



GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE LEP CONFERENCE SPEECH HIGHLIGHTS

URSULA LIDBETTER, MBE - LEP CHAIR

- 126 business men and women sit on the LEP's boards and committees.
- The LEP has attracted £307m in new funding through the Single Local Growth Fund and committed a further £49.7 m of European funding since it began.
- To date this funding has already helped to create 1,324 jobs, built 419 homes, supported 6,679 businesses and trained 11,162 people.
- The LEP's £180m local Growth Funding has enabled new schemes including the Lincoln School of Medicine and three Food Enterprise Zones, whilst projects such as Boole Technology Centre, Bishop Burton College Riseholme Showground Campus, and the Lincoln Transport Hub, have all completed.
- The £7.5m Skills Capital Fund is investing money into colleges to ensure future employers' needs are met. Approved schemes so far include digital skills in Stamford, a university centre in Grantham, and EMAT (Engineering, Manufacturing and Technology) at Boston College.
- The importance of improved infrastructure including water, utilities and housing, remains a very high priority for the LEP and a Utilities Study will be published later this year.
- More traditional infrastructure schemes include the South Humber Infrastructure Investment Programme, Peppermint Park Interchange, the £80m Grantham Southern Relief Road and Scunthorpe's Church Square town centre regeneration.
- The £120m European Funding programme continues investing in business support schemes, skills and infrastructure projects, whilst successor funding is being shaped.
- Working with the Department for International Trade (DIT), the LEP has successfully secured 16 investments and created 498 new jobs in the last financial year.
- Business Lincolnshire continues to work with businesses and remains a vital free face to face advice service for all of Lincolnshire's Businesses.
- 27 Team Lincolnshire businesses sponsored MIPIM UK and Cannes to promote Greater Lincolnshire and the Midlands.
- The LEP is producing a Local Industrial Strategy in partnership with Government to identify the areas in which the UK has a strong competitive advantage and in which Lincolnshire has a pivotal part to play in the future.

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SIR JOHN PEACE - MIDLANDS ENGINE CHAIR

- By building on natural strengths through investment in skills and diversifying the economy, the Greater Lincolnshire LEP is getting things right.
- The Greater Lincolnshire LEP area contributes £21bn to the UK economy, is supporting 41,000 SMEs and a manufacturing sector worth around £3bn - the biggest Siemens plant in the UK is here.
- The ports of Immingham and Grimsby are the UK's busiest, handling over 59 m tonnes and playing a critical role in logistics supply chains. These are strategic assets which will become even more valuable in the next few years.
- Over the last year, the LEP has invested £47m in the local economy.
- Lincolnshire's success is evident, with economic growth observed in all areas. Employment has risen overall and in almost all the priority areas of agri-food, manufacturing, visitor economy, health and care and ports and logistics.
- Lincolnshire is one of the most naturally beautiful parts of the country and boasts the fourth most popular tourist resort in the UK. Lincolnshire has a 550km² area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- Growth is increasingly driven by regions, with the Midlands growing faster than the national rate. Its £220bn economy is already home to cutting-edge research facilities and world-renowned brands across a broad spectrum of sectors.
- The Midlands Engine is a collaboration of industry leaders, universities, local and combined authorities and LEPs working in partnership with Government to grow the Midlands economy by £54 bn by 2030.
- The Midlands Engine is developing plans to support businesses here in Lincolnshire. The Midlands Engine is working with local partners on the new Food Automation Centre at Holbeach.
- In Lincolnshire, Midlands Connect is championing the economic case for strategic transport investment around the A46 corridor which will transform connectivity between the east and west.
- As the Midlands Engine continues to engage with stakeholders, Government, and MPs, it will ensure Lincolnshire's businesses have a strong voice to maximise the wealth of opportunities on offer.
- The Midlands Engine has united the public, private, cultural and voluntary sectors ensure the region speaks with one voice about the challenges we want to overcome.
- By developing a new Internationalisation Strategy for the Midlands, the Midlands Engine seeks to capture economic potential of international activities, increasing the Midlands' contribution in this area by £26bn by 2030.
- The Greater Lincolnshire LEP team has an unrivalled understanding of the local economy, built on experience and local expertise.