

# Lincoln's Sustainable Community Strategy

2008 – 2023

Vision – Our City Our Future



## FOREWORD



Lincoln is a fine historic city with a history of settlement of over 6000 years. It is the county city for Lincolnshire and is one of the five major cities in the East Midlands alongside Derby, Leicester, Northampton and Nottingham. Throughout its long history, Lincoln has faced many challenges and it has grown to the city that we know today. It is a city that is held in the affection of its residents, those who look to it as a local centre as well as those who come here to visit.

In spite of the attractive external appearance of our city, there are many issues to be faced including climate change, health inequalities, educational attainment, unemployment and economic challenges and an ageing infrastructure. Lincoln is now responding to significant growth by providing new jobs and new homes to accommodate the growing city population and those who look to Lincoln as their city. Our priority is to ensure that the growth helps the city address its ageing

infrastructure needs, benefits existing communities and helps the city to adapt to climate change.

To help us in achieving these challenges, the Lincoln Local Strategic Partnership was formed in 2001 of representatives from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors. It set out to agree a shared vision for the city and work together to deliver that vision through the development and delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy. A long-term vision firmly based on local needs, underpinned by a shared evidence base informed by community aspirations. That vision is set out in this document alongside the key priorities for change.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D.P. Grice', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Darren Grice  
*Leader: City of Lincoln Council*  
*Chairman: Lincoln Local Strategic Partnership*



## OUR VISION – Lincoln in 2020

***A well-run, creative city of sustainable neighbourhoods and ambitious people, which is internationally renowned for its culture, economy, and special character. Lincoln is a great place to live and work that unlocks the potential in all people and all places and provides an enviable quality of life.***

Lincoln is one of the England's most important historic Cities. It continues to change and develop its key role as a principle urban area at the heart of rural Lincolnshire. It's image as a quiet historic city doesn't reflect the reality of a major urban centre serving a population of over 300,000 in its Travel to Work area. New investment including the University of Lincoln has started to revitalise the city centre after years of industrial decline. However, Lincoln has great potential to grow further to provide a better quality of life for its residents and visitors, and to help tackle existing problems, such as the significant concentrations of multiple deprivation in parts of the city.

The growth required to meet housing, economy and infrastructure needs must be balanced with the need to protect and enhance the natural and built environment, also the need for a responsible approach to water management, minimising harmful CO2 emissions and the use of finite resources.

### **This document describes:**

- Our City, a City belonging to all those who live and work in it and its history.
- Our Future, how we see the city developing.

## How will we get there?

Lincoln is faced with a number of key challenges to which it needs to respond within the life of this strategy. There are three interlinked strands to the strategy required for addressing these challenges:

### **Strengthening Lincoln's role as a regional centre:**

To sustain and develop the role of Lincoln as an important centre for the county and region, and address the need for investment in the services and infrastructure required.

### **Developing Lincoln as a sustainable city:**

To support the needs of new residents and the need for growth and investment in housing provision and associated infrastructure and services.

### **Targeting our neighbourhoods and regenerating our communities:**

To ensure that the needs and priorities of the existing residents are addressed at a neighbourhood level.

Significant progress has been made by the LSP to establish a robust evidence base. This, when considered alongside the views of residents, has enabled us to identify a set of key issues which need to be addressed in order to realise our vision.

- Our Children and Young People– Aspiration and achievement.
- Our Health – Health inequalities.
- Our Economy – Sustainable economic growth.
- Our Environment – Climate change and environmental sustainability.
- Our Safety – Crime and community safety.
- Our Neighbourhood – Our communities.



## OUR SHARED VALUES

The following values and principles underpin the work of LSP and the sustainable community strategy:

- We will promote and work within the true spirit of partnership, to agree priorities and share responsibilities and resources for the benefit of Lincoln residents.
- We seek to work with individuals and communities to ensure there are opportunities for participation and engagement in the development, delivery and monitoring of our strategy and delivery plans.
- We aim to work in target areas where there are particular problems to ensure improvements benefit all residents and that the opportunities to participate in this vision are open to all.
- We embrace the diversity which exists within the city and will work to ensure excellent relationships with communities enabling all groups to engage and encourage strong community cohesion.
- We will commission activity which is innovative, engaging and will look to a range of providers, in particular where there are opportunities for developing the voluntary and community sector.



