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Lincolnshire Open Research  
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# Tackling Poverty in Lincoln: A report for Lincoln Against Poverty



Lincolnshire Open Research and Innovation Centre, Bishop  
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## Introduction

This research into poverty in the city of Lincoln and how it is being tackled has been commissioned by Acts Trust and has been funded by the City of Lincoln Council and Research England.

Acts Trust approached the Lincolnshire Open Research and Innovation Centre (LORIC) to conduct research into the current state of poverty in Lincoln city, to explore who is working to tackle poverty, and how poverty is being tackled on a local level.

This research does not represent a comprehensive review, rather an initial exploration of what poverty looks like in Lincoln, what is being done about it, who, and most importantly, attempts to begin to identify gaps in support and issues that require further support and provision.

The research covers a range of data sources and represents a desktop review of the information currently in the public domain, with some information on specific initiatives provided by the respective organisations delivering them.

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# 1. What Do We Know About Poverty in Lincoln?

## Indices of Multiple Deprivation

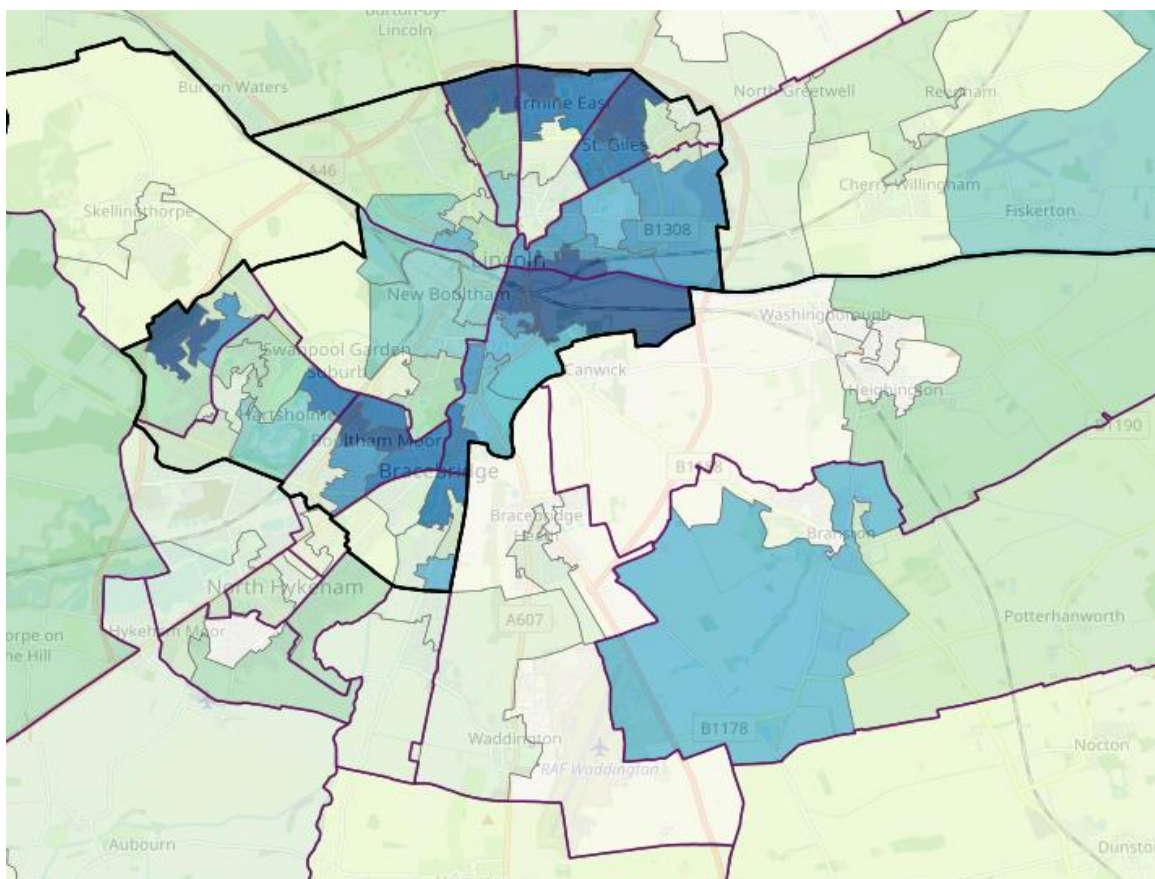
The IMD 2019<sup>1</sup> ranks Lincoln as the 68th most deprived local authority area out of a total of 317 nationwide and nationally, the same ten Lincoln LSOAs (lower super output areas) remain in the top 10% of most deprived areas in England as in 2015. City of Lincoln Council however provide the following note of caution when using IMD 2019 figures:

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*“It is important to note that the IMD 2019 dataset is based on figures prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and Cost of living crisis, and therefore should be viewed with caution as these datasets are significantly outdated. An updated version of the IMD is expected to be released in 2025 but has not yet been confirmed” – Lincoln City Profile 2024 to 2025<sup>2</sup>*

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## Index of Multiple Deprivation Decile 2019 Map<sup>3</sup>



<sup>1</sup> [Indices of Deprivation 2015 and 2019 \(communities.gov.uk\)](https://www.communities.gov.uk)

<sup>2</sup> [lincoln-city-profile-2023-to-2024-full-version](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Indices of Deprivation 2015 and 2019 \(communities.gov.uk\)](https://www.communities.gov.uk)

Despite the need to view figures with caution, IMD remains one of the most comprehensive data sets available (the Lincolnshire Visual Information System provides a more up-to-date analysis and is described below), and the IMD 2019 index measures of greatest deprivation for Lincoln are summarised below.

**Index of Multiple Deprivation Decile** - According to the IMD 2019<sup>4</sup>, the 3 most deprived LSOAs in Lincoln fall within the 1,000 most deprived areas in England, and are located within Moorland ward (309), Birchwood ward (394) and Glebe ward (582).

**Income Decile** - 8 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Income, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Castle, Glebe, Minster and Moorland.

**Employment Decile** - 13 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Employment, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Castle, Glebe, Hartsholme, Minster, Moorland and Park.

**Education and Skills Decile** - 13 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Education and Skills, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Castle, Glebe, Hartsholme, Minster, Moorland and Park.

**Health and Disability Decile** - 16 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Health and Disability, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Carholme, Castle, Glebe, Hartsholme, Minster, Moorland and Park.

**Crime Decile** - 1 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs is in the most deprived decile for Crime and falls in Abbey ward.

**Barriers to Housing & Services Decile** - None of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Barriers to Housing & Services.

**Living Environment Decile** - 1 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs is in the most deprived decile for Living Environment and falls in Park ward.

**Income Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI) Decile** - 13 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Income Deprivation Affecting Children, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Castle, Glebe, Minster, Moorland, Park and Witham.

**Income Deprivation Affecting Older People (IDAOPI) Decile** - 9 of Lincoln's 57 LSOAs are in the most deprived decile for Income Deprivation Older People, and fall in the wards of Abbey, Birchwood, Boutham, Carholme, Glebe, Moorland, and Park.

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<sup>4</sup> [Index of Multiple Deprivation \(IMD\) | CDRC Data](#)

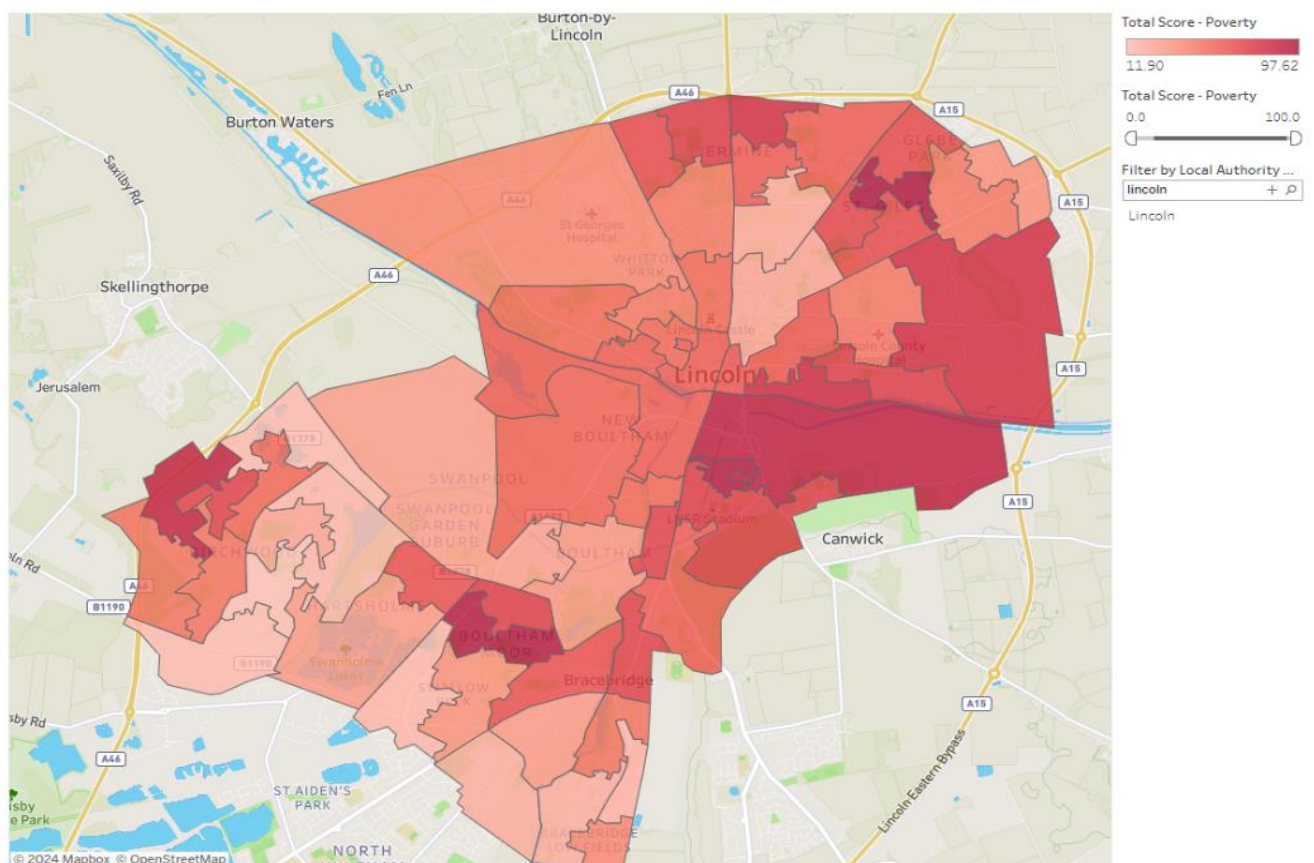
## Lincolnshire Visual Intelligence System (LVIS)

The Lincolnshire Visual Intelligence System (LVIS)<sup>5</sup> was commissioned by the Lincolnshire Community Foundation and developed by Sortified CIC (which closed in October 2023). The system uses a wide range of data from a number of trusted data providers, and utilises a detailed set of calculations to score and weight the data to create a percentile based system of scoring levels of need. This system is further explained here: [LVIS Explainer \(lincolnshirecf.co.uk\)](https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk). The LVIS tool examines 16 themes of need and provides a 17<sup>th</sup> scale which aggregates the other data sets as an overall measure of need. Each percentile scale ranges from 0-100.

**LVIS – Poverty Score** - The range of Poverty scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 11.90 (Lincoln 009D in Hartsholme Ward) to 97.62 (Lincoln 004E in Glebe Ward).

**LVIS – Child Poverty Score** - The range of Child Poverty scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 18.18 (Lincoln 009B in Hartsholme Ward) to 100 (Lincoln 004B in Abbey Ward).

