



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 13th March 2026

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 11th March 2026 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 Dawkins, Cracknell, Harness, Hudson, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

DN.78 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received for this meeting.

DN.79 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

DN.80 MINUTES

RESOLVED – The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 11th February 2026, and 18th February 2026 were approved as a correct record.

DN.81 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION IN GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Regeneration, Devolution and Skills providing background to the statutory consultation on proposals for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) across Greater Lincolnshire.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the contents of this report and annex now submitted be noted.**
- 2. That the principle of participation in the MHCLG statutory consultation on Local Government Reorganisation as laid out in the confidential annex now submitted be supported and that:**
 - a. Cabinet refers this report and confidential annex to Full Council for debate, commending the following recommendation to Full Council:
*That Full Council supports the proposed responses as laid out in the annex.***
- 3. That, subject to any material variations from Full Council, Cabinet agreed to the submission of the responses (as may be varied or not) and that authority be delegated to the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to submit the responses to MHCLG prior to the close of the statutory consultation at 23:59 on 26th March 2026.**

REASON FOR DECISION – Engagement ensures the Council has a meaningful voice in shaping possible future reforms to governance across the region. The delegations sought allows the response to be finalised with agility, reflecting emerging information within the consultation period.

Not submitting a response would risk weakening the Council's position on decisions affecting residents, services and local accountability.

OTHER OPTIONS - To adopt the position of a non-response is not considered a viable option. A lack of formal engagement risks undermining the Council's ability to influence major government decisions.

DN.82 FUTURE SECTION 75 ARRANGEMENTS

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care seeking approval for the proposed way forward with the lead responsibility for the section 75 arrangements being undertaken by North East Lincolnshire Council.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the historical context and positive working relationship between North East Lincolnshire Council and the Integrated Care Board and the commitment of the partnership to preserve this as part of future joint working arrangements be noted.**

- 2. That the proposed way forward with the lead responsibility for the section 75 arrangements being undertaken by North East Lincolnshire Council be approved.**
- 3. That the Interim Chief Executive, and Director of Adults Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care be delegated the responsibility to undertake further due diligence on the financial and other detailed transitional requirements, together with any ancillary matters reasonably arising, with a view to completing the new section 75 agreement.**
- 4. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute documentation arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION –

North East Lincolnshire Council's relationship and partnership working with the NHS has been deep rooted and long standing and has served to help jointly commission and deliver services for the benefit of the North East Lincolnshire population. This has served both the ICB and NELC well since 2007 and has been cemented by a Section 75 agreement.

A review of these arrangements has taken place to ensure that they remain fit for purpose in the context of the transition of the ICB to a strategic commissioning organisation and the changing requirements of ICB from Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC).

The conclusion of the review has identified that the commitment to working together remains as strong as ever, but that adjustments are now timely and appropriate, with specific details and timings to be worked through as required, so that the lead responsibilities for the section 75 transfer back to NELC.

The recommendations from this report seek to secure the balance between the ongoing strategic commitment to partnership working whilst working through the details in a managed and timely manner.

OTHER OPTIONS –

- 1 Whilst the national direction is for greater integration and devolution to places and communities there are key changes that the ICB need to undertake that means that placed based delivery will change to a strategic commissioning organisation which is not conducive with North East Lincolnshire's integrated delivery model at place. Other options considered: -
2. Do nothing, maintain the arrangements as they currently are. This is not a possible option as the ICBs structure has had to change to reflect

the reduced funding available to it.

- 3 A minor variation the Section 75 partnership agreement, with the ICB still being the host for the adult partnership creating a change to the proposed ICB operating structure by creating a business unit to support continued delivery of the NELC Adult Social Care functions. This option is not supported as it creates a difference for the ICB within its structure and would mean that adult social care functions are delivered by a central business unit that is not at place.
4. A variation to the Section 75 partnership agreement which would see the ASC commissioning function transferring out from the current ICB structure to the council, but the ICB continuing to host the adult services agreement and pooled budget. Under this option the ICB would need to create additional posts in its proposed operating structure for all of the ASC support functions which would remain within the ICB. Whilst this option mitigates some of the risks and concerns in relation to option 2 for both the ICB and council, it doesn't fully mitigate the risks and could further increase the reduction in specialist skills and knowledge in those support function areas that remain within the ICB.

