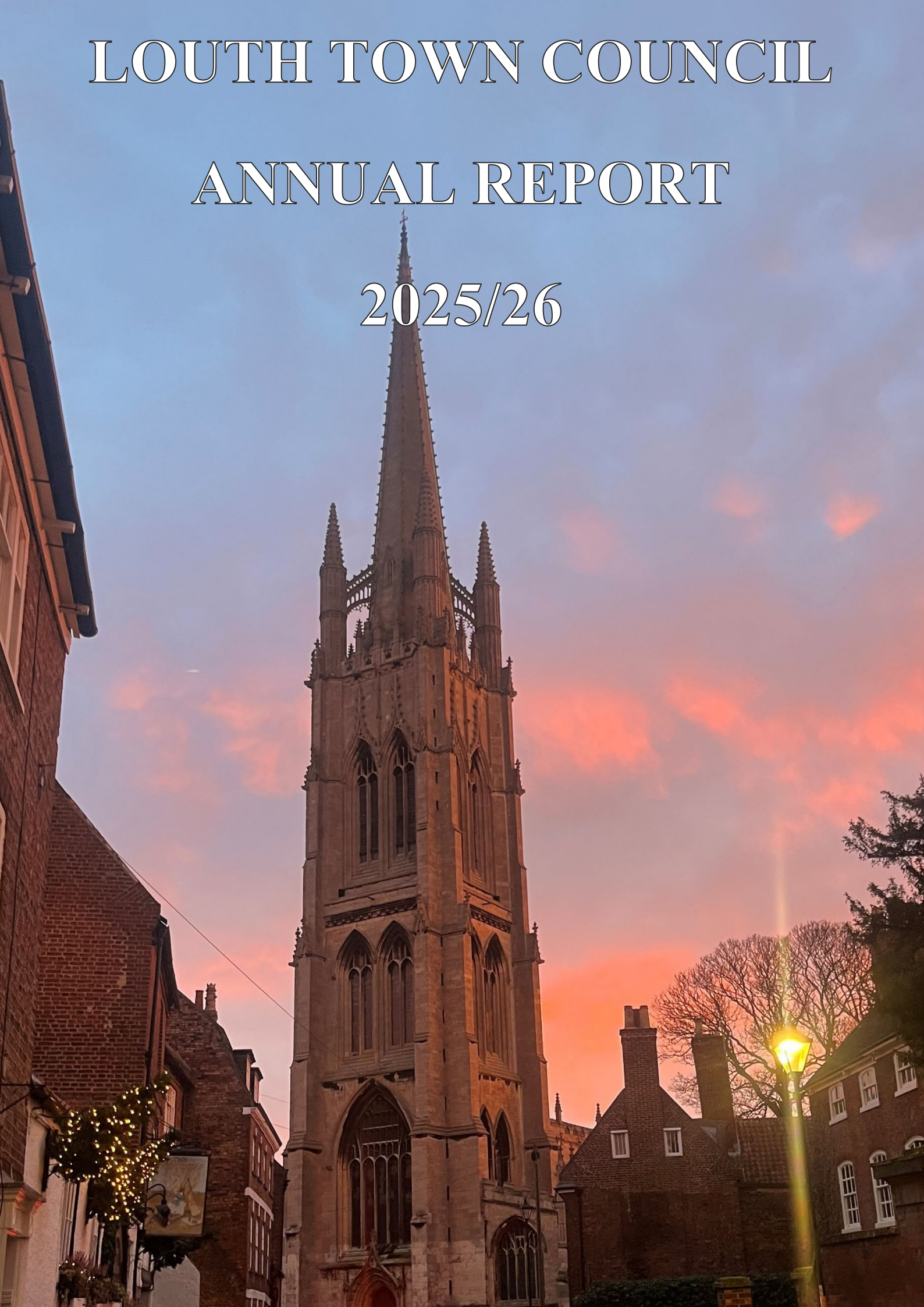


LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2025/26



MEMBERSHIP

Louth Town Councillors are widely involved in all aspects of the community, and the Council has representatives on many local groups and organisations.

If there is a local matter that you are concerned about, please do not hesitate to contact your ward Councillor for advice or assistance.

Louth Town Council has 21 seats. There are 7 wards in the town, and each ward is represented by up to 3 Councillors. There are currently 16 Councillors and 5 vacancies which moving into 2026/27 are as follows:

NORTH HOLME WARD

H. Filer	07796277682	hfiler@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
P. Starsmore	07849381686	pstarsmore@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
H. Hunt	07354117355	hhunt@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

ST. MARGARET'S WARD

D. Moore	07903456605	dmoore@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
D. Wing	01507 355895	dwing@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

ST. JAMES' WARD

J. Drake	07896948124	jdrake@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
D. Hobson	01507 355895	dhobson@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

PRIORY WARD

Mrs. P.F. Watson	07485221125	pwatson@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
T. Tapsfield	01507 355895	ttapsfield@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

TRINITY WARD

T. Ball	07873274516	tball@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
H. Steer	07503350094	hsteer@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

ST. MICHAEL'S WARD

Mrs. E. Ballard	01507 604975	eballard@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
G. E. Horton	01507 606578	ghorton@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
J. Baskett	01507 354412	jbaskett@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

