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# Town and parish council update

Latest information for town and parish councils in  
Lincolnshire

## Welcome to the January town and parish council newsletter

This issue includes information about the flooding grants, initial budget proposals and cost of living scams. You can also give your thoughts on the future of Louth town centre.

You can find out more about the apprenticeship awards, the coroner's services merging across Greater Lincolnshire and the development of land at Kirton Distribution park

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## Storms Babet and Henk

The county council once again responded quickly to widespread flooding across Lincolnshire this month. Fire and rescue, highways, emergency planners and flood investigation teams have all been working hard during and after flooding to support our communities.

We are now carrying out 228 flood investigations following Storms Babet and Henk, covering over 800 flooded properties. As we continue to receive information about the impact of these storms on the county this number could increase.

Residents affected by flooding can apply to the county council for a property flood resilience grant. Available to people who suffered internal flood damage to their homes or businesses during Storm Babet or Storm Henk, eligible property owners can apply for up to £5,000 to help make their property more resilient to future flooding.

More information about this scheme and how to apply can be found on our website at [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/floodgrants](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/floodgrants), along with information about other schemes designed to support residents and businesses following flooding.

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## Protecting frontline services despite financial challenges

Initial budget proposals for the 2024/25 financial year have been agreed by the council's executive

This year, the council expects to spend almost £650m on providing a wide range of vital services, including:

- £305m for adult care and community wellbeing
- £114m for children's services
- £49m for highways
- £25m for Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue

The council has managed to find around £9m in savings by reducing bureaucracy and streamlining operations through the use of new technology. However, it faces £61m in additional cost pressures from rising prices and increased demand for services, such as adult care, child protection and school transport. This includes around £6m to fund an unexpected increase in the national living wage recently announced by the government.

As a result, there is a proposed 4.99% increase in the authority's share of the council tax, which equates to an extra £1.44 per week for a Band D property.

Feedback from a public consultation will be considered by the executive at their meeting on 6 February, when final proposals will be agreed. These will then be put before the full council at their meeting on 23 February.

As the cost of living increases, so do the number of online scams.

Our top tips will help you protect yourself.

#CostOfLivingScams



[www.getsafeonline.org/costofliving](http://www.getsafeonline.org/costofliving)

## Be on your guard against cost-of-living scams

Law enforcement, government and private sector partners are working together to encourage the public to be vigilant against fraud, particularly about sharing financial and personal information, as criminals seek to capitalise on the cost-of-living crisis. Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police.

Be on the lookout for:

- Fake energy bill rebates
- DWP cost of living payment scams
- Shopping voucher and discount scams
- Fake investment opportunities

Find out more about **cost of living scams** and remember...

1. Stop: Take a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information.
2. Challenge: It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Criminals will try to rush or panic you.
3. Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.



## **Louth town centre – your thoughts required**

The Louth Transport Board would like to hear what you think is the best way for the town centre to create a thriving and vibrant environment for residents, businesses and visitors. A public engagement has launched to gather views and opinions and you can really make a difference.

Now live and running until Friday 1 March, the engagement is open to anyone who wants to take part. It's not only limited to those who live or work in Louth. Let the LTB know your thoughts by going to:

**[www.letstalk.lincolnshire.gov.uk/louth](http://www.letstalk.lincolnshire.gov.uk/louth)**



## **Apprenticeship awards now open for Greater Lincolnshire nominations**

The county's Apprenticeship Champion Awards are back for 2024. Nominations can now be made for this year's awards, that recognise the successes of apprentices working across the county, as well as employers and training providers.

The Greater Lincolnshire Apprenticeship Champion Awards are run in partnership between the Public



Service Compact group, local councils and the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP).

The three categories for entries are:

- Greater Lincolnshire Apprentice Champion 2024
- Greater Lincolnshire Apprenticeship Employer Champion 2024
- Greater Lincolnshire Apprenticeship Training Provider Champion 2024

Further information on [how to apply, and the application forms can be found online](#). The awards will close at 9am on Monday 11 March 2024.



## **Coroner's services across Greater Lincolnshire to merge**

North and North East Lincolnshire's coroner area is set to be merged Greater Lincolnshire coroner areas in a move that will streamline the service and give better support to bereaved families. The merger proposals have been approved by the Ministry of Justice and current HM senior coroner Paul Smith will become the HM senior coroner for Greater Lincolnshire from 1 April, pending parliamentary approval.

The new area will become one of the largest and busiest in the country and enable the service to work consistently across the whole of Greater Lincolnshire.

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## Land sale at Kirton marks completion of development

The latest sale of land at Kirton Distribution Park will create an additional 80 jobs for the local economy.

Lincolnshire County Council has recently finalised the sale of 10.28 acres at the site, which completes phase 3 of the development.

The sale to Dhoot Transmission UK, known locally as Parkinson Harness Technology, will allow them to construct a new factory - manufacturing specialist vehicle parts, following planning permission being granted last year.

To find out more visit [here](#).

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Don't forget to let us know if you have a change of clerk details by emailing:

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