

Overall objective: Improve the supply, quality and coordination of services to meet housing needs and demands.

Housing and Homelessness: Identified Action	South Kestevens Action Plan	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of May 2025
Coordinate the effective delivery of homelessness services through a partnership driven and evidence-based homelessness strategy.	Continue to work collaboratively with the Lincs Housing Partnership Manager to ensure that homelessness services are delivered in line with the Lincolnshire Homelessness Strategy	Ongoing	Homelessness team	Ongoing	Ongoing regular meetings with Lincs Housing Partner Manager. SKDC are in attendance at these meetings and contribute to updates in relation to the Lincs Homelessness and Rough Sleeper strategy
	Lead on the quarterly Homelessness Forum partnership meetings to inform and shape a homelessness service based on recognised local demands	Ongoing		Ongoing	Homelessness forum is still ongoing. TOR is to be reviewed this year
	Ensure new burdens funding is utilised to enable an effective response to increased service pressures.	Summer 2024		Completed	Domestic abuse officer post is now a permanent role within the team.
	Continue to lead on the Rough Sleeper initiative on behalf of South Kesteven, South Holland, North Kesteven and West Lindsey	Ongoing		Ongoing	Funding has been extended for a further 12 months, therefore SKDC continue to host this team, although through much closer working relationships, other district are more involved in the management of the team
Establish future investment strategies to meet current and emerging needs for care and support.	Continue with the sheltered housing review to identify possible investment opportunities	Ongoing	Beth Randall/Sheltered Housing Team	Ongoing	Options appraisal undertaken, report has been produced with recommendations in terms of which scheme we could perhaps converted to another type of housing. This is a huge project that is likely to last a for a few years
	Ensure applications are submitted whenever government funding is available	Ongoing	Victoria Herbert	Ongoing	Work continues
Bring more empty homes into use in order to improve the supply of properties available within the county.	Work collaboratively with colleagues in council tax to identify available empty properties	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	This is ongoing as part of the Empty homes project. The Strategy has been updated and approved in July 2024. There have been 3 officer working group meetings, we have finalised the RAG rating to prioritise the empty properties. The oldest properties are scheduled to be sent educational letters by November.
	Explore options around bringing those properties back into use	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	
	Build stronger relationships with landlords to offer support and advice to enable properties to be brought back into use	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	

Deliver new housing to meet housing needs and demands, meeting zero carbon targets and recognising all levels of affordability.	Continue to explore acquisition opportunities to increase council housing stock	Ongoing	Debbie Roberts	Ongoing	The Councils hybrid approach with building and acquiring properties is still successful. Construction of the 20 units at Swinegate, Grantham are nearing completion (Sept 25) after 12 months on site. Construction works will commence on 21 new homes at Larch Close in August 25 after amendments to the scheme were needed with planning. The construction programme is 12 months with works being undertaken by Mercer Building Solutions. The Council have secured 36 affordable units in Corby Glen with the first 4 homes in phase 1 handed over in Dec 24, the next phase is due to be handed over in 2026. The Council also acquire former Right to Buy properties back and seek to buy homes off the market for specific needs which will be adapted using s106 monies. The Council set a target to build and acquire 100
	Ensure that any properties acquired has satisfactory EPCs in place and rents are set at an affordable rate	Ongoing		Completed	Properties that are purchased require an EPC certificate to be shared with solicitors and all are inspected to ensure they meet the Councils void standards. The affordable rents are set in line with Local Housing Allowance and are 80% of the open market rent.
Improve the quality of existing properties across all tenures and reduce the cost of poor housing to health, care and society.	Ensure a responsive and robust approach to any reports of properties in poor repair in private sector	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen/Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	This is undertaken as part of business as usual as a statutory function.
	Ensure a responsive and robust approach to any reports of properties in poor repair in SKDC stock.	Ongoing		Ongoing	This is now undertaken as business as usual
	Effective monitoring of improvement notices.	Summer 2024		Ongoing	This is undertaken as it is a legal requirement under the housing Act 2004.
Reduce levels of overcrowding as a means of reducing health risks.	Ensure that any affected tenants are able to access effective housing and homelessness advice	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen/Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	Homeless service is inclusive and accessible by anyone, we continue to monitor feedback from customers and aim to improve services based on this.
Improve services to extend people's housing choices in preparation for later life	Continue with the sheltered housing review to identify possible investment opportunities	Ongoing	Beth Randall/Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	Options appraisal undertaken, report has been produced with recommendations in terms of which scheme we could perhaps convert to another type of housing. This is a huge project that is likely to last a few years

