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MEDIA RELEASE

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INVESTMENTS FOR FUTURE GROWTH

A significant programme of investment is underway at **Lincolnshire Co-op**, as the community retailer looks to ensure future growth in a challenging market.

In the first six months of the society's financial year, (from September 7th 2025 to 7th March 2026), over **£21m** of **capital expenditure** has taken place. This has included funding the introduction of **electronic shelf-edge labels** in all food stores, as well as the start of a project which will see food outlets fitted with **self-service checkouts**.

The shelf edge labels improve customer experience, save paper, and enable the food teams to focus on other tasks, while self-checkouts will give shoppers an additional choice alongside tills staffed by food colleagues.

Other major investments since September include opening a new food store in **Donington** and revamps of ten outlets, including food stores, post offices and funeral homes. The society is also continuing to invest in **systems and IT**.

The half year has been challenging, with economic uncertainty, rising costs, and world events having an impact.

Turnover has dipped by **1.2%** to **£185.6m**, with decreases seen in food, funeral, travel and property.

Total net assets have remained strong at **£302.7m**.

The society's trading profit – EBITDA – has held up well at **£5.4m**, but is down from the last half year by 35.1%. This has been boosted by a one-off insurance payment, relating to the supply chain issues faced by the independent co-op following the cyber-attack on the Co-op Group, which leads the buying group.

So far this year, Lincolnshire Co-op's members have received over **£1m** in **cashback** on their purchases when using their dividend cards. The society will be investing in more opportunities for members to boost their cashback over the summer.

The co-op also runs a variety of community support programmes, such as **Wellbeing Walks**, which give people a chance to get active with volunteer-led strolls, and **Community Cuppas**, which encourage people to make connections in their local area.

Two new Wellbeing Walks and **four new Community Cuppas** have been set up this half year, bringing the total number of regular events to **96 walks** and **40 cuppas**.

Local worthy causes and charities have shared in **£181,928** raised by the co-op's **Community Champions** scheme, with 215 groups benefitting from the programme.

Lincolnshire Co-op's Chief Executive Alison Hands said: *"As a co-op, we need to invest in our business to ensure that we are sustainable in the long-term, as well as sharing benefits with our members and giving back to our communities."*

"The last six months have been tough, with economic uncertainty and the unstable geo-political climate, and this is impacting on businesses across the UK, including ours."

"Our major investments will help us build sales back in food and develop new areas of our business in housing and healthcare."

"We will also need to be rigorous on costs and in all our activities, balance profitability, long-term sustainability and alignment with our purpose of making life better in communities."

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CONTACT DETAILS NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Notes to editors:

1. **Lincolnshire Co-op** is an independent co-operative society. Its purpose is to bring together ideas, energy and resources to make life better in communities. It has around 300,000 members and 2,900 local colleagues in Lincolnshire and the surrounding counties and an elected board of directors who oversee the business.

The society provides **valued services** and supports the **local economy** from outlets across its trading area including food stores, filling stations, post offices, travel branches, funeral homes, a florist, a crematorium and community libraries. It also cares for people's **health and wellbeing** through its pharmacies and support for a network of health walks. Local good causes benefit

through its Community Champions scheme and together, colleagues and members also look after the **local environment** through volunteering.

As well as its trading outlets, Lincolnshire Co-op owns properties, from flats and houses to commercial premises. The society brings land and buildings back into use to create attractive environments. With Lincolnshire Co-op as landlord, rents stay local and are invested in schemes that benefit the community.