the case in the context of the assessment and interventions being undertaken. Where unmet needs are identified attempts should be made for these to be fully assessed to inform support moving forward.

Whilst as at April 2023, there were no young people supported by YJP who have an EHCP with a primary need of Speech and Language, speech and language is relevant for all and therefore is an integral element of assessment and planning.

What have we done so far?

Workforce development across a number of areas has supported and strengthened SEND and speech and language support. For example:

- The YJP has an integrated Education Officer who has strong links with the SEND team and is the point of contact for consultation/ advice.
- The AssetPlus includes specific details regarding learning styles and the need for tailored interventions focusing thinking and building skills, ensuring this remains at the heart of planning.
- A previously commissioned speech and language pilot scheme informed how to further embed speech and language assessment and support into the YJP.
- The scheme, which had been designed to raise expectations and reduce barriers, had been made possible by collaboration between YJP staff, young people, parents, and carers. Three training sessions were delivered to understand speech, language and communication needs and develop practical interventions to support the young people.
- 6 young people attended 10 weeks of intervention after completing a pre-assessment which provided a profile of their key areas. Of the other six all attended the remaining sessions, which were differentiated for the different ability levels of the young people. There were some commonalities in the issues faced by the young people, and these included, comprehension monitoring, understanding words and solving people problems.
- Feedback from staff involved in the above pilot was that it had been excellent, and parents had indicated they would appreciate a bigger part in the work so they can continue to support beyond the programme, which was very positive. The voice of the child came out really strongly in their comments.
- DIP sampling has evidenced the positive identification of individual children's needs, regardless of 'medical diagnosis' leading to appropriate tailored interventions.
- Clear cut communication resources (with SLCN friendly language) were commissioned and are utilised by staff to support understanding and engagement.
- Youth Justice Partnership animation was co-produced and developed to explain to children and families what the partnership offers by other children who have experienced it.

Following the success of the YJP pilot, the project was replicated in two secondary schools and saw equal success through individual evaluation. It was noted that many of the young people needed to work on comprehension monitoring skills. They needed support with recognising when they did not understand and knowing what to do when things do not make sense. Another key area for many was solving people problems. Lots of support was needed to model how to use words to persuade, negotiate and problem-solve to prevent difficult situations. Most significantly, narrative skills were noted to be difficult for most of the young people. They found it difficult to tell their side of the story following an incident or to explain what had happened coherently. These young people struggled with attendance and expectations in school. Following the project key recommendations for each young person was relayed to each school for further follow up. Staff within the schools were provided with specific training to support speech, language and communication needs. Evidence from the project was utilised to support applications for Education, Health and Care Plan for a number of young people.

Next steps:

Whilst speech and language (S&L) needs for children and young people open to the Youth Justice Partnership are a priority it is recognised that there is still further development required to ensure the offer is high quality and responsive for all children.

All staff were trained in speech, language and communication as part of the S&L pilot and this was further commissioned and delivered in June 2023 to ensure all staff had been refreshed or received this training.

A Lead Educational Psychologist is identified as the point of contact for YJP for consultation and support in relation to the identification, and support of SEND needs, including speech and language.

Both speech and language pilots have now concluded and been evaluated. The findings from both pilots is overseen by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board to support next steps. It is recognised that the partnership would benefit further from dedicated speech and language provision. The board recognises this and over the next 12 months will continue to prioritise to ensure appropriate provision is sought and available to children supervised by the YJP and those children with identified vulnerabilities that make them more likely to become involved with the criminal justice system.

Performance

The progress and performance of the Youth Justice Partnership is reported to each Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board for scrutiny, oversight and action.

The Youth Justice Partnership continues to provide an offer that make a difference for children, their families and the community as a whole. There is a continued focus on prevention from offending through holistic family approaches, working with children and their families to help them address the issues that lead to children and young people becoming involved with criminal and anti-social behaviour and focusing on building and developing the skills of children and young people. Staff have a clear understanding of how partnership delivery translates into performance and how individual roles contribute towards it. There is regular consultation with staff at all levels to ensure their understanding and commitment towards this.

Our fundamental aim is to promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. Our data provides evidence of the impact our partnership approach to prevention and early help has had demonstrated by our increase in prevention and diversion programmes.

There has been further development of the YJP performance data through the use of **Power Bi** (an interactive data visualisation software product developed by Microsoft). The visual data displayed in this plan has been extracted from the live power bi report which enables you to 'drill down' into the data and identify case specific data in a timely manner.

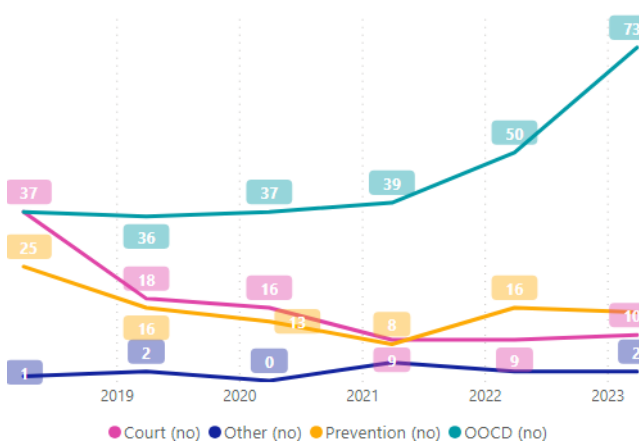
The percentage of programmes starting that are out of court disposals or prevention remain at a high level.

Overall, 236 programmes (including statutory and out of court/prevention/diversion) have started in 2022/23. The total for 2021/22 was 214 programmes.

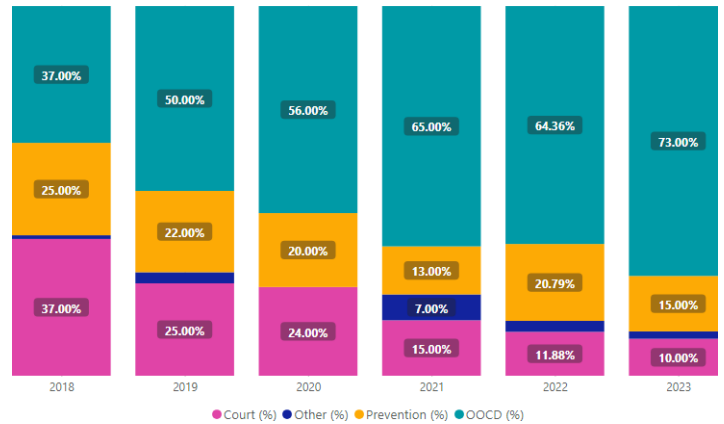
In 2021/22 there were 189 new out of court disposals/prevention programmes starting. 88% of all programmes starting. In 2023 this is 89% based on 211 programmes.

In 2022 Humberside Police updated their early intervention strategy and associated policies and procedures. In doing so, they made a conscious decision to inform the Youth Justice Partnership and consult on all children who commits an offence and moved away from imposing standalone police community resolutions. Whilst this has been a positive step forward to ensure oversight of decision making with holistic information the updated process has led to a significant increase in referrals coming through the Joint Decision Allocation Panel which can be demonstrated in the increase in out of court disposals in the below charts.

YJP Caseload (no)



YJP Caseload (%)

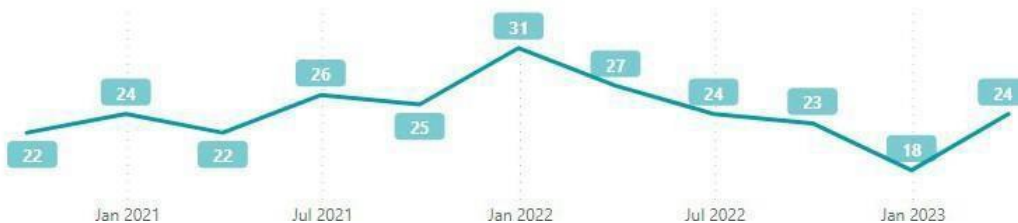


The number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice system is lower than last year.

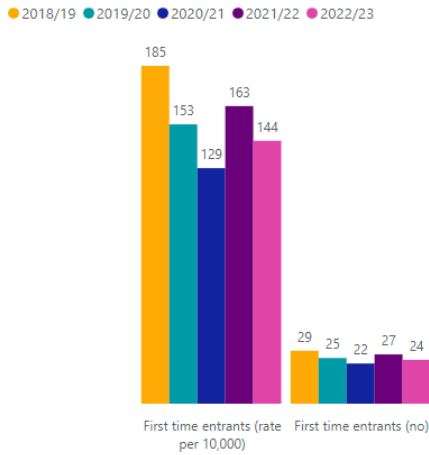
Reducing the number of first-time entrants into the Youth Justice System is a key priority in North Lincolnshire. The Youth Justice Board measures FTE's as a rate per 100,000 of 10-17 years olds in our area.

In 2021/22 there were 27 first time entrants, giving a rate of 163. This was higher than the England rate of 142. In 2022/23 there have been 24 first time entrants, giving a rate of 144.

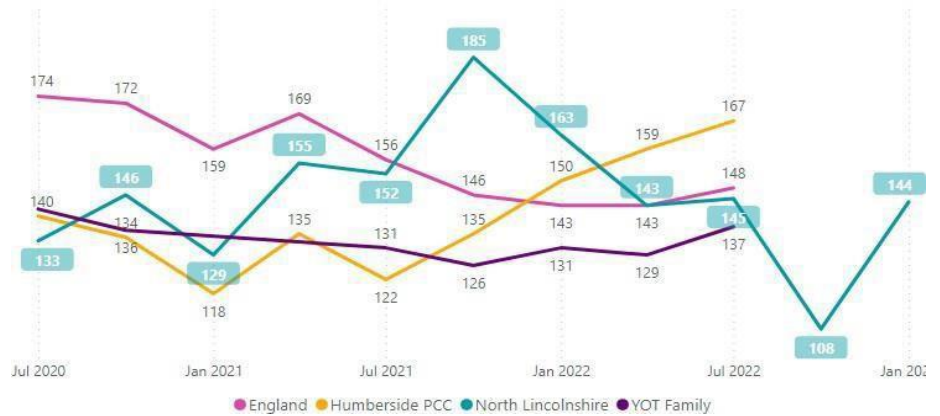
Rolling year (no)



First Time Entrants, Number & Rate



FTEs Rate per 10,000, Rolling Year

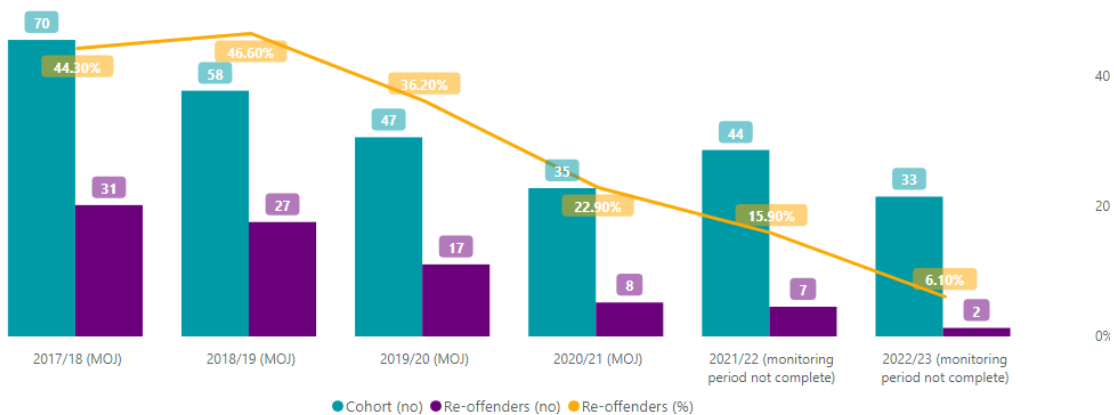


Data indicates that the % re-offending remains below comparators.

Reoffending is measured by looking at a cohort of young people (aged 10-17) who received a caution or sentence or were released from custody during a 3-month or 12-month period. All the children and young people in the cohort are tracked for 12 months to see how many reoffended and how many further offences were committed. The cohort are tracked for a further 6 months to allow for offences that may have taken place but for which the outcome is not known at the end of the 12 months.

The latest MOJ data for the July20 – June21 period had a cohort of 39 children, of which 12 young people committed 42 re-offences. This gives a re-offending rate of 30.8% and 3.5 re-offences per re-offender. In comparison the family group average was 30.8%, England average was 31% and the Humberside rate was 44.9%.

Re-offending cohort and %



We are locally monitoring the subsequent periods. The 2021/22 cohort is currently running at 15.9% (7 out of 44 young people re-offending) and the 2022/23 cohort is currently running at 12.1% (4 out of 33 young people re-offending); the monitoring periods for these cohorts are not yet complete.

We complete regular analysis of the re-offending cohort and complete a full audit on any child who enters this cohort to ensure any themes or learning is identified at the earliest opportunity. For example, we have recognised that a high proportion of the re-offending cohort are children in care, and this was subsequently taken to the board and other relevant strategic forums to discuss and take action.

Horizon scanning, we are predicting to see a slight increase in the re-offending profile for 2023/24. This is linked to activity targeting organised crime in North Lincolnshire and the disruption that has taken place. Subsequently, we have seen some increase in young people arrested for acquisitive crime, serious violence and drug related offences. These matters continue to be investigated.

North Lincolnshire have one of the lowest cohorts in our Family group which in turn makes our re-offending rate volatile.

The Youth Justice Partnership continues to prioritise reducing re-offending through:

- Adopting an effective method of 'live tracking' of children and young people currently being worked with and who are in the current reoffending cohort.
- Continuing to prioritise high quality interventions and whole family support, building resilience and creating change to reduce the likelihood of repeat offending.
- Enhancing the skills of children and young people through positive engagement and flexible packages.
- Reviewing assessment practice to see where improvements can be made in accurately identifying the potentially prolific reoffenders at the earliest stage.
- Quality assurance that as soon as young people are identified as more likely to re-offend their intervention plans are amended accordingly to reduce that likelihood.
- Team Managers are utilising the YJB Re-offending Tracker to keep well-informed of the make-up of the cohort and the characteristics of those who are re-offending in order to adjust provision accordingly to improve our re-offending performance.

Disproportionality

The % of children in care offending remains low.

North Lincolnshire have worked hard to ensure that children in the care of the local authority are not over-represented in the youth justice system and were awarded the runner up award in the Howard League Community Awards 2021 'Children in Care & Care Leavers' category.

This award recognises the work being done across sectors to:

- understand and highlight the factors leading to this over-representation.
- prevent criminalisation of this group of children and young people;
- and/or provide support to children in care, and/or care-experienced young people aged 25 years or under, who have been involved with the criminal justice system with a view to preventing further criminalisation.

In North Lincolnshire, we developed a joint protocol with Humberside Police on reducing criminalisation of children in care and care leavers. This has been reviewed in 2023 and endorsed by the board and ensures a trauma informed approach is taken when working with these children. The protocol is closely intertwined with our one family approach to ensure we work together as partners to prioritise vulnerable children, young people and adults and invest sufficient capacity and resources to reinforce our ongoing commitment for children and families who are at the heart of what we do.

The 10 point checklist is a key tool utilised when deciding what action to take when children in care offend in children’s homes. There are close working relationships between the YJP and our local children’s home and the Head of Children’s Provision is responsible for both provisions.

The % of children in care for a year or more and aged 10 or over who were convicted/youth cautioned for an offence was 2.8% (3 children) in 2021/22. For 2022/23 it is 3.1% (3 children).

During 2022/23, 21 programmes started for children in care (9% of all programmes starting, the same proportion as in 2021/22). These were for 17 children and 4 of the programmes were YCC or above.

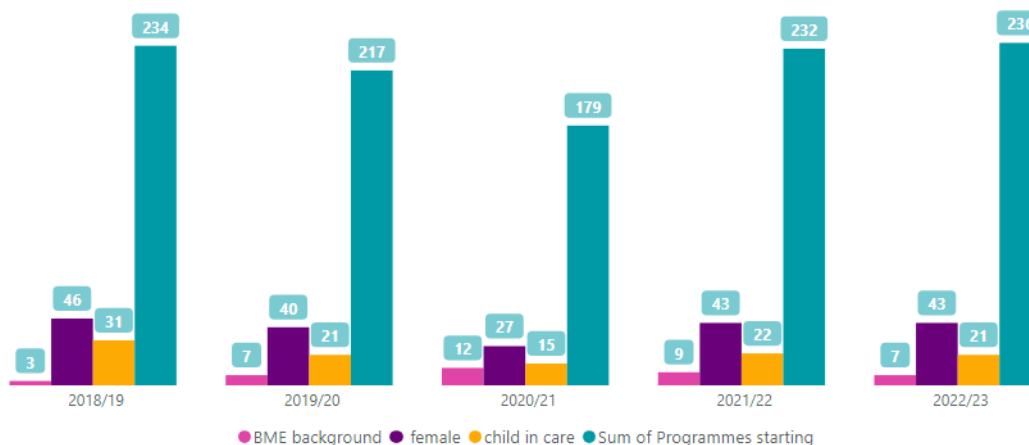
The % of females is in line with last year.

The proportion of open programmes which are female is 22% (22 young people). This is in-line with the 31/03/22 figure of 22% (17 young people). During 2022/23 the female offending population for statutory cases was 12% (4 out of the 33 programmes starting), in line with around 12% nationally.

It is understood that there are more females in the overall YJP cohort now as a result of more preventative interventions available to them. The implementation of ‘The girl I want to be’ group will promote a bespoke intervention package tailored to the female cohort. Other groups, such as ‘Little Mix’ equally focus on females.

BME background, female, child in care, Sum of Programmes starting

BY PERIOD



The % of BME is not disproportionate within the youth justice population in North Lincolnshire

The proportion of open programmes which are BME is 5% (5 young people). This is slightly higher than the 31/03/22 figure of 2.6% (2 young people). In 2022/23 the BME offending population for statutory cases was 0%, compared to around 28% nationally. For comparison, this group represents 8.7% of the North Lincolnshire 0-17 population (Census 2021).

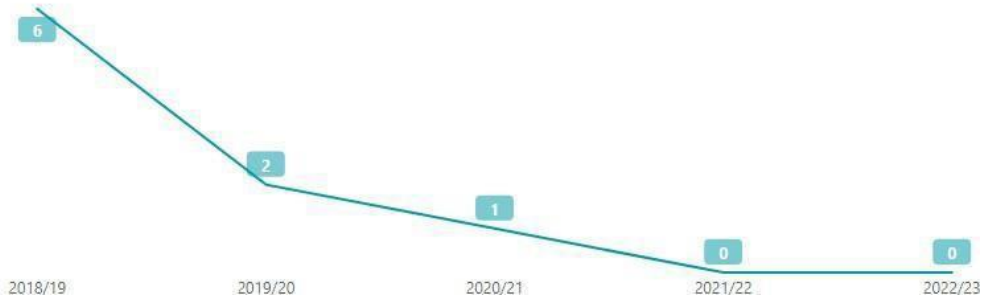
The proportion of open programmes which are White European/Other White is 5% (5 young people). This compares to the 31/03/22 figure of 7.8% (6 young people). In 2022/23 the White European/Other White offending population for statutory cases was 6% (2 out of 33 children). For comparison, this group represents 6% of the whole North Lincolnshire population (Census 2021).

The number of custodial sentences remains low.

Our custody rate continues to be below national and regional comparator groups. In 2021/22 and 2022/23 there were no custodial sentences.

There have been no remands to custody in the 2022/23 period.

New custodial sentences (no) by Period



Children who are identified at risk of custody are under constant review by the multi-agency partnership. Robust risk management meetings are undertaken to ensure close monitoring of the risk posed to themselves and others and plans are put in place readily to ensure that custody is only used as a last resort. More recently, the YJP have been asked to provide supporting information to the CPS at the point of charge to avoid unnecessary remands which has been welcomed by the partnership. The new CPS guidance has equally been shared across the partnership to ensure 'child first' is advocated and understood to support decision making.

Young people in suitable accommodation remains high.

With regards to suitability of accommodation at the end of a young person's programme, this was 95% for 2021/22, compared with 84% in England and 84% in Yorkshire. In 2022/23 it is 100%.

NEET/ECHP/SEN Cohort

Those in education, training or employment at the end of their order has improved.

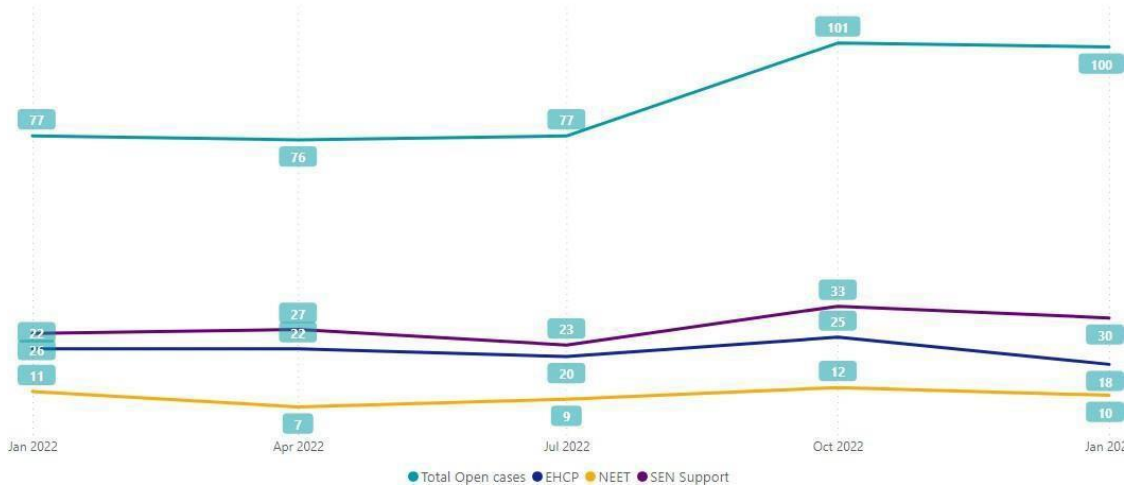
In 2023, 1,068 children have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) in North Lincolnshire (based on children attending primary, secondary & special schools), which is 4.3%.

In 2023, 3,515 children have SEN support in North Lincolnshire (based on children attending primary, secondary & special schools), which is 13.1%.

At 05/07/2023 18% of open YJP programmes (18 children) have an EHCP and a further 30% (30 children) have a recorded SEN need.

Data for ETE for the YJB is for young people supervised due to a DTO/YRO/RO who were in full-time ETE when their programme ended. The 2021-22 figure was 30% (6 out of 20), compared to 41% in England and 36% in Yorkshire. In 2022/23 it is 33% (6 out of 17, with 3 of the exceptions in part-time ETE). This compares to 28% in England and 36% in Yorkshire.

Open cases, EHCP, NEET and SEN Support



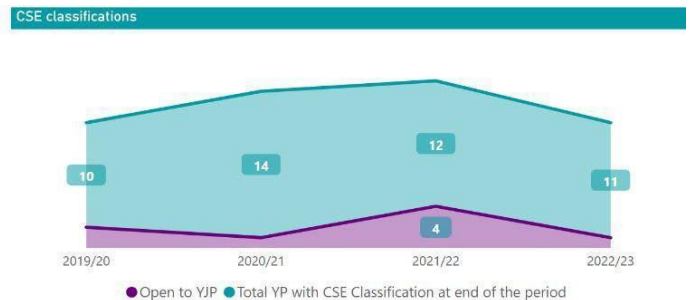
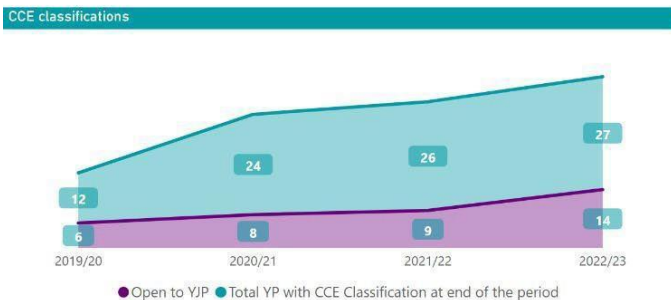
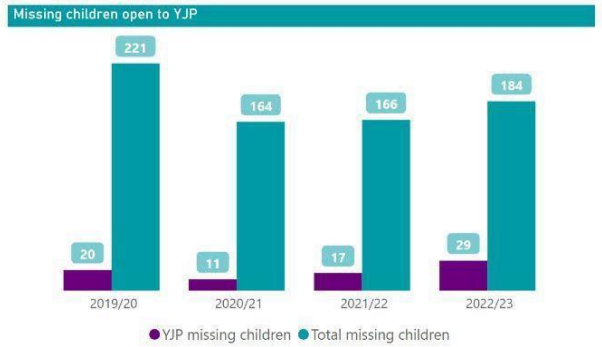
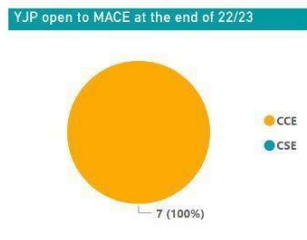
Risk outside the home (ROTH)

There were 12 children open to MACE at the end of 2021/22. 10 were classified at risk of CCE and 2 were classified at risk of CSE.

At the end of 2022/23 there were 7 children open to MACE, all of whom were classified at risk of CCE.

There has been a slight increase in the amount of children reported as missing open to the Youth Justice Partnership. In 2021/22 this was 17 children out of a total 166 reported missing (10%). In 2022/23 this was 29 out of a total 184 reported missing (16%).

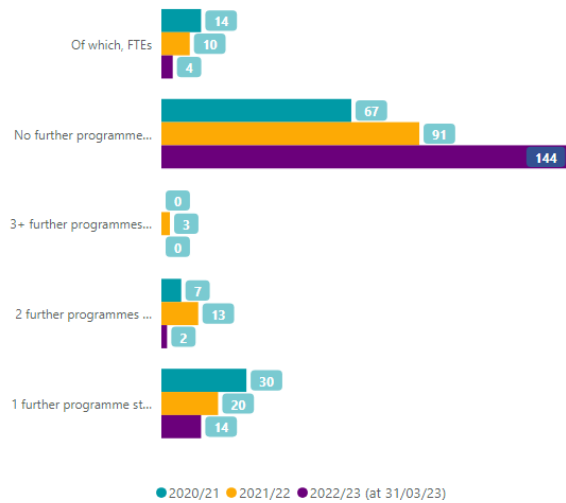
YJP ROTH



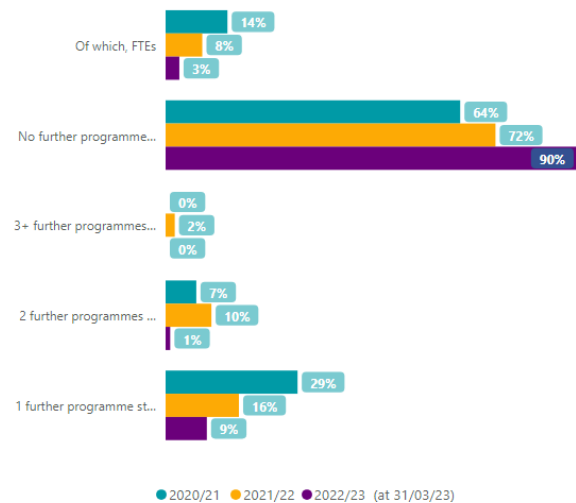
Prevention and Diversion

In terms of Prevention & Diversion re-entrants, 7.9% (10 children) of those ending in 2021/22 have since become FTEs within 12 months. This is less than the 13.5% (14 children) or those ending in 2020/21. We are still in the monitoring period for the 2022/23 period. Thus far 2.5% (4 children) have become FTEs.

