

L.C.C. Jan / Feb report

Highways.

The Highways Department is being re-organised.

Kevin Brumfield has decided to take early retirement and will finish in early March, the Thurlby Depo will continue as a Gritting base, but there will only be Clerical staff in the Office, the Highways Officers will now be located at Sleaford.

Rowan Smith will be the Area Manager.

Finance.

It at the moment looks like the increase in Council Tax will be about 1.9%, with 2% for Social Care making a total of 3.9%.

The Gov has allowed Councils to put 6% on the Council Tax for Social Care over the next 3 Financial years either 2% each year or 3% for 2 years and nothing in the last year.

The Police are looking to put their bit up by 2% as well.

Health.

The Lincolnshire United Hospital Trust ( L.U.H.T.) has produced their Sustainability and Transformation Plans ( STPs), this plan in its present form has some good points, but some of it is totally unelectable, like the downgrading of Maternity Services at Boston and Grantham, with the only fully operational full Mat Service at The County Hospital in Lincoln and the down grading of the A & E at Grantham.

The effect on this part of the County would be indirect as it would mean that more and more People would use Peterborough, more treatments means more money, but could the Trust cope with the extra work load, I heard recently that there were 16 people on trollies in the corridors & 4 in Ambulances waiting to be admitted to A & E, due to lack of beds.

L.U.H.T. looks after about 40% of the population of Lincs, the other 60% go to Hospitals outside the County Like Kings Lyn, Peterbrough, Nottingham, Doncaster & Grimsby.

Referendum.

There is a proposal to have a Referendum on the 4<sup>th</sup> May ( the same time as the County Council Elections) to see if the population think it is a good idea to look at Lincs becoming a Unitary Authority or not.

This will be debated at the Full Council meeting on the 24th Feb.