

## **From Information to Intelligence 7<sup>th</sup> October 2004 – A Conference Sponsored by the Lincolnshire Research Observatory (LRO) partnership**

*The programme of activities for this event took us on a journey through both the achievements of the LRO over the last 12 months and our ideas and priorities for future development. Please see below a summary of the topics and activities presented during the day. To access copies of presentation slides for individual items please visit the LRO website and select the **2004 Annual Conference** link on the homepage:*

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### **CREATING INTELLIGENCE**

#### **LRO Forecasting and Benchmarking Assistant**

This interactive tool has recently been launched under the new ‘Toolkits’ area of the LRO website. Currently housing data from the 2003 Lincolnshire Employer survey and 2004 Lincolnshire and Rutland Skills Forecasting Model, it provides cross tabulation, charting and mapping features, as well as seamless links from narrative to raw data. Where appropriate this toolkit can also be used to benchmark data against geographical comparators or to provide forecast values. This toolkit will continue to be populated with a range of suitable larger datasets and interactive reports. We welcome your feedback on this, along with the other toolkits stored in this area of the LRO website, which include guides to *understanding UK geographies*, *Using the 2004 Indices of Deprivation* and *preparing funding bids*.

#### **LRO Research Calendar**

In partnership with Lincolnshire County Council, the new LRO Research Calendar aims to coordinate research activities and consultation exercises across Lincolnshire, and to promote partnership working, capacity building and best practice across county organisations.

To view the calendar or find out about posting information on research activities visit the LRO site at [www.research-lincs.org.uk](http://www.research-lincs.org.uk) and select the *research calendar* link. You can also subscribe to email notification of new activities when you register as a user on the site, or through the *my profile* link if you already registered.

#### **Section 106 Assistant**

Developed by the Lincolnshire Development research team, this first phase of the toolkit measures the impact of residential housing developments on education provision and provides a cost indicator to support the provision of section 106 contributions for this purpose from

developers. Following its launch, a great deal of interest has been shown in developing this toolkit to measure the impact of developments on a range of services including health and leisure facilities, to support forward planning activities.

The technologies and methods used to develop the 106 assistant are also being applied to a number of additional tools to further support the use and analysis of local data.

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## FROM NATIONAL INFORMATION TO LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

### 2004 Indices of Deprivation

The Indices of Deprivation 2000 (ID 2000) have been an important tool for identifying the most disadvantaged areas of the country and for apportioning funding but had increasingly become out of date. The Neighbourhood Renewal Unit in the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister commissioned the Social Disadvantage Research Centre (SDRC) at the University of Oxford to produce options for strengthening and updating the ID 2000. Following two periods of public consultation and an independent peer review, the new Indices – the Indices of Deprivation 2004 – have now been published.

The Indices of Deprivation 2004 uses a new geography ‘Lower Level Super Output Areas’, which have been introduced by the Office for National Statistics to provide a more sustainable way to collect and disseminate statistics at low levels. Find out more about these areas in our *Understanding UK Geographies* toolkit held under the new *toolkits* area of the site.

The full report of the English Indices of Deprivation as well as rankings for Lower Level SOA’s in Lincolnshire can be found on the LRO website. We have also created a useful report held under our *toolkits* area to support you in using the results of this study, and are currently developing a fully interactive *Using the 2004 Indices of Deprivation toolkit*.

### JUPITER in Lincolnshire

Jupiter in Lincolnshire is part of a regional Home Office initiative which aims to provide a central intelligence unit to the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships within Lincolnshire. It collects and analyses data from a range of organisations including the Police, County Council, Youth Offending Team, Probation, and Primary Care Trusts, much of which has been used to support the recent Crime and Disorder Audits. Data is analysed using a range of techniques such as data cleansing, thematic mapping, hotspot analysis, and time series analysis, and made available to members of the CDRPs via the Lincolnshire Research Observatory.

### 2001 Census Atlas

The Census is the richest single source of data on people and households in the UK, and is produced every ten years. The most recent Census was conducted on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2001, and because it is such a vast data source, the collation and release of information by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) takes place over a number of years following Census day.

This *Census Atlas for Lincolnshire* uses the information released by the ONS to provide a picture of the County and its communities on Census day 2001. It describes important issues and trends and also uses mapping techniques and comparisons with other areas to put these in context both within the county and across England and Wales. This document will shortly be available in electronic format on the LRO website. In addition to this, datasets from the 2001 Census are available on the LRO website for viewing and on-line mapping without the need for any additional software requirements.

The Census Atlas will be available on the LRO website following release at the end of the year. To ensure that you are informed of its release, register as a user on the LRO website and use the *my profile* option to subscribe to notifications of new site additions. For further information on the Atlas please contact: [LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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## **BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP**

### **Lincoln IMP**

In order to support the monitoring and evaluation of planning activities at district level, the LRO have teamed up with Lincoln City Council to develop this Interactive Monitoring Package.

Recently presented to the Council's planning team, this toolkit provides a mapping based approach to data presentation and allows users to locate specific sites and to assess these against a number of criteria including social and environmental indicators. This tool is likely to be developed under in later phases to include automated site assessment and potentially impact assessment. As with the 106 assistant, the technologies and methods used in these developments will continue to be developed in future LRO toolkits.

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**To find out more about any of the activities outlined above please contact:  
[LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk)**

### **Further Information**

We welcome any enquiries or feedback you may have following this event:

- To comment on the conference including any of the issues or activities discussed;
- To find out more about becoming involved in the LRO within your organisation;
- To provide feedback on future activities that you feel the LRO partnership should be aware of or involved in;

Please contact [LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:LRO@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

Visit the Lincolnshire Research Observatory at [www.research-lincs.org.uk](http://www.research-lincs.org.uk)