Prevention & diversion re-entrants for programmes endin...



Prevention & diversion re-entrants for programmes endin...



Additional new key performance indicators

From 1 April 2023 youth justice partnerships will report on 10 new key performance indicators (KPIs) as part of changes to monitoring by the Youth Justice Board (YJB)

The youth justice system has developed significantly since the current set of KPIs were introduced, with the multi-agency model now much more firmly embedded. Whilst the number of children entering the system with a statutory disposal has fallen significantly, it is clear youth justice partnerships are working with increasingly complex caseloads.

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) developed the new KPIs to improve the Youth Justice Boards understanding of how youth justice partnerships are responding to this different context and to reflect the areas that are strategically important in delivering effective help and support to children.

The new KPI's are:

- suitable accommodation
- education, training and employment
- special educational needs and disabilities/additional learning needs
- mental health care and emotional wellbeing
- substance misuse
- out-of-court disposals
- links to wider help and support
- management board attendance
- serious violence
- victims

North Lincolnshire case management system, Core+ was upgraded in July 2023 to support collation of data to support the new KPI's. The application and performance teams have been working closely together to ensure the system is correctly set up to do this.

North Lincolnshire have been preparing in readiness following the announcement of the new KPI's. Following announcement there was a board development to review the proposed KPI's and North Lincolnshire supported the consultation circulated.

A number of the new KPI's are already tracked manually through our local performance monitoring and those that weren't have been to support backdating the input when submitting our returns. A number of the KPI's are equally already reported on to the board and included in the performance detailed within this plan.

Local Performance

In North Lincolnshire we place a strong emphasis on performance and have a strong performance team who are innovative and creative to ensure data and performance across children and families is captured to support the robust effectiveness, standards and regulatory framework relating to children and families.

Some examples of local performance we are collating in addition to the national KPI's are:

- Locally we are tracking those children who are classified at risk of child exploitation and have been reported missing. YJP data informs the Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) profile that has been developed in North Lincolnshire to enable us to have a more accurate picture of those children who are facing extra familial harm.
- In addition, we collate data on the amount of National Referral Mechanisms that have been submitted and there is a dashboard developed to identify themes and trends.
- We work closely with our colleagues in Humberside Police to collate data and request regular data and performance in relation to key area. Some examples include, use of strip search and stop and search. This is in line with the HMIP thematic inspection into the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system which provided the following recommendation:

Police area forces should share with Youth Justice Management Boards local data on stop and search statistics, broken down by gender and age as well as ethnicity.

- Following the introduction of Humberside Violence Prevention Partnership data sharing across the region has been enhanced further. A strategic needs assessment was developed utilising data and performance from across all YJP's to develop a regional profile for serious violence.
- Information sharing is a core part of the Serious Violence Duty. The Humber VPP is supplementing CSPs' existing information sharing agreements by mapping and facilitating access to additional data and supporting collaborative work on data analysis.

Local Priorities and identified leads 2023-24

The Youth Justice Strategic Partnership reviewed the 2022-2023 Youth Justice Plan to consider progress, gaps, priorities and learning. Based on this, reviewing the performance information and anticipating developments as a result of the HMIP inspection the board has identified the continuing priorities for the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership to be:

Priority Area	Priority Lead
Diversion and Out of Court	Sharon Philpott Superintendent 5551 Humberside Police
Reduction of Child Exploitation and Serious Violence	Stuart Minto Head of Community Resilience – Governance and Communities NLC
Transition to Adulthood process	Nick Hamilton-Rudd Head of Probation – North & North East Lincolnshire
Engagement in Education, Employment and Training	Jemima Flintoff Assistant Director Education NLC
Improve the Emotional and Physical Health of children involved with youth justice	Helena Dent Commissioning Manager – Integrated Care System
Diversity and Disproportionality	Tom Hewis Head of Provision for Children NLC

The Youth Justice Strategic Partnership board has agreed that board members will continue to take lead roles in reporting to the board on key areas identified in the Youth Justice Plan. This will enable the board to have an overview of key wider partnership information so resources within the scope of the board can be better aligned to identified need with a view to achieving the above key priorities.

The expectation is that each board member with a key lead is responsible for:

- Identifying and leading key partners to together progress the priority,
- Providing data and performance linked to the priority area
- Agreeing the key issues, gaps, developments and actions needed.
- Overseeing the actions and progress.
- Developing links with the Youth Justice Team
- Reporting to the board

Diversion and Out of Court (by Superintendent Sharon Philpott – Humberside Police)

Humberside Police were inspected by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) between January and June 2022 and graded 'Outstanding'. The areas that would include young people are around preventing crime, treatment of the public and protecting vulnerable people. We are continuing our processes and policies that got us to this grading and always striving to improve further.

Standards 1: out of court disposals

The principal aim of the youth justice system, established by section 37 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, is to prevent offending by children and young people. It is recognised that most young people in North Lincolnshire never come to police notice for alleged criminal

matters, and of those that do commit offences, the majority of these will be less serious in nature.

Humberside Police and North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership have a joint Prevention, Diversion and Out of Court Policy and Procedures which has been endorsed by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board. The policy outlines our partnership arrangements and commitment to child first and diversion from the criminal justice system wherever possible.

Evidence shows that the early criminalisation of children and young people can increase the risk of further offending, leading to their education being interrupted and leaving them with a criminal record. Almost three quarters of young offenders return to crime when they are released. This is increased when there is a lack of education.

Youth Justice Partnerships work with young people aged 10–17 years on diversion interventions (outcome 8 or outcome 22), youth conditional cautions YCC (outcome 2) and court orders (outcome 1).

In Humberside, YJP consultation is mandatory following any of the above outcomes, to enable us to deliver what is needed in the best interests of each young person.

The partnership work proactively to deliver child centred outcomes, to reduce the number of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System with the Youth Justice Partnership Police Constable working in-line with national YJS PC profile, with enhanced awareness of Adverse Childhood Experience theory and Trauma awareness to help identify vulnerability and develop bespoke responses, supporting the use of the non-statutory crime outcomes to keep young people from entering the Criminal Justice System wherever possible, for example, by way of Outcome 8, Outcome 21 and 22 as necessary.

Outcome 8 (Community Resolutions) will be used in line with national NPCC guidance (October 2022) as a non-statutory out of court disposal – when dealing with a young person in an informal way when they have accepted responsibility for offending behaviour. Such outcomes can include elements of restorative justice and diversionary activity.

The Youth Justice Partnership supports the use of Outcome 22 in those cases where an admission of responsibility has not been made, differentiating these cases from other outcomes such as a Community Resolution (Outcome 8) or a Youth Caution where admissions is required.

Outcome 22 can be used for example in cases where it is assessed as necessary to overcome any identified lack of trust of the police, partners or criminal justice system by different community groups, and ethnic minority communities, in which it is recognised that any potential distrust, could result in a greater number of individuals from ethnic minorities receiving formal criminal justice outcomes, but where an informal, diversionary outcome is still believed to be appropriate to support and divert any such children and young people away from criminality and to change their offending behaviours.

Diversion and Out of Court Pathway

Diversion is where children with a linked offence receive an alternative outcome that does not result in a criminal record, avoids escalation into the formal youth justice system and associated stigmatisation. This may involve the YJP delivering support / intervention that may or may not be voluntary and/or signposting children (and parent/carers) into other agencies. All support should be proportionate, aimed at addressing unmet needs and supporting prosocial life choices.

Humberside Police have recently updated their youth justice model to promote consistency

across the Humber region (North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, Hull and East Riding).

Diversion and Out of Court work is overseen by the multi-agency **Joint Decision Allocation Panel (JDAP)** which is chaired by Youth Justice Managers and attended by police personnel and staff from across the multi-agency partnership including children's social care, family support, health, CAMHS, liaison and diversion, safer neighbourhoods, victim liaison, and Delta.

Locally it is agreed that all youth justice disposals should come through the Joint Decision Allocation Panel for consultation. This is to avoid the use of police alone community resolutions with no RJ due to local research demonstrating children who were issued with these disposals were more likely to progress to the formal criminal justice system.

The panel enables partnership agencies to screen all children to check if they or their family are known and allocates the case for assessment based on the recommendation in the referral. A decision will be made in relation to completion of a short quality assessment tool (SQAT) or Asset Plus assessment at this stage. However, North Lincolnshire plan to start utilising the YJB diversion tool from October 2023 in readiness for this becoming mandatory in April 2024.

Timescales are then set for an assessment to be undertaken (10 working days) and each case will then be discussed at the Joint Decision Out of Court Panel (OOC Panel) which is the panel where the outcome is agreed. In Humberside Police, the out of Court panels do not have representation by a Sergeant or above, therefore the decision making remains the responsibility of the ERO, informed by the OOC assessment and panel discussions which will be communicated within 5 working days of the panel.

In the event of any discrepancies regarding the outcome, Case Managers are responsible for sending a detailed rationale to the YJP PC and this is forwarded to the officer in the case (OIC). The template from the Out of Court Decision Panel is uploaded onto the YJP case recording system and the disposal outcome is clearly recorded utilising YJB published definitions to support consistency and clarity when distinguishing between the different diversionary outcomes. For example,

Community Resolution YOT Involvement – Outcome 8

Other Information Action YOT Involvement – No Further Action Outcome 22

Other Information Action YOT Involvement – No Further Action Outcome 21

Other Information Action YOT Involvement – No Further Action Outcome 20

There is an escalation policy to the rank of at least Chief Inspector in cases where an agreed decision cannot be reached.

North Lincolnshire have adapted a validation process to ensure correlation between the YJP case recording system and Niche (Humberside Police data recording system) to ensure that decisions reached through the local out of court processes are reflected on the case recording systems and in turn promote confidence in the data/performance presented to the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board. Where there are any discrepancies, these would be respectfully raised through the partnership arrangements.

When a decision has been taken to issue a Youth Caution or a Youth Conditional Caution and relevant conditions have been identified, the YJP PC will prepare the caution certificate. The relevant police officer (usually the YJP PC) will deliver the Youth Caution/Youth Conditional Caution, preferably within five working days.

The Youth Justice Prevention, Diversion and Out of Court Policies and Procedures are subject to annual review by the Youth Justice Partnership Lead Officer and Humberside Police

representative at the YJSPB.

Quality Assurance processes are embedded and the YJSPB representative from Humberside Police will provide a quarterly lead update report detailing key performance specific for diversion and out of court disposals and provide assurance that disposals being utilised are proportionate and there is no inappropriate overuse of specific disposals.

The Humberside OOC Scrutiny Panel is chaired by a member of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and attended by the force lead for out of court. The panel meets quarterly to review the use of out of court disposals and ensure these are consistent, appropriate and in line with policy and guidance. Findings are recorded in writing and shared with all members. Key themes identified from the scrutiny panel process will feedback through appropriate internal governance mechanisms, ensuring promotion of best practice and identifying potential police developments and training needs.

Diversity and Disproportionality

Humberside Police currently has a performance dashboard which provides high level data on diversity and disproportionality. Work is ongoing to enable this to detail each LA area. The performance exceptions are scrutinised at a monthly performance meeting, with a focus on a joint problem-solving approach to tackle over-representation. Following the introduction of the YJB KPI's there will be further development to ensure this data and performance feeds into the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board.

Child First and Voice

Humberside Police recognises the link between vulnerability and poor outcomes for our young people, this includes crime. We are committed to working with our partners to provide appropriate and timely outcomes for our young people. We understand the far-reaching consequences of journeying through the criminal justice system. In consideration of this, pathways have been built to ensure we interface more effectively with our Youth Justice Partners. These pathways take into account the national best practice from a number of sources including the following.

- National Police Chief Council
- College of Policing YJ Officer guidance
- Working together to safeguard children (2018)
- National Vulnerability Action Plan (2018)
- ACEs and Trauma Research (EIF)
- National Child Centred Policing strategy (2016)
- Humberside Police Victim Code Commitment

Humberside Police are committed to providing a child-centred approach to all children and young people to:

- Ensure the safeguarding of children & young people is at the heart of all we do.
- Provide dedicated and specialist offer to children and young people who are victims of crime.
- Fully support the National Police Chief Council's Policing of Children and Young People strategy's identified priorities:
 - Police Custody
 - Prevention of harm
 - Youth Justice & Criminalisation
 - Engagement & Relationship
 - Children in Care and Care Leaver

- Develop the understanding and application of theory around Adverse Child Experiences so as to identify vulnerable children & young people and to develop early help / early intervention responses.

As a partnership we recognise the importance of ensuring that our people are able to respond effectively to risks posed to children. We prioritise new and emerging threats such as child exploitation, online grooming, violent extremism, knife and gang crime and countylines.

Voice of the Child:

It is vitally important that we build trust and confidence amongst children and young people within our local communities.

Young people want to be listened to and treated fairly. We must do what we can to be open, honest and transparent in our relationship with them.

Through our Neighbourhood Policing Teams, our Community Cohesion Officers, and through our Children and Young People's Independent Advisory Group – we will engage with Children and Young People to understand the impact of what we do and use their feedback to help inform how best we might improve our offer and delivery.

Every engagement with a young person will be treated as a positive opportunity to enhance our relationship with them, to understand their journey and to support them in accessing advice and support where appropriate.

Stop and Search

We will ensure that when it is necessary to conduct a Stop & Search on a young person, this is carried out in line with our child centred Stop & Search policy which identifies the child as vulnerable and places safeguarding at the heart of the process.

Children and young people will be given information on how to provide feedback on the process and we will ensure that they are an integral part of our Young Persons Independent Advisory Groups.

We have invested in the development of Power BI, digital dashboards which provide an overview of Stop and Search prevalence across young people, which can be filtered by Local Authority area, and further including sub filtering around ethnicity, findings and outcomes.

This information is scrutinised at a monthly performance meeting to continue tackling improvements.

Partnerships

Humberside Police lead a range of dedicated and placed based tasking processes, at a range of levels, including ward based beat planning, area placed tasking, and also the sub divisional Tactical Tasking and Coordination Group meeting. These mechanisms, include enhanced representation from colleagues from across the Community Safety Partnership, and seeks to deliver constant assurance of horizon scanning, the identification of emerging concerns and threats, in addition to supporting, tracking and holding to account the delivery of placed based interventions as necessary to solve problems, reduce threat and risk, and to safeguard vulnerable people.

In addition, Humberside Police is committed to ensuring appropriate attendance by our Neighbourhood Policing Commanders (Inspectors) and our dedicated OCG / Child

Exploitation meeting at key targeted meeting arrangements including MACE – of which Humberside Police are proud to co-chair in support of its' delivery and traction of action and activity.

This has allowed for the high intensity coordination of multiagency problem-solving activities, aimed at reducing risks, reducing vulnerability and delivering intervention that achieve sustainable engagement and reduction in offending / exposure to criminal offending.

Horizon Scanning

The continued use and occurrences of antisocial and criminal use of motorcycles by small numbers of young people across North Lincolnshire continues to be identified through our proactive partnership scanning and analysis work, with illegal motorcycle use being seen to enable wider offending activities including violence, the supply of controlled drugs, and theft offences.

The challenges associated with this emerging concern not only include the threat / risk and vulnerability around illegal motorcycle use or the wider offending, but also expand to significant challenges of community impact and public trust and confidence in Community Safety partners.

Operation Yellowfin continues to be Humberside Polices' response to this challenge, supported by a place-based piece of high intensity problem solving through Operation Consequence including a reoccurring intelligence profile being developed and shared, in turn driving proactive activity.

Reduction of Child Exploitation and Serious Violence (by Stuart Minto – Head of Community Resilience)

Risk Outside the Home (ROTH) remains a key priority for North Lincolnshire and the Youth Justice Partnership with a particular focus on reducing Youth Violence and both Sexual (CSE) and Criminal Exploitation (CCE). Although violence and exploitation numbers in North Lincolnshire remain low, the Partnership is committed to reducing the harm these issues cause to both individuals and communities.

The strategic approach to reducing Serious Youth Violence and Exploitation is set within the context of our **North Lincolnshire One Family Approach** which seeks to create **a system that works for all children, young people and families** where we work together to provide and commission an integrated offer for children and young people. Our ambition is for children to be **in their families, in their schools and in their communities** where help is provided early at the lowest level, to enable children and families to participate, find help online and in their networks and communities, to be resilient and stay independent.

There continues to be an unremitting practice, operational and strategic level focus on CSE CCE and Youth Violence across the partnership and the contexts and groups through which harm occurs. Across the partnership, practice continues to be strengthened around prevention, identification, early help, assessment, and intervention in relation to child exploitation to improve outcomes for children and their families.

In 2022 Humberside was awarded funding from the Home Office to establish a **Violence Prevention Partnership (VPP)** as part of the national Violence Reduction Unit programme. Strong links have been established with the VPP. The VPP has created opportunities to share data and analysis, commission joint projects and maximise the use of resources across North Lincolnshire. The Youth Justice Partnership is fully engaged with the programme and is

committed to delivering clear outcomes for young people around reducing violence and serious harm. There are clear links to the requirements around the Serious Violence Duty and strong partnership working focusing on both a people and place-based approach.

Child First and Childrens Voice

There continues to be significant work across the partnership to ensure children and families' voices are heard, and children's lived experiences understood. Children remain at the heart of intervention and there has been progress seen in engaging children within community initiatives for example in both the YJP groups and on partnership walks in the community where the children who are vulnerable to or at risk of exploitation approach staff for a general discussion.

Engagement with children and young people by the police and partners as part of **Operation Holistic** which is an intensive partnership operation for children and young people experiencing CCE with each child being allocated a Police Officer within the proactive policing team to visit the child and their parents with either a YJP worker or Social Worker. The primary aim has been to increase opportunities for engagement with young people. This also provided opportunities for children to share their concerns, views and good news with those professionals to encourage trust should those children wish to share their experiences within a reachable moment.

Children's engagement with the YJP and education has improved alongside a reduction in the child exploitation vulnerability tracker scores for many children indicating the positive approach to engagement and understanding of children's needs. Children's views are gained at every stage within Children and Families involvement and their views help shape their plan.

For some children their views are understood more robustly given the relationship held with their workers and for the children who are supported by Children and Families, this relationship often takes time to build, to allow their full views and lived experience to be understood. There is a commitment from the partnership to ensure relationships are built to support and reduce risk of harm.

The Partnership has worked collaboratively with Humberside Police and the Crown Prosecution Service to ensure that we embed the "Child First" principles in our work and planning. We recognise the complex relationship between crime and exploitation and are committed to treating young people as victims and maximising the opportunities to break the cycle of exploitation and criminality using appropriate outcomes and through the Youth Justice prevention and diversion pathway.

Partners have developed and enhanced understanding of exploitation through continuous training and in particular a clear recognition of the effect that Adverse Childhood Experiences can have on young people as well as front line officer having an awareness of Trauma to help identify vulnerability and develop bespoke responses, supporting the use of the non-statutory crime outcomes to keep young people from entering the Criminal Justice System wherever possible, for example, by way of Outcome 8, Outcome 21 and 22 as necessary.

Data and Progress on Delivering Outcomes

The number of young people identified as being exploited remains low, however the Partnership are committed to reducing the harm caused by exploitation and youth violence.

Over the last year there have been a significant number of arrests of high-profile individuals within Organised Crime Groups. There is ongoing work with partner agencies to engage with young people in specific geographic areas of North Lincolnshire. As a result of this targeted

approach increased visibility and intelligence gathering, offences involving violence with weapons have decreased over the previous period.

The dismantling of Organised Crime groups and ensuring an early intervention process to deter young people away from crime has seen some success. The arrest and remand of some key persons has resulted in the risk associated with OCG's reducing. However, the impact of Organised Crime means it is an ongoing priority area.

The partnership working and information sharing in this area continues to flourish particular in respect of identifying young people associated with CCE as identified by MACE and through the OCG Response structure. Concerns regarding young people involved in violent incidents have reduced through an integrated and effective partnership approach.

The partnership has a strong approach to the use of data and analysis with several targeted profiles being developed. The profiles remain dynamic and are updated regularly to ensure we have a good overview of current risk and associated issues.

Child Exploitation Overview

Child Sexual exploitation is reducing - When reviewing the data for children who are open to a statutory plan and/or MACE for CSE there is a clear ongoing reduction since 2020, there has been significant work ongoing to provide assurance that children are identified early where concerns for CSE emerge, this is evident within the CEIT data and that the higher proportion of children open to CEIT are for CSE. It also has to be acknowledged that there has been a significant increase in online harm since 2020 which is reflected in the populations.

- A similar overall number of children were identified throughout 2021/22 as being at risk of or experiencing child sexual exploitation compared to the previous year.
- The number of children's cases discussed at Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings in relation to CSE during 2021/22 decreased by 43% to 8 children from 14 children in 2020/21.
- Very few children were reported as missing to the police set within the context of an overall reduction in missing incidents for all children. The majority of the children at 58% were not involved with the Youth Justice Partnership (YJP)
- The number of cases open to the Child Exploitation Intervention Team (CEIT) for CSE has shown a 25% decrease to 35 cases at the end of 2021/22 from 47 cases at the end of 2020/21. It is of note that practice continues to develop and the CEIT considers whether introducing a CEIT worker is the best option for the child or whether CEIT can support a professional who has already formed relationship with the child through providing guidance and resources. This is reflected in the reduction in the number of children on the CEIT caseload and is in line with the *One Family Approach*

Identification of Child Criminal Exploitation is increasing – as a result of increased awareness and training which has supported practitioners to become more confident in recognising the signs/indicators of CCE and responding accordingly, there has been a year on year increase for children identified to be criminally exploited. This has resulted in more children being supported through discussion at MACE alongside a statutory plan. There is a robust partnership offer to tackle CCE and innovative and creative practice continues to be utilised to ensure risk is reduced and perpetrators are identified and pursued.

- Despite the ongoing upward trend over the last few years a similar overall number of children were identified throughout 2021/22 as being at risk of or experiencing child criminal exploitation compared to the previous year.
- There was a 9% reduction in the number of children discussed at MACE meetings for CCE during 2021/22 at 31 children from 34 children during 2020/21. Few children were

reported as missing to the police set within the context of an overall reduction in missing incidents for all children. The majority of these children at 63% were involved with the YJP with an additional 14% having had previous involvement.

- The number of cases open to the CEIT for CCE has shown a 69% decrease to 12 cases at the end of 2021/22 from 39 cases at the end of 2020/21. This reduction is in line with the *One Family Approach*.

The majority of children known for sexual exploitation are female and the majority of children known for criminal exploitation are male, this is a consistent picture over the years. Gender bias is discussed with training, and this is a regular theme for consideration at MACE and the YJSPB.

Key themes identified for children experiencing/ at risk of exploitation across the children and families offer is that a high proportion have identified SEND/ EHC planning in place, and for those children over 16 years, many are NEET. A high proportion of children have also experienced family bereavement. These are themes that continues to be discussed in MACE and addressed within individual planning.

Youth Violence

The development of the Violence Prevention Partnership in Humberside is a welcome approach to tackling Youth Violence. Numbers for Youth Violence in North Lincolnshire had traditionally been higher than the National and Regional averages (serious youth violence offences per 10,000 children aged 10-17 by YJS, YJS family, YJS region, PCC area and national average). Since 2019 this has changed with North Lincolnshire being significantly lower than the National and Regional averages. Despite the reductions we still recognise the significant harm that Serious Youth Violence has on individuals and communities.

- One issue of note is that Young People are as likely to be a victim of crime as they are an offender. In 2022 12% of crimes had an offender who was aged between 10 and 18. Also in 2022 11% of crimes had an identified victim who was aged between 10 and 18.
- Violence Against the Person Offences committed by Young People accounted for 13% of all Violent Offences in 2022/23 this was a very slight increase of the overall total.
- The main hotspot areas were in the Urban area of Scunthorpe with some links to the Night Time Economy.

Progress in Last 12 Months

Partnership intervention through MACE and YJSPB meetings, including reviewing and implementing a range of disruption techniques, with the aim of reducing the risks faced by the children, has been successful in reducing risks and disrupting offenders in the community.

Utilising the disruption toolkit has included taking measures such as the use of civil powers. and criminal offences including Child Abduction Warning Notices, Sexual Harm Prevention Orders, Closure Orders, increased police presence in hotspot areas and the issuing of warrants and searches as well arrests of suspected perpetrators. Such measures have disrupted offenders and increased children's safety.

There were concerns specific to CCE in identified hotspot areas, in response to this a partnership plan has been implemented and joint working between agencies undertaken to transform spaces including CCTV installation, an ANPR camera and partnership walks that are completed at different times. Intelligence is being submitted regarding those children and

adults seen and associates. This has been crucial in understanding the movements of those involved in specific operations linked to OCG's and has led to targeted disruption.

The wide-ranging partnership work has included actions to target alcohol and drug use and tackling possession has become a theme throughout both CSE and CCE. Actions have been taken through disruption work to address this via licensing, trading standards and through raising awareness across the partnership including across health and GPs. Delta have worked directly with young people or worked alongside professionals working with them to guide direct work undertaken by the children's trusted adults in the context of our One Family Approach.

There has been proactive work to dismantle, disrupt and prosecute adults linked to various Organised Crime Groups including a number of arrests, warrants, searches and ongoing investigations. This has also included the use of exploitation notices issued as part of Operation Holistic. Partnership responses have also been further strengthened to ensure the Section 45 Defence is discussed and known to children when arrested, and the local National Referral Mechanism (NRM) pilot has supported in strengthening the submissions of NRM's and the timeliness of decisions. Work across and with other local authority areas has also been undertaken to map and disrupt activity whereby children were being exploited into vehicle thefts.

Education Employment and Training

Partnership work has focused on working effectively so that children are attending full-time education or are in employment or training. This is to increase positive outcomes for children and also ensure they are diverted away from those exploiting them and where children are not in full time education, they continue to be discussed within daily education meetings for a resolution. A number of children have either learning needs or an Education Health Care Plan for emotional and social development. Adjustments are made in relation to intervention as part of children's individual plans and across the partnership in order to create effective working relationships and to undertake meaningful intervention.

The Partnership Integrated Triage

The Partnership Integrated Triage (PIT Stop) was piloted in March 2021 and has been mainstreamed into practice. PIT Stop is a daily partnership meeting to discuss children where a police incident or intelligence has been recorded which requires additional support but does not meet the level of need to be considered within specialist help and protection when aligned to the Helping Children and Families in North Lincolnshire 2020/24 document. This approach has been successful in ensuring that a number of children receive the right support at the right time, including through referrals to targeted help such as Delta, YJP, Family Support and CEIT. Children identified as at risk of or vulnerable to exploitation have been offered support at the appropriate level to meet their needs with the aim being to reduce the risks faced by them and to increase parents and carers knowledge of exploitation. Regular meetings have been held to ensure peer networks and locations are understood and wider disruption implemented where appropriate.

