

# PURPOSE AND AIMS

The Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was formed to create the right conditions for growth across Greater Lincolnshire.

We are a business led partnership made up of private and public sector leaders. LEPs provide the clear vision and strategic leadership to drive sustainable private sector-led growth and job creation. They decide what the priorities should be for investment in roads, buildings, and facilities in the area as part of an integrated approach to growth and infrastructure delivery. LEPs represent a major step forward in fostering a strong environment for business growth.

Our aim is to be the voice of the business community and ensure that the economic interests of the area are properly represented. Our targets are 13,000 new jobs, support to 22,000 businesses and an increase of £3.2 billion to the economy of Greater Lincolnshire by 2030.

## GROWTH HUB

599

Growth Hub advisor interactions

53,492

Growth Hub website users

93%

positive client satisfaction

258

new jobs forecast

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# DRIVING INFLUENCING CAMPAIGNING





# FROM THE CHAIR



Greater Lincolnshire has collectively accomplished much this year. Highlights include securing £146 million of growth related funding, €143.2 million of European funding, delivering our Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub, and supporting three Food Enterprise Zones. This has been achieved by the hard work of the public, private and voluntary sectors alongside the Greater Lincolnshire LEP.

I'm hugely proud and pleased by the support Greater Lincolnshire businesses have shown to the LEP and each other, supporting our companies to continue to grow and leading the way in innovation and skills. With the successes we are already seeing across all sectors; from engineering to retail; construction to agri-food, Greater Lincolnshire's business landscape looks positive. However, we are not complacent and we aspire to even greater economic growth in Greater Lincolnshire.

I have been delighted at the progress made against our Growth Plans. The economy is growing, more businesses are starting up, and our key sectors are going from strength to strength. We recognise that businesses today face very different challenges than

ever before, but our primary objective remains very simple: helping companies to grow and to secure customers in local, national and international markets. However, even though we have world-class sectors, talented people and high performing businesses, our success is being held back by problems around transport infrastructure, broadband coverage, insufficient affordable housing and skills shortages, all of which could stall our growth if not addressed. We are tackling these issues robustly and you can read more about the projects where we are making a difference on our recently launched new website.

We've made huge strides with Government by showcasing our strengths and proving our competence – and our voice is now commonly

heard in the corridors of Whitehall. We are therefore very focused on continuing to push for the things which really matter; like stronger working partnerships between government and business; driving investment and funding into the area; sending clear messages to the rest of the world that we are open for business, study and leisure, and maintaining a strong influence with Government to ensure our position in a world outside the EU.

Whilst we won't sidestep the challenges, we are quick to recognise and act upon the opportunities that the future will also bring. We are in a very strong position and are determined to meet the coming year with determination and energy whilst building on our growing progress and reputation.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working with you all in the exciting year ahead.

**URSULA LIBBETTER MBE**  
Chair, Greater Lincolnshire LEP

# HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Business confidence is growing in our area and we are pleased to report that our first Growth Deal is now contracted and delivering, with Boole Technology Centre already gathering innovative business interest within the Lincoln Science and Innovation Park, and the new Bishop Burton Riseholme College's Showground Campus recently opened, offering bespoke courses that will support growth in our agri-food sector. The Boston Quadrant scheme is progressing quickly. The completed scheme will include a number of uses, including over 500 new homes, with a broad mix of dwellings, including both aspirational and much needed affordable housing units.

A full list of the schemes we are supporting across Greater Lincolnshire can be found on our website.

We now have nine schemes underway, having fully delivered against our £26.4m target in 2015/16. These projects will have a significant impact on our priority sectors, housing numbers, and the infrastructure that is needed to increase both business growth and productivity.

Greater Lincolnshire is also now pivotal to the successful delivery of the Midlands Engine, Humber Energy Estuary and Northern Powerhouse. We are net contributor to UK GDP and a major gateway to overseas markets and boast a winning combination of clear high-growth potential in key industry sectors and the space and political will to deliver this.

Our Invest and Grow fund has proved successful this year with initial loans already having been repaid; enabling the establishment of a new £3m Greater Lincolnshire Growth Fund. Due to be launched in the autumn, the scheme will support business to grow, offering grants and advice through our Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub.

Our hugely successful Growth Hub has exceeded targets in supporting businesses and has recently received funding to enable one to one tailored support and advice for a further two years. We are helping businesses across Greater Lincolnshire increase

productivity and have formed a new Innovation Council to accelerate this.

Through our Employment and Skills Board we have been developing a series of EU funded programmes totalling £12 million that will provide skills and training support for our workforce and our communities, help for businesses to recruit apprentices, and exciting opportunities for industry leaders to get directly involved with training delivery.

## GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE GROWTH RELATED FUNDING

17 projects funded  
9 projects underway  
**€143.2 MILLION** of European funding  
**OVER £1 MILLION** Invest & Grow grants funded  
**£3 MILLION** in new investment funds launching 2016 onwards

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## ECONOMY

Value of Greater Lincolnshire economy has grown to just over

**£20 BILLION**

**73.3%**

Currently employment (up from 70.4% in 2012)

**4,000**

more businesses operating in Greater Lincolnshire in 2015 compared to 2011

**3**

Developing Food Enterprise Zones

£500,000 of core funding from national Government was allocated to the LEP for the 2015-16 financial year. This consists of £250,000 to cover core operational costs, utilised primarily for staffing, and £250,000 for additional operational costs covering: company requirements; communication and events; sector support; and the implementation of Growth Deal. A further £55,000 was received from the Department for Transport against the Sustainable Transport Programme and Transport Excellence schemes.

The Growing Places Fund (known locally as Invest and Grow), began the year with a balance of £9,811,796 and made two loan payments during this period. The LEP also agreed some changes to this fund structure creating a £300,000 Feasibility Pot launched in February 2016 and a £3,000,000 Growth Fund.

The Growth Deal (SLGF), received £26.4 million for specific projects this year against 9 contracted schemes.

Further details can be found in our Financial Statement and on our website: [www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/documents](http://www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk/documents)