ST. MARY'S WARD

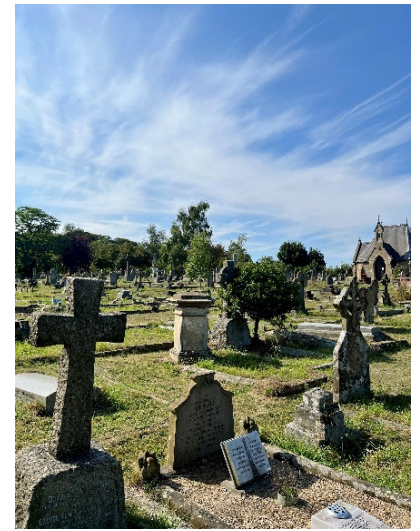
Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders	01507 600743	jmakinsonsanders@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk
Mrs. K. Parsons	07946300852	kparsons@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk

YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Louth Town Council's main responsibility is the running, upkeep and maintenance of the Cemetery at London Road and its burial records, which date back to 1855. The Cemetery encompasses an area of over 18 acres and includes areas for the burial of cremated remains and traditional interments. It has two chapels, one of which the St. Athelheard's Greek Orthodox Church call home.

Between March 2025 and March 2026 there were 34 burials and 30 cremations. Almost all graves are dug by hand, which can be extremely hard work in the clay which characterises most of the land except that at the top of the site which is predominantly chalk.

Throughout the year, the Cemetery facilitates the Community Payback Team on a weekly basis. The members of this team change periodically but all repay their debt to society by carrying out minor maintenance jobs such as emptying the bins, litter picking and weed clearance.



London Road Cemetery

Louth Town Council provides various bins, benches and notice boards in the Town and owns and is responsible for the upkeep of the 7 wonderful handcrafted wooden town signs which mark the entrances to the Town. A local contractor was commissioned to clean and refresh the signs in March 2025 and further work to touch up paint work is being investigated.



Hanging basket at The Sessions House

Amongst other things, the Council is responsible for providing Allotments and owns sites at London Road and Mount Olivet along with Trinity after finalising the £30,000 purchase of the site in April 2025. All of these sites are managed for the Council by the Louth Cottage Garden and Allotments Association, which also own the site located on Charles Street. Louth Town Council also undertake the cutting of the amenity grass verges around the town which amount to an area of approx. 68,966m².

It owns the planters located around the town and each year purchases plants to adorn the Town Centre. Councillors have historically planted these up and maintained them year-round but in 2025 the Council were approached by members Inspire Community Activities to undertake the work. In summer 2025, Louth Town Council sought to develop planting in the town further, opting to purchase hanging baskets and flowers for donation to businesses in the town to create bright floral displays in the town centre. The project was a success and is to continue in the summer of 2026. The Council has also taken steps to protect an endangered species of orchid that has been found blooming in areas around the town.

Unfortunately, the bus shelter owned by the Council on Kenwick Road was badly damaged in March 2025 after an incident with a car. Thankfully, the Council's insurance was able to assist, and a new bus shelter was installed in June 2025. The Council also agreed to contribute towards the resurfacing of the road at Julian Bower, which is jointly owned by residents and the Council.

YOUR TOWN COUNCIL CONTINUED

The Council maintains the War Memorial and arranges the town's annual Remembrance event in conjunction with the Royal British Legion. It gives grant aid to local bodies through its yearly grant giving exercise and it owns, replaces and maintains CCTV cameras within the town centre and supports (with financial contributions) their surveillance which is operated



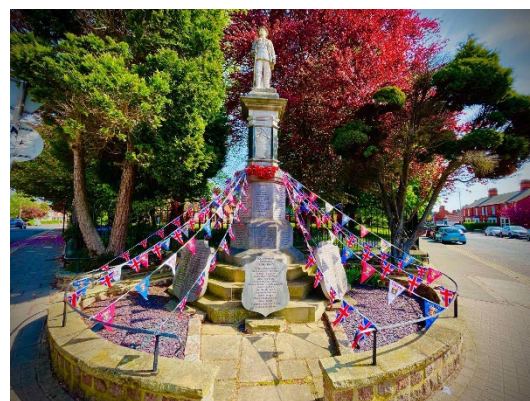
Street hoover purchased by Louth Town Council

from Boston with a Viewing Suite at Skegness and a third facility installed at Mablethorpe. Furthermore, the Council recognises that a safe environment makes for a happy environment and therefore, it maintains a good relationship with the local police. It also owns three interactive speed signs which it places around the town in locations as approved by LCC to deter speeding. It is also a consultee and is consulted on a range of other issues such as highways, schools, policing and planning policy for the town.

It owns the site currently used for an Astro Turf pitch at London Road, which is managed by the London Road Sports Partnership. Louth Town Council once again awarded the annual sum of £20,000 to the London Road Sports Partnership to contribute towards the running costs and maintenance of the site so that it can continue to be enjoyed by all ages. It also owns the land on

which the Louth Athletics Association's Club House is erected on, as well as other land in the vicinity which is rented out for use as grazing land, and the Old Mill House which is privately leased.

The Town Council acts on behalf of Louth residents in local matters which might involve highways, community transport schemes, parking and crime prevention, etc. It provides a stepping stone to District and County Councils and gives advice on who does what and how to access officers. It works closely with many organisations in the town such as, the Louth Town Action Group, Louth Lions, Louth Rotary, the Community Pay Back Team, Louth Museum, the Team Parish of



Louth War Memorial during VJ celebrations



Knitted Nutcracker bollard cover

Louth, Louth Run for Life, Louth Athletics Club, Hockey Club and Louth Football Club. In May 2025 the Town Council purchased a street-hoover to be used by local groups, such as the Louth Town Action Group and in February 2026 resolved to assist the Louth Lions in organising the 2026 Christmas Market.

