



Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes OBE, Chief Executive

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Management Board
Date:	30 November 2023
Subject:	To Consider and Support a Devolution Proposal for Greater Lincolnshire and Consultation Activities

Summary:

This report invites the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to consider and support a report on:

- the terms of a proposed devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire,
- a draft proposal for the creation of a new Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority to give effect to the devolution deal and
- the carrying out of public consultation to inform a later decision whether the Council should submit a formal proposal to the Secretary of State under the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 for the creation of a Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral Combined County Authority.

The report is due to be considered by the County Council on 1 December 2023 prior to a decision by the Leader of the Council (Executive Councillor for Resources, Communications and Commissioning). The views of the Board will be reported to the County Council and to the Leader of the Council as part of their consideration of this item.

Actions Required:

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board is invited to:-

- 1) consider the attached report and to determine whether the Board supports the recommendation(s) to the Leader of the Council as set out in the report.
- 2) agree any additional comments to be passed on to the County Council and the Leader of the Council in relation to this item.

1. Background

The Leader of the Council is due to consider a report that aims to

- progress the steps required to deliver on a historic devolution deal for Greater Lincolnshire and to progress the process for creation of a Combined County Authority covering Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire in accordance with the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act as the only mechanism for delivering on that deal.
- ensure that appropriate consultation is undertaken, and comments are sought from stakeholders and are considered prior to consideration of approval of a final proposal for submission to Government.

Decision making to agree and to consult on the draft proposal is an executive function of the Council. In accordance with the process set out to Council in December 2022, the report will be considered at the meeting of the County Council on 1 December 2023, prior to any executive decision being taken.

The full report to the Leader of the Council is attached at Appendix A to this report.

2. Conclusion

Following consideration of the attached report, the Board is requested to consider whether it supports the recommendation(s) in the report and whether it wishes to make any additional comments to inform the decision making process. The Board's views will be reported to the County Council and to the Leader of the Council.

3. Consultation

The Board is being consulted on the proposed decision of the Leader of the Council on 1 December 2023.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Report to Leader of the Council 1 December 2023 - To consider and approve a Devolution Proposal for Greater Lincolnshire and commence consultation activities, including the following appendices:
A	Devolution Deal for Greater Lincolnshire
B	Draft proposal for a Greater Lincolnshire mayoral combined county authority and for devolution to Greater Lincolnshire
C	Consultation on the draft proposal
D	Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

5. Background Papers

The following background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

Background Paper	Where it can be viewed
Report to Council December 2022 A Devolution Deal for Lincolnshire	Agenda for Council on Friday, 9th December, 2022, 10.30 am (moderngov.co.uk)
Levelling Up White Paper	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom
The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023	https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3155

This report was written by Lee Sirdifield, Assistant Director - Corporate, who can be contacted on Lee.Sirdifield@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

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