



Council

Date 11 April 2016

Subject: Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal

Report by:

Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Purpose / Summary:

The purpose of this report is to update on the devolution deal and next steps in terms of implementation. Great Lincolnshire's ten Councils have agreed with the Government a 'devolution deal'. This will now act as the basis for developing the formal governance arrangements. An extra Council meeting has been proposed for May 2016, at which Council will receive the Capital Scheme. This is a document outlining powers and responsibilities for a proposed Mayor and Combined Authority. Following public consultation a submission will be made to government for approval by way of a Statutory Order by November 2016.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that Council

- a) Approve and note the contents of the report.
- b) Note the additional proposed Council meeting in May 2016 at which the draft scheme will be presented for approval.
- c) Advise on any further information or workshops for Councillors and other key stakeholders.

IMPLICATIONS

Legal: All proposals will be implemented in line with legislation. This includes a governance review, formal Scheme, public consultation and resultant Parliamentary Orders that will create a new statutory arrangements for a Greater Lincolnshire Mayor and Combined Authority (GLGMA).

Consultation - Press releases and member briefings via Group Leaders have taken place in addition to an update at each Council. Further public consultation is proposed for the proposed Scheme in week commencing 4th July 2016.

Financial : FIN/13/17 The Council has already allocated £100,000 of funding in 2015 to develop devolution work. To date £2K has been drawn down.

Further funding has been secured from Government for One Public Estate. A bid is being made to the Local Government Association for capacity funding. The Council may match fund any bids. It is proposed that funding of up to £20K by each authority is further allocated, therefore over £75,000 of the £100,000 fund remains.

Staffing : Existing staff roles responsible for areas such as housing or planning will work with partners to deliver ambitions for Greater Lincolnshire.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights :

Risk Assessment : The May 2016 report will outline a more detailed assessment. At this stage the key objective is ensuring Council understands the developments to date.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities :

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the action to date in progressing the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal.
- 1.2 The Deal was successfully agreed with Government Ministers and the result of an announcement in the Chancellor's Budget Statement on 16th March 2016.
- 1.3 The proposals are for devolution to a local level for responsibilities and the funding for:
 - a) Transport and Highway
 - b) Economic development and Skills
 - c) Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
 - d) Public Protection
 - e) Water Management and Flooding
 - f) Health
- 1.4 The agreed Deal proposes an additional £15 million a year for 30 years, and funding devolved for areas such as skills, further education and public protection. Areas such as Housing, Water Management and Health that required further negotiations will be subject to the next stage of Devolution discussions.
- 1.5 In addition arrangements are now being made to implement the Devolution Deal agreement, which will require formal governance arrangements, including a Parliamentary Order to create a new Mayor and Combined Authority for Greater Lincolnshire.
- 1.6 A report will be brought to a special Council meeting on 11th May 2016 which outlines the governance proposals, timelines for government approval and public consultation.
- 1.7 The appendices in this report attached give:
 - a) A fuller briefing on the Devolution Deal (circulated to Group Leaders)
 - b) A Frequently Asked Questions as prepared for press and public queries
 - c) Government letter outlining arrangements for implementation
 - d) Government timeline for implementation
 - e) The final signed Deal Document

2.0 Next Steps

- 2.1 The Government has appointed a team to work with the GL Councils to "support implementation plans".
- 2.2 A timeline of actions that need to be taken is attached to this report (Appendix 2). In the first instance Councils need to agree the details of the Governance review mentioned in previous reports to Council over the last ten months.

2.3 As part of the Governance Review, a scheme will be prepared which will be the subject of public consultation week commencing 4th July 2016. The scheme document will set out the proposals for the establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority and developing appropriate powers by May 2017. The document will be a clear blueprint of how the Combined Authority will operate with regards to transport, economic development, regeneration, housing, planning, skills and public protection.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Letter from DCLG

Appendix 2 Timeline for Implementation

Appendix 3 Leaders Briefing paper

Appendix 4 Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Agreement – Final

Appendix 5 FAQ's



Department for
Communities and
Local Government



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

To: Chief Executives

Dear colleague,

DEVOLUTION DEAL IMPLEMENTATION

We are pleased to write and formally note the success of getting a devolution deal for your area.

We appreciate the enormous investment that you and your Leaders have made in forming a strong and united partnership, in developing your devolution proposals and in leading negotiations with Government. There can be no doubt that your efforts have been pivotal in helping to secure your Devolution Agreement.

Of course, the deal will now need to be ratified. Meanwhile, we have been thinking in parallel about the arrangements will need to be put in place so that momentum is not lost. This letter is to outline briefly the support on offer and to provide an outline of some of the governance and legislation milestones that are looming large.

Throughout the coming weeks and months your local Relationship Manager within the Cities and Local Growth Unit, Pete Holmes, (pete.holmes@bis.gsi.gov.uk), will continue to be your first point of contact on the Deal. This local support will be complimented by the central policy and strategy teams within the Cities and Local Growth Unit. These teams cover all aspects of devolution policy.

In parallel, your dedicated legislation manager, Lydia Strawson, will provide advice on governance issues and will work with you to ensure that the legislation to establish your combined authority and to devolve powers is drafted and taken through Parliament.

In terms of senior level Whitehall engagement, you will want to be aware that there is an established cross-Whitehall process. This is led by Simon Ridley, the DCLG Director General for Decentralisation and Local Growth. Regular thematic meetings are being established, the next one being on Labour Markets with DWP on 20th April in London which will be led by Jeremy Moore, the DWP Director General. A formal invitation will follow separately.

There are also monthly meetings with all areas on legislation. The next one is on 21 April in Manchester to which you are, of course, invited.

We will soon meet with you to outline the statutory processes we need to follow with regard to the establishment of a mayoral combined authority and devolving appropriate powers for May 2017. These include: undertaking a governance review; publishing a scheme as to how the mayoral combined authority would work; undertaking a statutory public consultation on the

scheme; and providing a summary of consultation responses to the Secretary of State. This will enable the Secretary of State to decide whether the statutory tests on improving the exercise of functions are met and whether it is appropriate to make the order (if Parliament approves) establishing the combined authority. Before making such an order, we would also, as statute provides, seek consent from the constituent councils.

Deals such as yours announced at Budget which include establishing a new mayoral combined authority by May 2017 are subject to the following timetable:

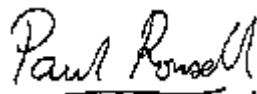
- Local area publishes a governance review and statutory scheme setting out proposals for the combined authority, and launches consultation on the scheme – by no later than week commencing 4 July 2016; this is **the last point for any change to the geography of the combined authority**
- Summary of consultation responses submitted to Secretary of State – end August;
- Draft Orders laid before Parliament – by end October 2016; and
- Orders approved by Parliament and made to establish mayoral combined authority – end December 2016

As you know, we are coming to meet you to talk to you about the way forward and answer any questions you have at this stage. We and our teams very much look forward to joining you at your meeting in Sleaford on Thursday 24th March.

