



North East Lincolnshire Council

Local Government Reorganisation Proposal Evidence Bank November 2025

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Sections

1. Evaluation of Costs and Benefits of Merging North and North East Lincolnshire Councils (summary) - P3 to P4

2. Evaluation of Costs and Benefits of Merging North and North East Lincolnshire Councils (the full report) - P5 to P20

An important part of our proposal was to provide an independent analysis of financial predictions, based on accurate information and data we have now and an expert's view of how reorganisation is likely to impact in the years ahead. In these first two sections we provide you with the summary and full report obtained, following a joint commission by ourselves and our neighbouring unitary authority of North Lincolnshire.

3. The Economic Impact of Reorganisation

The economic picture across North East Lincolnshire and its future growth is a priority as we look at the possible impact of local government reorganisation. To independently assist us in compiling our proposal, we engaged Thrive Economics to provide their expertise in looking forward. We present the full report here. - P21 to P80

4. Letters from key stakeholders, organisations and businesses in North East Lincolnshire

As part of our engagement on LGR and North East Lincolnshire's position, we received a number of letters from a broad range of private businesses, public partners and community organisations. They all clearly value the relationships they have with this council. They are presented here for you. - P81 to P108

5. North East Lincolnshire LGR public engagement survey

Over a six-week period during September and October, we asked people to respond to a balanced survey to ascertain views on change for North East Lincolnshire. A summary of the responses are presented here. - P109 to P112

6. Engagement survey: public comments

As part of the engagement survey, we gave people the opportunity to comment further on their views and thoughts. They are here for you to read, with only those that had absolutely no relevance to local government reorganisation removed. - P113 to P137



Section 1: Evaluation of Costs and Benefits of Merging North and North East Lincolnshire Councils (summary)

This summary provides the key findings from the independent assessment of the financial and operational implications of merging North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) and North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) into a single unitary authority. The analysis draws on benchmarking from recent reorganisations including Buckinghamshire (2020), Somerset (2023) and Bournemouth-Christchurch-Poole (2019)

Context

NLC and NELC are two established, high-performing unitary councils serving distinct but complementary areas

- **North Lincolnshire** – rural and industrial communities, strong neighbourhood model, and outstanding children’s services.
- **North East Lincolnshire** – coastal and urban economy focused on ports, logistics and clean energy, with nationally recognised health and care integration.

The councils already collaborate extensively through shared waste disposal contracts, procurement frameworks a shared Director of Public Health, and joint emergency planning via the Humber Resilience Forum. These arrangements already deliver many of the efficiencies and resilience benefits typically sought from structural reform.

Financial Assessment

Category	Evidence-Based Range / Finding	Comment
Transition and aggregation costs	£34–£47 million	Reflects ICT and systems integration (£11–13m), programme management and delivery (£2m), pay and workforce harmonisation (£4–6m), and reintegration of CICs and Section 75 arrangements (£4–8m). Comparable to or above the levels seen in Somerset and Buckinghamshire once scaled for complexity.
Recurring annual savings (steady state)	£3–£5 million p.a.	Primarily from small overlaps in leadership support services and procurement. Most large-scale efficiencies have already been achieved through existing shared systems and contracts.
Payback period	7–12 years	Based on realistic phasing of savings (full realisation by Year 4) and benchmarked implementation timelines of 24–36 months.
Five-year net position	Net cost of £7–£17 million	Early transition costs exceed achievable savings; breakeven unlikely within five years even under optimistic delivery assumptions.

Section 1: Evaluation of Costs and Benefits of Merging North and North East Lincolnshire Councils (summary)

Key insights

- The marginal new efficiencies available from merger are limited to under 1% of combined net spend.
- High transition costs and complex integration requirements, particularly around ICT, workforce and health partnership arrangements; creating significant financial and service risk.
- Both councils are financially sound and high-performing, with trusted local partnerships. A merger would risk destabilising strong service delivery and diverting leadership focus from improvement work
- The councils already capture the benefits of scale through collaboration across the Humber system without the cost and disruption of formal reorganisation.

Conclusion

The analysis concludes that a merger of North and North East Lincolnshire would require substantial investment, deliver limited new efficiencies, and fail to recover its costs within a typical planning period. Maintaining two distinct but cooperative unitaries within the Humber partnership offers the most proportionate, financially sustainable and locally responsive model for residents and partners.



1. Executive Summary

North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) and North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) are two established and successful unitary authorities serving distinct but complementary communities. Each demonstrates strong financial management, high-quality services, and deep local partnerships.

- **North Lincolnshire** combines proud market towns, rural villages and industrial communities, with a neighbourhood-based delivery model and outstanding children's services.
- **North East Lincolnshire** is a coastal and urban authority with nationally recognised integration between health, care, and community partners, and an economy centred on ports, logistics, and clean energy.

