



Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral Combined Authority Summary Consultation report

Final version 2.0

Prepared by:

Wendy Crosson-Smith

Senior Consultant

Crosson Consulting Limited

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In March 2016 the leaders of the 10 Greater Lincolnshire local authorities with the support of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership signed the proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Devolution Agreement with the Government. The councils are:

- Boston Borough Council
- City of Lincoln Council
- East Lindsey District Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- North Kesteven District Council
- South Holland District Council
- South Kesteven District Council
- West Lindsey District Council

The agreement sets out the terms of the proposal between government and the leaders of Greater Lincolnshire to devolve a range of powers and responsibilities to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and a new directly elected combined authority mayor. Building on the Growth Deals, agreed in July 2014 and January 2015, this Devolution Deal marks the next step in the transfer of resources and powers from central government to Greater Lincolnshire.

This agreement will enable Greater Lincolnshire to accelerate the delivery of its Strategic Economic Plan, which aims to increase the value of the Greater Lincolnshire economy by over £8 billion, creating more than 29,000 new jobs, and delivering at least 100,000 new homes.

The agreement is subject to setting up a 'Mayoral Combined Authority' - a board including elected Councillors from the ten Councils and a representative from the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Authority would be chaired by a Directly Elected Mayor who would be chosen by the people of Greater Lincolnshire. This Mayoral Combined Authority would only have responsibility for the new powers devolved from the Government. In order to progress each constituent council must give formal consent and the agreement is also subject to parliamentary approval.

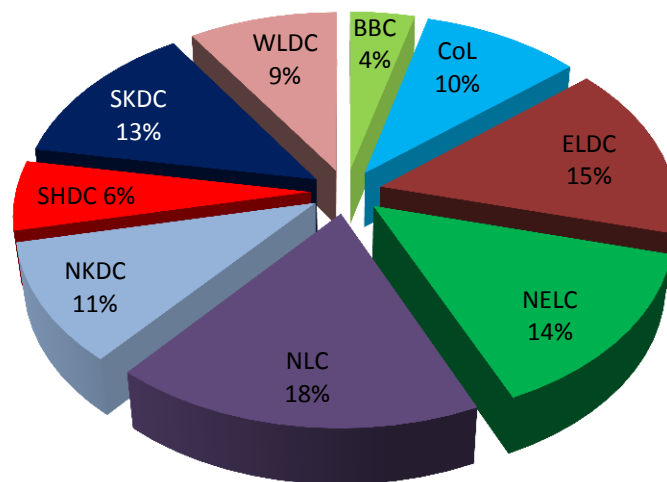
In order to inform this decision a 6 week public consultation took place between 27 June and 8 August 2016. The consultation included:

- an online survey along with all relevant documents accessible via the 10 council websites;
- hardcopies of all consultation documents and the consultation paper itself were available through a range of council and third sector locations, with a freepost return address for replies;
- two business briefings were held by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership in the north and the south of the county;

- a comprehensive communications programme supported the consultation and this is detailed in section 2.2.

REPRESENTATION

In total, 4,432 completed surveys were received during the consultation period. This sample size is statistically representative, see section 2.9. 72% of the responses were submitted online and 28% in hard copy. 4% were from businesses or organisations and 95% from individuals. The breakdown of returns by council is shown below.



A thorough quality control process was carried out on the completed surveys to check for duplications or any errors in data entry. This process is described in section 2.8.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Summary - data

Strongly Agree and Agree *Disagree and Strongly Disagree*

	Positive	Negative	Don't know	Total
Setting up a Mayoral Combined Authority	2049	2132	205	4386
%	46.7%	48.6%	4.7%	
Combining the role of mayor and PCC	1660	2433	265	4358
%	38.1%	55.8%	6.1%	
We should continue to pursue these extra powers and funding for the Greater Lincolnshire area.	2571	1628	140	4339
%	59.3%	37.5%	3.2%	
The ten Councils should be looking to work together to prioritise and deliver these activities (economic growth, infrastructure and housing) across the Greater Lincolnshire area.	3161	1067	99	4327
%	73.1%	24.7%	2.3%	
We should be pursuing further funding (in addition to that within the proposed Devolution Deal) for economic growth, infrastructure and housing, as a priority for Greater Lincolnshire.	3333	842	143	4318
%	77.2%	19.5%	3.3%	

CONCLUSIONS

The consultation results show views are split on setting up a Mayoral Combined Authority.

Comments from the respondents in favour of a Mayoral Combined Authority expressed importance that:

- the mayor is non-political, qualified and represents all areas;
- any new council set up has equal representation from all nine areas;
- this process should not add another layer of bureaucracy.

“It is vital that this proposal does not just create an additional layer of bureaucracy and cost that would dilute the benefits.”

Comments from respondents against a Mayoral Combined Authority showed:

- support for a combined authority and working together but not for a Mayor;
- support for a restructure of current councils to reduce tiers and work together;
- views that Lincolnshire should have the money without a Mayoral Combined Authority..

“The concern is not with attempting to receive additional much needed funding for Lincolnshire or with the need for all councils to work in a joined up constructive manner, it is with the need for an elected Mayor.”

“If the Mayoral model has to be introduced, then I would recommend pursuing a reduction in local government tiers through introduction of unitary authorities.”

“There is no need or reason for making yet another expensive layer of local government, if there is money available then it should be spent within the areas of need that are clearly evident now.”

Comments show there are concerns in the north about the defined area and feeling more aligned to the Humber region:

“In North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire we have more links with Humberside and East Yorkshire than south Lincolnshire I would therefore rather see a Humber based Authority.”

Results were conclusively against combining the position of Directly Elected Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire with the role of Police and Crime Commissioner.

Results were conclusively in favour of working together across the area and pursuing extra powers and further funding.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT

Following the 'no' vote in the September 2014 Scottish independence referendum, the Prime Minister announced that, alongside proposals for additional devolution to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: 'It is also important we have wider civic engagement about how to improve governance in our United Kingdom.'

This followed the production of several reports during 2014 making proposals for the transfer of additional powers to local authorities, or to local areas. These built upon the 2012 report *No Stone Unturned: in Pursuit of Growth* ('the Heseltine report'), which recommended the merging of various national funding streams to provide much greater local responsibility for economic development. Efficiency in public service provision, triggered by continuing reductions in local government funding, was also prioritised within the more recent reports. Changes proposed include:

- Giving new powers in specific policy areas to local authorities;
- The transfer of additional budgets alongside those powers;
- Enhanced power over local taxes (council tax and business rates), additional local taxation powers, and more flexibility around borrowing and financial management;
- The creation of combined authorities and/or directly-elected mayors.
(Devolution to local government in England, 2016)

Ten combined authorities are at various stages of development and consultation regarding their agreements: Greater Manchester, Sheffield City Region, North-East, Tees Valley, West Midlands, Liverpool City Region, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk / Suffolk, West of England and Greater Lincolnshire.

1.2 CONSULTATION BACKGROUND

The current council structure in the proposed Greater Lincolnshire area currently consists of two unitary authorities: North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire; and one county council Lincolnshire County Council. Within the Lincolnshire County Council area there is a two tier council system with seven district councils. In each area there are a number of town and parish councils.

In March 2016 the leaders of the 10 Greater Lincolnshire local authorities with the support of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership signed the proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Devolution Agreement with the Government. The councils are:

- Boston Borough Council
- City of Lincoln Council
- East Lindsey District Council

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The agreement sets out the terms of the proposal between government and the leaders of Greater Lincolnshire to devolve a range of powers and responsibilities to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and a new directly elected combined authority mayor. Building on the Growth Deals, agreed in July 2014 and January 2015, this Devolution Deal marks the next step in the transfer of resources and powers from central government to Greater Lincolnshire.

This agreement will enable Greater Lincolnshire to accelerate the delivery of its Strategic Economic Plan, which aims to increase the value of the Greater Lincolnshire economy by over £8 billion, creating more than 29,000 new jobs, and delivering at least 100,000 new homes.

The agreement is subject to setting up a 'Mayoral Combined Authority' - a board including elected Councillors from the ten Councils and a representative from the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Authority would be chaired by a Directly Elected Mayor who would be chosen by the people of Greater Lincolnshire. This Mayoral Combined Authority would only have responsibility for the new powers devolved from the Government. . In order to progress each constituent council must give formal consent and the agreement is also subject to parliamentary approval.

1.3 CONSULTATION FORMAT

In order to inform this decision a 6 week public consultation took place between 27 June and 8 August 2016. The consultation included:

- An online survey along with all relevant documents accessible via the 10 council websites, see sections 2.1 and 2.5;
- Hardcopies of all consultation documents and the consultation paper itself were available through a range of council and third sector locations, with a freepost return address for replies;
- Two business briefings were held by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership in the north and the south of the county, see section 2.4
- A comprehensive communications programme supported the consultation and this is detailed in section 2.2.

Summary of the proposed devolution agreement between government and the leaders of the 10 Greater Lincolnshire local authorities with the support of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership.

A new, directly elected Mayor will act as Chair to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and will exercise the following powers and functions devolved from central government:

- Responsibility for a devolved and consolidated, multi-year local transport budget for the area of the Combined Authority
- Ability to franchise bus services, which will support the Combined Authority's delivery of smart and integrated ticketing across the Combined Authority's constituent councils
- Oversight of a new Joint Investment and Assets Board, to be chaired by the Mayor, to review all public sector land and property assets and help unlock land for housing and employment
- Ability to make proposals for Mayoral Development Corporations or other emerging vehicles to help take forward large developments or new settlements

The new Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, working with the Mayor, will receive the following powers:

- Control of a new additional £15 million a year funding allocation over 30 years, to be invested to boost growth
- Responsibility for developing a strategic infrastructure delivery plan which will identify the infrastructure needed to support the increased delivery of new homes
- Responsibility for chairing an area-based review of 16+ skills provision conducted in accordance with the established objectives, framework and process nationally for the area review programme. The outcomes of the review will be taken forward in line with the national framework principles of the devolved arrangements, and devolved 19+ adult skills funding from 2018/19
- To help tackle long-term unemployment in Greater Lincolnshire, the Combined Authority will feed into the national design of the new Work and Health Programme. Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will also develop a business case for an innovative pilot to support those who are hardest to help
- To move with government and local criminal justice partners towards a co-commissioning arrangement for services for Greater Lincolnshire offenders serving short sentences
- To work with the government, PCCs, local prison governors and the Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRC) to allow more local flexibility, innovation and coordination with other local services
- An opportunity to contribute to the outcomes from the Water Resources Study commissioned by the Greater Lincolnshire LEP and the objectives set out in the resulting Greater Lincolnshire LEP's Water Management Plan

In addition:

- The government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to agree specific funding flexibilities. The joint ambition will be to give the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority a single pot to invest in its economic growth.

Further powers may be agreed over time and included in future legislation.

2. METHOD

2.1 CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

The following supporting documents were made available throughout the consultation period on all 10 local authority websites and available to download:

- [The Devolution Agreement](#) – the signed agreement which outlines the devolved powers Greater Lincolnshire will have if it goes ahead;
- [The Draft Scheme for the Establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority](#) – which describes the governance and the role of the Mayor;
- [The Governance Review](#) – a review of current governance and recommendations for improvements;
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#);
- [Equality Impact Assessment](#) - which has been reviewed and updated and can be found in Appendix 7.

2.2 COMMUNICATIONS

A comprehensive communications plan was put together with all 10 councils before the start of the consultation. The consultation has been widely publicised across Greater Lincolnshire with all 10 councils contributing to the communications:

- a launch event involving media from the main outlets across Greater Lincolnshire, see below;
- a media release was issued at the start of the consultation and again at the two-weeks to go stage;
- poster promoting the consultation displayed at council venues across Greater Lincolnshire and some third sector venues;
- promotion of consultation, documents (available to download) and a link to the survey available on all council websites (where possible advertised from the homepage);
- cut out survey included in County News delivered free to every household in Lincolnshire and made available at the Lincolnshire Show;
- door to door delivery of information on the consultation in North and North East Lincolnshire;
- information included in the publications of councils issued within the time period (both printed and electronic);
- direct promotion to town and parish councils via email or letter (and follow up reminders) and via the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils (LALC), their umbrella organisation;
- Job Centres and Chambers of Commerce also received information via district and unitary councils;

- a social media campaign throughout the consultation via Facebook and Twitter (some messages shared by the Government’s Communication Service);
- promoted directly to key local stakeholders via letter/email and reminders sent to them;
- staff in councils across Greater Lincolnshire have been encouraged to participate via a direct letter/email with link to website.