Ensure services to support people to remain living in their current home complement each other as a system-wide approach.	Effective management of the DFG application service	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	This is undertaken as part of business as usual.
	Work collaboratively with partner agencies to support and enable people to continue to live in their current home	Ongoing		Ongoing	This is undertaken as part of business as usual.

Overall objective: To address inactivity across the county - improving access and opportunity for all residents to be active and participate.

Activity and Wellbeing: Identified Action	South Kestevens Action Plan 2024-2025	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of May 2025
Active Place: Develop a plan to be able to positively influence the planning system/external decision making in the area	Openly share the SKDC Sport and Physical Activity Strategy with partners to achieve common goals.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	Discussing findings from the Moving Communities Community Survey as part of the review of the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for 2026. Continue to promote and share the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy with partners.
	Be involved with the development, progress and actions of the Open Space, Sport & Recreation Study, Playing Pitch Strategy and Built Facilities Strategy that is being developed in the district. This will help SKDC understand the requirements in the district.	Spring 2024	Michael Chester	Completed	The Playing Pitch Strategy has been signed off and can be found online at https://localplans.footballfoundation.org.uk/ . There is a requirement for 5 new 3G pitches in the district with 11 priority projects identified for asset refurbishment/replacement.
	Complete equality impact assessments on all projects involving people to ensure fairness is considered for all.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	Continue to complete for events organised by SKDC
Active Place: Make better use of green spaces across Lincolnshire and maximise opportunities for residents and visitors to be active in Lincolnshire	Develop partnership with a provider through funding to deliver fitness sessions to residents in parks/open spaces, or alternatively implement a volunteer led scheme.	Summer 2024	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	The Sport England Movement Fund application was rejected, however progress has been made through a volunteer led programme called 'Our Parks' and volunteers are currently undertaking training.
	Promote outdoor gym use working with Active Lincolnshire ensuring the maps in the district are displayed on the outdoor gym finder/Lets Move Lincolnshire.	Ongoing	Alison Lewis	Completed	Continuing to promote the outdoor gyms through social media. When investing in play areas, exploring options to install play fitness equipment will be completed.
	Review how we publicise open spaces and outdoor leisure provision as part of the open space study.	Spring 2024	Leisure/Planning	Completed	Visit Lincolnshire website has dedicated space for nature and landscape which includes several walks and trails across the county. The open space study has been completed.
	Retain Green Flag status in the parks.	July, 2024	Sharon Haythorn	Completed	This was achieved and celebrated in July 2024
	Work closely with local organisations to develop cycling routes through the district.	Summer 2024	Beth Goodman	Completed	New partnerships have been formed with local cycling clubs around the district to continue to promote cycling opportunities to residents.
	Develop Grantham Transport Strategy focusing on Active Travel through walking and cycling.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman/LCC	Ongoing	Lincolnshire County Council have identified Grantham's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan will be updated within the next 12 months.
	Influence social prescribers to include green spaces as a positive place to promote mental and physical wellbeing	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	Social Prescribers continue to work closely with Wyndham Park Visitor Centre to use parks and open spaces as a positive place for mental and physical wellbeing