Over the last decade, the two councils have already built a strong collaborative relationship across the Humber sub-region, including shared contracts, systems and leadership functions, which brings efficiency and resilience. Examples include joint waste arrangements, a shared ERP and payroll system, aligned public-health leadership, shared procurement frameworks, and joint emergency-planning through the Humber Resilience Forum. Both councils also lead nationally on integrated health and care delivery, linking community health, social care and voluntary-sector support across boundaries.

This assessment explores the potential financial and operational implications of a merger between NLC and NELC from the councils' perspective, based on verified evidence from comparable local government reorganisations such as Buckinghamshire (2020), Somerset (2023) and Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (2019). It examines the likely transition and aggregation costs, achievable ongoing efficiencies, payback period, and the wider impact on service delivery and community identity.

1.1 Key findings

Table 1 – Summary Comparison

Category	Evidence-Based Range	Commentary
Transition and Aggregation Costs	£34 – £47m	Includes ICT and systems integration, programme management, workforce and pay harmonisation, Section 75 and CIC reintegration, legal and branding costs.
Recurring Annual Savings (steady-state)	£3 – £5m p.a.	Reflects efficiencies in leadership and support services; most benefits already achieved through collaboration.
Payback Period	7 – 12 years	Realistic timescale for recovery of one-off costs based on benchmark evidence.

Five-Year Net Position	Net cost of £7 – £17m	Transition costs outweigh early benefits; breakeven unlikely within five years.
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The analysis shows that a merger would be expensive to deliver and would not yield material new efficiencies beyond those already realised through joint working. The two councils already benefit from scale economies, shared systems, and aligned strategies across the Humber area. Structural change would risk diverting leadership and financial capacity away from ongoing transformation and improvement programmes.

1.2 Wider Considerations

- **Community identity and democratic connection.** Each council serves a coherent local geography and is trusted by residents and partners. Larger structures risk weakening local voice and accountability.
- **Proven partnership models.** NELC's integrated health and care system and NLC's neighbourhood networks already exemplify national policy aims for joined-up local delivery.
- **Performance and stability.** Both councils are financially sound and rated positively by regulators. Reorganisation could destabilise high-performing services, particularly children's and adults' social care.
- **Regional alignment.** The authorities operate naturally within the Humber system, where collaboration is delivering tangible results without structural change.
- **Funding and investment.** Each council attracts place-based investment precisely because of its distinct identity, risks include dilution of eligibility for targeted regeneration or cultural funds.

1.3 Conclusion

A merger of North and North East Lincolnshire would:

- Require significant investment beyond existing reserve capacity
- Deliver only £3 – 5 million of annual efficiencies
- Fail to recover investment within a five-year period; and
- Risk diverting capacity and weakening local accountability.

The evidence therefore supports continued collaboration across the Humber partnership as a more proportionate, lower-risk route to improved outcomes and resilience.

2. Context and Principles

North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire are neighbouring unitary authorities serving a combined population of around 330,000 and managing approximately £830 million of annual expenditure. Both deliver strong outcomes and operate within distinct community and economic geographies: North Lincolnshire's rural and industrial base contrasts with North East Lincolnshire's coastal and urban economy.

These differences are strengths, not inefficiencies, they reflect local identity and service delivery tailored to community needs. Both councils maintain balanced budgets, perform well against peers, and sustain mature partnerships with health, police and the voluntary sector.

Any consideration of structural reform should begin from shared principles:

- **Outcomes over organisation.** Structural change should proceed only where it demonstrably improves outcomes for residents and strengthens system resilience.
- **Respect for place identity.** Trusted local relationships between councils, communities and partners cannot simply be aggregated.
- **Proportionality and financial realism.** The cost, risk and disruption of change must be justified by material benefit. Evidence from recent reorganisations shows one-off transition costs of £16 – 17 million per new authority, far higher than most theoretical models assume.
- **Continuity of high-performing services.** Outstanding services, particularly children's and adults' social care, must be protected from the instability that large-scale aggregation creates.
- **Local accountability.** Smaller, agile unitaries are closer to residents and better able to tailor services to need, an approach valued by public-sector partners across the Humber system.

The purpose of this assessment is not to oppose reform but to ensure that any structural proposal is deliverable, evidence-based, and provides value for money. The analysis applies national benchmarking and local data to estimate credible ranges for transition cost, recurring savings, and payback period.

On these tests, retaining two distinct but cooperative unitaries within the Humber partnership remains the option most consistent with government principles for effective reform.

3. Financial Assessment and Transition Costs

Experience across recent local government reorganisations shows that transition and aggregation costs are routinely underestimated in early modelling. These costs are not discretionary; they are the essential investments required to integrate systems, align pay and policies, and establish a new organisation that can function safely and legally from day one.

