

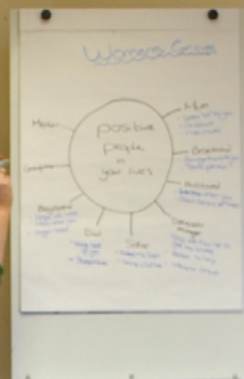


# ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

LINCOLNSHIRE



RECONNECTING  
OFFENDERS WITH  
THE COMMUNITY  
SINCE 2000







# OUR VISION

The vision of Lincolnshire Action Trust is that all offenders are treated with respect, have equality of opportunity and are empowered to achieve their full potential.

# CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION



**"I invite you to read this Report, which provides an account of the work of the Lincolnshire Action Trust during 2016-17."**

Once again the Trust is extending its activities and developing new ways of operating in different settings within the criminal justice system. Our staff continue to show their professionalism, and high levels of commitment in working with offenders and their families and with children and youngsters who have a parent with alcohol or drug dependency issues. The dedicated support offered to clients of our services is demonstrated in the commendable performance outcomes which are achieved across a wide range of projects. In consequence, our partners and funders continue to have confidence in our organisation and invest in our future.

The Trust is operating in difficult economic times for the public sector and we remain aware that the high quality services we deliver must offer value for money too. This is possible because the Trust is well managed and effectively led by a very competent Chief Executive and her management team. The Board of the Trust engage in active and responsive governance and fully support the expanding range of work outlined in this report. I am pleased to pay tribute to all the Trustees, and to our volunteer mentors and to thank them for their unpaid support of our talented and increasing number of employed staff.

**SHERIDAN L MINSHULL**  
**CHAIR**

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT



**"I remain very proud to lead an organisation that is changing people's lives for the better on a daily basis."**

The last 12 months have been yet another busy period for Lincolnshire Action Trust. Everyone working both within the third sector and within the criminal justice field knows what a tough year it has been, with continued austerity measures, and further welfare and prison reform affecting still more individuals. This has resulted in the work of charities such as ours becoming more of a lifeline than ever to those on the margins of society.

Despite significant changes in the funding landscape and greater pulls on external funding, we have successfully introduced a number of new initiatives this year, each responding to specific needs. These include a new resettlement provision at HMP Stafford, building on our reputation of effectively resettling men convicted of sexual offences; a Women's Service across Greater Lincolnshire; a new Mentoring provision for adult offenders in the community; an employment support service aimed at partners of men held at HMP Lincoln; and a Money Mentoring service for offenders in the community.

I remain very proud to lead an organisation that is changing people's lives for the better on a daily basis. Our staff and volunteers are incredibly committed and passionate about making a difference and their tenacity is an inspiration. I'd also like to acknowledge the continued wise and robust governance provided by our Chair and Board of Trustees. Finally, I'd like to thank our growing range of funders; we simply could not have the impact that we do without their support.

**ALISON GODDARD**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## OUR VALUES

We aspire to demonstrate the following core values in everything we do:



### Achievement

To achieve the best outcome for others and myself



### Inspiration

To positively motivate and influence others



### Quality

To work to the highest standards at all times



### Respect

To be respectful and considerate to others



### Empowerment

To give power to individuals and encourage them to increase their confidence



## CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES

The Trust is governed by the following charitable objects:

- the care, resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders and those at risk of offending, their families and dependents in the county of Lincolnshire
- to provide, promote, support or organise the recruitment and training of any offender, and those at risk of offending and to assist them in finding employment, and accommodation and to rehabilitate themselves
- to relieve the suffering of families and carers whose lives have been affected by substance misuse in Lincolnshire by providing support and information to help reduce drug and alcohol related harm
- to further and promote the study of and research into, all aspects and methods of the prevention of crime, social exclusion and delinquency and to obtain and make records of and disseminate information concerning the same



# EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

**Sustainable employment remains the single most effective factor in reducing the risk of re-offending and Lincolnshire Action Trust has delivered employability interventions to offenders in the community continually since 2001.**

Due to changes in the focus of our funders, our work now focuses on those furthest from the labour market and we therefore work intensively with smaller numbers of individuals, many of whom enrol whilst still in custody. During the year we have commenced support with over 500 individuals to reduce barriers and support progression towards employability. Of these, 286 have been supported to access at least one 'support measure' to address barriers such as substance misuse, debt, or health and wellbeing. 131 have also achieved an accredited vocational course to enhance their employability. Much of our focus at the start of our support focuses on 'soft outcomes' including disclosure advice, interview skills training and improved confidence when job-searching, in order to progress individuals further towards employment.