It arranges and finances the replacement and erection of the town's Christmas Lights and Christmas Crib, as well as organising the towns Festive Window Competition, which saw 25 entries from local businesses lighting up Louth's town centre. As per tradition, the Mayor, Cllr. Darren Hobson chose this year's Christmas tree which was kindly donated by Strawsons. The Council also commissioned 17 new festive-themed bollard covers, knitted by local group Crafty

Knitters, which are to be used interchangeably throughout the coming years.

YOUR TOWN COUNCIL CONTINUED

The Council continued to manage Hubbard's Hills, with its priority focusing on continuing to ensure that the area is safe and enjoyable for all to use. In doing so, the Council has completed a plethora of works in the Hills throughout the year, some of which include reseating the



The newly cleaned Pahaud Memorial

stepping stones; cleaning the Pahaud Memorial, bins and signs; removing several fallen trees; installing a new bridge; repairing the fences; repairs and maintenance to the toilets and planting of memorial trees. The Council also secured £1,000 Pride in Place grant funding from East Lindsey District Council towards new signage in the Hills, which is due to be installed in 2026. The Council once again granted use of Hubbard's Hills to the Louth Lions for their annual Duck Race, bringing residents and visitors of all ages together for a fun filled family day.

The Council also created a Community Emergency plan in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council to ensure Louth Town Council is prepared to serve all those in need in case of a town-wide emergency.

In 2025 the Council was accredited with the Bronze Award under the Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS), which is run by the National Association of Local Councils. This provides a structured framework for all councils to assess their performance, enhance their operations and identify areas for development. Receiving the Bronze Award demonstrates that the council achieves good practices in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Furthermore, the award shows that the council has gone above and beyond its legal obligations and continuously seeks opportunities for additional improvement and development. With the groundwork laid the Council can begin to build on that to improve further and achieve awards at higher levels.

The Sessions House is an important asset to the Council. Not only is it the office of the Council, but it also houses Brown's Panorama as well as many other art works and object d'art and is the site in which the Council's meetings are held. A building survey of the Sessions House highlighted necessary works to be undertaken to keep the building in good condition. In 2025/26 work began by a local firm who have completed works to the roof, paintwork, men's and women's toilets, external doors, gutters and pipes, brickwork, courtroom, kitchen and first floor, with further work to be scheduled.



Christmas in the Town Centre

In March 2025 the Council was approached by a member of the public asking if the Council would consider taking ownership of and install a play park on the land off Park Avenue. After much careful deliberation and discussion with members of the public who formed the Friends of Park Avenue Play Park Charity, the Council agreed in March 2026 to begin proceedings to take ownership of the land, to be leased to the charity who will maintain and develop the land for the play park, which the Council felt was a much needed addition to the town.

LOUTH TOWN COUNCIL 2025/26



Photograph taken September 2025

Back row (left to right): Cllr. G.E. Horton, Cllr. P. Starsmore, Mrs. S. Dykes (Mayor's Serjeant), Cllr. D.E. Wing, Cllr. Mrs. E. Ballard, Cllr. D. Moore, Cllr. Mrs. J. Makinson-Sanders.

Front row (left to right): Mrs. S. Chitauro-Adlard (Town Clerk's Assistant), Mrs. L.M. Phillips (Town Clerk), Cllr. D. Hobson (Mayor of Louth 2025/26), Cllr. Mrs. K. Parsons (Deputy Mayor of Louth 2025/26), Rev. K. Dally (Mayor's Chaplain 2025/26).

Councillors absent: Cllr. J. Baskett, Cllr. J. Drake, Cllr. H. Filer, Cllr. Mrs. P.F. Watson.

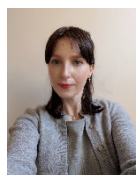
EMPLOYEES

The Town Council has 4 employees, 3 in the office and 1 at the Cemetery. You may contact them as follows:

Louth Town Council, The Sessions House, Eastgate, Louth, LN11 9AJ
Tel: 01507 355895



Mrs. Lynda Phillips
Town Clerk
clerk@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk



Miss Amy Crook
Front Desk Administrator
Admin2@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk



Mrs. Shona Chitauro-Adlard
Assistant to the Town Clerk
admin@louthtowncouncil.gov.uk



Mr. Hamish Lyon
Maintenance Foreman and
Cemetery Superintendent

MEETINGS

Councillors Attendance at Meetings

2025/26 saw Councillors meet for 14 Town Council meetings, 15 Planning Committee, 6 Governance and Finance and 6 Personnel Committee meetings. All Council and Committee meetings take place at The Sessions House, Eastgate, Louth.

Councillors Involvement with External Bodies/Groups

Councillors are part of working groups covering the following topics: Park Avenue Play Park, Town Centre Retail, Asset Review, Hubbard's Hills, Events, Floral Enhancement, Financial Overview, Planning and Speed Awareness. The Council also established a Louth Town Plan Working Group with the aim of developing an effective long-term vision for the improvement of Louth and its future. Councillors also liaised with external bodies such as The Friends of Park Avenue Play Park, The Environment Agency, Louth Lions, Louth Travel Board, Louth United Charities, Louth Navigation Regeneration Partnership, CCTV Partnership, KEVIGS, and the Rural Market Town Group.

SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES 2026/27

Approved by Council 10th February 2026.

Meeting Date (W/C Tuesday)	Start Time	Committees
26 th May 2026	7pm	2026/27 Annual Town Council Meeting
9 th June 2026	7pm	Planning, Governance & Finance
30 th June 2026	7pm	Town Council, Planning
28 th July 2026	7pm	Town Council, Planning, Personnel
25 th August 2026	7pm	Town Council, Planning, Governance & Finance
15 th September 2026	7pm	Robed Town Council, Planning
6 th October 2026	7pm	Town Council, Planning
27 th October 2026	7pm	Planning, Governance & Finance, Personnel
24 th November 2026	7pm	Town Council, Planning
15 th December 2026	7pm	Planning, Governance & Finance
19 th January 2027	7pm	Robed Town Council, Planning
9 th February 2027	7pm	Town Council, Planning, Personnel
2 nd March 2027	7pm	Planning, Governance & Finance
23 rd March 2027	7pm	Town Council, Planning
13 th April 2027	7pm	Robed Town Council, Planning, Personnel
27 th April 2027	6pm	2026/27 Annual Town Meeting
11 th May 2027	7pm	Planning, Governance & Finance
25 th May 2027	7pm	2027/28 Annual Town Council Meeting

Summary of Louth Town Council's Accounts to 31st March 2025:

Accounting Statements 2024/25 for Louth Town Council

Louth Town Council

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	
1. Balances brought forward	655,602	576,479	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	300,082	309,032	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	119,183	52,005	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	133,769	147,243	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	364,619	210,040	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	576,479	580,233	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	573,370	590,676	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	1,348,979	1,716,541	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)		✓		The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			✓	The figures in the accounting statements above exclude any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2025 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

[Redacted Signature]

Date

04/06/2025

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

24/06/2025

as recorded in minute reference:

T40. d.

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

[Redacted Signature]

FINANCE CONTINUED

The Council has agreed the following budgets for 2026/27:

Approved at TC 20th January 2026 as proposed by GF Committee 9th December 2025

		Proposed Budget 26/27	Of which Precepted for
101	Governance and Finance Committee Day to Day		
	Governance and Finance : Income	2,020.00	
	Governance and Finance : Indirect Expenditure	16,833.74	13,218.74
401	Community Resources Committee Day to Day		
	Community Resources Day to Day : Income	49,702.57	
	Community Resources Day to Day : Indirect Expenditure	303,962.00	266,366.00
501	Personnel Committee Day to Day		
	Personnel Day to Day : Indirect Expenditure	110,900.00	110,500.00
601	Town Council Day to Day		
	Town Council Day to Day : Indirect Expenditure	38,858.00	38,758.00

Total Income	51,722.57	51,722.57
Total Expenditure	470,517.74	428,812.74
Precept Required 26/27	418,795.17	377,090.17
2026/27 Annual Cost Per Band D Property	69.67	62.73
2025/26 Annual Cost Per Band D Property	54.22	54.22
2026/27 Annual Increase/Decrease Per Band D Property	15.45	8.51
2026/27 Monthly Cost Per Band D Property	5.81	5.23
2025/26 Weekly Cost Per Band D Property	1.04	1.04
2026/27 Weekly Cost per Band D Property	1.34	1.21
2026/27 % Increase/Decrease Per Band D Property	28%	16%

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

Below is a summary of the remit of each Committee and a list of some of the major issues / topics that were considered during the year by the Town Council as a whole and by its Committees.

Town Council:

- Meets to receive and approve the minutes of the Council's Committees.
- Consolidates and approves the work and recommendations of its Committees.
- Receives presentations / reports from outside bodies to better inform the Council's decisions.
- Decides upon the final budget and precept request.
- Outright and overarching responsibility for all Council matters.

In 2024/25 it was decided to dissolve the Community Resources Committee and incorporate it into the Town Council in 2025/26, making the Town Council directly responsible for the running of, upkeep and maintenance of all its assets, such as the Church Clock, and 'default' assets, such as the War Memorial.

Issues / Topics that were discussed Between March 2025 and April 2026:

- Pledged £5,000 to C.H.A.S.E.
- Adopted a Domestic Abuse policy.
- Reviewed its Working Group members.
- Reviewed its Standing Orders.
- Went out to tender for bin emptying at Hubbard's Hills.
- Discussed updating the Town Map dispensers.
- Noted that the damaged Kenwick Road bus shelter was to be replaced.
- Approved and paid towards the resurfacing of Julian Bower.
- Resolved to pay for necessary repairs to St. James' Clock.
- Reviewed its Members Allowance policy, Co-option policy and Vehicle Usage and Driving at Work policy.
- Discussed Old Mill House.
- Agreed to take part in St. James' Church annual Christmas Tree Festival 2025.
- Resolved to pay for the necessary road closure for the RBL's VJ Day event and grant usage of the Sessions House electricity for the event.
- Held an informal meeting regarding the Great Grid Update: Grimsby to Walpole Stage 2.
- Attended the LALC Summer Conference.
- Discussed possibility of developing a small community magazine.
- Reviewed its Equality and Diversity policy.
- Discussed becoming an Armed Forces Friendly council.



Mayor of Louth 2025/26, Cllr. Darren Hobson with Mayoress Sarah-Jayne Hobson.