DN.83 HEARTS THE NORTHERN LINCOLNSHIRE DRUG AND ALCOHOL STRATEGY 2026 – 2036

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care asking Cabinet to endorse the strategic vision and key aims and support the implementation of the multi-agency action plan developed through the Combatting Drugs Partnership.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the strategic vision and key aims, including the commitment to prevention, early support, harm reduction, effective treatment, and long-term recovery for individuals, families, and communities be endorsed.**
- 2. That the implementation of the multi-agency action plan developed through the Combatting Drugs Partnership, ensuring coordinated delivery across health, social care, education, housing, criminal justice, and the voluntary and community sector be supported.**
- 3. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care be delegated authority to finalise and implement the associated multi-agency action plan and oversee delivery arrangements.**

- 4. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with relevant partners be delegated authority, to manage all operational matters arising from the strategy, including commissioning, mobilisation, coordination of services, and ongoing performance monitoring, together with all ancillary matters reasonably arising.**

- 5. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete all necessary legal and governance documentation required to support the implementation of the strategy and any associated commissioning or partnership arrangements.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The strategy provides a clear, evidence-based framework for reducing drug- and alcohol-related harm across Northern Lincolnshire and aligns with national priorities and local needs. It strengthens prevention, early support, treatment, and recovery pathways, helping to improve health, wellbeing, and community safety while addressing inequalities. Approving the strategy enables coordinated multi-agency action, ensures effective use of resources, and supports the development of stronger, safer, and more resilient communities.

OTHER OPTIONS – Cabinet could choose not to endorse the Northern Lincolnshire Drug and Alcohol Strategy. This option is not recommended. Without an agreed strategic framework, Northern Lincolnshire would lack a coordinated, evidence-based approach to reducing drug- and alcohol-related harm. The absence of a strategy would limit the area's ability to meet national expectations, weaken partnership working, and reduce the effectiveness of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery services. It would also increase the risk of fragmented delivery, poorer outcomes for residents, and missed opportunities to address health inequalities and community safety concerns.

DN.84 CABINET WORKING PARTY - ENVIRONMENTAL STREET SCENE AND ENFORCEMENT

Cabinet considered a report on the findings of the Environmental Street Scene and Enforcement Cabinet Working Party.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Net Zero be delegated authority to review the bulky waste collection service, within the next year, to see if costs can be brought down for residents; and that the results be presented to a relevant Scrutiny Panel meeting.**
- 2. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Net Zero be delegated authority to produce an annual update to the relevant Scrutiny Panel on how the education scheme was being executed to support the educational offer within the Green and Clean initiative.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Policy Strategy and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance Resources and Assets be delegated authority to improve the Self-Service customer portal, by exploring the different options set out in the Environment Street Scene and Enforcement Cabinet Working Parties Findings Reports (Appendix 1, Section 1.9.1.) of the report now submitted.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The rationale for each recommendation is included in the background and issues which follow below.

OTHER OPTIONS - The CWG reviewed all previous recommendations and the current transformation programme across the Regulatory Services. The option to do nothing was considered and discounted as the CWP were satisfied that there were some matters that would benefit from further discovery work.

DN.85 CLEETHORPES DRAFT WAYFINDING STRATEGY AND CONCEPT DESIGN

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and the Visitor Economy seeking support and approval of the proposed wayfinding strategy, concept design and an allocation of £300K Pride in Place funding to support the delivery of the wayfinding strategy.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the proposed wayfinding strategy and concept design provided in Appendix A – Wayfinding Stage 2 Concept of the be approved.**
- 2. That an allocation of £300K Pride in Place Funding to support the delivery of the wayfinding strategy be approved.**

- 3. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and the Visitor Economy be delegated authority to proceed to technical design and then implement the strategy, dealing with all ancillary matters reasonably arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The decision will support the Council to deliver a new approach to wayfinding in Cleethorpes that enhances our approach to signage and navigation across the resort and town centre, enhancing the visitor experience and supporting the visitor economy.

OTHER OPTIONS –

1. Do nothing – but there will be a risk to the overall coherency of the LUF projects, leading to visitors being confused and unable to fully navigate and appreciate the resort and town centre. There is also the issue that existing resort signage looks poor.
2. There is the option to pause the current strategy development and work up alternative proposals. However, the current strategy is based on findings from in-depth masterplan consultation and recent stakeholder engagement. The strategy and concept design present a way forward for improving the visitor experience in Cleethorpes.