In the meantime, it would be helpful if you could consider how you wish to plan this work and in particular to identify the senior lead to take this work ahead and manage day to day contact.

This letter is copied to LEP Chief Executive.

Yours faithfully,

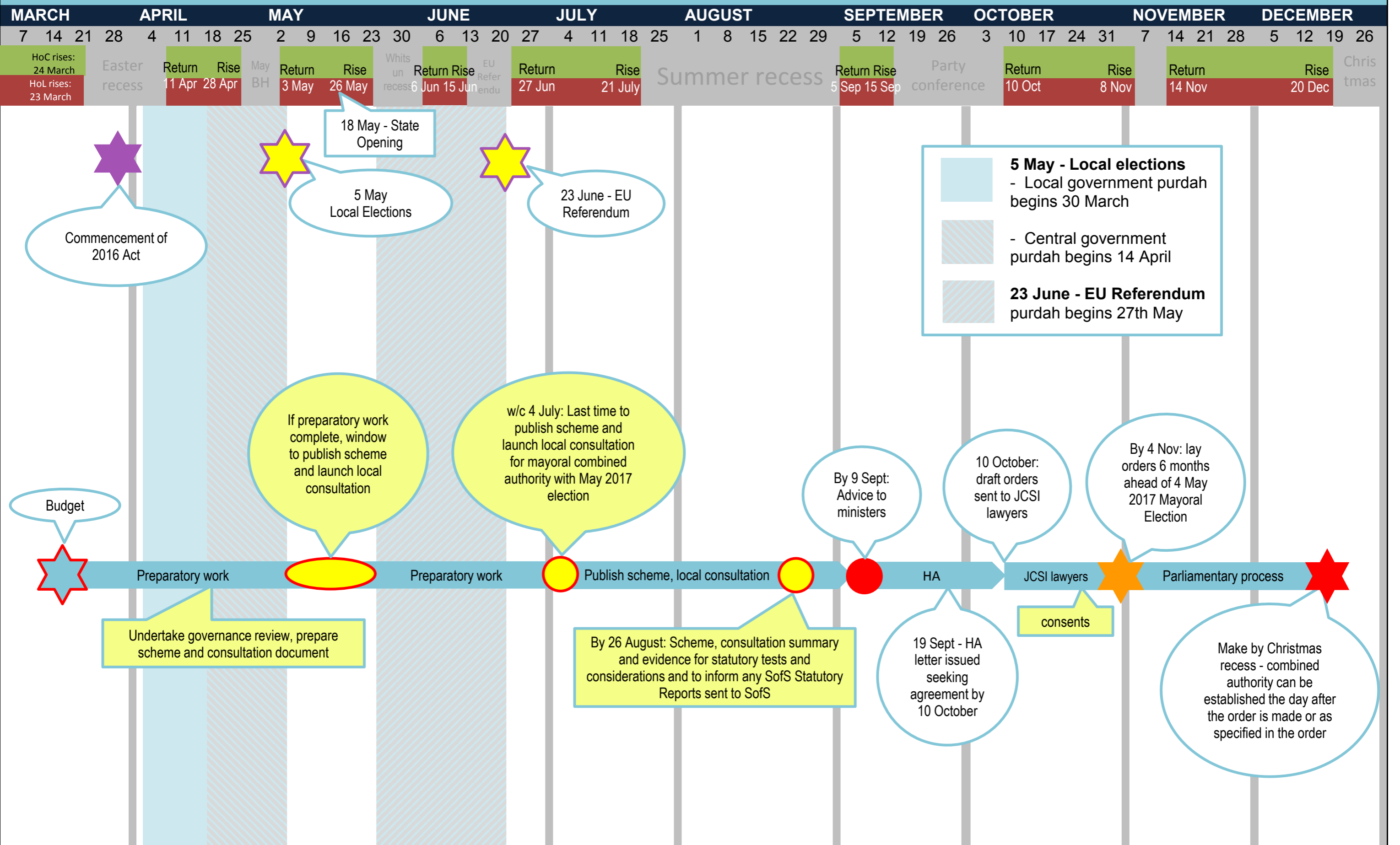


PAUL ROWSELL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEMOCRACY



ROWENA LIMB
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BIS LOCAL

DEVOLUTION DEALS - TIMELINE FOR ORDERS



Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal

Briefing Note for Leader – 19 March 2016

Headline Position

- All 10 Greater Lincolnshire Local Authorities have signed up to the proposed Devolution Deal announced by the Chancellor in his budget statement.
- The Deal is a statement of intent, there is now a significant amount of work to develop the detail. All 10 Councils will have the opportunity to consider the detailed proposals and confirm, or not, their support for the Devolution Deal and governance arrangements.
- The GL Devolution Deal is based on a commitment to accelerate the economic growth of Greater Lincolnshire and is in line with the agreed Strategic Economic Plan (SEP).
- The Deal offers GL an additional £15m per annum in a Single Investment Fund. It will also secure devolved transport funding (anything up to a maximum of £23m per annum although this figure has still to be confirmed). Some skills funding will also be devolved, again the amount is to be confirmed. The Deal also provides for GL to continue discussions with Government about devolved funding arrangements to deliver housing.
- Government has been clear throughout that agreeing a Deal is a starting point and the beginning of a new relationship – work has already begun on developing 'Deal 2'.
- The devolution deal is dependent on GL adopting a Mayoral Combined Authority governance model. This model is based on devolving powers from Central Government and not about giving up powers from local councils. Retaining local sovereignty is enshrined within the Deal.
- The powers of the Elected Mayor will be set out and determined by the constitution (Scheme) for the Combined Authority. The intention is that the Elected Mayor will act as the Chair of a Cabinet of the 10 constituent members (the 10 Leaders) and will not have a casting vote.
- All Councils will have to agree the Scheme (equivalent to the constitution) for the Combined Authority.
- In theory, a GL Deal could still stand if individual authorities opted out. In practice, it would depend on the Secretary of State's (Greg Clarke) view about whether that would damage the integrity of the proposed Combined Authority and the GL commitment to accelerate growth.
- The Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) will be a non-constituent member of the GL Combined Authority. The Chair of GLLEP will be a member of the CA 'cabinet' with some voting rights (although still to be determined as the constitution/Scheme develops). The Elected Mayor will be a member of the GLLEP board.
- The Combined Authority will be established on the basis of one member one vote ie. this will put all the local authorities (Unitaries, County and Districts) on an equal footing.
- Once approved by Government the Combined Authority will be a legal entity and cannot be changed significantly without the approval of the CA and Government (ie it cannot become a Unitary council by stealth).