Active Place: Widen the focus from commercial leisure offer and asset-based physical activity to activity outside, in the home and in the workplace	Regularly connect with Lincolnshire County Council/Active Travel England to positively influence Active Travel, encouraging the planning team to apply for funding provision and developments of public footpaths and cycleways.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	The Leisure Team meet quarterly with the Sustainable Travel Officers at Lincolnshire County Council to understand the counties priorities and direction. SKDC were also successful in their bid for 635 bike marking kits which will improve the perception of bike safety and deter thieves.
	Explore digital inclusion opportunities for users to be able to work out from home and in the workplace.	September, 2024	Beth Goodman	Completed	The Council continues to promote the 'We are Undefeatable campaign' and have created Move More Workout Cards that residents can complete from home.
	Look at costings and accessibility of leisure centres to break down barriers of accessing health facilities. Look at opportunities for future delivery via the leisure provider.	Ongoing	Michael Chester/Karen Whitfield	Completed	The Council's have entered a new 10 year agency agreement with LeisureSK, which commenced in April 2025
	Create maps of community assets with the benefits of being active linking the green spaces, community foot and cycle paths alongside displaying the benefits of active travel on climate change.	Summer 2024	Beth Goodman/Serena Brown	Ongoing	Lincolnshire County Council are doing a similar piece of work which SKDC will support on for the district.
	Continue to work on the actions identified in the condition surveys and undertake feasibility studies with the UKSPF to ensure facilities remain attractive, accessible, and available to residents.	Ongoing	Leisure/Property	Ongoing	Property services team continue to work on the actions identified in the stock condition surveys based on the priority rating. No funding was awarded from the UKSPF to undertake feasibility studies.
Active People: Provide Opportunities and programmes across communities to enable residents to take part in regular activity	Increase awareness and benefits of physical activity in South Kesteven through networking and marketing, including the use of the Activity Finder on the Let's Move Lincolnshire platform.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	The council continue to promote the Lets Move Lincolnshire Activity Finder to both clubs and residents in the district. There are new filters to find 'free and low cost' activities.
	Work with stakeholders to provide ample opportunities and programmes within South Kesteven, targeting all ages/abilities.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	Give it a go' days are being planned in each town in the district for residents to try local sports activities.
	Continue to develop Lincolnshire Co-op Wellbeing Walks to ensure there are two in each market town.	Summer 2024	Beth Goodman/Lincs Coop	Completed	Two new walks have launched in April 2025, one in Stamford and one starting from Wyndham Park Visitor Centre.
	Work with Active Lincolnshire and Ageing Better to make South Kesteven an Age Friendly District	November, 2024	Equality, Diversity Internal Group	Completed	In December 2024 it was approved by Cabinet that SKDC applies to become part of the UK Network of Age Friendly Communities. In April 2025, the UK Network accepted SKDC and lots of work is being undertaken to ensure South Kesteven is an Age Friendly District.

