

## **Lincoln Town Deal Board - 1 December 2023**

### **UKSPF Update**

#### **UKSPF Lincoln Programme**

The Council is continuing to develop the programme for the awarded £2.8 million for the delivery and completion by March 2025.

#### **Programme Management**

Processes and protocols are now in place to assure the funding is administered within the terms of the Government guidance and assurance requirements, and a monitoring and reporting framework is to be established to ensure projects are delivering to the agreed delivery plan and achieving the agreed outputs and outcomes.

Delivery progress will be publicised through the Council's communication team and website.

The Council will continue to report progress to DLUCH on a six-monthly basis. Programme management is expected to cost around 8% of the total Programme costs.

### **Progress on the Round 1 Projects**

#### **Cost of Living Support Programme**

This programme supports local residents in most need from the cost-of-living crisis. The programme is being led by City of Lincoln Council's Revenues and Benefits team, working with the Welfare Teams and local partners including Bridge Church and Acts Trust. Live projects currently include:

- Fuel Voucher Scheme to provide emergency support to those identified as a priority through local support networks.
- A research Commission (LEAN) into cost-of-living support needs and access in local non-English-speaking communities.
- A Grocery Voucher Scheme; a pilot scheme to provide £20.00 worth of vouchers for Lincoln Community Grocery to all new Council tenants to cover £5 first year membership, plus 3 x £5.00 shops at the Grocery plus access to the wraparound support provision offered.
- Emergency Need grant scheme; Provision of emergency grant funding to individuals identified as in need by community support partners and Council welfare team, for items that cannot be covered through Household Support Fund.
- Lincoln Financial Inclusion Partnership (LFIP) support; funding to support the Lincolnshire Financial Inclusion Partnership (LFIP) which aims to promote and raise the profile of financial inclusion and ensure that everyone has the

- capability and opportunity to access appropriate financial services and products needed to support their needs.

#### Community Grant Scheme Project

A Community Grant scheme, being run in partnership with Investors in Lincoln to support community projects across each of the 11 City wards with grants up to £5000 went live in October and ward panels have started to meet to review applications.

#### North Lincoln Community Hub(s) Programme

A scoping report to identify wider deliverable proposals is now underway and community consultation events are being held at Ermine library and Sudbrooke Drive Community centre during November and December to inform the development of a business case and delivery plan.

#### No Wrong Door Project

Funding to support the Acts Trust's in developing their existing bespoke Triage software, 'The Restore System' making it accessible to any organisations in the Lincoln area, has now been made. This project is now live and outputs will be monitored and reported further in the new year.

#### Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub

Funding support towards a shared service of Business support to be delivered by the Lincolnshire Growth Hub across Lincolnshire, has been provided and City Council Business support team is working with Business Lincolnshire to monitor and respond to Business needs.

#### Business Advisor for Lincoln

A new Business Support Adviser has now been appointed by the City Council and a work programme been developed. A key first output targeted for March is the Business support landscape mapping exercise requested by Town Board at their September meeting.

#### The Restore Programme

Funding is now in place to support the Acts Trust 'Restore Programme', a programme of training support designed to empower those aged 18+ to understand and overcome issues of poverty is proposed for allocation to the Acts Trust.



### Linking Local Business to Local People programme

This programme aims to unlock the barriers to local Businesses training and upskilling locally, to address recruitment gaps for new and growing Business sectors but will also address the low skill and high economic inactivity levels within the District. As such the programme will span both the supporting Business and People and Skills UKSPF strands. Delivery plans are currently being developed for:

- the development of a New EV maintenance training academy working with PK automotive Lincoln
- A Pilot Business Bursary training Project. Working with local Business Make an Entrance and DWP and Acts Trust

Meetings have also been had between the City and Lincoln College to identify any gaps in low carbon training support.

### **Round 2 Projects**

These are still being scoped with partners and will be reported to Executive committee in the new year.

### **Recommendation**

That Town Board note progress in respect of the UKSPF programme.