## OUR CITY - OUR PAST

Lincoln, until the mid 1800's was a small market town, transformed by the arrival of the railway in 1846, into a pioneering engineering city. The consequent rise in population led Lincoln, as with many other industrial cities, to become dirty, overcrowded and unsanitary.

Throughout the 1920's and 30's the first social housing was built in Moorland and St Giles to ease the housing problems in the city. This period of growth enabled Lincoln to make a significant manufacturing contribution to Britain in the inter-war years.

The post war period led to economic decline, particularly the demise of the manufacturing and heavy engineering sectors with a continued growth in the demand for and supply of social housing. Birchwood replaced the former RAF Skellingthorpe and the Ermine estates met the demand for new homes in the city.

Factory closures and migration from the city left areas of derelict land and increased levels of unemployment among workers with skills in manufacturing and engineering. A conscious effort to attract new industries needing these skills became the central theme of the City's economic growth strategy. It had some success in attracting firms such as Siemens and Marconi.

Lincoln was one of the first areas to gain conservation area status in 1967, which helped to preserve its historic core, which has attracted many visitors from the UK and abroad. This has assisted in diversifying Lincoln's economy away from its reliance on traditional engineering industry towards the service sector.

Following this considerable housing and population growth and significant shifts in the economy, the focus turned to the regeneration of the city centre. The city's retail core was changing due to the growing demand for bulky goods leading to development of the Tritton Road retail park. The Waterside shopping centre opened in 1991 and the new shopping development on the former St Marks railway station site in 1996.

This reflected the increased role of service industries and the retail sector. In 1996 the University of Lincoln opened, which symbolised one of the most significant and far reaching developments the city had experienced so far. It impacted upon every aspect of city life, ranging from the physical landscape to the social and economic life of the city. The demand for a vibrant night time and leisure based economy increased and led to major re-development with more cinema screens, restaurants and bars, particularly around the Brayford pool area.

More recently the cultural and entertainment sectors have had considerable investment. The refurbished Drill Hall reopened in 2004, the Collection in 2005, the Engine Shed in 2006 and the New Arts Centre in 2008. In addition, our attention has now begun to turn to several estates and neighbourhoods in the city.



The city's cultural diversity is increasing, as we welcome the skills of migrant workers and attract a wide range of international students to study further and higher education.

## OUR PRESENT

As the county city, Lincoln provides employment, retail and leisure provision for the wider area. It also provides the main General Hospital and Headquarters for many County Council, Constabulary and National Health Services functions.

### **A Snapshot of Lincoln in 2008...**

- The city of Lincoln covers an area of 38 square kilometres.
- A city rich in history with unique access to plentiful green open space that has now become one of only eight exclusive British Heritage Cities.
- The population of Lincoln was estimated to be 87,600 in 2006 and is projected to increase to 99,000 by 2026 as a result of the city's growth point status.
- Lincoln has a high proportion of its population aged between 20-29 years due to the continuing expansion of the University.
- On average a resident who works full time earns £1,088.80 less per year than someone who works full time in Lincoln but does not live here.
- In 2005 there were 58,000 jobs located in Lincoln, this equates to 1.03 jobs per person of working age which is far higher than the rate of 0.80 and 0.84 jobs per working age person evident in the East Midlands and Great Britain respectively.
- The average house price in Lincoln was £158,678 in the last quarter of 2007. This is £9,368 below the East Midlands average and £36,307 below the UK average.
- The Indices of Multiple Deprivation indicated that there are less Super Output Area's (SOA's) in Lincoln that are deprived in multiple domains in 2007. In 2004, 17 out of Lincoln's 57 SOA's were in the top 20% most deprived in England but in 2007 15 SOA's featured in this percentile.
- A spearhead area with health inequalities not only between the district and the county but also between Lincoln wards. Life expectancy is affected by high rates of premature mortality, particularly caused by cancer and cardiovascular disease and in turn poor lifestyles.