Autumn at Hubbard's Hills

TOWN COUNCIL CONTINUED

- Reviewed its Complaints procedure and IT policy.
- Received its Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25.
- Reviewed its Sexual and General Harassment policy.
- Arranged a walk-through of the River Lud with the Environment Agency, ELDC and LCC.
- Reviewed its Grievance and Disciplinary procedures.
- Discussed the future of town centre retail and formed the Town Centre Retail Working Group to investigate ways the Council could boost the town centre's economy.
- Made a grant application to the Pride in Place Grant Scheme, receiving £1,000 for signage at Hubbard's Hills.
- Reviewed the Council's Earmarked Reserves and their individual uses.
- Co-opted Councillors H. Steel, T. Ball, H. Hunt and T. Tapsfield.
- Adopted an Emergency Plan.
- Resolved to support the Louth Lions in their running of the Christmas Market 2026.
- Reviewed its Investment policy.
- Continued to receive grant applications year-round.
- Reviewed its Co-option policy.
- Resolved to take ownership of land at Park Avenue to be leased back to the Friends of Park Avenue Play Park charity for the establishment of a new play park.
- Resolved to increase Cemetery fees by 8.7%.
- Reviewed its Safeguarding policy, Biodiversity policy, Dignity at Work/In Council policy, IT policy and Reserves policy.
- Reviewed its Action Plan.
- Reviewed its asset register and discussed the future of ELDC owned assets in the town.



Forte



Town Centre planters

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee has delegated responsibility for all items relating to planning. It makes comments on planning applications, traffic regulation orders, proposed works to trees, street naming, planning enforcements and planning appeals. Its observations are forwarded to the relevant authority who make the final decision. Each application is considered individually and supported or opposed according to its compatibility with planning policies and proper planning reasons. It notes planning decisions, other correspondence received e.g., temporary road closures and considers matters relating to road safety and enforcement complaints as well as any other issues relating to planning or the environment.

Between March 2025 and March 2026, the Planning Committee:

- Consulted on 102 planning applications with 18 variances to ELDC.
- Commented on 21 'Works' to trees.
- Received details of 94 Temporary Traffic Restrictions.
- Submitted a response to the National Grid Grimsby to Walpole Stage 2 Consultation.
- Submitted a response to the LCC Shaping Greater Lincolnshire Survey.

Issues / Topics that were discussed between March 2025 and April 1st 2026:

- Submitted comments to LCC against the installation of bollards on Eastgate and Cannon Street.
- Discussed alternative locations for a 3G Pitch in Louth.
- Supported an application from Larders Coffee House for a Pavement Café Licence.
- Submitted comments against LCC's Street Lighting Improvement Scheme in Louth.
- Supported proposed 'No Waiting at Any Time' – Linden Walk.
- Invited ELDC Portfolio Holder, Mr. T. Ashton, to a meeting to discuss ELDC's stance on planning in the Conservation Area.
- Responded to LCC's review of waiting restrictions – Schoolhouse Lane.
- Supported proposed waiting restrictions – Warwick Road.
- Commented on proposed waiting restrictions at Victoria Road.
- Supported proposed waiting restrictions – Newmarket and Eastfield Road.



Speed sign

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee has the responsibility to oversee all staffing matters in conjunction with the Town Clerk e.g., staffing structures, salaries, wages, employment contracts, policies and procedures, recruitment, appointments, compilation of job descriptions and person specifications.

Issues / Topics that were discussed between March 2025 and 1st April 2026:

- Reviewed policies and procedures such as Health and Safety, Sickness, Recruitment and Selection etc.
- Recruited a new Front Desk Administrator for the Sessions House.
- Recruited a new Maintenance Foreman/Cemetery Superintendent.

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Governance and Finance Committee has responsibility for the collation and production of annual budgets and recommendations to the Town Council. It oversees financial transactions of the Council. It approves the auditing arrangements of the Council, oversees the Council's formal grant giving process, assessing and making resolutions on applications received. It reviews the Council's governance documents, such as its Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Internal Controls and other matters as required. It ensures that all statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return can be approved by the Full Council. It develops general policies and strategies on behalf of the Council for implementation.



Riverhead

Issues / Topics that were discussed between March 2025 and 1st April 2026:

- Oversaw Audit procedures and obtained an unqualified audit report for 2024/25.
- Proposed to Town Council budgets for 2026/27.
- Approved an increase of Cemetery Fees by 8.7%.
- Reviewed the Council's notices, policies and procedures.
- Resolved to close the Mayor's Account, donating the remaining funds to a Louth based charity.

