



LRF Business Communications Briefing – Covid19

Oct Edition 2021 / V74

LRF Coronavirus Headlines

New Chief Executive at Lincolnshire Community Health Services

Lincolnshire Community Health Services NHS Trust (LCHS) has announced that following a national competitive process to recruit to the position of Chief Executive at LCHS, Maz Fosh was the successful candidate.

Maz has successfully led LCHS in an interim capacity for the last two years. She navigated the trust throughout a very challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic, building on a proven track record of delivery in a range of settings. Her values, compassionate leadership and approach to collaboration and innovation were key strengths that were all demonstrated throughout the process.

The Trust is looking forward to continuing working with her as the trust progresses on its journey as an outstanding provider of community healthcare and a respected partner in the Integrated Care System in Lincolnshire.

Immunosuppressed people in Lincolnshire urged to come forwards for Covid vaccination

People in Lincolnshire who are immunosuppressed are being strongly encouraged to come forwards for their third primary dose of the covid vaccination by the NHS in the county.

The Green Book, published by the Government, includes a chapter on Covid outlining criteria for eligibility for a third primary vaccination. More information is available on the NHS Lincolnshire CCG [website](#). The complete Green Book, Chapter 14a is available [here](#).

Winter Vaccinations

Booster booking for the public is by invitation only and will run through each age group as before. Materials have also been published by PHE [here](#) in relation to the 12-15yr old vaccination programme.

Business & Economy

UK Food Valley and Investor Conference Launch - 2nd November 2021

The Greater Lincolnshire LEP is delighted to announce the return of the **LEP Conference 2021** and the official launch of the internationally significant **UK Food Valley** on 2nd November at the Epic Centre, Lincolnshire Showground. [Sign up](#) now for your free place and help us promote widely by sharing with your colleagues and networks.

Listen to Sarah Louise Fairburn, our LEP Food Board Chair, introducing the UKFV in her compelling one minute [overview](#), and potential investors and collaborators can additionally get a sneak preview of the new website, by contacting kate.storey@lincolnshire.gov.uk, to access further video introductions from industry leads via a VIP password.

The LEP Conference will highlight the LEP's impact ten years after its creation, provide an update on progress on the levelling up agenda, and highlight game-changing sectors such as freeports, defence, and clean growth, delivered by home-grown industry experts and leaders.

The UK Food Valley is an ambitious development to create a top 10 global food cluster in Greater Lincolnshire with the potential to create an additional £2bn of GVA and 11,000 jobs by 2030 and offers opportunities across multiple industries and disciplines. Alongside the launch will be a special investor conference to showcase and promote this nationally significant opportunity across multiple industries and sectors.

Whilst you will see some changes as we remain mindful of social distancing and staying safe, there will be the same essential mix of keynote speakers, experts, discussions, and networking opportunities that delegates have come to expect. We look forward to welcoming you and your colleagues in November!

Spotlight on Green Energy

This month's special edition of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP newsletter shines a spotlight on the Green Energy sector and can be viewed [here](#). This edition is introduced by Darren Cunningham, energy lead on the LEP Board of Directors, and Lead Executive UK & General Manager of the Humber Refinery, Phillips 66, now leading on the decarbonisation agenda. Listen to his short intro [here](#). Please help us build engagement by sharing relevant stories and sectors across your networks and platforms.

Midlands Engine team visit UK Food Valley & Green Energy projects



On 27th September Sir John Peace, Chair, and Rachael Greenwood, Executive Director of Midlands Engine, visited Lincoln Science Park, the University of Lincoln, and Associated British Ports for an overview of the Freeport opportunity. Following a morning looking at decarbonisation and the Freeport and marine renewables sector, the delegation went on to Youngs Seafood to discuss the UK Food Valley, launching at the LEP Conference on 2nd November.

New ministerial team at BEIS

Following the recent cabinet reshuffle, the Prime Minister has appointed three new ministers to BEIS:

- Greg Hands, Minister for Energy, Clean Growth and Climate Change, with responsibility for carbon budgets, energy markets and green finance;
- George Freeman, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, with responsibility for life sciences, R&D, the Innovation Strategy, technology strategy and security, and
- Lee Rowley, Minister for Industry, with responsibility for levelling up, BEIS sectors and relations with the Devolved Administrations.

The full ministerial portfolios are on the [BEIS website](#) on GOV.UK.

Government plans to strengthen day-one employment rights & increase business productivity

Government announces plans to make the right to request flexible working a day-one right, as well as new entitlements for unpaid carers.

