



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 4th April 2025

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 2nd April 2025 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)
Councillors Cracknell, Dawkins, Harness, Hudson, Shepherd, Shreeve and S Swinburn.

DN.91 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

DN.92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DN.93 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 12th March 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.94 DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION'S HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD GRANT

Cabinet considered a report from Portfolio Holder for Children and Education seeking approval for the acceptance of the Department for Education (DfE) Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) grant.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the acceptance of the DfE Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) grant of £782,200 be approved.**
- 2. That the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education, be authorised to ensure that all necessary actions are carried out in order to co-ordinate and implement the HAF programme.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete all requisite legal documentation arising.**
- 4. That the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education, be instructed to bring a further report to Cabinet in 6 months' time updating Cabinet on outcomes achieved for this and previous years programmes.**

REASON FOR DECISION –

This decision enables the Council to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme across the borough and engage with key partners to co-ordinate planning via a steering group.

The decision enables the Council to award funding to eligible organisations in North East Lincolnshire to provide free holiday activities and food clubs for children eligible for, and in receipt of, benefits-related free school meals.

The decision enables the Council to work with Finance colleagues to monitor the indicative budget, and to provide regular updates to the DfE and the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Skills as required. Without this decision, the Council would not be able to deliver the HAF programme in the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays, and children eligible for free school meals would be likely to have negative holiday experiences. Furthermore, many families in the borough would remain in food poverty.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do nothing. This option has not been recommended as it would exacerbate food poverty experienced by many families in the borough.

DN.95 PROCUREMENT OF AN INTEGRATED SUBSTANCE USE SERVICE PROVISION WITHIN NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care authorising the market engagement, procurement and award through delegated powers of a contract to provide an integrated substance use service.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That a Preliminary Market Consultation activity be approved, as described in the report now submitted, to allow the early engagement of the market and to inform the procurement specification.**
- 2. That the procurement of an integrated substance use service be undertaken.**
- 3. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care, be delegated authority to award the contract for a new consolidated substance use service upon completion of the procurement exercise.**
- 4. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care, be delegated responsibility to deal with all ancillary matters reasonably arising including implementation and mobilisation.**
- 5. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.**

REASON FOR DECISION – North East Lincolnshire Council commissions drug and alcohol service provision within the borough, so that residents are able to access appropriate evidence-based services for treatment and recovery of drug and alcohol related health problems. In North East Lincolnshire, local drug strategy priorities are shaped by the broader national framework but also tailored to address specific regional needs. Our local approach is driven by the Combatting Drugs Partnership, which focuses on 5 strategic priorities: *prevention, reducing harm and supporting recovery, treatment and recovery integration, comorbidity and criminal justice*. Procuring and delivering a world-class treatment and recovery system will enable North East Lincolnshire to deliver these local priorities alongside, the outcomes in the Government's 10-year Drug Plan

Engagement with people within the service, the public, partners and stakeholders have taken place to ensure that the proposed service model is fit for purpose and meets people's needs using the service's requirements. The proposed service model will then be presented to the market through a Preliminary Market Consultation, to test the model's deliverability and prepare the market prior to the procurement being published. Undertaking and completing the procurement process during the current contract's final year will allow a sufficient mobilisation period for these complex services, including any Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) staff and data transfer process needed to enable new services to be launched on 1st October 2025.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. Do not procure the replacement substance use service. This is not an option as drug and alcohol services are provided as part of the Council's responsibility under the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
2. Direct award using the Provider Selection Regime (PSR). This is not an option due to:
 - a) The current substance use provider is not the only provider in the market and we are aware that there are other providers who can deliver this service.
 - b) Wanting to make considerable changes to the service provision in addition to changes in funding uplifts. The current provider has been part of an improvement plan by Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) due to not delivering the quality of service required.
3. Extending the current provider contract. This is not an option as we have already utilised all available extensions.