



LRF Communications Briefing – Covid19

25 November 2020

LRFBIZ V42– ECONOMIC RESPONSE & RECOVERY VERSION

Headlines

Lockdown ends at midnight on Tuesday 1st December meaning that businesses can reopen **SUBJECT TO THE NEW TIER RESTRICTIONS** from 00:01 on Wednesday 2 December.
Post-lockdown tiers will be announced later this week.

Chancellor's Spending Review 25. 11.20 (1 year duration)

Growth and Economic Projections

- *Forecasts show that the economy will contract by 11.3% this year representing the largest annual decline in over 300 years.*
- *The figures are broadly as expected, particularly following the second lockdown, following a partial recovery through the summer.*
- *The OBR forecasts a return to growth in 2021, but the economy is not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2022.*
- *Within the forecast it also was stated that unemployment rate will reach 7.5% (2.6m people) by next summer.*

Departmental Spending and policy

- Next year government will allocate:
 - £18bn to Covid response
 - £3bn to NHS for recovery
 - £2bn on transport
 - £3bn to Local Authorities
 - £250m to end rough sleeping
- A DWP led 3 year restart programme for the unemployed who have been unable to find employment for over 12 months' worth £2.7bn.
- A small increase to the national living wage, rising to £8.91 an hour and extend to those aged 23 or over.
- A public sector pay freeze apart from NHS workers and those who earn below £24k in other public sectors.

- The **UK Shared Prosperity Fund** - the fund intended to replace the funding we currently get through the EU, will be introduced and the Chancellor committed to matching the EU contributions of around £1.5bn per year.
- Next year there will be funding available to **communities to pilot programmes** and new approaches. In the most recent programme (2014-2020) Greater Lincolnshire has received over €143m in European Funding.
- The Core **NHS Health Budget** will grow by £6.6bn and the previous commitment made on building 40 new hospitals remains.
- Flexibility is given for council tax and **adult social care precept** to provide an extra £1bn to fund social care.

The chancellor continued his theme of **infrastructure growth** as a lever for recovery, with the launch of the [National Infrastructure Strategy](#) - £100bn of capital spend next year including new roads, cycle schemes and zero emission buses. This includes confirmation of the **Newark bypass improvements and flood schemes** along the **Lincolnshire coast** as well as commitment to progress the **North Hykeham Relief Road**.

Additionally announced is a £15bn package for **Research and Development**; part of a multi-year settlement; and the launch of a new **£4bn levelling up fund** which will enable local areas to bid directly for funding for local projects.

More detail to follow at www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk

Business and Economic Updates

The LEP e-newsletter scheduled for circulation on Monday is a SPOTLIGHT ON SUPPORTING BUSINESSES and includes the following. Please register [here](#) to receive monthly themed updates and news.

- Spotlight on Supporting Business
- Meet the New Expert Advisors
- Funds & Programmes
- EU Transition
- Call for Projects!
- Tourism & Hospitality Sectors
- LEP Online Virtual Jobs & Careers Fairs
- Introduction to the UoL Business Support Opportunities
- Grimsby Creates
- Manufacturing Industry Interventions
- Freeports
- Local Restrictions Support Grant
- Enterprise Adviser Network & the Careers & Enterprise Company
- Are you a coastal business?
- LEP Seeks Directors and Defence Experts
- Xmas Party Heroes

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE
BUSINESS AND ECONOMY WORKING GROUP
6 MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

PROVIDING EMERGENCY FUNDING TO BUSINESSES



19,499 grants
have been provided to businesses,
totalling nearly **£227m** via the Small
Business Grant Fund and the Retail,
Hospitality and Leisure Grant Fund.



1,067 businesses
have benefitted from grants
totalling **£9.68m** through the Discretionary
Grant Fund.

ADVISING BUSINESSES AND HELPING THEM ADAPT TO THE FUTURE



Information about changes to
businesses are put on our website
within **24 hours** of them being
announced.



42,299 users
have accessed the website since
March 2020.



601 businesses
have been enrolled onto our
Business Growth Hub programme
with **1165** enrolled on our
support programme.



26 online events
have been delivered since March 2020
with a wide range of topics - from selling
online, to redundancy support to tools to
support working from home.

BEING READY TO TACKLE THE CHALLENGES FACING OUR WORKFORCE



We have briefed all partners on the
support that is available to help
individuals to retrain and the
support that is available to
businesses who are restructuring.
**All of this information is in one
single place that is accessible.**



£8million
of grant funding has been allocated to
help fund our post-16 education providers
to invest in modern facilities.

ADAPTING FUNDING TO MEET NEW CIRCUMSTANCES



£25.8million
has been attracted from the
government to invest in
economic growth.



£0.730million
has been attracted from the Kickstart
grants and these were all allocated to
businesses within **24 hours** of the
programme opening.

KEEPING STAKEHOLDERS UP TO DATE WITH CHANGES



We have attended key meetings
explaining the impact of the virus
and produced weekly economic
assessments to advise the Local
Resilience Forum and government
officials.



We have positioned the Quarterly
Economic Survey as the way of checking
business sentiment, and have increased the
number of businesses completing the
survey significantly.

LRF Business and Economy Working Group - September 2020

Webinars & Events

Business Lincolnshire annual #GoDigital conference is back for 2020!

Taking place online tomorrow; **Thursday 26th November**, this year's theme is 'Get Future Ready, Survive and Thrive' and will showcase the many ways digital can help businesses to get back on track after Covid-19. This year's keynote speaker is Practical Futurist and former IBM Global Managing Partner [Andrew Grill](#).

[BOOK HERE](#)

Fixed Key Messaging

- **HANDS FACE SPACE.** Keep washing your hands, use a face covering, and keep two metres apart
- Visit [Business Lincolnshire](#) for continued support to your business
- Call the Covid helpline on 01522 782189 and select option 2 for business queries

- View the latest Government lockdown guidance [here](#)
- Feed business impacts into [Business Intelligence](#)

The Lincolnshire Resilience Forum has created a Recovery Comms Cell made up of county and district councils, NHS, and LEP/ Business Lincolnshire leads to ensure consistency of key messaging. This is not intended as a comprehensive list but to update on new and key messages relevant to economic response and recovery. Follow and tag @ [twitter LRF](#) [twitter LEP](#) [twitter Business Lincolnshire](#)

CONTACT THE TEAM – IF YOU NEED ANY HELP OR ASSISTANCE PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM						
Shaun Gibbons Chair South Holland DC shaun.gibbons@sholland.gov.uk 07870 157203	Tony Crowden Deputy Chair NHS tony.crowden@optum.com 07342 034035	Mark Stoneham Lincolnshire County Council mark.stoneham@lincolnshire.gov.uk 07901 512504	Julie Heath West Lindsey DC julie.heath@west-lindsey.gov.uk 07775 026257	Hannah Williams North Kesteven DC hannah_williams@n-kesteven.gov.uk 07500 102116	Emma Staff Boston Borough Council/ East Lindsey DC emma.staff@boston.gov.uk 07929 862487	Kate Storey Greater Lincolnshire LEP Kate.storey@lincolnshire.gov.uk 07919 166416