DN.86 BIODIVERSITY DUTY REPORT 2025

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Net Zero seeking approval of the content of the North East Lincolnshire Council Biodiversity Duty Report 2024-2026.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the content of the North East Lincolnshire Council Biodiversity Duty Report 24-26 now submitted be approved.**
- 2. That the Director for Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Net Zero be delegated authority to publish the Council's Biodiversity Duty Report prior to the publication deadline of 26 March 2026.**

REASON FOR DECISION – Under the Environment Act 2021 North East Lincolnshire Council must publish a biodiversity duty report outlining our actions and intentions towards conserving and enhancing biodiversity within the borough.

OTHER OPTIONS - Do nothing – this option is not recommended as it would mean that biodiversity was not improved in the borough and could lead to legal and reputational impacts.

DN.87 RE-PROCUREMENT OF THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCES CONTRACT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking approval for the commencement of a procurement exercise for a new services contract and leases with a specialist Public Conveniences provider.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the commencement of a procurement exercise for a new services contract and leases with a specialist Public Conveniences provider be approved in relation to facilities at:**
 - **Boating Lake**
 - **Kingsway**
 - **St. Peters Avenue and**
 - **Grant Street**
- 2. That the Director of Economy, Environment, and Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets be delegated authority to commence the above procurement and carry out all necessary activities, including award, mobilisation and implementation, completion of lease or other arrangements, together with any other ancillary activity reasonably arising, and thereafter monitor and evaluate.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete and execute all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The procurement of a new services contract is required to ensure compliance with the Procurement Act 2023. Arrangements will run in parallel with leases of the property assets outlined at Recommendation 1 above. The new provider will be responsible for all operational costs in managing the facilities, including day-to-day repairs and maintenance to maintain and invest in condition of the property assets with improvements where possible.

OTHER OPTIONS - Do Nothing - the main contract term for the public conveniences services and property asset leases is five (5) years, with two (2) further periods to extend the contract by 2 x 12-months. The contract has been extended twice; and will be ending later this year. It is therefore recommended a re-tendering exercise is commenced as to do nothing is not considered a viable option.

DN.88 ORAL HEALTH SERVICES PROCUREMENT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care seeking approval for the commencement of a procurement exercise for Oral Health Services, using the Provider Selection Regime Most Suitable Provider Process.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the commencement of a procurement exercise for Oral Health Services, using the Provider Selection Regime Most Suitable Provider Process be approved.**
- 2. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care be delegated authority to finalise and award such contracts for Oral Health Services.**
- 3. That the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care be delegated authority to oversee all ancillary matters reasonably arising, including service implementation, mobilisation, and ongoing monitoring.**
- 4. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the contract award and associated contractual arrangements.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The procurement of Oral Health Services in North East Lincolnshire is recommended to continue and expand the excellent service currently available locally. The successful providers will have expertise in delivering oral health promotion, dental epidemiology surveys and supervised toothbrushing schemes.

It is anticipated that procurement will follow a two lot model allowing for flexibility as funding is assured annually over the next few years.

Awards are anticipated to commence in April 2026 likely for a 2-year period, with contractual options to extend for a further 2 years subject to monitoring, evaluation and performance, and funding availability.

Overall, the procurement exercise aims to support a proven model, enhancing oral health and reducing health disparities

OTHER OPTIONS –

1. Key considerations include the established infrastructure and professional networks already developed by the current provider.

The way the grant operates, the tight timescales between grant notification and the start of the financial year, make it extremely challenging to run a full market exercise within the required deadlines, and the risk of disruption to ongoing activities, loss of continuity for professionals engaged in support, and potential non-compliance with funding conditions.

2. An option would have been to discontinue the service altogether. This was discounted, as it would remove support where it is needed most and potentially lead to increases in health disparity. Discontinuation would negatively impact health outcomes.

DN.89 LOCAL TAXATION AND BENEFITS SHARED SERVICES SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking approval for the commencement of a joint procurement exercise with North Lincolnshire Council for Local Taxation and Benefits Shared Services systems replacement.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the commencement of a joint procurement exercise with North Lincolnshire Council for Local Taxation and Benefits Shared Services systems replacement be approved.**
- 2. That the Interim Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets be delegated authority to commence the above procurement and carry out all necessary activities, including award, mobilisation and implementation, together with any ancillary activity reasonably arising.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets (Monitoring officer) be authorised to complete and execute all legal documentation in connection with the award.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The decision allows the Council to commence a joint procurement exercise with North Lincolnshire Council for Local Taxation and Benefits Shared Services systems replacement and allows the Council to award the contract.

