

*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 December 2025
Coordinate the effective delivery of homelessness services through a partnership driven and evidence-based homelessness strategy.	Continue to provide the statutory homelessness function which delivers on the priorities as set out in The Lincolnshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	Initiatives for utilising the Homelessness Prevent grant funding in new and innovative ways are being explored
Establish future investment strategies to meet current and emerging needs for care and support.	Focus on support initiatives to increase the number of homelessness preventions	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	We have recently awarded a new contract for a 'Move on Service' with a third party. This will focus on early homelessness prevention and support
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	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	Council tax empty property list is now reviewed monthly to identify empty properties and look at which properties to target.
	Build stronger relationships with landlords to offer support and advice to enable properties to be brought back into use	Ongoing	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	SKDC hosted a Landlord Forum on the 7th November 2025 and will be hosting further next year.
	Explore options around bringing those properties back into use.	Ongoing	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	Processes have been established and the Empty Homes Officer is now working with empty home owners to tackle long term empties.
Deliver new housing to meet housing needs and demands, meeting zero carbon targets and recognising all levels of affordability.	Ensure a responsive and robust approach to any reports of properties in poor repair in private sector.	Ongoing	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	The Private Sector Housing Team continues to undertake this work and review working processes. The team is currently getting ready for the Renters Rights Act 2025 burdens
Improve the quality of existing properties across all tenures and reduce the cost of poor housing to health, care and society.	Ensure that all Council Homes meet decent Homes standards	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	Our recently adopted Housing Strategy details out priority of 'Continual improvement of the quality, standard and safety of homes.' Our ambition is to ensure that all our stock complies with the decent homes standard
Reduce levels of overcrowding as a means of reducing health risks.	Additional priority given to households in overcrowded conditions on the housing register.	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	Continue to give priority to those households in overcrowded conditions
Improve services to extend people's housing choices in preparation for later life	Ensure our aids and adaptations process is fit for purpose and applied consistently	Ongoing	Sarah McQueen	Ongoing	Aids and adaptations process in place, steps to be taken to review this and adopt as a policy
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	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	The team continues to improve working practices and the latest figures demonstrate significant gains in the way applications are managed
	Work collaboratively with partner agencies to support and enable people to continue to live in their current home	Ongoing	Tom Amblin-Lightowler	Ongoing	The collaborative working continues and SKDC representatives now chair the LHAHG

*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 2025-2026	By When	By Whom	Completion Status	Progress as of December 2025
<b>Active Place:</b> 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	Ongoing	Currently refreshing the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy which is due to be presented to Culture and Leisure OSC in February 2026 and Cabinet in March 2026.
	Work with the partners in the Playing Pitch Strategy to access funding opportunities for the identified requirements.	Ongoing	Leisure	Ongoing	This work is ongoing and relies on funding applications being accepted. The identified requirements in the playing pitch strategy increases the likelihood of funding being accepted.
	Work with partners to review and refresh the current Sport and Physical Activity Strategy ahead of 2026.	Mar-26	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	Currently refreshing the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy which is due to be presented to Culture and Leisure OSC in February 2026 and Cabinet in March 2026.
<b>Active Place:</b> Make better use of green spaces across Lincolnshire and maximise opportunities for residents and visitors to be active in Lincolnshire	Upskill volunteers to deliver Our Parks sessions to deliver free outdoor fitness classes in SKDC open spaces	Dec-25	Beth Goodman/Parks	Completed	Free 'Our Parks' sessions launched in November at Wyndham Park Visitor Centre.
	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	The outdoor gym finder has been updated on the Active Lincolnshire website to display the new outdoor gyms within the district
	Promote open spaces and outdoor leisure provision.	Ongoing	Leisure/Planning	Ongoing	The Leisure and Parks teams continue to work together with promotion of outdoor activities as well as promotion on social media and SKDC website
	Retain Green Flag status in the parks.	July, 2025	Sharon Haythorn	Completed	This was successfully achieved across the Grantham Parks in 2025. A new Senior Parks and Cemetery Officer has joined the team following Sharon Haythorn's retirement
	Work closely with local organisations to promote cycling opportunities in the district	Summer 2025	Beth Goodman	Completed	Through the 'Health and Wellness Day's', local cycling clubs will be engaged with to promote their clubs. During Great Big Green Week in June 2025, the local cycling clubs were invited to attend the roadshow.
	Continue to promote green spaces as a positive place to promote mental and physical wellbeing, working with partners	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	The Leisure and Parks teams continue to work together with promotion of outdoor activities as well as promotion on social media and SKDC website