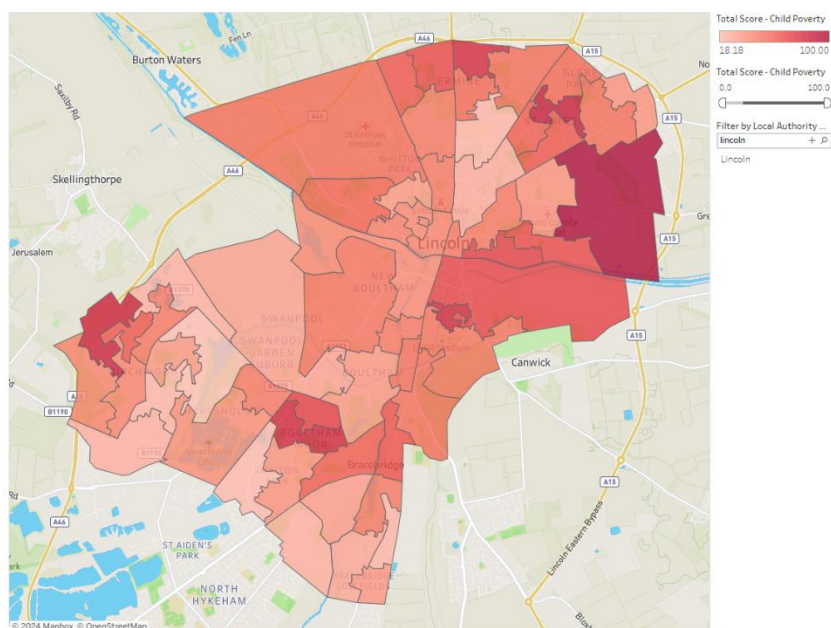
## LVIS Poverty Map<sup>6</sup>



<sup>5</sup> [LVIS - Lincolnshire Community Foundation \(lincolnshirecf.co.uk\)](https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk)

<sup>6</sup> [Poverty - Lincolnshire Community Foundation \(lincolnshirecf.co.uk\)](https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk)

## LVIS Child Poverty Map<sup>7</sup>



Maps are available for the other measures utilised by LVIS, but are not shown here as they are all available via the Lincolnshire Community Foundation webpage<sup>8</sup> and the data behind relevant measures is summarised below.

**LVIS Food Poverty Score** - The range of Food Poverty scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 4.26 (Lincoln 005B in Carholme Ward) to 74.47 (Lincoln 004B in Abbey Ward). Food poverty scores are not available for 3 LSOAs.

**LVIS Fuel Poverty** - The range of Fuel Poverty scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 11.11 (Lincoln 009D in Hartsholme Ward) to 81.11 (Lincoln 004B in Abbey Ward).

**LVIS Homelessness** - The range of Homelessness scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 27.27 (Lincoln 011C in Witham Ward) to the maximum 100 (Lincoln 005A in Boultham Ward).

**LVIS Employment and Skills** - The range of Employment and Skills scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 2.63 (Lincoln 003G in Minster Ward) to 89.47 (Lincoln 007C in Birchwood Ward).

**LVIS Crime and Safety** - The range of Crime and Safety scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 21.67 (Lincoln 0011C in Witham Ward) to a maximum 100 (Lincoln 005A in Boultham Ward).

**LVIS Barriers to Transport** - The range of Barriers to Transport scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 14.81 (Lincoln 0011A in Witham Ward) to a maximum 100 (Lincoln 006B in Park Ward).

**LVIS Mental Health and Wellbeing** - The range of Mental Health and Wellbeing scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 19.61 (Lincoln 0011A in Witham Ward) to a maximum 100 (Lincoln 005A in Boultham Ward).

<sup>7</sup> [Child Poverty - Lincolnshire Community Foundation \(lincolnshirecf.co.uk\)](https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk)

<sup>8</sup> [LVIS - Lincolnshire Community Foundation \(lincolnshirecf.co.uk\)](https://lincolnshirecf.co.uk)

**LVIS Physical Health and Wellbeing** - The range of Physical Health and Wellbeing scores for LSOAs in the City of Lincoln Council area is from 19.05 (Lincoln 0011A in Witham Ward) to a maximum 100 (Lincoln 005A in Boultham Ward).

### City of Lincoln Council: Lincoln City Profile 2023 to 2024

The City of Lincoln Council produce an annual profile to summarise statistics for the city. Relevant figures from the Lincoln City profile 2023-2024<sup>9</sup> are shown below.

- 4.2% of people in Lincoln are unemployed.
- Number of housing benefit recipients in 2023 = 3,956
- Number of residents claiming Universal Credit in March 2024: Males = 1,730, Females = 1,170.
- Number of 16–17-year-olds claiming Universal Credit in March 2024: Males = 5, Females = 0.
- Number of 18–24-year-olds claiming Universal Credit in March 2024: Males = 375, Females = 255.
- The percentage of children in low-income families in 2023 was 30.5%, well above the national percentage of 20.1%.
- 10.8% of workless households have dependent children.
- 30.9% of students were eligible for Free School Meals in May 2023.

### Food Poverty

#### Fare Share

Lincolnshire Food Partnership published a report in May 2023, written by Acts Trust, on research conducted by FareShare Midlands into food banks in Lincoln. They cite key findings as being:

- Referrals to Lincoln food banks have increased by 45% compared to the same time in 2022
- In March, 1 out of every 172 households in the city received an emergency food parcel
- Almost 47,000 meals had been provided by food banks in Lincoln since the new year (2023)
- Referrals have doubled over the past two years – since a previous high during the COVID Pandemic
- The largest growth is in multiple person households, with children now accounting for 35% of all people supported by food banks in the city
- Supply of food donations is down, particularly in relation to chilled and fresh produce, and is not keeping pace with the increase in demand

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<sup>9</sup> [lincoln-city-profile-2023-to-2024-full-version](#)



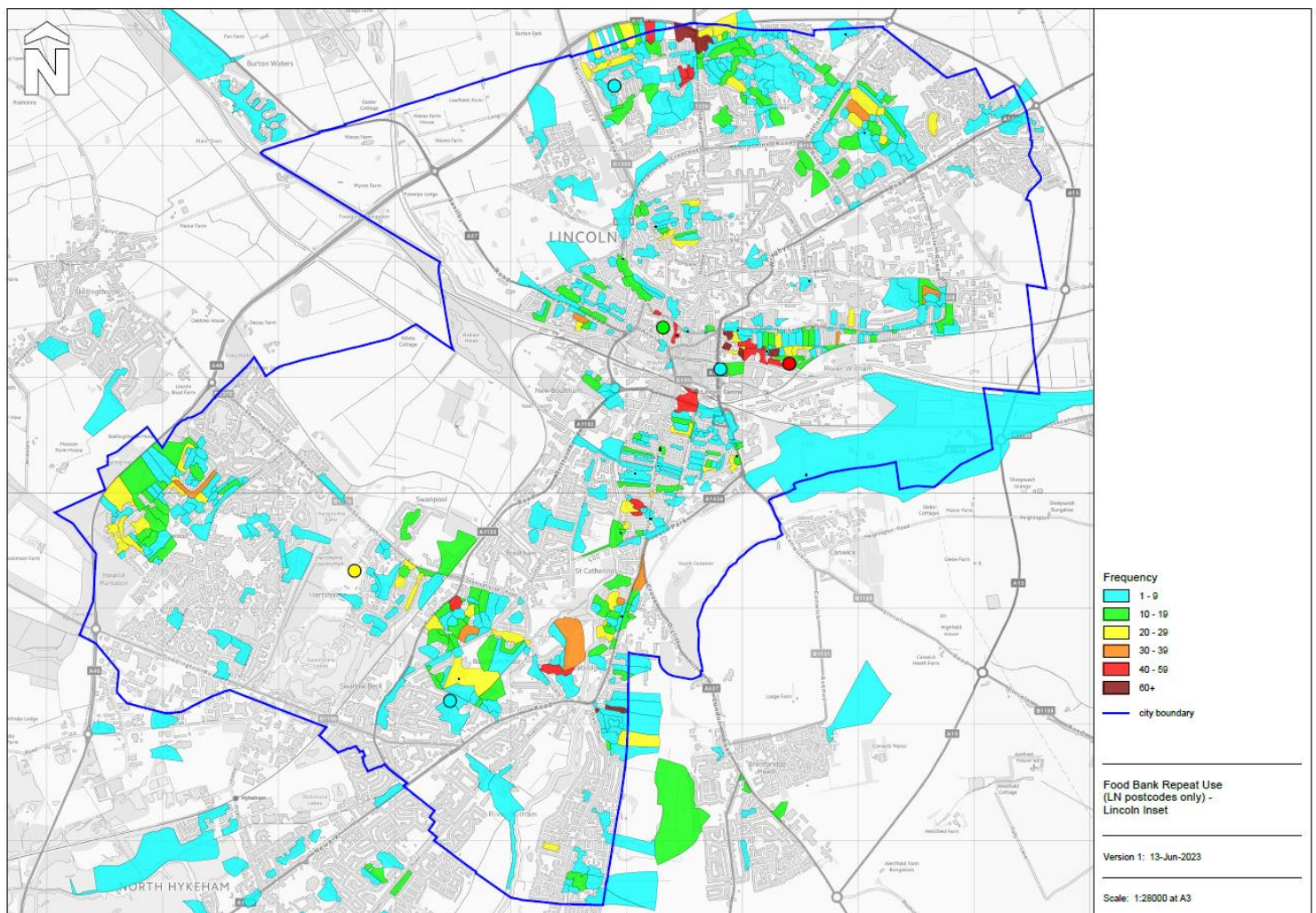
- FareShare, a charity that collects surplus food stock from farms, manufacturers, distributors and retailers, has seen a significant decrease in the amount of surplus food available: a 27% reduction since December.
- In one week alone in March 2023, Lincoln Foodbank and Lincoln Community Larder together received 247 referrals for households struggling with the cost of food.

Lincolnshire Food Partnership reported that “since the publication of the report, FareShare has made the hard decision to close the Lincoln depot, in order to consolidate its operations”.

### Food Bank Usage

The map below (provided by Acts Trust) shows a heat map of the post code areas where residents accessed food banks from in 2023. This shows pockets of high food bank usages, particular in the areas of Ermine, Monks Road and Boultham, however demonstrates that food bank usage is distributed across residents throughout the city

Map of Food Bank Usage 2023



## **Benefit Claims**

The Department for Work and Pensions State of the District Report (August 2024) shows that employment rates for Lincoln went down by 2.6% from 2023 to March 2024. The number of disabled people in work however rose by 4.4%, and the number of older people (aged 50-64) in work increased by 7.4%.

Figures show that 38.6% of over 16s are economically inactive, and that 38.5% of those aged 50-64 are economically inactive. Across the Lincolnshire, Nottingham and Rutland area, the main reasons for economic inactivity are recorded as: Student, Looking after Family/Home, and Long Term Sick.

## **Universal Credit**

In July 2024, there were 21,774 people in Lincoln claiming Universal Credit, which represents an increase of 17.2% from the July 2023. Whilst this is lower than the average increase for the wider Lincolnshire, Nottingham and Rutland Area (18.8%), it is higher than the national increase of 15.9%. An increase in numbers is however, in part due to changes in the way that benefits are claimed, rather than representing solely an increase in claimants. Of these 21,774 claimants, 41.4% were male and 59.8% were female. A breakdown of Universal Credit claimants by age is shown in the table below.

<b>Lincoln Universal Credit Claimants</b>	<b>July 2024</b>	<b>Yearly change</b>
16-24 years old	5,282	+5%
25-49 years old	14,170	+17.70%
50+	5,024	+23.20%

## **Jobseekers**

The number of those in Lincoln claiming benefits whilst seeking employment was 2,980 in July 2024. This represents an increase of 4.6% from July 2023. A breakdown of job seeking benefit claimants by age is shown in the table below.

<b>Lincoln Benefit Claimants Seeking Jobs</b>	<b>July 2024</b>
16-24 years old	585
25-49 years old	1,775
50+	615

## **Employment and Support Allowance**

Across the Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland area, the most common reason for claiming Employment and Support Allowance is Mental and Behavioural Disorders. The top 5 reasons for claiming Employment and Support Allowance are shown in the table below.