During the period we have also started to deliver an employability support provision for families of prisoners at HMP Lincoln. This support is offered via our visitors centre at the prison and aims to assist family members, usually partners, to explore learning and work aspirations they may have, now their circumstances have changed. The provision is able to work intensively with a small number of people to build self confidence and develop skills. Since the provision commenced in October, 12 clients have enrolled.



## MARK'S STORY

**Mark has done a lot of work to address his offending behaviour during his seven years in prison but was feeling anxious about an oral hearing which could lead to him being released or transferred to an open prison.**

He acknowledged that he felt unprepared for his release and therefore sought the support of CFO3. Mark was nervous about the thought of being released to an area that he was unfamiliar with. He was keen to focus on the future and to plan ahead, so his Case Manager supported him to access two accredited courses to improve his confidence and enhance his employment prospects on release, as well as referring him for support from a volunteer mentor, working on his CV, brushing up on interview techniques and guiding him through disclosure. Mark is now feeling ready to tackle the challenges and opportunities that his oral hearing will bring. His confidence has grown in such a way that he is now a mentor on the wing; giving advice to other prisoners as first point of call before they submit applications.





## KATIE'S STORY

**Katie was 11 years old when she first accessed Young Oasis. Her mother had passed away two years previously due to a heroin overdose.**

Katie lived with her aunt, who felt she was struggling to come to terms with her mother's death. Katie was very frustrated which often resulted in angry outbursts and she also felt confused as to why her mother ultimately chose drugs over her. She did not want to be seen in school as she was worried about what other pupils would say and also about feeling emotional after sessions and having to return to class.

Young Oasis discussed making a memory box, as well as a 'thoughts and feelings diary', which she could share with her Support Worker at any point. Sessions also focused on Katie's anger; what triggered this and how she could have better control over this. This involved lots of talking and listening and by incorporating some worksheets it helped Katie to be able to recognise when she was getting angry and healthy ways in which to calm down and process her thoughts. Her Support Worker also worked through the grief process, using age appropriate materials. This helped her recognise the different stages of bereavement from the start – shock and numbness, to the end – acceptance. Katie was able to understand that all of these stages were a normal part of an ongoing journey, what she had already overcome, and that things could get better.

Katie's progress star was reviewed regularly and this indicated that she was managing the bereavement better and felt more supported as she had someone to talk to outside of the family circle. It also showed that her emotional wellbeing was improving.

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**LAT has continued to deliver a number of interventions for children and families during the last year.**

This has included a dedicated family Support Worker to maintain family links and reduce the impact of having a family member in custody. 106 new cases have been opened for in-depth support over the last year and a further 522 children have been supported during visits to the prison. Adult visitors to HMP Lincoln are supported via our FIRST team (Family Intervention and Release Support Team), and over 2,000 interventions have been delivered during the year.

We have continued to deliver parenting courses for prisoners at HMP Lincoln and HMP North Sea Camp and for offenders in the community, with 99 individuals having attended a course during the last year.

Our Young Oasis project supports children and young people who are affected by parental substance misuse. Many are involved in safeguarding, child in need and team around the child proceedings, and Young Oasis often provides the key trusted relationship with the young person. During the year, 29 new children have engaged with Young Oasis.







