CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 20th August 2026

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the19th August 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 Freeston (in the Chair)
Councillors Callison, N Oliver, Sawkins and Taylor.

DN.15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Batson, Brasted and Grice.

DN.16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

DN.17 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 15th July 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.18 QUARTER 1 2026/27 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE AND FINANCE REPORT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets that provided information and analysis of the Council's performance and financial position at the end of Quarter one 2026-27 (April to June 2026).

RESOLVED -

1. **That the content of the reports be noted and refers them to all Scrutiny Panels for further consideration and oversight**

appropriate to the scope of the panel.

2. **That the 2026/27 revenue budget movement overview as detailed in Appendix 1 (Page 10 of the appendix) be approved.**

3. **That the re-profiling requests in respect of the 2026/27 capital programme as detailed in Appendix 1 (Page 12 of the appendix) be approved.**

4. **That the revised Capital Programme for 2026/29 included in Appendix 1 (Pages 114-117 of the appendix) be approved.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - This report provides Cabinet important information relating to the Council's performance and financial position at the end of Quarter 1, and highlights risks and opportunities in relation to both performance and finance.

OTHER OPTIONS - Not applicable to monitoring report.

DN.19 TREASURY OUTTURN REPORT 2025-26

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets to consider the content of the report and make any recommendations to Full Council as necessary in respect of treasury management activity during 2025-26.

RESOLVED - That the content of the report be noted in respect of treasury management activity during 2025-26, with no further recommendations made to Full Council.

REASONS FOR DECISION - The Council's treasury management activity was guided by CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management ("the Code"), which requires local authorities to produce annually Prudential Indicators and a Treasury Management Strategy Statement on the likely financing and investment activity. The Code also recommends that members were informed of treasury management activities at least twice a year with interim updates on performance against Prudential Indicators reported quarterly. We therefore report in full after Quarter 2 (this Report) and year end with Prudential Indicators being reported additionally after Quarters 1 and 3 in the Council Plan Resources and Finance Report.

OTHER OPTIONS - These were set out on Page 30 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

DN.20 CABINET WORKING PARTY - HOUSES OF MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport to consider the findings from the Cabinet Working Party in relation to Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs).

RESOLVED -

1. **That any standalone local HMO validation exercise be deferred until the national Private Rented Sector landlord database is available, and it be requested that officers review the position once the database has been implemented and its local data can be assessed.**

2. **That the referral of the Empty Homes Strategy and the Housing Needs Assessment to a joint Scrutiny Panel of the Communities Scrutiny Panel and the Transport, Infrastructure and Housing Scrutiny Panel for further review be approved.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The national Private Rented Sector landlord database introduced through the Renters' Rights Act was expected to improve future intelligence and support enforcement, with implementation phased in from October 2026. This would gradually enable the Council to take a more proactive and intelligence-led approach to identifying and assessing smaller HMOs across the borough, so that resources can be targeted towards properties where there was a greater likelihood of housing condition, management or wider neighbourhood concerns. Whilst allocation of transformational has the potential of providing the data more rapidly, it would create a financial pressure on finite transformational resources. It may further divert project management resources from existing statutory and priority work at a point where new legislation was rapidly already increasing the Council's oversight and enforcement options in the private rented sector, which was likely to deliver similar outcomes in a more cost-effective way.

OTHER OPTIONS –

1. The Working Group considered whether to delay further local validation until the new national Private Rented Sector landlord database is introduced under the Renters' Rights Act. The database was expected to improve transparency across the private rented sector by bringing together information on landlords and rented properties and should support councils to target enforcement more effectively once it was fully operational. Waiting for the national data base had the opportunity to provide the requested data validation in a more cost effective way. However, this option was not favoured by the working group as the database will be introduced nationally from

October 2026 and phased in over time. It would improve the Council's intelligence in the medium term, but it would not provide an immediate validated picture of smaller HMOs in North East Lincolnshire or address any current housing condition, management or neighbourhood concerns.

2. A further option was to rely on existing reactive complaint-based enforcement only. This was also discounted because complaints were not currently recorded by property status and may not identify smaller HMOs where tenants were less likely to report concerns or where wider community impacts were not directly linked to a formal housing complaint.

3. The preferred option from the working group was therefore to proceed with local intelligence-led validation and targeted proactive inspections, while using the new landlord database as it becomes available to supplement the local evidence base, support landlord identification and inform future enforcement or policy decisions.

4. Officers recognise the value of that approach. However, given current capacity pressures, the absence of confirmed funding, and the imminent introduction of the national landlord database, officers consider that the most proportionate approach was to defer a standalone local validation exercise and reassess the position once the national dataset was available.

DN.21 CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE STATUTORY COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education for Cabinet to receive and accept the Children's Social Care Statutory Complaints and Compliments Annual Report for 2025/26.

RESOLVED -

1. **That the Children's Social Care Statutory Complaints and Compliments Annual Report for 2025/26 be received and accepted.**

2. **That the Children's Social Care Statutory Complaints and Compliments Annual Report for 2025/26 be referred to the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel for their consideration.**

3. **That subsequent to resolution 2 above, delegated responsibility be given to the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People to publish the annual report.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - It was a requirement of The Children Act 1989 Representation Procedure (England) Regulations 2006 to

produce an annual report regarding the representations made about social care statutory services. The purpose of the attached report was to inform the general public, elected members, and Council officers about the effectiveness of the statutory complaint's procedure.

OTHER OPTIONS - It was a statutory requirement that an annual report was completed for these complaints and the activities undertaken in responding to the complaints follows current guidance. The current approach was set out in the attached report.

DN.22 NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport that sought approval to adopt the new Local Flood Risk Management Strategy that has been produced following a comprehensive review.