	Implement an annual workforce wellbeing plan to ensure physical and mental wellbeing is at the forefront of the work we do.	Apr-24	Wellbeing Team	Completed	The Internal Wellbeing Plan was signed off by the Leader of the Council in April 2025 and can be found online here: https://southkesteven.pagetiger.com/crfbjbg/1 . The Council won the 'Excellence in Employee Engagement' award in March at The Great British Workplace Wellbeing Awards and has now been announced as a finalist in 'Workforce Optimisation' for the MJ Awards.
Active System: Creating leadership, governance and partnerships, and workforce capabilities across sectors to use resources in a more coordinated way to reduce inactivity.	Work with local leisure providers to deliver rehabilitation programmes for those living with long term health conditions and older adults.	Ongoing to meet changing demands	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	Working with the Lincoln City Foundation and LeisureSK to launch a new Fighting Fit: living with cancer physical activity session in Stamford at the end of 2025.
Active System: Each district council to develop opportunities to positively influence internal/corporate decision making in their local area and embed in governance processes	Create a mental health working group	June, 2024	Wellbeing Team	Completed	The Mental Health Working Group continues to meet on a quarterly basis to share ideas and support to collaborate as First Aiders for Mental Health.
Active System: Proactive and inclusive approach to sharing learning, best practice and opportunities for collaboration.	Join the wellbeing network groups with local connectors to cover the district.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	Ongoing attendance at the Grantham Partnership Board.
	Celebrate and raise awareness through our communications and social media channels	Ongoing	Marketing	Completed	Continue to share with partners and discuss interventions with local organisations that will help meet joined objectives
Active System: Proactivity engage across the NHS to encourage innovation and creativity to enable health, wellbeing and physical activity within planning consultations.	Work with PCNs, Neighborhood leads and social prescribers to create successful partnerships to share best practice and opportunities.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Completed	The Young Adults Social Group continues at Wyndham Park Visitor Centre on a monthly basis. The 'Our Parks' scheme as mentioned above, will be delivered to this group to increase physical activity levels.
	Research and develop a plan for place-based partnerships and opportunities.	May, 2024	Beth Goodman	Completed	Working with partners such as positive futures to identify the lowest deprivation levels to ensure physical activity opportunities are available. Active Lincolnshire are leading on place-based work but South Kesteven is not currently entitled to funding
	All activities planned through all organisations should deliver on the five ways to wellbeing; be active, connect, take notice, keep learning, and give.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman/All	Completed	All external activities delivered will focus on at least one of the five ways to wellbeing strands.

Overall objective: Improve understanding of the links between environment and health and maximise opportunities to deliver on both.

Environment and Climate: Identified Action	South Kestevens Action Plan	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of May 2025
Improve air quality, particularly in designated management areas.	South Kesteven's air quality annual status report for 2023 is published on the Council's webpages	Dec-24	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	The Air Quality Action Plan for the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA- Grantham) was updated and approved by Cabinet in January 2025. The annual Air Quality Report for the previous year is being drafted and will be sent to DEFRA for approval before being published on SK website.
	The Air Quality Action Plan is to be updated in the next 12 months	Nov-24	Ayeisha Kirkham	Completed	The AQAP was updates, approved and published in Jan 2025.
	Clean Air Lincolnshire project to launch in 2023 and include monitoring of particulate matter at specific school locations in the county as part of an education initiative. Clean Air Lincolnshire encouraging action for cleaner air across the county (cleanairlincs.org.uk)	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	Clean Air Lincolnshire encouraging action for cleaner air across the county. Still ongoing.
Accelerate transition towards active travel	This links with the Activity and Wellbeing area. Districts are collaboratively working with Lincolnshire County Council on plans and have prepared area wide cycling and walking plans. (LCWIP)	Ongoing	Planning/Leisure	Ongoing	Lincolnshire County Council are in the process of revising Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans. Deeping is currently in draft phase through Deeping Town Council and Sustrans. Grantham will be completed during the next 12 months. SKDC officers are now regularly meeting with LCC to discuss how SKDC can accelerate transition towards active travel.
Promote and increase uptake of electric vehicles	South Kesteven District Council have installed 4 electric vehicle charge points within Council Car Parks within the district. The council continues to explore opportunities for additional EVCP installation at other Council car park locations.	Ongoing	Louise Case	Ongoing	Electric Vehicle Charge Point strategy for SKDC assets in development
	Local Plan policy also addresses the expectation that provision for electric vehicle charging is made for new developments.	Ongoing	Planning	Ongoing	Every new residential development expected to install EVCP's in 2020 Local Plan, with no plans to remove this in the ongoing review.
Mobility: provision and uptake of public transport services	Local Transport Strategies include support for walking, cycling and public transport.	Ongoing	Planning	Ongoing	Grantham and Stamford Transport Boards discuss improving support for walking, cycling and public transport