Launch event 27 June - news release issued and press conference held – attended by BBC Radio Lincolnshire, BBC Look North, ITV Calendar, Lincolnshire Echo, the Lincolnite and Lincs FM. Resulting coverage:

- Online - [Lincolnshire Echo](#), [The Lincolnite](#), [BBC news](#), [Grimsby Telegraph](#), [Sleaford Standard](#), [Scunthorpe Telegraph](#), [Spalding Guardian](#)
- Newspapers - *Boston Standard*, *Boston Target*, *Sleaford Standard*, *Skegness Standard*, *Scunthorpe Telegraph*, *Spilsby Standard*, *Louth Leader*, *Lincolnshire Free Press*, *Grantham Journal*, *Stamford Mercury*, *Scunthorpe and Market Rasen Mail*.

Follow-up news release 26 July - Resulting coverage:

- Online - [Scunthorpe Telegraph](#), [The Lincolnite](#), [Gainsborough Standard](#), [Boston Standard](#), [Louth Leader](#),
- Newspapers - *Gainsborough Standard*, *Scunthorpe Telegraph*, *Grantham Journal*, *Boston Standard*, *Boston Target*, *Grimsby Telegraph*, *Epworth Bells and Market Rasen Mail*.

A radio debate was held on 2 August on BBC Radio Lincolnshire to encourage people to take part in the consultation. The debate featured Cllr Martin Hill, Leader of Lincolnshire County Council, Cllr Ric Metcalfe, Leader of the City of Lincoln Council, Cllr Craig Leyland, Leader of East Lindsey District Council and Cllr Peter Bedford, Leader of Boston Borough Council.

Website hits during consultation period:

Council	Website hits
Boston Borough Council	214
City of Lincoln Council	692
East Lindsey District Council	690
Lincolnshire County Council	7,593
North East Lincolnshire Council	1,606
North Lincolnshire Council	1,174
North Kesteven District Council	48
South Holland District Council	223
South Kesteven District Council	1043
West Lindsey District Council	185
TOTAL	12816

2.3 SPECIFIC TARGETED GROUPS

The Equality Impact Assessment highlighted age and disability as two protected characteristic groups that should be specifically targeted during the consultation to ensure their views were represented. In addition those who live in rural areas, people who are unemployed and businesses were identified as specific groups with a potential interest, but that might need additional support to have their say. The following organisations helped to target these groups:

- The Single Equalities Council for Lincolnshire disseminated the information, via their existing networks, across all nine protected characteristics;
- youth councils and youth governance groups, such as the Youth Cabinet in the county of Lincolnshire, young carers and schools;
- Voiceability encouraged and enabled responses from people with learning disabilities, as well as testing and improving the easy read version of consultation information;
- carers and the Shine network (mental health) were also targeted via their own support groups so they could support those they care for;
- specific third sector organisations covering the protected characteristics were sent the information, see Appendix 1 for details;
- hard copies of the survey were sent to rural libraries and were available on the mobile library in smaller villages;
- a local pub also held paper copies in one village to disseminate to those in the area with poor broadband speeds.

2.4 BUSINESS BRIEFINGS

Two business briefings were held by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership:

- 6th July 2016 – Forest Pines, Scunthorpe – 68 attendees;
- 19th July 2016 – Belton Woods Hotel, Grantham – 72 attendees.

The briefings took the form of a debate and the full feedback is given in Appendix 2.

2.5 PUBLIC SURVEY

The survey could be filled in online via a link from all 10 local authority websites and was also made available at the business briefings. Hard copies were available at council sites across the area including rural libraries and the mobile library in smaller villages. A cut out version was also included in County News which is delivered free to all households in Lincolnshire and made available at the Lincolnshire Show.

Survey questions were designed to gauge the level of agreement for a Mayoral Combined Authority with a Directly Elected Mayor and ways of working in the future but also to invite comments on the Scheme and other aspects. This meant that

although each proposal had a closed, quantitative (tick box) questions, the survey also allowed space for qualitative written responses to give those completing the survey an equal opportunity to share their views. Alternative formats were available on request. An accessible format version was requested and sent immediately to enable one visually impaired resident to take part in the consultation. He was also offered further support. No other versions or translations were requested.

2.6 FEEDBACK ON CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Council have received a number of comments about the consultation process itself both verbally and in writing. All comments have been noted as lessons learnt for future consultations and where possible changes were made during this consultation.

Area of concern	Concerns	Action taken
Formative stage	The consultation did not offer the opportunity to express support for alternative ideas to a Mayoral Combined Authority.	The Government agreement makes it clear that devolved powers are subject to setting up a Mayoral Combined Authority. The Governance Review also identified a Mayoral Combined Authority as the best way to carry out new powers and responsibilities. The published Scheme proposes a Mayoral Combined Authority on the basis of the Governance Review. The Councils' responsibility was to consult on the proposals set out in the Scheme. Respondents could express support for alternative ideas through the free text option.
	The decision has already been made as there is no choice if we want devolved powers and funding.	
	There is no way of supporting devolution without supporting a mayor.	
Information	The documents provided to support this consultation were un-user friendly.	The councils wanted to provide the actual documents in order to give a true understanding of the process.
Promotion	The consultation has not been particularly well promoted or wide ranging.	See section 2.2.
All Design of survey	The tick box response provided encourages a very narrow consideration of issues and comprises a short series of closed questions which encourages a positive rather than critical response.	A comments box was provided at the end of the consultation and both negative and positive comments were received. For full analysis see section 4.7.
	There is no input required on the proposed education, economic growth, housing and transport.	Views could be given in the comments box. For full analysis see section 4.7.
	It was possible to submit multiple responses.	Quality checks included checking for duplicates. One was found and removed.
Mechanics of survey	The survey was difficult to find.	In most areas it was on the local council's home page.
	It was difficult to know whether it had been submitted, no acceptance message.	This may need to be a software change for future consultations.
Equality	Young people should be consulted.	Via governance groups, young carers and schools see 2.3 specific targeted groups and the EIA in Appendix 7.
	There was no British Sign Language version of the survey mentioned in the EIA.	No requests were received for this. Had any been received suitable support arrangements would have been made.
	The EIA was not detailed enough.	The EIA has been reviewed and updated and can be found in Appendix 7.

2.7 DATA ANALYSIS

All completed hard copies of the survey were manually input into the SNAP survey system to be included alongside the online responses that were submitted. This was to ensure the responses were collated in a single database, and in a consistent format. All responses were analysed using SNAP Survey Professional 11 software and the full survey report can be found at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/greaterlincs.

All comments from the survey and those received via email have been reviewed and are summarised in section 4. The full list of 2036 comments can be found in Appendix 5. 19 extensive comments were received and can be found in Appendix 6.

Key themes from comments have been summarised under each question and a balanced selection of quotes have been carefully chosen to represent the spread of views expressed by respondents.

2.8 QUALITY ASSURANCE

In total, 4,432 completed surveys were received during the consultation period, which were submitted via the following methods:

- 3,195 (72%) online, directly from respondents;
- 1,237 (28%) in hard copy.

Surveys submitted online by respondents directly were stored automatically in the database, the accuracy of which can be assumed to be correct and as reported.

The surveys submitted in hard copy were input manually into the database. To test the accuracy of the manual recording, 11% of surveys in hard copy were randomly checked to the database. A total of 136 surveys were checked.

There were a total of 10 input errors out of a total of 816 possible responses from the 136 surveys checked for the sample. This represents an error rate of 1.2% for the manually input surveys. This was considered to be a very low error rate. All errors found in this sampling were corrected.

The comment question was checked separately and 4 errors were found from the 136 surveys checked. This represents an error rate of 2.9%. This was considered low enough not to increase the sample. All errors found in this sampling were corrected.

2.9 STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF RESULTS

Consultation surveys are always based on a small sample but used to make judgements about the views of the whole population. Therefore, the results are subject to a degree of uncertainty known as a 'margin of error'. The margin of error measures how close the sample results are to the "true value" if the whole population had been asked. The margin of error decreases as the sample size grows. A margin

of error of +/-5% is considered acceptable to ensure a certain level of confidence in the results.

The level of confidence states how certain you can be that the survey results accurately reflect the whole population within the given margin of error. 95% is an industry standard level of confidence.

The consultation invites feedback from the total population of Greater Lincolnshire. The most recent published population estimates for 2014 from the Office of National Statistics of 1,060,500 was used.

With a return of 4,432 we are 99% confident that the views are statistically representative of the population overall, and are likely to fall within +/- 2% of the reported percentages. For example, if 50% agree with a proposal then we can be 99% confident that the overall view of the proposal by the whole population (if everyone was asked) would be within +/-2% of the survey result; between 48% and 52%.

For individual councils the population size is much smaller but the number of returns needed only decreases by small amounts. Therefore the percentage of the total population needed increases. For a 95% confidence level the individual councils need over 385 returns for the results to be within +/-5%.

3. LEVELS OF ENGAGEMENT

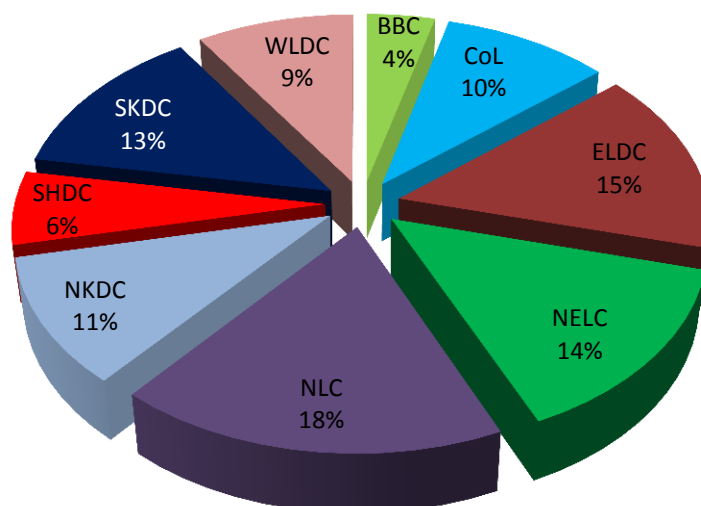
3.1 RESPONDENT BREAKDOWN

In total, 4,432 completed surveys were received during the consultation period. 72% of these were submitted online and 28% in hard copy. 4% were from business or organisations and 95% from individuals. Organisations that identified themselves are listed in Appendix 4.

The breakdown of returns by individual council was as follows:

	No	%
Boston Borough Council	177	4%
City of Lincoln Council	433	10%
East Lindsey District Council	667	15%
North East Lincolnshire Council	628	14%
North Lincolnshire Council	783	18%
North Kesteven District Council	462	11%
South Holland District Council	267	6%
South Kesteven District Council	571	13%
West Lindsey District Council	407	9%
Total	4395	

Did not answer (not included in %)	37
	4432



For statistical significance of sample sizes see section 2.9. A full breakdown of each question by council is given in the full survey report can be found at

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/greaterlincs

3.2 EQUALITY IMPACT

The following tables illustrate the level of engagement with different demographics in our community. The survey in the County News did not include the equality questions and some respondents chose not to answer these questions therefore results do not add up to 4,432. The number who did still statistically represent the overall consultation responses.

