

MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL – 29 June 2026

AGENDA ITEM 7

QUESTIONS RECEIVED PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9

**1. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Jackie Brockway –
Re: - Retail Units**

The Savoy Cinema has now been open for approximately 11 months and, whilst the cinema itself has been a welcome addition to the town centre, it is disappointing that the retail units beneath the development remain vacant.

Can the Leader please inform Members:

- What interest has been shown in the large retail unit beneath the cinema since the development opened?
- What progress has been made towards securing a tenant and when does the Council anticipate the unit will be occupied?
- What specific actions is the Council taking to attract retailers and businesses to these vacant units and strengthen the town centre offer?
- Can the Leader provide assurance that Gainsborough will not experience a similar situation to that seen in Grantham, where retail units beneath the Savoy Cinema remained unoccupied for a considerable period of time?

Given the significant public investment in the development, I am sure residents will wish to understand what steps are being taken to ensure these commercial units contribute fully to the regeneration of the town centre.

Councillor Trevor Young

**2. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Jackie Brockway –
Re: - Connectivity**

Residents across West Lindsey continue to raise concerns regarding poor internet connectivity, despite previous assurances from officers that broadband provision in our district compares favourably with many other parts of the country.

In today's digital age, reliable high-speed internet is no longer a luxury but an essential service. Many residents depend on it for work, education, accessing public services, healthcare appointments, and staying connected with family and friends.

Can the Leader please inform Council:

- What action is being taken by the Council, working with broadband providers and partner organisations, to improve internet connectivity across West Lindsey?

- Which areas of the district are currently identified as having the poorest broadband and mobile internet provision?
- What broadband infrastructure improvements are planned over the next 12 to 24 months?
- What timescales can residents expect for the delivery of improved services in those communities that continue to experience poor connectivity?

Finally, can the Leader assure residents that improving digital connectivity remains a priority for the Council and that every effort is being made to secure the level of internet service that residents and businesses require to thrive in the modern economy?

Councillor Lesley Rollings

END OF RULE 9 QUESTIONS.