Children Reported as Missing

All children who went missing during the year were offered Independent Return Interviews (IRI) and 97% of children took these up. North Lincolnshire's Multi Agency Missing Children meetings are embedded and robust in focusing on reducing repeat missing with action plans devised to complement statutory or early help plans and to initiate early help assessments or provide support. There is a well-established dedicated offer undertaking the functions of

IRIs by Missing Children's Advocates. There has been an increased focus on gathering intelligence through the MACE and Multi Agency Missing Children meetings. This has extended to refreshed raising awareness of the process for submitting intelligence to the police via the Children's MARS education and training programme and Children's MARS briefings being disseminated to a large communications network. This increases the intelligence submitted allowing a wider picture of children's daily lived experiences, including locations, hot spot areas and associates, therefore allowing additional disruption through individual planning and at MACE meetings.

The YJSPB is fully linked to the VPP and North Lincolnshire has benefited from additional resources to undertake targeted work with young people at risk as well as providing diversionary activities in universal settings. Sport and Arts programmes have been commissioned as well as engagement events and neuro diversity training.

Prevent Referrals remain low, but a very strong Channel Panel continues to meet monthly with a clear focus on reducing vulnerability to exploitation and radicalisation. There is good joint working with the CEIT Team, and the Channel Panel has commissioned additional support from Home Office approved Intervention Providers when required. Briefing and Training on Prevent is mandatory for all staff and yearly training for all Designated Safeguarding Leads in schools and educational establishments is in place.

Challenges and Further Developments for the next 12 Months.

Partnership working remains strong and the ROTH strategic Group in conjunction with the YJSPB and the Community Safety Partnership have reviewed and developed a further Action Plan to tackle Exploitation and Youth Violence.

The 2023-24 ROTH Plan will have a continued focus on Disruption and Prevention. Key issues identified for 2023-24 include:

- The views and experiences of children, young people and families who are at risk of/experienced ROTH inform, influence and shape practice, help and strategy.
- To strengthen the interface with the Violence Prevention Partnership
- A review of our approach to Young People in Transition to adulthood.
- To strengthen the integrated youth offer and ensure there is direct link between the offer and reducing harm
- Offending is tackled and minimised through prosecution, disruption and law enforcement.

The partnership will continue to be focused on reducing risk and harm. We know that Crime is dynamic and ever changing and we will ensure we are responsive to these changes, issues such as cyber bullying, harassment and offences linked to social media are now included in our intelligence and has resulted in reports of violent crime rising both locally and nationally. The partnership recognises that we must respond to new crime types and an increase in reported crime across the area (in line with national trends) to focus our collective efforts to combat this.

Links to other Plans and Partnerships

Keeping a close synergy with the strategic plans of our partners is key to the YJSPB to ensure we can work collaboratively on common themes whilst retaining focus on YJP business. The benefits of the partnership are most visible in this 'crossover' of work on common themes, and have been proud to be able to continue to work collaboratively to challenge, minimise and address crime and exploitation in North Lincolnshire. We will continue to work with the

Community Safety Partnership, the MARS Board the Safeguarding Adults Board, the Violence Prevention Partnership, and other significant boards and workstreams.

The Exploitation and Youth Violence priority is aligned with the CSP Plan the PCC's Police and Crime Plan as well as key national initiatives and plans including The Serious Organised Crime Strategy, Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, Domestic Abuse Act 2021, Serious Violence Strategy, The CONTEST Strategy (Prevent and Protect) The 10 Year Drug Strategy and Modern Slavery Strategy.

Transition to Adulthood process (by Nick Hamilton-Rudd – Head of Probation – North & North East Lincolnshire)

Standard 5: on transition and resettlement

In order to ensure that a young person successfully transitions from the supervision of the Youth Justice Partnership to the Probation Service, it is critical that robust processes are in place to maximise the support to a young person. Transitions are a priority to the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership as we recognise the need for them to be safely managed, to put the child at the centre of the process and to enhance the opportunity for a young person to benefit from the rehabilitative requirements designed to prevent further offending. As such the transition process and protocol developed in partnership between the Probation Service and the Youth Justice Partnership are underpinned by the following principles:

1. Individual needs and safeguarding requirements will be recognised and addressed.
2. Children who are eligible for transfer will be identified and allocated to a Probation Practitioner at the earliest point.
3. Every child who could transfer to Adults and Health must have a transition plan.

Transition planning must focus on providing flexible and continuous help and support tailored to meet individual needs. This should include consideration of any diversity issues for every individual.

The Lammy Review (2017) highlighted the disparity in outcomes for Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) individuals, particularly among young black males. Therefore, transition planning needs to take account of protected characteristics notably those included in the Equality Act 2010.

- Relevant information about children must be shared between child and Adults and Health before transfer.
- Child and adult justice partnerships will work together to achieve effective transfer outcomes, including maintaining interventions and progress.
- Children and their families/carers will be actively involved in planning for their transition and understand and agree the plans in place.
- Each transition will be reviewed, and relevant partners will seek continuous improvement, facilitating the journey towards a positive future and desistance from offending, building on skills, strengths and interests.

The YJP is responsible for the supervision of children aged 10 to 17 years of age who are sentenced by a court, in line with the YJB's Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System (2019) and Transition Case Management Guidance (2022).

Each case will require careful consideration, especially Children in Care, care leavers and those subject to MAPPA or extended supervision of Detention and Training Orders upon reaching the age of 18 in custody. The assessment information available in the case will be

reviewed, including more detailed assessment of mental health, substance misuse, speech and language, plus safety and wellbeing.

The North & North East Lincolnshire Probation Delivery Unit seconded a qualified Probation Officer to the YJP who acts as the lead contact with the PS, providing advice and recommendations on transitions to Adults and Health.

As part of our shared protocol, we will identify children under YJP supervision who will be eligible for transfer to probation services when they have turned 18 years. This will be as soon as the child is sentenced and will be noted in their sentence plan.

The YJP will advise the child and their parents/carers of the transition process to Adults and Health and involve and keep them informed at each stage. It is important to ensure parents/carers are involved, where appropriate, in discussions about transfer and in case transfer meetings where it is likely to assist the child's progress and engagement.

The YJP will ensure the child has a transition plan as soon as the need is identified and no later than when they reach 17 years and 6 months. The plan should focus on individual need, and identify the help that is most appropriate in meeting those needs. As a minimum the transition plan will address the following areas:

1. Provide advice and information to inform the child and their family about the adult justice system.
2. Seek the views of the child and incorporate them into their plan.
3. Listen to concerns the child may have and alleviate their anxiety.
4. Describe how the relationship with the allocated PS Probation Practitioner will be developed.
5. developed.
6. Recognise which provision in the YJP will/will not be available in the Probation Service and seek
7. to address any gaps.
8. Ensure health needs (emotional, mental and physical) are planned for and managed.
9. Ensure learning and communication needs are planned for and managed.

The YJP with the Probation Service are to review children who are approaching 18 and eligible to transfer to Adults and Health, monitor any cases, identify and manage any issues within the transition process and assist them to develop a trusted relationship with their new case manager.

Girls and young women who have offended tend to experience higher levels of home violence, sexual abuse, care history, education deficit, mental health problems, poor self- image and self-harm. Relationships and parenthood are more likely to be linked to their offending behaviour, as well as higher rates of coercion. Greater housing needs can also be apparent, as young women are often primary carers for children, and safe accommodation can be harder to find, particularly where women-only accommodation is required.

As per the Female Offender Strategy 2018, the needs of women in the justice system are different and distinct from males, and transition arrangements should take this into account. Three-way meetings and assessments with the young woman, the YJP and the PS Probation Practitioner should therefore take note of these characteristics. In addition, areas may also want to consider women only environments and the allocation of a female Probation Practitioner as factors which may impact on their experience of supervision.

Within North Lincolnshire young women transitioning from YJP to the Probation Service will be allocated to a specialist Women's Concentrator Probation Practitioner who will work with them to engage them where appropriate in the women's only provision offered by North & North East Lincolnshire Probation Service.

Engagement in Education, Employment and Training (by Jemima Flintoff - Assistant Director Education)

The strength of leadership through a strong partnership and Board approach to maintain our young people in education, employment and training has been key to preventing young people from entering/re-entering the youth justice system. Through the education attendance framework there are meetings across the partnership that monitor children's engagement with their education provision

Staffing developments within the Virtual School through grant funded projects has helped to strengthen strong systems and case work with our most vulnerable groups. For example, Children in Care, Post 16 and Care leavers and recent developments for those who are child in need or child protection. Through strong collaborative working with the YJP, intensive challenge and support has been provided for those most at risk of poor outcomes, poor attendance, suspensions and NEET.

There is regular management oversight and quality assurance to ensure assessment and plans are robust and targeting young people who are not in education, training or employment. Data on education exclusions, attainment, destinations, and progress is used to inform and guide decisions. There has been a keen focus on building schools' capacity to manage both YJP and other children to maintain their education placement within mainstream provision.

Regular monthly meetings with YJP, education leaders and the assigned education officer to YJP ensures challenge is evident to support better school attendance, meeting need at the earliest opportunity and reducing suspensions.

There has been a significant amount of work undertaken in the last year to reduce those young people entering and within the Youth Justice Partnership who may have experienced fixed term suspensions or a permanent exclusion. Schools remain challenged and supported to ensure their most vulnerable young people have the appropriate support in place and that they remain in mainstream education wherever possible.

The Speech and Language Offer in North Lincolnshire has been strengthened through workforce development across several areas. This has strengthened and supported **SEND** and Speech and Language support. For example, a speech and language pilot scheme has been undertaken to consider how to further embed speech and language assessment and support into the Youth Justice Partnership. The scheme is designed to raise expectations and reduce barriers. Training sessions were delivered to understand speech, language and communication needs and develop practical interventions to support young people. A number of individual young people received a 10-week intervention which highlighted areas for future support and interventions and received excellent feedback. The Lead Educational Psychologist is a point of contact for YJP consultation and support in relation to the identification, and support of SEND, including speech and language.

SENDCoS within schools and settings are supported to ensure the identification of need is accurate. There is an increased emphasis on there being a golden thread between needs, outcomes and provision within the assess, plan, do review process to ensure need is being identified and met at the earliest opportunity.

The weekly Vulnerable Children in Education multi agency meeting has been a key component in providing additional support and challenge to ensure aspirations are high for our young people, that access to education, employment and training is on everyone's agenda and to ensure any unmet need is identified and addressed to ensure best outcomes for each individual young person. There is a clear focus on engagement and building the skills of the young people to enable them to achieve their potential. Attendance at the meeting from key

YJP officers has ensured that the YJP cohort of those with poor school attendance, high suspensions and those who are or at risk of NEET remain a priority in all areas of support.

Regular case audits, thematics and multi-disciplinary audits have supported strengthened plans and challenge for the young people under the remit of the YJP.

A multi-agency 'cohorts' meeting provides an overview of specific cohorts of children within the youth justice population. The YJP has access to a comprehensive suite of data through a cohorts dashboard, which is analysed in deep-dive reports and provides a live update on all young people within the YJP. Opportunities to access data within the dashboard has been rolled out to key staff, alongside the assigned education officer.

Our priorities for the next 12 months are:

- Support schools and the YJP to enable a reduction in first time entrants to the Youth Justice system
- Further strengthen the SALT and Educational Psychologist resource for the YJP cohort.
- Identification of speech and language needs must also sit within the wider workforce understanding of positive interactions and the modelling of language and communication with our children and young people.
- Wider workforce input and support for settings/ parents and carers on children and young people's comprehension skills, executive functioning by Educational Psychology and ASET
- The next stage of the roll of speech and language training for staff not only with the YJP but other areas of Children and Families
- Develop information materials to raise awareness of speech, language and communication needs (SpLCn)
- Further developing partnership working with Speech and Language Services
- Pathways of support to be further developed in line with the graduated approach model.
- Support schools to identify children and young people at the earliest opportunity who would benefit from the Youth Justice preventative and diversionary programmes.
- Further improve the interface with the SEND offer – preparing for adulthood operational group and highlight those individuals on YJP cohort reaching adulthood within the next 12-24 months with additional needs, who are either transitioning from year 11 or into Adults and Health
- Challenge to reduce part time timetables for young people within the Youth Justice Cohort and challenge and support to see a significant reduction in the use of suspensions and permanent exclusions within schools.
- Ensure each young person within the Youth Justice system has the appropriate support to access GCSE qualifications.
- In line with our council values and One Family Approach, ensure that our young people are supported to achieve their aspirations and become an asset to our community and

have the best opportunities in life

- Through collaborative and partnership approach, focus on the 16+ offer for young people open to the YJP and identify sympathetic employers who will mentor and provide appropriate support within work placements with a view to long term employment opportunities.
- Continue to develop inclusion opportunities with mainstream pre-16 school settings for vulnerable young people including more bespoke curriculum and vocational offer (through SEND Capital Projects)
- Support schools to work within an ethos of whole school trauma informed and an act as champion to the social, emotional and mental health needs of these young people.
- Provide further opportunities to access aspirational activities to support EET, build confidence and positive outcomes.
- Review the job description and skill set for the education officer assigned to the YJP to provide additionality to the offer for YJP.

Improve the Emotional and Physical Health of children involved with youth justice (by Helena Dent - Commissioning Manager – Integrated Care System)

The current top priorities reported to at the board are:

- Ensuring efficient and effective CAMHS provision into the Youth Justice Partnership
- To ensure local Youth Justice engagement with the wider Integrated Care Trust developments – including Trauma Informed Care
- To be proactive in identifying common themes and trends in the needs of children and young people working with the Youth Justice Partnership and respond proactively.

Health services are advocating child first principles and are committed to prioritising the best interests of children and recognising their particular needs, capacities and rights, through working within a formulation / strength based model.

Over the last 12 months the revised model of CAMHS support into the Youth Justice Partnership has continued to be embedded and the model has evolved with both the youth justice team, and the joint working with generic CAMHS offer. The CAMHS provision continues to offer 0.5 wte per week, which is being delivered. The CAMHS practitioner attached to the Youth Justice Partnership has been provided with a number of training and development opportunities to enhance the offer for the YJP cohort, this has included specialist practitioner trauma training to promote the trauma recovery model YJP practitioners have been trained in.

Clinical consultations are also embedded with the Youth Justice staff to discuss cases/ referrals and, when required, direct face to face assessments and interventions have been offered. In addition, the provision has also been able to offer urgent mental health assessments to some of the young people – this has ensured the young person was seen in an efficient timescale usually in 24 hours of the request being made. The governance and oversight of the model and input has also improved, with quarterly routine partnership meetings to continue to plan and develop the integrate the CAMHS model.

The CAMHS practitioner has continued to build strong relationships and partnership working with the CAMHS Neurodiversity pathway and has an improved oversight of the number of young people currently waiting for a Neurodiversity assessment.

Humber Coast and Vale ICS have been successful in securing a national youth justice bid, to which 3 test and learn sites have been supported in a project focusing on implementing Trauma Informed Care across Humber Coast and Vale. An opportunity is imminent for North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership to also submit a bid to become a test and learn site, with a focus on prevention and trauma informed care.

The Humber Coast and Vale Framework for Integrated Care is a collaboration of partners from across our six places within the ICS. The model for the 10 year programme aims to build on existing infrastructure to strengthen pathways and collaborative working while testing new models of delivery to improve outcomes.

As part of the Humber Coast and Vale Integrated Care bid additional training was sourced and all staff, including senior managers attended the ARC Trauma Training. This incorporated the 4-step model to becoming trauma informed (trauma aware, trauma sensitive, trauma response and trauma informed).

The vision is:

- To facilitate integrated trauma-informed systems that enable children and young people with complex needs to thrive.

The mission 2030 is:

- To effect cultural change through developing local, sustainable and trauma-informed children's emotional wellbeing offers by:
- working collaboratively to co-ordinate, integrate and deliver trauma- informed care
- genuine co-production with children and young people with complex needs, and their families, to develop integration and systems that are accessible and acceptable to them
- working with the child directly, through relationships with staff in the role of 'young people's champions' who are psychologically informed and well supported, have a positive view of young people and are able to understand them and who advocate for and support them effectively along their journeys.

Key Outcomes:

- Improved wellbeing
- Reduction in high risk behaviour (reduced FTEs and re-offenders)
- Reduced mental health concern
- Organisations are more trauma informed
- Improved purpose occupation (school attendance and exclusion)
- Improved stability at home

Diversity & Disproportionality (by Tom Hewis – Head of Provision for Children NLC)

At a national level addressing disproportionality is a priority for the Youth Justice Board, reinforced

by the findings of the 2017 Lammy Review which recognised that systemic and institutional prejudices and stereotypes can lead to unequal treatment of children, often meaning that outcomes for children are less positive for children with diverse needs, for example:

1. Children from ethnic minority backgrounds involved in crime are often treated as adults.
2. When children are treated as adults, it can mean they are not being safeguarded properly.
3. Children from ethnic minority backgrounds (excluding White minorities) were more likely than their White British peers to be stopped and searched by the police.
4. A lack of diversity among the people who work in the criminal justice system was thought to contribute to systemic racism.
5. Disparity can lead to unnecessary criminalisation of marginalised groups and mistrust of authorities.

The Local Picture

Understanding and responding to the unique needs of children, particularly those that relate to their protected characteristics, is a priority for the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board in North Lincolnshire. Aligned to this priority is a commitment to preventing, identifying and addressing disproportionality across youth justice provision, aiming to achieve equity of access, equality of opportunity, and consistently positive experiences of receiving help and intervention.

Substantial progress has been made to develop practice, understanding, and oversight in this area including:

- Building diversity and disproportionality into the YJP Cohorts Meeting to ensure regular oversight of data and trends.
- YJB disproportionality toolkit used to support thematic analysis.
- All staff have attended disproportionality and unconscious bias training.
- YJB publications and other research routinely shared with staff and the YJSPB members.
- Peer Review had a key focus on diversity and disproportionality
- Senior Leadership Team attended intersectionality training
- Diversity and Disproportionality is intertwined into policies and procedures
- Further training 'Engaging with anti racism' has been commissioned to equip the workforce and organisation to have a deeper understanding of the challenges of disproportionality
- Continued focus on the diversity of the workforce and recruiting staff from diverse ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds

In North Lincolnshire a disproportionality and diversity thematic review has been undertaken to help understand our current position, the areas of strength, and the steps for further improvements. The review found the following:

Ethnicity

Children from Black and Asian ethnic minority groups make up 8.7% of the overall 10–17- year-old population of children in North Lincolnshire, 5% of all YJP programmes, and 3% of the offending population (those subject to statutory programmes or OOC). This means there is a lower proportion of children from a Black or Asian minority ethnic group who offend or who are working with the YJP than in the general population.

Currently White British/European/Other children make up 97% of the offending population (statutory and OOC) and 91% of the overall population of 10-17year olds, meaning that White British or European children are disproportionately over-represented in the cohort.

The proportion of open programmes which are White European/Other is 5% (5 young people). This is lower than the 31/03/22 figure of 7.8% (6 young people). This population represents 5% of all programmes starting in 2022/23.

Gender

The proportion of open YJP programmes which are female is 22% (22 young people). This is in-line with the 31/03/22 figure of 22% (17 young people). The current female offending population for statutory cases is 12.5% (2 out of the 16 open). During 2022/23 the female offending population for statutory cases was 12% (4 out of the 33 programmes starting), compared to 12% nationally.

Children in Care

There are consistently very low numbers of children in care who receive cautions or convictions. The % of children in care offending remains low. The % of children in care for a year or more and aged 10 or over who were convicted/youth cautioned for an offence is 3% currently (3 children).

There are currently 6 children in care on a programme due to a statutory/OOC outcome. Other

Diverse Needs

Of the youth justice caseload 45% have at least one protected characteristic, 28% have substance misuse issues, and 43% experience emotional and mental health problems. Of the YJP caseload, 51% have a learning disability or difficulty, or an EHCP.

Strengths:

- In North Lincolnshire children from black and ethnic minoritised groups are underrepresented within the youth justice cohort, bucking the national trend.
- Children in care rates of offending remain low.
- Diversity data, and the resulting focus on disproportionality, is well embedded within the North Lincolnshire YJP data and performance reporting.
- The YJSPB routinely have oversight of the data, profile, key issues and comparators to ensure leaders are aware of the NL profile and take action to address any matters of disproportionality.

Areas for Further Consideration / Learning:

- The data and performance reporting for the YJP would be strengthened with a wider range of diversity characteristics able to be reported on and analysed, ideally reflecting the full list of protected characteristics.
- Disproportionality analysis could be further strengthened by again being shown alongside equivalent data from other children and family cohorts.
- Implementation of the new YJB Key Performance Indicators will support further development of data and performance ensuring disproportionality is consistently captured across the partnership and can be reviewed by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board.

- North Lincolnshire YJP's response to diversity would be strengthened through development of a bespoke diversity strategy

The Disproportionality Thematic Review also considered the quality of practice in relation to understanding and responding to diversity:

Strengths:

- Learning styles are routinely identified and considered, with interventions being carefully tailored to maximise engagement and reflection.
- Child first principles are evident – the recording across most cases brings the child to life, in many cases showing warmth and real care.
- Trauma informed approaches are evident within most case records clearly demonstrating the time and commitment taken by case managers to build meaningful relationships with children. Voluntary support is offered to some children whereby their statutory intervention is due to end but risk is still assessed as high and/or the intervention plan has not been fully completed. This supports the Understanding ethnic disparity in reoffending rates in the youth justice system recommendation for the YJB to consider an extension of statutory intervention timelines to extend and/or explicitly allow flexibility in deadlines to facilitate improved relationship-building and more effective interventions.
- The child's voice and experience underpins assessments and plans. This is further strengthened where a whole family approach is taken to consider the holistic needs of the family and the wider diverse needs and how barriers can be removed.
- Easy access to and routine use of translation and interpreters for children and their parents where English is a second language
- Loss and bereavement is clearly recognised as an important potential traumatic event and given appropriate weight in assessments and plans. There is clearly a good understanding of the range of the local offer to support children who have experienced loss.
- The child's diverse characteristics are considered across the Asset assessment, rather than in just one section. In the best examples this strengthens how these factors are analysed, and what they mean for the child and the resulting plan.
- There is strong evidence of trauma-aware practice, which helps to draw out the unique needs and experiences of children, thus strengthening the focus on diversity.

Areas for further consideration / learning:

- The recording of disproportionality and disparity in some cases could be strengthened with a consistent focus on how barriers or prejudice experienced by children and their families are overcome or challenged. To enable this, the Asset+ in some instances could also be strengthened with further analysis of the child's diverse characteristics in terms of what it means for the plan and intervention.

Other priorities

Restorative approaches and victims

Our victim procedures are written in accordance with the Ministry of Justice Code of Practice for Victims of Crime 2021, Youth Justice Boards National Standards 2019 and Restorative Justice Guidance (England and Wales).

The revised Code of Practice for Victims of Crime was introduced in April 2021 which

introduced 12 new rights for victims. The Victims' Code sets out the minimum level of services victims can expect from criminal justice agencies. It details what each criminal justice agency must do for victims and the timeframe in which they must do it. It applies to all criminal justice agencies including Youth Justice Partnerships.

The introduction of the Code of Practice and the new victim rights has been welcomed and is encompassed in every victim contact. In accordance with the Code of Practice every victim who has consented to share their details are contacted, their views and impact sought and a Restorative Justice intervention offered.

Over the last 12 months we have continued to adopt a restorative approach within our practice, providing victims with a voice and empowering them. Our assessments and plans consider victims views, their safety, and the impact of the harm they have been caused. A restorative approach can help the victim and the child move forward and draw a line under past events.

Below is some feedback from a victim who was supported to attend a Restorative Justice Meeting:

"I feel I now have some peace and the overwhelming feeling of anxiety I had has now gone. I don't look at XXX as an enemy for what he did, and I believe we will be ok and friends again in the future. Since the incident and before the meeting I felt we were strangers. I'm happy the meeting happened".

The Victim Liaison Officer has a positive partnership with the seconded Police Officer. In cases where victim information is missing on referral forms/consent hasn't been gained, they will always endeavour to contact the Investigating Officer to revisit with the victim as to whether they are happy for their information to be shared and be contacted by VLO. This has assisted in increasing engagement between the VLO and the victim.

North Lincolnshire's Victim Liaison Officer has good relationships with other VLO's in the region and will regularly meet to offer support and guidance to each other in their roles.

Detention in police custody

Humberside Police will try and deal with children (10 – 17 years) outside of the main custody environment (including either at a Police Satellite Station if operationally viable or in the child's home). This will take into account officer safety and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The intention of this principle is to avoid arrest where possible.

As part of the Youth Custody protocol, signed up to by all key organisations, all alternatives to arrest will be explored before a child is arrested and taken into custody where a victim can be successfully safeguarded.

Children and young people should only be taken to a custody suite when they have been arrested for offences as outlined above, where the risk of threat and harm merit detention, or where the risk is lower, only to secure and preserve evidence. Where this is necessary, they should be adequately supported by their responsible local authority or care setting.

Furthermore, as part of the joint protocol, Humberside Police will also ensure overnight stays for children in custody will only occur when absolutely necessary. Local Authorities and Police will work together to ensure that legal duties are met and that we fulfil the roles we play to

ensure that concordat responsibilities are achieved.

When a child has been arrested the same rights that apply to adults apply to children. Their rights must be explained to them in the presence of an Appropriate Adult. These include:

- The reason for arrest and for being detained
- The right to free legal representation
- Seeing records and documents about arrest and detention
- Right to remain silent
- A phone call to inform someone of their arrest
- Medical help
- Right to read the Codes of Practice
- A written notice detailing their rights in custody (interpreted in chosen language)

The joint protocol for children in custody was endorsed by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board and Children's MARS Board and outlines the expectations and considerations for:

- Children on the edge of care
- Racial Disproportionality
- Children in Care and Care Leavers
- Modern Day Slavery
- Child Exploitation
- Strip Search
- Appropriate Adults

Through the development of the youth custody tracker, Humberside Police will account to the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board on youth custody rates, overnight detention and post charge custody on a routine basis. In the last 12 months we have seen the attendance of the Police Custody Inspector who has presented at the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board and reported on development and embedding of the protocol, performance, in addition to any support or challenge that is needed.

There are regular meetings between lead officers across Children and Families, including out of hours provision and Humberside Police custody leads to ensure compliance with PACE and National Policy and monitoring of the joint protocol, including appropriate adult provision.

Standard 4: in secure settings

Custody and Remand

The number of custodial sentences in North Lincolnshire remains low with no children sentenced to custody during 2022/23 or 2021/2022 evidencing that use of custody is consistently low in North Lincolnshire.

There was one remand to Youth Detention Accommodation during this period, however there were specific circumstances that led to strong advocacy and challenge the next day resulting in the child's release from custody.