The Governance and Finance Committee approved budgets for possible expenditure on the following major items for 2026/27:

- Christmas Celebrations including Safety checks, Lights and Tree - £13,500
- Payment of annual maintenance contribution for the Flood Alleviation Scheme - £20,758
- Contribution to the London Road Sports Partnership of £20,000
- Amenity Grass Cutting Budget - £14,000
- Hubbard's Hills Budget - £80,000
- CCTV Maintenance - £4,515
- Remembrance Day Parade - £2,200
- Citizen's Advice Bureau - £1,100

The Committee also approved grant awards to the following groups:

- C.H.A.S.E - £5,000
- Waveform Arts - £632.10
- Zero Degrees Festival - £500
- Louth and District Concert Society - £500
- Louth Male Voice Choir - £1,000
- Hope for Tomorrow - £500
- 1228 (Louth) Squadron Air Training Corps - £200
- Louth Friendship Festival - £250
- Louth Run For Life - £400
- Spout Yard Management Trust Ltd - £500
- East Lincs Dialect Society - £1,000
- Community Plus Project - £465



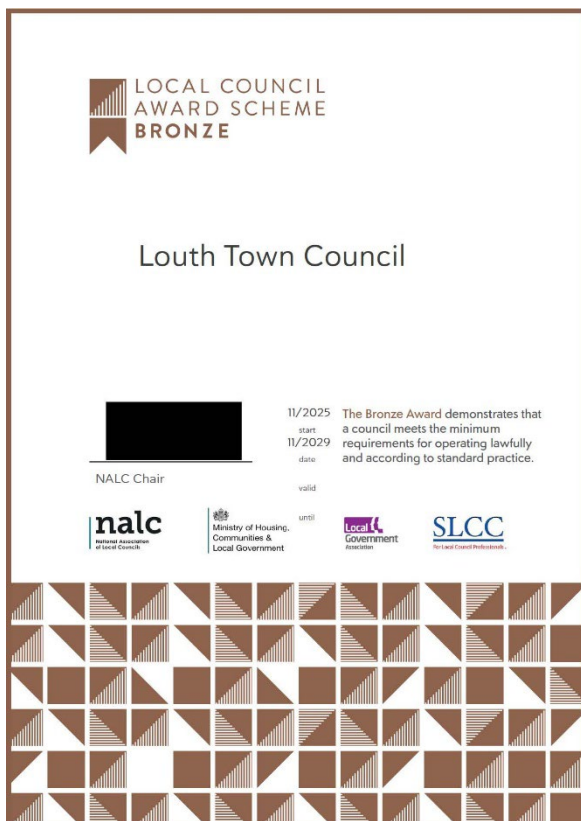
Louth's countryside

2025/26 MAJOR EVENTS

- Continued to support residents' views on planning applications for major developments in all areas of Louth.
- Continued the commitment of financial support of a Reserve Fund for Flood Alleviation schemes.
- Worked in conjunction with the RBL to co-ordinate the Annual Remembrance Day parade.
- Gave financial support to the London Road Sports Partnership.
- Finalised the purchase of the Trinity Allotments.
- Began renovations of the Sessions House.
- Recruited a new front desk administrator for the office at The Sessions House.
- Granted the Royal British Legion use of the Council's beacon and electricity for VE and VJ Day celebrations.
- Achieved Bronze Award in the Local Council Award Scheme.
- Purchased a street hoover to aid litter picking in the town.
- Held the Festive Window Competition.
- Worked with businesses on an initiative to enhance floral displays in the town using hanging baskets.
- Took ownership of the Market Place electricity box.
- Undertook necessary works to the Pahaud Memorial, trees, river, stepping stones, toilets and fences in Hubbard's Hills.
- Created a Community Emergency Plan in conjunction with Lincolnshire County Council.
- Agreed to take ownership of the land off Park Avenue for the installation of a play park by the Friends of Park Avenue Play Park Charity.



Louth's Flood Attenuation



Above: Louth Town Council's LCAS Bronze Certificate



Above: Deputy Mayor presenting hanging baskets to local business

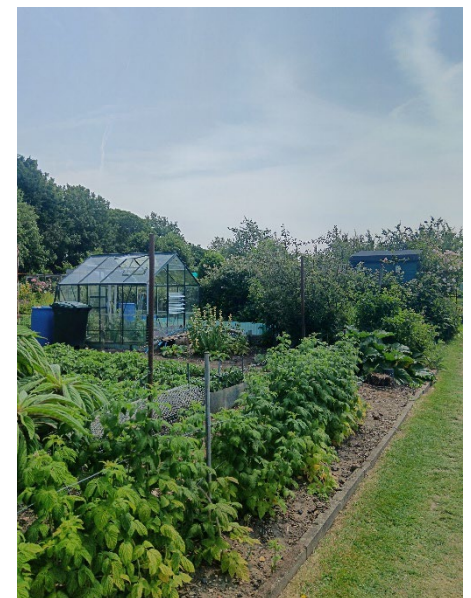
INTO 2026/27

In 2025/26 the Council resolved to continue to work towards the goals set out in its Action Plan, which will be a 'live' document and which by necessity will change but it will aim to provide Louth residents with a clear understanding of the Council's priorities and objectives for the coming Council year. Whilst some of the key issues facing the town are areas not directly under the control of the Council, it will seek to use its influence to ensure that other providers also respond to the needs and aspirations of Louth's residents, as the Council's main aim is to improve the quality of life for the town's residents and develop the local economy. As such, below is a list of actions that the Council is expected to meet over the year:

- Engage with residents to better understand the community's needs, and to consider how to best address these needs within its available resources and powers.
- Promote all things positive and look for prospective solutions to any issues to enhance the town.
- Provide good quality, cost-effective services to help meet the needs and wishes of residents.
- Make Louth a place of pride by promoting a clean, bright, attractive and safe environment in keeping with the town's traditions and sustainable development goals.
- Encourage and assist other bodies, voluntary organisations and partners to provide services that support the above.
- Promote the best interests of the town for the betterment of the local community.
- Lobby, consult and improve links with and listen to comments received from other statutory bodies, voluntary organisations and individuals to improve standards of service.
- Work with partners to create and sustain a socially inclusive and caring community.
- Champion the provision of sufficient and suitable affordable homes for the people of Louth.
- Safeguard the environment in and around Louth from inappropriate development to maintain it for future generations.
- Create a healthy positive community helping residents to have access to social, recreational and cultural facilities in the town.
- Work with others to protect the town and its residents from the impact of environmental change, including climate change.
- Ensure that the Town Council is efficient, skilled and uses innovative ways, within its powers, to provide services in the most efficient and effective way.
- Improve the corporate image of the Council and promote democracy using social media and undertaking surveys.
- Lobby to improve strategic traffic management and road infrastructure.
- Ensure that there is transparent information about payments, audit documents, budget and precept available which complies with the law.