<b>Active Place:</b> 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	Ongoing	Quarterly meetings with LCC continue to take place and plans are being made to arrange walking audits of each market town to assess the pavements, drop kerbs etc. primarily to identify how suitable they are for older adults to move through our towns.
	Look at costings and accessibility of leisure centres to break down barriers of accessing health facilities.	Ongoing	Michael Chester	Ongoing	DDA audits currently being completed across the leisure facilities. Once completed these will be reviewed and where appropriate actions taken. Findings will be taken into consideration as part of the Leisure Investment programme of works.
	Work with Lincolnshire County Council to 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.	Mar-26	Beth Goodman/Serena Brown	Ongoing	This links in with the Environment and Climate lever and officers continue to work with LCC. Walking audits are scheduled for each market town which links in well with the Age Friendly Communities work.
	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	Programme of works in place focussing on category D and C items from the condition surveys. An additional Leisure Investment Reserve of £500k has been created which will focus on cosmetic improvements of the changing room facilities at each centre and the stadium during 2026.
<b>Active People:</b> 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	Ongoing	The activity finder is promoted at each external event that is delivered and continues to be promoted on social media and the website.
	Work with stakeholders to provide ample opportunities and programmes within South Kesteven, targeting all ages/abilities by hosting 'Give it a Go' days.	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	The Grantham Health and Wellness Day took place on 1st November 2025, with future events being scheduled for early 2026 in other market towns across the district.
	Continue to develop Lincolnshire Co-op Wellbeing Walks to ensure there are opportunities in each market town	Ongoing	Lincs Coop	Completed	There are opportunities for Wellbeing Walks in each market town including more rural parts of the district.
	Work with the Centre for Ageing Better and the UK Network of Age Friendly Communities to create a baseline profile	Mar-26	Age Friendly Working Group	Ongoing	A organisation survey was held in 2025 and a survey for residents (over 50) is due to go live shortly. A baseline profile is currently being created and we aim to have this completed by March 2026.

	Use the Workforce Wellbeing Plan to deliver a range of initiatives for council employees.	Ongoing	Wellbeing Team	Ongoing	Work continues to deliver a range of wellbeing initiatives to SKDC employees.
<b>Active System:</b> 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	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	Working with Lincoln City Foundation, LeisureSK and SHEAC (Stamford Health Educational Awareness Charity), a new 'Fighting Fit' cancer class is due to take place in early 2026 in Stamford at the Rugby Club.
<b>Active System:</b> Each district council to develop opportunities to positively influence internal/corporate decision making in their local area and embed in governance processes	Regularly meet with the First Aiders for Mental Health	Ongoing	Wellbeing Team	Ongoing	Quarterly network meetings with the First Aiders for mental Health continue to take place. Other work continues to take place through the 'importance of physical activity' conversations.
<b>Active System:</b> 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	Ongoing	Part of the Grantham Mental Health Partnership Board which meet monthly and share ideas with local connectors.
<b>Active System:</b> 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	Ongoing	Continue to meet regularly and explore ideas, ensuring all opportunities are promoted.
	Research and develop a plan for place-based partnerships and opportunities with partners.	Mar-26	Beth Goodman/Active Lincolnshire	Completed	Active Lincolnshire have successfully obtained 500k for a Universal Place Offer with planning and delivery taking place from January 2026
	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	Ongoing	All work that is delivered continues to be focused around the five ways to wellbeing.

