

Your Guide to Performance

Council Tax

Local Policing
Summary

Revised
August 2008



Lincolnshire Police Authority has amended the Council Tax it originally set for 2008-09. The revised amount is now an increase from last year of 26.0% and not 78.9%. For full details, please read page 18. You can contact the Police Authority direct (see page 2 for details) with any enquiries about this.

CITY OF LINCOLN

COUNCIL TAX 2008-9

City of Lincoln Council Performance

Council Tax Explained

Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire Police Authority

CITY OF LINCOLN COUNCIL

City of Lincoln Council City Hall • Beaumont Fee • Lincoln • LN1 1DD

Website www.lincoln.gov.uk

General enquiries 01522 881188 • Fax 01522 521736

Minicom service (general) 01522 873693

Minicom service (housing) 01522 873498

Email email@lincoln.gov.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

County Offices • Newland • Lincoln • LN1 1YL

General Enquiries 01522 552222 • Fax 01522 516137

Email customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Minicom Service 01522 552055 • Website www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

If you want any more information on the county council's budget for 2008/09, please phone our Resources Directorate on 01522 553648 or email countytreasurer@lincolnshire.gov.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

Deepdale Lane • Nettleham

Lincoln • LN5 7PH

Tel 01522 558022 • Fax 01522 558739

Email police.authority@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Website www.lincolnshire-pa.gov.uk

Your Lincoln

Anna Edlin Tel: 01522 873443 • www.lincoln.gov.uk/YourLincoln

Your Lincoln is the Council's residents newspaper and is distributed to every household in Lincoln every quarter. It is full of information on Council Services and local news and events. The latest edition is available from City Hall or you can download it from the Council's website.

COUNTYnews Lincolnshire County Council's monthly newspaper, County News, has a circulation of 329,000 homes and businesses across Lincolnshire.

For enquiries about editorial and advertising, phone David Harding on 01522 552308 or e-mail countynews@lincolnshire.gov.uk - recent back copies are available at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews

For residents who speak little or no English, Lincolnshire County Council offers an innovative translation service called the Big Word. It provides access to an interpreter to any callers to our customer service centre who need it.

LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Tel 01522 532222 (your call may be recorded)

Emergencies 999 and ask for police

Minicom/textphone 01522 558140

Website www.lincs.police.uk

By using the contact details above this document can be made available in other formats

Our Vision

The Community Plan is a document that has been put together by lots of organisations across the City and sets out a vision for the city as a whole. It recognises the unique role of the Council in delivering essential services to local neighbourhoods. Our vision for helping achieve the objective in the Community Plan is:

"A well run Council, creating a city of strong and equitable local neighbourhoods, recognised for their enviable quality of life and range of opportunities for local people"

Our Main Aims

Underpinning this vision are four Main Aims. These Main Aims help us to prioritise our actions and support the objectives of the Community Plan. Under each Main Aim we have set out some key priorities for the next 5 years;

Sustainable Growth:

- Help existing businesses thrive, diversify the economy, regenerate key sites, help people into work and reduce income deprivation
- Tackle infrastructure problems which threaten to constrain growth - with priority to resolving Lincoln's transport problems
- Deliver more decent and affordable homes to meet current and future needs.



Improved Quality of Life:

- Tackle health inequalities and improve average life expectancy
- Deliver high quality leisure and cultural services
- Address the challenge of climate change and protect the natural and built environment in the City (including clean and greener neighbourhoods).

Enhanced Social Justice:

- Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Meet the needs of the most disadvantaged communities through neighbourhood renewal, social and financial inclusion measures.

An Excellent, Democratic Council:

- Build capacity of the Council to deliver excellent quality services through a programme of continuous improvement that we have called Excellence 2008
- Communicate and consult with local residents and service users so they are better informed and have a bigger say about our services.

What have we done and what do we aim to do within these priority areas?

Sustainable Growth: In 2007/8 we have:

- Worked on plans to develop the City for example, in the Swanpool area and the Brayford Enterprise Park
- Commissioned some work to produce a new vision for the regeneration of the City Centre
- Developed attractive cultural facilities in our cultural quarter through investment in the new Museum and the successful Drill Hall performance venue
- Developed "The Terrace" workspace to encourage creative industries to start up, and so help diversify the local economy.

In 2008/9 we will:

- Increase to 60% the number of new homes built on previously developed land
- Increase the number of businesses attracted to Lincoln through inward investment
- Increase the number of affordable homes
- Increase the percentage of council housing that meets the "decent homes" standard.

Improved Quality of Life: In 2007/8 we have:

- Set money aside to make the Council more environmentally friendly in its operation
- Provided extra wheelie bins and carried out more assisted collections for those who have difficulties moving their bins
- Increased the number of grass cuts to highway verges.

In 2008/9 we will:

- Increase the energy efficiency rating of council housing.
- Increase recycling and composting rates
- Improve levels of street cleanliness
- Reduce the "carbon footprint" of council buildings and travel.

Enhanced Social Justice: In 2007/8 we have:

- Made preparation for the introduction of the new national bus pass scheme that starts on 1st April 2008
- Continued to support our excellent Benefits Advice Team who has helped to secure almost £3.3 million of benefits for people who might not otherwise have claimed their entitlement
- Set up a collection point for the Credit Union at City Hall and helped promote the benefits of credit union membership.
- Given extra funding to the Citizen's Advice Bureau, so it can provide more money advice and debt counselling
- Continued to support the successful Neighbourhood Management initiatives in Moorland and St Giles
- Provided funding to Dial a Ride and Shopmobility to help elderly and disabled people retain their independence.