<b>Reason for ESA claim</b>	<b>Percentage of Claimants</b>
Mental and Behavioural Disorders	46.09%
Diseases of the Nervous System	8.50%
Diseases of the Circulatory System	3.84%
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	14.64%
Symptoms, Signs and abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	9.40%

## Cost of Living

Citizens Advice Lincolnshire presented up to date information on the national cost of living in July and September 2024 as shown below.

Headline inflation is falling:

- CPI inflation rose by 3.2% in the 12 months to March 2024, falling from a peak of 11.1% (in October 2022).
- Energy prices fell by 12% in April 2024.

But people are still being hit by above-inflation price rises.

- CPI inflation (3.2%) is still the highest since March 2012.
- Average private rents increased by 9.2% in the 12 months to March 2024.
- 1.5 million mortgage holders will see their payments increase by £1,800 this year.
- Rents in social housing increased by as much as 7.7% in April.
- Council Tax increased by 5.7% on average from April 2024.
- Broadband and mobile prices up by as much as 8.8%.
- HCI inflation is at 5%.

Policy changes which will take effect in the financial year 2024/25 include:

- Minimum Wage to increase by at least 9.8% to £11.44.
- National Insurance rates were cut from 10% to 8%, and from 9% to 6% for the self-employed.
- Pensioner benefits will be uprated by 8.5%
- Working-age benefits (e.g. Universal Credit) will be uprated by 6.7%.
- Local Housing Allowance (LHA) will be uprated to 30th percentile.

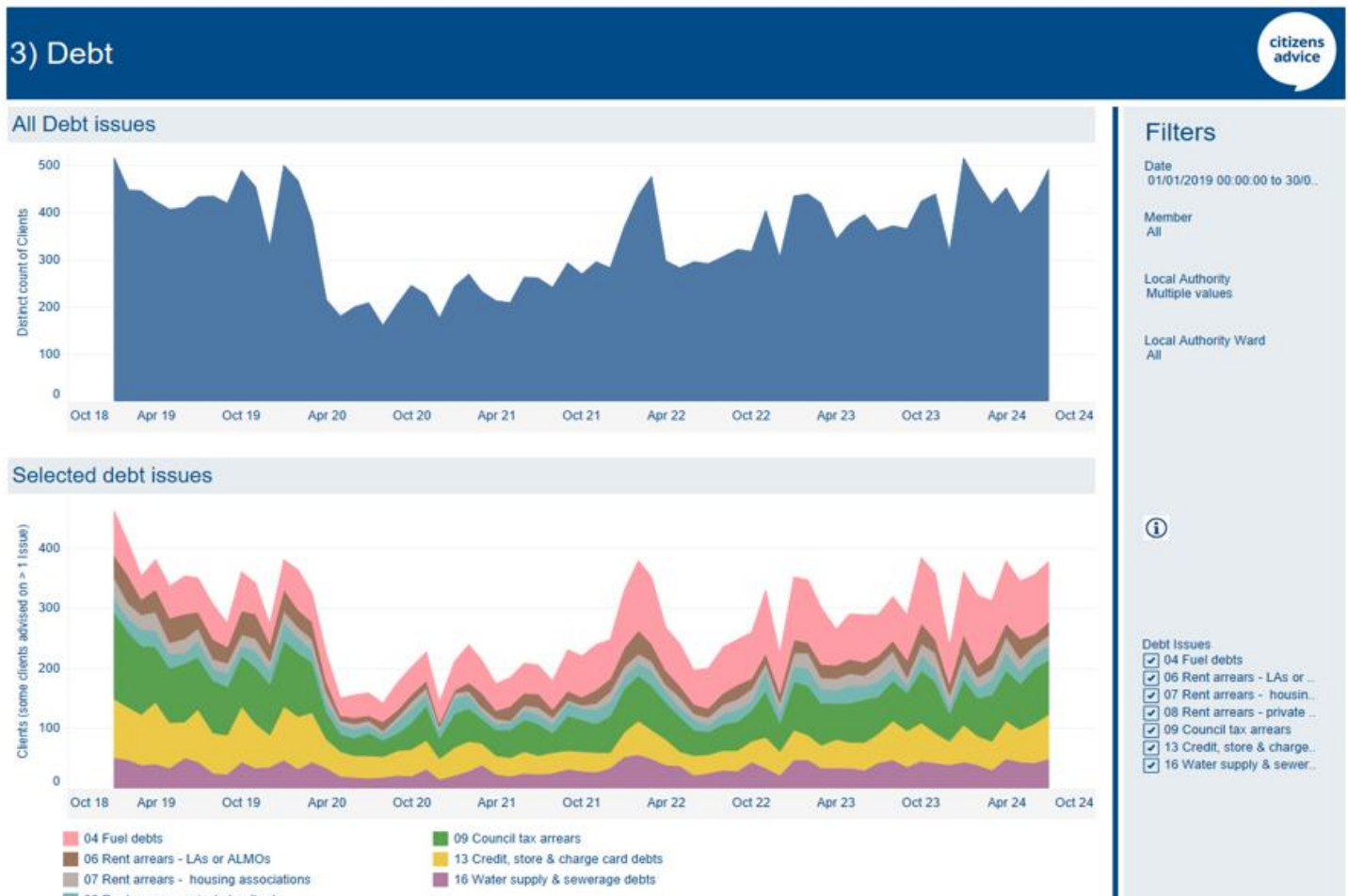
As of April 2024, around 1,500 Lincoln clients had been supported so far this year with energy issues. The total number supported in 2023 was just under 2,500. As of April 2024, around 1,700 Lincoln clients had been supported with charitable support, foodbanks and localised social welfare. The total number supported in 2023 was just over 3,000.

## **Debt**

Across Lincolnshire, Citizens Advice support with debt issues including fuel debts, rent arrears, council tax arrears, credit, store & charge card debts, and water supply & sewerage debts. As of April 2024, the most common debt issues faced

by Citizen’s Advice clients were fuel debts, council tax arrears, and credit, store & charge card debts. Data on debt issues presented by Citizen’s Advice clients is show in the figure below.

## Debt Issues in Lincolnshire



### The Red Index

Across the country, 5 million people, including 1.5 million children, are in a household with a negative budget. Another 2.35 million people are described as “living on empty” - only escaping a negative budget by cutting their essential spending back to unsafe levels. In Lincoln the number of people reported to be in negative budget is 11,021.

### The Lincoln BIG Conversation 2023

The 2023 Conversation aimed to find out “what a ‘flourishing future’ looks like for its communities and how people feel about and interpret ‘prosperity’ in their neighbourhoods.<sup>10</sup>”

<sup>10</sup> [Community-wide conversation: Lincoln's Flourishing Future - LocalMotion](#)

The BIG Lincoln Conversation 2023 research found that<sup>11</sup>:

- 25% of respondents are unhappy with their income
- The top 3 concerns are:
  1. The economy and the cost of living
  2. The NHS
  3. The environment and climate change.
- Residents feel the most impacted by:
  1. The economic and the cost of living
  2. Political leadership and instability
  3. The NHS.

The report summarises that the research tells a tale of “taking each day at a time” with many of us having a strong feeling of being in survival mode. We talk about our families and the roles people and community play in our lives. We share our deepest concerns and what is impacting us most, right now. We show that we are passionate, aspirational and want to make a difference. It also describes that “Our happiness and satisfaction increases when we have money to help us spend time with loved ones, engage in our hobbies, travel and have days or meals out”.

The BIG Lincoln Conversation 2024 themed around exploring Community and Culture is now underway (ending late September 2024) and can be accessed here in nine languages: [The Big Lincoln Conversation 2024 \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk)

### Vision 2020: Fuel Poverty in Lincoln Needs Assessment 2017

The Fuel Poverty in Lincoln Needs Assessment 2017<sup>12</sup> identified a range of key issues, including that:

- In 2014 Lincoln had a fuel poverty level of 11.6% which was higher than the remainder of the County.
- In 2011, it was estimated that there were around 19.3% of Lincoln households in fuel poverty, - this was worse than both the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership area (19.1%) and England (14.6%) averages.
- Fuel poverty affects households in all Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) across the whole city, to some extent. With 38.5% of Lincoln’s 57 Lower Super Output Areas having higher levels of fuel poverty compared with the city average of 11.6%.
- Around 1,000 Lincoln homes had no gas central heating leading to above average electric use, and other fuel type uses and so were disproportionately disadvantaged by the cost of heating their homes.

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<sup>11</sup>[PowerPoint Presentation \(localmotion.org.uk\)](https://localmotion.org.uk)

<sup>12</sup>[fuel-poverty-in-lincoln-needs-assessment](https://fuel-poverty-in-lincoln-needs-assessment)

- Both the incomes and the energy efficiency of the homes of those living in fuel poverty would need to improve by a relatively larger amount than other households in order to lift households out of fuel poverty

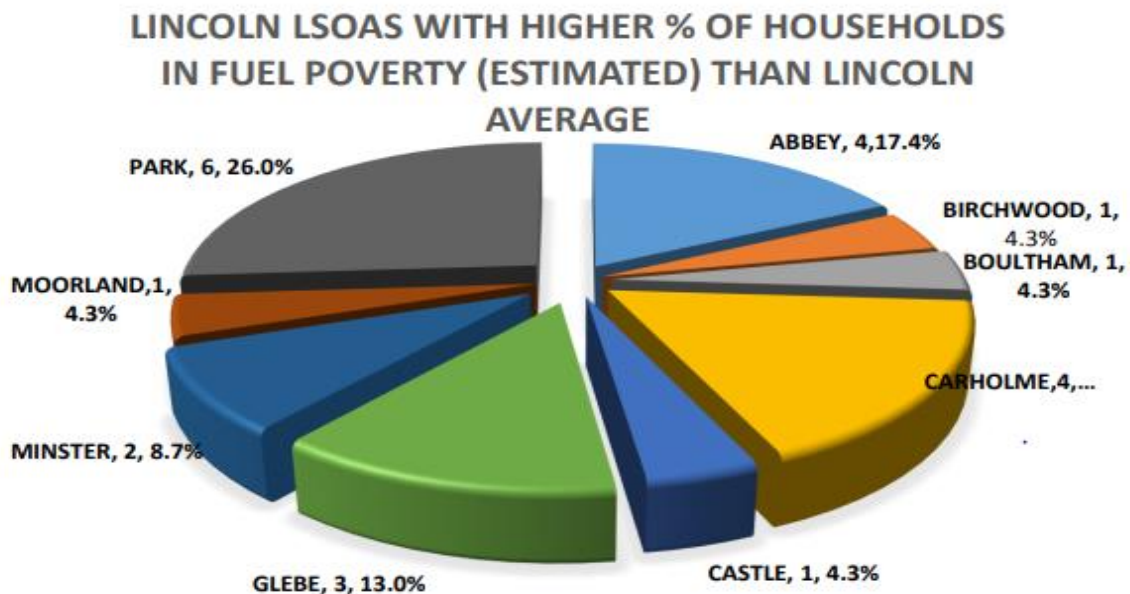
The report used a Low Income High Costs definition<sup>13</sup> of fuel poverty, in which a household is considered to be fuel poor if:

- they have required fuel costs that are above average (the national median level)
- were they to spend that amount, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

The key elements in determining whether a household is fuel poor are:

- income
- fuel prices
- fuel consumption (which is dependent on the dwelling characteristics and the lifestyle of the household).

The graphic below is taken from this report.



At the time the report was written, City of Lincoln Council was a member of the Countywide Affordable Warmth Strategy, which was due to be refreshed in 2017, and the Home Energy Lincs Partnership (The Home Energy Lincs Partnership included the seven district councils and Lincolnshire County Council. Its membership consisted of officers who were involved with the domestic energy efficiency and/or the wider climate change agenda).