Improve domestic energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions	The Home Energy Upgrade Scheme offers support to residents of the 4 districts of Lincolnshire to improve the energy efficiency of their property, helping to reduce carbon emissions associated with energy use.	Mar-25	Serena Brown	Ongoing	40 properties in South Kesteven upgraded through HUG2 funding
	South Kesteven District Council have also received funding via the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund to upgrade over 300 council properties to improve energy efficiency.	Mar-25	Peter Park	Ongoing	Funding awarded for an £83m total project from April 2025 to upgrade over 250 SKDC properties
Joint work to reduce carbon emissions from all Councils (Lincolnshire County Council and districts)	South Kesteven District Council have developed a draft Climate Action Strategy setting out how we can address climate change and reduce carbon emissions in the district.	Ongoing	Serena Brown	Completed	Climate Action Strategy.pdf (southkesteven.gov.uk)
Reduce Carbon Emissions across all services to meet national carbon reduction targets	South Kesteven District Council have developed a draft Climate Action Strategy setting out how we can address climate change and reduce carbon emissions in the district.	Ongoing	Serena Brown	Ongoing	Projects to reduce carbon emissions across council estate underway. 25.77% reduction reported for 2023/24
Understand the local impacts of a changing climate to improve community resilience.	The Council's draft Climate Action Strategy includes objectives on adaptation to climate change for the council and for the district.	Ongoing	Serena Brown	Completed	The Climate Action Strategy includes objectives on this
Reduce waste output across the county and tackle key issues	Lincolnshire County Council and all districts are part of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership	Ongoing	Waste Team	Ongoing	Continue to attend
	Plans to roll out separate paper and card collection in South Kesteven to improve amount of material recycled.	Feb-24	Waste/Comms	Completed	All households within South Kesteven now have purple lidded bins. New food waste caddies are due to go live in April 2026.
Improve open space provision that recognises the role of improved biodiversity, carbon storage and wellbeing benefits	The council is developing a Tree & Woodland Strategy which will provide an analysis of tree canopy cover across the District and incorporate trees into existing and new policy. The Strategy will set out a management plan to increase canopy cover and enable existing trees to thrive; enhancing wildlife and biodiversity and the benefits trees provide. The Strategy and accompanying Action Plan will be finalised by March 2024.	Mar-24	Serena Brown	Completed	Tree & Woodland Strategy and Action Plan completed. New tree officer now in place and to complete the identified actions

	The Council successfully delivered the £1.2m Blue Green project to restore biodiversity in and around the districts river corridors, and continue to explore future biodiversity improvement funding options.	Ongoing	Louise Case	Ongoing	9 projects funded across the district to improve public open space and support biodiversity. A Biodiversity Consultation is to take place throughout June 2025.
Influence provision of healthy and sustainable food options	Meet with sustainable partners surrounding the promote of healthy and sustainable food options	Nov-24	Leisure/Partners	Ongoing	Now part of the Healthy Weight Partnership Board. To explore options with Fairshare and local food providers.
Maximise opportunity of Local Plan Reviews	South Kesteven District Council are conducting a review of the current Local Plan and will address issues linked to the environment.	Mar-24	Shaza Brannon	Ongoing	The 2024 Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation was completed and all comments processed and considered through a Consultation Statement which was published in early 2025. An additional Regulation 18 Local Plan focussing on housing and mixed-use site allocations will be published for consultation for eight weeks in July 2025. A Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment will be published alongside the Local Plan. The Local Plan is progressing as per the agreed Local Development Scheme's timetable.