In 2008/9 we will:

- Tackle issues such as alcohol misuse to aim to reduce crime levels in Lincoln
- Reduce the time taken to assess new claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit
- Do more to help prevent homelessness
- Improve the fairness of our service provision and better understand the needs of our diverse communities
- Improve access to our buildings and services.

An Excellent, Democratic Council:

In 2007/8 we have:

- Further developed our website to ensure as many of our services as possible can be accessed 24 hours per day
- Made sure every household received a copy of the Council newspaper, "Your Lincoln", every 3 months.



In 2008/9 we will:

- Demonstrate to the Inspectorate bodies that we are using our resources effectively and managing our budget well
- Increase the speed and accuracy of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit assessments
- Further improve the amount of Council Tax, Business Rates, Rent and other income we collect
- Identify and make savings to ensure a balanced budget for the future
- Reduce staff absence
- Deliver the projects set out in our strategic plan
- Improve tenant satisfaction
- Reduce the average time taken to deal with telephone calls and personal enquiries at Council premises.



Your Council Tax this year **2008-09**

	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H
COUNTY	£681.18	£794.71	£908.24	£1,021.77	£1,248.83	£1,475.89	£1,702.95	£2,043.54
POLICE	£110.52	£128.94	£147.36	£165.78	£202.62	£239.46	£276.30	£331.56
CITY	£147.84	£172.48	£197.12	£221.76	£271.04	£320.32	£369.60	£443.52
TOTAL	£939.54	£1,096.13	£1,252.72	£1,409.31	£1,722.49	£2,035.67	£2,348.85	£2,818.62

WHAT INVESTMENT IS THE CITY COUNCIL MAKING IN 2008/09

We have recently undertaken a significant and comprehensive review of our Strategic Plan, which involved a large-scale public consultation exercise consisting of a survey to every household in the city and a range of focus groups with residents, businesses, stakeholders and the voluntary sector. This consultation helped to decide what are the most important things we now need to do to improve the quality of life in Lincoln. Some of our key additional spending commitments in line with our Main Aims, for 2008/09, will be:

	Capital £	Revenue £
Improved Quality of Life		
Weekly black bin collection including additional staff and publicity		254,090
Additional wheelie bins and extending the assisted collection list		66,270
Additional grass cuts to grass verges		7,880
Commons support/warden		35,000
Enhanced Social Justice		
Undertake works to ensure services are accessible to the disabled	21,000	
Additional Benefits Assessors		41,810
Equality & Diversity in service delivery		35,670
Funding of external bodies		28,620
Anti Social Behaviour Team		89,950
Neighbourhood Management - Moorland and St Giles		247,610
Youth Sports Co-Ordinator		23,770
Enhancements to Benefits Service		13,540
Licensing enforcement		27,970
No Council Tax increase for pensioners		47,500

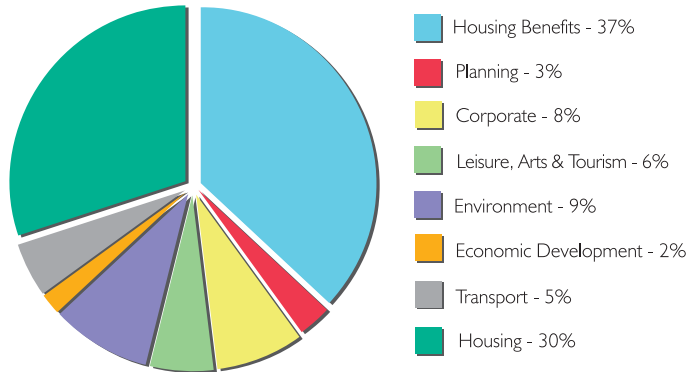
	Capital £	Revenue £
Sustainable Growth		
Increase the supply of affordable housing	45,420	
Promotion of development in West, East of city and within City Centre		70,000
Excellent, Democratic Council		
Website development		35,670
Additional accountancy support		86,350
Residents Newspaper distribution		15,350
Signage		16,000
Additional technology in contact centre		28,340
Asset and property officer		38,450
Ward Budgets		33,000

The City of Lincoln Council's Council Tax has increased by 4.5% and external support from the Government has increased by 1%. These increases are offset by the effects of inflation and other arising obligations the Council has to meet, along with releasing resources to fund the additional revenue spending commitments outlined above.