Age	Number	%
<i>15 and under</i>	34	1%
<i>16-19</i>	31	1%
<i>20-24</i>	60	2%
<i>25-34</i>	208	6%
<i>35-44</i>	364	11%
<i>45-54</i>	555	17%
<i>55-64</i>	871	27%
<i>65-74</i>	904	27%
<i>75-84</i>	247	7%
<i>85 and over</i>	17	1%
Total	3291	

Sex	Number	%
<i>Male</i>	1949	60%
<i>Female</i>	1296	40%
<i>Transgender</i>	9	0%
Total	3254	

Illness, disability or infirmity	Number	%
<i>Yes</i>	525	16%
<i>No</i>	2686	84%
Total	3211	

Ethnicity	Number	%
<i>White</i>	3111	98%
<i>Mixed</i>	25	1%
<i>Asian or Asian British</i>	13	0%
<i>Black or Black British</i>	6	0%
<i>Other Ethnic Group</i>	35	1%
Total	3190	

The 2011 census reported 7.1% of Lincolnshire residents were born outside of the UK. The non-white population made up 2.4% of the total population in 2011.

Representation was monitored through the Equality Impact Assessment which can be found in Appendix 7.

3.3 WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Thirty six responses were received regarding the consultation separate from the survey via email, letter or facebook. Twenty six were from individuals and ten from organisations including:

- Gainsborough Town Council
- Market Deeping Town Council
- Great and Little Carlton Parish Council
- Maplethorpe and Sutton Town Council
- Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council
- Castle Bytham Parish Council
- Hull and Humberside Chamber of Commerce
- Stamford Town Council

These substantial replies can be found in Appendix 3 along with substantial replies from individuals and organisations. Colsterworth and District Parish Council also sent an email stating that they do not support the idea of a Mayoral Combined Authority.

Letters from individuals where they could be identified have not been included in Appendix 3 but the views have been analysed and included here. Emails and facebook comments from individuals have not been listed but comments have been analysed and included in this summary.

A number of these were queries or issues about the process which have been included in section 2.6.

The main two concerns expressed were:

- Another layer of bureaucracy which will cost more, create duplication, waste and confusion; and
- The area proposed is wrong and too big. Localism will be lost. There will be an emphasis on Lincolnshire and not North or North East Lincolnshire. North East Lincolnshire has a different economy and has better links with Humber.

A petition was received with 762 signatures regarding the naming of the North East Lincolnshire area but this was not directly related to the devolution consultation.

4. KEY FINDINGS

The survey results are reported for each question below. For individual questions the percentages within the tables may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding. All percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Percentages for each question exclude those who did not answer, which are reported separately. Percentages within the summary table have been rounded to one decimal place for further accuracy.

4.1 SUMMARY

Summary – data

	<i>Strongly Agree and Agree</i>	<i>Disagree and Strongly Disagree</i>		
	Positive	Negative	Don't know	Total
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%	73.1%	24.7%	2.3%	
We should be pursuing further funding (in addition to that within the proposed Devolution Deal) for economic growth, infrastructure and housing, as a priority for Greater Lincolnshire.	3333	842	143	4318
%	77.2%	19.5%	3.3%	

4.2 QUESTION 1

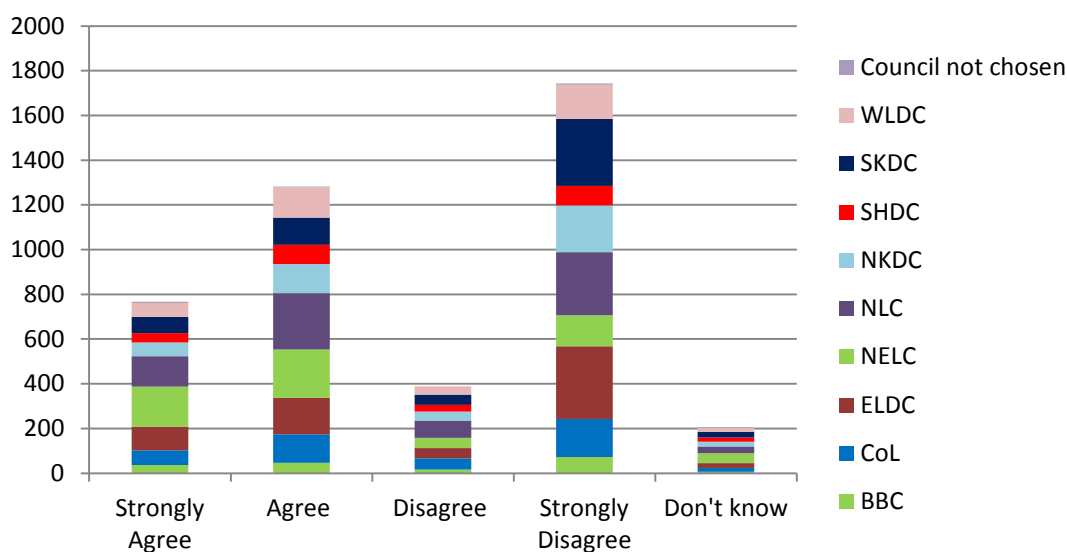
The Government has said the only way that we can get additional powers and responsibilities is by setting up a Mayoral Combined Authority, which will require a Directly Elected Mayor. Our Governance Review concludes that new powers and responsibilities would best be carried out through a Mayoral Combined Authority. We have set out our proposals in the Scheme. Please let us know what you think about this.

Respondents were asked whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with a Mayoral Combined Authority.

	No	%
Strongly Agree with a Mayoral Combined Authority	767	17%
Agree with a Mayoral Combined Authority	1282	29%
Disagree with a Mayoral Combined Authority	389	9%
Strongly Disagree with a Mayoral Combined Authority	1743	40%
Don't know	205	5%
Total	4386	

Did not answer

46
4432



The summary table shows overall 46.7% of respondents were in favour of a Mayoral Combined Authority and 48.6% were against it. With the 2% margin of error (see section 2.9) the true result could be between the range 44.7% in favour and 50.6% against, and 48.7% in favour with 46.6% against. Therefore this result is too close to be conclusive. However when broken down further 17% strongly agree whilst 40% strongly disagree with a Mayoral Combined Authority.

The comments received from those who responded positively regarding the Mayoral Combined Authority fell into two main themes (bullets summarise theme and quotes are representative of those received):

- It will give us greater control of local issues and more influence nationally;

“I think it's a fantastic opportunity to have greater control over our vast county. The people living, working and representing the people of Lincolnshire, have a better understanding of what the county needs to be productive and beneficial for all areas of residential life.”

“I believe it will help Lincolnshire's policymakers and service providers work together better and to have greater influence nationally.”

- A further layer of bureaucracy being created may cause duplication and waste of resources – but some feeling it will reduce layers;

“I am concerned that with another layer of bureaucracy money may be swallowed up in the management of this devolved council and not spent where it is needed.”

“Anything that reduces the tiers of government has to be a good. One Authority for the whole of matters relating to Lincolnshire would be enough.”

“I feel that a directly elected Mayor is an unnecessary expense but would accept it in order to facilitate the formation of a combined authority.”

Comments received from those who disagreed with a Mayoral Combined Authority fell into two main themes:

- Agreement with devolution and working together but don't need a mayor;

“I strongly support the devolution of power and funding although I remain sceptical about the Mayor as the way forward.”

“I don't believe we need a Mayor for the combined authority, the existing 10 councils are quite capable of delivering devolution for Lincolnshire. Having a combined authority is a fourth layer of local government which will be costly and unnecessary.”

- It will create a further layer of expensive bureaucracy and if a Mayoral Combined Authority is set up there should be a reduction in the current tiers of council;

“This proposal just adds another layer to our local government. For this proposal to work a layer of local government must go.”

“Just not as a Combined Authority that will duplicate much of the GLLEP role and add yet another layer of bureaucracy. If the Combined Authority is to happen then the Tier 2 Local Authorities should be scrapped.”

“I am strongly in favour of more powers and resources being given to existing local authorities, and to greater cooperation and strategic planning between those councils. However I am not in favour of adding an additional tier to local government.”

“Main concern is the impression of another layer of authority - feel that if this goes through then an amalgamation of County and District Councils should follow.”

Comments received from those who strongly disagreed with a Mayoral Combined Authority fell into two main themes:

- It will cost more and they want to know how much:

“I am not against the idea of devolution and certainly not against the idea of authorities further combining service provision to save money, I just cannot agree that a new tier of governance can possibly be a money saving venture.”

“Whilst I am broadly in favour of devolution that is not at 'any cost'.”

“In the current climate of reduced public spending there should be a move to a single tier of local government and not the introduction of yet another layer of administration and costs.”

“We do not need an extra layer of local government bringing extra costs and confused responsibilities. We already have directly elected local and county councillors who are accessible and accountable to our local citizens, it is they who should take on the extra powers and responsibilities and use the money on offer accordingly.”

“The 10 Councils could form a Joint Committee, elect a chairman and deputy as is normal, and control this extra funding and powers without the need for a specially elected Mayor. Saving the rate payer from the additional burden of that extra 2%.”

- Being forced down the Mayor route:

“The government wishes to hold us to ransom by demanding that we establish another authority and elect a Mayor in order to get our extra funding. This is a disgraceful position for them to adopt and we should not be bullied into it.”

“This is not meaningful devolution. The imposition of an elected Mayor and the consequent Mayoral combined authority is a purely political construct.”

There were also concerns across all sets of respondents regarding:

- The need to ensure fairness in distribution of funds.

4.3 QUESTION 2

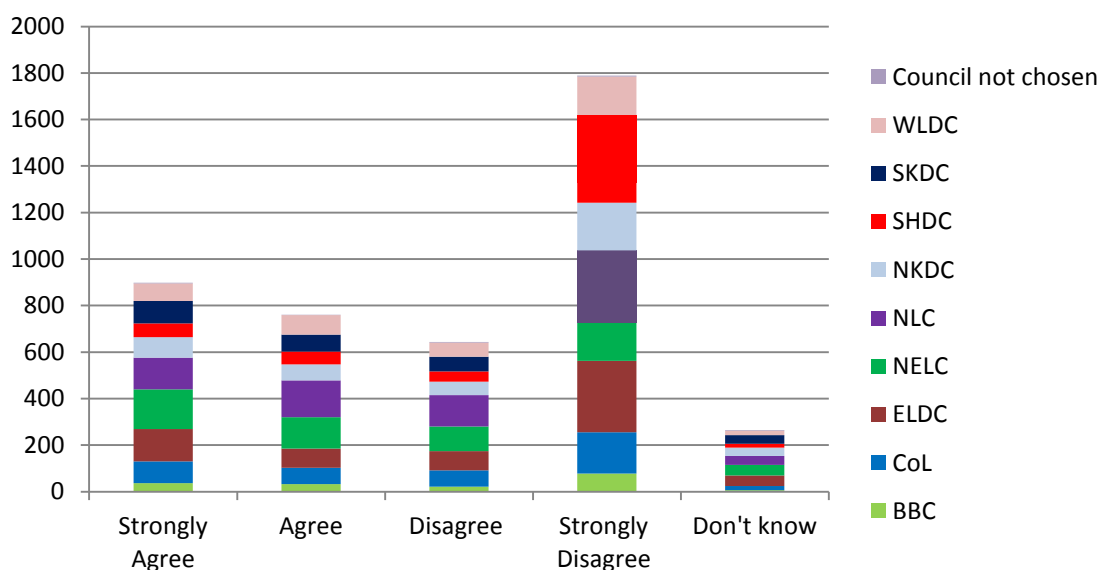
In the future it may be possible to combine the position of Directly Elected Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire with the role of Police and Crime Commissioner. This would require the Government to make a change in the legislation, as explained in the introduction to this consultation. Would you support combining the roles?

Respondents were asked whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with combining the roles.

	No	%
Strongly Agree with combining the roles	899	21%
Agree with combining the roles	761	17%
Disagree with a Mayoral Combined Authority	644	15%
Strongly Disagree with combining the roles	1789	41%
Don't know	265	6%
Total	4358	

Did not answer

74
4432



Overall 38% of respondents were in favour of combining the roles and 56% were against it. This result is conclusively against combining the roles. 41% of respondents strongly disagree with combining the roles.

Comments received fell into four main themes (bullets summarise theme and quotes are representative of those received).

.The main area of support was:

- It will save money.