Flowers at the Sessions House



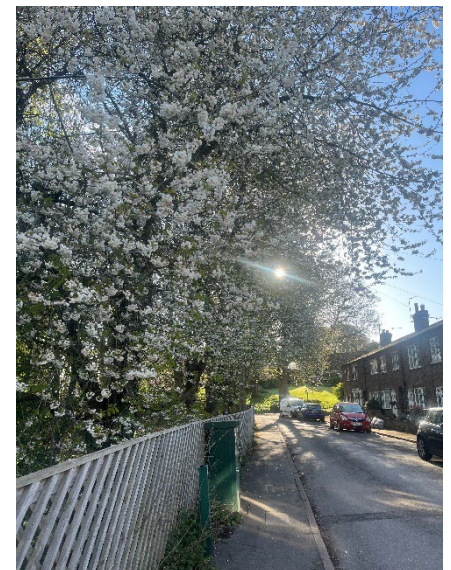
Trinity Allotments

INTO 2026/27 CONTINUED

- Ensure that all governing documents, policies and procedures are up to date and reviewed regularly
- Continue to provide burials at Louth Cemetery and undertake headstone safety testing.
- Continue to ensure assets are insured appropriately.
- Continue to provide allotments.
- Promote training and ongoing support for members of staff and Councillors.
- Ensure that data protection regulations are met.
- Ensure that IT equipment meets requirements and support is in place.
- Ensure Civility and Respect Pledge parameters are met.
- Work towards achieving the Silver Award of the Local Council Award Scheme.
- Develop a business plan covering a financial forecast for at least three years.
- Ensure the website is kept updated.
- Enhance biodiversity and protect the environment at the Cemetery.
- Undertake a tree survey at Louth Cemetery.
- Represent the views and promote the interests of the people of Louth.
- Engage with the community, local businesses, community groups and organisations in Louth.
- Look to develop a community engagement policy involving two-way communication between Council and the community on facilities and services we provide.
- Listen, investigate and respond to issues identified by the people of Louth and signpost to the correct person/organisation for resolution or further progression.
- Develop closer links with LCC and ELDC on joint interests, such as town development.
- Investigate the repair, rejuvenation and repurposing of the Chapel at Louth Cemetery.
- Continue to maintain St. Aethelheard's Chapel.
- Improve aesthetics at the Cemetery.
- Maintain Civic Property such as robes, chains, Mayor's boards and mace as required.
- Maintain St. James' Church clock and fund electricity for the Church floodlights.
- Continue to run the Festive Window Competition.
- Continue to provide floral enhancement in the town centre and look to expand where possible.