Overall objective: Reducing economic inequality and alleviating poverty as a fundamental driver for improving mental and physical health and wellbeing

Economic Inclusion: Identified Action	South Kestevens Action Plan	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of May 2025
Embed strong strategic narrative/understanding to promote economic inclusion and health inequality linkages that deliver better outcomes	Review current strategies/policies to ensure there are, where appropriate, meaningful and deliberate/positive outcomes that address health inequality.	Mar-24	Economic Development	Completed	The Economic Development Strategy 2024-2028 has now been adopted, with action plans and service plans regularly reviewed to ensure targets are deliverable and strategies/policies achieve positive outcomes for the district.
	Assess baseline to determine success threshold and achievement	Mar-24	Economic Development	Completed	The State of the District Report was completed in 2023 which concludes the baseline and findings of the economy. https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-09/State%20of%20the%20District%202023.pdf
	Review current projects/interventions to test whether appropriate health/economic inequality outcome and outputs have/can be captured or weaved into the initiative.	Mar-24	Economic Development	Ongoing	All projects/interventions include equality impact consideration during the planning stage, with support from relevant colleagues or external stakeholders where needed.
	Ensure within the new 'Economic Development' strategy inclusion is a golden thread throughout	Mar-24	Economic Development	Completed	Taken the lead from the corporate plan, direct link into the Economic Development Strategy
People in Employment: Work with Lincolnshire employers to improve working conditions/environment particularly within low paid and insecure employment to improve their health and wellbeing and prevent health issues developing – whilst improving business productivity.	Lead by example, through partnership working - set out how organisations can improve working conditions	Summer 2024	Eco Dev, HR, Key Partners (FSB, Lincs Chamber etc.)	Ongoing	Meet the Buyer events were delivered early 2025, pushed due to delayed Procurement regulations. Both events were well attended with positive feedback. SKDC is preparing to draft a Social Value policy for Procurement helping contractors to understand what is important to SKDC, including living wage paid to employees, utilising local supply chains and opening up work experience and apprenticeship opportunities, where appropriate.
People in Employment: Improve skills for those currently in work, enabling career progression, greater wage levels, better job security, greater productivity development – good for people and business – part of tackling in-work poverty.	Support the Federation of Small Business in its implementation of the Local Skills Improvement Plan.	Ongoing	Economic Development	Ongoing	FSB maintain hold of the LSIP until Oct 2025, when GLCCA and FSB will have joint responsibility. SKDC maintain regular contact with FSB, and who supported the Skills Summits delivered Feb 2025. Facilitating connections between local education providers and FSB to ensure all stakeholders are galvanised in delivering against the LSIP action plan.
People in Employment: Increase volunteering to support the community and increase well-being for the volunteers themselves.	Adopt the Council's volunteering policy and increase the amount of volunteers across the council.	Autumn 2023	Karen Whitfield	Completed	The volunteering policy is now live and in place, which continues to implement standards for volunteering for the council.
Supporting those most susceptible to economic change and transition: Increase core sector resilience in Lincolnshire by supporting employers to adapt and respond to economic transitions caused by the pandemic, through addressing skills gaps with employees.	Support the Federation of Small Business in its implementation of the Local Skills Improvement Plan.	Ongoing	Economic Development	Ongoing	SKDC support connections between local employers and education providers to tap into key programmes and address skills gaps, such as Skills Bootcamps. Regular connection between local education providers and FSB is maintained to ensure all stakeholders are galvanised in delivering against the LSIP action plan.