## Our Future

### Imagine Lincoln in 2020 ...

- It is one of Britain's most popular cities providing an excellent quality of life for all its residents and meets the needs of citizens from a wider area through its role as a regional centre.
- Cohesive and diverse communities in which people feel safe night and day that enriches Lincoln.
- A hugely popular tourist destination attracting visitors from all over the world.
- An expanding university with opportunities for graduates who wish to stay and work in the city.
- A workforce, which has both the skills and opportunities to support a prosperous economy.
- A sustainable city made up of sustainable neighbourhoods with excellent access to services, affordable housing, new jobs and recreation opportunities.
- New jobs have been created through the new urban extensions and development of new sectors.
- Incomes are equal to or higher than the National average.
- People are living longer and enjoying healthier lives irrespective of where they live in the city.
- A high quality environment of well maintained and managed historic and natural environmental assets, with good public access to the surrounding countryside.
- Attainment levels are consistent with the best in the county moving performance well above the national average.
- Residents and organisations are aware of the important role they play in reducing the city's impact on climate change.



## OUR STRATEGY

***Strengthening Lincoln's role as a regional centre; to sustain and develop the role of Lincoln as an important centre for county and region, and address the need for investment in the services and infrastructure required.***

Lincoln is one of five Principal Urban Areas (PUAs) in the East Midlands as part of a growth strategy that focuses new housing, jobs and services where they can support urban regeneration and maximise sustainability. Lincoln was designated a New Growth Point in 2006, to help deliver this objective, linked to the Government's National agenda to increase housing supply. Within this context, Our City Our Future outlines a strategy that will harness growth to address the city's problems while conserving and enhancing its natural and built heritage.

Lincoln is a relatively compact but growing city located at the heart of Lincolnshire in the East Midlands region. The city is probably best known for its outstanding heritage assets, including its Roman monuments and medieval cathedral. However, Lincoln is also a significant centre within Lincolnshire for population, services and jobs, providing facilities and opportunities for the surrounding area and the sub region as well as its own communities.

Enhancing and growing Lincoln city centre to fulfil its role as the core Principle Urban Area is key to maintaining Lincoln's importance as one of the main service centres for Lincolnshire and the sub region. Indeed Lincoln services the needs of well over 300,000 people, living in and around the city, who travel in for work, shopping and leisure activities. Pursuing a strategy of city centre regeneration will support Lincoln as a main service area, and will also provide for the needs of the city's residents and the surrounding area.

In terms of its location within the county, Lincoln's neighbours include the rural Districts of North Kesteven, to the south, and West Lindsey, to the north. Tight administrative boundaries offer only limited room for growth within the city's borders and therefore the realisation of a vision for Lincoln in 2023 must take into account working closely with neighbouring districts.

***Developing Lincoln as a sustainable city; to support the needs of new residents and the need for growth and investment in housing provision and associated infrastructure and Services.***

Working closely with partners, including neighbouring districts new development will be encouraged on brown field sites and through sustainable urban extensions. These new developments will aim to provide:

- Approximately 28,300 new dwellings from 2001-2026 in the Lincoln Policy Area, including 13,100 dwellings within the city.
- Increased affordable housing.
- New developments focused on sustainable urban extensions.
- New infrastructure to support Lincoln's growth and green infrastructure (green wedges).
- Growth, inward investment and diversification of Lincoln's economy.
- A positive contribution to carbon reduction, which maximises the existing strong ecological characteristics of Lincoln.
- Reduction in greenhouse emissions from transport and energy.
- Water management systems that reduce the risk of flooding and make the best use of the water resource and enhance the environment for the overall benefit of the city.
- Protection and enhancement of Lincoln's environmental characteristics with its unique sense of place.