OTHER OPTIONS –

1. Do nothing – this would result in both the Revenues and Benefits system and document management system being out of contract. This is a high-risk option as suppliers could impose substantial fees to further extend contracts or chose not to extend, leaving the

council unable to fulfil key statutory requirements and impacting directly on the cash flow to NELC due to being unable to issue bills and collect income.

2. Seek contract extensions from the two existing suppliers (see 2.3). This would halt further development and keep security risks higher than is desirable. This is not viable due to the minimum length of extension one of the key suppliers is demanding and the poor value for money this represents.

DN.90 CENTRAL LIBRARY BUILDING ASBESTOS REMOVAL

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Regeneration, Devolution and Skills seeking approval to the commencement of a procurement exercise for removal of the majority of the asbestos containing materials

This item was considered under the Special Urgency rules of the Constitution, with the agreement of the Leader and the Chair of the Economy, Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Panel. It is therefore not subject to the call-in procedure. The item was considered urgent due to the pressing need to commence resolution of the asbestos position and key repairs on this asset in accordance with the urgent concerns expressed by the Library Provision Select Committee, endorsed by the Economy Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Panel and ultimately shared by Cabinet.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the report and appendix now submitted and the figures contained therein be noted.**
- 2. That the commencement of a procurement exercise for removal of the majority of the asbestos containing materials be approved.**
- 3. That the Director of Environment, Economy and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders for Culture, Heritage & Visitor Economy and Finance, Resources & Assets be delegated authority to commence the above procurement and carry out all necessary activities, including award of contract, mobilisation and implementation, together with any other ancillary activity reasonably arising.**
- 4. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete and execute all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters**

REASON FOR DECISION –To allow the necessary removal of asbestos containing materials in the Grimsby Central Library building.

OTHER OPTIONS - The Council could decide to do nothing or wait. However, it is essential the asbestos is removed regardless of the future use of the building. On this basis, waiting would risk further asbestos release and wider deterioration and this is not recommended.

DN.91 DELEGATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR DELIVERY OF LOCAL TRANSPORT FUNCTIONS AND S101 AGREEMENT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport seeking approval for the proposed delegation arrangements that will enable the smooth transition of local transport functions from 1 April 2026 from the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority back to constituent councils in relation to transport functions as set out in the Regulations with a section 101 agreement in support.

This item was considered under the Special Urgency rules of the Constitution, with the agreement of the Leader and the Mayor (in the absence for the Chair of the Transport, Infrastructure and Strategic Housing Scrutiny Panel) it is therefore not subject to the call-in procedure. The item was considered urgent due to the immediacy of the shift of transport functions by operation of law on 1st April 2026 to Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority. The decision sought provides for the re-delegation of such powers back to the constituent councils as an interim measure so as to ensure preparedness and ability to ensure a seamless transition on the fullness of time.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the delegation of functions from the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority in relation to transport functions as set out in the Regulations be accepted and that Cabinet agrees that a s101 agreement be entered into.**
- 2. That the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport be delegated authority to settle the heads of terms, and approve the s101 agreement and thereafter implement such terms.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute documentation arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The delegation of functions ensures the ongoing delivery of local transport authority functions until detailed transition arrangements are enacted between the GLCCA and the 3 constituent authorities. The section 101 agreement sets out the principles which will underpin the arrangements between the relevant parties.

OTHER OPTIONS – Alternative options, including adopting a position of non-engagement or declining to enter into a s101 agreement, were discounted as they would limit the Council's ability to influence the development of future transport governance arrangements and risk creating uncertainty during the transition.

DN 92 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business is likely to disclose exempt information within the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

DN.93 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION IN GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

The Cabinet considered closed appendix referred to at DN.81 on the agenda.

RESOLVED – That the appendix be noted

DN.94 CENTRAL LIBRARY BUILDING ASBESTOS REMOVAL

The Cabinet considered closed appendix referred to at DN.90 on the agenda.

RESOLVED – That the appendix be noted