

**REPORT UNDER RULE 2(VI) OF THE COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES**

**Report by Councillor Emily Wood, Chair of Policy Scrutiny Committee**

**Introduction**

This year's Policy Scrutiny Committee's membership consists of the following Councillors: Emily Wood (Chair), Calum Watt (Vice-Chair), Debbie Armiger, Liz Bushell, Natasha Chapman, Bill Mara and Mark Storer.

Substitute member(s): Councillors Martin Christopher, Clare Smalley, Dylan Stothard, Pat Vaughan and Aiden Wells

Officers attending include: Caroline Bird, Steve Bird, Simon Colburn, Kate Ellis, Michelle Hoyles, Ben Jackson, Tracey Parker, Sammy Pengally. Thank you to all Officers who attended for their work.

I would like to thank all Committee members for their contributions. We have had a full and varied range of themes and undertaken our role as a "critical friend" to the Council in ensuring the Council is operating in the best interests of the residents of Lincoln.

Since May 2023, the Committee met three times, principally to scrutinise decisions due to be taken by the Executive or Council. The Committee provided its insights and recommendations on a variety of topics, which were suitably reflected in the eventual decision-making process.

The Committee scrutinised the following topics in particular detail:

**Events and Culture – Christmas in Lincoln 2023 and beyond – Programme of Events**

The committee scrutinised the development of the new events programme, covering the following main points:

- New Branding
- Our Aim
- What we want to achieve
- Our Approach to developing the programme
- Seeking a range of views
- Results so far – What people would like to see
- Key results – public information gathering
- A full range of ideas
- Event Themes
- Types of Market
- Enhancement/ more often
- The 2023 Programme
  - Lincoln Live
  - Lincoln Monster Invasion

- Christmas in Lincoln
- Ice Trail – 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas lights and light Trail
- Additional small-scale content
- The CoLC and BIG 2023 Programme
- Next Steps

Members discussed the events programme in detail and noted the presentation with thanks. It was agreed that a further update be provided to a future meeting of Policy Scrutiny Committee.

### Lincoln Central Market Policies

The committee were presented with the plan for the Lincoln Central Market and were asked to provide feedback to assist in forming the Lincoln Central Market Policy.

A power point presentation was presented to committee, covering the following main points:

- Before Regeneration
- Refurbishment
- Getting the Right Traders
- Stallholder Products Mix – Catering
- Stallholder Products Mix – Produce/ Food Retail
- Stallholder Products Mix – Retail
- Products we do not want
- Selection Process
- New Market, New Opening Hours
- Outside Space
- Next Steps

Members discussed the plan for the Lincoln Central Market in detail and noted the presentation with thanks.

### Proposals for Extension of Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) at Lucy Tower, Broadgate and Lincoln Central Car Parks

The Committee were asked to provide views on the proposal to extend the Public Space Protection Order at Lucy Tower, Broadgate and Lincoln Central Car Parks.

Committee were provided with details of the current PSPO that was in place and were given an overview of the current prohibited activities within the designated areas. Consultation had taken place with both public and partner agencies and an explanation of the five responses received was provided, these called for the existing PSPO to remain in place. Committee were also provided with evidence that had been gathered from Lincolnshire Police, the CCTV team and the Car Parking team.

Members discussed and supported the proposal to extend the current PSPO without variations to the prohibition or location and referred the report Executive for approval.

The Committee also scrutinised the following items and forwarded its comments for consideration by the Executive:

- Protecting Vulnerable People
- Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Specifications (for new contracts from 01/09/2026)
- Parks and Open Spaces – Income Policy
- Localised Council Tax Support Scheme 2024/25
- Corporate Document Review 2023
- Scrutiny Annual Report 2022/23

Minutes of these meetings are available to any members who wish for more details about discussions that took place and questions asked by Members. Each subject was considered carefully and thoughtfully by Members and many questions asked.

The Committee also received regular updates on the work of the Health Scrutiny Committee (HSC) held on 17 May 2023, 14 June 2023 and 19 July 2023 which were attended on behalf of the City Council. The subjects and organisations scrutinised were:

- Update on Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, Paediatric Service
- Manthorpe Unit, Grantham and District Hospital - Extended Temporary Closure for Enhanced Dementia Home Treatment Pilot
- Temporary Closure of Lincolnshire's Male Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) - The Hartsholme Centre
- Consultation on Paediatric Services at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston
- East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust – Performance
- NHS Joint Forward Plan
- GP Provision in Lincolnshire
- NHS Dental Services in Lincolnshire
- Water Fluoridation
- Outcome of Consultation on Local Mental Health Rehabilitation Services (Ashley House in Grantham)
- Update on Adult Mental Health Services in Lincolnshire
- Lincolnshire Acute Service Review – Urgent & Emergency Care and Acute Medicine Implementation Update
- Paediatric Service at Pilgrim Hospital, Boston – Proposed Response of the Committee to the Consultation

Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee are available to all members who wish to know further details of discussions that took place and questions asked. The Health Service faces many challenges currently as Members will be aware and the Committee has represented the interests of Lincolnshire residents on all occasions.

## **Work Programme for Future Meetings**

- Safeguarding Policy
- Downsizing incentive scheme proposal
- Recycling- paper and card collections proposal
- Annual Review of County Homelessness Strategy

I encourage Members of the Committee to identify future items from the new Executive Work Programme and elsewhere for inclusion in the work programme for 2023/24. The function of the Policy Scrutiny Committee strengthens the position of the Council to ensure that we are able to deliver our strategic priorities, inform the decision-making process and make robust decisions. In addition, the Committee makes sure that the Council is improving value for money and efficiency and helps to make sure we are open and accountable to our residents.

**Councillor Emily Wood**  
**Chair of Policy Scrutiny Committee**