<sup>13</sup> [Slide 1 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

## City of Lincoln Council – Anti Poverty Action 2014-2016

In 2025/16, the City of Lincoln Council ran an Anti-Poverty Campaign which included a review of research and stakeholders related to poverty and how to address it in the city. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny featured a good practice case study of this in 2016, following the council's success in winning the *Overall Impact Award* at their *Good Scrutiny Awards in 2015*. See Appendix A for further details.

## 2. Who is Involved in Tackling Poverty in Lincoln, and What Are They Doing?

The following section is made up of details of groups and partnership that operate within Lincoln. The information contained here is far from comprehensive, and does not detail individual organisations, but represents a summary of the information that could be gathered based on the scope of this research and the resources available. It is not the intention to exclude any group or organisation that is working in the area of tackling poverty, and rather is a starting point in listing relevant stakeholders.

### LocalMotion

Lincoln LocalMotion is a social, economic and environmental justice movement working with six locations across the UK, with a purpose to learn how all elements of our societal structure, including funders, sectors and citizens, can work together equitably within a geographical place to positively disrupt the normal patterns and vicious cycles that are holding communities back, to reimagine a more just future for everyone. And for the collective learning to influence change at a local and national level.

Their local group is made up of representatives from the voluntary sector, local authority and social enterprises. Their funds are held by Lincolnshire Community Foundation and are connected nationally for wider learning and access to resources by a coordination team.

### Poverty Truth Commission

In July 2022, LocalMotion<sup>14</sup> announced that, supported by the Poverty Truth Network<sup>15</sup>, they were “launching a Poverty Truth Commission to hear the stories of those who have experienced living in poverty and to invite them to help create positive change in Lincoln.”<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> [Lincoln - LocalMotion](#)

<sup>15</sup> [Poverty Truth Network | Poverty Truth Network](#)

<sup>16</sup> [Lincoln launches Poverty Truth Commission - LocalMotion](#)

The Lincoln Poverty Truth Commission, funded by LocalMotion Lincoln, has civic commissioner representation from City of Lincoln Council, Department for Work and Pensions, National Lottery, Bishop Grosseteste University, Serco, Children's Link, Alive Church, Development Plus, and other independent strategic voices, along with 9 community commissioners who have an experience of poverty. Commissions bring together people with decision making powers or influence over policy, with people with a story or experience of struggle. The ethos behind a poverty truth commission is to:

- remove barriers and assumptions, and build relationships of trust
- recognise the wisdom held by lived experience
- understand the deep rooted causes and systemic patterns of poverty
- test new ways of collaboration and co creation
- redesign systems that put the user at its core.

The LocalMotion Lincoln local group, upon hearing voices from communities, have developed a local plan up to 2031. As part of the Lincoln local plan, Social Change UK are conducting research via an annual BIG Lincoln Conversation which will have different themes and some fixed measures to understand happiness, concerns and hope for the future.

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*“Poverty Truth Commissions, seek to discover the answer to the question, ‘what if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?’ The commissioners for each Commission comprise two groups of people. Around half of the commissioners are people with a lived experience of the struggle against poverty. The other half are leaders within the city or region. Collectively they work to understand the nature of poverty, what are some of the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them” – Poverty Truth Network<sup>17</sup>*

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## The Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership

Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership<sup>18</sup> is a Constituted Unincorporated Community Association which consist of a partnership of organisations across Greater Lincolnshire working together for greener, fairer and healthier food for all through sustainable local action. Their aims are to:

- Create a vibrant, prosperous and diverse sustainable food economy
- Tackle food poverty, diet related ill-health and improve access to affordable healthy food

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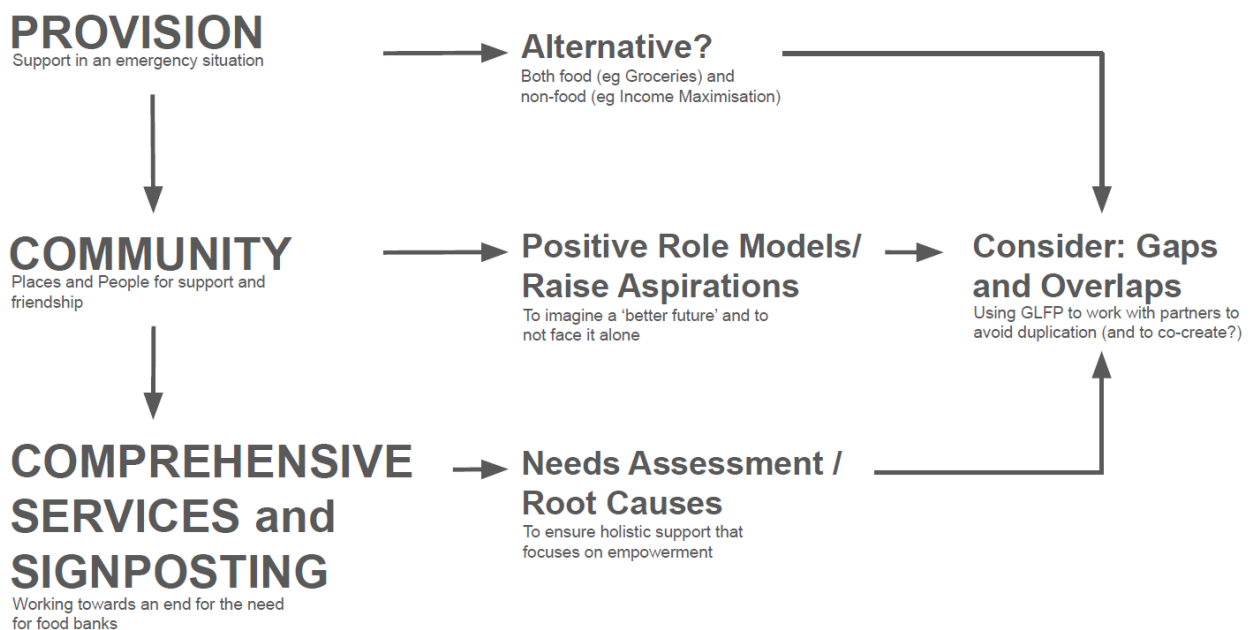
<sup>17</sup> [What is a Poverty Truth Commission? | Poverty Truth Network](#)

<sup>18</sup> [Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership – for fairer, greener, healthier food for all](#)



- Build public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement
- Take a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action
- Tackle the climate & nature emergency through sustainable food & farming and end to food waste.
- Transform catering and procurement and revitalise local supply chains
- Support the development of community-based food production in Greater Lincolnshire enabling people to reconnect to their food source and make informed choices about the food they eat
- Support and enable the development of innovative, collaborative and experimental projects which contribute to a sustainable whole food system across Greater Lincolnshire

The partnership is currently working on a range of projects, including academic research with the University of Lincoln, and exploring the creation of a local food ecosystem in Lincoln<sup>19</sup>. They have worked to develop a strategy for food provision which goes beyond food and aims to reduce dependency on food banks. This strategy is summarised in the diagram below, and will be shared at their upcoming Food Summit in November 2024.



### Citizens Advice

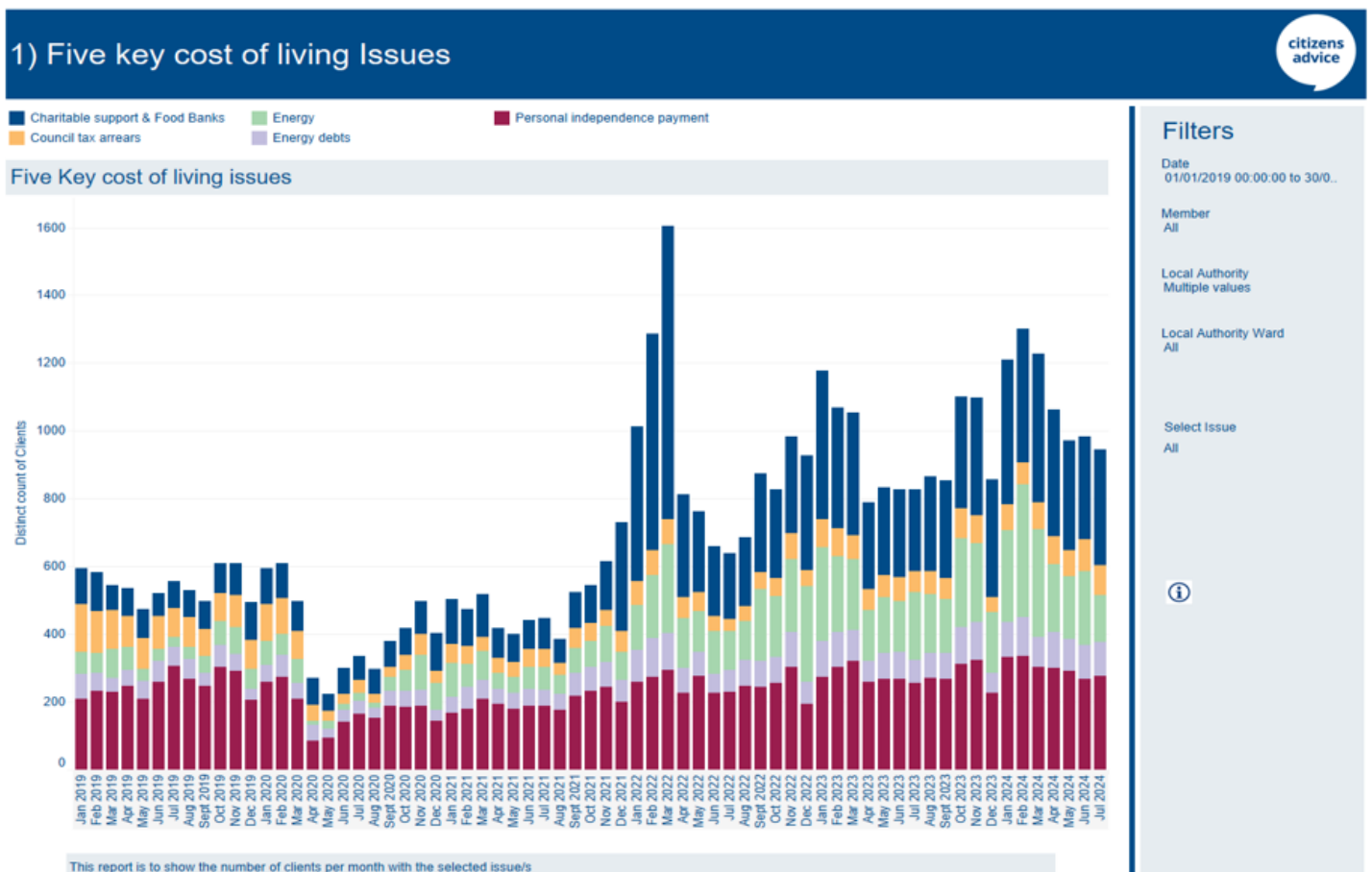
Citizen’s Advice are supporting residents across Lincolnshire with a wide range of issues. Information on their service and clients on a national level includes:

<sup>19</sup> [Current Projects – Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership](#)

- Millions of households have become reliant on emergency support since the cost-of-living crisis began
- Citizen’s Advice are on track to advise 90,000 people on local social welfare by the end of the year.
- Much of this support is temporary relief and does not address underlying causes of hardship, but for many, this support makes the difference between being able to eat or going hungry
- More than 60% of the people we help with crisis support are disabled or have a long-term health condition
- Citizen’s Advice clients represent some of the households with lowest income in our society

Five key cost of living issues that they support with are charitable support & food banks, energy, energy debts, council tax arrears and Personal Independence Payment. The figure below shows trends in the key issues that clients present with.

## Citizens’ Advice Lincolnshire Cost of Living Issues



## Acts Trust

Acts Trust's mission is around empowering people to end poverty. They aim to dig down and help people to understand root causes and wider issues around poverty and have a focus on not fixing people's problems for them but creating opportunities for them to overcome challenges themselves and make a difference to their own lives and those of the people around them.

