

Lincoln Town's Fund Monitoring and Evaluation Approach

Cities & Local Growth Unit, Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements

Every six months Lead Councils are required to provide government with a comprehensive set of data relating to each Town Deal project, including both total and forecast spend, and performance across output metrics previously approved in the submitted Monitoring and Evaluation Plans. Metrics are a mixture of mandatory, advisory and bespoke. These returns are scrutinised and signed off by the Council's Section 151 Officer. The monitoring metrics for each project were set out in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plans of their respective business cases and approved by DLUHC accordingly. The individual project outputs are identified in the Project Status Summary document elsewhere on this agenda (paper 3). The approved output reporting metrics for the whole programme are summarised in appendix 1.

The first monitoring submission was made in June 2022, and while the programme is still in the early delivery stages the following outputs were reported;

2 FT temp jobs created

8 permanent ft jobs created

1 improved cultural facility

Capacity created for 100 new trainees/learners

929m2 of improved commercial space

Actual expenditure to date was reported as £1,367,949. Following report submission some clarifications and a few additional outputs were requested for Sincil Bank Projects, DLUHC have advised that payment of grant will be withheld until this is information is provided and the Plans are able to be signed off by them.

It is proposed that these reports be provided to Investment Board for scrutiny on a sixth monthly basis.

Other local proposed monitoring requirements

The Lincoln Town Deal Board have highlighted the importance of understanding the outcomes and impact of the projects funded through the programme as well as the outputs. The business cases for each of the projects funded through the programme set out projected outcomes but these, generally, do not form part of the formal monitoring requirements for Government. Some of the outcome information formed part of the Value for Money (benefit-cost ratio) calculation which was presented to Government in the Project Summary Documents.



The importance of understanding and being able to demonstrate the impact of the funding as well as evidencing the value for money achieved is recognised; however, given the diverse nature of the projects in the programme, a single approach to the monitoring of outcomes is unlikely to be appropriate. We also recognise that there may be capacity issues within some of the partner organisations which might limit their ability to undertake this outcome and impact monitoring.

It is therefore suggested that some central support is provided to facilitate this and guide projects on measuring outcomes and impacts and for the City Council to bring this information together in a programme evaluation. By commencing this activity now, it will enable an evidence base to be built up rather than waiting until near the end of the programme when it will be much harder to gather evidence.

It is recommended that the first stage of this is to visit each project to go through their business case and identify stated impacts and outcomes and identify how these could be evidenced, what information will be collected and when and whether there is any support that is needed / can feasibly be provided in doing so. This would establish the baseline information and milestones for reporting.

An initial report will be provided to the Lincoln Town Deal Board setting out the impacts that are to be monitored for each project and the action plan and programme for monitoring and reporting these.

Projects would then be visited / contacted on a six-monthly basis to review progress. Data collected / provided by projects would then be analysed to provide an update to the Board on impact to date and value for money based on an update of the original BCR calculations.

It is important to recognise that many of the projects will not start demonstrating impact and delivering outcomes until at least the second half of 2022/23 and some later than this. It is therefore proposed that as well as six-monthly updates, an interim evaluation report is produced at the end of 2022/23 with a final evaluation during 2025/26.

Appendix 1 The DLUHC approved output reporting metrics for the Lincoln Town Deal Programme

Orange mandatory Town Fund defined indicators

Green Optional Town Fund defined indicators

Blue Locally defined indicators

Outputs Achieved & Projected	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Beyond April 2026	Total
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total		
Amount spent directly on project delivery (either local authority or implementation partners)							
Amount co-funding spent on project delivery (private and public)							
Amount co-funding committed (private and public)							
Number of staff in regeneration team in council							
Amount budgeted for economic development team and functions							
Towns Self-Assessment Questions score (1-5)							
Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs created through the project	8	8	8.1	27	20		71.1
Number of temporary FT jobs supported	2	3	32	45	39		121
Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) permanent jobs safeguarded through the project	0	1	0	43	9		53
Year on Year monthly % change in footfall							
Number of heritage buildings renovated/restored	0	0	3	0	1		4

