



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 10th October 2025

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 8th October 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.23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

DN.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Shepherd declared and a non registerable interest in DN.29.

DN.25 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 16th September 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.26 MASTERPLAN FOR PROPOSED GRIMSBY WEST HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking approval of the Masterplan for the Grimsby West housing development.

Cabinet heard from Councillor Downes as Ward Councillor for Freshney ward and Chair of Friends of the Freshney Valley setting out resident's concerns around the impact that the Grimsby West Development would have and these concerns were noted.

Following a discussion round the report and the recommendations made from the Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel held on 16th September 2025, it was agreed that the report be deferred to a future Cabinet meeting so that the following issues raised by scrutiny could be addressed:

- Flood risk and waterflow and pollution into the River Freshney.
- Completion of a Traffic Assessment
- More graphic detail on the Freshney Valley Country Park

RESOLVED – That, in line with recommendations from the Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel, this item be deferred to a future meeting of Cabinet to allow the following issues to be addressed:

- **Flood risk and waterflow and pollution into the River Freshney.**
- **Completion of a Traffic Assessment**
- **More graphic detail on the Freshney Valley Country Park**

REASON FOR DECISION – To allow officers to go back to the developers and address the issues raised by the Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED -

As captured in the report.

However, recognising the recommendations from scrutiny above, the option to defer was deemed appropriate.

DN.27 REVIEW OF SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES

Cabinet considered a report from Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking authority to go out procurement for the 1, 2 & 20 Europarc bus service, 5M bus service and Phone n Ride.

RESOLVED –

1. **That the commencement of a procurement exercise for the 1, 2 & 20 Europarc bus service, 5M bus service and Phone n Ride be approved.**

2. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport be delegated authority to;
 - A) approve the option that is awarded for each bus service and to ensure the tender award is made within the available budget.
 - B) to make appropriate contract awards to the most advantageous tender.
3. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport be delegated authority to carry out all ancillary activity in terms of post award implementation and mobilisation of such arrangements.
4. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute all documents in connection with the above.

REASON FOR DECISION – Under s63 Transport Act 1985, North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) and the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) has a duty to consider the delivery of socially necessary bus services. Socially necessary bus services are those that wouldn't be profitable for bus companies to run, and bus services which the local community require (e.g. late-night buses, bus services to isolated rural areas or to employment sites). This report aims to identify the public transport requirements which would not otherwise be met and once identified, to secure what is appropriate.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – North East Lincolnshire Council's Sustainable Local Transport Plan may provide further additional transport options including car sharing, cycling and walking.

DN.28 LIBRARY & ARCHIVES REVIEW PHASE 2 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage, and the Visitor Economy updating Cabinet on phase 2 public consultation findings of the library and archives review. Cabinet received recommendations from the Economy, Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Panel, from its meeting on 2nd October 2025 which were noted and accepted, including the addition of "*the findings of the Library Services Select Committee*" to recommendation 3 of the report.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the engagement and consultation with our communities during our phase-2 of public consultation, involving residents, partners and services be noted**
- 2. That the following be agreed and supported:**
 - a. Cleethorpes Library remain open and initiatives to better utilise the available space and facilities be pursued.**
 - b. Waltham Library remain open and initiatives to better utilise the available space and facilities be pursued.**
 - c. In principle, the current Grimsby Central Library be reopened, subject to confirmation of the options and costs for refurbishment. Such options to be subject to full and transparent engagement.**
- 3. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage, and the Visitor Economy be authorised to establish options and costs for the repair and refurbishment of Grimsby Central Library, refine the library service needs assessment and develop the emerging library service strategy informed by the findings of the two phases of public consultation and engagement and also the findings of the Library Services Select Committee.**
- 4. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage, and the Visitor Economy be instructed to report further to Cabinet to:**
 - a. present recommended refinements to the needs assessment,**
 - b. present a proposed library service strategy,**
 - c. present options and costs for refurbishment of Grimsby Central Library.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The Council, as a library authority, has a statutory duty under Section 7 of the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 ‘to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons’ for all those who live, work or study in the area. Government guidance [Libraries as a statutory service - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/libraries-as-a-statutory-service), outlines that a comprehensive and efficient service will differ between Councils. It therefore falls to each Council to decide how much to spend on libraries and how to manage and deliver the service. But it makes it clear this has to be done in consultation with the community, based on evidence of local needs, and in accordance with their statutory duties. The

recommendations for Cleethorpes, Waltham and Grimsby library service branch locations reflect the feedback received during the phase-2 of public consultation and engagement.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. There is the option to continue with the alternative proposals and explore different service delivery options for Cleethorpes and Waltham. However, this would not respond to the findings of phase-2 of the review.
2. There is the option to pause the review and develop alternative proposals. However, the current proposals are based on two stages of public consultation and engagement, data analysis and assessment of need to date. The proposals present a way forward for the library and archives service that are broadly supported by the public consultation.
3. It should be noted that other options available such as different models for local service delivery and opening hour reductions have been considered previously and implemented including outsourcing service delivery through Lincs Inspire Limited that operate the library and public archives service on behalf of the Council. In addition, previous library service reviews and changes in service delivery have been completed in 2014 through a reduction in library branch provision from ten to four branches and 2017 through a reduction in opening hours.

Councillor Shepherd left the room.

DN.29 PROPOSED GRIMSBY TO WALPOLE NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY LINE

Cabinet received a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking approval to enable the Council to respond to the National Grid proposal at both the pre and post DCO submission stage.

RESOLVED – That the Director for Economy, Environment, and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport be delegated authority to deal with matters arising from the Development Consent Order for this scheme, including all technical issues, consistently in line with the Council’s stated position on the scheme in general.

REASON FOR DECISION – To enable the Council to respond to the National Grid proposal at both the pre and post DCO submission stage.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – As a host Local Authority there are no other reasonable options but to engage with the DCO process. Failure to engage would mean the opportunity to represent the Councils interests and advise on Town and Country Planning matters would be lost. This would not be acceptable.

DN.30 PROCUREMENT OF HIGHWAYS FRAMEWORK FOR CAPITAL WORKS

Councillor Shepherd returned to the room to continue to participate in the meeting.

Cabinet considered a report from Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking approval to procure a highways framework for capital works.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the procurement of a Highways Framework for capital works as set out in the report now submitted be approved.**
- 2. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport be delegated authority to commence and conduct such exercise and thereafter to make such awards and carry out all ancillary matters reasonably arising.**
- 3. 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 – The Council is required to demonstrate value for money in the procurement of capital works under the Procurement Act 2023. This legislation specially prohibits the use of local bias while undertaking procurement activities. However, as outlined below, several initiatives are being included as part of this exercise to actively deliver social value.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

- 1 Status Quo.
- 1.a A decision could be made not to implement additional contracting arrangements; however, this may limit opportunities to achieve better value for money through the aggregation of demand which combines

purchasing requirements across various departments, resulting in competitive pricing, greater efficiency and stronger negotiating power.

2. e-Auctions ;

2.a e-Auctions are best suited to commodity and service-based contracts. They are also difficult to design for works requirements and therefore this option is not recommended.

3. Central Purchasing Bodies;

3.a The Council could access Government framework arrangements such as the YORcivils3 Highways and Civil Engineering Framework managed by ERYC for Yorkshire and Humber. However, Government frameworks do not necessarily consider local supply chain development and there is an associated cost per project to access the call off arrangements. Therefore, this option is not recommended.