**How will the growth benefit and improve communities?**

The amount of development will enable a number of opportunities and new choices:

- It will provide new quality homes and affordable housing so that existing residents can afford homes in the city.
- An improved transport network will reduce congestion and make travelling throughout the city easier and reduce pollution.
- The economic benefits of the growth will mean that investment in new job sectors will increase job opportunities. This will raise incomes and support better shops and offer greater retail choice.
- The sustainable urban extensions will contribute to the city's infrastructure in terms of health, schools and leisure provision.
- The development will facilitate a new sub regional country park increasing accessibility to open space encouraging healthy lifestyles.

- Other environmental benefits will include reduced flood risk through maintaining the city's flood defences to adapt and protect the city from flooding.
- The development will provide an opportunity to ensure that there is security of energy supply for the city.

The Council's emerging Local Development Framework is the spatial strategy for the city and it will be one of the key delivery mechanisms of our vision and the supporting strategy. Its role will be to deliver the spatial aspects of the vision and provide a framework for new development within the city.

Delivery of the City Centre Masterplan will ensure this is realised. Considerable regeneration of the city centre has already taken place since the arrival of the University. A continued focus on the regeneration of brown field sites, diversification of the city centre economy and increasing the connectivity and accessibility within the city centre and the surrounding neighbourhoods will contribute to the improvement of the priorities for the city.

#### **Affordable Housing and Homelessness**

- The 2007 Strategic Housing Market Assessment stated that there was a need for approximately 289 affordable homes to be built in Lincoln per year.
- The number of households in temporary accommodation has risen 85% between 2003-2006.
- Evidence shows that someone who lives in Lincoln will earn £1,067 less than someone who works in Lincoln suggesting a real need for affordable housing.
- There are a high number of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) in Lincoln in Lincoln.
- The Private Sector Housing Condition Report published in 2006 showed 8% of all private sector dwellings in Lincoln are or potentially are HMOs compared to only 3% of dwellings in England. In fact in 2006 it is estimated Lincoln had 2,368 HMOs whilst neighbouring districts West Lindsey and North Kesteven had 240 and 16 respectively.



***Targeting our neighbourhoods and regenerating our communities; To ensure that the needs and priorities of the existing residents are addressed at a neighbourhood level with a clear focus on resident engagement and targeting resources to priority areas.***

The city of Lincoln will be a sustainable city consisting of sustainable neighbourhoods. The Strong and Prosperous Communities White Paper published in October 2006 aimed to promote empowered and prosperous communities, recognising that local authorities have a key role in shaping neighbourhoods at grass roots level by means of community engagement and localised service delivery.

There are two Neighbourhood Management areas in Lincoln putting residents at the heart of identifying and responding to needs for the area. In Lincoln, the focus on a neighbourhood working approach to social and economic regeneration, building on the lessons learned from these existing projects will enable us to narrow the gap that exists not only between the district and the county but between neighbourhoods themselves, thus reducing the differences in life expectancy, educational attainment and other key issues.

We will work to develop appropriate neighbourhood working arrangements across all the Cities neighbourhoods. These arrangements will look different in different areas and the first stage of this work is to identify what will work for different neighbourhoods. This is seen as the key to delivering improvements and narrowing the gaps in health, education, crime, anti-social behaviour and the economy. It enables the delivery of district and county wide programmes at a neighbourhood level.

Working at neighbourhood level will create sustainable neighbourhoods; empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision-making; reduce the differences in outcomes between our neighbourhoods and ensure people from different backgrounds and cultures not only get on well together but have equal access to local services.

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007 highlighted that 15 of Lincoln's 57 Super Output Areas (SOA's) are within the top 20% most deprived in the whole of England. There is one SOA within the top 10%, three within the top 5% and one within the top 1% most deprived by multiple domains. A better quality of life for all Lincoln's residents will only be achieved by ensuring that mainstream services take the opportunity to deliver at neighbourhood level, thereby targeting resources to priority areas.