“Although I can see some cost saving advantages to combining the role of a directly elected Mayor with the role of a police and crime commissioner, I can also see some disadvantages from an operational point of view and I think this part of the proposal needs particularly close investigation and careful planning.”

The main concerns against combining roles were:

- Would one person have the knowledge for both;

“I think the positions should be kept separate as they require different skills and I'm not convinced these could be met totally by one position. To gain knowledge in both fields would be too much.”

“The proposal is for a very wide ranging and significant role, and therefore should not be merged with that of the PCC, as this would be too wide a remit involving different sets of skills and knowledge and the PCC is already a very complex role in itself.”

- The role is too large and a full time commitment;

“I think combining both roles of police commissioner and Mayor would be too much work for one person and the commissioner should just focus on the police.”

- Didn't agree with PCC:

“We do not need a Mayor and we should get rid of the Police and Crime Commissioner.”

There were also a number of comments suggesting:

- Leaving Humberside Fire and Rescue and combining across Lincolnshire;
- Leaving Humberside Police and being part of Lincolnshire Police.

“In an ideal world the Police and Fire authorities ought to be realigned into Greater Lincolnshire organisations. The Humberside Police and Fire authorities should be disbanded as part of any realignment.”

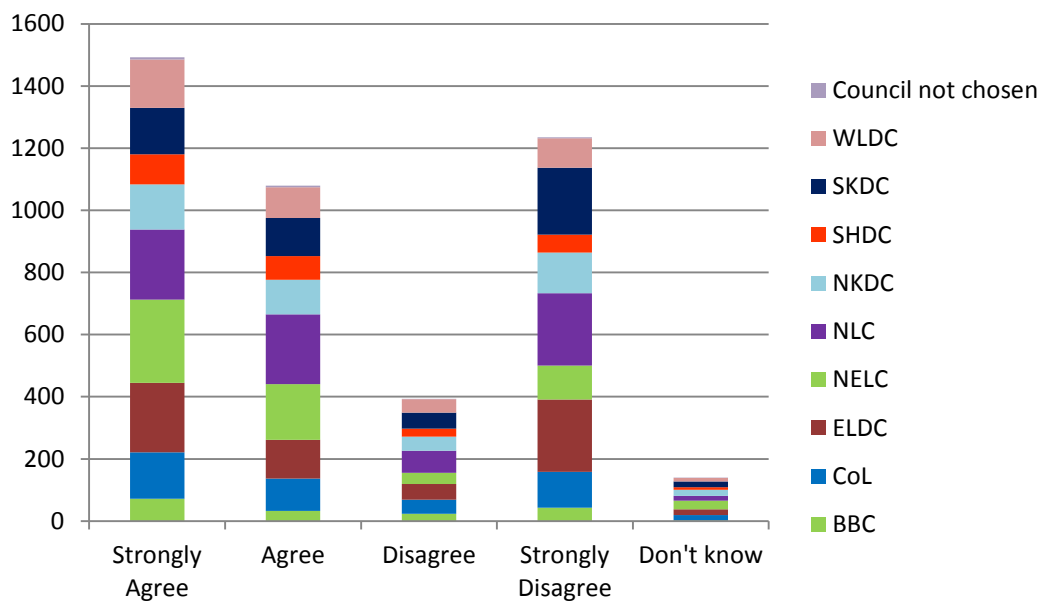
4.4 QUESTION 3

We should continue to pursue these extra powers and funding for the Greater Lincolnshire area.

Respondents were asked whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with this statement.

	No	%
Strongly Agree	1492	34%
Agree	1079	25%
Disagree	393	9%
Strongly Disagree	1235	28%
Don't know	140	3%
Total	4339	

Did not answer	93
	4432



Overall 59% of respondents were in favour of pursuing extra powers and funding and 30% were against it. This result is conclusively in favour of pursuing extra powers and funding. 34% of respondents strongly agree with pursuing extra powers and funding.

There were fewer comments regarding this point but two themes were (bullets summarise theme and quotes are representative of those received):

- £15M a year was not enough, how can it be guaranteed over 30 years and will it be index linked;

“I really do feel that £15m per year will not be sufficient to make any vast improvements for the whole of the population/residents equally even if there is the chance of match funding i.e. making the monies available up to £30m this will not go far will not go far.”

“I am not prepared to have an increase in my council tax in order to pay for another level of bureaucracy. According to your financial costs in your accompanying documents you need some £42m per annum and only £15m of this is to come from Government. Where is the rest coming from? The government is allowing you to raise a precept on each council, a levy on business rates etc. to pay for all this. Also the average government help across the country is £30m per annum so why have you accepted such a small sum. “

“The amount of money that would be received, divided by the number of councils and over the number of years is £1.5M/year/Authority. What will that pay for when all the additional politician's expenses are taken out? The value to each authority is a drop in the ocean and the cost of combining authorities will cost more.”

“There has been no mention of this money being inflation proofed, a rate of 2% per annum won't leave much of £15 million in 30 years' time.”

- This is the job of the government;

“I would prefer to leave these decisions to the government departments who are in a better position to allocate the finite resources to every deserving part of the country. Post referendum, this country needs to regroup and build on our new position as it faces many new challenges; now is not the time to be taking apart an already fractured nation.”

4.5 QUESTION 4

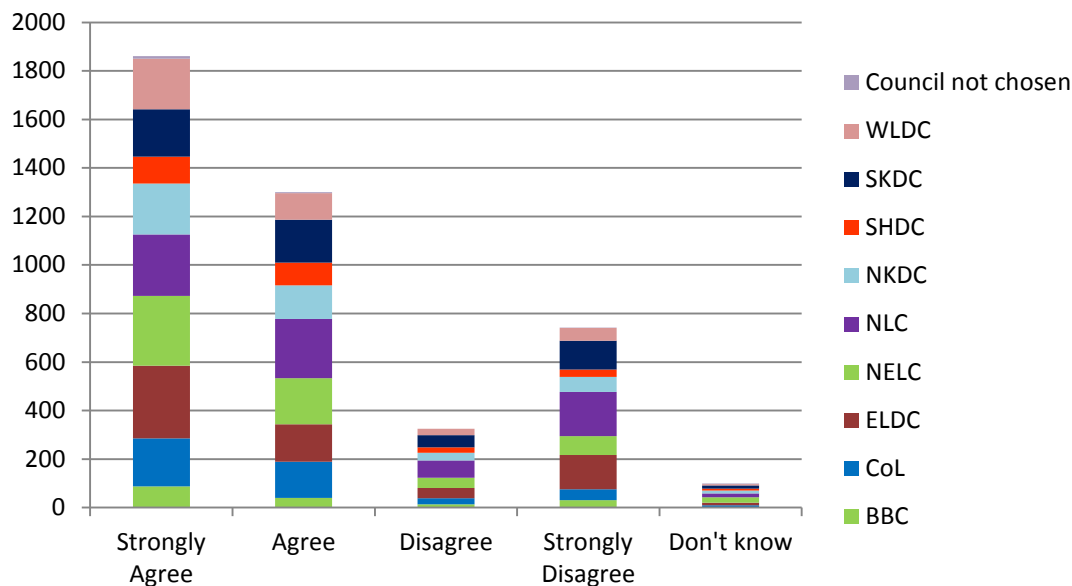
The ten Councils should be looking to work together to prioritise and deliver these activities (economic growth, infrastructure and housing) across the Greater Lincolnshire area.

Respondents were asked whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with this statement.

	No	%
Strongly Agree	1861	43%
Agree	1300	30%
Disagree	325	8%
Strongly Disagree	742	17%
Don't know	99	2%
Total	4327	

Did not answer

105
4432



Overall 73% of respondents were in favour of the ten councils working together across the Greater Lincolnshire area and 25% were against it. This result is conclusively in favour of working together across the area. 43% of respondents strongly agree with working together across the area.

There were a lot of comments from those in favour of a Mayoral Combined Authority supporting working together.

“I would like to see the ten councils identifying areas where they could work together to share resources, avoid duplication, save costs, add more value and act more as one Greater Lincolnshire, so we can achieve more as a collective.”

These respondents particularly felt (bullets summarise theme and quotes are representative of those received):

- There is a lot of duplication and cost in the current council structure;
- Nine district councils are not needed – one unitary would be better;

“Whist it is essential that we should pursue the devolution opportunity for Greater Lincolnshire. The creation of a fourth tier of government is not an efficient use of public monies. The Lincolnshire authorities should also be looking at ways in which this wastefulness can be avoided through fewer tiers of government.”

There was support for working together from respondents who disagreed with a Mayoral Combined Authority and a view that:

- Councils should work together without having an extra level of council;

“Surely and elected City Council, and elected County Council and an elected MP can do what is necessary for the citizens of Lincolnshire without having another bureaucratic layer which will cost more.”

“The councils should be seeking to work together in any case rather than each pursuing their own agendas. But we do not need the expense and additional tier of a Mayor to do this.”

“I don't want a 4th level of governance for Lincs. If all councils agree with the principle then we need a "change agent" role to drive combining key events such as merging finance, admin, police, ambulance, fire, waste management, road cleaning/gritting etc. Removing the current borders to enable leverage of all those services. Also giving a strategic review of the whole of Lincs.”

“I have read the options paper and consider that there has not been the option of a restructure of local government in the review. Why should we have so many councils and layers of local government?”

Respondents who strongly disagreed with the Mayoral Combined Authority supported working together but felt strongly that there should be a review of local government tiers:

“None of this requires the establishment of a MCA. Councils should be working together anyway, and can, to secure funding and plan and deliver on development.”

“There needs to be a local government review for Lincolnshire to reduce the layers of local government within the county. Under current spending allocations and austere measures there needs to be a serious review in terms of local government spending so that any savings from a review are used to provide better services for the county.”

“We do not need another level of government imposed on this area. That is why I am strongly opposed to a Mayoral Combined Authority. In fact we need less layers of local government. Therefore I would support a proposal to abolish the existing two-tier system (Lincolnshire County Council and the 7 district councils) and replace it with three all-purpose unitary councils: (i) South Lincolnshire, (ii) East Lincolnshire; (iii) City of Lincoln & West Lincolnshire. (The unitary councils of North Lincolnshire and North-East Lincolnshire would not change). The unitary council system is already in place in many parts of England, and it is time it became universal across England. It would save money and reduce needless duplication.”

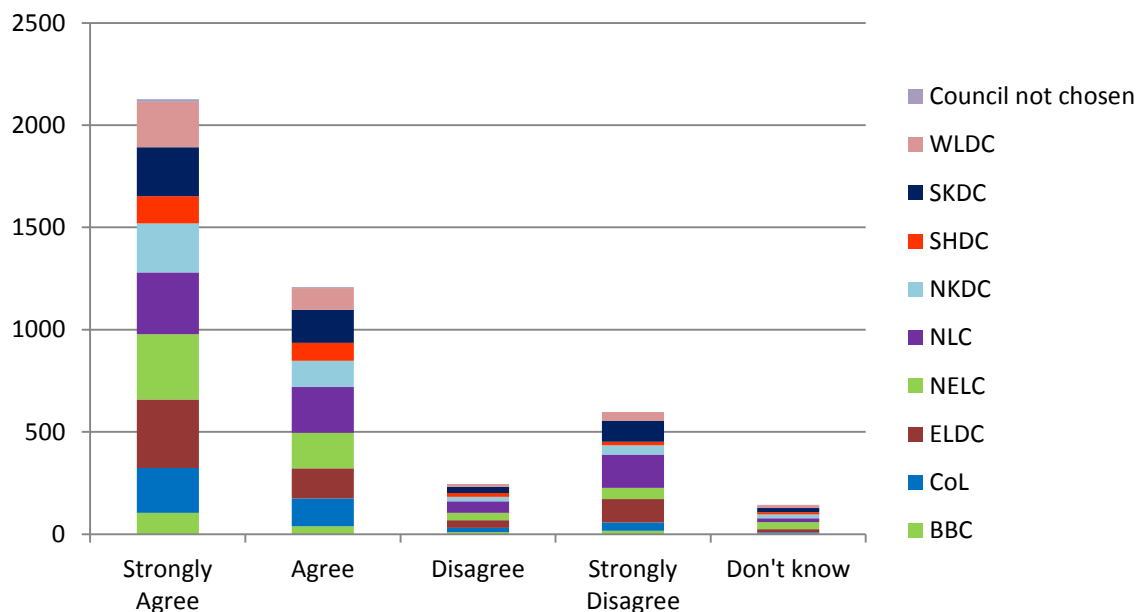
4.6 QUESTION 5

We should be pursuing further funding (in addition to that within the proposed Devolution Deal) for economic growth, infrastructure and housing, as a priority for Greater Lincolnshire.

