

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 9 DECEMBER 2011

Statement from: Councillor M J Hill OBE – Leader and Executive Councillor for Policy, Strategy and Communications

Coroners

Following notification of the impending retirements of the two coroners covering the jurisdictions for Boston/Spalding and Stamford, the Executive has agreed to go out to consultation on future jurisdictions.

The two options are: a single jurisdiction covering the whole county **or** the amalgamation of existing jurisdictions into two areas covering, firstly, West Lincolnshire/Louth and Spilsby and, secondly, Boston/Spalding and Stamford.

The consultation process will include all Members, the general public, the Ministry of Justice and other stakeholders. The Communities Scrutiny Committee will also review the options, and a further report will go back to the Executive in January to enable it to agree a preferred option.

Registration Offices

Consultation on proposed changes to the operation of some registration offices ended on 7 November. The Executive will consider the feedback, together with the outcome of any ongoing discussions with other stakeholders regarding alternative proposals, before final decisions are made.

In an assessment of Lincolnshire Registration and Celebratory Services (LRCS) on 20 October, staff at all levels were found to have a deep understanding of, and commitment to, Customer Service Excellence.

As a result, LRCS achieved 100% compliance with the Government's tough standards for this award – recognition of the success of individuals and the team in meeting the needs of families at the high and low emotional points in their lives.

The assessment also highlighted LRCS' ongoing commitment to consultation and customer surveys, describing the processes in place as "excellent".

Another milestone for LRCS is the fact that they have just conducted their 300th citizenship ceremony welcoming residents as newly confirmed British citizens.

Property – Capital Receipts

The capital receipts target for 2011/12 is £4.0m. Against that target, we have already sold land and buildings to the value of 6.7m. A further £2.3m has been sold subject to contract, giving a total of £9.0m. There are further sales still under negotiation that may increase the final figures if they can be concluded before 31 March.