### **Community cohesion**

- National Insurance registrations and GP registrations show a large increase in the number of economic migrants into the City. For example, National Insurance registrations for overseas nationals have increased from 340 in 2002/2003 to 1,330 in 2006/2007. This is a 74% increase in the last 4 years.
- The number of students has expanded alongside the ongoing development of the university to reach 6,922 full and part time undergraduates and 367 full and part-time postgraduates on the Brayford Pool Campus alone in the academic year 2006/2007. The City is often a very different place in term time compared to outside of it, this has more of an impact upon particular neighbourhoods where student accommodation and facilities are concentrated.

## OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### Aspiration and Achievement

**Objective:** To narrow the gap in educational attainment between Lincoln and the rest of the county.

### Key issues

#### Variation in key stage results across the city:

- Progression between key stage 3-4 is characterised by a series of peaks and troughs and lags behind the rest of the county and the region.
- In both English and maths results across the key stages, wards like Carholme and Bracebridge perform above the city average, whilst Moorland, Glebe and Abbey perform below.

#### Low self esteem and low aspiration:

- Relatively high numbers of young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET) compared to the rest of the county and wider areas. They tend to be situated in particular neighbourhoods across Lincoln.
- Lincoln has a larger proportion of people in the NEET group than the rest of the county and much of the East Midlands.

#### High levels of teenage pregnancy:

- Between 2003 and 2005 the teenage conception rate in Lincoln was 60.6 per 1,000 of the female population aged 15-17 years, far higher than the county rate of 38.2 per 1,000. In Lincoln the number of teenage conceptions was also unevenly distributed across the District.

#### Increasing levels of pupil mobility:

- There is a continuing upward trend in the numbers of pupils moving between educational establishments in Lincoln, particularly at primary school level. This may be due to new families moving into the area, for some of whom English may not be their first language, or changing personal circumstances.

#### Strategy:

- To create engaging learning and living environments that provide children and young people with a good start in life, a positive attitude to lifelong learning and with the skills to support a changing economy enabling them to achieve their full potential.



- There is a need to provide quality educational infrastructure in response to the needs of existing residents and proposed new communities.
- The University has proposals for development and expansion.

## OUR HEALTH

### Health Inequalities

**Objective:** To increase life expectancy across Lincoln and narrow the gap with the rest of the UK by reducing premature deaths.

#### Current position:

##### Wide variations in male and female life expectancy

- Lincoln's mortality rate is consistently higher than the county and national average for every year since 1997.
- There are particular problems with circulatory disease; during 2004-2006 Lincoln had 25% more deaths due to this disease than the county average. Cancer is also a primary cause of death in Lincoln.
- Whilst male life expectancy is beginning to improve in Lincoln, progression in female life expectancy is patchy. On average a male in Lincoln lives to 73.7 years whilst in Lincolnshire he will live to 77.1. The average female lives to 78.6 years in Lincoln compared to 81.2 in Lincolnshire.

##### Life style issues

- It is estimated that almost 1 in 3 adults in Lincoln are obese and less than 1 in 5 eat healthily.
- The death rate from smoking and premature deaths from heart disease and strokes are above the national average.
- The Sports England survey 2005-2006, found that participation in regular exercise (3 days a week for 30 minutes, moderate intensity) in Lincoln was equivalent to the national average at 21.2%. However this does not necessarily mean that participation was equal throughout the district.

### **High levels of the working age population are claiming Incapacity Benefit or severe Disablement Allowance**

- There is a substantial pool of Lincolns working age population who are out of work due to long-term health problems. For example, in May 2007 7.8% of Lincoln's working age population were claiming Incapacity Benefit, compared to a lower 6.6% in the East Midlands overall and 7.2% across Great Britain. This has an impact on both economic sustainability and health care provision.

#### **Strategy:**

- Focus is on the prevention of ill-health and increase life expectancy by delivering a good public health service, a healthy environment and promoting healthy life styles for all of Lincoln's residents, ensuring services are accessible and tailored to meet individual needs.