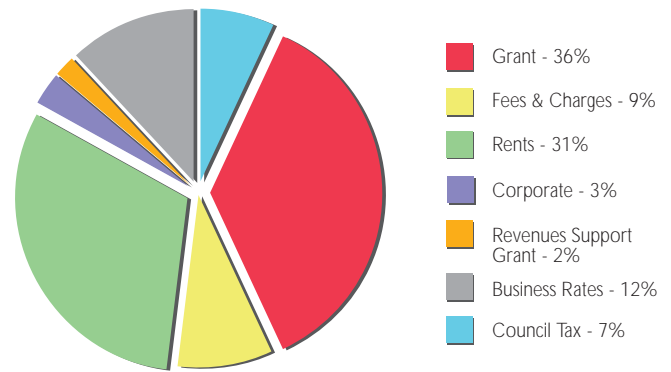
CITY COUNCIL TAX BUDGET REQUIREMENT

2007/08		2008/09		
Net Expenditure £000 (rounded)		Gross Expenditure £000 (rounded)	Income £000 (rounded)	Net Expenditure £000 (rounded)
	SERVICE EXPENDITURE			
1,628	Housing Benefit	28,309	26,861	1,449
1,128	Planning	2,457	1,129	1,327
4,366	Leisure, Arts & Tourism	5,090	1,435	3,655
5,491	Environment	7,132	1,036	6,095
637	Economic Development	1,138	598	540
(140)	Transport	4,081	4,469	(387)
427	Housing	23,651	23,030	621
4,965	Corporate	5,823	854	4,969
18,501	Net Cost of Services	77,681	59,412	18,268
148	(Surplus)/Deficit from Trading Organisations			(446)
661	Land Drainage Levies			674
(1,135)	Interest & Investment Income			(1,353)
792	Interest Payable and Similar Charges			(301)
(3,173)	Reversal of depreciation			(250)
(740)	Other Adjustments			(95)
614	Movement to/(from) Reserves & Balances			(315)
15,668	To be met from Grants & Taxpayers			16,183
	FUNDING			
(1,485)	Less Government Grants			(1,281)
(8,847)	Less Redistributed Non-Domestic Rates			(9,203)
0	(Surplus)/Deficit from Collection Fund			0
5,337	Met from City Council Tax			5,699

WHERE THE MONEY IS SPENT ON SERVICES



WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



TOTAL COUNCIL TAX BUDGET REQUIREMENT

2007/08 Council Tax Requirement £		2008/09 Council Tax Requirement £
5,336,904	City Council Tax Requirement	5,699,123
24,826,344	Lincolnshire County Council Tax Requirement	26,258,988
3,308,971	Lincolnshire Police Authority Council Tax Requirement	4,260,465
33,472,219	Total cost met by Council Taxpayers	36,218,576
87,000	Population	88,110
384.74	Total cost per head	411.06

WHY HAS THE CITY COUNCIL TAX INCREASED FROM LAST YEAR?

	Change in Expenditure & Income £000 (rounded)	Change in Council Tax (at Band D) £000 (rounded)	Change in Council Tax (at Band A) £000 (rounded)
Band D & Band A Equivalent 2007/08	5,337	212.22	141.48
Net Effect of Inflation	769	29.91	19.94
Other Service Investment/Improvement	944	36.74	24.50
Other net increases	20	0.78	0.52
Reduced External Support	31	1.22	0.81
Less:			
Use of Balances/ Reserves	(1,057)	(41.11)	(27.41)
Fees & Charges overall increase	(345)	(13.44)	(8.96)
Change in Band D Equivalent Properties		(4.56)	(3.04)
Band D & Band A Equivalent 2008/09	5,699	221.76	147.84

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES

	Balance 1st April 2007 £000 (rounded)	In Year Adjustments £000 (rounded)	Balance 1st April 2008 £000 (rounded)
Reserves and Balances			
Revenue:			
- General Fund	2,089	480	2,569
- Housing Revenue Account	5,242	(3,965)	1,277
Capital:			
- General Fund	2,847	1,665	4,512
- Housing Revenue Account	11,447	(3,151)	8,296
Total Reserves & Balances	21,625	(4,971)	16,654
External Borrowing			
Total Liabilities	37,923	0	37,923

Who gets your Council Tax?

City of Lincoln Council collects the Council Tax. However we only keep one-sixth of it. We pay the rest over to the County Council and the Police Authority.

What is Council Tax and who has to pay it?

Council Tax is a tax on people's homes. Council and police services are paid for by income from Government grants, Council Tax, fees and other charges.

Owner occupiers and their partners usually have to pay the Council Tax bill. Where homes are rented, the tenants and their partners will have to pay. In the case of empty homes, it's normally the owner who has to pay.

However, it's the owners of these properties who pay Council Tax:

- residential care homes, nursing homes and hostels or
- those occupied by -
 - a minister of religion or a religious community
 - more than one household or
 - resident staff or asylum seekers.

What are Valuation Bands - can you appeal?

The Valuation Office, an executive agency of HM Revenue and Customs, has given each property a valuation band, between A and H, according to its market value in April 1991.

If your property is built after April 1991, it will be valued as if it had existed then.

Band	Market Value (at April 1991)
A	Up to £40,000
B	£40,001 - £52,000
C	£52,001 - £68,000
D	£68,001 - £88,000
E	£88,001 - £120,000
F	£120,001 - £160,000
G	£160,001 - £320,000
H	More than £320,000

You can appeal against the valuation band if:

- it's within 6 months of you becoming the taxpayer or
- the value changes because of demolition work, a conversion, a change of use or any other physical change to the property's location.

YOU MUST CARRY ON PAYING YOUR COUNCIL TAX WHILE YOUR APPEAL IS BEING CONSIDERED.

For more information about valuation bands or appeals, contact:
The Listing Officer, Valuation Office Agency, Queensgate House
12, Silver Street, LINCOLN LN2 1EW

Telephone 01522 340300 or www.voa.gov.uk

If your initial appeal fails, you have further avenues of appeal, which will be explained to you by the Valuation Office



Are you paying too much?

COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS

You may be able to get a discount or, in some cases, a full exemption if no-one lives in the property. The discount on furnished properties, which are no-one's sole or main residence, is 10%.