The use of custody remains low in North Lincolnshire due to the factors outlined below;

- Partners consistently taking a One Family Approach, with a commitment to children remaining in their families, schools and communities.
- Robust and intensive support is offered at an early stage which can help avoid

escalation through the courts. This allows for a focus on preventative work and the family as a whole.

- Use of robust Bail and community remand packages that provide holistic support to the young person. This can include Bail Support and Bail Support with ISS.
- Building resilience through supporting young people in their education, training and employment and ensuring that these, form part of the Bail or sentence plan to help ensure on-going engagement.
- Robust alternatives to Remand to Youth Detention Accommodation packages (including remand Foster Care and bail support).
- Use of the early guilty plea where appropriate.
- Dedicated Court Officers that are well trained and experienced and knowledgeable in the court arena and in managing both bail Support Programme and Sentenced children.
- Ability to offer robust assessments and interventions to young people to ensure that they can be safely managed in the community.

Constructive resettlement and the use of custody (including remands)

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership adopt the 'child first' principle and work hard to divert children away from the criminal justice system. We continue to advocate that the use of custody, for children is used only, as a last resort. This is evidenced through the continually low use of custody in North Lincolnshire.

Whilst this is positive, it's important professionals are still clear on their roles and responsibilities for supporting constructive resettlement should they become involved with a child in this situation. The YJP recently delivered a workshop about resettlement as part of the workforce development briefings offered to all staff across children and families.

The resettlement of children from custody is a statutory responsibility of local authorities, in partnership with other functions. Whilst in practice, the planning and co-ordination of custodial sentences is led by youth justice partnerships, there is a clear role for other partners such as children's social care, education and health. All of which are actively involved in this process in North Lincolnshire. Though no children have been resettled, these agencies are aware of their responsibilities should this be required.

The North Lincolnshire Resettlement Policy has been further reviewed in April 2023. This allows both YJP and partner agencies to remain fully informed and updated on required changes and developments in practice to ensure that if a child was to be sent to custody, the supervising staff and managers are fully aware of how best to support the young people and make resettlement a clear priority from the point of sentence.

It is imperative that partner agencies are also aware of these procedures. Therefore, the Resettlement Policy was developed jointly by both the YJP and Children and Families. In addition, a Designated Social Worker has been identified, who has a level of responsibility for all children in custody. This Social Worker is trained and has extensive knowledge of this area in terms of partnership responsibilities for young people in custody and is available to the YJP as required.

During the next 12 months North Lincolnshire YJP will develop a point of contact at Wetherby YOI in order for the partnership to remain updated regarding any changes in procedures and policies within the secure setting. This will ensure that if and when a child is remanded, we are fully up to date with expectations for both the YJP and the secure placement.

Standards for children in the justice system

The Lord Chancellor's Standards for children in the youth justice system were published in 2019. A baseline self-assessment against these standards was undertaken in 2020-2021 and submitted to the YJB. Correspondence was received from the YJB in June 2023 advising that the self assessment would be undertaken again but that this would be against one of the selected standards for 2023/24. It was outlined that through selecting just one Standard it reduces the burden on the partnership in a year when there are a number of substantial changes being implemented to drive improvements in outcomes for children. It also means that time and attention can be given to the quality and accuracy of the self-assessment.

The Standard selected is 2: At Court. Guidance on the content and process of the self-assessment is anticipated and we will be required to submit our self-assessment by 31st October 2023.

Our current progress on the standards has been weaved through this plan with standard 1: out of court disposals and standard 5: on transition and resettlement being two of our agreed priorities as a partnership.

North Lincolnshire were subject to robust external scrutiny against the standards between April-May 2023 following HMIP inspection announcement. Our final report will be published in September 2023, but our development plan incorporates the areas for continued development.

Quality Assurance Framework

As a learning organisation, with a growth mindset, we are committed to a culture of listening, learning, reviewing and adapting, underpinned by high challenge and high support across the workforce. We have an established Children and Families Assurance Learning and Development Framework which enables assurance and oversight of the Youth Justice Partnerships statutory responsibilities.

Under the auspices of our Assurance Learning and Development Framework, the YJP has an established monthly cycle of case audits and practice observations undertaken by relevant leaders and managers. Overall areas of good practice and themes for learning and practice development are fed into the monthly Children's Social Care CAM order to inform learning and practice development.

Whilst the YJP is part of the wider children and families QA framework, there is a bespoke audit tool utilised to ensure focus is given to YJP statutory functions. There is equally a thematic timetable to ensure a 'shine a light' focus on key areas including (but not exhaustive), serious violence, re-offending, first time entrants, child exploitation, weapon related crime.

Internal audit

The YJP had an internal audit carried out as part of the 2021/2022 Audit Plan. The overall objective of this audit was to provide assurance that an effective control environment is in place. In particular, it was designed to provide assurance on the effectiveness and compliance to legislation following a change in management and process.

The audit provided assurance on the controls in place to meet key objectives and mitigate risks including:

- there is a partnership in place with the appropriate governance as set out in the MOJ guidance.
- there is a management board with the relevant terms of reference to hold the

partnership to account.

- there is a local plan delivery plan that has been agreed, performance in relation to it is reported to the board.
- there is an inspection regime in place that reflects guidance for Youth Justice Boards setting out performance to be measured.
- data is securely held and handled.
- there is a comprehensive process for capturing all required data and ensuring that it is accurate and timely for submission nationally and locally.
- performance is reported and action plans in place where performance is less than target measures and to drive improvements across national, regional, and local themes; and
- grant spend is in accordance with the conditions set.

The audit concluded:

- **There were no identified areas for improvement.**
- **Substantial assurance on the effectiveness of the YJP**
- **Residual risk as low**

Workforce Development

In North Lincolnshire we are committed to having a highly skilled workforce that are able to meet the needs of our children and families. Our workforce consists of qualified social workers, nurses, police officers, and practitioners who are educated to degree level in relevant subjects e.g. criminology, youth justice, social care. We have an emphasis on a learning culture in North Lincolnshire and ensure staff feel valued, listened to and supported.

The 'One Family Approach' reinforces our approach to integration and our staff are afforded the opportunity to work across the different offers available. Whilst this enables us to demonstrate our commitment to partnership working, this equally upskills the workforce and supports better understanding of key roles and responsibilities across the children and families offer.

All staff and volunteers have regular access to training. The majority of staff have completed the Youth Justice Effective Practice Certificate qualification and new staff are encouraged and motivated to do so. This is role specific and reflects the risk and complexity of working in youth justice.

Staff are trained in other key areas such as:

- Harmful sexualised Behaviour (AIM2/3 and Good Lives)
- Restorative Justice
- Safeguarding Children
- County Lines
- Risk outside the home
- Transitional Safeguarding
- Child Exploitation
- Domestic Abuse
- Child Development
- Diversity
- Disproportionality

All staff receive regular supervision and appraisals, and ongoing career development is

encouraged through this process. All new starters also receive a robust induction package.

More recently, staff have been encouraged to utilise the YJB skills audit tool which was designed to help youth justice practitioners to reflect on their practice, in particular to identify potential gaps in their knowledge, behaviours and skills and thereby to gain access to more targeted training. The Youth Justice Board's Resource Hub provides a platform for practitioners to access a range of tools and resources that support ongoing knowledge and development.

Training needs are regularly reviewed and most often linked to the Youth Justice Partnership's key priorities. This has included practitioners attending training on:

- Modern Day Slavery – including Section 45 Defence and the National Referral Mechanism.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's).
- Deprivation of Liberty and The Mental Capacity Act.
- Disproportionality and Unconscious Bias.
- Racial Awareness
- Resettlement.
- Trauma Informed Practice
- Speech, Language and Communication Needs
- Child First Effective Practice

Regular workshops are often also facilitated to provide staff with the opportunity to refresh their skills and knowledge, for example Asset Plus workshops and report writing workshops.

Evidence-based practice and innovation

For the purpose of this plan the definition of evidence-based practice is 'integration of the best available and accessible evidence with professional expertise, in the context of working with children in contact with the youth justice system'. Its purpose is to promote effective practices and achieve positive outcomes for children. This includes systems, ways of working or specific interventions which are based on the best available research, are child focused and developmentally informed.

Revised Case Management Guidance

In 22/23 the YJB published revised case management guidance, with final sections on custody and resettlement and out-of-court disposals due to be published as part of phase 2 in the summer of 2023. This has been rewritten to reflect the evidence base. North Lincolnshire YJP will disseminate the revised guidance to support the workforce to put this into practice and improve outcomes for children.

Children and Families Transformation

Work has been undertaken to refine transformation governance and reporting arrangements, which are overseen by the Children and Families Transformation Board and underpinned by a transformation plan, delivered through four key working groups in relation to Family Help and Protection, Children in Care and Care Leavers Experiences, Education and Inclusion and Workforce.

A priority workstream was established to build on and continue our transformation journey and respond to the significant national policy directives, including but not exhaustive, the Independent review of children's social care (IRCSC), Child Protection (CP) in England, the

SEND and Alternative Provision green paper and the Working Together to Improve School Attendance Guidance.

Risk Outside the Home

North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership seek to deliver best practice across the partnership will regularly adopt innovative and creative approaches to support best outcomes for children and families. This has been recognised on a national platform with North Lincolnshire presenting at a Westminster Conference and NWG Child Exploitation Partnership and Practice Learning forum. Following these presentations, we have been invited to attend and present at the NWG National Conference being held in October 2023.

North Lincolnshire were also recognised by the County Lines Co-ordination Centre for our forward thinking and approach being taken towards risk outside the home. This recognition at a national level saw The Children's Society and British Transport Police share the approach.

Operation Holistic is another good practice example of how partners have worked collectively to respond to threat and risk in relation to child criminal exploitation in North Lincolnshire. The partnership sought advice and guidance from national colleagues from The Children's Society, National Working Group and Metropolitan Police to utilise innovative disruption tactics to aid safeguarding of vulnerable children known to be being exploited by an Organised Crime Group. An internal evaluation of this operation was completed, and key themes, outcomes and impact was presented at the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board and MACE. This was recognised as best practice due to the reduction in risk and positive impact and was endorsed as an approach that could be replicated in the future.

Over the last 12 months, we have replicated this approach implementing Operation Holistic 2 and Operation Roderick to tackle and disrupt organised crime groups who are exploiting children. This has seen the utilisation of modern day slavery legislation and a number of adult perpetrators subsequently receive lengthy custodial sentences. The partnership are currently working closely together to consider Slavery and Trafficking Risk Orders to aid further disruption and portray the message that child exploitation will not be tolerated in North Lincolnshire.

Virtual Reality Technology

An innovative project, which uses virtual reality technology to help young people to make the right decisions to avoid youth and knife violence, is being rolled out across schools in North Lincolnshire.

In partnership with Humberside Police, we intend to launch violence prevention work in schools through the virtual education programme 'Virtual Decisions'.

Virtual Decisions films enable participants to experience multiple dilemmas and illustrate the impacts of choices. Participants can experience the consequences of their decisions through the use of high-end VR headsets, which incorporate haptic feedback and 180° social interaction to immerse participants in unique scenarios.

Virtual Decisions has been successfully piloted nationally, including by Greater Manchester's Violence Reduction Unit who are further expanding this in more schools across the local area.

A separate co-production project has also commenced to develop our own local VR films with children and young people. Consultation is currently taking place to agree the topics and plan next steps.

Development Plan

In North Lincolnshire, all children and young people matter, and we are focused on ensuring extra care and commitment to those open to our Youth Justice Partnership. Through the collaborative work that we do, the determination of partners, we are making a positive difference and we will continue our focus on listening, learning, reviewing and adapting to improve outcomes for our children, young people and families.

As part of our commitment to transparency and to a learning culture we put ourselves forward for a Peer Review that was conducted between February and March 2023.

The Peer Review was not an inspection and was a voluntary process to explore matters identified by North Lincolnshire YJSPB, with agreed key lines of enquiries, which lead to a summary of findings carried out by trained peers and supported by the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership (YJSIP) and the Association of YOT Managers (AYM).

The peer review was a unique opportunity for us to gain a fresh perspective from peers alongside collaborative support in improving our local youth justice offer. The peer review was a supportive, yet challenging process and the report received following the peer review reflected the findings and supported us to produce our development plan.

It was agreed with the Independent Chair of the North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Strategic Management Board, Edwina Harrison that the PRT would be asked to examine the following key lines of enquiry:

- 1. Do the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board members and key stakeholders actively lead and champion youth justice within their own service areas, and is it having the desired impact?***
- 2. What is the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership's interface with, and contribution towards education, employment and training and how do they know it is making a positive difference for children?***
- 3. How well the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Early Help offer is integrated into the Family Help offer of the Council and its partners and are there opportunities to identify and engage any other potential stakeholders to improve outcomes for children?***
- 4. The 'golden threads' throughout the Peer Review are the voice of the child, anti-racist and anti-discriminatory practice, disproportionality, and diversity and to what extent that informs the quality, impact and the outcomes for children and young people known to the youth justice system in North Lincs?***

Following on from the peer review, a development plan was produced which enabled us to identify key actions and track progress. The development plan is overseen by the YJSPB and key actions included:

- YJSPB TOR was reviewed and headteacher representative was identified to attend the board.
- Dedicated Educational Psychology was identified for the YJP.
- Development of a bespoke YJP Diversity Strategy.
- Re-introduction of OOCSD Scrutiny Panel process.
- Development of the YJSPB – including consideration of re-branding to be more inclusive of the current integrated youth offer.
- Quality assurance activity to review practice and length of time children and open to the partnership on prevention/diversion disposals.

HMIP Inspection

North Lincolnshire were notified by the HMIP of their intention to carry out an inspection on 31st April 2023. Fieldwork took place between 15th-19th May 2023. The inspection was part of the HMIP's programme of youth justice service (YJS) inspections. North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Partnership (YJP) were inspected across three broad areas: the arrangements for organisational delivery, the quality of work done with children sentenced by the courts, and the quality of out-of-court disposal work.

The HMIP inspection report is expected to be published week commencing 4th September 2023. Following publication, a formal development plan will be implemented to support continuous improvement of the partnership.

Remaining a Youth Justice Partnership

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) has suggested that language describing children as 'offender' and 'young offender' serves only to "encourage the stigmatisation and criminalisation of children" and "reinforces a feeling of exclusion and discourages positive re-integration into society".

In 2021 we re-branded and became a 'Youth Justice Partnership'. However, following our recent peer review and HMIP inspection there was a suggestion that the YJSPB might want to consider renaming the Youth Justice Partnership to be more inclusive of the current 'Adolescent Youth Offer'; as the model includes early intervention, youth outreach work and a substance misuse offer, as well as youth justice, therefore the current terminology is not truly representative and could be misleading to children, families and other stakeholders.

At present we have a Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board that carries out all youth justice statutory functions. However, the landscape of the board has changed over the years and incorporates the overarching integrated youth offer for children and young people recognising issues pertaining to this cohort of children overlap with other agendas and vulnerable groups.

The YJSPB will need to consider whether a further re-branding exercise needs to occur to support a better understanding of the board functions whilst still maintaining its focus on the statutory functions required.

Independent Review of Children's Social Care

North Lincolnshire was one of the local authorities that contributed towards the research to inform the independent review of children's social care report published by Josh MacAlister in May 2022. Whilst the report provides some significant recommendations to consider it also creates some great opportunities to continue to review, develop and strengthen our offer to children, young people and their families. North Lincolnshire's Director of Children and Families responded promptly to the report and the establishment of a delivery transformation board for Children's Social Care was set up to consider our response to the proposed developments that seek to strengthen outcomes for children and families.

Thematic Inspections

The findings and recommendations of thematic inspections are regularly reviewed within the Youth Justice Partnership and updates are provided to the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board. Learning is utilised to inform practice and development.

Thematic reports have included:

- HMIP Thematic Review of the work of youth offending services during COVID-19.
- Protecting children from criminal exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery.
- Reducing the number of BAME young people in the Criminal Justice System.
- 'Ethnic disproportionality in remand and sentencing in the youth justicesystem.
- Contextual Safeguarding in a youth justice setting.
- Information obtained from attendance at the Youth Justice Board Bitesize sessions facilitated throughout the pandemic.
- Proposed changes to HMIP Inspection Framework.
- Child First Justice: the research evidence-base report.
- HMIP Annual Report.
- A joint inspection of education, training and employment services in youth offending teams in England and Wales

Examples of actions taken as a result has included:

- The Youth Justice Partnership (YJP) utilised the thematic review during COVID-19 to measure against our own practice. This enabled us to identify our own areas of strength and learn from others to aid our development.
- The YJP continue to take an active role in the North Lincolnshire Multi Agency Child Exploitation Board (MACE), considering CCE in all cases and are proactive in ensuring referrals to the National Referral Mechanism are made where appropriate.
- North Lincolnshire made a successful bid application to participate in the 'Devolved Decision Making for Child Victims of Modern Day Slavery'.
- Improvement actions have been developed from HMIP inspections.
- Disproportionality and unconscious bias training was delivered to the partnership.
- Development of strategy for North Lincolnshire's approach towards 'Risk Outside the Home' (ROTH).
- A decision to incorporate exploitation in its widest sense within the ROTH Strategy encompassing Serious Youth Violence & Knife Crime.
- Enhanced use of the YJB Disproportionality toolkit and Serious Youth Violence Toolkit.
- Resettlement workshops were delivered to the team to improve confidence in their assessment and planning to ensure appropriate attention is being given to support children returning to the community.
- Development of a Speech & Language Pilot jointly between YJP and Education
- Priority focus on the education offer for children and young people working with the YJP – in particular the use of suspension.

Youth Justice Board Business and Strategic Plan 2023-24

As alluded to, North Lincolnshire has adopted and embedded the 'Child First Principle' as endorsed by the YJB Strategic Plan. This plan has been utilised to inform North Lincolnshire's annual youth justice plan acknowledging the need to work collaboratively to improve opportunities for children.

The YJB has committed to increasing stronger leadership and improved guidance to drive system improvement. Already, North Lincolnshire have noted increase oversight from the YJB which was welcomed in the form of having the Head of Innovation and Engagement for Yorkshire and Humberside attend and represent at the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board and YJB representatives attending and contributing to a regional head of service meeting we have implemented in the Humber region.

There have been a number of consultations received by the Youth Justice Board in recent

months, including the proposed changes to Key Performance Indicators (KPI's). North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board members utilised a recent development session to review the proposals and compile a partnership response.

This Youth Justice Plan is closely aligned to the national priorities of the Youth Justice Boards who have outlined their commitment to becoming an anti-racist organisation by internally challenging our systems, policies and processes and working alongside stakeholders externally. The YJB commissioned training for the workforce and North Lincolnshire have booked the same training for our workforce which is due to be facilitated in October 2023.

Learning from serious incidents

In 2021, the YJB reviewed how intelligence about serious incidents occurring in the community was gathered as part of its statutory responsibility for oversight.

This highlighted that without a notification process of serious incidents in the community the YJB has limited oversight of these serious events. This limits the effectiveness of timely and appropriate responses both locally and nationally, the deployment of practical support and, when required, ministerial liaison. It also limits collation of national data where a fuller picture of performance, trends, themes, and lessons learnt could be extracted.

In June 2021, the YJB introduced a voluntary serious incident notification process and North Lincolnshire adopted this process and referred any incidents through during this period.

Following a review of the voluntary notification procedure and consultation with the sector, the decision was taken to make Serious Incident notifications across England and Wales mandatory from the 1 April 2022. A local serious incident policy and procedure were developed and shared with the workforce and managers to ensure full awareness of the expectations.

The Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board ensures robust oversight over any reportable incidents with a recurring agenda item at each meeting. The Youth Justice Partnership Manager will provide anonymised reports for the board where appropriate and appropriate reflection and learning is considered for any cases.

Youth Justice Partnerships should notify the YJB of a serious incident if a child:

- Is charged with committing one of the following notifiable incidents outlined below, (a full list of reportable incidents is included at Annex A)
- Attempted Murder/Murder/Manslaughter
- Rape
- Grievous Bodily Harm or Wounding with or without intent – section 18/20
- A Terrorism related offence

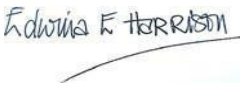
Or

- Dies while on the YOT caseload or up to 20 calendar days following the end of YOT supervision.

Challenges, risks and issues

Appendix 3 details North Lincolnshire YJP's **risk log** and outlines the current challenges, risks and issues recognised by the Youth Justice Partnership. The risk log summarises what actions are being taken to address existing issues and challenges and what proposed action may be needed to address potential risks should they emerge.

Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of YJS Board - name	Edwina Harrison
Signature	
Date	07/08/2023

Youth Justice Partnership Structure Chart

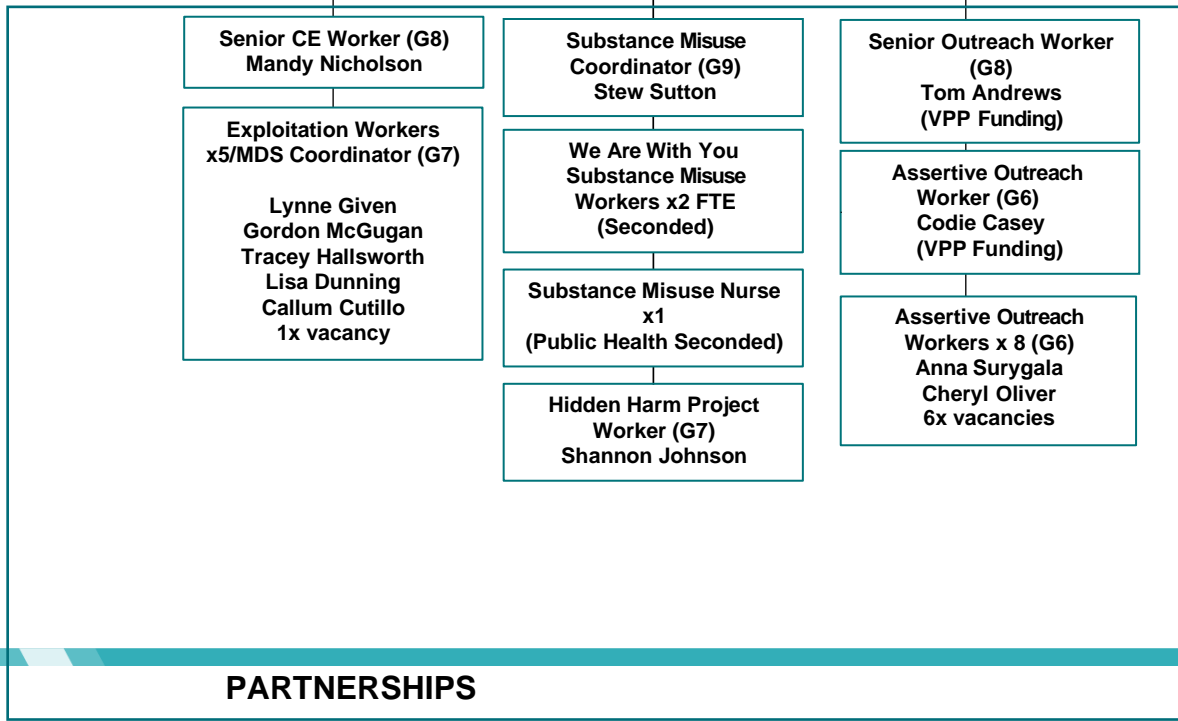
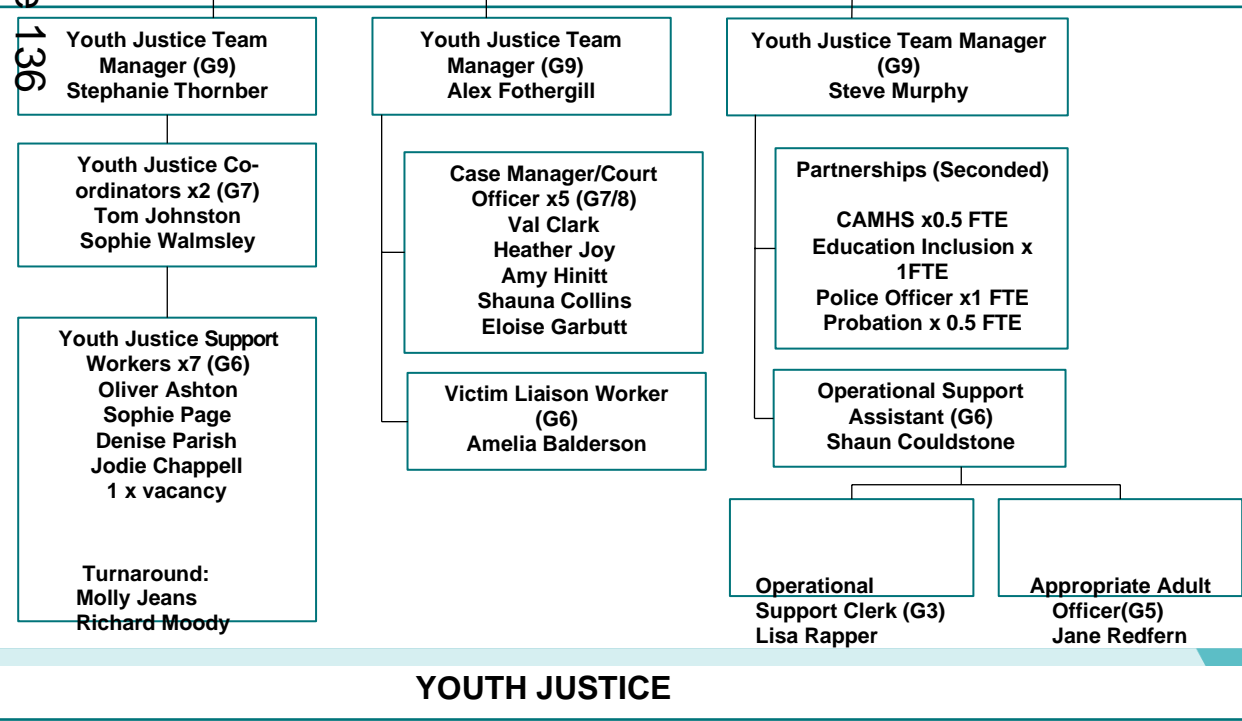
August 2023

Director of Children and Families (DCS)
Ann Marie Matson

Assistant Director Children's Standards and Regulation (Deputy DCS)
Paul Cowling

Head of Provision for Children
Tom Hewis

Lead Officer Youth Justice Partnership (G12)
Emma Young



YOUTH JUSTICE

PARTNERSHIPS

Appendix 2: Partner contributions to the Youth Justice Partnership budget 2023/24



2. Appendix 2 – Budget Costs and Contributions 2023/24

Agency	Staffing	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local Authority	Education and Inclusion Officer Designated Social Worker Dedicated Education Psychology Hours Information /Performance analysis dedicated support		£254,000	£254,000
Humberside Police	Seconded Police Officer		Included within the CSP allocation	Included within the CSP allocation
Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Remand Payment			£53,691	£53,691
Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Turnaround Project	2 x FTE Youth Justice Support Worker		£99,889.62	£99,889.62
National Probation Service	Financial contribution to YJP 0.5 FTE Seconded Probation Officer		£5,000	£5,000
Heath (CCG)	0.5 FTE Seconded CAMHS worker		£16,405	£16,405