Outline Process and Timeline (subject to change)

11 March – GL Leaders agreed Devolution Deal

16 March – GL Devolution Deal announced

w/b 21 March – Briefing Administration and Group Leaders

April Council (11 April) – Head of Paid Service will provide verbal update on GL Devolution Deal

May Council – report to request approval to consult on the Governance Review (the rationale for why GL wants to change its governance arrangements) and the draft Scheme for the Combined Authority (in essence its draft constitution). It is proposed that the same report is considered by all 10 councils around the same time.

Post EU referendum (23 June) – public consultation begins on the Governance Review and draft scheme. Public Consultation is subject to a test of ‘sufficiency’ – (to make sure the consultation is appropriate). Legal and Government advice will be needed to make sure the consultation plans are considered robust.

Early August 2016 – GL summarises and analyses consultation responses

End August – Consultation summary and analysis must be submitted to Government (DCLG) for consideration.

September 2016 – DCLG Secretary of State will consider the consultation responses and if considered satisfactory will proceed with the legislative process of establishing the Mayoral Combined Authority.

End September/first week October – All Councils to formally approve and consent to the proposed Scheme and establishing a Mayoral Combined Authority.

Mid October – Draft order to establish GL Mayoral Combined Authority will be laid before Parliament. This requires secondary legislation and will follow the normal Parliamentary process.

Before Christmas 2016 recess – Order is expected to be made which will allow for Mayoral elections in 2017.

May 2017 – Elections for GL Mayor.

Other Points to Note:

- The Elected Mayor will undoubtedly be a salaried position. The salary has yet to be determined.
- The aim of GL authorities is to keep the costs of the CA to a minimum. The costs of administering the CA must be met by the 10 Councils.
- The Elected Mayor will have the power to levy an additional 2p in the £pound on business rates to fund infrastructure.
- The Deputy Mayor will be elected from the Mayor’s ‘Cabinet’ ie one of the 10 Leaders.
- Negotiations have been tough and intensive. GL has consistently presented a unified and strong position and fought hard for the deal. All Leaders are of the view that having a devolution deal with Government will secure a better position for GL going forwards and provide the opportunity for further devolved funding and powers

Summary of the Deal (extracted from the Deal document):

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 co-ordination 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.



HM Government



Greater Lincolnshire
A Place to Grow

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE DEVOLUTION AGREEMENT



HM Government



Greater Lincolnshire
A Place to Grow

George Osborne

Rt Hon George Osborne MP
Chancellor to the Exchequer

Martin Hill

Clr Martin Hill OBE
Leader, Lincolnshire County Council

Greg Clark

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State, Communities and
Local Government

Ray Oxby

Clr Ray Oxby
Leader, North East Lincolnshire Council

Jim O'Neill

Lord Jim O'Neill
Commercial Secretary to the Treasury

Liz Redfern

Clr Lady Liz Redfern
Leader, North Lincolnshire Council

Peter Bedford

Clr Peter Bedford
Leader, Boston Borough Council

Ric Metcalfe

Clr Ric Metcalfe
Leader, City of Lincoln Council



HM Government



Greater Lincolnshire
A Place to Grow

.....
Cllr Marion Brighton OBE

Leader, North Kesteven District Council

.....
Cllr Lord Porter of Spalding CBE

Leader, South Holland District Council

.....
Cllr Jeff Summers

Leader, West Lindsey District Council

.....
Ursula Lidbetter MBE

Chair, Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership

.....
Cllr Bob Adams

Leader, South Kesteven District Council

.....
Cllr Craig Leyland

Leader, East Lindsey District Council

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Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Devolution Agreement

This document sets out the terms of a proposed agreement 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 is subject to ratification from the Greater Lincolnshire local authorities. This agreement is also subject to parliamentary approval of the secondary legislation implementing the provisions of this agreement.

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.

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 co-ordination 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.

Governance

1. The local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnership within the Greater Lincolnshire area are proposing to create a Mayoral Combined Authority for the area. The proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will enable decisions on specified strategic issues, including on growth and development, to be taken in an open and transparent way on behalf of the entire Greater Lincolnshire area. There is no intention to take existing powers from local authorities without agreement, protecting the integrity of local authorities in Greater Lincolnshire.
2. The proposal for a Mayoral Combined Authority is subject to the final formal consent of the Greater Lincolnshire Leadership Board, the constituent councils, agreement of Ministers, and is also subject to the statutory requirements including to parliamentary approval of the secondary legislation implementing the provisions of this agreement.
3. As part of this agreement, the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will adopt a model of a directly elected mayor over the combined authority's area with the first elections in May 2017. The directly elected mayor for Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will autonomously exercise new powers, specified within this document, and any other new powers as provided for in secondary legislation to which the constituent councils consent. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority mayor will be the Chair and a Member of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, the other members of which will serve as the Mayor's Cabinet. The Mayor and the Cabinet will be scrutinised and held to account by the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee(s). The Mayor will also be required to consult the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Cabinet on his/her strategies, which it may reject if two thirds of the constituent council members agree to do so. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Cabinet will also be able to examine the Mayor's spending plans and will be able to reject his/her plans if two thirds of the constituent council members agree to do so.
4. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Mayor will be required to consult the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority on his/her transport plan, which it may reject or modify if two thirds of constituent council members agree to do so, subject to that majority including the votes of Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council.
5. Proposals for decision by the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority may be put forward by the Mayor or any Cabinet Member. The Mayor will have one vote as will other voting members. Any questions that are to be decided by the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority are to be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, subject to that majority including the vote of the Mayor, unless specifically delegated through the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority's constitution or where it is agreed and reflected in legislation that specific issues will be reserved for unanimous or constituent member voting only.
6. The Mayor will be directly elected by the local government electors for the constituent councils in the area of the proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority (Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, Boston Borough Council, City of Lincoln Council, East Lindsey District Council,

North Kesteven District Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council, West Lindsey District Council). Subject to parliamentary and legal processes, the first election will be held in May 2017.