Respondents were asked whether they strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with this statement.

	No	%
Strongly Agree	2126	49%
Agree	1207	28%
Disagree	245	6%
Strongly Disagree	597	14%
Don't know	143	3%
Total	4318	

Did not answer	114
	4432



Overall 77% of respondents were in favour of pursuing further funding and 19% were against it. This result is conclusively in favour of pursuing further funding. 49% of respondents strongly agree with pursuing further funding.

There were few comments on this statement but see comments for question 3 regarding the level of funding.

“Lincolnshire is always under-funded per head of population for public services especially Health - in particular Mental Health and policing. A combined devolved

authority should fight for a fairer share of the public purse especially bearing in mind the size of the area.”

4.7. FURTHER COMMENTS

Respondents were also given the opportunity to add anything further at the end of the survey. **If there is anything you think we need to consider in respect of a Mayoral Combined Authority with a Directly Elected Mayor or our Scheme generally or any other comments you would like to make.**

2036 comments were received in total within the survey. These comments have been analysed under each relevant question. 629 of these were received from those who responded positively to a Mayoral Combined Authority and 1285 from those who responded negatively. The majority of comments, 1,088 were from those who strongly disagreed with the Mayoral Combined Authority. The full listing of comments can be seen in Appendix 5 and the 19 extensive comments can be found in Appendix 6.

36 responses were included separate from the survey see section 3.3.

Two areas of concern expressed in the comments that are not dealt with within the questions asked were (bullets summarise theme and quotes are representative of those received):

- The democratic process for a Mayoral Combined Authority; and
- The geography and size of Greater Lincolnshire.

Concerns expressed by respondents regarding democracy included:

- How will the mayor be elected; needs to be transparent;
- Democratic engagement is weak this was proved by the low turnout for the Police Commissioner elections;

“I also am concerned if the election of a Mayor will be of sufficient interest so as to attract a high turnout of the county electorate. For example, how many people in Lincolnshire would be able to name the recently elected Crime Commissioner, I suspect very few!”

- What would the process for removing the mayor, if necessary, be;
- needs to be representative of the whole area; should be rotated across the ten councils;

“The issue with this joint council approach is that the power in all cases will effectively evolve to the areas of Lincolnshire with the most population and thus the most 'votes' for the elected Mayor.”

“Rotate the candidature of the Mayor through the ten areas so that no one area (no matter how populous) can dominate the candidature of the Mayor.”

- The quality of the candidate is important; they need to be the right person with the right qualifications; needs to be politically independent;

“Such a person, and councillors supporting them would require intelligence, experience, financial expertise and other skills.”

“The main reason I disagree with the idea of having a Mayoral Combined Authority is that I believe that such an approach would require a very high calibre individual to i) bring together the 10 different areas ii) simplify what is a complex structure at the moment.”

- How will scrutiny work; need one representative from each of the nine areas;

“The councillors who are currently on each area’s councils should nominate one of their councillors to sit on the new council rather than employ another set of councillors.”

“This is a good idea as long as those on the combined authority committee distribute fairly across the whole of the county.”

- The term needs to be more than 3 years – 4 years at least;
- Mayor is the wrong name – Sheriff, Earl, Baron, Chairperson, Commissioner, Executive Leader were suggested.

Concerns expressed by respondents regarding the area included:

- Greater Lincolnshire is too big and diverse and localism will be lost;

“Lincolnshire is a diverse region in terms of geography, employment, ethnic and religious background. A single authority may struggle to define policies that satisfy all aspect and hence it should be a significant consideration of how to identify, prioritise and deliver specific services in each region making up the larger area.”

“The Greater Lincolnshire area will be very large and the population needs differ substantially between the 10 council areas. Some working together and economies of scale will be beneficial during times of austerity, but is it possible that certain areas of Greater Lincolnshire will dominate to the disadvantage of other areas and thus increase inequalities.”

“Lincolnshire is a vast county and my experiences across other bodies such as NHS and Social Security is that centralising services just creates more remote and difficult to access provision.”

- Split views regarding Humberside – on the one hand different areas and therefore different objectives, on the other Humberside, Hull centric and would rather be part of Lincolnshire;

“I’m not convinced that there is sufficient similarity and joint objectives across the industrial/urban and agricultural/rural authorities of a Greater Lincolnshire to have a single office responsibility for regeneration, housing and infrastructure.”

“I believe North and North East Lincolnshire should pursue a combined authority devolution with the Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire and NOT Greater Lincolnshire.”

“Creating a Mayoral Combined Authority for Great Lincolnshire will have an adverse impact on the economic development of North and North East Lincolnshire, when these should both be fighting to be included in the Northern Powerhouse, and not left on the remote Northern fringes of a largely rural sector the East Midlands.”

“Considering the real long term development potential for this area dispassionately, the North Lincolnshire/North East Lincolnshire authorities need to be combined with the Humber Estuary region - North and South, with Lincolnshire split between Humber Region and a new Midland Region to drive its growth also.”

“It makes much more geographical sense to be part of Greater Lincolnshire than the legacy that is 'South Humberside'.”

“Bring North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire back into one Lincolnshire as it used to be before Humberside. Surely this would reduce costs as there would be one council instead of three. Then this proposal of a Greater Lincolnshire Mayor would be an even better idea.”

5. CONCLUSIONS

The consultation results show views are split on setting up a Mayoral Combined Authority.

Comments from the respondents in favour of a Mayoral Combined Authority expressed importance that:

- the mayor is non-political, qualified and represents all areas;
- any new council set up has equal representation from all nine areas;
- this process should not add another layer of bureaucracy.

“It is vital that this proposal does not just create an additional layer of bureaucracy and cost that would dilute the benefits.”

Comments from respondents against a Mayoral Combined Authority showed:

- support for a combined authority and working together but not for a Mayor;
- support for a restructure of current councils to reduce tiers and work together;
- views that Lincolnshire should have the money without a Mayoral Combined Authority..

“The concern is not with attempting to receive additional much needed funding for Lincolnshire or with the need for all councils to work in a joined up constructive manner, it is with the need for an elected Mayor.”

“If the Mayoral model has to be introduced, then I would recommend pursuing a reduction in local government tiers through introduction of unitary authorities.”

“There is no need or reason for making yet another expensive layer of local government, if there is money available then it should be spent within the areas of need that are clearly evident now.”

Comments show there are concerns in the north about the defined area and feeling more aligned to the Humber region:

“In North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire we have more links with Humberside and East Yorkshire than south Lincolnshire I would therefore rather see a Humber based Authority.”

Results were conclusively against combining the position of Directly Elected Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire with the role of Police and Crime Commissioner.

Results were conclusively in favour of working together across the area and pursuing extra powers and further funding.

6. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Further communication

Council	Activity
Boston Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • featured in Boston Bulletin Daily on June 28 and July 25 – newsletter to 4,000
City of Lincoln Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook advertising with a reach of 17,300 resulting in 667 clicks • email to 138 businesses and stakeholders
East Lindsey District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • included in e-newsletter to 14,000 subscribers • email to 590 businesses • email to 54 third sector organisations (equality groups)
Lincolnshire County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • email and reminder to 74 stakeholder organisation who disseminated to their members, reach over 650 groups and organisations • printed copies sent to all Lincolnshire Children and Family centres
North East Lincolnshire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flyers sent to all households • email to 25 third sector organisations (equality groups) including reminder • promotion at Linkage charity wheelchair walk • promotion at Family Sunday Festival (10k race) • particularly targeted young people through 7 youth organisations and 2 schools
North Lincolnshire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flyer to 82,000 homes • survey and supporting documentation to Community Wellbeing Hubs • Browse Aloud Translate and Listen service available on website (100 languages) • Regular messaging through GovDelivery (3,765 people)
North Kesteven District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • included in NewsNK distributed to 51,500 properties • sent to 700 residents on viewpoint panel • reached 241 businesses on Twitter • sent to all partners within Partnership NK • accessible printed form in 10 locations • featured in Leader's column in Sleaford Standard • Twitter 23,987 impressions, 22 engagements • Facebook reach 1,954 and 30 clicks/shares
South Holland District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoted at 'party in the park' which attracted a lot of the Eastern European workforce • promotion through community based radio station Tulip FM including live interviews • featured in several opinion columns from Cabinet Members in both local newspapers
South Kesteven District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • email to 6 third sector organisations (equality groups) and reminder sent • included in summer edition of resident magazine SKtoday • featured on back cover of council tenants magazine Skyline • email to 36 stakeholder organisations including a reminder • email to 53 businesses including a reminder • Facebook advertising with a reach of 18,189 resulting in 596 clicks • featured locally in Bourne Local and Grantham Matters
West Lindsey District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sent to business contact list and 2000 on citizen panel

Appendix 2 – Business briefings feedback

GLLEP Devolution Event - 6th July 2016, Forest Pines, Scunthorpe

Panel consisted of: Ursula Lidbetter (Chair GLLEP)[UL]; Baroness Liz Redfern (Leader NLC)[LR];

Cllr Peter Wheatley (NELC)[PW]; David Clugston (Clugston Construction)[DC];

Mark Webb (e-factor group)[MW]

Q	Do we want an elected Mayor? Do we have to have one? Is it going to cost a lot of money?
LR	<i>The Mayor will be there to meet with the ten leaders to make decisions quickly and move things on. A Mayor will be someone who is able to liaise with Ministers in London and be pragmatic and focused. The Mayor will help to build things such as economic wealth and help businesses expand. Focus will be on skills, jobs and education. He/she will also encourage people to look at Lincolnshire and come here and invest.</i>
UL	<i>Lincolnshire is not well known as a place and we tend to have an image problem. A Mayor would go out and promote Lincolnshire and what we have to offer. The government has said that to have a combined authority we must have someone accountable to the people. We need to work collectively with business.</i>
PW	<i>On the consultation document it asks whether we want a Mayor. What happens if the people don't want a Mayor? I'm not sure that there is a plan in place for this. There has been some resistance to Mayors in other areas. However, if we got a good Mayor then there could be benefits. Not sure what kind of salary would need to be paid to get someone good. I agree Lincolnshire has an image problem. In Lord Heseltine's 'No Stone Unturned' report it states that every area should have a Mayor.</i>
Q	Do we know what the population thinks about devolution or a Mayor
LR	<i>It's out to public consultation at the moment</i>
UL	<i>This is part of the consultation. Devolution would have a significant impact for greater Lincolnshire and we are hoping that you all can express the positives and negatives around it in terms of your organisations.</i>
LR	<i>People are already responding. To date there is a 55% in favour of a Mayoral Combined Authority</i>
Q	How do we go about electing a Mayor
LR	<i>Candidate selection will be on political grounds and the voting process will happen next May.</i>
Q	Can it be narrowed to half a dozen candidates?
LR	<i>I doubt there will be dozens of candidates. Certainly political parties will put candidates forward</i>
Q	It shouldn't be political
MW	<i>It's an opportunity for inspired leadership. Candidates don't necessarily have to come from a political party.</i>

Q	People want to have a choice but not necessarily a political one. Would there be an issue with funding for an independent candidate. Will this narrow the field?
Q	What is the vision under Devolution for Further and Higher Education?
PW	<i>No reference to education by Liz. Education and skills must be on the agenda. The workforce is to be well trained to attract investment into the area. Need to bring forward Education and Skills Agenda.</i>
Q	There is an area review for post-16 education now and a potential big upheaval about to happen in terms of the review. At the end of the review we need a cohesive skills plan and skills provision that is wider than NE Lincolnshire
LR	<i>We need to upskill the workforce and have a much closer working relationship with education. We have to respond to what businesses want.</i>
Q	There is a concern re rationalising of qualifications
PW	<i>Retraining the workforce is important. If we train here they will stay here and the area benefits</i>
Q	We are asking our education system to do what it hasn't done in the past. For example engineers etc. had to go outside. Need full scale review, we currently can't react at a moment's notice if something is different. We need an education system that is able to react.
LR	<i>There are also older people who want to re-skill</i>
UL	<i>Devolution is not about doing everything locally, Skills Funding Agency money – one size doesn't fit all. One size doesn't fit all and we need to adapt skills to our local conditions. Some systems imposed by central government do not suit us.</i>
Q	We hope that you are consulting with independent training providers too and you need to reflect on this
UL	<i>All training provider views are needed</i>
DC	<i>We need to focus on the long-term unemployed and upskill with apprenticeships</i>
Q	Business rates funded by voluntary levy. What changes will there be?
LR	<i>The Mayor would have some discretion and that is being talked about now.</i>
UL	<i>There are some protections within the structure and LEP will have the final say but this is not about an extra levy on businesses.</i>
Q	Is 2p/£1 discretionary?
UL	<i>If businesses want to do something we as businesses should be able to say we're prepared to pay to get it achieved like the Business Improvement District Model.</i>
Q	What do businesses want from Devolution? If we're only worried about business rates then we're not really behind it. How are we going to work to do things which are better for Lincolnshire? LEPs – we should support both Lincolnshire and Humber LEPs. Don't mix up Devolution with business boundaries, get politicians to get behind it for the sake of businesses.