## OUR ECONOMY

### Sustainable Economic Growth

**Objective:** Creating a strong and diverse economy by increasing levels of investment and driving the growth of key sectors to benefit those who work in the city and increase opportunities for all the city's residents.

#### Current position:

#### **Unemployment rate that is above the county and regional average**

- Lincoln's unemployment rate has remained fairly static, with only a 1% increase from September 2006- September 2007 compared to 3% in Lincolnshire. However the unemployment rate still remains the highest in the county at 3.1 compared to 2.0 for the county. There are particularly high numbers of people claiming health related benefits in the city (see health section).

#### **A large pool of low skilled workers**

- The 2001 census highlighted that Lincoln had a far higher percentage of adults with low-level qualifications than the average for Great Britain, with 48.7% and 43.9% respectively. On the other hand, 20.4% of the working age population in Britain held higher-level qualifications, whilst this was true of only 14.6% of Lincoln's working age population.

## **An economic structure that perpetuates low paid positions**

- There has been a lack of inward investment into the city currently Lincoln's single largest employment sector is the wholesale and retail trades. This accounts for 21.7% of the workforce and over 11, 235 employees. In the regional and national context this figure is comparatively high and workers tend to be lower paid due to the lower skills required and a predominantly part time and temporary nature of employment.

### **Strategy:**

- Lincoln should retain existing investment and key employers as well as attracting new investment to create a prosperous and sustainable economy. Driving the growth of key sectors including creative industries, knowledge based innovation, environmental technologies and high value engineering and manufacturing. This can deliver a wide range of employment opportunities that require a wide range of skills, promote ambitions and incomes, and that attracts graduates.
- Lincoln is one of the main service centres for Lincolnshire in terms of jobs, retail and leisure. The city's Travel to Work population is 300,000, therefore there is a need for our city centre infrastructure to be regenerated in order to provide and support the needs of Lincoln's residents and the wider area.
- The development of key urban extensions will create employment opportunities for new and existing communities in both construction and establishment phase. It is important to link local people into job opportunities developing and delivering programmes which prepare people for the type of jobs created.

## OUR SAFETY

### Crime and Community Safety

**Objective:** To reduce overall crime and tackle the fear of crime.

#### The situation at present:

##### **Fall in overall crime rates**

- The British crime survey shows a decrease of 57 offences between 06/07 compared to 05/06.
- Although common assault has risen substantially in the last year, particularly in Carholme and Abbey wards.
- The distribution of crime across Lincoln has remained static over the past 3 years.

##### **Increasing incidents of alcohol related violent crime**

- There is a high concentration of alcohol related violent crime in the city centre associated with the cities night time economy.

##### **A growing fear and perception of crime in local communities**

- There are hot spots of anti-social behaviour in specific neighbourhoods, fuelling residents negative perceptions of the local area.

#### **Strategy:**

- Establishing safer and stronger communities to deal with issues of crime at a neighbourhood level.
- The design of new developments will consider how they can minimise crime and encourage safer communities.

## OUR ENVIRONMENT

### Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

**Objective:** To protect and enhance a high quality environment for use by existing and future communities, responding particularly positively to the issue of climate change, through the provision of, access to and experience of quality landscapes, places for nature, leisure and recreation and environmentally sustainable developments in the interest of the health, education and quality of life of residents.

#### Current position:

##### Climate change:

- Climate change is a global issue which is likely to have far reaching implications for the future Communities of Lincoln in terms of increased flooding incidents, threats to the security of energy, water, food and land supply as well as local changes to biodiversity habitats and species. To minimise the impact for the future communities of Lincoln there is a need to address climate change related issues and to promote a positive response to the understanding of, adaptation to and mitigation against the effects of climate change.
- City of Lincoln Council and Lincoln LSP are fully committed to the Nottingham declaration on climate change, and the need to develop local action plans, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, assess risks associated with climate change and monitor and publicise progress.