- British workers to get more choice over when and where they work, under new proposals to make the right to request flexible working a day one entitlement
- government will also introduce a day one right to one-week's unpaid leave for carers balancing a job with caring responsibilities

- plans will make for more productive businesses, whilst accommodating both staff and employer needs

Further info [here](#).

Plan for Jobs enters next stage

The Government moves to the next phase of its Plan for Jobs, part of a £400 billion support package for the economy. As furlough ends, schemes such as the super-deduction, Kickstart scheme and traineeships continue, and Rishi Sunak will call on UK firms to take advantage of support. Further info [here](#).

Autumn and winter Covid plan

The Prime Minister has set out the Government's plan to manage Covid throughout autumn and winter. Boosters, testing and refreshed public health advice will help keep the virus under control in the coming months as the PM continues to warn the pandemic is not over and public need to remain vigilant. Financial support for those on certain benefits who are required to self-isolate will continue until the end of March. Businesses should continue to check the [safe working guidance](#) for the latest updates. Further info [here](#).

Additional funding to help adult social care this winter

More than £388 million funding has been announced to provide testing in the care sector. £25 million will support care providers to access Covid and flu vaccines, and the Designated Settings Indemnity Scheme has been extended to March 2022. Further info [here](#).

Ofqual's approach to grading exams & assessments in Summer 2022 and Autumn 2021

2022 will be a transition year to reflect that we are in a pandemic recovery period and students' education has been disrupted. In 2022 Ofqual aims to reflect a midway point between 2021 and 2019. In 2023 they aim to return to results that are in line with those in pre-pandemic years.

This approach will recognise the disruption experienced by students taking exams in 2022, over their course of study, and so provide a safety net for those who might otherwise just miss out on a higher grade. Results overall will be higher than in 2019, but not as high as in 2020. Further info [here](#).

Tools, Webinars & Events

Heroes of Net Zero - win a £4,500 business support package plus an invite to COP26 Glasgow

BEIS are inviting businesses to Go One Step Greener by telling them about the most innovative actions they've been taking to tackle climate change. The best entries will be invited to attend the COP26 international climate change summit in Glasgow on November 2, where the winners will be announced and receive an exclusive prize package worth £4,500. [Enter now!](#)

Funding your business growth in Lincolnshire

The British Business Bank, Lincolnshire Business Angels and 10x10 Accelerator are working in partnership to run three virtual workshops across Greater Lincolnshire and Rutland during October 2021.

The workshops have been designed specifically for SMEs across Greater Lincolnshire and Rutland, to raise awareness of finance options that are available. All workshops will include a mix of content that will cater for different knowledge levels and for a range of finance requirements, whether grant, loan funding or equity investment.

The workshops will also include sessions with local businesses that have accessed funding, as well as funding providers and investors, and will be fully interactive. Three similar workshops are being held on consecutive weeks:

- North and North East Lincolnshire (supported by E Factor): Wednesday 6 October, 10am-12pm
- South Lincolnshire (supported by Invest SK): Wednesday 13 October, 10am-12pm
- East Lincolnshire (supported by East Lindsey District Council): Wednesday 20 October, 10am-12pm

Upcoming local events

- **5G and the Creative Industries: Production & Distribution** - webinar. Monday 11th October, click [here](#) for more.
- **What's New in Marketing?** - webinar. Tuesday 12th October, click [here](#) for more.
- **Creativity Reimagined** - workshop at Stoke Rochford Hall Hotel, Grantham. Thursday 14th October, click [here](#) for more.
- **Aerospace UP Networking Event** - Radisson Blu, East Midlands Airport. Monday 18th October, click [here](#) for more.
- **Funding your Business Growth in Lincolnshire (East Lincs)** - Zoom workshop. Wednesday 20th October, click [here](#) for more.
- **NBV Starting in Business** - online workshops. 26th & 27th October, 2nd November, click [here](#) for more.
- **COP26 - UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021** - official conference, Glasgow. 31st October until 12th November, click [here](#) for more.
- **Powerful PR** - interactive masterclass. Tuesday 2nd November, click [here](#) for more.
- **South Holland Virtual Network** - webinar. Thursday 4th November, click [here](#) for more.

To discover more upcoming events, webinars, and online courses, click [here](#) to visit the Business Lincolnshire calendar. All www.gov.uk webinars and videos for organisations that trade with the EU can be found [here](#).

Fixed key messaging

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 on Twitter @ [LRF](#) @ [GreaterLincsLEP](#) @ [businesslincs](#)

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@westlindsey.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