PW	<i>Under Devolution, business rates will be decided locally. It may be a high risk strategy. If Tata Steel had closed down completely for example, the amount of money from business rates would have reduced dramatically.</i>
UL	<i>It's not about charging people more money. What is it that we can do to help your business, for example, water management and planning? What can we do differently to make things better? Devolution is about having local power.</i>
LR	<i>It's about finding out what you need. A one-stop shop to work with business. What are your issues and how can we help you expand</i>
PW	<i>I applaud LEP in its ways of working. Humber LEP –they have a good chair who will not allow things to degenerate. They are crying out to local authorities – get your act together and where are we going? Take a leaf out of Lincs LEP practice</i>
Q	Combined Authority – will it divert money from the European Growth Fund? Will it not be absorbed by London and South East?
LR	<i>Great point. We need to be there and asking for the money to support good projects</i>
UL	<i>It has been made apparent from the Referendum that some Northern parts don't feel as though they are connected. Advocate the process in setting up LEP in 2010. We made it a simple organisation. There was no extra admin and we are keen that a combined authority does that too. There is plenty of admin in Local Authorities which can be utilised. They have done really well so far at working together and they will find those partnerships.</i>
Q	Port of Grimsby has an identity issue. They have been struggling with their identity. Trying to get 10 Councils together is a struggle. To have a 'brand Lincolnshire' is positive. In terms of geographical diversity how will you deal with that? What will be the priorities? £15m is not a great deal to be shared.
LR	<i>People are very supportive of "Greater Lincolnshire;"; businesses will notice that. Diversity gives us uniqueness, £15m is a start, we need to build on that.</i>
PW	<i>Marketing of Lincolnshire as a county is unclear. We have the job of 'talking it up'. We have a lot of things we're good at and marketing it will be important. There has been some resistance to opening up highways and byways; we are one of largest counties without a motorway. We have a big job on our hands.</i>
DC	<i>We have around 130 people in logistics that are dependent on infrastructure. Need to get strategic priorities right, then it will benefit everyone. You can do this by improving links to Grimsby for example.</i>
MW	<i>Road links affect everyone; look at the map of Greater Lincolnshire - you can see the logic of it. The vast majority are small businesses, many are diverse, they need an environment where people can thrive. It's not just about having an environment for creating things, but about having an environment for businesses to survive.</i>
LR	<i>It's about acting coherently and getting things done. It won't be just £15m it will be hundreds of millions as we drive our economy forward</i>
Q	Your focus is on transport. Telecoms is an inhibiting factor. Will Devolution have an impact on this?

LR	<i>Yes, this is very important and we will focus on this to help businesses. We have 99% superfast broadband in NE Lincs and we need to focus on the rest of Lincolnshire</i>
UL	<i>Digital telecoms is at the top of the list.</i>
Q	Presentation was given from Notts University. Every £1 spent with a local company generates +£2.40 to the local economy.
LR	<i>Freedom to do this is being debated now</i>
MW	<i>Locally, £1.63 is the value of £1 spent locally. There has to be a will in the Public Sector to do it. There also has to be the will in Private Businesses to complete forms to win bids/procurement. It is more valuable to our economy to buy from local businesses.</i>
UL	<i>Nationally some larger frameworks can favour larger businesses, and some frameworks support local supply chains. Sometimes it is to do with timescale. With devolution moving locally, we should be able to have a stronger influence.</i>
Q	What are the plans and thoughts around voluntary groups and the added value from these? "Involving Lincs"
MW	<i>We need to do some work with social enterprises. The need for sustainable social enterprises is massive. There is a surge of recognition that what we have to deliver to communities, will be impossible to do so without local groups and the voluntary sector. If we lose the voluntary sector army we won't be able to deliver the economic output.</i>
PW	<i>Adult social care – we won't be able to fund this without the voluntary sector. We need to engage with them more and have total engagement with the community and the voluntary sector.</i>

GLLEP Devolution Event - 19th July 2016, Belton Woods Hotel, Grantham

Panel consisted of; Ursula Lidbetter (Chair GLLEP)[UL]; Cllr Martin Hill (Leader LCC)[MH]; Cllr Peter Bedford (Boston BC)[PB]; Pat Doody (NatWest)[PD]; Gary Headland (Lincoln College/IOD)[GH]

Q	What will happen if a mayor does not come to fruition and as councillors that are part of the board are not elected into the role, how will you ensure devolution is democratic and they are held accountable should devolution not work?
PB	<i>We are elected as the people elect us into their own council. There would be monthly meetings with a mandate to bring joint policies together.</i>
MH	<i>In rural areas the government is keen to have a mayor. However, in the case of the previous Police & Crime Commissioner who was directly elected with a low turnout, he had a 3 year term, but after 6 months it turned out it did not work as intended, but nobody could do anything until the term ended. The point is, sometimes an indirectly elected leader, such as David Cameron was, can be held accountable such as with the referendum result. Directly elected mayors might not always be the best thing. With regards to councillors on the board, they will be held accountable by their backbenchers and the electorate. Everyone is accountable. If they fail to deliver then their spot will be under threat. This is better at a local level as there is no way civil servants in London can have their finger on what's happening at a local level in the same</i>

	way.
Q	What will we actually see in terms of the impact of 29,000 new jobs created by GLLEP?
PD	<i>Businesses are broadly supportive of devolution. Devolution will favour these businesses for growth. Businesses will also have a voice at the table with devolution. Jobs growth will come as part of favouring strong sectors. London is full and that growth needs to come elsewhere, which we should take advantage of.</i>
UL	<i>There are strong, proven sectors in Lincolnshire that are featured on the LEP website such as agriculture, construction, defence, renewable energy, manufacturing and care, as well as lots of up and coming sectors.</i>
GH	<i>In particular for the air & defence sector as a whole, we would need to attract skills from other regions. An area review of 16+ education looking at further education but other education too will take place in October/November. 8 out of 10 colleges in the region are looking at this review which will lead to better provision for young people and businesses in terms of skills.</i>
Q	On that last question, will people feel neglected if not part of one of those key sectors mentioned? Market towns, for example, are quite general in terms of skill bases.
GH	<i>From a college point of view, although we do a lot of work towards the key sectors, we do not just focus on these sectors, as all geographical areas have different needs.</i>
MH	<i>There is always a risk of this. The backbone of business is the small to medium enterprises and micro businesses. There has been great broadband investment in Lincolnshire for example to support this. The GLLEP will need to ensure that there is such an infrastructure in place to support small business that are the future as opposed to wasting funding on larger businesses that are failing.</i>
PD	<i>There is currently money going into a growth hub to support building those skills to support the smaller businesses.</i>
UL	<i>On the importance of market towns, there are questions for people moving to Lincolnshire such as: where will I live? How do I recruit people? Where will I shop? In some ways, market towns aren't performing to their potential but there is no quick fix.</i>
Q	Also building on the last question, what about supply chains into these sectors?
PD	<i>Supply chains are a major part of growth and is a strong part of the SEP.</i>
Q	Please explain where social housing fits into this proposed structure.
PB	<i>Buzzword is now 'affordable housing'. There is a need for developers to provide so many houses at reduced costs which is causing problems. They need to make profits. If we take things forward, the government is no longer talking about social housing any more. It's affordable housing. The government tell councils they must give planning permission.</i>
MH	<i>Although not my area, constructors need to build more houses. For example, in Lincolnshire, it is short of number of houses in the £400k-£500k market which isn't attracting managers at the moment. Let's get houses built rather than worry about what type of housing it is.</i>
UL	<i>The government is now saying starter homes are key. Clear long term plans will be required for developers and housing associations in particular for their businesses. For example, in Boston</i>

	<i>they are looking at higher houses due to the flood risk.</i>
Q	How much influence would a combined authority have where plans are in place but builders don't build; would they have a say over the timescale of the planning permission being reduced if not built on?
PB	<i>Planning permissions shouldn't be sat on and should be a set timescale. At the moment it is not part of a combined authority remit under GLLEP but would sit under local councils.</i>
MH	<i>This is a matter for government as the current legislation needs to be changed, and local government is lobbying for central government to change this.</i>
GH	<i>This is where the role of the mayor will be important in terms of having leverage and responsibilities. Chairing the GLLEP is fine but they will need to have the right skills to walk the halls in London and influence change.</i>
UL	<i>In terms of planning departments they could hassle the builders in a nice way to influence change themselves.</i>
Q	£15m a year is underwhelming in exchange for having an elected mayor. What happens if we don't want a mayor? Will £15m disappear?
UL	<i>£15m a year is a red herring; it's the whole budget for the whole of Greater Lincolnshire that would be devolved, that should be considered.</i>
MH	<i>This is why we want people to engage with the consultation to see what people and businesses want.</i> <i>The government say if we want to devolve then we have to have a mayor. We won't be punished though if it's decided not to have one. We would need to go back to local authorities and see what they want and we will end up in the pot with everybody else. This would be a lost opportunity.</i>
Q	Businesses and residents already struggle with the roles of district councils and the county councils, adding another level of authority could further confuse people. Will this process clarify who does what?
PD	<i>In the different areas with the different authorities, boundaries don't matter to businesses.</i>
MH	<i>Leadership in North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire Councils is clear, and we didn't have much to do with them years ago as they looked north to Yorkshire and Humber. However, they looked around and saw that they were being neglected and they are very much a part of this partnership. We need to get away from rigid boundaries.</i> <i>If this does run, then looking at working together as authorities, there would be inevitable logic in services merging.</i>
UL	<i>The public would agree that there are lots of layers, and some already have joined back offices, and if everybody sat around the table they could learn the dynamics of each other, but due to the massive geography of Lincolnshire, the public would still want their individual area to be represented and looked after separately.</i>
Q	Where does Lincolnshire fit into the Midlands Engine? Will we get anything off that table and what is actually on that table?