RESOLVED –

1. **That the new Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, that has been produced following a comprehensive review, be adopted and approved.**

2. **That responsibility be delegated to the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport, to implement the strategy, engage with stakeholders and monitor the delivery of the Strategy's Action Plan.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - Under Section 9 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Council, as the Lead Local Flood Authority, was required to develop, maintain, apply and monitor the LFRMS. The strategy needs to be approved and adopted to fulfil this requirement.

OTHER OPTIONS - Production of the LFRMS was a legal requirement and, as such, no other options were considered other than its production. The new Strategy now needs to be adopted by Cabinet and published on-line to ensure full compliance with the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

DN.23 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2026/2027

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport that sought approval of the Highways and Transport capital programme for 2026/27.

RESOLVED –

1. **That the Highways and Transport capital programme for 2026/27 (as set out at Appendix 1 of the report now submitted) be approved.**

2. **That the allocation of capital to commence an innovation programme (as set out at Appendix 1 of the report now submitted), with a focus on improving the Council's ways of working to address pot holes, be approved.**

3. **That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport, to:**

    a. **Finalise the terms of the funding arrangements with the Department for Transport and the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) and to receive funds.**
    b. **Establish programme governance arrangements including the approval of any project variations, commence any related procurement exercises in line with the Procurement Act 2023 and to make the appropriate contract awards.**
    c. **Develop and implement an innovation programme which changes the Council's approach and ways of working in relation to potholes.**
    d. **Implement appropriate monitoring arrangements including the receipt of a monthly highlight update report on programme progress.**

4. **That the Director of Economy, Environment, and Infrastructure be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, Infrastructure and Transport, to receive any additional in year grant funding and allocate spend accordingly and to deal with all ancillary matters arising.**

5. **That the Assistant Director Law and Governance be authorised to settle, complete and execute all documentation arising from the above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - A Cabinet decision was required to formally receive the funding from the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority and for the 2026/2027 Highways & Transport capital programme to be delivered within the necessary timescales and to the requirements of the GLCCA and Department for Transport.

OTHER OPTIONS - In developing this annual programme, managers consider a range of schemes and projects, carrying out a robust assessment of the scheme deliverables, their impact against both transport and corporate priorities and value for money.

The Council could opt to continue its current approach to address potholes on an annual basis, without further transformation. Whilst this would comply with the *Well-managed Highway Infrastructure* Code of Practice, this winter has demonstrated that it does not reach the right balance between public expectations, safety obligations and finite resources.

DN.24 SALESFORCE LICENCING

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets that sought approval to commence procurement for the provision of Salesforce licences and associated services.

RESOLVED –

1. **That the undertaking of a compliant procurement exercise for the provision of Salesforce licences and associated services to support the continued operation of the Council's Customer and Service Management Platform be approved.**

2. **That the Assistant Director Policy, Strategy and Resources, in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets, be authorised to undertake the procurement process, award the contract and take all ancillary steps reasonably arising.**

3. **That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute and complete all necessary legal documentation in connection with the procurement and contract award.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The current Salesforce licensing arrangements expire in October 2026 and there was no compliant option to extend the existing contract. A re-procurement exercise was therefore required to ensure continued access to the Salesforce platform and to maintain compliance with Contract Procedure Rules and the Procurement Act 2023.

Salesforce was a business critical platform that underpins customer engagement, case management, workflow automation and digital service delivery across several Council services, including Regulatory Services, Highways and Environmental Services. The platform supports the Council's strategic objective of providing a single digital front door for residents, businesses and partners and currently supports over 60,000 registered residents, businesses and business owners. The preferred option to re-procure Salesforce licences and continue the existing CSMP model represents the most economically advantageous and least disruptive approach. It protects the Council's existing investment in the platform, avoids the significant costs and risks

associated with procuring and implementing a replacement system, and enables the continued delivery of efficiencies through workflow automation, standardised processes and improved reporting.

Failure to secure an ongoing licensing arrangement would create significant risks to service continuity, statutory service delivery and the Council's wider digital transformation ambitions. It could result in disruption to customer-facing services, reduced operational effectiveness and the loss of functionality already developed within the platform.

The proposal supports the Council's Digital and ICT Strategy, contributes to the Council Plan, and enables continued delivery of customer-focused, efficient and accessible services across North East Lincolnshire.

OTHER OPTIONS –

Option 1: Do Nothing

Cabinet could choose not to approve the procurement exercise and allow the current Salesforce licensing arrangement to expire. This option was not recommended as it would create a significant risk to service continuity, statutory service delivery and the Council's ongoing digital transformation programme. The expiry of the current contract would jeopardise access to business-critical customer contact, case management and workflow management capabilities.

Option 2: Procure an Alternative Platform

Cabinet could choose to replace Salesforce with an alternative customer and case management platform. This option was not recommended as it would involve significant procurement, implementation and migration costs, together with considerable operational and delivery risk. A replacement platform would require system migration, reconfiguration, integration, testing and staff training, whilst risking the loss of existing functionality, developed solutions and previous investment.

Option 3: Re-procure Salesforce Licences

This was the recommended option. It would enable the Council to undertake a compliant procurement exercise, maintain continuity of service, protect the investment already made in the platform and avoid the significant cost, disruption and delivery risk associated with implementing a replacement system. This option also supports the continued delivery of the Council's digital transformation ambitions and provides a scalable platform for future service improvements.

DN.25 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SCRUTINY

Cabinet considered recommendations made by the Economy, Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Panel at its special meeting on the 10th August 2026 with regard to the Market Place scheme in Cleethorpes.

RESOLVED –

1. **That the recommendation from the Economy, Culture and Tourism Scrutiny Panel meeting of 10th August 2026 be rejected.**

2. **That a review be conducted 12 months after the implementation of the pedestrianisation scheme**.