Evidence from comparable reorganisations, including Buckinghamshire (2020), Somerset (2023), and Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (2019), indicates that full transition costs typically range between £16–20 million per new unitary authority. For a merger of two existing unitaries with mature but distinct operating models, the costs are likely to be higher.

Applying those benchmarks to the North and North East Lincolnshire context suggests a credible transition and aggregation cost range of £25–32 million (mid-point ~£28 million). The dominant cost drivers would be ICT and systems integration, programme delivery, and pay and workforce harmonisation.

3.1 Transition Cost Comparison: Benchmarking One-Off Aggregation Costs

Table 2 – Transition Cost Comparison: Benchmarking One-off Aggregation Costs

Cost Category	Relevant Benchmarks	Reasonable Range	Comment / Assessment
Programme Management / PMO	Bucks £1.5 million PMO (≈ 9 % of £16.2 million total); Somerset £1.7 million (≈ 10 % of £16.5 million)	£1.5–£2m	Reflects dedicated transition-management and governance resources consistent with all recent LGRs.
IT & Systems Integration	Bucks ≈ £4.0 million; Somerset ≈ £2.3 million (≈ 15 % of total).*	£11–£13m	Reflects full ICT and systems integration, including finance, HR, CRM, records and cyber security.
External Implementation / Consultancy Support	Bucks ≈ £2 m (pre-merger); Somerset ≈ £1.7 m initial **	£3.5–£4m	Allows for delivery and implementation support typical of initial merger phases. Later-phase transformation costs excluded.
Redundancy & Pension Strain	Bucks £4.7 million; Somerset £8.4 million (≈ 25–35 % of total).	£2–£3m	Reflects a limited senior exit programme (6–10 posts) with partial LGPS offset. Consistent with comparable leadership realignments.
Property & Accommodation	Bucks £0.5 m; Somerset £0.6 million	£0.5 -£1m	Covers modest estate rationalisation, mainly depots or operational sites. Core estate largely retained.

Legal / Governance	Bucks ≈ £0.5 million; Somerset ≈ £1.0 million	£0.5-£0.8m	Covers constitution drafting, legal orders and elections. Aligns with typical one-off governance costs.
Branding & Comms	Bucks £3.5 m; Somerset £4.2 m; Cumbria £5 m	£4.5-£5m (phased)	Covers full corporate rebrand (vehicles, uniforms, signage, digital channels). Costs phased as assets renew rather than all upfront.
Contingency / Risk Allowance	Bucks 10% (£1.5 m); Somerset 9% (£1.5 m); Essex ≈10% (£5.9 m)	£1.5-£3m (10-15%)	Aligns with sector norms (10-15%) applied to a complete cost base.
TOTAL Incremental Aggregation Cost	Bucks £16.2 m; Somerset £16.5 m; Cumbria £18-20 m	£25-£32m (mid-point ≈ £28 million)	Likely funding via reserves, short-term borrowing or Government transition grant. Given both councils' limited uncommitted reserves, external or ring-fenced support would be needed to protect service budgets.

Sources: Buckinghamshire Council Implementation Business Case (2020); Somerset Council Implementation Business Case (2023); Greater Essex LGR Financial Analysis (2025); Local reporting and council records on consultancy spend post-reorganisation – Somerset (2025, Newton contract £20 m); BCP (2021-24, stabilisation programme £18 m); Dorset (2019-25, transformation £34 m); Cumbria (2022-23, programme £18.5 m). Figures rounded to the nearest £ million and represent verified estimates from council reports or FOI disclosures

*Additional IT comparators: Greater Essex (three unitaries) £30-60m; Greater Essex (five unitaries) £16m; Hampshire & Solent £45-65m; Surrey £19-39m; East Sussex £111m; West Sussex £17m; Cumbria £7m.

** External implementation and consultancy support costs are often a small fraction of total transformation expenditure. While £2-3 million is typical for initial merger delivery, several councils have subsequently incurred far higher post-merger transformation costs: Somerset (Newton contract – up to £20 m 2025-30), BCP (stabilisation programme ≈ £18 m 2021-24), Dorset (transformation ≈ £34 m 2019-25), and Cumbria (LGR programme ≈ £18.5 m 2022-23).

Figures represent realistic, mid-range estimates, not worst-case scenarios, drawn from comparable programmes delivered under similar governance and financial controls.

*** Breakdown of estimated IT transition costs

3.2 Illustrative Breakdown of ICT Transition Costs

The integration of ICT and digital infrastructure represents one of the largest and most complex components of any merger. Both councils currently use a mix of shared and independent systems, requiring careful alignment of licensing, data migration, and process configuration.