Appendix 2: Partner contributions to the Youth Justice Partnership budget 2023/24

OPCC (via Community Safety Partnership)	1 x FTE Hidden Harm Worker		£85,000	£85,000
Youth Justice Board Grant			£413,985	£413,985

Other LA Substance Misuse	3 x seconded FTE Substance Misuse Workers		£88,000	£88,000
OPCC - Violence Prevention Partnership	1 X FTE Senior Outreach Worker 1x FTE Assertive Outreach Worker	£4,629	£73,832	£78,461
Home Office – Devolved Decision Making Pilot	0.5 FTE Child Exploitation Intervention Worker		£19,784.00	£19,784.00
Total:			£1,109,586.62	£1,114,215.62



Appendix 3 – Risk Log

Appendix 3: Risks to Future Delivery

Risks to the delivery of this plan and to the performance of the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership against statutory locally agreed indicators is given below and scored against the following scale.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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Risk	A (1-5) Likelihood	B (1-5) Impact	C (A+B) Score	Action to Mitigate Risk	D (1-5) Likelihood	E (1-5) Impact	F (D+E) Score
<p>Reduction in revenue</p> <p>The impact of any reduction in revenue alongside an increase in need and complexity of the children, families and communities we work with would present significant risk to future delivery.</p> <p>Community Safety Partnership (CSP) funding allocation arrangements have progressed to a bidding process. As the partnership develops there is a</p>	3	4	7	<p>Exploration of additional sources of funding through opportunities to bid in relation to key developments.</p> <p>Develop additional resources through joint initiatives with partners and review of delivery arrangements.</p> <p>Ensure that partnerships are kept up to date with progress regarding the process for making applications for CSP funding.</p> <p>Applications to be made in good time.</p>	2	2	4

<p>risk that the funding may be repurposed for other activities in line with the CSP outcome based plan.</p>							
<p>Increased use of Remand and Custody</p> <p>Significant reductions in custody rates have continued to be achieved. However, due to the small cohorts, there is a risk this may increase.</p> <p>The number of children remanded in custody continues to be low, although a spike was noted in 2020/21 for children charged with drug offences and linked to child exploitation. There is a cohort of children linked to MACE who are at greater risk of being remanded in custody due to the serious nature of their offences. This can present a financial risk.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>High quality reports to inform the court on sentencing options.</p> <p>Custody only used as a last resort, court officers to utilise LASPO (Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012) and criteria and direct alternatives to custody.</p> <p>Disproportionality concerns to be appropriately challenged.</p> <p>There is a clear process, including the children’s Concordat for access to Remand and PACE (Police and Criminal Evidence) beds when needed with immediate access to this when needed.</p> <p>Foster carers offering PACE beds have received a briefing to assist them to fulfil the role effectively. Selected foster carers have also undertaken Appropriate Adult training.</p> <p>New CPS guidance has been published and is utilised in line with ‘child first’.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

<p>National Guidance, review and legislation</p> <p>The potential impact of any legislative changes, the delivery of services to meet new requirements and the resulting impact on the service to ensure effective delivery.</p>	4	3	7	<p>Managers to keep staff informed of any developments, including through the provision of written staff briefings, team meetings and training to present any challenges or risks as opportunities for development. To review and develop in line with the ongoing responses to national requirements.</p> <p>The YJB have notified us of their intention to implement a new diversion and out of court assessment tool from April 2024. A draft version has been circulated and a workshop was delivered to the team to review this. The final version is anticipated to be circulated in October and North Lincolnshire intend to start utilising the assessment tool prior to this becoming mandatory in April 2024.</p>	2	3	5
<p>Sentencing white paper: A smarter approach to sentencing</p> <p>Introduction of longer periods in custody for the most serious offences.</p>	3	4	7	<p>Managers to keep staff up to date on the guidance and to ensure paper is carefully considered when considering sentencing options to the court and within Pre-Sentence Reports ensuring that the Child First principle is maintained.</p>	3	4	7
<p>Changes to the Cohort</p> <p>Whilst in North Lincolnshire, the numbers of children entering the youth justice</p>	3	4	7	<p>The YJP remains committed reducing First Time Entrants through prevention and concentrating resources on more intensive provision for the cohort whose offending is more entrenched and complex.</p>	3	3	6

<p>system continue to be low and there are well established local frameworks embedded to address these, there are a small number of children with more complex needs who are vulnerable to offending and repeat offending including through exploitation.</p> <p>Whilst North Lincolnshire prioritise prevention and diversion in line with the child first principle there needs to be a continued line of sight on the quality of statutory work.</p>				<p>Robust oversight of the statutory cohort ensuring quality and consistency of management oversight.</p> <p>Robust oversight of the quality of statutory work, especially in relation to assessing, planning and reviewing.</p> <p>Develop new models of working with adolescents, including development and expansion of opportunities to build community based positive activities and engagement.</p> <p>Child First principle to be advocated across the partnership to ensure victims of criminal exploitation are recognised as victims and not offenders.</p> <p>Appropriate referrals made to the National Referral Mechanism to identify victims of exploitation.</p> <p>Established ROTH Strategic Group and Child Exploitation Lead Officer Group utilising data/performance and classifications to fully understand the cohort and identify emerging themes.</p>			
<p>Increase in First Time Entrants (FTE)</p> <p>The number of FTE to youth justice continues to reduce in North Lincolnshire. However, as more young people are</p>	3	4	7	<p>Ongoing focus on preventative work to ensure children are appropriately offered a prevention intervention or Community Resolution.</p> <p>Continuous development of our early intervention and prevention pathways.</p> <p>Ongoing commitment with partners to ensure children only enter the criminal justice system if necessary.</p>	2	2	4

<p>successfully diverted away from the Criminal Justice System via early intervention work, those who remain are increasingly complex with greater and challenging needs.</p> <p>Whilst the partnership works with less children on post court disposals there is a risk that this could be interpreted wrongly and YJP caseloads seen as smaller than they are. Prevention and out of court work is significantly increasing and therefore caseloads appear stable but are changing more frequently.</p>				<p>One Family Approach practice model ensuring 'right person, right time, using fewest best interventions'.</p> <p>Close monitoring of data/performance indicating how many children and families are supported at all levels of need.</p> <p>Interventions are in line with the scaled approach and are proportionate and necessary.</p> <p>Regular review of our out of court policy and procedures and escalation to the board where necessary.</p>			
<p>Rise in re-offending figures</p> <p>Due to the small and decreasing numbers in the cohort, the reoffending rate</p>	3	4	7	<p>Close monitoring of the data through the live tracking tool and local police data to ensure close monitoring and action taken the reduce this.</p> <p>Cohorts Meetings to understand any themes developing and appropriate horizon scanning.</p>	2	3	5

has been more volatile.				Young people with the highest risk of re-offending are given the most impactful sentences and appropriate levels of supervision.			
<p>Access to specialist services that support children's emotional and mental health.</p> <p>A health profile conducted identified that a number of children open to the Youth Justice Partnership have experienced a number of Adverse Childhood Experiences and trauma throughout their childhood. There is a risk that their needs will not be met without specialist services to support their emotional and mental health.</p>	3	3	6	<p>Close liaison with ICB Board lead to develop the local health profile and identify gaps.</p> <p>Priority within the Youth Justice Plan and regular updates reported to each board.</p> <p>Exploration of local resource.</p> <p>Ongoing roll out of Trauma training to develop staff skills in trauma informed practice.</p> <p>Become a Trauma Informed 'Test & Learn' pilot site linked to the Humber Coast and Vale, Youth Justice bid.</p> <p>Identified CAMHS specialist to support the children referred to the Youth Justice Partnership.</p> <p>Seconded CAMHS worker to have appropriate access to training and development opportunities.</p>	3	4	7
<p>Disproportionality</p> <p>Whilst North Lincolnshire has low numbers of children from</p>	1	3	4	Training priority was identified in 2021 to ensure the team received training around unconscious bias and disproportionality. Partners from neighbouring authorities have were invited to attend this training to	2	2	4

<p>mixed and BAME ethnic backgrounds it is recognised that nationally these groups are over represented in the CJS. Whilst our figures may be low it is acknowledged that this could still be present in the low number of children we come into contact with presently.</p>				<p>ensure the consistent message across the Humber region.</p> <p>Further training has been commissioned for 2023 on diversity, racial awareness and disproportionality.</p> <p>Diversity and Disproportionality is a priority for the board and a diversity strategy will be developed.</p> <p>Managers to keep staff up to date on thematic reports and any issues identified through the YJSPB.</p> <p>Local monitoring via YJB Disproportionality toolkit.</p> <p>Data/performance to be monitored quarterly at each board and through established cohorts meetings.</p>			
<p>Cyber Security</p> <p>Services have adapted and have become more available digitally. Following COVID-19 this has accelerated further with more of the workforce delivering their roles online and planning greater collaboration and integration work with partner organisations. Therefore, reviewing and</p>	2	4	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT security training programme is cascaded to the workforce via boxphish which educates on a variety of IT security topics to help staff identify and prevent cyber attacks - securing your organisation's data. Training is mandatory and reviewed through supervision. Security and Data breach policy and processes are in place for the LA. 	2	3	5

<p>reinforcing current cyber security arrangements is a key priority for local authorities.</p> <p>A cyber incident can be very disruptive, leading to the loss of data, as well as disruption to the running of council functions.</p>							
<p>Operational Pressures Escalation Levels</p> <p>There has been a number of staff leave the team which has led to some staffing pressures across the partnership whilst recruitment is undertaken.</p> <p>During this time there has been an identified risk to the partnership delivery through reduced practitioner and management capacity.</p> <p>Despite timely recruitment activity,</p>	3	4	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment activity takes place in a timely manner Advertisement on YJB bulletin to promote knowledgeable and experienced candidates Diversity statement within adverts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion across the workforce Robust workforce training and development offer to support staff retention. Supervision and Appraisal process to support ongoing career development (inclusive of PCEP/YJSIP training) One Family Approach – Integrated Children and Families offer working to achieve best outcomes for all children irrespective of which area people work in 	1	2	3

<p>there has been a recognised reduction in the quality and quantity of applications and people qualified for specialist roles applying.</p>							
<p>Management Capacity</p> <p>Some of the management team are new role and the management team is still developing. Leaders must ensure that managers have the appropriate training to develop their skills to oversee high quality case management practice.</p>	3	4	7	<p>The presence of new managers is recognised and all managers have been subject to a thorough induction process.</p> <p>Training and development opportunities have been made available to all managers, including the social work apprenticeship scheme, ILAM Level 5 Management qualification and the front line management course facilitated through the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership.</p> <p>Team Managers are invited and encouraged to attend the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board although it is recognised that there needs to be further work to ensure better connectivity between the board and the workforce to ensure this translates into effective case supervision.</p> <p>There is oversight of management capacity via the YJSPB and oversight of audit activity to promote quality and consistency of management oversight of practice.</p>	2	3	5

				Audit moderation is also undertaken via the NL quality assurance framework.			
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Common youth justice terms

ACE	Adverse childhood experience. Events in the child's life that can have negative, long lasting impact on the child's health, and life choices
AIM 2 and 3	Assessment, intervention and moving on, an assessment tool and framework for children who have instigated harmful sexual behaviour
ASB	Anti social behaviour
AssetPlus	Assessment tool to be used for children who have been involved in offending behaviour
CAMHS	Child and adolescent mental health services
CCE	Child Criminal exploitation, where a child is forced, through threats of violence, or manipulated to take part in criminal activity
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
Children	We define a child as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. This is in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and civil legislation in England and Wales. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.
Child First	A system wide approach to working with children in the youth justice system. There are four tenants to this approach, it should be: developmentally informed, strength based, promote participation, and encourage diversion
Child in Care	Child in Care, where a child is in the care of the local authority
CME	Child Missing Education
Constructive resettlement	The principle of encouraging and supporting a child's positive identity development from pro-offending to pro-social
Risk outside the home	An approach to safeguarding children which considers the wider community and peer influences on a child's safety
Community resolution	Community resolution, an informal disposal, administered by the police, for low level offending where there has been an

	admission of guilt
EHCP	Education and health care plan, a plan outlining the education, health and social care needs of a child with additional needs
ETE	Education, training or employment
EHE	Electively home educated, children who are formally recorded as being educated at home and do not attend school
EOTAS	Education other than at school, children who receive their education away from a mainstream school setting
FTE	First Time Entrant. A child who receives a statutory criminal justice outcome for the first time (youth caution, youth conditional caution, or court disposal)
HMIP	Her Majesty Inspectorate of Probation. An independent arms-length body who inspect Youth Justice services and probation services
HSB	Harmful sexual behaviour, developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour by children, which is harmful to another child or adult, or themselves
JAC	Junior Attendance Centre
MAPPA	Multi agency public protection arrangements
MFH	Missing from Home
NRM	National Referral Mechanism. The national framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery in order to gain help to support and protect them
OOCD	Out-of-court disposal. All recorded disposals where a crime is recorded, an outcome delivered but the matter is not sent to court
Outcome 22/21	An informal disposal, available where the child does not admit the offence, but they undertake intervention to build strengths to minimise the possibility of further offending
Over-represented children	Appearing in higher numbers than the local or national average
RHI	Return home Interviews. These are interviews completed after a child has been reported missing
SLCN	Speech, Language and communication needs
STC	Secure training centre
SCH	Secure children's home
Young adult	We define a young adult as someone who is 18 or over. For example, when a young adult is transferring to the adult probation service.
YJS	Youth Justice Service. This is now the preferred title for services working with children in the youth justice system. This

	reflects the move to a child first approach
YOI	Young offender institution
MACE	Multi Agency Child Exploitation
JDAP	Joint Decision Allocation Panel
SYV	Serious Youth Violence
CIN	Child In Need
CP	Child Protection
YJP	Youth Justice Partnership
CEIT	Child Exploitation Intervention Team (service that sits under the YJP)
OYS	Outreach Youth Service
DELTA	The Drug Education Liaison Treatment Agency – targeted substance misuse service working with children and young people
CMARS	Children’s Multi-Agency Resilience & Safeguarding Board
OFA	One Family Approach
TTCG	
YJB	Youth Justice Board
RJ	Restorative Justice
Safer Neighbourhoods	Internal community safety team in North Lincolnshire
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
ICS	Integrated Care System
HCV	Humber Coast and Vale
KPI	Key Performance Indicator

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1. To inform Council of the Council's Treasury arrangements, activity and performance during 2022/23. The key points being: -

- 1.1.1. Borrowing was within Prudential Indicator Limits and no external borrowing was required to fund capital expenditure during the year
- 1.1.2. Investment returns were low at the beginning of the financial year but gradually increased throughout with the Bank of England rate reaching 4.25% by the year end.
- 1.1.3. The Council has maintained an under borrowed position, maintaining its policy of avoiding new borrowing.
- 1.1.4. Investment income was higher than budgeted due to the steady increase in return throughout the year.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 CIPFA has defined treasury management as:

“The management of the organisation's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks”

2.2 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2022/23 was approved by Council in February 2022. This statement also incorporates the Investment Strategy.

2.3 Whilst the Council has advisors to support effective treasury management arrangements, the Council is ultimately responsible for its treasury decisions and activity. No treasury activity is without risk. The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk is therefore an important and integral element of treasury management arrangements.

- 2.4 The Council has nominated the Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of treasury management arrangements.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The key issues covered in the attached appendix are as follows
- 3.2 Capital Expenditure is financed by capital resources, cash resources and external borrowing. The Council's capital expenditure during 2022/23 amounted to £39.73m, an increase of £11.05m from 2021/22.
- 3.3 Investment returns picked up throughout 2022/23. The Council maintained an average balance of £56.91m of internally managed funds and earned an average rate of return of 1.88%.
- 3.4 The Council maintained an under borrowed position during the year. This meant that the capital borrowing need (CFR requirement) was not fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council reserves, balances and cash flow was used.
- 3.5 During 2022/23 the Council repaid £8.05m at scheduled repayment dates.
- 3.6 The cost of servicing the council's debt was 6.6% of the council's net revenue stream which is below 12% of the net revenue stream, seen as the maximum affordable level.
- 3.7 No loans were drawn during the year.
- 3.8 No loans were drawn in advance of need and no debt rescheduling was carried out.
- 3.9 Investment income was £1.068m compared to a budget of £0.200m.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Capital expenditure during the year was financed from capital and cash resources. No external borrowing was required to finance capital expenditure during 2022/23.
- 4.2 The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved treasury management strategy and the Council had no liquidity issues.
- 4.3 The borrowing requirement strategy was prudent as investment returns were very low at the start of the year and amounted to an average rate of return of 1.88% in year.
- 4.4 The level of debt was within the operational boundary and authorised limits set in the Treasury Management Strategy.

4.5 This report is a requirement of the Prudential Code and provides the Council with assurance on the council's Treasury Management operation in 2022/23.

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

5.1 The financial implications to this report are covered in section 3.

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

6.1 Not applicable.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 No impact assessment is required for the purpose of this report.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 The annual Treasury Report was considered by the Audit Committee on 12th July 2023. There are no reported conflicts in respect of Treasury activity.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That Council notes the Treasury Management performance for the 2022/23 financial year.

DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

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Author: Tracy Falshaw
Date: 20th September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report
CIPFA Treasury Management Code and Guidance Notes
Treasury Management Strategy 2022-23

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SAFE WELL PROSPEROUS CONNECTED

Annual Treasury Management Review 2022-23

1. Introduction

The Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2022/23. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, (the Code), and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, (the Prudential Code).

During 2022/23 the minimum reporting requirements were as follows.

- an annual treasury strategy in advance of the year (Council)
- a mid-year (minimum) treasury update report (Audit Committee)
- an annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (this report)

The regulatory environment places responsibility on members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report is, therefore, important in that respect, as it provides details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by members.

This Council confirms that it has complied with the requirement under the Code to give prior scrutiny to all of the above treasury management reports by the Audit Committee before they were reported to the full Council. Member training on treasury management issues was undertaken during the year on 25th January 2023 in order to support members' scrutiny role.

2. The Council's Capital Expenditure and Financing

The Council undertakes capital expenditure on long-term assets. These activities are financed by a combination of :

- capital resources being capital receipts, capital grants and revenue contributions,
- cash resources (internal borrowing)
- borrowing (external borrowing)

The actual capital expenditure is one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the actual capital expenditure and how this was financed.

£m	31.3.22 Actual	31.3.23 Actual
Capital expenditure	28.68	39.72
Financed from Capital Resources	22.91	30.53
Financed from Cash Resources	5.77	9.19

3. The Council's Overall Borrowing Need

Gross borrowing and the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) - in order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term and only for a capital purpose, the Council should ensure that its gross external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year (2021/22) plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current (2022/23) and next two financial years. This essentially means that the Council is not borrowing to support revenue expenditure. This indicator allowed the Council some flexibility to borrow in advance of its immediate capital needs in 2022/23. The table below highlights the Council's gross borrowing position against the CFR. The Council has complied with this prudential indicator.

£m	31.3.22 Actual	31.3.23 Actual
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	244.42	247.67
Gross borrowing position	152.62	144.57
Under / over funding of CFR	(91.80)	(103.10)

The authorised limit - the authorised limit is the "affordable borrowing limit" required by s3 of the Local Government Act 2003. Once this has been set, the Council does not have the power to borrow above this level. The table below demonstrates that during 2022/23 the Council has maintained gross borrowing within its authorised limit.

The operational boundary – the operational boundary is the expected borrowing position of the Council during the year. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the boundary are acceptable subject to the authorised limit not being breached.

Actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream - this indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital, (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income), against the net revenue stream.

	2021/22 £m	2022/23 £m
Authorised limit	£170.73	£177.36
Maximum gross borrowing position during the year	£158.25	£152.62
Operational boundary	£170.73	£172.36
Average gross borrowing position	£156.79	£148.43
Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream	7.8%	6.6%

4. Treasury Position & Prudential Indicators as of 31st March 2023

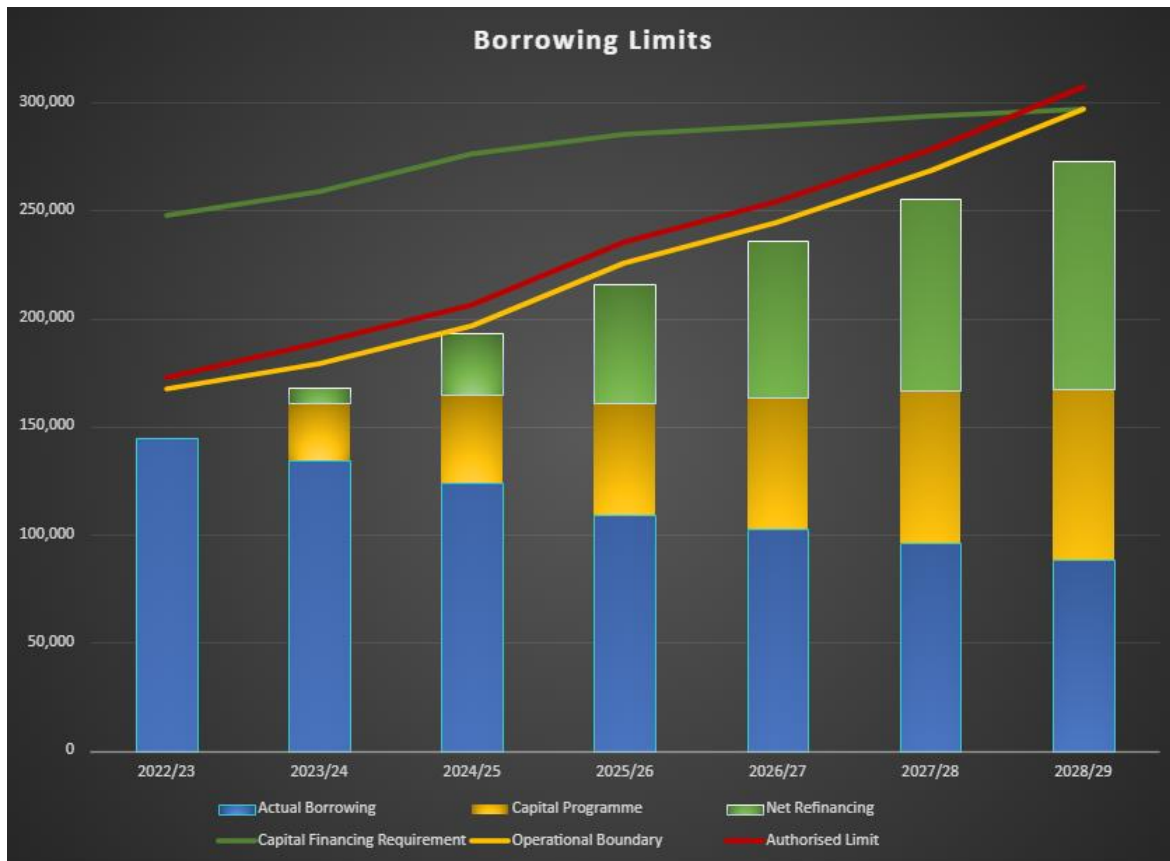
4.1 Treasury Position

At the beginning and at the end of 2022/23, the Council's treasury position was as follows:

DEBT PORTFOLIO	31.3.22 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs	31.3.23 Principal	Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs
Fixed rate funding:	£m			£m		
PWLB	146.62	3.87%	10.84	141.57	3.88%	10.17
Market	6.00	1.75%	0.51	3.00	1.75%	0.01
Total debt	152.62	3.78%	10.44	144.57	3.84%	9.96
CFR	244.42			247.67		
Over / (under) borrowing	(91.80)			(103.10)		
Total investments	49.05	0.49%	0.03	15.94	3.58%	0.15
Net debt	103.57			128.63		

The maturity structure of the debt portfolio was as follows:

	31.3.22 Actual £m	31.3.22 Actual %	31.3.23 Actual £m	31.3.23 Actual %
Less than 1 year	8.05	5.27	10.27	7.10
1-2 years	10.27	6.73	10.40	7.19
2-5 years	31.71	20.78	27.47	19.00
5-10 years	51.79	33.94	47.08	32.56
10-20 years	26.24	17.20	25.48	17.63
20-30 years	14.32	9.38	14.38	9.95
30-40 years	10.24	6.71	9.49	6.57
40-50 years	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



4.2 Prudential Indicators

PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS	2021/22	2022/23
	Actual £m	Actual £m
Capital Expenditure	28.68	39.73
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	7.8%	6.6%
Gross borrowing requirement General Fund		
brought forward 1 April	161.25	152.62
carried forward 31 March	152.62	144.57
in year borrowing requirement	(8.63)	(8.05)
Gross debt	152.62	144.57
CFR	244.42	247.67
Annual change in Cap. Financing Requirement	(0.77)	3.25

5. The Strategy for 2022/23

5.1 Investment strategy and control of interest rate risk

Investment returns picked up throughout the course of 2022/23 as central banks, including the Bank of England, realised that inflationary pressures were not transitory, and that tighter monetary policy was called for.

Starting April at 0.75%, Bank Rate moved up in stepped increases of either 0.25% or 0.5%, reaching 4.25% by the end of the financial year, with the potential for a further two or three increases in 2023/24, bank rate at the time of writing was 4.5%.

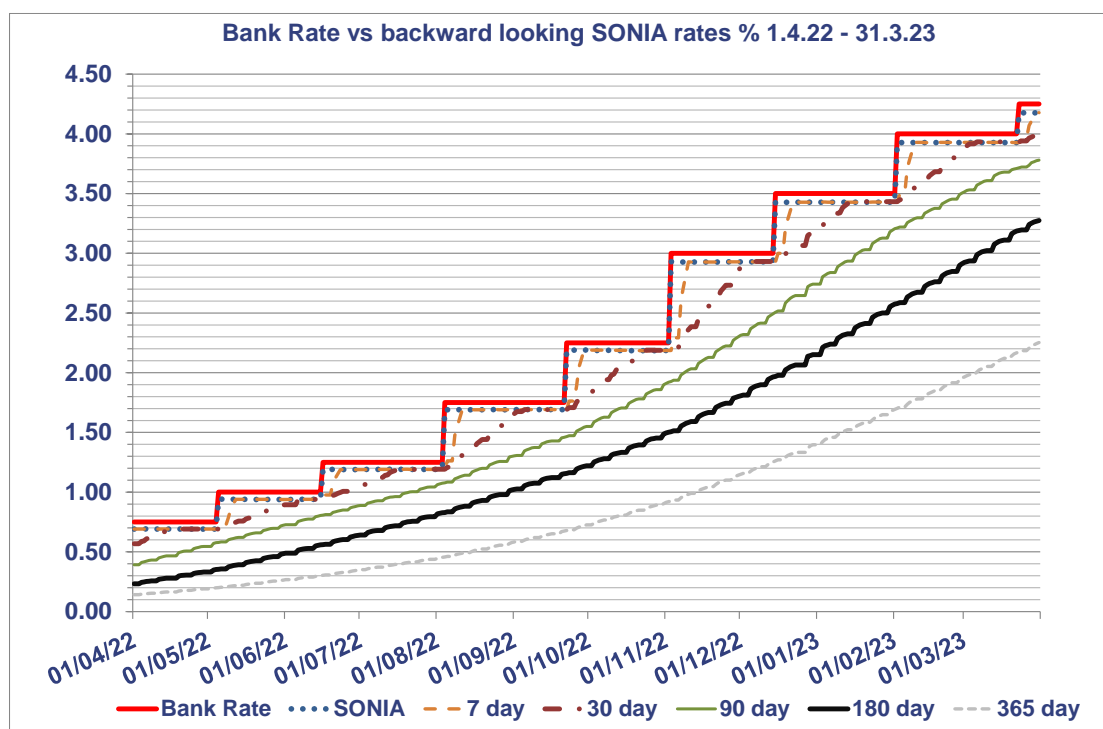
The change in investment rates meant local authorities were faced with the challenge of pro-active investment of surplus cash for the first time in over a decade, and this emphasised the need for a detailed working knowledge of cashflow projections so that the appropriate balance between maintaining cash for liquidity purposes and placing longer term deposits to maximise investment was maintained.