You can get a 25% discount on your bill if there is only one person aged 18 or over living in your home. People under 18, or in one of these groups, listed below, are NOT included when counting the number of people living in your home:

- most full-time students, student nurses and some apprentices
- the partner of a student or the dependant of a student who is not a British citizen and is not allowed to work in this country or claim benefits
- people who are long-term patients in hospital or who live in care homes
- people who are severely mentally impaired
- 18 and 19-year-olds still eligible for child benefit
- school and college leavers (from April to October if they are under 20 years old)
- low paid care workers (usually employed by charities)
- residents of hostels for the homeless or night shelters
- carers looking after someone who is not their partner and not a child of their own who is under 18 years old
- members of religious communities
- members of visiting armed forces and international institutions
- diplomats
- people in prison (except for those not paying their Council Tax)

Please contact us if:

- you think you should be getting a discount or
- you are getting a discount and your circumstances have changed so that you should no longer get it.

We can charge a penalty to anyone who fails to tell us about a relevant change in circumstances.

COUNCIL TAX EXEMPTIONS

Generally, you don't have to pay Council Tax on the classes of property listed in the two sections that follow because they are exempt. Some classes do have time limits though. After the exemption runs out, you may be able to get a 10% discount.

Classes of exempt **EMPTY** property:

- **Class A** - is unfurnished and needs major repairs or structural alterations to make it habitable (exempt for up to 12 months only)
- **Class B** - owned by a charity (exempt for up to 6 months only)
- **Class C** - unoccupied and unfurnished (exempt for up to 6 months only)
- **Class D** - the taxpayer is in prison
- **Class E** - the taxpayer has left it to go and live in a care home
- **Class F** - the taxpayer has died (exempt for up to 6 months after probate granted)
- **Class G** - can't be lived in by law

- **Class H** - held for a minister of religion
- **Class I** - the taxpayer has gone to live elsewhere to receive personal care
- **Class J** - the taxpayer has gone to live elsewhere to provide personal care
- **Class K** - left empty by a student
- **Class L** - the mortgagee has possession
- **Class Q** - the taxpayer is trustee to a bankrupt
- **Class R** - unused caravan pitch or boat mooring or
- **Class T** - unoccupied annexe to an occupied property.

Classes of exempt OCCUPIED property

- **Class M** - student halls of residence
- **Class N** - all occupiers are students, school or college leavers or dependants of students
- **Class O** - UK armed forces accommodation
- **Class P** - visiting forces accommodation
- **Class S** - all occupiers are under 18
- **Class U** - all occupiers are severely mentally impaired
- **Class V** - main residence of a person with diplomatic privilege or immunity or
- **Class W** - the annexe to a property occupied by a dependant relative.

Please contact us if:

- you think your property should be exempt from Council Tax or
- we have made your property exempt and your circumstances have changed so that it should no longer be exempt. **We can charge a penalty to anyone who fails to tell us about a relevant change in circumstances.**

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

You can get your bill reduced by one valuation band if you have:

- a second bathroom or
- a second kitchen or
- a special room or
- enough floor space to use a wheelchair indoors and it is necessary to meet the needs of anyone living in your home who is disabled.

We will ask you to renew your application each year if you qualify for this reduction.

Please contact us if:

- you think you should be getting a disabled band reduction or
- you are getting a disabled band reduction and your circumstances have changed so that you should no longer get it.

Pensioner Reduction:

We have introduced a new council tax reduction for pensioners. See the enclosed flyer with your bill to see if you qualify.



COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT

This benefit can reduce your Council Tax bill by as much as 100% if:

- you are getting the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit or
- the income we have to take into account is low enough for you to qualify and
- savings and investments when valued are below £16,000.

If you are finding it difficult to pay your Council Tax bill, you may be able to get this benefit which will help.

Please claim benefit from us quickly because normally we can only give it from the Monday after we get your first request for benefit. We do need a lot of information and evidence but please don't be put off by this - it's necessary to stop fraud.

There is a situation where, even if you don't qualify for benefit in your own right, you can get a different kind of benefit reduction. This is where someone on a low income is living with you and stopping you getting a discount - we call this second adult rebate.

Housing Benefit (help with your rent)

If you rent your home and have a low income, you could get Housing Benefit to help you pay your rent. The claim process is the same as for Council Tax Benefit so please read the section above.

For details on how to claim, please see the back cover of this booklet.

Do you think your bill is wrong?

Please tell us if:

- we've sent the bill to the wrong person
- you've moved house
- we've calculated your bill wrongly
- you should receive -
 - a discount
 - an exemption or
 - benefit.
- you should no longer receive -
 - a discount
 - an exemption or
 - as much benefit.

In common with all local authorities, City of Lincoln Council has a duty to protect the public funds it administers. We are required to participate in data matching exercises, carried out by The Audit Commission's National Fraud Initiative, to prevent and detect fraud.