7. The Mayor will also be a member of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP, alongside other members of the Combined Authority, while the Chair of the LEP will be a non-constituent member of the Combined Authority, recognising the importance of the private sector in any growth strategies or delivery.
8. The government and the constituent councils recognise the importance of the Humber LEP and Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP working closely with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority. Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnerships commit to work with partners in the Midlands and the North of England to promote opportunities for pan-Midlands and pan-Northern collaboration, including Midlands Connect and Transport for the North, to drive productivity and build the Midlands Engine and Northern Powerhouse.
9. Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, the constituent councils and the Local Enterprise Partnerships commit to work with partners to promote opportunities for growth, to drive competitiveness and productivity in ways that do not diminish the revival of the Humber as an economic asset.

Skills, Education and Employment

10. The government will enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from the 19+ adult education budget starting in academic year 2017/18; and will fully devolve budgets to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority from academic year 2018/19 (subject to readiness conditions). These arrangements do not cover apprenticeships.
11. Devolution will proceed in two stages, across the next three academic years:
 - a. Starting now the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will begin to prepare for local commissioning. For the 2017/18 academic year, and following the area review, the government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to vary the block grant allocations made to providers, within an agreed framework.
 - b. From 2018/19, there will be full devolution of funding. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will be responsible for allocations to providers and the outcomes to be achieved, consistent with statutory entitlements. The government will not seek to second guess these decisions, but it will set proportionate requirements about outcome information to be collected in order to allow students to make informed choices. A funding formula for calculating the size of the grant to local / combined authorities will need to take into account a range of demographic, educational and labour market factors.
12. The readiness conditions for full devolution are that:
 - a. Parliament has legislated to enable transfer to local authorities of the current statutory duties on the Secretary of State to secure appropriate facilities for further

education for adults from this budget and for provision to be free in certain circumstances.

- b. Completion of the Area Review process leading to a sustainable provider base.
 - c. After the area reviews are complete, agreed arrangements are in place between central government and the Combined Authority to ensure that devolved funding decisions take account of the need to maintain a sustainable and financially viable 16+ provider base.
 - d. Clear principles and arrangements have been agreed between central government and the Combined Authority for sharing financial risk and managing failure of 16+ providers, reflecting the balance of devolved and national interest and protecting the taxpayer from unnecessary expenditure and liabilities.
 - e. Learner protection and minimum standards arrangements are agreed.
 - f. Funding and provider management arrangements, including securing financial assurance, are agreed in a way that minimises costs and maximises consistency and transparency.
13. The government commits to an Area Review of post-16 education and training during the autumn, leading to agreed recommendations. The outcomes of the Area Review will be taken forward in line with the principles of the devolved arrangements. The review will be chaired by a nominated lead for the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and will include all post-16 education and training provision in the initial analysis phase. Recommendations will be focused on General FE and Sixth Form Colleges, however the Regional Schools Commissioner and the relevant local authorities will consider any specific issues arising from the reviews for school sixth form provision.
14. To ensure continued local collaboration following the Area Review, the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will work in partnership with local colleges and providers to publish a local skills plan. This will aim to help ensure that post-16 providers are delivering the skills that local employers require. It is expected that the Combined Authority will then collaborate with colleges and providers, with appropriate support from EFA, to work towards that plan.
15. Following the Area Review, the government would expect the Regional Schools Commissioner to continue to engage with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to ensure local links and working are maintained.
16. As part of the area review process, Greater Lincolnshire will discuss with the government their ambitions for a more highly skilled workforce, through better collaboration between local Colleges and providers and appropriately tailored and accessible provision for the local workforce. Greater Lincolnshire and the Regional Schools Commissioner will determine how best to bring school sixth forms into the process.
17. The government will work with Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to ensure that local priorities are fed into the provision of careers advice, such that it is employer-led, integrated and meets local needs. In particular, the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will ensure that local priorities are fed into provision through

direct involvement and collaboration with the government in the design of careers and enterprise provision for all ages, including collaboration on the work of the Careers and Enterprise Company and the National Careers Service.

18. The government will provide advice to Greater Lincolnshire to ensure they are aware of resources to work to secure more apprenticeship places with employers, particularly among Small and Medium Enterprises and also drive up demand from individuals looking for apprenticeships. A particular focus will be made on increasing apprenticeship places in Greater Lincolnshire's priority sectors including agri-food, manufacturing, health and care, low carbon and the visitor economy.
19. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will assume responsibility for the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE). The AGE funding must be used alongside mainstream apprenticeship participation funding to incentivise employers to offer apprenticeships, but the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority are free to vary the criteria associated with the grant (e.g. size and sector of business) to meet local needs. The Skills Funding Agency will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to identify an appropriate share.
20. To help tackle long-term unemployment in Greater Lincolnshire, the government will consult with the Combined Authority as part of the design process for future employment support, from April 2017, for harder to help claimants, many of whom are currently referred to the Work Programme and Work Choice. This will provide an opportunity for Combined Authority to feed into the national design of the new Work and Health Programme.
21. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will develop a business case for an innovative pilot to support those who are hardest to help. The business case should set out the evidence to support the proposed pilot, cost and benefits and robust evaluation plans, to enable the proposal to be taken forward as part of the delivery of this agreement, subject to Ministerial approval.
22. DWP will enable closer engagement between the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and Job Centre Plus so that the opportunities for greater integration of support and services are identified and the Combined Authority has an opportunity to share experience from previous schemes and influence the design of provision of local and flexible funding, with the main aim of supporting people back to work.
23. The government will support Job Centre Plus to work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to overcome barriers to employment, so that local provision can be directed towards solutions that improve access to work through alternative transport opportunities, raising aspirations of young people by increasing to access significant business locations.

Accelerated Growth (Business Support and Innovation)

24. Greater Lincolnshire has a vision for growth, innovation and trade that seeks to build on its key sectors including agri-food, energy, manufacturing and the visitor economy; exploit the reputation of its Higher Education Institutes for establishing industry-led partnerships; support the development of agri-tech clusters, building on existing

assets such as the National Centre for Food Manufacturing and the Lincoln Institute for Agri-Food Technology; exploit the opportunity to increase research and innovation in offshore wind and renewables; and extend the Lincoln Enterprise and Innovation Zone, to increase business productivity and higher skilled employment in Advanced Engineering, Manufacturing, Life Sciences and Food Manufacturing.

25. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will simplify and strengthen the support available for business growth, innovation and global trade in Greater Lincolnshire. To deliver this commitment:
 - a. Greater Lincolnshire will work with the government to support the development of the growth hub so that it joins-up and co-ordinates public, private, national and local support to ensure businesses get the help they need to boost their productivity and grow. This will include agreeing how we will work in partnership to help the growth hub to: become sustainable; connect small businesses with national services that support exports, innovation, access to finance and skills; collaborate on innovative business support evaluation projects which develop robust evidence about what works; and share best practice widely to deliver better outcomes for the country as a whole.
 - b. The government will ensure greater co-operation with all relevant national and local resources for business support programmes, including UKTI, to give businesses a joined-up, simplified service that meets their needs and priorities. This will include ring-fencing trade services resource within the devolved authority area, agreeing a joint export plan with a dual-key approach to activities and reporting on outputs and outcomes, and tailoring UKTI export support services to reflect local priorities. Ring-fenced resource remains subject to departmental budget changes.
 - c. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and the government will establish a six-monthly update meeting with the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub board and the BIS sector specialists including UKTI to align the targeting of existing contracted support to meet the GLLEP growth sectors.
26. The government supports the vision for innovation set out by Greater Lincolnshire and recognises the importance of the delivery of this vision for Greater Lincolnshire's future economic growth. To support this:
 - a. The government will offer Greater Lincolnshire expert advice and support through the Smart Specialisation Advisory Hub, and associated workshops, to support activities part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.
 - b. UKTI and the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will prepare a joint inward investment strategy which fully reflects Greater Lincolnshire's key sectoral strengths and ambitious targets to increase growth sector output and employment in Agri-tech/Food and Drink, Energy/Offshore Wind and Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing. This will include support to ensure the propositions for each sector are clearly articulated and that there is awareness of the offer amongst relevant sector teams and strengthened partnership between locally delivered services and embassy/consulate contacts overseas (via the Project Matchmaker initiative or other UKTI post-LEP matching arrangement). They also commit to exploration of opportunities for further collaboration including co-

location, where it will not harm the overall working efficiency of the investment model and to use of national campaign budgets for overseas inward investment promotional activity within the Midlands Engine programme.

- c. The government will help to establish the scope for aligning future marketing activity with Visit England, Visit Britain and DCMS' Five Point Plan to support tourism growth in Greater Lincolnshire.

Transport

27. In establishing the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, responsibility for an area-wide local transport plan and public transport functions will be conferred to the Combined Authority and exercised by the Mayor. The Combined Authority, in its capacity as the new area-wide transport body responsible for determining, managing and delivering the Mayor's transport plans, will work in partnership with the existing transport bodies currently operating in the region. This will take account of the rural nature and social and demographic context of the area. This will enable the achievement of a wide range of policy objectives across health and wellbeing, reducing isolation and barriers to employment and the reduction of congestion and pollution.
28. The ambition is to deliver better value for the public purse through an inclusive Greater Lincolnshire-wide approach creating efficiency whilst enabling connectivity for multi-modal journeys and contributing to reduced congestion at peak times. Through enabling travel choice by expanding door to door journey options there will be a cohesive Greater Lincolnshire-wide approach to tackling isolation and barriers to employment through an integrated passenger transport network which considers the rurality and social demographic context of Greater Lincolnshire. Improved connectivity would reduce Greater Lincolnshire's carbon output whilst encouraging healthy lifestyles.
29. The new, directly elected Mayor of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will:
 - a. Take responsibility for a devolved and consolidated, multi-year local transport budget for the area of the Combined Authority. Functions will be devolved to the proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority accordingly, to be exercised by the Mayor within the Combined Authority's constitution and associated procedures.
 - b. Have the ability to franchise bus services in the Combined Authority area, subject to necessary legislation and local consultation. This will be enabled through a specific Buses Bill, which will provide for the necessary functions to be devolved. The Buses Bill will also provide an alternative "Enhanced Partnership" model for local bus services in the Combined Authority area.
30. In addition and as part of this deal:
 - a. To support better integration between local and national networks, the government and the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will enter into joint working arrangements with Highways England on operations, maintenance and local investment through a new Memorandum of Understanding.

- b. Local authorities will work together with each other and the Mayor to ensure strategic and joined up planning across roads and public transport, and to work together on better joint asset management of the local highways networks. Local authorities will work with government on the potential in future to create a Key Route Network managed by the Mayor. In line with other Combined Authorities, highways maintenance funding will be managed by the Combined Authority ensuring that appropriate allocations are made to individual highways authorities.

Housing and Planning

31. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, with its partner authorities, is clear about the need to build more houses, at pace, to support its sustainable growth agenda and will fully harness the devolved powers and resources agreed across this deal, alongside local public and private investment, to substantially increase housing delivery, unlock barriers to growth and prioritise investment in associated infrastructure.
32. The government fully supports this ambition and the pro-growth stance of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, and aims to develop a new relationship and new ways of working between government and its agencies and Greater Lincolnshire to achieve our shared ambitions on housing delivery. As a first step, the government is committed to providing support to Greater Lincolnshire and helping to build capacity to unlock sites for development as set out below.
33. Greater Lincolnshire authorities will set an ambitious target for increasing new homes, jointly agreed with the Department for Communities and Local Government, which reflects latest assessments of housing need, and will report annually on progress. Greater Lincolnshire authorities will set out by July how they will meet this target. This will include proposals to deliver the immediate 25,000 homes needed over the period 2016-2021 and 100,000 homes over the longer period of Local Plans.
34. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority Mayor, working in partnership with the members of the Combined Authority, will have the ability to put forward a strategic approach to spatial planning issues where there is local agreement that this will support and accelerate delivery of their ambitions. Greater Lincolnshire partners will move towards greater strategic collaboration across the Combined Authority area and commit to having up-to-date local plans by 2017 which reflect overall assessments of housing need. The Mayor will have the power, working in partnership with the members of the Combined Authority, to:
 - a. Create a spatial framework, which will act as the framework for managing strategic planning across the Greater Lincolnshire area, and with which all Local Development Plans will be in general conformity. The spatial framework will need to be approved by unanimous vote of the members appointed by constituent councils of the Mayoral Combined Authority. Local Development Schemes will need to set out a clear timetable for delivery of the spatial framework and local plans for each constituent authority.