Acts Trust run a 'Restore Programme', which is a programme of training support designed to empower those aged 18+ to understand and overcome issues of poverty. The Restore Programme consists of course modules designed to support those experiencing poverty, in particular those people who are economically inactive and those with mental health challenges. These modules will be run at various venues across the city such as Energize Youth Centre, Alive Church, Ermine Library, Beaumont Manor (Lincoln Community Grocery) and within the foodbank and Night Light Cafe locations. The programme will target the unemployed, particularly those who have been out of work for longer than 6 months, as well as those not fit for work (with the aim of empowering them to feel 'work ready'). It will also target people who have had to use foodbanks within the last 6 months, as this is an indicator of poverty and engage with referrals from multiple organisations across the city using the Restore Triage tool of the 'No Wrong Door'.

## No Wrong Door

No Wrong Door is a project encouraging organisations in Lincoln to take the approach that there is never a wrong door when you are asking for support. The project enables organisations to undertake smart signposting, by guiding people through a Needs Assessment that generates a personalised support plan. In the period September 2023 to August 2024, 118 guests were supported via the creation of a needs assessment. The most commonly identified areas where support was required are shown in the table below, however other areas of support identified included (but were not limited to) addiction, housing support, bereavement, clothing, support around domestic violence, and living with cancer.

<b>Support Requirements</b>	<b>Number</b>
Life Skills	42
Mental Health Evening Support	28
Budgeting	25
Daytime Activities (free Or Under £5)	23
Emergency Food Support	19
Employability	19
Benefits Support	18

Indoor Activities	18
Debt	17
Mental Health Daytime Support (Groups)	17
Mental Health Daytime Support (one-2-one)	17

As a result of the assessments of needs, referrals and support plans were put in place relating to a wide range of support services, including (but not limited to) Lincoln Foodbank, Lincoln Community Grocery, CAP Job Club, Night Light Café, Carers First Employment Support, Children’s Centres, Welfare Advice, and the Pelican Trust.

### Lincoln Embracing All Nations

Lincoln Embracing All Nations is made up “local residents, working to bring people together to celebrate the richness of our diversity, to facilitate an inclusive community and equal access to services and opportunities”<sup>20</sup>. They aim to do this by:

- supporting individuals through accredited information advice and guidance
- facilitating community activities acting as a bridge between mainstream services and our diverse communities.

### Food Banks and Food Projects

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*“There is no widely accepted definition of ‘food poverty’, but a household can broadly be defined as experiencing food poverty or ‘household food insecurity’ if they cannot (or are uncertain about whether they can) acquire ‘an adequate quality or sufficient quantity of food in socially acceptable ways’.”* **Source: House of Commons Library Briefing Paper Number 9209 - Food poverty: Households, food banks and free school meals, 30 April 2021**

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The city of Lincoln hosts a range of food related schemes that aim to alleviate food poverty by providing access to free or affordable food. These include food banks, community larders and community cafes, which are operated by a number of local and national partners, including local churches, the Lincoln Community Larder, Development Plus, Mint Lane Café, Acts Trust and the Trussell Trust. The support on offer by each provider is detailed in the table, and the location shown on map below.

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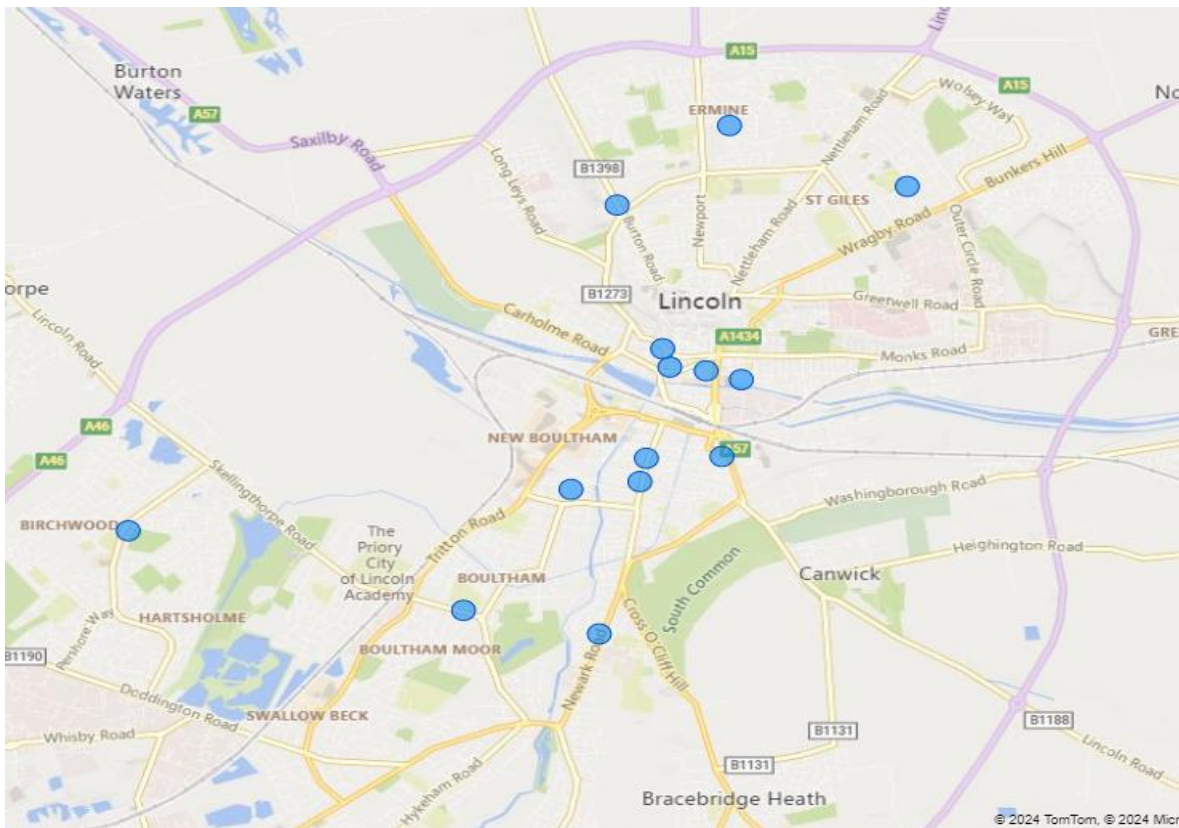
<sup>20</sup> [Who We Are - LEAN \(lincoln-lean.org.uk\)](https://lincoln-lean.org.uk)

## Table of Food Provision in Lincoln City

Food Provider	Lead Organisation	Location	Ward	Provision
<b>Love Your Neighbour @ St Swithin's Lincoln</b>	St Swithin's Church	The Salthouse, Free School Lane, Lincoln LN2 1EY	Abbey	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Lincoln Community Larder - YMCA Annexe</b>	Lincoln Community Larder	YMCA Annexe, Rosemary Lane, Lincoln LN2 5AR	Abbey	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Moorland Park Methodist Church</b>	Lincoln Foodbank - Acts Trust/Trussel Trust	46 Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln LN6 7RB	Boultham	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Lincoln Mosque Food Bank</b>	Lincoln Central Mosque	Lincoln Central Mosque & Cultural Centre Dixon Street, LN6 7DA	Boultham	Food Bank
<b>Mint Lane Café</b>	Mint Lane Café	12 Mint Lane, Lincoln LN1 1UD	Carholme	Community Café (requires payment)
<b>Mint Lane Friendship Fridge</b>	Community Fridge	12 Mint Lane, Lincoln, LN1 1UD	Carholme	Community Larder
<b>Lincoln Community Grocery</b>	Community Grocery	Beaumont Manor, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln LN1 1UL	Carholme	Community Larder & Community Grocery
<b>All Saints Foodbank</b>	All Saints of Lincolnshire Orthodox Church	All Saints of Lincolnshire Orthodox Church, Burton Road, Lincoln LN1 3TX	Castle	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Lincoln Community Larder – St Giles'</b>	Lincoln Community Larder	St Giles Methodist Church, 54-62 Addison Drive. Lincoln LN2 4LH	Glebe	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Birchwood Arise Church</b>	Lincoln Foodbank - Acts Trust/Trussel Trust	127 Birchwood Avenue, Lincoln LN6 0JE	Hartsholme	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Lincoln Community Larder – St John's</b>	Lincoln Community Larder	St John the Baptist Parish Hall, Laughton Way, Lincoln LN2 2ES	Minster	Food Bank & Community Larder

<b>Development Plus Project Compass</b>	Development Plus	97 High Street, Lincoln LN5 7QW	Park	Community Café (free)
<b>Lincoln Central Methodist Church</b>	Lincoln Foodbank - Acts Trust/Trussel Trust	Central Methodist Church, 123 High Street, Lincoln LN5 7PR	Park	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Bridge Community Hub/Lincoln Food Bank</b>	Lincoln Foodbank - Acts Trust/Trussel Trust	107-115 Newark Road, Lincoln LN5 8NQ	Park	Food Bank & Community Larder
<b>Central Community Café</b>	Bridge Church	Dunston House, Bridge Central, Portland Street, Lincoln	Park	Community Café (free)
<b>Food in School Holidays Project</b>	Bridge Church	Dunston House, Bridge Central, Portland Street, Lincoln	Park	Food project

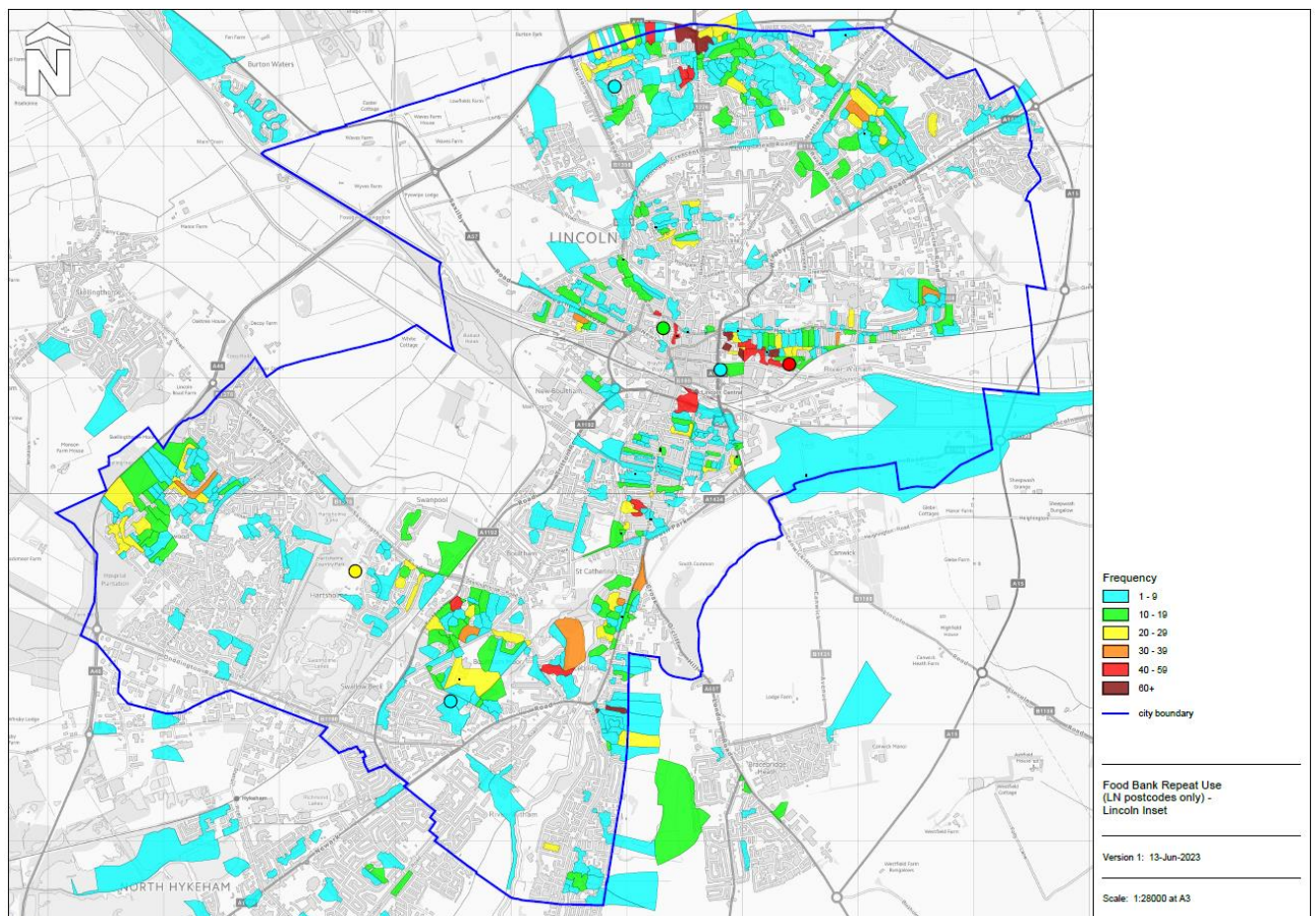
### Map of Food Provision in Lincoln City