##### Energy Management:

- There is currently a national target to reduce national carbon dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.
- The Nottingham Declaration requires a commitment for the city to target a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.
- The finite and predominantly imported nature of Lincoln's current energy supply represents a risk in terms of future energy affordability, reliability and accessibility. There is a need to minimise this risk through the provision of more secure energy supplies, including increasing the use of UK generated energy and locally generated energy which either feed into the national grid or are distributed locally through decentralised supply networks.

##### Flood Risk and Water management:

- The city of Lincoln is currently defended against flood risk to an adequate standard. However, the impacts of climate change are likely to increase this risk and there is a need to ensure its management to an acceptable level.
- The effects of climate change may also lead to water shortages which, in addition to the need to for the city to grow, will put increasing pressure on existing water service infrastructure such as water supply and sewage systems. There is a need to manage this risk effectively.

#### **Waste Management/recycling:**

- The waste the city produces has traditionally been buried in landfill sites. Due to the limited availability of land and the associated production of greenhouse gasses the need to minimise the current annual landfill rates has been recognised. The strategy to reduce landfill calls for the need to minimise, reduce, reuse and recycle the waste produced by the people of Lincoln.

#### **Community Green Lifestyle choices:**

- The role of communities and the individual is an important element in addressing the climate change issue. There is a need for communities to understand the environmental lifestyle choices available to them and their implications. Education and engagement with the issues will help develop this understanding.

#### **Sustainable Transport and Access networks:**

- Like most Cities traffic congestion and road safety issues need to be addressed, the opportunities to minimise car use are potentially greater in the city than in the surrounding rural locations due to the proximity of Services and employment opportunities to local communities.
- Car ownership in the city is low, 33% of households in Lincoln do not own a car or van, compared to 24% in the East Midlands as a whole. Extending and improving Lincoln's sustainable access network ie. Public transport provision, cycle routes, public footpath and bridle networks will provide better accessibility, leisure and health benefit opportunities for both car and non car owners alike.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008 the city of Lincoln became an air quality management area. This was a response to the high levels of pollution at a number of road traffic junctions across the city.

#### **Biodiversity:**

- The city has approximately 610 hectares of accessible natural green space supporting a broad range of habitats and species from grasslands, woodlands, rivers and standing

water. These have been identified in more detail in a Biodiversity Action Plan for the city.

### **Green Infrastructure:**

- In Lincoln at present there are three commons, an estimated 15 parks (three of which are Registered Historic Parks) and gardens, 31 play areas, 13 civic squares and spaces, 37 outside facilities for sport, as well as a range of natural areas including two designated Site of Special Scientific Interest, Local Nature Reserves, the river and drainage corridors and woodlands. Lincoln Communities also have opportunities for good access to facilities in adjacent Districts as well as the surrounding open countryside. All these contribute to the Green Infrastructure of the city and provide the places for communities to experience and enjoy formal and informal recreation. Issues in some facility provision shortfalls, quality and Accessibility need to be addressed.

### **Heritage/archaeology:**

- The Heritage Record for Lincoln in terms of information and research is nationally renowned.
- Lincoln has 11 Conservation areas and a range of listed buildings.

### **Landscape and cultural Character:**

- The topography, rural location, historic social and physical development has provided Lincoln with a range of Townscape characteristics, some of which are unique to Lincoln. An assessment of Lincoln's Townscape has identified approximately 160 character areas to date.
- To ensure that the city is environmentally sustainable to the highest achievable levels which includes the application of proven environmental technologies and energy efficiency.

### **Strategy:**

- To ensure open space is accessible to all to promote healthy and inclusive neighbourhoods whilst raising awareness of our commitment to environmental sustainability and reducing the impacts of climate change.



## OUR CITY Our Place

We have identified the priorities and the issues that need to be addressed within the city and outlined the strategy for improvement which will need to take place at 3 levels.