- b. Create supplementary planning documents, subject to approval processes in paragraph 34a.
 - c. Create Mayoral Development Corporations, which will support delivery on strategic sites in Greater Lincolnshire. This power will be exercised with the consent of the Combined Authority constituent members in which the Development Corporation is to be used.
 - d. Be consulted on and/or call-in planning applications of potential strategic importance to the Greater Lincolnshire area.
35. Greater Lincolnshire will also produce a strategic infrastructure delivery plan by September to identify the infrastructure needed to support the increased funding of new homes, and proposals to fund this through devolved infrastructure funds, through national programmes and through local funding. As part of this, Greater Lincolnshire local authorities will commit to at least £100 million of their own investment to secure the delivery of new housing over 2016 to 2036 in addition to investment through devolved infrastructure and Local Growth Fund spending, and contributions from developers.
36. To give this work impetus and support delivery, some new structures and stronger relationships will be established. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and Government therefore agree to:
- a. **Establish a Joint Investment and Assets Board**, chaired by the Mayor of the Combined Authority, to review all land and property (including surplus property and land) held by the public sector, building on its One Public Estate Programme and invest in our strategic infrastructure priorities. The Board will include representatives from government. This Board will ensure there is a sufficient, balanced supply of readily available sites for commercial and residential development to meet the demands of a growing Greater Lincolnshire economy. It will create a comprehensive database of available public and private sector land, identify barriers to its disposal/development, and develop solutions to address those barriers to help Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority meet its housing goals and to unlock more land for employment use.
 - b. **Establish stronger partnership** with the Homes and Communities Agency to ensure that Greater Lincolnshire's strategic housing objectives are delivered, and that centrally and locally managed investments are strategically aligned.
37. Subject to detailed proposals from Greater Lincolnshire meeting value for money and other funding criteria, the government will work with Greater Lincolnshire to provide:
- a. **Support on large sites:** strong partnership to support key large housing sites (1,500 homes +) with brokerage at the local (through Homes and Communities Agency support) and central government level to help resolve barriers, with utility companies, or government agencies, which are holding up the development process. Continued discussions to secure longer term frameworks for funding of key sites, subject to the development of a business case, value for money and other funding criteria.

- b. **Support on new settlements:** support in line with local areas' ambitions for any new housing settlements, including any new settlements based on garden town principles, to be taken forward via Mayoral Development Corporations or other emerging vehicles. Subject to Parliament, the government intends to strengthen legislation to make it easier to set up new town style vehicles.
- c. **Joint action to deliver early on starter homes:** bringing forward sites where housing delivery would not otherwise have happened. The Homes and Communities Agency will work in partnership with the area's local authorities to identify and invest in suitable land.
- d. **Support for streamlining planning delivery:** to enable local planning authorities to accelerate housing growth. This could include the development of proposals for ambitious reforms in the way that planning services are delivered, and which could enable greater flexibility in the way that fees are set, with a particular focus on proposals which can streamline the process for applicants and accelerate decision making.
- e. **Continued dialogue:** the opportunity for continued dialogue on the longer term potential for greater leadership and autonomy in housing delivery, and a greater role in housing funding decision-making in Greater Lincolnshire.

Water

38. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority wishes to improve further the effectiveness of successful partnership arrangements between the Greater Lincolnshire LEP, the lead Local Flood Authorities, the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Boards, Water and Sewerage Companies and the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.
39. The existing local governance and scrutiny structure will be strengthened and the joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy, its Common Works Programme, and the LEP's Water Management Plan, will provide the basis for a scrutinised, integrated, evidence-based flood risk and water management investment programme for Lincolnshire, co-ordinated and aligned with equivalent flood risk and water management strategies and programmes for North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.
40. With the relevant specific devolved powers and resources Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will:
- a. Propose evidence-based reprioritisation of capital water management investment in Greater Lincolnshire, to better utilise current levels of national funding, maximise local benefit and attract increased investment, whilst maintaining and where possible enhancing national and local commitments to protect people, property and land up to 2021.
 - b. Identify, propose and develop opportunities to take on more local responsibility for delivering projects in the investment programme, especially where this would generate efficiencies and generate private and commercial contributions.

- c. Ensure that delivery of local and national programmes within Greater Lincolnshire are effectively integrated and mutually supportive – implement local scheme prioritisation to develop appropriate approaches to sustain lower consequence systems and schemes, which currently are liable to reduced funding when competing in a national context against higher consequence systems.
 - d. Further develop our prioritised programme of water management, forming the basis of a long-term future capital investment programme delivering against local priorities and driving growth.
 - e. Seek to extend the Internal Drainage Board boundaries to the extent permitted by the Land Drainage Act, to maximise IDB coverage across Greater Lincolnshire and authorise IDBs to extend their levy raising powers across the whole of those areas.
 - f. The government will support Greater Lincolnshire in their work to attract business investment in water efficiency and water management.
41. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will use its powers 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.
42. Housing provision, growth and water management are interdependent, particularly in the context of approximately 40% of the area being at some level of risk from coastal and fluvial flooding, as well as the need to manage surface water flood risk. Coastal flooding in particular represents a strategic scale of risk as well as significant ongoing opportunities for unlocking growth potential. Within the confines of the existing National Planning Policy Framework Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will take into account the high standards of water management that exist in Greater Lincolnshire and the potential to promote water management methods that mitigate this risk together with a more consistent and co-ordinated approach to ensuring development that is appropriately and sustainably designed and delivered (both residential and business focussed) to drive growth and prosperity.

Public Sector Transformation

Public Protection

43. Proposals for an appropriate relationship between the functions of a Mayor and future role of the Police and Crime Commissioner, including in relation to fire services, to be developed, subject to local consent and a business case developed jointly by the PCCs and council leaders, and in consultation with the Fire and Rescue Authority.
44. Greater Lincolnshire's aim is to create a whole system approach to criminal justice, which includes out of court disposals, restorative justice, community and custodial rehabilitation, with a truly effective re-integration policy to tackle social exclusion by supporting and encouraging people into work and productive lives.
45. The government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and relevant PCCs to understand the needs of local offenders to improve commissioning of services for local Lincolnshire offenders in community and in prison. Recognising

Greater Lincolnshire's ambitions and ideas, the government will ensure ongoing engagement between relevant agencies (particularly the National Offender Management Service) and Greater Lincolnshire to better understand Greater Lincolnshire's position with regard to prison estate and related services and identify opportunities for collaboration, whilst making sure that prison provision for Greater Lincolnshire offenders is in line with current national prison reform plans.

46. The government is giving greater autonomy to prison governors, one key aspect of this is education provision in prisons. Greater Lincolnshire will work with the government, the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and local prison governors to link adult education and skills training provision in the community with education provision in prisons.
47. The government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and relevant PCCs to move towards a co-commissioning arrangement for commissioning services for Greater Lincolnshire offenders with short term sentences (2 years and under), in both prison and in the community. The government will support Greater Lincolnshire to ensure that they can take on a greater role in the commissioning of offender management services, alongside the National Offender Management Service, including local prison governors, to allow more local flexibility, innovation and better coordination with other local services including healthcare and accommodation. A Memorandum of Understanding will be developed with Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and other relevant local parties to support the process for collaborative working and set out the areas for further detailed work.
48. The government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and relevant PCCs to explore options for greater local input into the provision of court services in Greater Lincolnshire to ensure access to justice is maintained across the area. The government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to explore opportunities the HMCTS Reform Programme will create through greater digitisation of court and tribunal services in Greater Lincolnshire.
49. The government agrees to work with Greater Lincolnshire and relevant PCCs, through the Youth Justice Review, to explore options for a more devolved youth justice system.