## RESETTLEMENT

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**The scope and nature of prison based resettlement services has changed significantly since the national introduction of Transforming Rehabilitation in May 2015 and it is now often left to voluntary sector providers to fill the gaps left by these national contracts. LAT has continued to offer resettlement interventions at a number of prisons to assist prisoners to plan for their release.**

LAT's highly innovative 'Departure Lounge' facility has continued to go from strength to strength over the last year. Every prisoner released from HMP Lincoln passes through the facility and is offered support from our staff. During the year 883 prisoners engaged with the service (85% of releases), accessing a range of support including sourcing accommodation, making contact with Probation to check a reporting time or directions to the train station. Prisoners are encouraged to return to the FIRST Centre if they require further support in the future. We also provide a 'release pack' containing essentials such as toothbrush, toothpaste, contraception, clean socks and underwear, a bottle of water and key contact information. The Departure Lounge has also engaged with 148 friends or family members to provide information

and advice at the point of release. The facility encourages Probation, support agencies and mentors to wait for prisoners on the morning of release and can arrange private interview rooms for immediate interventions to take place. Prisoners are informed about the facility by LAT staff during induction and families are told about it by LAT staff when they attend visits.

Our 'Release Support' provision provides intensive pre and post release support for a small number of individuals with multiple needs at HMP Lincoln. The provision aims to co-ordinate all aspects of an individual's release plans from each agency and then provide support for the individual to successfully engage with the support identified. 47 new clients have been supported during the year.

During the latter part of the year we have commenced resettlement support at a further prison that holds adult males convicted of sexual offences. Our interventions cover the pathways of employment, training and education; accommodation; and finance and debt and we support men at all stages during their time within these prisons.



## DEBBIE'S STORY

**Debbie is a single mum, who has recently lost custody of her young daughter to her ex-partner due to her alcohol use.**

Debbie has had low self confidence since her early teens, a situation she says is due to a very negative relationship with her mother. This, along with a controlling relationship with her ex-partner, are the main triggers of her use of alcohol.

Debbie was referred to the Women's Service by her Offender Manager and attends the group weekly. Initially she was withdrawn and didn't engage with the other women, but she is slowly building her confidence. She was also referred for support to a local treatment agency and our Women's Practitioner initially attended with her. Debbie's confidence continues to grow and she has now attended a number of short vocational courses to keep herself busy and motivated. Her alcohol use continues to reduce, which is a significant achievement for Debbie.

At a recent court appearance, the Magistrate commended Debbie's progress and sentenced her to a conditional discharge. Debbie continues to make small, positive steps to improving her life, and being a positive role model to her daughter.

## WOMEN'S SERVICE

**The National Offender Management Service has a core principle that women offenders require a bespoke service to respond appropriately to their needs in order to desist from offending.**

Emerging evidence suggests that women offenders respond better in women-only environments where they feel safe, where rehabilitation and self efficacy are core principles, and where services are sensitive to the contextual situation than can affect a women's ability to engage. Humberside, Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company (HLNY CRC) therefore commissioned Lincolnshire Action Trust to establish a women's service for the Greater Lincolnshire area from 1st January 2017. The service will offer specific support to women in each main town across the area with a combination of group work and one-to-one support available, working closely with Offender Managers. 19 new women have been supported in the first three months of the provision.

## FINANCE AND DEBT

Since January 2017, we have been offering a new financial capability provision for offenders and their families.

The 'Money Mentor' project aims to support individuals to improve their financial skills so they are able to progress with their lives. In the final three months of the year, 11 clients have engaged with the provision.

# COURTS PROVISION

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**Our SPARC project (Supporting People After Remand or Conviction) continues to provide assessment and support at Court immediately following sentence or remand, with support continuing on arrival at HMP Lincoln and throughout the period of sentence or remand.**

698 individuals have been assessed during the year and needs we have responded to have included contacting family members, arranging for children to be collected from school, crisis mental health referrals, arranging medical prescriptions and retrieving belongings, including pets.



## MENTORING

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**LAT has continued to recruit and train volunteer mentors during the last year.**

The focus of our mentoring activities has been on young offenders supervised by Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service and young people subject to Anti-Social Behaviour arrangements, as well as adult offenders accessing the CFO3 employability project. 113 new clients have been referred during the year.