Through the autumn, and then in March 2023, the Bank of England maintained various monetary policy easing measures as required to ensure specific markets, the banking system and the economy had appropriate levels of liquidity at times of stress.

While the Council has taken a cautious approach to investing, it is also fully appreciative of changes to regulatory requirements for financial institutions. This means those institutions are better prepared to deal with stresses in the market and wider economy.

The table and graph below show interest rate movement during 2022-23 financial year.

Investment Benchmarking Data – Sterling Overnight Index Averages (Backward-looking) 2022/23



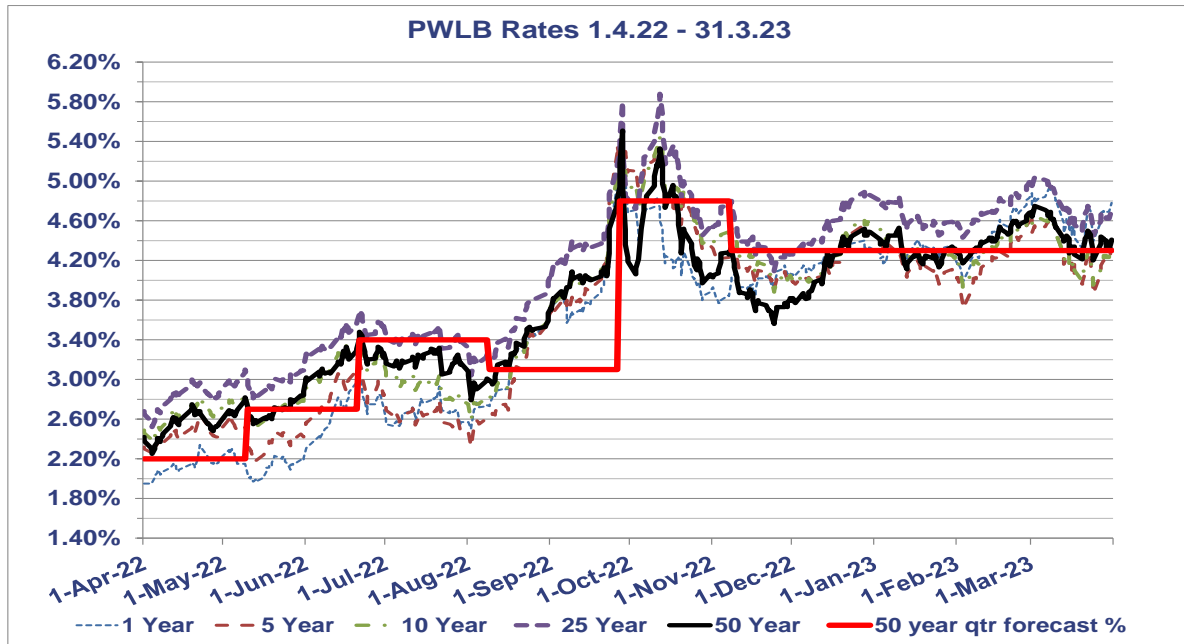
FINANCIAL YEAR TO QUARTER ENDED 31/03/2023							
	Bank Rate	SONIA	7 day	30 day	90 day	180 day	365 day
High	4.25	4.18	4.18	4.00	3.78	3.27	2.25
High Date	23/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023	31/03/2023
Low	0.75	0.69	0.69	0.57	0.39	0.23	0.14
Low Date	01/04/2022	28/04/2022	29/04/2022	01/04/2022	01/04/2022	01/04/2022	01/04/2022
Average	2.30	2.24	2.20	2.09	1.81	1.42	0.90
Spread	3.50	3.49	3.49	3.43	3.39	3.04	2.11

5.2 Borrowing strategy and control of interest rate risk

During 2022-23, the Council maintained an under-borrowed position. This meant that the capital borrowing need, (the Capital Financing Requirement), was not fully funded with loan debt, as cash supporting the Council’s reserves, balances and cash flow was used as an interim measure.

The policy of avoiding new borrowing by running down spare cash balances, has served the council well for many years. During 2022/23 the cash balances were significantly robust to maintain this policy.

Interest rate forecasts were initially suggesting only gradual rises in short, medium and longer-term fixed borrowing rates during 2022/23 but by August it had become clear that inflation was moving up towards 40-year highs, and the Bank of England engaged in monetary policy tightening at every Monetary Policy Committee meeting during 2022, and into 2023, either by increasing Bank Rate by 0.25% or 0.5% each time. Currently the CPI measure of inflation is still above 8% in the UK but is expected to fall back towards 5% by year end. Nonetheless, there remain significant risks to that central forecast.



6. Borrowing Outturn

6.1 Borrowing

No loans were drawn in the year.

6.2 Borrowing in advance of need

No loans were drawn in advance of need.

6.3 Rescheduling

No rescheduling was done during the year as the average 1% differential between PWLB new borrowing rates and premature repayment rates made rescheduling unviable.

6.4 Repayments

During 2022-3 Council repaid £8.05m at scheduled repayment dates.

7. Investment Outturn

7.1 Investment Policy

The Council's investment policy is governed by DLUHC investment guidance, which has been implemented in the annual investment strategy approved by the Council on 24th February 2022. This policy sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties and is based on credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, supplemented by additional market data, (such as rating outlooks, credit default swaps, bank share prices etc.).

The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the Council had no liquidity difficulties.

7.2 Investments held by the Council

- The Council maintained an average balance of £56.91m of internally managed funds.
- Total investment income was £1,067,940.32 compared to a budget of £200,000.
- The internally managed funds earned an average rate of return of 1.88%

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO	31.3.22 Actual		31.3.23 Actual	
	£m	%	£m	%
Treasury investments				
Banks	13.05	26.61	2.54	15.93
MMF*	12.00	24.46	0.00	0.00
DMADF (H M Treasury) **	24.00	48.93	13.40	84.06
Total managed in house	49.05	100.00	15.94	100.00
Total managed externally	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Treasury investments - Total	49.05	100.00	15.94	100.00
Treasury investments	49.05	95.81	15.94	88.21
Non-Treasury investments	2.15	4.19	2.13	11.79
Total Investments	51.30	100.00	18.07	100.00

*Money Market Fund

**Debt Management Account Deposit Facility

All treasury investments were up to one year.

8. Other Issues

8.1. Non-treasury management investments.

The council holds a non-treasury investment of £2.13 million as of 31st March 2023.

8.2. Sources of borrowing

No borrowing took place.

8.3. Changes in risk appetite

No fundamental change in risk appetite.

8.4. Counterparty limits

	Minimum Fitch long term rating	The higher of		Time Limit
		Value	% of portfolio	
Banks 1 higher quality	AAA-	5.00	12.5%	1 year
Banks 1 medium quality	AA-	3.00	7.5%	1 year
Banks 1 lower quality	BBB-	1.00	2.5%	1 year
Banks 2 - part nationalised	BBB-	3.00	7.5%	1 year
Limit 3 category - Council's banker	BBB-	5.00	20.0%	60 days
Building Societies	BBB-	1.00	2.5%	1 year
Debt Management Account Deposit Facility	UK sovereign rating	Unlimited		1 year
Local authorities	N/A	4.00	10.0%	1year
	Fund rating**	Value	% of portfolio	Time Limit
Money Market Funds per fund	AAAmf	3.00	10.0%	liquid

8.5. Sovereign limits

There was no change in policy on minimum sovereign ratings during the financial year.

Report of the Director:
Outcomes

Item Number: 7
Meeting: 5 October 2023

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2022-23

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To receive the annual report of the Audit Committee for the period May 2022 to May 2023.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 This report presents the fifth annual report of the council's Audit Committee. It summarises the activities of the Committee and demonstrates how it has discharged its duties between May 2022 and May 2023.
- 2.2 An annual report of the Audit Committee is considered good practice and provides a mechanism to transparently demonstrate the effectiveness of the Committee and provide assurance on the effectiveness of its role.
- 2.3 The draft report was approved by the Audit Committee at its meeting of 15 March 2023 (minute 725 refers). The Committee agreed that it be presented to full Council in support of the requirements of the Council's Code of Governance.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 That Council receive the annual report of the Audit Committee 2022-23 (attached as an appendix).

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 The annual reports summarises how the activities of the Committee throughout the year contributes to the discharge of its duties.

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

5.1 There are no resource implications associated with this report.

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

6.1 The content of this report supports the Council's Code of Governance.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 No impact assessment is required for the purpose of this report.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 The Audit Committee approved its annual report at its meeting on 15 March 2023 (minute 725 refers).

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the annual report of the Audit Committee for 2022-23 be received.

DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL
Author: Matthew Nundy
Date: 14 September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2022-23

**North Lincolnshire Council
Audit Committee Annual Report**

2022-2023

FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the Annual Report of the Council's Audit Committee. The primary role of the Audit Committee is to have oversight and responsibility in areas such as the integrity of financial reporting, the effectiveness of the framework of risk management and systems of internal controls. This underpins good governance and financial standards.

The Audit Committee continues to attend development sessions to have a more in depth understanding of issues in relation to public finances. During 2022-23 the Audit Committee has continued to focus on promoting good practice and governance across all areas of responsibility. In particular, during the year the effectiveness of the Committee has been further enhanced by:

- inviting a wider range of Directors and Assistant Directors to obtain assurance as to how they manage risks and internal control in their areas of responsibility; and
- inviting managers with limited or adverse internal audit reports to meet with the Committee to receive assurance on how they are dealing with the issues identified.

During 2022-23 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) issued its updated "Audit Committee Position Statement", which sets out the purpose, model, core functions and membership of audit committees. The Committee continues to comply with the requirement of this statement, but has identified areas for further development:

- at our meeting held on 25 January 2023 it was agreed that the terms of reference should be amended to allow for the future appointment of a co-opted Independent Member; and
- as shown in Section 4 of this report identified some improvements to further develop the Committee

Finally, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee and the officers and staff of North Lincolnshire Council for their support in achieving these outcomes.

Cllr Keith Vickers

Chairman of the Audit Committee

1. INTRODUCTION

In May 2022 the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) issued its updated “Audit Committee Position Statement”, which sets out the purpose, model, core functions and membership of audit committees. Endorsed by the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities, the statement is shown on Annex 3. The statement defines the role of an Audit Committee to:

“provide an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk and control arrangements. The committee’s role in ensuring that there is sufficient assurance over governance risk and control gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance that those arrangements are effective” and.

“have oversight of both internal and external audit together with the financial and governance reports, helping to ensure that there are adequate arrangements in place for both internal challenge and public accountability.”

The role of North Lincolnshire’s Council’s Audit Committee is defined in its terms of reference, as laid out in the Council’s constitution, as shown on Annex A, and were last amended in May 2022. They are consistent with the requirements of the statement issued previous CIPFA’s Position Statement issued in 2018.

This report informs Full Council of the Committee’s activities during the Municipal year (May 2022 to April 2023), how it has discharged its responsibilities, and a self-assessment of its performance against the most recent guidance.

2. COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Audit Committee Membership, Meetings and Attendance

An analysis of committee meetings held during the year is shown on Annex B. Five meetings were held during the year, and the Committee had five members, plus substitutes where appropriate. Taking account of substitutes, for three of the four meetings in the year there was full attendance at each meeting, apart from the meeting held on 13 July 2022 when four Members were in attendance.

Training and Development

The council recognises the importance of providing Committee Members with the knowledge and skills to allow them to effectively carry out what can be a demanding and technical role. In 2022-23 the following development sessions were held.

- The Annual Statement of Accounts (23 November 2022) – training on how to understand and review the annual statements of accounts
- Treasury Management (25 January 2022) - Link Asset Services delivered a presentation on –
 - What Treasury Management involves.
 - How Treasury Management is undertaken.
 - The role of Officers and Members in Treasury Management decisions.
 - The risks and opportunities in Treasury Management and how they should be managed.
 - The skills and knowledge required to take Treasury Management decisions.
- Fraud awareness training, with particular reference to the Audit Committee's role in receiving assurance on the Council's Counter Fraud processes (15 March 2023)
- Attendance at Regional Yorkshire and Humber Audit Committee Chairs Forum by the Chair and Deputy Chair – The Forum was established in response to a number of high-profile failures of governance or financial management in councils, alongside reduced resources and issues with external audit. Therefore, the Local Government Association had agreed with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities that a network of forums to share good practice and discuss common issues would support colleagues in the role to build a 'community of practice nationally.
- Attendance by the Chair at a CIPFA event held on 8/11/22 to discuss the implications of CIPFA's updated Audit Committee Position Statement and additional guidance.
- In August 2022 Members received an Audit Committee newsletter from CIPFA which focused on it updated "Guidance on Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police" and on a report it issued called "Internal Audit: Untapped Potential"

3. HOW THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HAS DISCHARGED ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AND ADDED VALUE

The Committee has discharged its responsibilities in 2022-23 and added value as shown below.

The Statement of Accounts

- Approved the Statement of accounts 2021/22 and received the external auditor's completion report (November 2022)
- Approved the Accounting Policies for 2022/23 (March 2023)

Governance

- Reviewed and approved the draft Annual Governance Statement 2022-23 and recommended formal adoption by the Council (September 2022)
- Approved the updated Code of governance (January 2023)

External audit

- Received the Audit Strategy Memorandum laying out the approach for the 2022/23 audit external audit- this also included confirmation of External Audit's independence (July 2022)
- Received an External Audit Progress Report (September 2022)
- Received an update on the External Audit Appointment Process – following a procurement exercise carried out nationally by Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA), the Committee endorsed the appointment of Mazars as the council's external auditors from 2023-24 (November 2022)
- Received an External Audit Progress Report (January 2023)

Internal audit

- Received the Internal Audit Annual Report and Opinion 2021/22 - received assurances that sufficient work had been carried out to form an opinion on the council's control environment and on Internal Audit's quality assurance processes (July 2022)
- Received an update on the content and delivery of Internal Audit Plan 2022/23 approved by the Committee in March 2022 (September 2022)
- Received a progress report on the delivery of the Internal Audit Plan any issues identified from audit work (November 2022)
- Received the Internal Head of Internal Audit Interim Report- this provided an update on the delivery of the audit plan, amendments to the audit plan and any material issues identified by audit via its work (January 2023)
- Received a presentation from the council's Deputy Chief Executive and Assistant Director - Public Protection in relation to the actions that had been put in place to address the limited assurance internal audit report into emergency planning. (January 2023)

- Approved the updated Internal Audit Charter that defines internal audit's purpose, authority, responsibility and position within the organisation. (March 2023)
- Approved the outline Internal Audit Plan 2023/24 - received assurance that the Internal Audit Plan had been produced on a proper basis and would provide sufficient assurance to form a reliable opinion on the Council's control environment (March 2023)

Counter Fraud

- Received the Counter Fraud Update Report- this concluded that the counter fraud work programme provided a sufficient level of assurance on the adequacy of the council's counter fraud arrangements (November 2022)
- Received the Annual Fraud Report 2022-23 – this provided assurance on the council's counter fraud activities (March 2023)

Risk Management

- Received updates on the developments of the council's risk management arrangements, including the implementation of recommendations arising from the Zurich Municipal Health Check carried out in November 2021 and the developments to the strategic risk register (November 2022 and March 2023)

Partnership Governance

- Received an update from the Assistant Director: Governance and Partnerships (Monitoring Officer) on the significant partnerships involving the council, and were provided with assurance on the adequacy of the council's governance arrangements around partnership activity (November 2023)

Treasury Management

- Received the Treasury Management Annual Report 2021/22 (July 2022)
- Received the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2022/23 (November 2022)
- Recommended the approval by the Full Council of the updated Treasury Management Practices and the Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24 (January 2023)

Other sources of assurance received by the committee

- Received a presentation from, the council's Director of Children and Families, the council's Assistant Director: Children's Standards and Regulations, and the council's Assistant Director: Children's Help and Protection, to inform members of the processes and procedures that were in place within Children and Family services to ensure that the adequate level of assurance was monitored and received. (July 2022)
- Received a presentation from the Assistant Director of Adult Social Services, the Principal Social Worker and the Safeguarding Adults Board Manager to inform

members of the processes and procedures that were in place within Adults and Health to provide assurance on its operation (November 2022)

- Received a presentation from the Director of Economy and Environment and the Assistant Director of Place on the assurance processes within the Economy and Environment Service (March 2023)
- Received the Information Governance and ICT Security Annual Report – received assurance on the Council’s information security policies (July 2022)
- Received Attendance Management Report- received assurance from the Director of Business Development about the Council’s workforce attendance position and the approaches in place to maintain and improve attendance levels. (July 2022)
- Received a self-assessment by the Director of Governance and Communities of the council’s Value for Money arrangements (September 2022)
- Received the Annual Whistleblowing report from the Assistant Director of Governance and Partnerships (Monitoring Officer (March 2023)

4. AUDIT COMMITTEE SELF-ASSESSMENT

As reported in the previous Annual Report in March 2022 the Audit Committee updated its self-assessment based on a checklist developed by CIPFA in its report “*Audit Committees: Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police*” (2018). The self-assessment considered the scope of the Committee’s work and its effectiveness. It identified that the Audit Committee continued to operate in line with expected practice and was provided with good support from officers, and identified three areas for further development:

- Invite a wider range of Directors and Assistant Directors to obtain assurance as to how they manage risks and internal control in their areas of responsibility
- Invite managers with adverse internal audit reports to meet with the Committee to receive assurance on how they are dealing with the issues identified.
- In the new municipal year have a session with members to allow them to assess their core knowledge and skills.

As shown in section 3 during 2023/23 the Committee has invited a wider range of Directors and Assistant Directors, and has invited relevant managers to discuss the actions, they have subsequently put in place in response to a limited assurance audit report.

In February 2023 the Chair and Deputy Chair, facilitated by the Head of Audit and Assurance and the Senior Democratic Services Advisor, carried out a self-assessment of the Audit Committee against CIPFA’s “Audit Committee Position Statement (2022) and subsequent additional guidance issued by CIPFA “*Audit Committees: Practical Guidance for Local Authorities and Police*. issued from CIPFA (2022)”.

The outcome of the self-assessment is shown on Annex 4. In most cases it was concluded that the Committee complies with good practice. One area was identified as requiring moderate improvement, and six requiring minor improvement. In addition, there were two areas where the Committee was not operating with good practice during the year, but the Chair and Deputy Chair felt that in one case no further improvement was required (Question 3), or further action had already been agreed (Question 13c)

- **Question 3: Has the committee maintained its advisory role by not taking any decision-making powers?**

The Committee is predominantly advisory in nature, but it acknowledged that it does have a small number of decision-making powers such as approving Code of Governance, counter fraud policies, the risk management protocol etc. For practical reasons it was felt that the decision-making powers in these areas should remain with the Committee.

- **Question 4: Do the terms of reference clearly set out the purpose of the committee in accordance with CIPFA's 2022 Position Statement?**

This was identified as an area for minor improvement, and it is recommended that the terms of reference be updated to include a statement of its purpose

- **Question 5: Do all those charged with governance and in leadership roles have a good understanding of the role and purpose of the committee?**

This was identified as an area for minor improvement, as it was felt that there was scope to increase the knowledge of the role of the Audit Committee amongst Councillors, and it is recommended that all Council Members receive a short presentation about its role as part of their general induction

- **Question 12: Has the committee met privately with the external auditors and head of internal audit in the last year?**

This was identified as an area for minor improvement. Although the Chair and Deputy Chair met periodically with the Head of Audit privately, there is no formal mechanism to prompt meetings with him and/ or external audit. It is recommended therefore that each Audit Committee agenda should include an option for them to meet privately with the Committee, if required to attend

- **Question 13b: A size that is not unwieldy and avoids use of substitutes.**

It was felt that the current size of the committee was about right. However, this was identified as an area of moderate improvement, as it was felt that due to the technical and specialist nature of the Committee that it should include nominated named substitutes who have received induction and training, to allow them to fully contribute to meetings if required.

- **Question 13c: Inclusion of lay/co-opted independent members in accordance with legislation or CIPFA's recommendation**

Although the Audit Committee has not had a co-opted Member in 2022/23, at its meeting held in January 2023 it was agreed that in order to comply with the Audit Committee Statement 2023 that the terms of reference of the Audit Committee should be amended to allow for a co-opted Member from May 2023.

- **Question 14: Have all committee members been appointed or selected to ensure a committee membership that is knowledgeable and skilled?**

Although Members receive training and develop knowledge one appointed, it was identified as an area for minor improvement as they are not initially appointed due to their previous knowledge. It is recommended therefore that political officers should consider previous knowledge and skills when nominating Audit Committee Members.

- **Question 15: Has an evaluation of knowledge, skills and he training needs of the chair and committee members been carried out within the last two years?**

Although Members do receive induction and regular training, this has been identified as a minor improvement as a formal evaluation of the knowledge, skills and training needs has not been carried out. It is recommended that at the beginning of the 2023/24 Municipal year a separate induction session should be held for Audit Committee Members and nominated substitutes , and this should include an assessment of skills for each Member against a CIPFA devised training guide.

- **Question 17: Across the committee membership, is there a satisfactory level of knowledge, as set out in the 2022 guidance?**

As per question 15

Annex 1

AUDIT COMMITTEE - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Internal and External Audit

- (a) To approve the audit charter and annual audit plan.
- (b) To consider the head of internal audit's annual report and opinion, including:
 - a summary of internal audit activity (actual and proposed).
 - the level of assurance it can give over the Council's control framework; and
 - the performance and effectiveness of internal audit (including compliance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, results of the Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme, and relevant external inspections).
- (c) To consider significant issues arising from internal audit reviews carried out and high risk agreed actions not implemented within a reasonable timescale.
- (d) To consider the external auditor's annual letter, relevant reports, and the auditors ISA 260 report on the conclusion of the accounts
- (e) To consider specific reports as agreed with the external auditor.
- (f) To comment on the scope and depth of external audit work and to ensure it gives value for money.
- (g) To be kept informed of over the appointment of the Council's external auditor by Public Sector Appointments Limited (PSAA).
- (h) To provide the Audit Committee the opportunity to meet in private with Internal / External Audit without any other officers present at the end of each meeting, if required.
- (i) To support the independence of external audit through consideration of the external auditor's annual assessment of its independence and review of any issues raised by PSAA (if applicable).

Regulatory Framework

- (a) To maintain an overview of the Council's constitution and governance arrangements in respect of contract procedure rules, financial regulations and the shared services programme with North East Lincolnshire Council, including the joint committee established thereunder.
- (b) Consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements. Review the risk profile of the organisation and assurances that action is being taken on risk-related issues, including partnerships with other organisations. This includes:
 - Receiving an annual report from the Director of Governance and Partnerships on the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements (and periodic updates where applicable).
 - Approval of the risk management strategy
- (c) To consider the effectiveness of the Council's anti-fraud and corruption arrangements. This includes:

- Receiving an annual report of the outcome Council's anti- fraud and corruption activities (and periodic updates where applicable)
 - Approval of the anti-fraud and corruption strategy and supporting policies such as the whistle-blower's charter.
- (d) To review the assessment of fraud risks and potential harm to the Council from fraud and corruption.
- (e) To review, and recommend approval of, the Annual Governance Statement and consider whether it properly reflects the risk environment and supporting assurances, taking into account internal audit's opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control.
- (f) To consider the Council's arrangements for corporate governance and agreeing necessary action to ensure compliance with CIPFA / SOLACE governance framework and approval of the Code of Corporate Governance.
- (g) To consider the Council's compliance with its own and other published standards and controls.
- (h) To consider the Council's arrangements to secure value for money and review assurances and assessments on the effectiveness of these arrangements.
- (i) Reviewing and monitoring treasury management arrangements in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.
- (j) To review the governance and assurance arrangements for significant partnerships or collaboration.
- (k) To report to Full Council on a regular basis on the committee's performance in relation to the terms of reference and the effectiveness of the committee in meeting its purpose.

Financial Reporting

- (a) To approve the accounting policies to be used to prepare the accounts.
- (b) To review and/or approve the annual statement of accounts. Specifically, to consider whether the approved accounting policies have been followed and whether there are concerns arising from the financial statements or from the audit that need to be brought to the attention of the Council.
- (c) To consider the auditors ISA 260 report on the conclusion of the accounts.

Annex 2:**Audit Committee Meeting Attendance 2022-23**

Member	13 July 2022	21 Sept 2022	23 Nov 2022	25 Jan 2023	15 Mar 2023	Total (5)
T Foster	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
K Vickers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
T Mitchell	apols	✓	✓	apols	✓	3
S Wilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
L Yeadon	✓	apols	✓	✓	apols	3
D Southern		sub				1 (sub)
J Longcake				sub		1 (sub)
T Ellerby					sub	1 (sub)

Audit Committee Member Development Attendance 2022-23

Member	23 November 2022 Council Accounts	25 January 2023 Treasury Management	15 March 2023 Understanding Fraud	Total (3)
T Foster	✓	✓	✓	3
T Mitchell	✓	apols	✓	2
K Vickers	✓	✓	✓	3
S Wilson	apols	✓	✓	2
L Yeadon	apols	✓	apols	1
H Rowson		sub		1 (sub)
T Ellerby			✓	1 (sub)

Annex 3: CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022

See attachment

Annex 4: Self-assessment of good practice

See attachment

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CIPFA's Position Statement: Audit Committees in Local Authorities and Police 2022

Scope

This position statement includes all principal local authorities in the UK, corporate joint committees in Wales, the audit committees for PCCs and chief constables in England and Wales, PCCFRAs and the audit committees of fire and rescue authorities in England and Wales.

The statement sets out the purpose, model, core functions and membership of the audit committee. Where specific legislation exists (the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016), it should supplement the requirements of that legislation.

Status of the position statement

The statement represents CIPFA's view on the audit committee practice and principles that local government bodies in the UK should adopt. It has been prepared in consultation with sector representatives.