Health

50. The government and the Greater Lincolnshire partnership recognise the benefits for local communities in relation to the development of an integrated, devolved approach to health and social care. Building on their legacy of pioneering new approaches to integration in North East Lincolnshire, Greater Lincolnshire partners will therefore use their local Sustainability and Transformation Plans to set out their vision for further integration of health and social care. This will incorporate an overview of their plans to deliver on the Spending Review 2015 commitment and long-term Mandate objectives to integrate health and social care by 2020. Sustainability and Transformation Plans will include an exploration of the potential for devolved approaches.

Finance and Funding

51. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will create a Single Investment Fund (SIF) that draws together local and agreed national funding streams to deliver an ambitious investment programme across Greater Lincolnshire to unlock its economic potential. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority commits to capitalising the SIF and prioritising investment based on economic impact. To support this investment approach, the government agrees to allocate an additional £15 million per annum of funding for 30 years (75% capital and 25% revenue), which will form part of and capitalise the Greater Lincolnshire single pot. The fund will be subject to a jointly agreed 5-yearly gateway assessment process to confirm the investment has contributed to economic growth.
52. 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. This pot will comprise a flexible, multi-year settlement providing the freedom to deliver its growth priorities, including the ability to re-direct funding to reflect changing priorities, whilst upholding their statutory duties. This local freedom will be over a range of budgets to be determined by the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority and the government. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will have the flexibility to secure substantial private and public sector leverage. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will also be able to use capital receipts from asset sales as revenue funding for public service transformational initiatives. The government expects to disburse this agreed settlement to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority annually in advance.
53. Through devolution, the area is seeking greater influence and decision making in respect of the European Structural Investment Funds 2014-2020 (European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Funds (ESF) and the EU Growth Programme element of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)). This will allow the area to integrate and align investments with other aspects of the devolution deal and local economic priorities, to improve performance and maximise economic impact. In order to deliver these impacts the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority is seeking Intermediate Body Status for ERDF, ESF and the EU Growth Programme part of EAFRD funding. Government will work with the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority to test whether it will be possible to implement and if so, the government and the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will work together to agree a timescale to put this in place and develop an agreement between each Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body that will contain details of delegated responsibilities and accountabilities, performance management, resources, their funding and payment arrangements and other relevant details.
54. In addition, the Mayor will be given the power to place a supplement, of up to 2p per pound of rateable value, on business rates to fund infrastructure, with the agreement of the local business community through the Local Enterprise Partnership.

55. The agreement of this deal shall not in any way limit or prevent the proposed Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority from bidding for future allocations of national funding.
56. In addition, Greater Lincolnshire will bring forward a proposal for consideration by the government for a single allocation of the Local Growth Fund to support a programme of investment. Once agreed the allocation will form part of the Combined Authority's Single Pot.
57. The costs of the Mayoral Combined Authority will be met from the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority resources.
58. The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act makes provision which will govern further prudential borrowing for Combined Authorities. The government will work with the Combined Authority to determine how these powers could apply within a framework of fiscal responsibility and accountability to the Combined Authority and local authorities.

Under this geography

59. The Mayor for Greater Lincolnshire will be elected by the local government electors for the areas of the ten constituent councils of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority. The Mayor and Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will exercise the powers and responsibilities described in this document in relation to its area, i.e. the area of the ten constituent councils of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority.
60. Funding that is allocated to the Greater Lincolnshire LEP, now and in the future, will continue to be allocated on the basis of the existing overlap formula.
61. Additional funding or budgets that are devolved as a result of this agreement will go to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, to be exercised by the Greater Lincolnshire Mayor or Combined Authority as set out in this document.
62. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority must exercise functions in relation to its geographical area.
63. Under the Mayor model, it is not expected that the role of the LEP or private sector be lessened.

Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority commitments

64. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority is accountable to local people for the successful implementation of the Devolution Deal; consequently, the government expects Greater Lincolnshire to monitor and evaluate their Deal in order to demonstrate and report on progress. The Cities and Local Growth Unit will work with Greater Lincolnshire to agree a monitoring and evaluation framework that meets local needs and helps to support future learning.
65. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will be required to evaluate the additional £15 million per annum of funding for 30 years, which will form part of and

capitalise the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority single pot. The £15 million per annum fund will be subject to:

- a. Gateway assessments for the £15 million per annum scheme. Greater Lincolnshire and the government will jointly commission an independent assessment of the economic benefits and economic impact of the investments made under the scheme, including whether the projects have been delivered on time and to budget. This assessment will be funded by the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority, but agreed at the outset with the government, and will take place every five years. The next five year tranche of funding will be unlocked if the government is satisfied that the independent assessment shows the investment to have met the objectives and contributed to national growth.
 - b. The gateway assessment should be consistent with the HM Treasury Green Book, which sets out the framework for evaluation of all policies and programmes, and where relevant with the more detailed transport cost-benefit analysis guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT). The assessment should also take into account the latest developments in economic evaluation methodology.
 - c. The government would expect the assessment to show the activity funded through the scheme represents better value for money than comparable projects, defined in terms of a Benefit to Cost ratio.
66. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will work with the government to develop a full implementation plan, covering each policy agreed in this Deal, to be completed ahead of implementation. This plan will include the timing and proposed approach for monitoring and evaluation of each policy and must be approved by the DCLG Accounting Officer.
67. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will continue to set out their proposals to the government for how local resources and funding will be pooled across Greater Lincolnshire.
68. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will agree overall borrowing limits and capitalisation limits with the government and have formal agreement to engage on forecasting. Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will also provide information, explanation and assistance to the Office for Budget Responsibility where such information would assist in meeting their duty to produce economic and fiscal forecasts for the UK economy.
69. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will agree a process to manage local financial risk across local public bodies and will jointly develop written agreements with the government on every devolved power or fund to agree accountability between local and national bodies on the basis of the principles set out in this document.
70. Local authorities will continue to implement their own programmes of transformation; streamlining back office functions, and sharing more services and data, including on assets and property.
71. The Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will continue to adhere to their public sector equality duties, for both existing and newly devolved responsibilities.



Greater Lincolnshire Devolution – Questions & Answers.

What is devolution?