MH	<i>The Midlands Engine is a George Osborne initiative in terms of big scale infrastructure to make a case to foreign investors because there's a lot to offer. Also known as Midlands Connects as looking at transport links between Birmingham and Immingham (second largest port in the UK) so would need good transport links. This would incorporate North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire Councils as well. In light of Brexit and the new ministers, it's not clear who is responsible for the Midlands Engine concept now.</i>
GH	<i>Two colleges in Lincolnshire have expressed support in engagement so there's a skills work stream engaged. Lack of funding is an issue but don't want to be left out.</i>
PD	<i>If funds weren't put together then it wouldn't be able to be accessed and for innovation and equity we need to continue our strong representation from Lincolnshire and have a voice there. We are trying to ring-fence money specifically for Lincolnshire.</i>
Q	Final Thoughts:
PB	<i>There's a lot to shout out about Lincolnshire and we don't. Devolution would help. We are ahead of the game already and it has surprised people that we as authorities are already working together, for example, with the coastal groups.</i>
MH	<i>Don't miss this opportunity. Any further feedback is greatly appreciated.</i>
GH	<i>Happy to hear input and views from all.</i>
PD	<i>This will be good for businesses but needs people to engage. Everything seen so far is positive – please encourage your friends and family to put their views forward.</i>
UL	<i>Sitting with the leaders and chief executives of all the councils it is noticeable how well they've worked together already. There's a good show of unity, purpose and strategy. If there was no money involved with this, would it work in the same way? I think they would all agree yes. Could then promote the Greater Lincolnshire partnership as a whole. We would love for everybody to fill out an online survey or hard copies are available from each council too.</i>



8 August 2016

Councillor Craig Leyland
Leader
East Lindsey District Council
Tedder Hall
Manby Park
Louth LN11 8UP

PO Box 15
Deacon Road
Lincoln
LN2 4JB

T 01522 522255
F 01522 538229

stagecoachbus.com



Customer Services 0344 605 0 605

Sent by email with hard copies through the post

Dear Councillor Leyland

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE DEVOLUTION: CONSULTATION

We write on behalf of Stagecoach East Midlands in response to the invitation for consultation on proposals for devolution in Greater Lincolnshire. We have also written to the other nine local authorities forming the proposed Combined Authority.

Please note the body of this letter has been cropped as it describes the business.

There is clear evidence to prove that individual Quality Bus Partnerships between Stagecoach East Midlands and the multiple existing transport authorities in Greater Lincolnshire have delivered significant investment and tangible benefits to communities across the region.

We are confident we can facilitate a transition of these current arrangements towards an Enhanced Quality Bus Partnership within the new Combined Authority, which will provide improved strategic planning and development especially in cross boundary links.

Should you have any queries arising from the above consultation response please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Hargreaves
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dave Skepper
COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

Sent: 05 August 2016 16:43
To: PPD - Consultation
Subject:

Dear Sir

I am witting to record my views as part of the consultation on the proposed devolution settlement for Greater Lincolnshire.

I am opposed to the current proposals for the following reasons:

1. The original objective behind devolving powers from Westminster to local areas was principally an idea to support economic growth. The focus should be on developing greater collaboration of partners and stakeholders located in and around the local economic footprint. This is easily defined as the place where local people work and the area they cover travelling to and from work. Far fewer people from the NE Lincs travel south to work in Lincolnshire than those that travel west into North Lincs or north across the Humber. It would therefore seem more appropriate to seek closer collaboration between the four authorities that surround the Humber rather than looking south into Lincolnshire.
2. There is no natural synergy between the local economies of north east Lincolnshire and greater Lincolnshire. Outside of the public sector NE Lincs has a local economy based on manufacturing and food/foodprocessing, with a burgeoning new renewables sector. Whereas Lincolnshire remains largely a agricultural economy with some food processing and a growing service sector. The future skills and investment needed to develop and grow the NE Lincs economy are very different from those required elsewhere.
3. Given the political make up of the 10 local authorities the inevitable outcome of a mayoral election is a conservative mayor with a constituency of support in the south of the region. They will be based in Lincoln and most probably focused on finding solutions to the challenges facing Lincolnshire. An elected mayor based in Lincoln seems very remote from the communities in and around Grimsby and I'm left questioning how this can be an effective, and accountable form of governance.
4. This is a major constitutional change to the structures for local governance. It must surely only happen if it can command support from all major stakeholders. I note that the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce is opposing the proposals, so too is the local MP, so how, with such significant opposition locally can such proposals be allowed to proceed.

I hope these few brief thoughts will be represented in the report from the consultation exercise.

Kind Regards



Stamford Town Council

Town Hall, St. Mary's Hill, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 2DR

04 August 2016

Councillor B Adams
Leader South Kesteven District Council
Council Offices
St. Peter's Hill
Grantham
Lincolnshire NG31 6PZ

Dear Councillor Adams,

Re: Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

I write on behalf of Stamford Town Council to advise of its strong objection to the proposal for a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire. It especially considers that as a result of the 'Brexit' vote this proposed initiative has to be reviewed as it has been overtaken by events.

Stamford Town Council strongly considers that the suggested style of Governance of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Mayor, and the protocol by which the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority is to operate, demonstrates a clear deficit of democracy. The question arises as to how it can be possible for one member from each Authority to represent the diversity of the local councils in Lincolnshire?

The Town Council's carefully considered view is that this is an unnecessary, and costly, additional tier of government. The £15m is a wholly inadequate contribution given the size of Lincolnshire. It is also being suggested that through devolution greater funds could be sought through the integration and alignment of investments in various European bodies. This is now surely unlikely to be the case given Britain's recent Brexit vote?

Stamford Town Council suggests that the £15m funding is discounted and Lincolnshire County Council combines with District Councils creating a new Lincolnshire Unitary Authority, devolving greater responsibilities to Town and Parish Councils. In this way Lincolnshire would be cost-effectively streamlining services, removing one of the tiers of Government and delivering true democracy at grass roots level.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Stuart-Mogg

Town Clerk

Sent: 04 August 2016 10:13

To: Simon Driver

Subject: Response to the consultation on Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Bid

Dear Simon,

I am responding to the consultation about the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution offer.

Firstly my observation is this consultation has not been particularly well promoted or wide ranging. The tick box response provided on North Lincolnshire's website encourages a very narrow consideration of the issues and comprises a short series of closed questions which encourages a positive rather than critical response.

Secondly I am not convinced that the offer has sufficient additional value in it to really devolve influence from Whitehall to local people though I welcome any additional funding and influence that might be made available to local decision makers through this devolution package. I do not believe there is any support for a directly elected Mayor of Greater Lincolnshire. This would turn out to be a remote, expensive and unwanted politician. The southern part of this historic county is closer to London than Scunthorpe and has little in common with our area or concerns. I have not seen a compelling argument for devolution to this area or any real engagement with local people on whether it has their support. This contrasts with a very thorough public consultation around 2001 on the sort of leadership model preferred for the local council in which there was very little support for the Elected Mayor model.

Thirdly the area's historic ties have been to the east, west and north around the Humber. and across to South Yorkshire. The area's usp is the Humber estuary and the potential of making this the UK's energy estuary. It is not surprising, therefore, that local business organisation, the Hull and Humber Chamber has consistently argued for a devolution deal which is Humber-wide and thereby aligned to this potential. The business led Humber LEP has had some traction in the area because it goes with the grain of local relationships and future opportunity.

Finally the public services relationships are very much north, east and west. In particular the health community looks to Hull, Sheffield and Leeds for specialist services. I would be very concerned at any arrangements that worked against the grain of these relationships. Public health should be similarly lined up. And I'd be concerned about any move to break up Humberside Police and diminish the role or reach of the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner by transferring responsibilities to an unwanted Elected Mayor of Greater Lincolnshire.

From: Clerk Castle Bytham [<mailto:castlebythamparishcouncil@yahoo.com>]

Sent: 08 August 2016 22:45

To: Devon Bradley

Subject: Re: Reminder – Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

Dear Mr Bradley,

Castle Bytham Parish Council had the following comments to forward regarding the consultation:

- a. The Parish Council agreed with the principle of devolution of power and resources to local authorities but would have wished for more information/greater clarity on thre proposals.
- b. The Parish Council did not feel that the proposal was suitable for large rural areas such as Lincolnshire.
- c. The Parish Council was not convinced that the government model was correct for the village of Castle Bytham.

Yours sincerely,

Muriel Cooke Clerk to Castle Bytham Parish Council

3rd August 2016

Cllr Ray Oxby
Leader
North East Lincolnshire Council
Municipal Offices
Town Hall Square
GRIMSBY
North East Lincolnshire
DN31 1HU

Dear Ray

OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY

As you know, the Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce believes strongly that the current proposals to create a Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority are not in the best interests of the economy or business community either in North East or North Lincolnshire. A view we believe is shared by the town's Member of Parliament Melanie Onn and indeed her neighbouring MP Nic Dakin for Scunthorpe.

In this regard, the Chamber is disappointed to note that your consultation survey has not offered those taking part any chance to express support for alternative ideas to North East Lincolnshire Council's own preferred Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral Combined Authority option. In short, it is not a real or meaningful consultation at all.

As we have indicated, the business community believes that breaking up the Humber sub region as a globally recognised functional economic unit will damage the economy of North East Lincolnshire resulting in a weaker economy, less good quality jobs and more limited opportunities for investment. In simple terms, industrial towns such as Grimsby and Immingham have much more economic synergy with the wider Yorkshire and Humber economy as part of the Government's Northern Powerhouse agenda, than they do with the rural/agricultural economy of Lincolnshire which extends down to the likes of Stamford in the Midlands which is closer to London than it is to Grimsby.

We do recognise you and Rob Walsh have acted with great integrity on behalf of North East Lincolnshire Council whilst the north bank Authorities on the Humber have struggled to find the right way forward on devolution, however we would still urge the Council to look again. Firstly, to look again at this flawed consultation process, in order to make it proper and appropriate in reviewing the different points of view which legitimately exist. And secondly, to pause and reflect in light of changes in central Government and the differences the Council has with the town's Member of Parliament Melanie Onn and ourselves in the business community, who fear the long term damage which will be done to North East Lincolnshire's economy if the Council continues down this current path.

Yours sincerely



Dr Ian Kelly
Chief Executive

cc: Andrew Percy MP – Minister for the Northern Powerhouse
Melanie Onn MP for Great Grimsby



CENTRAL & EAST YORKSHIRE
Area Office, 34-38 Beverley Road, HULL, HU3 1YE
Telephone: 01482 324976 Fax: 01482 213962

NORTHERN LINCOLNSHIRE
Area Office, ABF Port Office, Cleethorpe Road, GRIMSBY, DN31 3LL
Telephone: 01472 342981 Fax: 01472 349524

info@hull-humber-chamber.co.uk www.hull-humber-chamber.co.uk

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Sent: 02 August 2016 13:51

To: Consultation

Subject: Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

You have requested our views on the Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority which accompanies The Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Agreement and I write to confirm our Board is in agreement with this proposal.

The section on Water (clause 38 - 42) will have a significant impact on our current practices which we support.

Kind Regards,

Ian Warsap

Chief Executive,
Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board,

CAYTHORPE & FRIESTON PARISH COUNCIL

parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/caythorpeandfrieston

South Kesteven District Council
Council Offices
St Peter's Hill
Grantham
NG31 6PZ

Rose Cottage
Gorse Hill Lane
CAYTHORPE
Grantham
Lincolnshire
NG32 3DY

Tel: 01400 272794
Email: Caythorpepc@live.co.uk

29 July 2016

Dear Sir / Madam

Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council considered a request from Lincolnshire County Council to respond to a short consultation document on proposals to set up a Mayoral Combined Authority which would require a Directly Elected Mayor. The Mayor would have additional powers and Lincolnshire would receive enhanced funding as a consequence for services such as economic development tourism and flood risk management. After discussion the Council Resolved NOT to support the County's suggestion for a number of reasons to include the following:-

1. There was insufficient information to support the proposal; the council had heard whispers that such a structure was being planned and any attempt to bring it into existence with such flimsy and inadequate evidence would be to bounce communities into something which little is known about. Members of principal councils should spend their time promoting services not their own power.

2. The creation of another tier of local government above the present one was considered to be unnecessary and anti democratic. The trend of concentrating power into the hands of a few people was not supported.