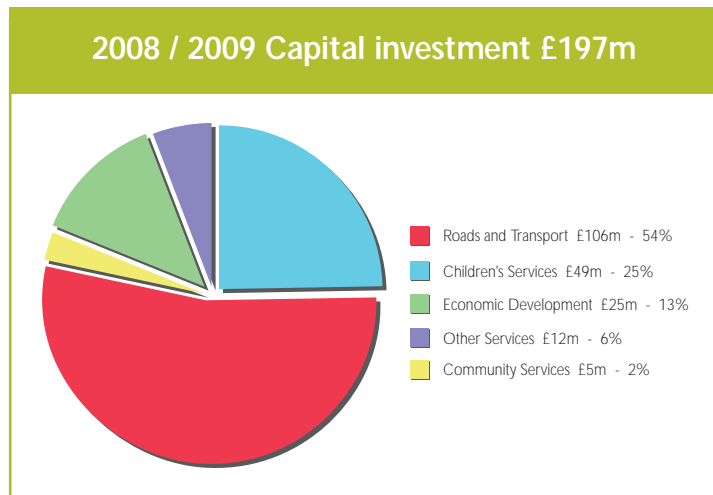
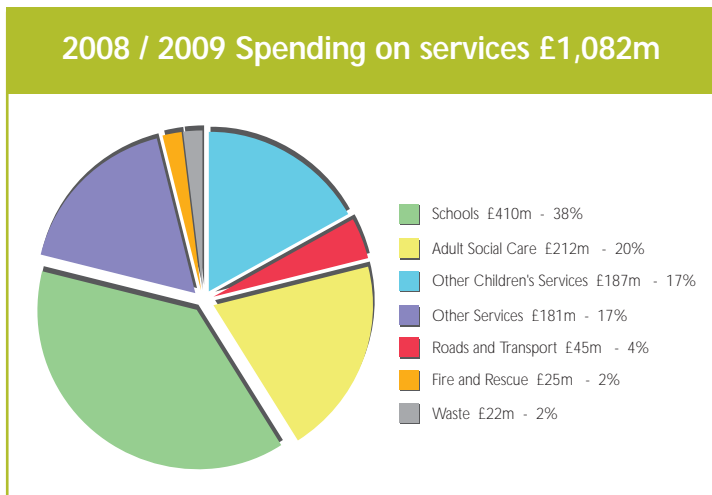


Lincolnshire County Council's part of the council tax you pay will increase by 3.5% this year (2008/09). That is an extra £34.56 over the year for a property in Band D (the fourth highest of the eight valuation bands, and the one generally used to give an "average" figure). The increase will range from £23.04 for a Band A property up to £69.12 for a property in Band H.

Besides council tax, the council's other main source of income is in the form of grants from the Government. The general grants (those not allocated for specific purposes) have increased in 2008/09 by 9.1%.

These increases will enable spending to continue on many of the vital day-to-day services which the council provides – for example, care of older people, waste disposal, road maintenance, and the fire and rescue service – and to improve priority services.

Alongside the spending on these day-to-day services, the council will continue its long-term investment in improving and maintaining the county's assets, particularly its schools and roads. A £197.1 million capital programme over the year will include £105.8 million for road schemes and £37.9 million on school buildings – just two of the areas set to benefit.



NOTE: The figures in the two tables above are gross of contributions from outside sources.

YOUR COUNTY COUNCIL YOUR SERVICES

Lincolnshire County Council provides vital services to 686,200 residents across England's fourth largest county.

Our budget for running and investing in those services is over £1 billion a year, and the Audit Commission says we are "performing well" in how we use it.

It also says we are "improving well" with our overall performance, which includes...

EDUCATING CHILDREN...

We educate 102,099 children in 377 schools, and look after 532 children and young people in public care.

Lincolnshire's high performing schools include 59% of secondary schools in the national top 40%.

LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT...

We provide 12 Household Waste Recycling Centres to help reduce waste going to landfill.

In the first half of 2007/08, we recycled almost 100,000 tonnes of waste, nearly 30% more than the previous year.

ENSURING SAFE AND EFFICIENT TRAVEL...

We look after about 5,600 miles of roads, plus footpaths and cycleways, and work with partners to reduce accidents.

The number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads has reduced by 41% over the last 10 years.

GETTING YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO GO...

We financially support bus services that undertake about 11 million passenger journeys (including those by students and pupils) each year.

These bus journeys save around 17,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide on equivalent car journeys.

KEEPING LINCOLNSHIRE PROSPEROUS...

Last year, we helped 45 businesses invest in the county, securing over 1,450 local jobs.

The county and district councils also helped Siemens stay in Lincolnshire, safeguarding a further 1,900 jobs.

TAKING CARE OF YOU...

We provide 6,949 people with a total of 57,032 hours of direct home care a week.

This care helps many people to continue living at home and remain as independent as they can.

SUPPORTING CULTURE AND LEARNING...

We offer learning, culture and entertainment through 58 libraries and 9 museum/visitor sites.

Between April and December 2007, there were more than two million visits to library services, plus over 600,000 uses of heritage services.

KEEPING YOU SAFE...

With 38 fire stations, we are always working to improve fire safety.

The number of accidental dwelling fires in the county reduced by 9% last year and continues to fall.

TACKLING CRIME...

We work in partnership to tackle crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse.

Our partnerships have reduced all recorded crime in Lincolnshire by 7% and violent crime by 8%.

LOOKING OUT FOR YOU...

We ensure a fair, reliable and safe trading environment in Lincolnshire.

Trading standards advised 1,349 businesses on underage sales and tested 523 food and other products.

For more information about the council's performance, please visit
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/businessplan

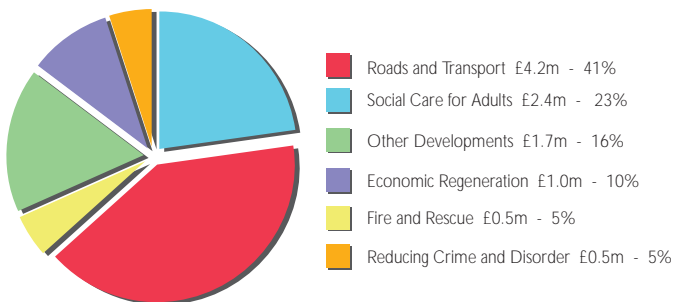
All the performance figures shown above are estimates for 2007/08 based on the latest information available at the time this booklet was produced.