The Government is offering places in England the chance to have greater responsibility and control over decisions and spending in their region. This process of transferring powers and decisions which would usually be taken by central Government to a more local level or regional level is called devolution. The powers from Government will come down to local Leaders.

How do things currently work?

Currently, most spending decisions affecting the Greater Lincolnshire area are made by central Government. Many of the taxes raised locally flow back to central Government for it to redistribute as it sees fit.

Why would places want to have more powers and responsibilities from central Government?

To focus spending on local priorities, and have more of a say over local taxation:

- To work together across services and use local knowledge to get better value for money
- To be more self-sufficient and have more responsibility for the future of the local area
- For decisions to be taken by locally elected politicians working with their private sector partners on the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) who better understand local issues, and can be held to account locally

How do places get these powers and responsibilities?

Individual councils cannot get these extra powers and resources on their own. The Government has been clear that to have the most powers and responsibilities 'devolved', places must:

- Be part of a joint body with other places where decisions about these things would be taken. Technically, this is called a 'Combined Authority'
- Have an elected Mayor who would have responsibility over the powers and resources gained through a deal.
- Have an agreed arrangement by all the places involved, as well as central Government.

What is a LEP?

LEPs (Local Enterprise Partnerships) are business-led partnerships of local businesses, local authorities and other partners to promote economic growth across a specific area. LEPs are overseen by the Secretaries of State for Business Innovation & Skills, and Communities & Local Government. LEPs can bid for funding from government through 'Growth Deals'.

What is a Combined Authority?

Combined Authorities are statutory bodies within which local authorities work together to deliver economic development, regeneration and transport functions. The idea is that if local authorities work together on these issues, they can work more effectively.

Doesn't this just create an extra tier of Government?

In reality, the Combined Authority cabinet will be formed by the existing Leaders of the ten constituent local authorities and chaired by the directly elected Mayor. Devolution would primarily be about strengthening local arrangements, with greater democratic accountability and powers to take decisions which currently take place in London; it should be more efficient and more effective. The existing Leaders of the constituent councils in the Greater Lincolnshire Area (Boston Borough Council, City of Lincoln Council, East Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire County Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, North Kesteven District Council, North Lincolnshire Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council and West Lindsey District Council) will form the Cabinet of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority.

How will I benefit?



Decisions taken about the Greater Lincolnshire area affect you, your family, your career and your quality of life in many different ways.

Because the Combined Authority is locally accountable, it will be motivated to deliver specifically to the people of Greater Lincolnshire. In addition, money would be spent in ways that respond directly to the needs of the population. This means more jobs, better roads, improved access to education and altogether a better standard of living.

What will happen to local council services if the devolution agreement is approved?

There will be no impact on council services as a result of devolution. They will continue to be delivered by local councils.

Why do we need a mayor to get fully devolved powers from Government?

The Government has been clear that places need an elected mayor to access devolved powers and resources. We won't get this funding and new powers without one. An elected mayor would act as an individual to unite and work across the area, and can be held to account for decisions made locally.

What will the Mayor and the Combined Authority do?

A new, directly elected Mayor will act as Chair to the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority. They will not have any responsibility for existing councils and their services. The Mayor will exercise the following powers and functions devolved from central government:

- Responsibility for a devolved 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 review all public sector land and property assets and help unlock land for housing and employment
- Ability to make proposals 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; this is new money specifically for growth projects.
- 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 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.
- To move with the 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, Police and Crime Commissioners, local prison governors and the Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRC) to allow more local flexibility with other local services.
- To contribute to the outcomes from the Water Resources Study and the objectives set out in the resulting Greater Lincolnshire LEP's Water Management Plan

In addition:

- HM 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.

How will the new Mayor work?

The Mayor will chair the Combined Authority (CA), the members of the CA will make up the Mayor's Cabinet. The Mayor and CA will be scrutinised and held to account by the GLCA Overview and Scrutiny



committee(s) – in turn made up of the chairs of Scrutiny from each local authority in the area. The Mayor will develop strategies with the CA.

- The Cabinet will also examine the Mayor's spending plans and will be able to amend his/her plans, if two-thirds of the constituent members agree to do so.
- The Mayor will have one vote on the CA as will other voting members.
- The Mayor will be a member of the Local Enterprise Partnership, alongside the other members of the CA, recognising the importance of the private sector in local economic growth.

What if the Mayor wants to do things that our local leaders don't agree with?

The Mayor will need to consult her/his cabinet on their strategies and spending plans and her/his cabinet will have powers to reject decisions (if two thirds agree to do so). We have spent many years building strong working relationships across both the public and private sectors and those relationships will stand us in good stead.

Who in Government will oversee the mayor and what powers will they have?

Locally, the Mayor will be held to account by voters (elections every four / five years) and the Greater Lincolnshire Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The democratically elected leaders of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined Authority will be able to amend and veto the Mayor's budget and strategies with a two-thirds majority.

There will be 5 yearly 'gateway assessments' by Government (HM Treasury) to look at the impact of our investments on the economy.

Who will get to vote for the Mayor?

It will be the residents of Greater Lincolnshire (from the Humber to the Wash) who get to vote for the Mayor. The vote will take place in 2017.

How much will the Mayor be paid for the job?

This needs to be discussed. No figures have been determined. There are no direct comparisons in existence yet.

What role will the business community play?

Businesses across Greater Lincolnshire have a critical role to play and we'll continue to work closely with them both as individual councils and as a Combined Authority. The proposed Mayor will be a member of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP alongside other members of the Combined Authority, recognising the importance of the private sector in leading the future of Greater Lincolnshire's economy.

How will this Devolution make a difference?

It will give Greater Lincolnshire a dedicated resource for the long term and means we can invest now and in future on projects which will bring more business investment and more jobs to the local economy. But it is different to the budgets which councils receive to fund core services. The funding is vital for the Greater Lincolnshire economy because:

- It is a commitment for the long-term. A significant boost to future planning and will enable Greater Lincolnshire have the right people and expertise to deliver the growth
- Because we know funding will be available, we can borrow against it, attract private sector investment and fund major projects like new transport connections which can take years to build and therefore need funding committed for the long term.
- Investing in economic growth is a key way of growing our economy for the long term.

Haven't you already signed the deal?

Greater Lincolnshire has not formally committed to anything. We have only agreed what is in effect a heads of terms agreement with Government. It does not legally commit either side to anything. We signed it with



the clear understanding that we would engage with residents and businesses to find out their views. Once we have done this we will seek to formalise the next stage of the process.

Is this an end-point for devolution or is there the chance for us to get more powers?

We will continue to negotiate for further powers and resources – in the consultation questions we ask about things you may wish to see local control over.