## FUNDING

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**Lincolnshire Action Trust relies on support from a range of funding sources to undertake the activities described in this Report. We would therefore like to acknowledge and thank the following;**

- APM (Advanced Personnel Management)
- Austin & Hope Pilkington Trust
- BBC Children in Need
- Big Lottery Fund
- Changing Lives Fund
- Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Rutland Community Rehabilitation Company
- European Social Fund
- HM Prison Service
- Humberside, Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company
- Investors in Lincoln
- Jane Tomlinson Appeal
- Kesteven Children in Need
- Liberty Personnel Project
- Lincolnshire County Council
- Lincolnshire Economic Action Partnership
- Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- New Provincial Benevolent Fund
- No Way Trust Ltd
- Oasis Substance Misuse Charity
- Persimmon Homes Ltd
- Purple Futures
- Woodhall Spa Baths Trust
- And a number of individual donors

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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**Lincolnshire Action Trust is a company limited by guarantee (number 4108372) and a registered charity (number 1089130), governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.**

**Sheridan Minshull**, Chair

**Elaine Baylis**, Vice Chair

**Roy Harper**

**Derek Smith**

**Linda Withers**

**John Carpenter**, Treasurer

**Alison Goddard**, Company Secretary

### Accountant:

#### Streets Chartered Accountants

Tower House, Lucy Tower Street, Lincoln, LN1 1XW

### Bankers:

#### Co-operative Bank

PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

### Solicitors:

#### Andrew & Co

St Swithin's Court, 1 Flavin Road, Lincoln, LN2 4GR

### Auditors:

#### Streets Audit LLP

Tower House, Lucy Tower Street, Lincoln, LN1 1XW

# ACCOUNTS

## Statement of financial activities

Incorporating income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
<b>Incoming From:</b>				
Donations and legacies	2,090	-	2,090	38,728
Charitable activities	763,871	57,246	821,117	777,194
Investments	9,399	-	9,399	9,003
<b>Total income</b>	<b>775,360</b>	<b>57,246</b>	<b>832,606</b>	<b>824,925</b>
<b>Expenditure On:</b>				
Charitable activities	712,957	63,562	776,519	702,265
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>712,957</b>	<b>63,562</b>	<b>776,519</b>	<b>702,265</b>
<b>Net Income / (Expenditure)</b> before other recognised gains and losses	<b>62,403</b>	<b>(6,316)</b>	<b>56,087</b>	<b>122,660</b>
<b>Net Movement In Funds</b>	<b>62,403</b>	<b>(6,316)</b>	<b>56,087</b>	<b>122,660</b>
<b>Reconciliation Of Funds:</b>				
<i>Total funds brought forward</i>	<b>994,968</b>	<b>5,056</b>	<b>1,000,024</b>	<b>877,364</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,057,371</b>	<b>(1,260)</b>	<b>1,056,111</b>	<b>1,000,024</b>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

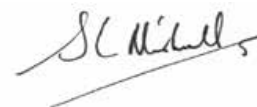


## Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2017

	2017	2016
£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	7,505	11,708
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	231,077	122,840
Investments	799,556	794,937
Cash at bank and in hand	118,616	116,012
	1,149,249	1,033,789
<b>Creditors:</b>		
Amounts falling due within one year	(100,643)	(45,473)
<b>Net current assets</b>	1,048,606	988,316
<b>Net Assets</b>	1,056,111	1,000,024
<b>Charity funds</b>		
Restricted funds	(1,260)	5,056
Unrestricted funds	1,057,371	994,968
<b>Total funds</b>	1,056,111	1,000,024

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14 June 2017 and signed on their behalf, by:



**Sheridan Lincoln Minshull, Chair**

Lincolnshire Action Trust  
**Registered Office:** Lincoln House,  
37-39 Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YA

[www.LATcharity.org.uk](http://www.LATcharity.org.uk)



Lincolnshire Action Trust is a Registered Charity no. 1089130 and a  
Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England No. 4108372