*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 December 2025
Improve air quality, particularly in designated management areas.	To regularly review the annual air quality statement and track progress on South Kesteven monitoring sites.	Ongoing	Ayeisha Kirkham	Ongoing	An annual report is completed in June each year and reviewed by DEFRA. This annual status report is uploaded on SKDC's website.
Accelerate transition towards active travel	Continue to work with LCC. This action also links in with the Activity and Wellbeing Lever	Ongoing	Serena Brown	Ongoing	Quarterly meetings with LCC continue to take place
Promote and increase uptake of electric vehicles	New EVCPs to be installed in reinstated Cattlemarket car park in Stamford	Aug-25	Serena Brown	Completed	Further works underway to review future locations for additional EVCPs
Mobility: provision and uptake of public transport services	Continue to work with local transport boards	Ongoing	Planning	Ongoing	SKDC will continue to work with LCC and attend the local transport boards however LCC has cancelled all board meetings since May 2025
Improve domestic energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions	40 properties upgraded in South Kesteven under Home Upgrade Grant phase 2 (HUG2) funding. 318 SKDC owned properties upgraded using Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. New scheme to be launched in 2025	Ongoing	Serena Brown	Ongoing	Warm Homes: Social Housing Fund project being delivered for SKDC properties. Consortium delivery of Warm Homes: Local grant underway
Joint work to reduce carbon emissions from all Councils (Lincolnshire County Council and districts)	Carbon emissions report for 2023/24 reported a 25% reduction against baseline, target is 30% by 2030.	Mar-26	Climate Team	Ongoing	A carbon emission reduction for 29.24% for 2024/2025 was reported
Reduce Carbon Emissions across all services to meet national carbon reduction targets	Climate Action Strategy published and Climate Action Plan underway which is due to be presented in November 2025	Ongoing	Climate Team	Ongoing	Climate Action Plan was presented to Environment OSC in November 2025
Understand the local impacts of a changing climate to improve community resilience.	Actions in Climate Action Plan to understand need for climate adaptation for SKDC operations and community resilience	Ongoing	Climate Team	Ongoing	Actions to understand areas of the greatest risk from extreme and disruptive weather included in the Climate Action Plan
Reduce waste output across the county and tackle key issues	To roll out new food waste caddies	Mar-26	Waste Services	Ongoing	Comms has been circulated to residents and events have started to take place to make residents aware
Improve open space provision that recognises the role of improved biodiversity, carbon storage and wellbeing benefits	Biodiversity Action Plan under development and due to be presented in Nov 2025	Nov-25	Serena Brown	Ongoing	Biodiversity Action Plan including relevant actions presented to Environment OSC in November 2025

Influence provision of healthy and sustainable food options	Continue to work with the Healthy Weight Partnership Board	Ongoing	Beth Goodman	Ongoing	Continue to attend Healthy Weight Partnership Board and have updated SKDC's website to include a healthy section page
Maximise opportunity of Local Plan Reviews	Regulation 19 for next Local Plan targeted for late 2025 and submitted for examination for Winter 2026	Mar-26	Emma Whittaker	Ongoing	The Local Plan review work is progressing and will be submitted for examination in December 2026

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

<b>Economic Inclusion: Identified Action</b>	<b>South Kesteven Action Plan 2025-2026</b>	<b>By When</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Completion Status</b>	<b>Progress as of December 2025</b>
Embed strong strategic narrative/understanding to promote economic inclusion and health inequality linkages that deliver better outcomes	Ensure projects/interventions to test whether appropriate health/economic inequality outcome and outputs have/can be captured or woven into the initiative.	Ongoing	Economic Development	Ongoing	Ongoing
<b>People in Employment:</b> 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	Ongoing	Economic Development/HR	Ongoing	Whilst this work is ongoing, SKDC Officers will deliver a presentation titled <i>Wellbeing Works: Building Age Friendly Businesses for the Future</i> to the Grantham Business Club community in January 2026, as part of the council's pledge to support the Age Friendly Communities project and wider wellbeing objectives.
<b>People in Employment:</b> 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	The Economic Development team have regular contact with FSB and attend events they deliver. Additionally, FSB delivered the keynote at the Grantham Skills Summit in February 2025, and toured the Stamford event occurring later that month. The Business and Skills Officer is now a member of the newly formed Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) Governance Group, which the FSB and GLCCA are leading.
<b>People in Employment:</b> Increase volunteering to support the community and increase well-being for the volunteers themselves.	Fully implement the Volunteering in South Kesteven Policy, ensuring that volunteers are supported in their roles and receive appropriate training and leadership. Identify increased opportunities for volunteers to be involved in Council facilities and initiatives.	Ongoing	Economic Development	Ongoing	SKDC has supported the third sector through the UKSPF Impact Booster project, delivered by Harlaxton College and subsequently the refreshed Impact Booster, Advanced Social Economy Incubator, Social Economy Network and funded the Strengthening the Social Economy of South Kesteven report through UKSPF. The Volunteering in South Kesteven Policy has been fully adopted and is now operational. Volunteer roles have been successfully introduced and are ongoing at the Wyndham Park Visitor Centre and Guildhall Arts Centre. The variety of roles available is being extended across the parks service and volunteer roles are being introduced to Stamford Arts Centre.