The council's net spending is £26.5m more in 2008/09 than in the previous year.

The increase in spending is due to:	
Pay awards and price increases	£8.2 million
Adult Social Care cost pressures	£6.0 million
Other cost pressures	£6.0 million
Service developments including highways maintenance and asset/traffic management; social care improvements; crime and disorder reduction; fire and rescue developments	£10.3 million
Costs of capital investment	£4.1 million
Transfer to reserves	£3.4 million
New efficiency savings	-£11.5 million
Total increase in spending	£26.5 million

How the money for service developments is being spent

The overall increase of £26.5 million includes £10.3 million to develop and improve important services. It will be shared between different service areas as shown below:



Where the money comes from

The table below shows how we get our total income of £1,082 million:

	2008/2009 £m
Specific government grants	512
Charges and other income	128
General government grants - formula grant	172
- area-based grant	34
Council tax	236
Total	1,082

Your council tax

Lincolnshire County Council's share of the council tax you pay (but not the amounts you pay for district councils, parish councils and the Lincolnshire Police Authority) is shown in the table below:

Band	Amount 2007/2008	Amount 2008/2009
Band A	£658.14	£681.18
Band B	£767.83	£794.71
Band C	£877.52	£908.24
Band D	£987.21	£1,021.77
Band E	£1,206.59	£1,248.83
Band F	£1,425.97	£1,475.89
Band G	£1,645.35	£1,702.95
Band H	£1,974.42	£2,043.54

Our borrowing

Like most local authorities, we borrow money to pay for long-term investment in the county's roads, schools and buildings. On 31 March 2007 we owed £241.8 million. Annual repayments on that borrowing remain well within the council's prudent limit of 5% of total income.

Flood defence

The Environment Agency is responsible for protecting people and property against flooding from the sea and main rivers. The majority of its funding comes directly from the Department for the Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra), but Lincolnshire County Council also makes a contribution as set out below:

	2007/2008 £m	2008/2009 £m
Flood defence levy paid by Lincolnshire County Council	0.528	0.568

This is how much these services cost

	2008/09			
	Spend £m	Income £m	Spend minus income £m	Estimated cost for each resident £
Schools	426	426	0	0.00
Other Children's Services	202	75	127	180.58
Adult Social Care	229	76	153	217.57
Roads	35	1	34	48.90
Planning, Environment and Transport	34	7	27	37.92
Waste Management	22		22	32.08
Cultural, Libraries and Adult				
Education Services	23	5	18	25.53
Fire and Rescue	30	2	28	40.19
Other Services	80	45	35	49.17
* Capital projects adjustment – see note below	-5	3	-8	-12.12
Area based grant		34	-34	-48.34
Total planned spending	1,076	674	402	571.48
Contributions to savings	6		6	8.82
Budget requirement	1,082	674	408	580.30

* The difference between what we spend on capital projects and the charges which we must include in spending on services.

NOTE: The use of a minus sign (-) in front of a figure shows that income has been received and therefore taken off total spending.

SECURING OUR FUTURE

Statement from the Chairman of the Police Authority

The increase we originally set to the Council Tax came after nine months of engagement with the Government, local residents, MPs and key stakeholders. It was the most difficult decision the Authority has made, but we believed it was the right thing to do for the County.



Angela Crowe

Throughout the process we kept the Government informed of what we were doing. At about this time last year we submitted our financial report to the Home Office. This outlined the need for significant additional funding which would equate to £2 per week on the police council tax.

We demonstrated that this funding would not only plug a deficit but also provide additional resources for a service that is severely stretched. We are bitterly disappointed that a solution to Lincolnshire's funding situation could not have been reached before the council tax increase was set so the process of rebilling could have been avoided.

Our immediate priority is to maintain existing service levels and we continue to explore all means of improving our present financial situation. The Government is well aware that we consider Lincolnshire is penalised by the funding formula used to work out the budget requirements for police authorities - and therefore police forces - throughout the country. A standstill budget, while it means job security, is only a temporary solution to our problem.

We must redouble our efforts to work with Lincolnshire MPs and the Government to find a sustainable solution.

In the short-term, in a sense, nothing has changed for Lincolnshire. We will continue to rely on our Police Force to provide the very best service they can with the resources they have.

There are a great many men and women in Lincolnshire Police who are not able to count on the resources that other areas of the country enjoy. The fact remains that we have to police one of the largest counties in the country with the lowest level of funding per head of population.

We should not have to rely on the sheer resilience and determination of our staff but this is what they have done in the past. Their efforts ensure that, despite being severely under-funded, Lincolnshire has a police service to be proud of.

Lincolnshire Police Authority is an independent body of 17 local people who are responsible for making sure that the Police Service is efficient and effective. The Authority receives a portion of the Council Tax bill for the Police Service and is responsible for deciding on the annual increase. *The contribution for policing for a band D property last year was £131.58. For 2008/2009 it will be £165.78, equating to a weekly increase of 66p*

POSITIVE NEWS FOR THE FUTURE

POLICE MINISTER'S PLEDGE TO LINCOLNSHIRE

While this booklet was going to press, the Police Authority Chairman and the Chief Constable led a delegation to meet the Police Minister, Tony McNulty, in London.

As a result the Minister made a personal pledge to help solve the financial problems that have led to the Lincolnshire Force being under-funded over a period of years.