<p>Supporting those most susceptible to economic change and transition: Employee upskilling and retaining programmes for those in industries exposed to long-term change and decline.</p>	<p>Working with LEP, partners, review Lincolnshire and national landscape ahead of developing an approach to key industries</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Close working with partners (DWP, Careers Hub, LCC and education providers) to ensure those at risk can access support, whether this is start-up business guidance and funding, or options for re-training, including apprenticeships.</p> <p>Supporting sectors in decline (eg engineering and manufacturing) to identify ways to adapt through business support and funding opportunities, as well as providing support for connections to younger workforces, e.g. Skills Summits, supporting National Manufacturer's Day.</p>
<p>Digital skills programme: Residents have the digital skills to access health services, everyday services and employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Support Grantham College in the delivery of the Skills Bootcamp as part of the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee, helping everyone gain skills for life</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>UKSPF 24/25 successfully funded Grantham College (north of SK) and Steadfast (south of SK) with programmes to provide digital training. Review of proposals received taking place as to whether UKSPF 25/26 can build on this programme to offer similar, enhanced support.</p>
<p>Digital skills programme: Fully enabled digital FFTP (fixed fibre premises) infrastructure across the county using place appropriate technologies.</p>	<p>Support the telecommunications industry with an 'open for business' approach to rolling out fibre broadband across the district</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Economic Development and Planning</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Inward Investment team within SKDC remain open to support telecommunications industry with rolling out fibre broadband.</p>
<p>Eliminate poor health from being a barrier to employment: Create an intervention programme that supports residents with ill-health into employment.</p>	<p>Support DWP in the endeavours to help residents with ill-health towards employment</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Economic Development & Community Engagement</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>SKDC meets regularly with DWP and education providers to support residents with ill-health back into employment through programmes such as UKSPF 24/25 funded Employability programme from Grantham College and Connect2Grow from Steadfast. Review of proposals received taking place as to whether UKSPF 25/26 can build on this programme to offer similar, enhanced support.</p> <p>SKDC leads by example, with flexible working and reasonable adjustments to support health conditions, as well as phased returns to work where appropriate.</p>
<p>Creating an environment to support development of the health and care sector to improve health related service provision (wide scale health attraction interventions).</p>	<p>Develop interventions with partners (including FE and college providers) to support recruitment/retention of employees within the health and care sector</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Economic Development & Community Engagement</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>NHS Talent Academy, Lincs Pharmacy Careers and Lincolnshire Care Services all featured at the district wide Skills Summits, including delivering a careers talk at the South event. Plans are in motion to build on this success with further career talks around the district and a returning presence at the next Skills Summit.</p>

Overall objectives: Leverage unique links at place level to engage with communities

Working with Communities: Identified Action	South Kestevens Action Plan	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of May 2025
Capture and build on district community engagement knowledge and expertise: Combine and codify the District's knowledge and approach to community engagement and empowerment, building on success and experience gained during the pandemic.	District-wide consultation exercise with voluntary and community sector and residents relating to provision of voluntary services, opportunities for volunteering etc.	Summer 2024	Carol Drury	Completed	Completed with residents and voluntary and community groups.
	Development of a Community and Engagement and Development Strategy with input from the VCS through the consultation exercise	Summer 2024	Carol Drury	Completed	Action Plan which covers 2024 to 2027 and accompanies the Community Engagement and Development Strategy is being delivered. 94% of the actions are either in progress (on going activities) or completed
	Council in the Community initiative to engage with residents face-to-face	Summer 2024	Carol Drury	Completed	Community Engagement Team continues to have a presence at a variety of events and has also supported more than 20 voluntary and community sector organisations with governance and funding advice. 11.10.24 156 Para Reunion 12.10.24 Celebrate the Nations - Grantham 25.10.24 Arnhem 80 Concert 30.10.24 Veteran Support Lincolnshire CIC Event 12.11.24 CAB Event - Bourne 15.11.24 SK Community Awards - Bourne
	Series of funding workshops to support project development and delivery by VCS across the district	Summer 2024	Carol Drury	Completed	Funding workshops delivered: Deepings 11.7.24 Bourne 19.9.24 Grantham 17.10.24 Stamford 23.1.25
	Engagement of two cost of living coordinators to support local communities	Ongoing	Cost of Living Team	Completed	Ongoing engagement – Cost of Living Team are still in position.
	Ring-fenced financial support for Foodbanks and other food support agencies across the district	Ongoing	Cost of Living Team	Ongoing	The £15,000 ring-fenced pot of funding for food support agencies continues to be offered to foodbanks and community larders across the district. Currently £13,000 of this pot has been distributed and a further application is awaited
	Attendance at mental health groups, district health and wellbeing groups, food support groups	Ongoing	Collaborative officer working	Ongoing	Community Engagement Officers continue to attend meetings organised by health colleagues covering Grantham, Bourne and Stamford on a monthly basis

