

District Councillors Helpringham Sept 2026

LGR

On 7 September 2026, the UK Government announced a **major pause and review of its Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) plans** across England

The pause on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) **directly halts the planned dissolution of Lincolnshire's existing council system**, which was set to completely reshape local politics by **1 April 2028**

Immediate Impact on Lincolnshire Councils

- **Status Quo Maintained:** For the foreseeable future, **all eight existing councils** will remain fully operational under their current structures. They will continue to split services (such as bin collections via districts and highways via the county) as they always have.
- **2027 Local Elections:** Elections scheduled for May 2027 will now **go ahead on existing council boundaries** as standard. Shadow authority elections for the aborted new super-councils will not happen.

I'm sure far more information will follow over the coming weeks.

Southgate level crossing

Lincolnshire County Council has confirmed that the Southgate level crossing in Sleaford is now back open, as its work continues on improvements to Grantham Road. The scheme is making great progress with just two weeks of work left before it's complete.

The remaining traffic management will be two-way temporary traffic lights, in place between 9am and 3pm on weekdays while the final works are completed. The advice to road users is to please allow a little extra time for your journey while these works continue.

Once finished, the improvements will provide a safer, smoother and more reliable road surface, making journeys in and out of Sleaford better for everyone.

Find out more about roadworks in Lincolnshire at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/roadworks

Bass Maltings

NKDC facilitated a site visit to Bass Maltings last week at the request of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The visit included Sleaford's MP, Caroline Johnson, and representatives of Historic England, the landowner, NKDC and various heritage bodies. This follows the recent inclusion of Bass Maltings in the Historic England Heritage Investment Prospectus. The visit was an opportunity for the parties to familiarise themselves with the scale and heritage value of the site and buildings, coming in advance of a planned meeting in early September. This meeting, convened by MHCLG, aims to further scope potential options for the Maltings site and build support for any future projects.

Council Leader, Cllr Richard Wright, said "After much work behind-the-scenes we are gratified to see the renewed interest in Bass Maltings, and welcome the national attention it draws to Sleaford and North Kesteven as a whole. We are grateful to Historic England for including the Maltings in their Heritage Investment Prospectus, which has helped to spark this refreshed momentum.

"We have long advocated for the potential of Bass Maltings and of North Kesteven as a whole, and although there are no specific proposals being put forward at this stage, we'll continue to work proactively with partners to see plans develop in a way that benefits our community."

Lincs Alert

Did you know that you can get timely, trusted updates through Lincs Alert? It's the free and secure messaging service run by Lincolnshire Police.

Stay one step ahead with local crime updates, safety advice and community news, helping you make informed decisions and help keep your community safer.

NK Community Champion Awards 2026 – call for nominations

It is time to nominate and celebrate people who make a positive difference to lives and communities across North Kesteven through kind consideration and voluntary endeavour.

On the back of Volunteers' Week, nominations are invited for this year's NK Community Champion Awards, which are backed by community-minded businesses within the District and co-ordinated by NKDC. Read the full press release on the [Council's website](#). Deadline 14th September

Share your views on policing and communication

The Lincolnshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is carrying out research to understand how people contact Lincolnshire Police, access information about policing, and how these services could work better in the future.

The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete, and participants can enter a prize draw to win a £100 shopping voucher or one of two £50 shopping vouchers.

If you would like to have your say, simply [complete the survey](#). It is available in different languages

Sleaford stakes its claim as UK Town of Culture

A bid for Sleaford to be the UK's first Town of Culture in 2028 has been made to Government, highlighting the town's rich heritage, creative spirit and distinctive characteristics.

Sleaford's submission comes from the Sleaford Culture & Heritage Forum, comprising local cultural organisations, creatives, heritage groups and community partners, including the District Council.

It is made in response to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Town of Culture competition which comes with has a top prize of £3m to deliver cultural programmes in 2028, and two further packages of £250,000.

Read the full story on the [Council website](#)

Cinema planning application premieres

The planning application outlining the vision for Sleaford's four-screen cinema has been submitted.

Following the earlier announcement that through a joint investment package North Kesteven District Council and operators Savoy Cinemas Ltd are working to bring this aspiration to reality, it is now confirmed that the planning application for a new riverside building at Money's Yard has been lodged.

Read the full press release on the [Council's website](#)