Mr. McNulty told the delegation he wanted to engage and work with the Authority and the Force, and offered the facility to meet Home Office officials who would be able to offer what he called "real assistance". Appointments are already being made for those meetings.

Mrs. Crowe said: 'It was a very productive meeting. The Minister realises that the tripartite agreement for policing involves the Home Office, the Police Authority and the Chief Constable and that we must all bear responsibility.

He wants to meet us again in October and we hope he will come to Lincoln'

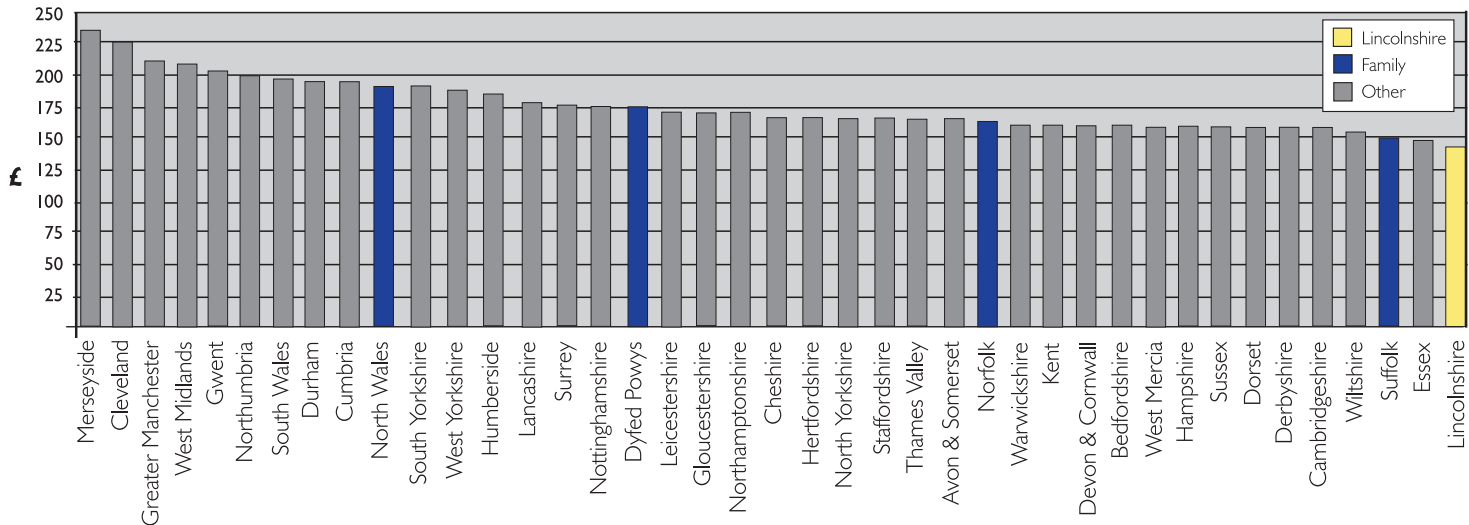


ARE YOU SOMEONE SPECIAL?

Join the Policing Family in Lincolnshire - we are currently recruiting Special Constables. Being a special constable is a great way to give something back to your community, develop new skills or learn what being a police officer is really like.

Contact Lincolnshire Police recruitment team on **01522 558235**.

SPEND PER HEAD OF POPULATION 2008/09 - NATIONAL FIGURES



A graphic illustration of how much is spent on the Lincolnshire Force per head of population compared with other forces. "Family" indicates forces which are most similar to Lincolnshire.

TOP POLICING PRIORITIES FOR 2008/09

- Improving** the safety of children and young people
- Improving** community safety, focusing on what causes the most harm
- Improving** community confidence and satisfaction
- Improving** road safety in Lincolnshire
- Maximising** efficiency and productivity through the best use of resources

INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUPS

We constantly strive to improve our understanding of the diverse cultures and backgrounds of the people within the communities we police. Independent Advisory Group members act as 'critical friends' giving advice on how their particular knowledge and experience impacts on how they perceive policing.

For information about joining your local group, call **01522 558717**.

MONEY MATTERS

THE MAIN INCREASES (£ MILLION)

Employees	5.0
Premises	0.6
Transport	0.0
Supplies and Services	1.3
Agency / Contracted Services and Capital Financing	0.6
Sustainable Services Investment	0.4
Income	-0.2
Sub Total	7.7
Provisions and Contributions	-0.7
Specific Grants and Additional Grants	-0.2
Additional Home Office Grant	3.4
Total Increase in Expenditure	10.2

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/2009 (£ MILLION)

Property	1.3
Information Communications Technology	5.1
Replacement of Vehicles and Equipment	1.8
Forensic and Other Equipment	0.4
Total	8.6

STAFF NUMBERS

We employ:	
1235 Police Officers	
957 Police Staff	
168 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)	

HOW WE ARE FUNDED (£ MILLIONS)

	2007/08	2008/09
Government Grant	40.2	41.0
Other Specific Grant	8.6	8.8
Special Grant	3.4	-
Business Rates	20.3	21.3
Council Tax	29.9	38.3
Miscellaneous	6.2	6.4
TOTAL	108.6	115.8

WHERE THE MONEY IS SPENT

	2007/08	2008/09
Employees	85.3	90.3
Running Costs	21.4	23.3
Contingency	1.9	1.8
Sustainable Services Investment	-	0.4
Total	108.6	115.8

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

From 1st April 2007 to 31st December 2007, in comparison with the same period last year:

- Burglary in a dwelling is down 14% meaning 284 fewer crimes
- Serious violent crime is down 13% which is 617 fewer crimes
- There have been 11676 sanctioned detections
- 80% of people were satisfied with the overall service
- The number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads is up 6% (based on figures up to November)
- 58% of people surveyed agreed that 'the police deal with things that matter to the local community'

CITY OF LINCOLN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS

Made up of Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Special Constables, Neighbourhood Policing Teams aim to tackle low level crime and antisocial behaviour in partnership with local people and various other authorities and agencies.