It is clear that the city has areas of severe social deprivation marked by poor health, low levels of education, high levels of worklessness and other problems. Lincoln has the largest concentration of deprivation within Lincolnshire, including communities that rank amongst the worst 10% nationally. Affordable housing, neighbourhood regeneration and sustainable growth are key requirements for improving the city and its quality of life.

### **Our City Our Place:**

- Our place-shaping role requires that all strategies developed for the city whether at a neighbourhood, citywide or sub regional level consider the vision for improvement.
- Through a place centred approach and clear priorities we can address the issues holistically and improve the Lincoln's quality of life.

The creation of new places, through sustainable urban extensions such as the Western Growth Corridor will provide the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all Lincoln's residents. Harnessing sustainable growth will improve the city through providing affordable housing and increasing job opportunities. Through a place making approach we can ensure that this growth benefits all residents of the city and will contribute to Lincoln's unique sense of place.

The only way we will be able to achieve the vision set out here is for all partners to work together whether at strategic county or sub-regional level or at the neighbourhood level in terms of direct service delivery.

***The challenge to all partners is to identify what their unique contribution is and what we each going to do to ensure delivery of the city we would like to see in the future.***



## **What Next?**

Each priority will be supported by rolling delivery plans detailing the outcomes, targets and partnership actions as well as how performance will be measured and managed. This strategic approach will also be incorporated into the City of Lincoln Council's process for the preparation of the statutory development plan, which will show how the Government's growth agenda can be achieved whilst tackling the existing needs of Lincoln.

The strategy and delivery plans set out how Lincoln will contribute to the delivery of the countywide, Lincolnshire Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement. Lincolnshire's overall vision provides a long-term focus for partners across the county working together and with regional and national government to ensure a sustainable future for Lincolnshire. Its overall emphasis is the excellent quality of life and associated lifestyle Lincolnshire offers focussing on five key themes:

- Strong Communities.
- Opportunities for good health.
- People are connected.
- Strong diverse economy.
- Making the best use of our environment.

**English:**

If you have difficulty in understanding anything in this document, please go to City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln or any other Council office, where we can call in an interpreter for you through the National Interpreting Service.

**Polish:**

Jeżeli masz trudności ze zrozumieniem tego dokumentu, zgłoś się do urzędu miasta w City Hall, Beaumont Fee w Lincoln lub do innego urzędu należącego do rady miejskiej, w którym wezwiemy tłumacza z National Interpreting Service.

**Czech:**

Pokud něčemu v tomto dokumentu nerozumíte, dostavte se, prosím, do městského úřadu City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln nebo do jiné kanceláře tohoto úřadu, kde pro Vás prostřednictvím Národní tlumočnické služby můžeme zajistit tlumočnicka.

**Bengali:**

এ ডকুমেন্টের কোন কিছু বুঝতে যদি আপনার অসুবিধা হয়, তাহলে দয়াকরে দয়াকরে সিটি হল (City Hall), বিউমন্ট ফি (Beaumont Fee), লিনকন (Lincoln) অথবা অন্য যে কোন কাউন্সিল অফিসে যান, যেখানে ন্যাশনাল ইন্টারপ্রিটিং সার্ভিস -এর মাধ্যমে আমরা আপনার জন্য একজন ইন্টারপ্রিটার বা দো-ভাষীকে ডাকতে পারবো।

**Slovak:**

Pokiaľ niečomu v tomto dokumentu nerozumiete, dostavte sa, prosím, do mestského úradu City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln alebo do iné kancelárie tohto úradu, kde pre Vás prostredníctvom Národné tlmočnickej služby môžeme zaistiť tlmočnicka.

**Turkish:**

Bu belgeyi anlamakta zorlanırsanız, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln Belediyesi'ne ya da herhangi başka bir belediye meclisi ofisine gidin; National Interpreting Service aracılığıyla size bir çevirmen sağlanacaktır.

**French:**

Si vous avez besoin d'éclaircissements au sujet de ce document, veuillez vous rendre au City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln ou tout autre Council office, où nous pourrons faire appel à un interprète par le biais du National Interpreting Service.

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