Number of new cultural facilities	0	0	1	0	1	2
Number of public amenities/facilities created	0	0	2	0	0	2
Amount of floor space repurposed (residential, commercial, retail)	0	0	600	0	0	600
Number of closer collaborations with employers	0	260	200	275	375	1110
Number of improved cultural facilities	1	0	0	0	0	1
Amount of capacity of new or improved training or education facilities	100	0	2125	0	0	2225
Number of enterprises receiving grants	0	0	6	12	12	30
Number of learners/trainees/students enrolled at new education and training facilities	0	695	1021	1160	1742	4618
Amount of public realm improved	0	0	4000	0	0	4000
Number of non-domestic buildings with green retrofits completed	0	0	1	0	0	1
Number of new community/sports centres	0	0	2	0	0	2
Buildings taken off the at risk register	0	0	0	0	1	1
Provision of Open CMS Infrastructure	0	0	1	0	0	1
Provision of creative Lighting installations	0	0	0	1	0	1
Number creative Lighting Feasibility Study	0	0	1	0	0	1
Number Art Installations	0	0	0	6	6	12
Digital Screens	0	0	0	6	0	6
Number of unique visitors to digital town centre	0	0	30000	60000	60000	150000
Number of digitally enhanced businesses	0	0	100	200	200	500
Number of jobs created within businesses assisted	0	0	0	10	10	20
Value in £ of GVA Uplift in businesses supported	0	0	0	0	914300	914300
Education	0	0	0	0	1	1

New education programme							
M2 of New or refurbished commercial floorspace	0	0	1926	0	0		1926
Number of New enterprises using High Quality space	0	0	0	10	20		30
Average traffic speed within 20mph zone	0	0	0	0	20		20
Number of fewer children in food poverty	0	720	480	480	720		2400
Technical survey and feasibility work leading to the production of a detailed masterplan and design proposal to RIBA stage 3	0	0	1	0	0		1
Stakeholder engagement plan	0	0	1	0	0		1
Full Business Case for the development and delivery phase of new road infrastructure	0	0	0	1	0		1
Preparation of a planning application for phase 1	0	0	0	0	1		1
Work to procure a development partner or alternative delivery solution	0	0	0	1	0		1
Feasibility Study Report Produced	0	1	0	0	0		1
Number of learners/students/trainees gaining certificates, graduating or completing courses at new or improved training or education facilities, or attending new courses	0	0	0	0	1045		1045
New Jobs created in businesses supported	0	0	0	4	16		20
No of Visitors (over the lifetime of the scheme)	0	11520	11520	11520	11520	3801	49881
Amount of quality commercial space delivered to Town Centre	929	0	0	0	0		929
Open CMS Infrastructure	0	0	1	0	0		1
Lighting installations	0	0	0	1	0		1
Lighting Feasibility Study	0	0	1	0	0		1
Art Installations	0	0	0	6	6		12

Digital Screens	0	0	0	6	0		6
Number of unique visitors to digital town centre	0	0	30000	60000	60000		150000
Number of digitally enhanced businesses	0	0	100	200	200		500
GVA Uplift in businesses supported	0	0	0	0	914300		914300
Buildings taken off the at risk register	0	0	0	0	1		1
Number of learners supported	0	0	0	0	30		30
Number of New education programmes	0	0	0	0	1		1
Number of employers engaging with training through the project	0	0	100	300	400		800
Number of businesses assisted to improve performance	0	0	25	175	300		500
Number of new businesses created	0	0	0	14	30		44
M2 of New or refurbished commercial floorspace	0	0	1926	0	0		1926
Average traffic speed within 20mph zone	0	0	0	0	20		20
480 fewer children in food poverty pa	0	720	480	480	720		2400
Stakeholder engagement plan for City centre Brown field site redevelopment	0	0	1	0	0		1
Full Business Case for the development and delivery phase of city centre brownfield site	0	0	0	1	0		1