3. The track record of the County of providing rural services was not impressive. Most expenditure goes to the Lincs Towns ,e.g. the council was very disappointed by the County decision to close the Leadenham waste repository whilst at the same time opening facilities elsewhere in the county

4. The county of Lincolnshire is simply too big in area for any form of unitary local government. Representatives are simply too remote from the people they are supposed to be representing. The example of Northumberland is a clear case of where unitary local government is seen as too remote. The present model for local government in Lincolnshire is not particularly effective and it may well be more sensible to revert to the three county areas (or similar) which existed prior to the local government reorganisation in

1974. The abolition of the county and the districts to pave the way for this could be a very practical way of bringing such a structure into existence.

5. Perhaps the new government will take another look at this issue and see that elected mayors in county areas is simply not appropriate in an area as vast as a county the size of Lincolnshire. The elected mayor would be more appear to have more influence than all of the County's M.P.s!"

Yours Sincerely



Mrs Andrea Smith
Clerk to Caythorpe & Frieston Parish Council

Lincolnshire County Council

25 July 2016

Devolution Consultation (Mayoral Combined Authority)

Dear sir

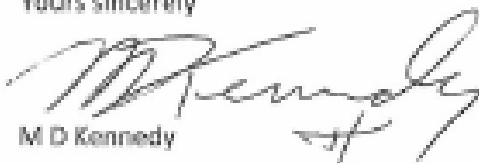
I have been tasked to reply to the above mentioned consultation on behalf of The Great and Little Carlton Parish Council.

The proposed new structure just adds another layer to our local government. The change in our present structure must include a reorganization of District/County Councils with the removal of one layer of local government (with all the savings that will generate) before another is added. There is an immense amount of duplication (Tourism, Economic Development, Planning - The list goes on) and the role of all councils has diminished in the last few years. Perhaps consideration should be given to empowering your Town and Parish Councils if you decide to have serious look at Local Government.

The role of Mayor and Police Commissioner should NOT be combined.

Finally if a decision is reached to go ahead with a Mayoral Government the people of Lincolnshire should be allowed to vote on their future government. If it is left to the present councils to decide the way forward (like turkeys voting for Christmas) we will end with a ponderous and very expensive local government that will offset much of the additional monies central government allocates.

Yours sincerely

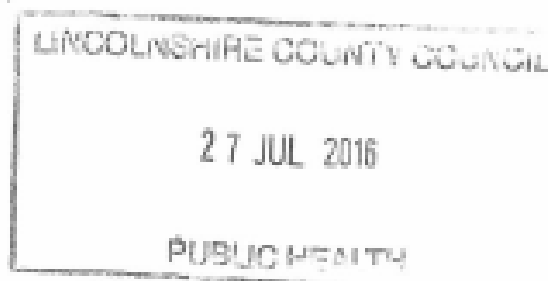


M D Kennedy

THE OLD HALL, GLEBE ROAD

GREAT CARLTON, LINCOLNSHIRE

LN11 8JX



Mablethorpe & Sutton Town Council response to ELDC consultation on proposal for Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire – 25th July 2016

At its meeting held on Monday 25th July 2016, following an in depth discussion around the issues raised by the proposal for a Mayoral combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire, the Town Council raised the following:-

- Deep concerns and objections to an elected Mayor were raised in respect of the undemocratic process which would be employed in the selection and overall composition of the proposed Authority;
- Profound concerns were raised in respect of costs within the first year pertaining to:
 - The Deputy Mayor
 - Administration Support
 - Salary Implications
 - Location: Mayoral Office and offices
 - Officer Time: having impact on existing service provision
- The Mayor would be the only directly elected member of the composition of this proposed new combined authority.
- Deep concerns over a further tier of Authority and cost implications, noting prior emphasis and support being placed on a Lincolnshire Unitary Authority.
- The Town Council has deep concerns and reservations that the only directly elected member of the combined authority could be side-lined by the veto process.
- The Mayor was not wanted in the original scheme and only included on insistence from Central Government.
- There were deep reservations in respect of the 1st year operation of this proposed Authority in respect of disproportionate funding, the cost of administration during times of austerity measures where drastic cuts are being made to front line local services having negative impact on service delivery.
- There are questions around the benefits for Lincolnshire with the level of funding (£15m p.a.) perceived to be too low for the size of the County.
- Concerns were raised in respect of member council charges (one tenth of the running costs, paid by each member council) in the first year and spending of funds could be disproportional and would not cover future cost implications of large projects, such as sea defences.
- Deep concern was also raised for future years as the mayor will have the power to precept a further 2% on council tax and the authority could hit our struggling businesses with an extra 2% on business rates.

For these reasons the Town Council strongly objects and urges ELDC not to support the current proposal for a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire.

Market Deeping Town Council
Town Hall
Market Place
Market Deeping
PE6 8EA

Telephone: 01778 343170
Email: mdtc.townclerk@btconnect.com
Web: <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/marketdeeping/>
Town Clerk: Mrs J Bourne



Comments from Market Deeping Town Council Regarding The

Consultation on a Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

Market Deeping Town Council would like to thank South Kesteven District Council for giving them the opportunity to comment on the Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire.

Members of the Council discussed and debated this proposal at their meeting on 13th July, which raised many concerns.

The members are concerned that the proposal adds another layer of government and they would like to see the proposal include the crossing of county boundaries. Many residents of Market Deeping work either in Peterborough or London, and the members feel that the proposal is centred on Lincoln and North Lincolnshire Centric. Often it appears that the south of the county gets forgotten and the councillors are worried that this could happen again if this new combined authority was instigated.

Members are also concerned that the proposal does not include levels of scrutiny.

Furthermore the members raised concerns that people in the community do not totally understand these proposals for devolution.

Concerns were also raised about the use of public funds for this proposal and whether this was best value for money and that it may be better to divide the extra funding equally between the current district councils.

Given all the above factors, members of Market Deeping Town Council decided that they objected to the proposal for the Mayoral Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire

Candace Brent
Deputy Clerk to Market Deeping Town Council
15th July 2016



Gainsborough

TOWN COUNCIL

Richmond House
Richmond Park
Morton Terrace
Gainsborough
Lincolnshire DN21 2RJ

Tel / Fax: 01427 841573

www.gainsborough.gov.uk
Email: info@gainsborough.gov.uk

14 JUL 2016

PUBLIC HEALTH
11th July 2016

Freepost RTAC-AUAA-SSZS
Public Health
County Offices
Lincolnshire County Council
Newland
Lincoln
LN1 1YR

Dear Sirs,

Re: Devolution Consultation

We wish to confirm that Gainsborough Town Council is vehemently opposed to a greater Lincolnshire devolution combined authority arrangement.

Whilst Gainsborough Town Council in principal is supportive of Lincolnshire being granted greater control and input over financial investment into the region, the proposals as presented currently are simply unacceptable.

This Town Council is of the opinion that yet another layer of Council bureaucracy will only serve to create conflict, delays and confusion over the delivery of certain services within the County.

The annual amount of funding reportedly to be made available is insignificant in the grand scheme of things. Here in Gainsborough it is unlikely that we would see any of that 15 million per year with much of the funding likely to be focused on the bigger towns and city.

Notwithstanding the supposed greater freedom for the County to control certain areas of service delivery, we understand that there is still heavy regulation from central government over what the combined authority can actually do.

Further, we would ask the Lincolnshire powers that be to give serious consideration to the impact of the outcome of the recent Euro membership referendum. We believe that this is likely to have a negative impact on the proposed combined authority proposals, in particular regard to funding.

We thank you for taking the time to consider our response to the consultation.

Yours faithfully,

Gainsborough Town Council

Clerk to the Town Council – Mr. Matthew Gleadell
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am – 3.30pm

Appendix 4 – Organisations identified

Below is a list of organisations that identified themselves in the survey responses (individuals who identified themselves have not been included). This does not necessarily mean the response represents the views of the organisation as responses could have been from employees. Official responses from organisations are shown in Appendix 3.

Acis Group	East Coast Pictures
Abatis Fire & Security	East Keal Parish Council
Abbey Boarding Kennels	East Lindsey District Council
Addlethorpe Parish Council	Easton Walled Gardens
Adrip Plumbing Ltd	Eden Futures
AH Worth	Education Lincs Ltd
Alford Town Council	Fairy Glam Ltd
All Seasons Apartments	Fleet Parish Council
Alzheimer's Society	Foresight (North East Lincolnshire) Limited
Appliance World Grimsby Ltd	FREIGHT-LINC LOGISTICS LTD
Artius Resources Ltd	Gainsborough, Retford and Brigg Rail and Bus Users Group (GRaB)
Ashby market stall	Gedney Parish Council
Barnoldby le Beck Parish Council	Get Hooked on Positive Activities
Barrowby Parish Council	Golto Gardens
Barton Senior Alliance	Grantham Labour Party
Better Barrow Community Project	Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust
BG Futures, Bishop Grosseteste University	Green Futures
BHIUK	Grimsby Fish Merchants Association LTD.
Bill Henley	Grimsby Rugby Union Football Club
Billingborough Parish Council	Hansens Chocolate House
Billinghay Parish Council	Hemingby Parish Council
Bilsby & Farlethorpe Parish Council	High Street Lincoln Parishes
Blink Bonny Bed and Breakfast	Holton-Le-Clay Parish Council
Bluebell Glade	Honington Parish Meeting
Branston & Mere Parish Council	Horncastle Town Council
Bricktree Gallery	Hull & Humber Chamber of Commerce
British Polio Fellowship (Lincs branch)	Huttoft Parish Council
Broadgate Homes Limited	Hydrostat Ltd
Burgh le Marsh Town Council	Hydrostat Ltd
Burton-by-Lincoln Parish Council	Isle Education Trust
Business Funding Hub	John Owens Associates Ltd
Carlby Parish Council	Language Books Ltd
Cathedral Training LTD	Lincoln Business Improvement Group
Chris Pavely Illustrator	Lincoln College Group
Citizens Advice Mid Lincolnshire	Lincoln Science and Innovation Park
Crucis Consultants Ltd	Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Services, Lincoln
Daisies	Industrial Mission
David Hellier Consultancy Ltd	Lincolnshire Community & Vol Service
David Thew & Company Ltd	Lincolnshire Community Health Service
Dream Doors Brigg	NHS Trust
DYNEX SEMICONDUCTOR LTD	Lincolnshire Co-operative Ltd
E factor Group Ltd	

Lincolnshire County Council Labour Group
Lincolnshire Rural Housing Association
LincolnWills
Linkage
Londonthorpe & Harrowby Without PC
Long Acres Touring Park
Louth Town Council
Materialistic Interiors
Middleton's Glass Ltd
Minting & Gautby Parish Council
Moko3D
New Life Community Church
Nocton Parish Council, Lincolnshire
North Lincolnshire Council
North Somercotes Parish Council
Orion Business Centres Ltd
Pera Consulting Ltd
Post Office
Premier Sealant Systems Ltd
Red Pepper@52
Rippingale Parish Council
Riseholme Parish Council
Roleplay UK Ltd
RSPB Eastern England
Rumblings Cafe
Rustic Property Partnership
S and C Staintech Ltd
Sapperton Farming Company
Scothern Parish Council
Scotter Forward.
Scunthorpe power tool services
Scunthorpe Renaissance Town Team
Scunthorpe Renaissance Town Team

Singleton Birch Ltd
SJ Scaffolding (Lincoln) Limited
Skegness Group of the Conservative Policy
Forum
Skegness Town Council
Skidbrooke cum Saltfleet Parish Council
Skillington Parish Council
Specialist surface solutions ltd
St Mary's Catholic Church Boston
Sutton St James Parish Council
Thatched Owners Group
The Health Tree Foundation, Charity for
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS
Foundation Trust
The Retail Data Partnership Ltd
Thurlby Parish Council
Tom Olliver Meat Specialist Ltd
Tulip Radio
United Kingdom Independence Party
Scunthorpe Brigg and Goole branch
University of Lincoln
Utterby Parish Council
Voice of Stamford
Wainfleet All Saints Town Council
Westshores Nurseries
Witham Fourth District IDB
Witham on the hill parish council
Woodland Trust

APPENDICES AS SEPARATE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

Appendix 5 - Full list of comments

Appendix 6 - Extensive comments

Appendix 7 - Equality Impact Assessment

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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