<b>Supporting those most susceptible to economic change and transition:</b> 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	As above; the Economic Development team have regular contact with FSB and attend events they deliver to support the LSIP, as well as ensure they are a part of activity SKDC delivers to further this agenda (eg Skills Summits)
<b>Supporting those most susceptible to economic change and transition:</b> Employee upskilling and retaining programmes for those in industries exposed to long-term change and decline.	Working with LEP, partners, review Lincolnshire and national landscape ahead of developing an approach to key industries	Ongoing	Economic Development	Ongoing	The Economic Development team foster relationships and networks with both businesses facing change and decline, as well as education providers to support interventions. The team also respond to funding streams to tackle challenges faced, where appropriate. Finally, officers ensure they are kept up to date and continue their own learning to stay ahead and offer the best service to businesses, e.g. attending conferences informing on the 2026 legislative changes.
<b>Digital skills programme:</b> Residents have the digital skills to access health services, everyday services and employment opportunities.	Support stakeholders to build on the successfully delivered Skills Bootcamp (part of the Government's Lifetime Skill Guarantee), helping people gain skills for life.	Mar-26	Economic Development	Ongoing	Officers support education providers by signposting businesses and stakeholders to the Skills Bootcamps.
<b>Digital skills programme:</b> Fully enabled digital FFTP (fixed fibre premises) infrastructure across the county using place appropriate technologies.	Support the telecommunications industry with an 'open for business' approach to rolling out fibre broadband across the district	Ongoing	Economic Development/Planning	Ongoing	Whilst this work is ongoing, the Local Plan 2011 - 2036 states: Proposals to enhance information communication networks, such as superfast broadband, will be supported across the district. New developments must be served by either: a. Fibre to the Premises (FFTP) technology; or b. Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) technology enabling access to broadband speeds of up to 80 megabits per second; or c. any other emerging communication technology.

<p><b>Eliminate poor health from being a barrier to employment:</b> 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 &amp; Community Engagement</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Whilst this work will always be ongoing, SKDC Supported Grantham College through the Employability Skills and Support Programme funded by UKSPF, which helps those furthest from the labour market, often with ill health move them closer towards sustainable employment and/or into training, learning or volunteering opportunities, as well as the Steadfast Connect2Grow programme which supports people with multiple and complex barrier, including health, that prevent them from participation in mainstream skills and employability support to access digital and vocational qualifications and guarantee interview opportunities.</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 &amp; Community Engagement</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Whilst this work is ongoing, the Skills Summit events showcase careers in the health and care sector to support recruitment into this sector.</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 December 2025
<b>Capture and build on district community engagement knowledge and expertise:</b> Combine and codify the District's knowledge and approach to community engagement and empowerment, building on success and experience gained during the pandemic.	Series of funding and bid writing workshops to support project development and delivery by VCS across the district	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	Workshops continue to be delivered across the district.
	Work with Harlaxton Manor on the Impact Booster programme which supports V&C sector organisations, charities and CICs to realise their goals	Feb-26	Carol Drury	Ongoing	Individual support meetings have taken place to date with five groups that participated in the Impact Booster Programme
	Council in the Community initiative to engage with residents face-to-face	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The Community Engagement Team continues to be a presence at community events to promote the work of the team
	Work with Armed Forces Families to help identify and provide support where needed to serving and veteran members of the military and their families	Oct-25	Paul Drury	Ongoing	Directory of support agencies produced and available in hard copy and via Connect to Support listing approx 120 agencies all working to support Armed Forces (serving and veteran) and their families
Expand district participation in current sector discussions across the wider system.	Ring-fenced financial support for Foodbanks and other food support agencies across the district	Mar-26	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The Council continues to provide funding to voluntary and community groups that provide food crisis support by means of simple application.
	Attendance at mental health groups, district health and wellbeing groups, food support groups	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	There has been a dip in attendance at these groups due to staff shortage, however, going forward the new Community Development Officer will attend these groups and contributes on behalf of the Council
	Attendance at meetings and information sessions relating to Armed Forces Veterans	Ongoing	Debbie Nicholls/Paul Drury	Ongoing	Regular attendance at the Lincolnshire Armed Forces Covenant Partnership and the Lincolnshire Military Veteran and Families Wellbeing Network
<b>Strengthen sector oversight and assurance:</b> 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 is an ongoing activity which is offered to newly set up groups and those which wish to expand their reach
<b>Enhance and sustain voluntary sector engagement and contribution:</b> 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.	Improve links with Parish and Town Councils	Ongoing	Carol Drury	Ongoing	The team is in regular contact with parish and town councils in relation to projects beyond their business as usual for which they are seeking funding