When comparing provision to food bank usage based on 2023 postcode data provided by Acts Trust, this shows that there were particularly high level of access in the north of the city in the Ermine East and West areas, which were likely served

by the three food banks in the north of the city. Other areas where food bank use was recorded to be high include the Monks Road area in Abbey Ward, which is served by Monks Road and City Centre based food banks, and the west side of the Birchwood estate, which is served by the food bank a few streets away on Birchwood Avenue. The Boultham area of the city also had high levels of uptake, likely served by Moorland Park Methodist Church and the Lincoln Mosque Food Bank. In general, the areas of highest need, appear to have access to at least one local food bank.

## Food Bank Usage 2023 Heat Map



### Food for Children

**Healthy Start** - For children under 4, and for pregnant women, the Healthy Start scheme can be used to access milk, vegetables, infant formula, and vitamins<sup>21</sup>.

**Free School Meals** - The government's Free School Meals offer provides food for children in low-income households during term time, however during school holidays, this provision is disrupted, therefore other schemes exist to ensure access to meals over the holiday periods. Holiday Activities and Food Programme

<sup>21</sup> [Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)

(HAF) is a government funded programme, run by Lincolnshire County Council, that provides free holiday clubs for reception to year 11 pupils in receipt of benefits-related free school meals in Lincolnshire over the summer, Christmas and Easter holidays, and is designed to ensure a high-quality experience for children that will result in receiving healthy and nutritious meals and maintaining a healthy level of physical activity<sup>22</sup>.

**The FiSH (Food in School Holidays project)** - Operates in Lincoln as a way of providing vouchers for children who are eligible for free school meals. These vouchers can be exchanged in local shops for food during the school holidays<sup>23</sup>. This project began in 2016 as a result of the MASH (Monks Abbey School Holidays) project being opened out to city partners. FiSH projects run across the city (and different villages), and are co-ordinated administratively, across the summer, by Bridge Church. Funds are raised to underwrite enough vouchers to cover one voucher per week, per pupil identified. Therefore, a child will receive six vouchers redeemable at one per week. Currently, the value of each voucher is £12.50. The City of Lincoln Council has commissioned the project to cover each school in the city (at a value of £30,000). In the 2023/24 academic year, across six individual projects, a total of 593 children will be in receipt of these vouchers. For many families this will mean multiple packs of vouchers arriving home. The Bridge Church project covers the majority of those in receipt of vouchers (380 children)<sup>24</sup>.

**Lincolnshire Co-op** - Lincolnshire Co-op<sup>25</sup> works with Greater Lincolnshire Food Partnership and FareShare Midlands, run collections or food banks, fund over 200 primary school breakfast clubs via their Community Champions scheme, and support Health and Food (HAF) projects with extra funding to enable HAF providers to offer fruit and vegetables and taster activities.

### Other Food-Related Projects and Provision

Other organisations which either may operate within, or have the potential to operate within Lincolnshire, to provide free or affordable food include, but are not limited to:

**Fare Share** – *“the UK’s national network of charitable food redistributors, made up of 18 independent organisations. Together, we take good quality surplus food from right across the food industry and get it to nearly 8,500 frontline charities and community groups.”* - [FareShare | Fighting hunger, tackling food waste in the UK](#)

**The Gleaning Network** – *“The Gleaning Network is a network of groups, organisations, farmers, charities and keen volunteers who are all working to reduce farm-level food waste. The Gleaning Network exists to bring together and*

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<sup>22</sup> [Holiday Activities and Food Programme – Lincolnshire County Council](#)

<sup>23</sup> [FiSH Project Lincoln | Facebook](#) & [FiSH – Lincoln Baptist Church](#)

<sup>24</sup> With thanks to Bridge Church for information provided on the FiSH project.

<sup>25</sup> [Tackling Hunger | Lincolnshire Co-op](#)



empower communities, enabling them to salvage surplus food left on farms; food which can then be redistributed within the local area.” - [Gleaning Network - Fighting Food Waste Across the UK \(feedbackglobal.org\)](#)

**Feeding Britain** – “Feeding Britain is an award-winning charity with a vision of a UK where no one goes hungry. We support a national network of 105 regional and local anti-hunger partnerships comprising more than 700 frontline organisations – ranging from community centres and schools, to local authorities and social enterprises.” - [Home - Feeding Britain](#)

**Helpi** – “We’re supporting Sharing Centers worldwide, where people can directly and cost-free share food, clothes, books and other goods within communities.” - [Home | Helpi](#)

**Too Good To Go** – “a social impact company on a mission to inspire and empower everyone to fight food waste together. Our app is the world's largest marketplace for surplus food. We help users rescue good food from going to waste, offering great value for money at local stores, cafes and restaurants.” - [Too Good To Go | Save Good Food From Going To Waste – Too Good To Go](#)

**Sprout Club** – “SproutClub’s vision of allowing more people to grow together is becoming a reality. We are a small campaigning charitable organisation with big ambition. We are helping promote the idea of garden sharing by creating partnerships, and building networks and connections with food based charities and growing enthusiasts.” - [SproutClub](#)

**Olio** – “Beat waste with Olio: the app for finding what you need and sharing what you don’t with local people.” - [Olio - Your Local Sharing App \(olioapp.com\)](#)

## Hygiene Projects

In Kind Direct define hygiene poverty as “not being able to afford everyday personal hygiene products many of us take for granted like shampoo, toothpaste and period products” and report that there are 9 million people currently experiencing hygiene poverty in the UK<sup>26</sup>.



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<sup>26</sup> [End Hygiene Poverty - In Kind Direct](#)

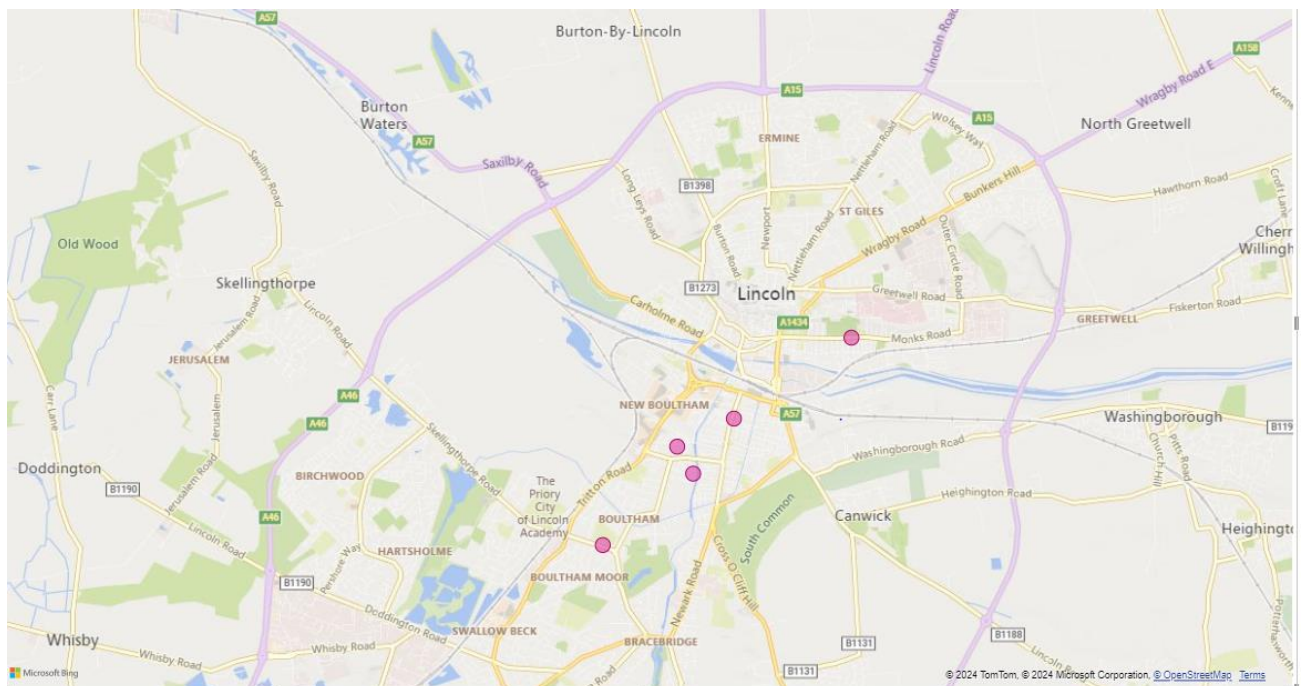
In the city of Lincoln, the Lincoln Hygiene Bank is run by The Centre for Reconciliation<sup>27</sup> whose mission is to collect donated personal hygiene and household cleaning products from the community, to put packs together for those who are struggling.

Local collection points for hygiene products in the city of Lincoln are:

- Lincoln Central Mosque, Dixon Street, Lincoln (Boultham Ward)
- RCCG The Victory Centre, Dixon Way Lincoln (Boultham Ward)
- All Saints Church, Monks Road, Lincoln (Abbey Ward)
- Lincoln Unitarian Chapel, High Street, Lincoln (Park Ward)
- Holy Cross Church, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln (Hartsholme Ward)<sup>28</sup>.

They also run other activities, including Chat Café, crafting groups, and Wheels for Life, a bike donation scheme.

## Map of Hygiene Product Provision in Lincoln City



## Period Poverty

In September 2023, Lincolnshire Live reported on the issue of period poverty affecting women and girls at school, and quoted figures from global hygiene and health company Essity which stated that 1 in 5 schoolgirls are in “period poverty” and have limited access to products<sup>29</sup>.

<sup>27</sup> [Lincoln Hygiene Bank - The Centre for Reconciliation \(tcf-reconciliation.org\)](https://www.tcf-reconciliation.org/)

<sup>28</sup> Photo by [Towfiq barbhuiya](#) on [Unsplash](#)

<sup>29</sup> [One in five schoolgirls in 'period poverty' with limited access to products - Lincolnshire Live](#)

Lincoln resident Kirsty Smith has been fighting against period poverty for several years and has been featured in the local press - *'The Tampax Lady': Lincoln woman's eight-year campaign for free period products*<sup>30</sup>. She arranges for



donations to be made to local community venues where the products can then be accessed by those in need and has set up an Amazon Wishlist<sup>31</sup>.

<sup>32</sup>

**The University of Lincoln** offers free access to sanitary products via 8 free vending machines across campus<sup>33</sup>, as part of their Period Dignity Project<sup>34</sup>, whilst **Lincoln College** offers a range of

free sanitary product to those that need them via their Student Services department<sup>35</sup>. **Bishop Grosseteste University** also provide on-campus support via free period products placed in toilet cubicles<sup>36</sup>. **East Midlands Railway** have a period dignity scheme “Package for Sandy” whereby free period products can be accessed at local railway stations, including Lincoln Central<sup>37</sup>.