Expand district participation in current sector discussions across the wider system.	Wellbeing fairs in collaboration with health and wellbeing partners, food outlets and small business sector	Ongoing	Collaborative officer working	Ongoing	Officers from within the Community Engagement Team have attended 3 such events during this reporting period and have also supported nine voluntary and community sector groups who deliver wellbeing support in neighbourhoods across South Kesteven
	Attendance at meetings and information sessions relating to Armed Forces Veterans	Ongoing	Debbie Nicholls	Ongoing	SKDC Armed Forces Officer and the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Officer (whose post SKDC contributes to) lead on and/or attend: Lincolnshire Armed Forces Community Covenant Partnership Local Authority Armed Forces Leads meeting LGA Armed Forces Covenant Network Airborne Heritage Trail meeting Community Engagement meetings with Prince William of Gloucester Barracks Everyone Veterans Support meetings Aviation Heritage Lincolnshire
Strengthen sector oversight and assurance: Work with partners (Sector representative groups and County) to develop an agreed approach to sector oversight and assurance, harnessing community potential in a safe, effective way.	Work in collaboration with LCVS and other agencies to provide health checks and assurance relating to VCS	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	This service is provided on request from voluntary and community groups within the district.
Enhance and sustain voluntary sector engagement and contribution: Building on success during the pandemic, develop and formalize mechanisms to draw on volunteer capacity quickly and efficiently in response to emerging community needs e.g., flooding, pandemic.	Worked with 55 groups (1500 volunteers) during the pandemic. Database now increased to include more than 300 groups across the district.	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The database is an ever-growing ecosystem of contacts amongst voluntary, community, faith, wellbeing and armed forces groups. It provides a platform to share information on available funding, guidance and support to those working at grassroot level to support our communities
	Formal links with Parish and Town Councils	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The full conference is currently on hold due to other, smaller events taking place specifically for Parish and Town Councils. Parish forums were delivered by CMT in the Autumn of 2024 and an event linked to information sharing and lessons learned from recent flooding events was organised and delivered for a wide audience by the Council's Emergency Planning and H&S Lead. Further forums are being delivered by CMT in relation to LGR

	Public Protection and Community Engagement of officers working with other agencies and stakeholders to ensure an effective and timely response in an emergency situation	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The Community Engagement Team continues to work with SK Officers who have the lead for emergency planning and with contacts from the Local Resilience Forum to ensure community engagement is at the heart of any emergency response when appropriate.
	Specific inclusion within Community Engagement Business Continuity Plan relating to the importance of community engagement during emergency situations.	Summer 2024	Carol Drury	Completed	New Business Impact Assessment and Business Continuity Plan developed August 2024
A strategic Commissioning approach in Lincolnshire: To maximise impact and reach of commissioned services across the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing System.	Move towards a strategy commissioning approach across the health and wellbeing system. Investigate the current system of community connectors (SHINE) and social prescribing (LCVS). Work alongside Active Lincolnshire with this approach.	Spring 2024	Carol Drury (for community engagement. Commissioning of health and wellbeing led by other services of the Council).	Ongoing	From a community perspective: The CE Team works in collaboration with Shine Lincolnshire, has developed strong links with the Community Connectors that work across SK. Our Community Grants and Funding Officer has been an active participant in the determination of grants through Shine's Mental Health & Wellbeing Investment Fund. The CE Team also takes opportunities to work collaboratively with LCVS who manage the Social Prescribing Link Workers across the district.
Wellbeing Lincs: Review opportunities to further develop districts preventative approach, using Wellbeing Lincs as a proven and trusted mechanism for collaboration and innovation (harness Wellbeing Lincs as a powerful vehicle for co-production, collaboration, innovation).	Attend partnership meetings	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Completed	Continue to attend.