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team invite you to tell them about the local issues affecting your community. You can talk to a team member by calling their mobile phone number listed opposite.

To get more involved in helping to improve your neighbourhood, contact your team and ask about your local Neighbourhood Panel. You can also attend local street briefings, drop in surgeries and other events. For more information either contact your team, check out your local media or visit www.lincs.police.uk.

NORTH EAST SECTOR

CASTLE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Covering the Lincoln castle area up to the Sobraon Barracks, Yarborough Leisure Centre and the TA Centre.

Community Beat Manager

PC Jason Smeaton	07939 312686
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PC Rachel Turner	
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THE TEAMS SHOULD NOT BE CONTACTED IN ORDER TO REPORT A CRIME:

In an emergency, call 999 for example if your personal safety is under threat or you are reporting a crime in action.

Non-emergency calls: 01522 532222.

PCSO Peter Allen	07825 100387
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PCSO Amy Skelton	07944 777037
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MINSTER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes the Usher Art Gallery, the Cathedral, the Assembly Rooms, Newport Cemetery, Bishop Grossette College, the library, the Health Centre and the Community Centre.

PC Stuart Hill	07944 776769
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PCSO Lance Ward	07707 718985
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PCSO John Briggs	07825 100368
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GLEBE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes Lincoln Christ's Hospital School, St Giles Youth Centre, the Fire Station, King George's Field and the Shopping Centre.

PC Jason Smeaton	07939 312686
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PCSO Guy McCusker	07825 100383
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PCSO Daren Grace	07939 896366
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PCSO Richard Lister	07825 100395
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ABBEY NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes the YMCA, Lincoln College, the Arboretum, the County Hospital, Lincoln prison and Tesco Supermarket.

PC Rachel Barnett - North	07939 985260
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PC Dave Milling - South	07939 894037
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PCSO Horace Squire - North	07939 985650
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PCSO Kat Bannister - South	07825 100367
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PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes South Common, the Fire Station, Lincoln City Football Ground, Pelham Bridge and the Crematorium.

PC Rizwaan Chothia	07825 100392
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PCSO Kay Rowntree	07825 100388
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PCSO Gemma Blore	07825 100389
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SOUTH WEST SECTOR

LINCOLN CITY CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Covering the City Centre including the Railway Station, the Bus Station, the War Memorial and the Library.

PC Jane Pickworth	07757 648914
PCSO Marc Horsewood	07825 100390
PCSO Margaret Marelli	07939 894548
PCSO Robert Kerbey	07939 996685
PCSO Clare Hart	07939 896178

CARHOLME NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes the Odeon Cinema, the University, the Lawn, Lincolnshire Life Museum, the Windmill and St George's Hospital.

PC Rick Mosley	07900 282129
PCSO Peter Davies	07944 776890
PCSO Simon King	07900 221847

BOLTHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes Boultham Park, the Library, the Dairy and the War Memorial.

PC Alison Stocks	07939 997194
PCSO Kate Duffy	07825 100374
PCSO Chris Pullen	

MOORLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes Sainsbury's, Joseph Ruston Technology College, the Sports Grounds, Boultham Moor, Allotment Gardens.

PC Andrew Mealar	07939 312667
PCSO Debbie Adams	07825 100373
PCSO Katie O'Rourke	07944 890546

BRACEBRIDGE LOWFIELDS NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes the School, the Sports Ground, Manor Farm and Allotment Gardens.

PC Jules Minton	07944 776792
PCSO Matthew Flack	07939 996773

BIRCHWOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes Damon's Motel, the Health Centre, the Leisure Centre, the Library and Birchwood Shopping Centre.

PC Alistair Gibb	07939 896147
PC Simon Burnett	07900 353836

PCSO Tony Kennedy 07939 985168

PCSO Amy Jones 07825 100391

HARTSHOLME NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

Area covered includes Hartsholme Country Park, Swanholme Lakes, Lincoln United Football Ground and the Sports Centre.

PC Caroline Gordon	07939 988648
PCSO Alex Webber	

OTHER CONTACTS

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

Call free and in confidence

Victim Supportline: 01522 511266

Domestic Violence Info: www.dvhelp.co.uk

Lincoln Women's Aid: 01522 510041

Local Criminal Justice Board: www.justicelincs.gov.uk

Neighbourhood Watch: 01522 558399 / 01522 558131

Citizens Advice Bureau: 08701 224422

A Name in Every Neighbourhood - *Keeping the Promise*





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If you have difficulty in understanding anything in this document, please go to City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln or any other Council office, where we can call in an interpreter for you through the National Interpreting Service.

Polish

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Russian

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For further details and an application form please contact Customer Services on 01522 873355 or by e-mailing benefits@lincoln.gov.uk or by logging on to www.lincoln.gov.uk/benefits

You can also get more information about benefits from your local Jobcentre Plus or from the Pension Service or you can visit www.dwp.gov.uk

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