Other organisations which either may operate within, or have the potential to operate within Lincolnshire, to provide free or affordable period products include, but are not limited to:

**Hey Girls** - “hey girls is revolutionising periods as the only social enterprise that donates 100% of our profit to funding the fight to eradicate period poverty” - [hey girls | Award Winning Period Product Social Enterprise](#)

**In Kind Direct** - “We work with charitable organisations and companies to ensure everyone has access to the products they need to keep clean, safe and well.” - [Home Page - In Kind Direct](#)

**Grace & Green** - “We are on a mission to ensure all workplaces and public spaces provide free period care and education” - [Period Dignity – Grace & Green \(graceandgreen.co\)](#)

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<sup>30</sup> ['The Tampax Lady': Lincoln woman's eight-year campaign for free period products \(mylocal.co.uk\)](#)

<sup>31</sup> [Amazon.co.uk](#)

<sup>32</sup> Photo by [Natracare](#) on [Unsplash](#)

<sup>33</sup> [SUggestions | University of Lincoln Students Union \(lincolnsu.com\)](#)

<sup>34</sup> [What's on campus? – Cost of Living Support \(lincoln.ac.uk\)](#)

<sup>35</sup> [Sanitary Products - Mental Health and Wellbeing - The Library at Lincoln College UK \(libguides.com\)](#)

<sup>36</sup> [Not A Luxury: How BGSU is tackling period poverty | Bishop Grosseteste University \(bgu.ac.uk\)](#)

<sup>37</sup> [East Midlands Railway celebrates success of period dignity scheme \(railadvent.co.uk\)](#)

## Clothing, School Uniform and Christmas Projects

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*“Clothing deprivation, as a result of poverty, is a large and growing problem in the UK and around the world.” – Source: Right To Clothing Campaign*

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**Baby's Basket** - Baby's basket is a charitable organisation dedicated to supporting financially struggling parents across Lincolnshire. It runs as a project of Bridge Church, Lincoln. They provide each Mum and baby with a Moses basket filled with essential baby items. These include vests, sleepsuits, outfits, cosy blankets, engaging toys, a bag of toiletries and nappies/wipes<sup>38</sup>

**Clothing Bank and Library** – Bridge Church run a clothing bank and library from their Bridge Community Venue. The Clothing bank is run in collaboration with Moorland Park Methodist Church and St George's, Swallowbeck Church. This operates via a referral process for a one-off gift of three sets of clothing based upon the stock available. The Clothing Library is operated by Bridge Church for children's clothing, and parents/carers of primary school age children are able to sign up and borrow up to six items of clothing at any one time<sup>39, 40</sup>

**Warm Rail** - A Warm Rail was established by community group “Compassionate Lincoln” in 2017<sup>41</sup>, and was based in various locations across the city, however due to the original Warm rail being burnt down in 2018<sup>42</sup>, clothing being stolen the scheme has now ended. A warm rail was set up in Lincoln Cathedral in 2022, however the clothing was stolen<sup>43</sup>, and the rail was not re-instated.

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<sup>38</sup> With thanks to Bridge Church for providing information on Baby's Basket.

<sup>39</sup> With thanks to Bridge Church for providing information on the Clothing Bank and Clothing Library.

<sup>40</sup> Photo by [ROBIN WORRALL](#) on [Unsplash](#)

<sup>41</sup> [Community group opens Lincoln's first Warm Rail - LSJ News](#)

<sup>42</sup> [Lincoln clothing rail for the homeless burnt down \(thelincolnite.co.uk\)](#)

<sup>43</sup> [Lincoln Cathedral clothes bank forced to close after every item taken - BBC News](#)

## School Uniform

Lincolnshire Co-op advertise local school uniform banks in Lincoln as being held at The Bridge Community Venue, Newark Road, Lincoln, LN5 8NQ and via Free Tea Friday, St John the Baptist Church, Sudbrooke Drive, Lincoln, LN2 2EF<sup>44</sup>

Vine Church in Cherry Willingham also runs a school uniform bank which is currently active<sup>4546</sup> *“Knowing that the cost of school uniform can be a considerable financial burden for families, we are working with the local primary and secondary schools to distribute pre-loved uniforms. Everything we distribute is in good condition, freshly washed, and free of charge”*. Their scheme primarily operates in Cherry Willingham.



In addition, the Diocese of Lincoln provides a Ready for School Fund<sup>47</sup> which *“is guided by an awareness of the effect on a child of being unable to participate in school activities alongside their peers because of belonging to a family living in poverty”*. This provides small grants of up to £100 per child to cover items such as revision booklets, coats, school uniform or PE kit, lunchboxes, cookery ingredients or art or maths equipment.

Generations Church in Louth provides a uniform bank for local families and reports that since they opened in 2016, they have provided 360 sets of uniform to families in Louth – which is approximately 3 sets per week<sup>48</sup>. This helps to set in context the need for this provision, even in a small market town. A further school uniform bank is held in Market Rasen<sup>49</sup>, however Lincoln appears to lack a co-ordinated approach to donating and distributing school uniform.

Examples of uniform bank provision which appear to be well-co-ordinated include, but are not limited to:

- Generations Church, Louth - [Uniform Bank - Generations Church](#)
- Kings Oak Uniform Bank in Oldbury in the West Midlands - [Kings Oak Uniform Bank](#)

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<sup>44</sup> [School uniform banks | Lincolnshire Co-op](#)

<sup>45</sup> [Uniform Exchange \(thevinecommunitychurch.org.uk\)](http://thevinecommunitychurch.org.uk)

<sup>46</sup> [Cherry Willingham - School Uniform - Vine Community Church | Facebook](#)

<sup>47</sup> [Ready For School Fund - Lincoln Diocese \(anglican.org\)](http://anglican.org)

<sup>48</sup> [Uniform Bank - Generations Church](#)

<sup>49</sup> [Market Rasen School Uniform Bank \(lovelincolnshirewolds.com\)](http://lovelincolnshirewolds.com)

- Vine Church, Cherry Willingham - [Cherry Willingham - School Uniform - Vine Community Church | Facebook](#)

### Christmas Projects

**Christmas Sacks** - a project run by Bridge Church which aims to aid in relieving of cost of living challenges at Christmas so that no family goes without. Bridge Church work with schools and local businesses across Lincoln to host Giving Trees, which are hung with printed tags for people to purchase presents. These cover various age ranges from baby through to teenagers, young adults and adults. The project works on a referral basis and families are then able to ‘shop’ for Christmas, without cost, from the donations we have received. We also donate food bags to higher need families, and a meat hamper closer to Christmas for those in particular need. In December 2023, the project supported 615 families<sup>50</sup>.

### Other Clothing-Related Projects and Provision

Other organisations which either may operate within, or have the potential to operate within Lincolnshire, to provide free or affordable clothing include, but are not limited to:

**Sharewear** – *“Sharewear Clothing Scheme offer free-of-charge clothing choices to people in economic difficulty, using a combination of a referral system for individuals and an outreach service for organisations ... As of October 2022, 250 organisations are referring into our Nottingham Client Access Centre and dozens of organisations in the East and West Midlands, South Yorkshire and North London order bulk outreach deliveries”* [SHAREWEAR \(sharewearclothingscheme.org\)](#)

**Smart Works** – Smart Works provide free, high- quality interview clothes for women alongside a range of other support. *“We are a UK charity that exists to give women the confidence they need to reach their full potential, secure employment and change the trajectory of their lives. ... The women who come to Smart Works are referred from Job Centres, mental health charities, women’s refuges, homeless shelters, the prison service, care service and youth organisations.”* [HomePage - Smart Works](#)

**Right to Clothing Campaign** – *“Our Right to Clothing Network is bringing together foodbanks, charities, campaigns, trade unions and organisations who want to see the right to clothing.”* [Home | Right to Clothing](#)

**Auriga** – *“We work with you to develop a referral pathway that best maximises your budget and meets your requirements”.* [Clothing vouchers | Auriga Services](#)

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<sup>50</sup> With thanks to Bridge Church for providing information about the Christmas Sacks project.

## Keeping Warm

### Warm Spaces

As part of the Warm Welcome Campaign<sup>51</sup> Warm Welcome Spaces in Lincoln were implemented for the period of December 2023 to March 2024. City of Lincoln Council provides information on the location and provision details for Warm Spaces operating in and around the city of Lincoln and describes that: *“These are community spaces which provide a warm welcome throughout the winter. They may provide activities and refreshments or space for activities to be pursued”*<sup>52</sup>.

### Table of Warm Space Provision In and Around Lincoln City

Organisation	Location	Ward	Warm Pack Distribution Centre**
<b>Nettleham Community Hub*</b>	Nettleham Community Hub, 1 East St, Nettleham, Lincoln	Nettleham – West Lindsey	
<b>Green Synergy</b>	49 Roman Pavement, Lincoln	Abbey	
<b>Our Lady of Lincoln</b>	Church Lounge, Laughton Way, Lincoln LN2 2HE	Minster	
<b>St Giles Methodist Church</b>	54-62 Addison Dr, Lincoln	Glebe	
<b>St Giles Parish Church</b>	Jubilee Halls, Lamb Gardens, Lincoln	Glebe	
<b>Vine Community Church</b>	The Vine Centre (Library), The Parade, Cherry Willingham, Lincoln	Cherry Willingham - West Lindsey	Yes
<b>The Well at Bailgate Methodist Church</b>	Bailgate Methodist Church, Bailgate Lincoln	Castle	
<b>Ermine Library Community Hub</b>	19 Ravendale Drive, Lincoln	Minster	Yes
<b>Community Winter Warmers*</b>	Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High St, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln LN1 2AX	Stow - West Lindsey	
<b>Bridge Central</b>	Portland Street, Lincoln	Park	Yes
<b>Bridge Community Hub</b>	Newark Road, Lincoln	Park	Yes
<b>Bridge Community Venue</b>	72A Newark Road, Lincoln	Park	
<b>Lincoln City Foundation</b>	LNER Stadium Sincil Bank, Lincoln LN5 8LD	Park	
<b>Love Your Neighbour Cafe</b>	The Salthouse, Fee School Lane, Lincoln	Abbey	
<b>Boultham Breakthrough Centre, Library, and Ignite Church</b>	Boultham Park Road. Lincoln	Boultham	

<sup>51</sup> [About Us | Warm Welcome Spaces](#)