CIPFA expects that all local government bodies should make their best efforts to adopt the principles, aiming for effective audit committee arrangements. This will enable those bodies to meet their statutory responsibilities for governance and internal control arrangements, financial management, financial reporting and internal audit.

The 2022 edition of the position statement replaces the 2018 edition.

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Home Office support this guidance.

CIPFA's Position Statement 2022: Audit committees in local authorities and police

Purpose of the audit committee

Audit committees are a key component of an authority's governance framework. Their purpose is to provide an independent and high-level focus on the adequacy of governance, risk and control arrangements. The committee's role in ensuring that there is sufficient assurance over governance risk and control gives greater confidence to all those charged with governance that those arrangements are effective.

In a local authority the full council is the body charged with governance. The audit committee may be delegated some governance responsibilities but will be accountable to full council. In policing, the police and crime commissioner (PCC) and chief constable are both corporations sole, and thus are the individuals charged with governance.

The committee has oversight of both internal and external audit together with the financial and governance reports, helping to ensure that there are adequate arrangements in place for both internal challenge and public accountability.

Independent and effective model

The audit committee should be established so that it is independent of executive decision making and able to provide objective oversight. It is an advisory committee that has sufficient importance in the authority so that its recommendations and opinions carry weight and have influence with the leadership team and those charged with governance.

The committee should:

- be directly accountable to the authority's governing body or the PCC and chief constable
- in local authorities, be independent of both the executive and the scrutiny functions
- in police bodies, be independent of the executive or operational responsibilities of the PCC or chief constable
- have rights of access to and constructive engagement with other committees/functions, for example scrutiny and service committees, corporate risk management boards and other strategic groups
- have rights to request reports and seek assurances from relevant officers
- be of an appropriate size to operate as a cadre of experienced, trained committee members. Large committees should be avoided.

The audit committees of the PCC and chief constable should follow the requirements set out in the Home Office Financial Management Code of Practice and be made up of co-opted independent members.

The audit committees of local authorities should include co-opted independent members in accordance with the appropriate legislation.

Where there is no legislative direction to include co-opted independent members, CIPFA recommends that each authority audit committee should include at least two co-opted independent members to provide appropriate technical expertise.

Core functions

The core functions of the audit committee are to provide oversight of a range of core governance and accountability arrangements, responses to the recommendations of assurance providers and helping to ensure robust arrangements are maintained.

The specific responsibilities include:

Maintenance of governance, risk and control arrangements

- Support a comprehensive understanding of governance across the organisation and among all those charged with governance, fulfilling the principles of good governance.
- Consider the effectiveness of the authority's risk management arrangements. It should understand the risk profile of the organisation and seek assurances that active arrangements are in place on risk-related issues, for both the body and its collaborative arrangements.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the system of internal control, including arrangements for financial management, ensuring value for money, supporting standards and ethics and managing the authority's exposure to the risks of fraud and corruption.

Financial and governance reporting

- Be satisfied that the authority's accountability statements, including the annual governance statement, properly reflect the risk environment, and any actions required to improve it, and demonstrate how governance supports the achievement of the authority's objectives.
- Support the maintenance of effective arrangements for financial reporting and review the statutory statements of account and any reports that accompany them.

Establishing appropriate and effective arrangements for audit and assurance

- Consider the arrangements in place to secure adequate assurance across the body's full range of operations and collaborations with other entities.
- In relation to the authority's internal audit functions:
 - oversee its independence, objectivity, performance and conformance to professional standards
 - support effective arrangements for internal audit
 - promote the effective use of internal audit within the assurance framework.

- Consider the opinion, reports and recommendations of external audit and inspection agencies and their implications for governance, risk management or control, and monitor management action in response to the issues raised by external audit.
- Contribute to the operation of efficient and effective external audit arrangements, supporting the independence of auditors and promoting audit quality.
- Support effective relationships between all providers of assurance, audits and inspections, and the organisation, encouraging openness to challenge, review and accountability.

Audit committee membership

To provide the level of expertise and understanding required of the committee, and to have an appropriate level of influence within the authority, the members of the committee will need to be of high calibre. When selecting elected representatives to be on the committee or when co-opting independent members, aptitude should be considered alongside relevant knowledge, skills and experience.

Characteristics of audit committee membership:

- A membership that is trained to fulfil their role so that members are objective, have an inquiring and independent approach, and are knowledgeable.
- A membership that promotes good governance principles, identifying ways that better governance arrangement can help achieve the organisation's objectives.
- A strong, independently minded chair, displaying a depth of knowledge, skills, and interest. There are many personal skills needed to be an effective chair, but key to these are:
 - promoting apolitical open discussion
 - managing meetings to cover all business and encouraging a candid approach from all participants
 - maintaining the focus of the committee on matters of greatest priority.
- Willingness to operate in an apolitical manner.
- Unbiased attitudes – treating auditors, the executive and management fairly.
- The ability to challenge the executive and senior managers when required.
- Knowledge, expertise and interest in the work of the committee.

While expertise in the areas within the remit of the committee is very helpful, the attitude of committee members and willingness to have appropriate training are of equal importance.

The appointment of co-opted independent members on the committee should consider the overall knowledge and expertise of the existing members.

Engagement and outputs

The audit committee should be established and supported to enable it to address the full range of responsibilities within its terms of reference and to generate planned outputs.

To discharge its responsibilities effectively, the committee should:

- meet regularly, at least four times a year, and have a clear policy on those items to be considered in private and those to be considered in public
- be able to meet privately and separately with the external auditor and with the head of internal audit
- include, as regular attendees, the chief finance officer(s), the chief executive, the head of internal audit and the appointed external auditor; other attendees may include the monitoring officer and the head of resources (where such a post exists). These officers should also be able to access the committee members, or the chair, as required
- have the right to call on any other officers or agencies of the authority as required; police audit committees should recognise the independence of the chief constable in relation to operational policing matters
- support transparency, reporting regularly on its work to those charged with governance
- report annually on how the committee has complied with the position statement, discharged its responsibilities, and include an assessment of its performance. The report should be available to the public.

Impact

As a non-executive body, the influence of the audit committee depends not only on the effective performance of its role, but also on its engagement with the leadership team and those charged with governance.

The committee should evaluate its impact and identify areas for improvement.

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Self-assessment of good practice

This appendix provides a high-level review that incorporates the key principles set out in CIPFA’s Position Statement and this publication. Where an audit committee has a high degree of performance against the good practice principles, it is an indicator that the committee is soundly based and has in place a knowledgeable membership. These are the essential factors in developing an effective audit committee.

A regular self-assessment should be used to support the planning of the audit committee work programme and training plans. It will also inform the annual report.

Good practice questions	Does not comply				Fully complies
	Partially complies and extent of improvement needed*				
	Major improvement	Significant improvement	Moderate improvement	Minor improvement	No further improvement
Weighting of answers	0	1	2	3	5

Audit committee purpose and governance

1	Does the authority have a dedicated audit committee that is not combined with other functions (eg standards, ethics, scrutiny)?				
2	Does the audit committee report directly to the governing body (PCC and chief constable/full council/full fire authority, etc)?				
3	Has the committee maintained its advisory role by not taking on any decision-making powers?				
4	Do the terms of reference clearly set out the purpose of the committee in accordance with CIPFA’s 2022 Position Statement?				
5	Do all those charged with governance and in leadership roles have a good understanding of the role and purpose of the committee?				
6	Does the audit committee escalate issues and concerns promptly to those in governance and leadership roles?				
7	Does the governing body hold the audit committee to account for its performance at least annually?				

* Where the committee does not fully comply with an element, three options are available to allow distinctions between aspects that require significant improvement and those only requiring minor changes.

Good practice questions	Does not comply					Partially complies and extent of improvement needed					Fully complies														
	Major improvement					Significant improvement					Moderate improvement					Minor improvement					No further improvement				
Weighting of answers	0					1					2					3					5				
8 Does the committee publish an annual report in accordance with the 2022 guidance, including:																									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> compliance with the CIPFA Position Statement 2022 																									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> results of the annual evaluation, development work undertaken and planned improvements 																									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how it has fulfilled its terms of reference and the key issues escalated in the year? 																									
Functions of the committee																									
9 Do the committee's terms of reference explicitly address all the core areas identified in CIPFA's Position Statement as follows?																									
Governance arrangements																									
Risk management arrangements																									
Internal control arrangements, including:																									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> financial management value for money ethics and standards counter fraud and corruption 																									
Annual governance statement																									
Financial reporting																									
Assurance framework																									
Internal audit																									
External audit																									
10 Over the last year, has adequate consideration been given to all core areas?																									
11 Over the last year, has the committee only considered agenda items that align with its core functions or selected wider functions, as set out in the 2022 guidance?																									
12 Has the committee met privately with the external auditors and head of internal audit in the last year?																									

Good practice questions	Does not comply					Partially complies and extent of improvement needed					Fully complies														
	Major improvement					Significant improvement					Moderate improvement					Minor improvement					No further improvement				
Weighting of answers	0					1					2					3					5				

Membership and support

13 Has the committee been established in accordance with the 2022 guidance as follows?																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Separation from executive 																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A size that is not unwieldy and avoids use of substitutes 																				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of lay/co-opted independent members in accordance with legislation or CIPFA's recommendation 																				
14 Have all committee members been appointed or selected to ensure a committee membership that is knowledgeable and skilled?																				
15 Has an evaluation of knowledge, skills and the training needs of the chair and committee members been carried out within the last two years?																				
16 Have regular training and support arrangements been put in place covering the areas set out in the 2022 guidance?																				
17 Across the committee membership, is there a satisfactory level of knowledge, as set out in the 2022 guidance?																				
18 Is adequate secretariat and administrative support provided to the committee?																				
19 Does the committee have good working relations with key people and organisations, including external audit, internal audit and the CFO?																				

Effectiveness of the committee

20 Has the committee obtained positive feedback on its performance from those interacting with the committee or relying on its work?																				
21 Are meetings well chaired, ensuring key agenda items are addressed with a focus on improvement?																				
22 Are meetings effective with a good level of discussion and engagement from all the members?																				
23 Has the committee maintained a non-political approach to discussions throughout?																				

Good practice questions	Does not comply					Partially complies and extent of improvement needed				Fully complies
	Major improvement	Significant improvement	Moderate improvement	Minor improvement	No further improvement					
Weighting of answers	0	1	2	3	5					
24 Does the committee engage with a wide range of leaders and managers, including discussion of audit findings, risks and action plans with the responsible officers?										
25 Does the committee make recommendations for the improvement of governance, risk and control arrangements?										
26 Do audit committee recommendations have traction with those in leadership roles?										
27 Has the committee evaluated whether and how it is adding value to the organisation?										
28 Does the committee have an action plan to improve any areas of weakness?										
29 Has this assessment been undertaken collaboratively with the audit committee members?										
Subtotal score										
Total score										
Maximum possible score										200**

** 40 questions/sub-questions multiplied by five.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To receive the annual report of the Standards Committee under the Council's Standards Arrangements for the period 1st July 2022 to 30 June 2023.
- 1.2 To consider a review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' in accordance with Article 15 (15.01) 'Review and Revision of the Constitution'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 This report attached as an appendix is the eleventh annual report of the Standards Committee under its Standards Arrangements pursuant to the Localism Act 2011. The report covers the period 1 July to 30 June 2023 and details the work and activities of the Standards Committee throughout that time.
- 2.2 The Standards Committee approved the report at its meeting on 29 June 2023 with a request that the Monitoring Officer provide a copy to all Town and Parish Councils in the area.
- 2.4 The Monitoring Officer will continue to deal with relevant legislation and guidance, deal with complaints against councillors, and provide training to North Lincolnshire Council and town and parish members and clerks, using the report to inform the itinerary. Training has been delivered in person and remotely this year on 6 and 7 September 2023 with over 60 councillors in attendance across both sessions. Also, an online training package is also being developed by Democratic Services, which will be available to all councillors across North Lincolnshire in the coming months.
- 2.5 In accordance with good practice to review regularly codes and protocols contained within Part E of the council's Constitution, the Leader of the Council and his Executive have requested that Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' be reviewed. Complying with the

requirements of Article 15 (15.01) 'Review and Revision of the Constitution' this review will be carried out through the Standards Committee and its recommendations reported to the meeting of the Council scheduled for 1 December 2023 for approval.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 There are alternative options associated with council receiving the Annual report. It is for Council to receive the report from the Standards Committee.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 There are no options associated with the annual report.

4.2 A review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' is in accordance with good practice, will be carried out in accordance with Article 15 'Review and Revision of the Constitution', and will also provide members who are not members of the Standards Committee the opportunity to attend the Standards Committee through the usual Council Procedure Rule D1.37b.

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

5.1 There are no resource implications arising from this report.

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

6.1 This report contributes to the Council's Annual Governance Statement and follows best practice recommended by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 No integrated impact assessment is required for this report given its nature.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 The Standards Committee approved the report at its meeting on 29 June 2023 and requested that a copy be provided to all Town and Parish Councils in the area. This has been attended to and no comments have been received.

- 8.2 No conflicts of interest have been identified or declared arising from this report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the report of the Standards Committee for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 be received.
- 9.2 A review of Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations' be carried out in accordance with paragraph 2.5 of the Director's report.

DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

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SCUNTHORPE
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL
Author: Will Bell / Dean Gillon
Date: 15 September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: Annual Report of the North Lincolnshire Council's Standards Committee 2022/2023.
Council Constitution: Article 15 'Review and Revision of the Constitution' and Part E Code 3 'Protocol on Member/Officer Relations'.

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**STANDARDS COMMITTEE****ANNUAL REPORT****2022/23**

This report represents the eleventh annual report of the Standards Committee under the Council's Standards regime following the Localism Act 2011 and covers the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Membership

The Council determined that a Committee comprising five elected members should be established to oversee its Standards arrangements. In addition, the three Independent Persons would be invited to attend each Committee. Accordingly, the following served on the Committee from May 2022 to the end of the municipal year 2023.

Councillor Neil Poole (Conservative) (Chairman)
Councillor John England (Conservative) (Vice – Chairman)
Councillor Mashook Ali (Labour)
Councillor Christine O'Sullivan (Labour)
Councillor David Wells (Conservative)

Role of Committee

The main role of the Standards Committee is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct, and to set an example to other bodies it works with and to the community at large. The Standards Committee promotes, educates and supports members in following the highest standards of conduct and ensuring that those standards are fully owned locally.

The role remains not just about enforcing the Code of Conduct, but also ensuring effective working relationships between both members and staff, and externally with the public and other stakeholders.

Under the Council's Standards Arrangements, the Committee may convene sub-committees in the form of Assessment Panels to consider complaints, and Hearings Panels to determine complaints that have been investigated.

The Standards Arrangements enable the Council to retain responsibility for receiving and determining complaints against both North Lincolnshire Council members and Town and Parish Council members.

Terms of Reference

Advisory

- (a) Advising the Council on the amendment or revision of the Code of Conduct and the appointment or removal of the Independent Person/s.

Delegated

- (a) Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members as defined under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 ('Act').
- (b) Assisting members and co-opted members to observe the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council pursuant to section 28 of the Act.
- (c) Advising the Council on the amendment or revision of the Code of Conduct and the appointment or removal of the Independent Person/s.
- (d) Monitoring the operation of the Code of Conduct and the 'Arrangements' and making appropriate revisions to the 'Arrangements' as considered necessary.
- (e) Advising, training or arranging to train members, co-opted members and Independent Person/s on matters relating to the Code of Conduct and the Arrangements.
- (f) Granting dispensations to members and co-opted members pursuant to the provisions of section 33 (b), (c) and (e) of the Act and on such other grounds as referred by the Monitoring Officer.
- (g) Dealing with any referrals as considered appropriate by the Monitoring Officer and to receive regular reports from the Monitoring Officer on the discharge of any relevant delegations afforded to that position.
- (h) To consider any complaints relating to an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct in accordance with the 'Arrangements' and to convene, as appropriate, sub-committees ('Assessment Panels') to consider such matters.
- (i) To make determinations in respect of complaints that members and co-opted members of the Council and Parish and Town Councils in the area may have breached the Code of Conduct and to convene, as appropriate, sub-committees ('Hearings Panels') to consider such matters and to impose, or recommend the imposition of, the sanctions detailed in the 'Arrangements'.
- (j) To deal with the grant of exemptions from political restriction in respect of any post holder and give directions on any post to be included in the list of politically restricted posts maintained by the authority.

Code of Conduct

Under its Standards Arrangements, the Council had developed and adopted its own locally based Code of Conduct, which is compliant with the Nolan principles and incorporates the statutory requirements concerning Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Although free to adopt their own Codes of Conduct, all of the Town and Parish Councils in the area have elected to adopt the Council's Code of Conduct (with minor amendments in two cases), which assists in encouraging uniform and consistent application across the area.

Complaints

During the period covered by this report (1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023) 25 new complaints were received involving members, compared to 33 in 2021/2022, 23 in 2020/21, 8 in 2019/2020, and 29 in 2018/19. This is broadly in line with the number of complaints received in previous years.

Of the above 25 complaints, eight were assessed by an Assessment Panel and two complaints were determined by the Monitoring Officer, each following consultation with the Independent Person. One complaint was resolved informally, and one was resolved without the need for an assessment or determination by the Monitoring Officer. Thirteen complaints were in the process of being assessed, and one had been withdrawn. There were five Assessment Panel meetings and one Hearings Panel meetings in 2022/23.

Of the 25 complaints, 19 related to members of Town or Parish Councils, with the remaining six complaints being made against members of North Lincolnshire Council.

Six town or parish councils were named in more than one complaint in 2022/23 (total of 17 complaints), with the remaining two being related to various individual Town or Parish Councils.

The following councils were named in more than one complaint.

Council	Number of complaints 2022/23
Owston Ferry Parish Council	6
Goxhill Parish Council	3
Barnetby Parish Council	2
Winterton Town Council	2
Epworth Town Council	2
Burringham Parish Council	2

Two complaints related to more than one individual, whereas the remaining 23 complaints received throughout 2022/23 related to an individual.

Of the eight 2022/23 complaints considered by an Assessment Panel, no further action was taken on five, two were referred for investigation, and one recommended mediation. Of the three complaints assessed by the Monitoring Officer in 2022/23, in consultation with the Independent Person, no further action was taken on two, and one was resolved informally. One complaint was resolved without the need for a decision by the Monitoring Officer or an Assessment Panel.

The complaints related to a wide range of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct including failure to treat with respect and courtesy; bullying or intimidation, disrepute, using their position as a member to improperly confer an advantage, compromising the impartiality of officers, and failure to declare interests.

The number of complaints dealt with in 2022/23 marked a moderate reduction from the 33 complaints received in the previous year: the highest figure since the Standards Committee was established in 2012. The number of complaints referred for investigation (two) in 2022/23, was also a welcome reduction from the seven investigations initiated in 2021/22.

Encouragingly, as in recent years, there were no complaints in 2022/23 that required Humberside Police to take formal action following a referral for an alleged failure to declare Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Despite this, both the Standards Committee and the Monitoring Officer maintain a relationship with Humberside Police and are able to seek informal advice and guidance.

Other Issues

Last year's annual report was, once again, provided to all Town and Parish Councils and was referred to in the associated Standards Arrangements and Code of Conduct training provided for clerks, newly elected/co-opted and other town and parish councillors at sessions provided by the Monitoring Officer on 29 March 2022.

Whilst falling within the previous year, the 29 March 2022 session was delivered online for the second time, with positive feedback. The session was recorded, with a link subsequently distributed to all town and parish clerks. As such, online sessions are likely to continue to be an option to be incorporated into the annual training programme in the future.

Further training sessions are currently in the process of being planned, and details will be communicated to all Town and Parish Councils in due course.

Throughout 2022/23, the three Independent Persons (Mr Forbes, Mr Johnson, and Dr Harvie) continued to contribute in an invaluable and constructive manner to the Committee's work, including the assessment and hearing of complaints. The appointments of the Independent Persons were recently re-approved by council at its Annual General Meeting.

Much of the Standards Committee's work throughout 2022/23 related to the LGA's ongoing "Debate, not Hate" campaign, aimed at preventing the abuse and intimidation of councillors, and supporting those who are subject to it. The

Committee reflected on local arrangements, and implemented a number of steps intended to deal with the sadly common abuse of local elected members. This included forging a much closer relationship with Humberside Police, who attended the Committee's meeting in March 2023, and implementing a system where abuse can be logged and reported, where appropriate. This work will be cited as an example of national 'Best Practice' in a forthcoming University of London / LGA research report about the instruments, strategies and practices that councils are implementing to support councillors dealing with support, abuse and intimidation.

The Standards Committee also agreed to extend the dispensation for elected members involved in the steel industry to enable them to continue to participate in discussions involving this critical industry to North Lincolnshire.

The Monitoring Officer continued to meet regularly with the Monitoring Officer of North East Lincolnshire Council, and hold discussions with the East Riding and Northern Lincolnshire Local Councils Association (ERNLLCA). Dialogue with the three Independent Persons continues, in order to review existing practice and keep abreast of national and regional developments.

The Council also continues to be a member of the Standards Exchange; a specialist website set up by ex-Standards for England investigators as a platform to share good practice and keep updated on national standards related developments.

Will Bell
Monitoring Officer
June 2023

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Report of the Director:
Outcomes:

Item Number: 9
Meeting: 5 October 2023

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

REVIEW OF UK PARLIAMENTARY POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To report on the requirement to carry out a compulsory review of local UK Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places in North Lincolnshire.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 introduced a timescale for compulsory reviews of UK Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places. The next compulsory review must commence and be completed between 1 October 2023 by 31 January 2025 (inclusive). (Subsequent compulsory reviews must be started and completed within the period of 16 months that starts on 1 October of every fifth year after 1 October 2013).
- 2.2 A "review" is all the steps set out in Schedule A1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983 (RPA1983). The review process, from the publication of a notice of a review until the publication of the documents at the end, must take place and be completed by 31 January 2025
- 2.3 The length of the review process is not prescribed within the legislation, provided that all the steps required by it can be undertaken within it. However, the time allowed for consultation should be sufficient to enable interested persons and groups to read and understand the proposals, gather comments and respond with any alternative arrangements that they may wish to submit.
- 2.4 The review is carried out in accordance with guidance received from the Electoral Commission which specifies legislative requirements, especially accessibility and indicates that local authorities will need to decide when to carry out the review within the specified period taking into account other statutory duties and processes being carried out in

that time period and how the review will fit into these. In particular, in the review period the following will need to be considered -

- The Canvass
- Publication of the Electoral Register
- Elections during the review period
- Scheduling approval of the review proposals by Council
- Changes to electoral parliamentary boundaries

2.5 The compulsory review relates specifically to the review of polling districts and polling places in relation to parliamentary elections. Polling districts and polling places for other elections are not automatically part of the compulsory review. However, as polling districts and polling places for other elections are based on UK parliamentary polling arrangements, the requirements of any other elections that are held within the local authority area will be taken into consideration as part of the review.

2.6 As a consequence of the recent Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) a review of electoral arrangements in North Lincolnshire was carried out in the summer of 2022, its recommendations approved by Council at its meeting on 18 October 2022 and applied during the local district elections in May 2023. Although statutory requirements and associated guidance will have to be completed, it is anticipated that the work carried out during the recent summer review will reduce the timescale required for this compulsory review. It is likely therefore the review will have no impact on the Police and Crime Commissioner elections in May 2023 and should be completed before forthcoming parliamentary elections.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 To carry out the statutory compulsory review of Polling District and Polling Places review within specified timescales set out in paragraph 2.1.

3.2 To not carry out the review.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Carrying out the review will comply with the above statutory requirements and will also enable the local Returning Officer to continue providing suitable and proportionate polling districts with convenient, accessible and safe polling places (stations) for all voters and elections staff which meet the requirements of Electoral Commission guidance and standards.

4.2 To not carry out the review will be unlawful and therefore not an option.

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

5.1 There are no specific resources implications arising from the review of polling districts and polling places, apart from expected staffing resources carrying out the review from Democratic Services with any costs being met from existing budgets.

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

6.1 The Polling District and Places Review when completed will continue to meet the required guidance and standards of the Electoral Commission ensuring that suitable and proportionate polling districts with convenient and accessible polling places (stations) provide all voters and elections staff with a safe environment to fulfil their democratic role, experience and responsibilities.

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

7.1 The review of polling districts and polling places is a compulsory statutory requirement arising out of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013. Its impact has been assessed nationally and therefore at a local level it is not necessary to carry out an integrated impact assessment.

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

8.1 There are no conflicts of interest.

8.2 The review of polling districts and polling places is a compulsory statutory requirement and consultation with specified groups (including disability groups) identified within the Electoral Commission's guidance will be carried out.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That the statutory requirement to carry out a compulsory review of parliamentary polling districts and polling places in North Lincolnshire within the specified period 1 October 2023 to 31 January 2025 (inclusive) be noted.

DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

Church Square House
SCUNTHORPE
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DN15 6NL
Author: R A Mell
Date: 13 September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report - The Electoral Commission - Guidance on Reviews of Polling Districts and Polling Places.

Report of the Director:
Outcomes

Item Number: 10
Meeting: 5 October 2023

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider undertaking a Community Governance Review of Parish Councils in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 To consider and approve the draft Terms of Reference of the review in appendix 1, and
- 1.3 To authorise the Governance Scrutiny Panel to carry out the review and submit its recommendations to Council within required statutory timescales.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act), relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972 and guidance issued in 2010 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England allow for, place a responsibility on and guide principal councils on undertaking Community Governance Reviews (CGR) of parishes(town/parish councils) within their district boundary.
- 2.2 The 2007 Act enables principal councils to carry out a review of the whole or part of the district to consider one or more of the following –
 - Creating, merging altering or abolishing parishes
 - The naming of parishes and the style of any new parishes
 - The electoral arrangements for parishes ie. the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding,
 - Grouping of parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishesA CGR must –
 - Reflect the identities and interests of the communities in that area, and be effective and convenient.

Consequently, a CGR must take into account –

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion and
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish

2.3 A CGR provides an opportunity for principal councils to review and make changes to community governance in their areas. Such reviews can be undertaken when there have been changes in population for example, or in response to specific, or local issues to ensure that the community governance in the area continues to be effective and convenient and reflects the identities and interests of the communities involved.

2.4 Following the implementation of the recommendations of the CGR carried out for North Lincolnshire Town Councils in May 2019, a number of parish councils have liaised, and expressed preferences with the Council regarding their electoral arrangements, numbers of councillors and community representation. Also, following the recent periodic electoral review of North Lincolnshire and implementation of its recommendations in May 2023 it is appropriate and timely to consider undertaking a CGR of these arrangements, apply a consistent approach and enhance the opportunity for democratic elections by conducting a review of parish councils across North Lincolnshire. The proposed terms of reference of the CGR are attached as appendix 1.

2.5 During a CGR the council will need to consult local people and take account of any representations received in connection with the review. Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, the council will take account of the views of local people in the parishes and will comply with the statutory consultative requirements by –

- Consulting local government electors in the parishes;
- Consulting any other person or body (including other relevant local authorities and parish councils) which appear to the council to have an interest in the review;
- Taking into account any representations received in connection with the review;
- Notifying consultees of the outcome of the review, and
- Publishing all decisions taken (on the council's website) and reasons for such decisions (information on stages of the review will also be published).