The Mayor's Macmillan Coffee Morning



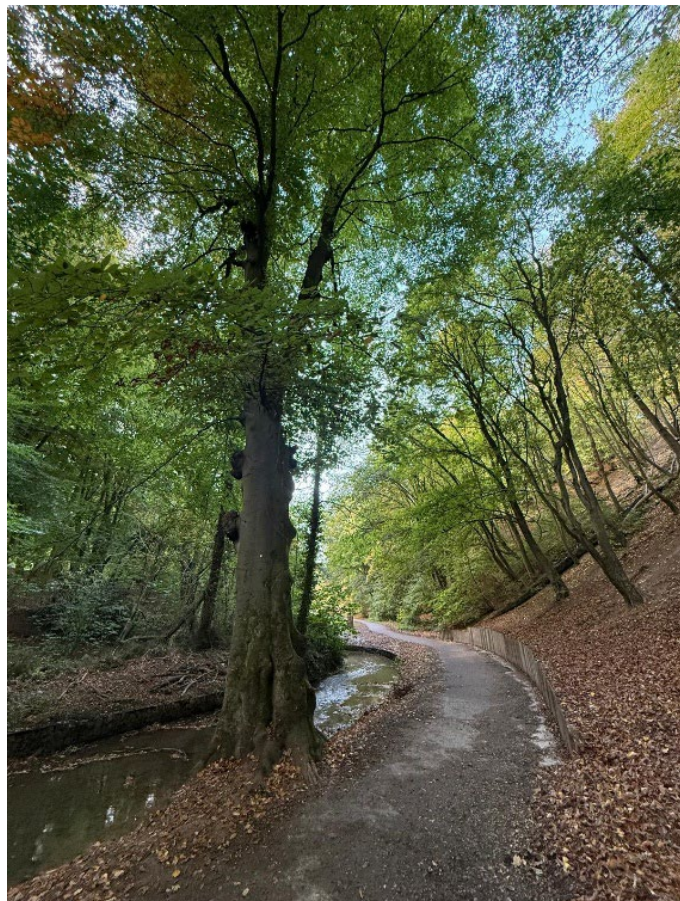
Spring blossom at Crowtree Lane

INTO 2026/27 CONTINUED

- Continue to cut the amenity grass on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council.
- Maintain Hubbard's Hills.
- Ensure that bins in the Council's ownership are maintained and replaced if faulty.
- Maintain benches and bus shelters in its ownership and replace as necessary.
- Continue to ensure that its assets remain available for the enjoyment of sporting activities and work with local group for the improvement of the facilities, environment and social and economic wellbeing in the community.
- Maintain the Market Place electricity box.
- Continue to provide funding to Louth's Citizen's Advice Bureau and continue to contribute to Louth's Flood Alleviation Scheme.
- Provide grants to local organisation throughout the year.
- Continue to erect and maintain reactive speed signs.
- Continue to provide Christmas lights and a feature Christmas tree for the town.
- Continue to uphold Civic Traditions.
- Continue to organise and facilitate Louth's Remembrance Sunday parade and church service.
- Continue to look after Louth's War Memorial, and maintain Louth's 7 handmade, wooden entrance signs.



Left and below: Hubbard's Hills

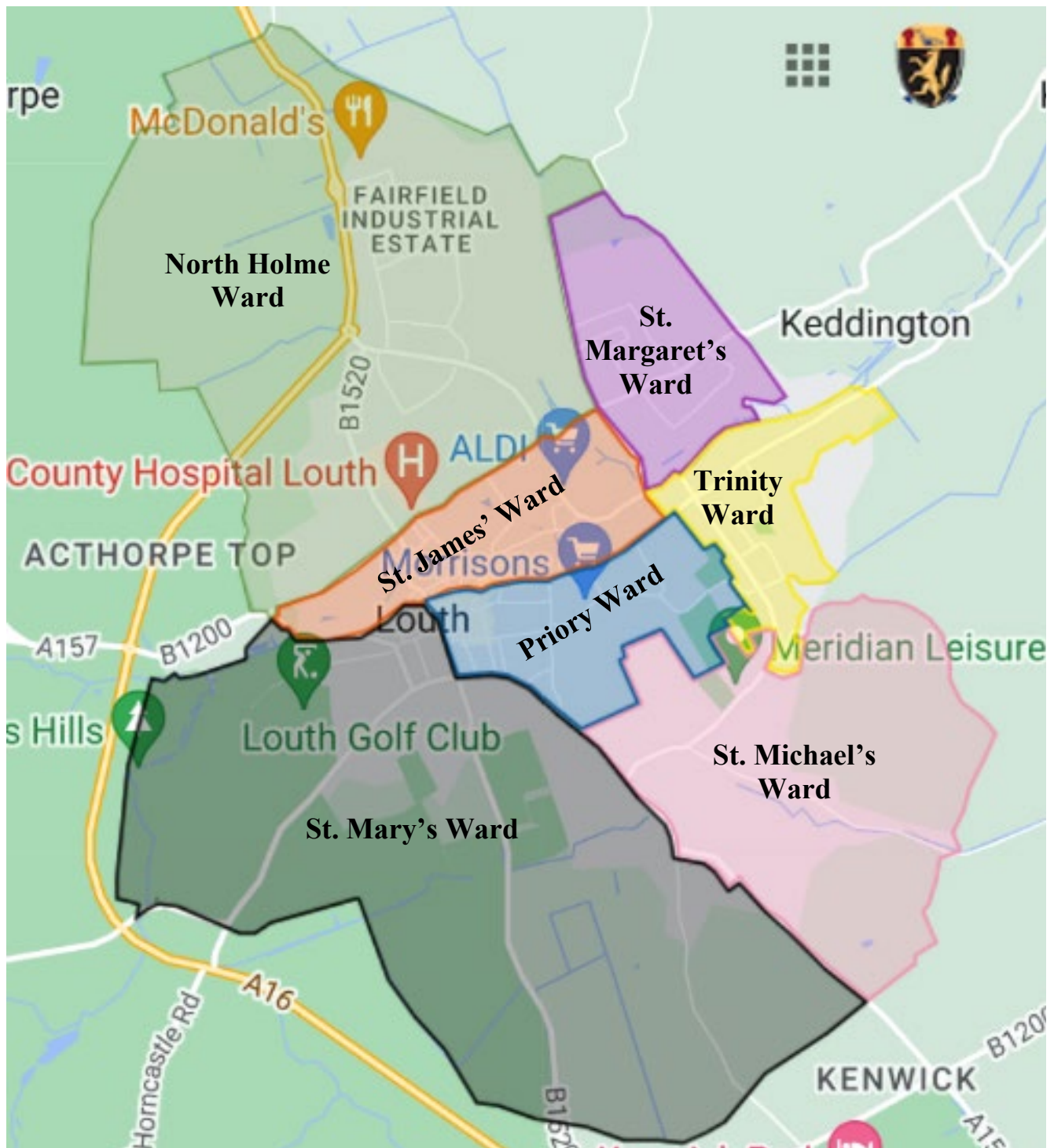


DEMOGRAPHIC

Louth covers an area of approximately 4,394 square miles and has roughly 17,429 residents, of which around 13,270 are registered electors living in the town.

Louth Town Council is here to represent the people of Louth and it strongly listens to your concerns and does everything it can to deal with them or it liaises with East Lindsey District Council or Lincolnshire County Council.

Below is a map of Louth showing the different wards.





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