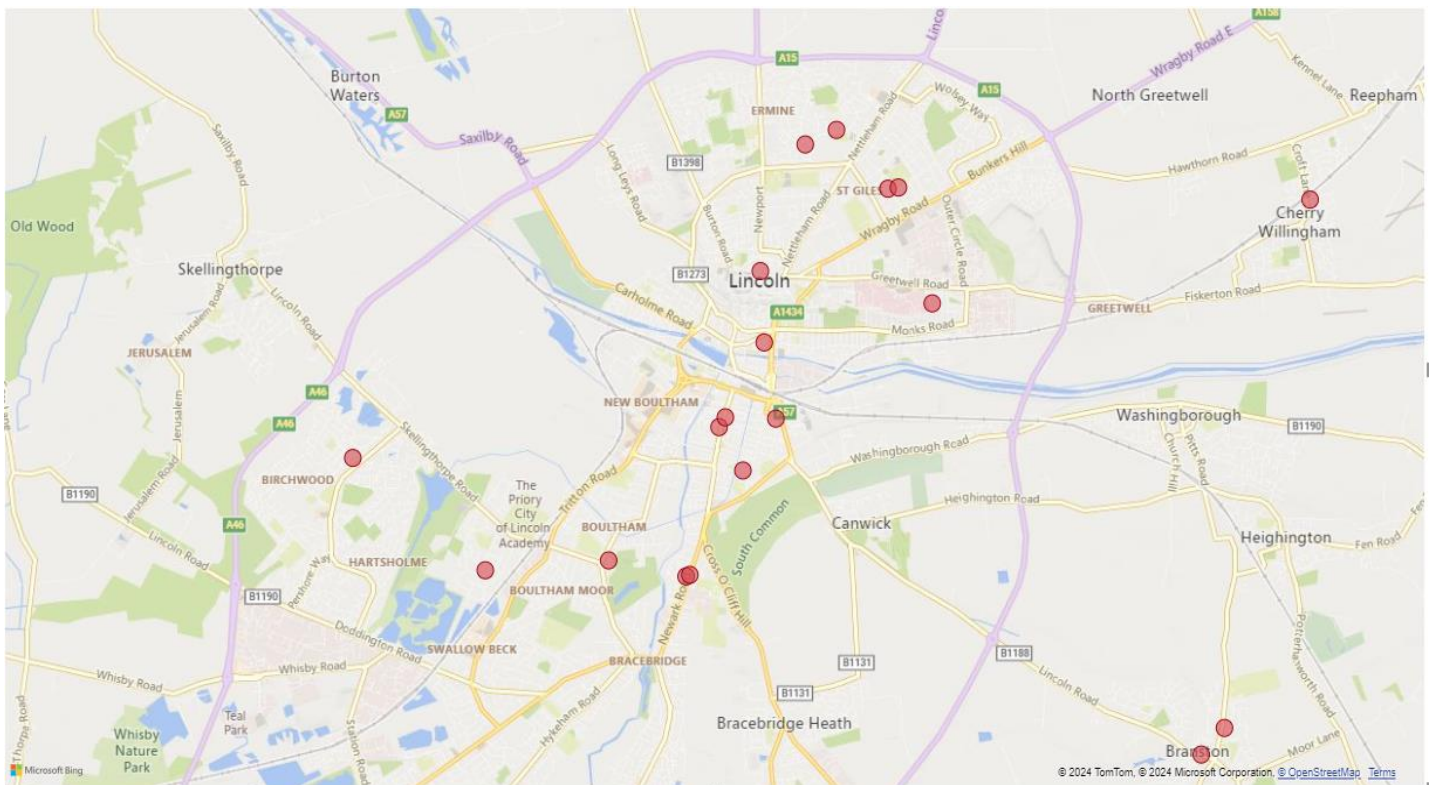
<sup>52</sup> [Warm Spaces Poster - Lincoln Area](#)

<b>Cosy Crafters, Blanket and Hygiene Bank</b>	Unitarian Chapel, 377 High Street, Lincoln	Park	
<b>Birchwood Breakthrough Centre, Library, and Ignite Church</b>	Larchwood Cres, Birchwood, Lincoln	Birchwood	
<b>St Michael's Church, Waddington*</b>	High Street, Waddington, LN5 9RF	Waddington – North Kesteven	Yes
<b>Adi's Legacy</b>	Hemswell Avenue, Hartsholme, Lincoln	Hartsholme	
<b>Salvation Army</b>	106 High Street, Lincoln	Park	
<b>Branston</b>	Branston Community Library, Community Academy, Station Rd, Branston, Lincoln LN4 1LH	Branston – North Kesteven	
<b>Branston</b>	Branston Home Guard Social Club 12 High St, Branston, Lincoln LN4 1NB	Branston – North Kesteven	
<b>Better - One NK*</b>	Moor Lane, North Hykeham	Hykeham Central – North Kesteven	

\*not shown on map

\*\* Additionally, Arise Church, Birchwood Avenue LN6 0JE also operates as a Warm Pack distribution centre.

## Map of Warm Spaces in Lincoln City





## Energy Efficiency Schemes

### **Winter Warm Pack Project –**

Bridge Church is involved in the Lincoln Winter Warm Pack Project, which is funded by Winter Pressures Funding as well as National Grid funding. The project operates on a referral basis, with Bridge Church working with partners from across the city and region, using an online referral system administered by Acts Trust. Each warm pack is bespoke to the referral, but can contain: a double blanket, carbon monoxide monitor, draught excluder tape, a single electric blanket, a hot water bottle, a draught excluder, radiator insulation foil, a radiator valve key, slipper socks, a wearable blanket and window insulation film. Partnering with the countywide project, additional items previously provided have been: a self-heating foil blanket, a SIM card and a water saving brochure. The purpose of the pack is to support vulnerable adults and children with cutting the costs of heating, but keeping themselves or a room warmer.<sup>53</sup>

**Home Energy Upgrade Scheme** – Residents in properties with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of E, F or G and a household income of less than £30k per year are eligible to apply for support to make energy efficiency improvements<sup>54</sup>.

**Lincs4Warmer Homes: LEAD Project** - Provides support to residents living in buildings that are hard-to-modify. The upgrades range from sustainable heating systems like heat pumps, through to external wall insulation, making a home easier to heat

Due to the volume of claims received to the Household Support Fund in the city of Lincoln, the online application process has now closed<sup>55</sup>.

## 3. Summary

### **Organisational Mapping**

Based on their aims and the activities, organisations operating within Lincoln have been mapped according to the different aspects of tackling poverty that they are involved in. The diagram below aims to begin to capture this involvement and to understand who is doing what in terms of tackling poverty in the city.

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<sup>53</sup> With thanks to Bridge Church for providing information on the Winter Warm Pack Project.

<sup>54</sup> [Cost of Living Support – City of Lincoln Council](#)

<sup>55</sup> [Lincs 4 Warmer Homes | Lincolnshire \(connecttosupport.org\)](#) [Cost of Living Support – City of Lincoln Council](#)

## Map of Organisations Tackling Poverty in Lincoln



### Gaps in Provision

Using data described in the report, a summary table of the level of need and level of current provision in the city has been collated to highlight where the correct level of support is in place, and show any gaps in provision. Orange denotes need, with the darker the colour, the greater the evidenced need. Green denotes provision, with the darker the colour, the higher the level of provision. This has been broken down by Ward to provide an at-a-glance overview of the city, however more detailed LSOA level data is also available in the appendices which accompany this report.

From this we can see, amongst many other things, that:

- Level of need in Park ward is high across a range of measures, but that a good level of provision is in place.
- Almost every ward is affected by Physical Health and Wellbeing needs.
- Homelessness needs are high across the vast majority of the city.
- Birchwood and Moorland wards lack their own food bank locations (by postcode) despite poverty needs being evidenced. However, food banks are available nearby in neighbouring wards.

- The greatest level of deprivation affecting children according to the IMD is in Glebe ward, however this is not strongly evidenced by the LVIS Child Poverty scores.
- There are no hygiene bank collection points in the north of the city.
- Residents in Abbey ward are more likely to face barriers to accessing transport.
- More areas in Park ward have deprivation levels that affect older people than any other ward.
- The highest level of Warm Space provision is based in Park ward (6), but the area has a similar number of residents affected by fuel poverty as Abbey ward, which only has 1 warm space.

### Diagram of Needs and Provision

Ward	Number of LSOAs	LSOAs with LVIS Poverty High Score	LSOAs with LVIS Child Poverty - High Score	LSOAs with LVIS Food Poverty High Score	LSOAs with LVIS Fuel Poverty High Score	LSOAs with LVIS Homelessness High Score	LVIS Employment and Skills	LVIS Crime and Safety	LVIS Barriers to Transport	LVIS Mental Health and Wellbeing	LVIS Physical Health and Wellbeing	LSOAs with IMD Rank in bottom 1000	LSOAs with IMD Decile 1&2	LSOAs with Income Deprivation Affecting Children IDACI	LSOAs with Income Deprivation Affecting Older People IDAOPI	Food Banks/Other food provision	Warm Spaces	Hygiene Banks
Abbey	5	3	2	1	2	3	1	2	4	1	3	0	1	2	2	2	1	1
Birchwood	6	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	0
Boultham	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	3	1	2
Carholme	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Castle	4	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	0
Glebe	6	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	1	4	4	2	1	2	0
Hartsholme	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Minster	5	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	3	1	1	2	0
Moorland	5	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	3	3	1	0	0	0
Park	6	5	2	0	2	4	1	2	3	2	5	0	2	3	4	5	0	1
Witham	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

Report compiled by  
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## Appendix A: City of Lincoln Council – Anti Poverty Action 2014-2016

Links to the statistical evidence, case studies and literature reviews are broken and cannot be accessed, nor can the homepage of the website [www.lincolnagainstopoverty.co.uk](http://www.lincolnagainstopoverty.co.uk), however details of the strategy and action plan can be found via links to the [www.democratic.lincoln.gov.uk](http://www.democratic.lincoln.gov.uk) website and are summarised below<sup>56</sup>.

The campaign resulted in the creation of the Lincoln Anti-Poverty Strategy 2014-2016<sup>57</sup>, a “Poverty in Lincoln “ report, and an “Evidence Base” detailing the underpinning statistical analysis<sup>58</sup>. The strategy had involvement from Cllr Karen Lee, Chair of Community Leadership Scrutiny Committee, Simon Walters, Asst. Director, Chief Executive’s Dept and James Wilkinson, Policy and Information Officer, who are named as contacts in case of any query. The strategy’s objectives were:

1. Helping people maximise their income
2. Making the move into work easier
3. Helping with the cost of raising a child
4. Breaking the link between poor health and poverty
5. Making sure older people get the services they need
6. Improving the condition of people’s homes
7. Working in a joined up way.

The campaign utilised a definition of poverty from Townsend, P. (1979) cited by PSE UK (2013) Deprivation and Poverty:

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*“Individuals, families and groups in the population can be said to be in poverty when they lack the resources to obtain the types of diet, participate in the activities, and have the living conditions and amenities which are customary, or at least widely encouraged or approved, in the societies to which they belong. Their resources are so seriously below those commanded by the average individual or family that they are, in effect, excluded from ordinary patterns, customs and activities.” - Townsend, P. (1979) cited by PSE UK (2013) Deprivation and Poverty*

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Key headline figures reported in the strategy included that at the time:

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<sup>56</sup> [The Lincoln Anti-Poverty Strategy - Appendix A.pdf](#) and [Microsoft Word - Anti-Poverty Action Plan 2014-15 \(lincoln.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>57</sup> [The Lincoln Anti-Poverty Strategy - Appendix A.pdf](#) – copy marked as “draft”

<sup>58</sup> Neither the report nor the evidence base document could be found on the City of Lincoln Council's website as of August 2024.

- Seven areas in the city were considered within the most 10% deprived within the country.
- 4,500 children in the city lived in low income families. This accounted for 23.8% of children compared to 20.1% across England. Two thirds of children in poverty were aged 10 or younger and rates differed across the city with some wards having as many as 33% of children in relative poverty
- 6,500 Lincoln households were experiencing fuel poverty - 16.3% of all households compared to 11% across England.
- There were 7,700 non decent owner occupied homes and 3,700 non decent privately rented dwellings in the City. There were 1,000 households (2.5%) with no central heating
- In 2013, one food bank alone issued over 30,500 emergency meals. LCAS approved 1,130 in the first six months - the highest for any district
- 8,530 residents were experiencing worklessness in the city. This accounted for 13.1% of the working age population, compared to 10.9% across England. Of these 2,655 people were claiming unemployment benefit.
- 20% of employed lowest earners in the city were estimated to earn below £12,000pa
- There were 17,000 residents whose day to day activities were limited due to long term health or disability issues

An action plan linked to the strategy was produced for Mach 2014 -February 2015<sup>59</sup> and included actions for a wide range of organisations, including:

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● City of Lincoln Council          | ● Voluntary Sector Services   |
| ● The Illegal Money Lending Scheme | ● Citizens Advice Bureau      |
| ● HMP Lincoln                      | ● University of Lincoln       |
| ● Acts Trust                       | ● Lincolnshire County Council |
| ● Christians Against Poverty       | ● Lincolnshire Advice Network |
| ● Lincolnshire Credit Union        | ● Age UK                      |

No further information about this campaign has been found during this research

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<sup>59</sup> [Microsoft Word - Anti-Poverty Action Plan 2014-15 \(lincoln.gov.uk\)](https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/anti-poverty-action-plan-2014-15)