2.6 A CGR must, by statute be completed within 12 months from the day on which it commences. The CGR begins when the council publishes its agreed terms of reference and concludes when it publishes the recommendations made in the review. The proposed terms of reference of the review are attached as appendix 1, which specifies the parish areas under review and all matters on which the review is to focus, including consultation.

- 2.7 The council will consider published recommendations following the CGR on those matters defined by its terms of reference. The recommendations must take account of any representations received during consultations and be supported by evidence. The council will then publish its decision and its reasons for taking the decision. A Community Governance Order will then be made to give effect to the decision, and relevant government offices and organisations informed. Any changes will come into effect on a date specified within the CGR's recommendations.
- 2.8 It is proposed that, following a delegation from Council, that the Governance Scrutiny Panel carry out the review as a committee of the Council and make recommendations back to council for its consideration and decision in accordance with statutory requirements and timescales. This will provide cross-party participation and ensure that the review is robust and transparent. (The panel may wish to consider adding non-voting co-opted members if required at any stage of the review).

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 To approve and carry out the proposed CGR of parish councils as set out in the terms of reference in appendix 1.
- 3.2 Not carry out the proposed CGR.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 With reference to paragraph 2.4, it is appropriate and in accordance with statutory guidance and good practice to undertake a review of electoral arrangements as part of the community governance of those parishes, and also apply a consistent approach across similar sized parishes within a principal council's boundary. It is also good practice to consider and bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and ensure electors across the parishes are treated equitably and fairly.
- 4.2 A preliminary examination of the ratios of number of councillors to electorate of the parish councils suggests a variance with some of the current thresholds stated within statutory guidance which can be addressed within a CGR. Similarly, several parish councils have not held contested elections for significant periods of time.
- 4.3 Not carrying out a CGR does not comply with good practice suggested within statutory guidance.
- 4.4 The CGR is also appropriate and timely, has not been significantly affected by, but provides an opportunity to apply consistencies taking into consideration following the recent periodic electoral review of North

Lincolnshire and the implementation of its recommendations in May 2023.

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

5.1 Carrying out the CGR will be met from within existing budgets, although significant additional officer time, together with potential associated printing and postal costs are likely.

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

6.1 CGRs can improve community engagement and representation and enhance local democracy and the opportunity for democratic elections.

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 An integrated assessment is not required for this report.

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 Comprehensive consultation required during the CGR will be carried out in accordance with statutory guidance referred to in paragraph 2.5.

7.2 There are no known conflicts of interest. Any member involved in the CGR who is also a member of a parish council is advised to consider declaring a personal interest prior to consideration of such business at meetings.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the proposed Community Governance Review as outlined in paragraphs 2.4 and 3.1 above be carried out;

8.2 That the proposed terms of reference of the review as detailed in appendix 1, be approved and published, and

8.3 That the Governance Scrutiny Panel be authorised to carry out the review and make recommendations to the Council for its consideration and decision in accordance with statutory requirements and timescales.

DIRECTOR: OUTCOMES

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North Lincolnshire

Post Code HU15 6NL
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Date: 19 September 2023

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report - Guidance issued in 2010 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2023

Terms of Reference

A review of the parishes stated below under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

North Lincolnshire Council has resolved to undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR) of the following parished areas of the district (the 'Parishes'):

Alkborough and Walcot Parish Council
Amcotts Parish Council
Appleby Parish Council
Ashby Parkland Parish Council
Barnetby-le-Wold Parish Council
Barrow upon Humber Parish Council
Belton Parish Council
Bonby Parish Council
Burringham Parish Council
Burton upon Stather Parish Council
Cadney cum Howsham Parish Council
East Butterwick Parish Council
East Halton Parish Council
Eastoft Parish Council
Elsham Parish Council
Flixborough Parish Council
Garthorpe and Fockerby Parish Council
Goxhill Parish Council
Gunness Parish Council
Haxey Parish Council
Hibaldstow Parish Council
Horkstow Parish Meeting
Keadby with Althorpe Parish Council
Kirmington and Croxton Parish Council
Luddington and Haldenby Parish Council
Manton Parish Meeting
Melton Ross Parish Council
Messingham Parish Council
New Holland Parish Council
North Killingholme Parish Council
Owston Ferry Parish Council
Redbourne Parish Council

Roxby cum Risby Parish Council
Saxby All Saints Parish Council
Scawby Parish Council
South Ferriby Parish Council
South Killingholme Parish Council
Thornton Curtis Parish Council
Ulceby Parish Council
West Butterwick Parish Council
West Halton and Coleby Parish Council
Whitton Parish Meeting
Winteringham Parish Council
Wootton Parish Council
Worlaby Parish Council
Wrawby Parish Council
Wroot Parish Council

In undertaking the review, the council will be guided by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (referred to as “the 2007 Act”), the relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972, Guidance on CGRs issued in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in March 2010, together with any other relevant legislation and guidance.

Section 81 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the council to publish its terms of reference for a review, clearly setting out the focus of the review. This document will fulfil this requirement.

What is a Community Governance Review?

A CGR can be a review of the whole, or part, of the district to consider one or more of the following –

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes.
- The naming of parishes and the style of any new parishes.
- The electoral arrangements for parishes, i.e. the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding, and
- Grouping of parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

A CGR must –

- Reflect the identities and interests of the communities in that area, and
- Be effective and convenient.

Consequently, a CGR must take into account –

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion, and
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

Aim of a Community Governance Review

The aim of a review is to consider and bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and efficient, more effective and convenient delivery of local services and ensures electors across these Parishes are treated equitably and fairly.

The review will consider –

- The electoral arrangements for the parishes of Alkborough and Walcot Parish Council, Amcotts Parish Council, Appleby Parish Council, Ashby Parkland Parish Council, Barnetby-le-Wold Parish Council, Barrow upon Humber Parish Council, Belton Parish Council, Bonby Parish Council, Burringham Parish Council, Burton upon Stather Parish Council, Cadney cum Howsham Parish Council, East Butterwick Parish Council, East Halton Parish Council, Eastoft Parish Council, Elsham Parish Council, Flixborough Parish Council, Garthorpe and Fockerby Parish Council, Goxhill Parish Council, Gunness Parish Council, Haxey Parish Council, Hibaldstow Parish Council, Horkstow Parish Meeting, Keadby with Althorpe Parish Council, Kirmington and Croxton Parish Council, Luddington and Haldenby Parish Council, Manton Parish Meeting, Melton Ross Parish Council, Messingham Parish Council, New Holland Parish Council, North Killingholme Parish Council, Owston Ferry Parish Council, Redbourne Parish Council, Roxby cum Risby Parish Council, Saxby All Saints Parish Council, Scawby Parish Council, South Ferriby Parish Council, South Killingholme Parish Council, Thornton Curtis Parish Council, Ulceby Parish Council, West Butterwick Parish Council, West Halton and Coleby Parish Council, Whitton Parish Meeting, Winteringham Parish Council, Wootton Parish Council, Worlaby Parish Council, Wrawby Parish Council and Wroot Parish Council including the number of councillors elected to the parishes and parish warding, and apply suggested ratios of the number of councillors to electorate given within statutory guidance (paragraph 4, page 6 of these Terms of Reference refers).
- Any other relevant issues that are submitted in response to the review consultation process.

Why undertake a Community Governance Review?

A CGR provides an opportunity for Principal Councils to review and make changes to community governance in their areas. Such reviews can be undertaken when there have been changes in population or in reaction to specific, or local new issues to ensure that the community governance for the area continues to be effective and convenient and reflects the identities and interests of the communities involved.

The government has emphasised that any recommendations made in a CGR should bring about improved community engagement, more cohesive communities, better local democracy and effective and convenient delivery of local services, and this council will take all these factors into account as part of this review.

This council believes that town and parish councils play an important role in terms of community empowerment at local level and wishes to ensure that parish governance in these areas continues to be robust, representative and able to meet any future challenges. Furthermore, it wishes to ensure that clarity and transparency exists at this level of governance and that the electoral arrangements of these parishes are appropriate, equitable and understood by their electorate.

This council previously completed a review of this type in September 2017, whereby it considered -

- The electoral arrangements for the parishes of Barton, Bottesford, Brigg, Broughton, Crowle and Ealand, Epworth, Kirton in Lindsey and Winterton including the number of councillors elected to the parishes and parish warding;
- What the appropriate community governance arrangements are for Holme including (but not limited to) whether the parish should be abolished, merged or grouped with another parish, and
- Any other relevant issues that are submitted in response to the review consultation process

During this review the council will consider the relevant guidance and legislation and will consider each case on its merits and on the basis of information and evidence provided during the course of the review.

Who will undertake the Community Governance Review?

As a principal council, North Lincolnshire Council is responsible for undertaking any CGR in its electoral area. It is proposed, following a delegation from council, that the Governance Scrutiny Panel be constituted to conduct the review and to make recommendations to full council thereon. Council will be required to approve the final recommendations prior to the making of any community Governance Order. A full consultation process will form part of the review to take full account of the views of local people.

Who to contact in respect of the Review?

Main contacts in respect of the CGR are the Head of Democracy (and/or his representative).

2. CONSULTATION

How the Council proposes to conduct consultations during the Review

The council has drawn up and published these terms of reference which provides the aims of the review, the legislation that guides the process, and the points that the council views as important in the process.

Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, the council will take full account of the views of local people in the Parishes being reviewed and will comply with the statutory consultative requirements by –

- Consulting local government electors in the Parishes.
- Consulting any other person or body (including other relevant local authorities and parish councils) which appears to the council to have an interest in the review.
- Taking into account any representations received in connection with the review.
- Notifying consultees of the outcome of the review and,
- Publishing all decisions taken and the reasons for such decisions.

Information about stages of the review will be published on the council's website with key documents available to view at Church Square House, Scunthorpe (by appointment). Press releases or adverts will be published where appropriate. The council will also make use of the on-line consultation database to enable comments to be made on-line as well as in writing. It is likely that consultations will take place over approximately a 12-week period.

Review Timetable

A CGR must, by statute, be completed within a 12-month period from the day on which it commences. The CGR begins when the council publishes its terms of reference and concludes when it publishes the recommendations made in the review.

3. ELECTORATE FORECASTS

The Electorate and Electorate Forecasts for North Lincolnshire Council

This council has used the Register of Electors 2022-2023 published on 1 December, 2022 to provide existing parish and parish ward electorate figures (with the figures correct as at 1 September 2023). Details are attached as an Appendix A. For completeness, electorate figures for the town councils in North Lincolnshire are also included.

In considering the electoral arrangements of the Parishes in the area, the council must consider any likely future changes in the number or distribution of electors within five years from the day the review commences, together with associated current and projected ratios of electors to councillors.

Electorate forecasts will be prepared (using available information including current significant planning permissions and the local plan) and be made available to interested parties as early as possible in the review process.

4. PRESENT STRUCTURE OF PARISHES AND THEIR ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Present structure of Parish Governance in North Lincolnshire

The vast majority of North Lincolnshire is already parished. The only unparished area is Scunthorpe which consists of six district council wards. Appendix B to this document shows the existing structure of the parishes included in this review, and associated district wards.

PARISH MEETINGS

Part of the review will consider what the appropriate community governance arrangements are for those areas serviced by a parish meeting including (but not limited to) whether the parish should be abolished, merged or grouped with another parish.

Areas serviced by a parish meeting include –

- Horkstow
- Manton
- Whitton

Legislation requires that the council must ensure that community governance within the area -

- reflects the identities and interests of the communities in the area.
- is effective and convenient.
- takes into account any other arrangements for the purpose of community representation or community engagement in the area.

ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

What are Electoral Arrangements?

Electoral arrangements are the way in which a council is constituted for the parish and they are an important part of the review. They comprise –

- the ordinary year in which elections are held.
- the number of councillors to be elected to the council.
- the division (or not) of the parish into wards for the purpose of electing councillors.
- the number and boundaries of any such wards.
- the number of councillors to be elected for any such ward, and
- the name of any such ward.

Ordinary year of Election

The ordinary year of election is every four years as stated in the Local Government Act 1972, i.e. 2019, 2023, 2027 etc. If the review recommends, and it is approved, that more/less councillors are required for a particular parish, these will then come into effect at that parishes next ordinary elections in line with the four yearly cycle in North Lincolnshire.

Parish Council or Parish Meeting?

The council has a duty to create, or not, a parish council and must follow the guidance laid down in legislation as follows –

- where the number of electors is 1,000 or more a parish council must be created.
- where the number of electors is 151 – 999 a parish council may be created, with a parish meeting being the alternative form of governance, and
- where the number of electors is 150 or fewer a parish council is not created.

What considerations cover the number of parish councillors?

The government's advice is that, as an important demographic principle, each person's vote should be of equal weight so far as possible, having regard to other legitimate competing factors, when electing parish councillors. This council agrees with this principle and will take it into account during the review also having regard to current and historical factors, along with the fact that there should be not less than five councillors for each parish council. There is no maximum number and no rules relating to the allocation of councillors. However, each parish grouped under a common parish council must have at least one parish councillor.

Legislation dictates that the council must have regard to the following factors when considering the number of councillors to be elected for a parish –

- The number of local government electors for the parish, and
- Any change in that number which is likely to occur in the period of five years beginning with the day when the review starts.

Research in 1992 found the following levels of representation which are not likely to have changed greatly since –

Electorate	Councillor Allocation
Less than 500	5 - 8
501 - 2500	6 - 12
2501 – 10,000	9 - 16
10,001 – 20,000	13 - 27
Greater than 20,000	13 - 31

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) published guidance in 1988 which gave a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 25 councillors for a parish council.

The government's guidance is that each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to population, geography and the pattern of communities. Therefore, this council will pay particular attention to existing levels of representation, the overall pattern of existing council sizes and the take up of seats at elections when considering these aspects.

However, the council acknowledges that there are exceptions to every "rule" and each area will be considered individually.

Parish Warding

The council is required to consider the following points when deliberating whether a parish should be divided into wards for the purposes of elections.

- Whether the number, or distribution, of the local government electors for the parish would make a single election of councillors impracticable or inconvenient, and
- Whether it is desirable that any area, or areas, of the parish should be separately represented on the council.

The government's guidance is that warding of parishes may not be justified for largely rural areas based predominantly on a single centrally located village. Conversely, warding may be appropriate where a parish encompasses a number of villages with separate identities or where there has been urban overspill at the edge of a town into a parish.

The council will be mindful of community identities in both rural and urban parishes, with the latter possibly more likely dependant for its warding where community identity focuses on a specific area, and will endeavour to ensure that any warding arrangements reflect local circumstances and are clearly and readily understood by the electorate.

It should be noted that ward elections should have merit, not only should they meet the two tests given above but should also be in the interests of effective and convenient local government. This should not be wasteful of a parish's resources.

The number and boundaries of parish wards

In respect of the number and boundaries of any parish wards, the council will consider the criteria stated above, in particular the community identity and interests in an area, but also whether any particular ties or links might be broken by the drawing of particular ward boundaries. Parish wards must be easily identifiable and remain so in the future.

Any recommendations which are intended to reflect community identities and links will be supported by relevant evidence.

Although the government's guidance is that district wards and county electoral divisions should not split an unwarded parish and that no parish ward should be split by such a boundary, the relevant legal provisions do not apply to reviews of parish electoral arrangements. However, the council will bear this in mind as requested by the LGBCE.

The number of councillors to be elected for parish wards

The council will consider the following when considering the size and boundaries of any parish wards and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward –

- The number of local government electors for a parish, and
- Any change in the number, or distribution, of the local government electors which is likely to occur in the period of five years beginning with the day the review commences.

The guidance advises that, as an important democratic principle, each person's vote should be of equal weight so far as possible, having regard to other legitimated competing factors, when it comes to the election of councillors. Although there is no provision in legislation that each parish councillor should represent, as near as possible, the same number of electors, the council considers that it is not in the interests of effective and convenient local government, either for voters or councillors, to have significant differences in levels of representation between different parish wards.

Likewise, the council wishes to avoid the risk that, where one or more wards of a parish are over represented by councillors, the residents of those wards (and their councillors) could be perceived as having more influence than others on the council. Consequently, during the review, the council will show the ratios of electors to councillors that will result from any proposals.

The same principle of equitability will apply when consideration is given to the number of councillors to be elected to a common parish council by each parish within a grouping arrangement.

Naming of parish wards

With regard to the names of parish wards, the council will endeavour to reflect existing local or historic place names and will consider any ward names proposed by local interested parties.

5. REORGANISATION OF COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE ORDERS AND COMMENCEMENT

The review will be completed when the council adopts the reorganisation of Community Governance Order. Copies of the Order, maps detailing the effects of the Order, and the documents setting out the reasons for all decisions made whether for change or no change will be deposited and published in the same manner as at each stage of the review, i.e. at Church Square House, Scunthorpe and on the council's website.

In accordance with the government's guidance, the council will issue maps to illustrate each recommendation at an appropriate scale wherever possible. These maps will be deposited with the Secretary of State at the Department of Communities and Local Government and at the council's offices at Church Square House, Scunthorpe. Prints will also be supplied, in accordance with regulations, to Ordnance Survey, the Registrar General, the Land Registry, the Valuation Office Agency, the Boundary Commission for England and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

The Order can be made at any time following a review, but any changes to electorate arrangements for existing parishes will come into force at the next ordinary elections for the parish council. However, if these elections are not for some time, the council may resolve to modify or exclude the application of Sections 16(3) and 90 of the Local Government Act 1972 to provide for an early election with councillors serving a shortened term of office to allow the parish electoral cycle to return to that of the district.

6. CONSEQUENTIAL MATTERS

General Principles

The council notes that a Reorganisation Order may cover any consequential matters that appear to the council to be necessary or proper to give effect to the Order, including –

- the transfer and management of custody of property.
- the setting of precepts for new parishes.
- provision with respect to the transfer of any functions, property, rights and liabilities, and
- provision for the transfer of staff, compensation for loss of office, pensions and other staffing matters.

In these matters, the council will be guided by regulations that had been issued following the 2007 Act including those regarding the transfer of property, rights and liabilities which require that any apportionments shall use the population of the area as estimated by the proper officer of the council as an appropriate proportion. The council also notes Regulation 3 of the Local Government Finance (New Parishes) Regulations 2008 regarding the establishment of a precept for a new parish and their requirements.

7. DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THESE TERMS OF REFERENCE

These terms of reference to be published formally (following approval by council) prior to the first meeting of the Governance Scrutiny Panel at which the CGR business is to be considered.

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North Lincolnshire Council

Electors per Seat per Parish**Register of Electors 2023**

Eligible Date: 1 September 2023

In force between 1 December 2022 and 30 November 2023

Parish	Registers	No. of Seats	Eligible Electorate	Electors per Seat
Alkborough & Walcot	BSW1	8	381	47
Amcotts	AXN1	7	210	30
Appleby	BSW2, BSW3	8	451	56
Ashby Parkland	BRG1, BRG2	5	599	119
Barnetby-le-Wold	BRW1	11	1,419	129
Barrow upon Humber	FER1, FER2	12	2,412	201
Barton	BAR1, BAR2, BAR3, BAR4	12	9,208	767
Belton	AXC1	13	2,542	195
Bonby	BRW2	8	422	52
Brigg	BRW3, BRW4	9	4,326	480
Broughton	BRS1, BRS2, BRS3	9	4,239	471
Burringham	BRG3	6	549	91
Burton upon Stather	BSW4, BSW5, BSW6	15	2,171	144
Cadney cum Howsham	BRW5, BRW6	8	366	45
Crowle and Ealand	AXN2, AXN3, AXN4	9	3,815	423
East Butterwick	MES1	5	122	24
East Halton	FER5	9	503	55
Eastoft	AXN5	8	345	43
Elsham	BRW7	7	334	47
Epworth	AXC2, AXC3	9	3,429	381
Flixborough	BSW7, BSW8	9	1,262	140
Garthorpe and Fockerby	AXN6	9	332	36
Goxhill	FER6	11	1,844	167
Gunness	BRG4, BRG5, BRG6	14	1,781	127
Haxey	AXS1, AXS2	15	3,635	242
Hibaldstow	RID1, RID2	11	1,964	178
Horkstow	BRW8	0	117	0
Keadby with Althorpe	AXN7, AXN8	15	1,378	91
Kirmington and Croxton	FER3, FER4	8	297	37
Kirton in Lindsey	RID3, RID4	9	2,563	284
Luddington and Haldenby	AXN9	7	328	46
Manton	RID5	0	76	0

Melton Ross	BRW9	6	153	25
Messingham	MES4, MES2, MES3	15	3,018	201
New Holland	FER7	9	748	83
North Killingholme	FER8	7	239	34
Owston Ferry	AXS3	11	1,075	97
Redbourne	RID6	8	314	39
Roxby Cum Risby	BSW9, BSW10	8	340	42
Saxby All Saints	BRW10	6	198	33
Scawby	BRS4, BRS5	14	1,843	131
South Ferriby	BRW11	9	572	63
South Killingholme	FER9	11	908	82
Thornton Curtis	FER10	7	224	32
Ulceby	FER11	11	1,430	130
West Butterwick	AXS4	8	673	84
West Halton and Coleby	BSW11	6	279	46
Whitton	BSW12	0	175	0
Winteringham	BSW13	9	811	90
Winterton	BSW14, BSW15	9	3,734	414
Wootton	FER12	8	431	53
Worlaby	BRW12	8	420	52
Wrawby	BRW13	10	1,171	117
Wroot	AXS5	7	404	57
Totals for Parish and Community Election:		473	72,580	153

North Lincolnshire Council

Electors per Seat per Parish Ward

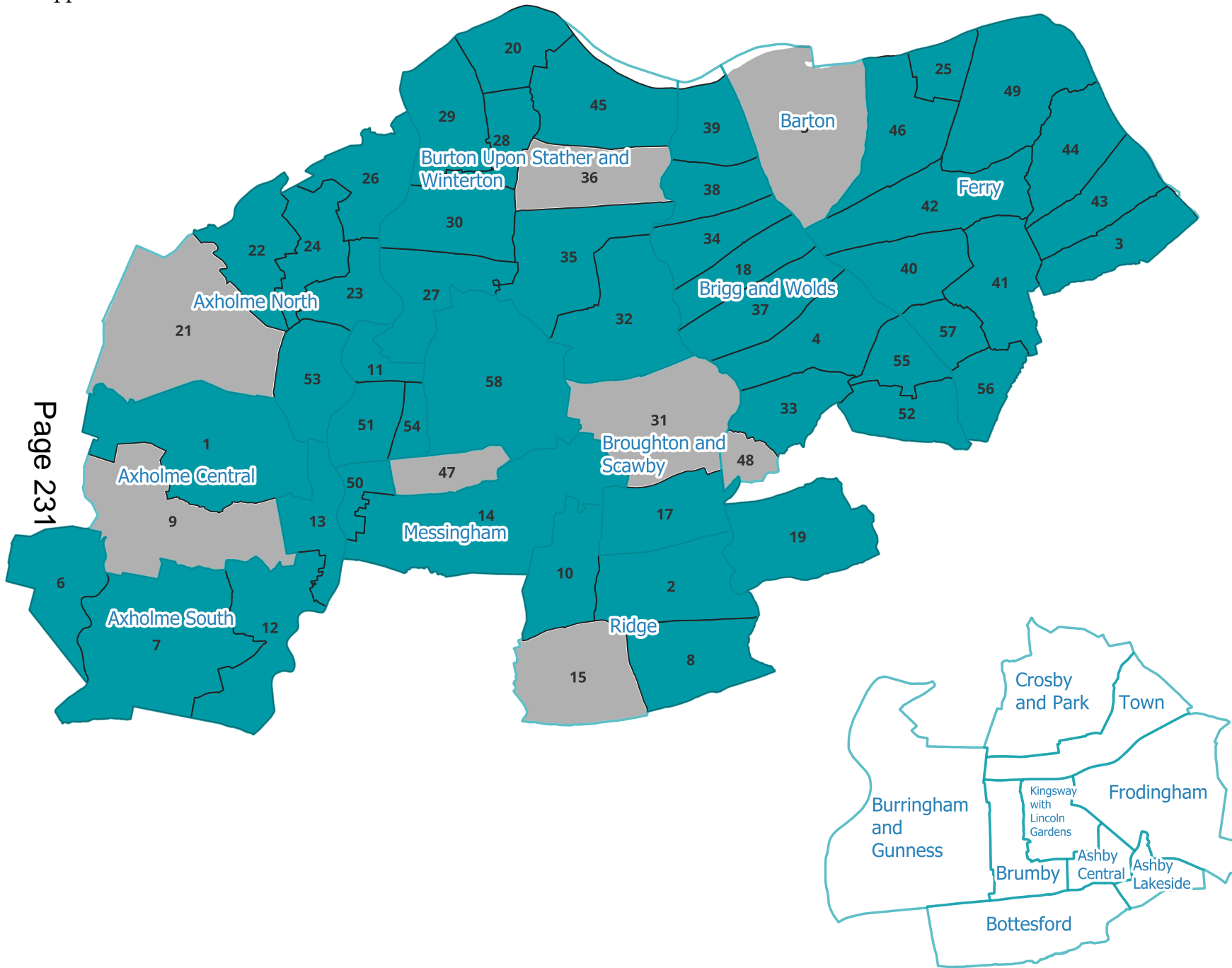
Register of Electors 2023

Eligible Date: 1 September 2023

In force between 1 December 2022 and 30 November 2023

Parish Ward	Registers	No. of Seats	Eligible Electorate	Electors per Seat
Bottesford Central Ward	BOT1, BOT2	4	3,205	801
Bottesford East Ward	BOT3, BOT4	4	2,729	682
Bottesford West Ward	BOT5, BOT6	4	2,838	709
Totals for Parish and Community Election:		12	8,772	731

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ID	Parish
1	Belton
2	Hibaldstow
3	South Killingholme
4	Elsham
5	Barton upon Humber
6	Wroot
7	Haxey
8	Redbourne
9	Epworth
10	Manton
11	Gunness
12	Owston Ferry
13	West Butterwick
14	Messingham
15	Kirton in Lindsey
17	Scawby
18	Bonby
19	Cadney
20	Whitton
21	Crowle
22	Eastoft
23	Amcotts
24	Luddington and Haldenby
25	New Holland
26	Garthorpe and Fockerby
27	Flixborough
28	West Halton
29	Alkborough
30	Burton upon Stather
31	Broughton
32	Appleby
33	Wrawby
34	Saxby All Saints
35	Roxby cum Risby
36	Winterton
37	Worlaby
38	Horkstow
39	South Ferriby
40	Wootton
41	Ulceby
42	Thornton Curtis
43	North Killingholme
44	East Halton
45	Winteringham
46	Barrow upon Humber
47	Bottesford
48	Brigg
49	Goxhill
50	East Butterwick
51	Burringham
52	Barnetby Le Wold
53	Keadby with Althorpe
54	Ashby Parkland
55	Melton Ross
56	Kirmington

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