Table 3 – Estimated cost of merging IT

System	Estimated Cost	Narrative / Assumptions
Finance (UNIT4)	£0.4 – £0.6m	Both authorities use Unit4. Already largely shared; costs relate mainly to configuration, data migration and user training.
Revenues & Benefits	£0.25 – £0.35m	Same system (Northgate). Two iterations would need to be combined, including data migration and reconciliation.
Children's Social Care (Liquidlogic)	£1.6 – £1.9m	Both use Liquidlogic. Would require combining two systems; NELC's recent upgrade cost £1 m and NLC's full implementation £3 m. Account thresholds may be close to the limit.
Adults' Social Care (Liquidlogic)	£2.0 – £2.3m	Complex merge likely moving toward NELC's in-house delivery model. Significant process and data alignment required.
Education (Liquidlogic)	£1.4 – £1.7m	Both use Liquidlogic, but with separate education configurations. Merge would require workflow and reporting alignment.
Early Years / Youth / Health & Care Plans (SystemC)	£0.15 – £0.25m	Both use SystemC products; alignment and configuration changes are needed. Relatively straightforward.
Income Management	£0.45 – £0.55m	NLC uses Access Pay360; NELC uses Pay360 with local customisations. Requires re-configuration of interfaces and local payment arrangements.
Asset Management (Tech Forge)	£0.10 – £0.15m	Both use Tech Forge. Low integration cost, mainly data and process consolidation.
CRM (Salesforce)	£0.45 – £0.55m	Both use Salesforce, though with different scopes. Requires merging configurations, workflows and data.

Banking & Treasury	£0.15 – £0.20m	Shared process and integration change costs; dependent on final finance structure.
HR (iTrent)	£0.35 – £0.45m	Both use iTrent but with separate instances and process differences (payroll, pensions). Migration and testing required.
IT / Network / Microsoft Estate	£0.8 – £1.2m	Both on Microsoft 365 but with separate tenants. Merge would require directory consolidation, SOC alignment and cybersecurity configuration.
Highways	£0.45 – £0.55m	NELC uses Synology; NLC uses Confirm. Either consolidation or migration to single platform required.
Transport / Fleet	£0.45 – £0.55m	NELC uses Salesforce Fleet; NLC uses Asset Works. Alignment or migration needed.
Leisure	£0.65 – £0.85m	NELC operates partner model; NLC internal TLMS. Cost depends on future delivery model.
Website / Digital	£0.15 – £0.25m	Separate platforms with distinct CMS and design. Requires consolidation to ensure a single digital access point.
Waste Management	£0.15 – £0.25m	Both use Alloy. Process differences in collections and route management would need aligning.
Youth Offending	£0.10 – £0.15m	NELC uses SystemC; NLC uses Core+. Moderate cost to align data and product capability.
Regulatory Services	£0.15 – £0.20m	NELC uses Arcus; NLC uses Civica. Rationalisation to one platform required.
Planning	£0.35 – £0.45m	NELC uses IDOX Uniform; NLC uses Arcus Built Environment. Moderate cost to migrate to single system.
Indicative ICT total	£11 – £13 million.	

3.3 Additional Aggregation Costs

Beyond core transition expenditure, the specific operating contexts of North and North East Lincolnshire introduce further unavoidable cost categories. These include realigning joint health and care governance, reintegrating contracted community-interest companies (CICs), and harmonising workforce pay and conditions.

Table 4 – Additional Aggregation Cost Drivers in North and North East Lincolnshire

Area	Estimated Additional One-off Cost	Key Cost Drivers
Section 75 and ICB realignment	£2.5 – £3m	Legal negotiation, governance redesign, parallel-running systems. NELC's recent insourcing of Equans was at significant cost and included £1.3m cost of moving TUPE'd employees into LG pension fund.
CIC reintegration (Focus, Navigo, CPG)	£2 – £5m	TUPE transfers, pay equalisation, ICT and estates transfer. Pension liabilities similar to EQUANS expected (£1.3m). Reintegration more complex due to service model divergence and sensitive workforce risks.
Market re-procurement / frameworks	£0.5 – £1m	Costs linked less to process, more to provider rate equalisation where legacy contracts differ. In adult social care, this may result in upward pressure on homecare and residential rates, particularly where one authority has negotiated more favourable historical terms. Also includes retendering costs, legal input, and procurement staffing.
Pay and workforce harmonisation	£4 – £6m	Detailed salary benchmarking shows disparities of £3–6k in key roles (social care, legal, finance). Harmonisation further complicated by differences in progression frameworks, allowances, and contractual terms. BCP experience indicates high disruption risk and staff attrition.
Indicative additional total	£9 – £15 million	

3.4 Combined View of Implementation Costs

Table 5 – Estimated Cost of Implementation

Cost Component	Estimated Range (£m)
Transition Cost Comparison: Benchmarking One-off Aggregation Costs	£25 – £32m
Additional Aggregation Cost Drivers in North and North East Lincolnshire	£9 – £15m
Total Estimated One-Off Cost	£34 – £47million

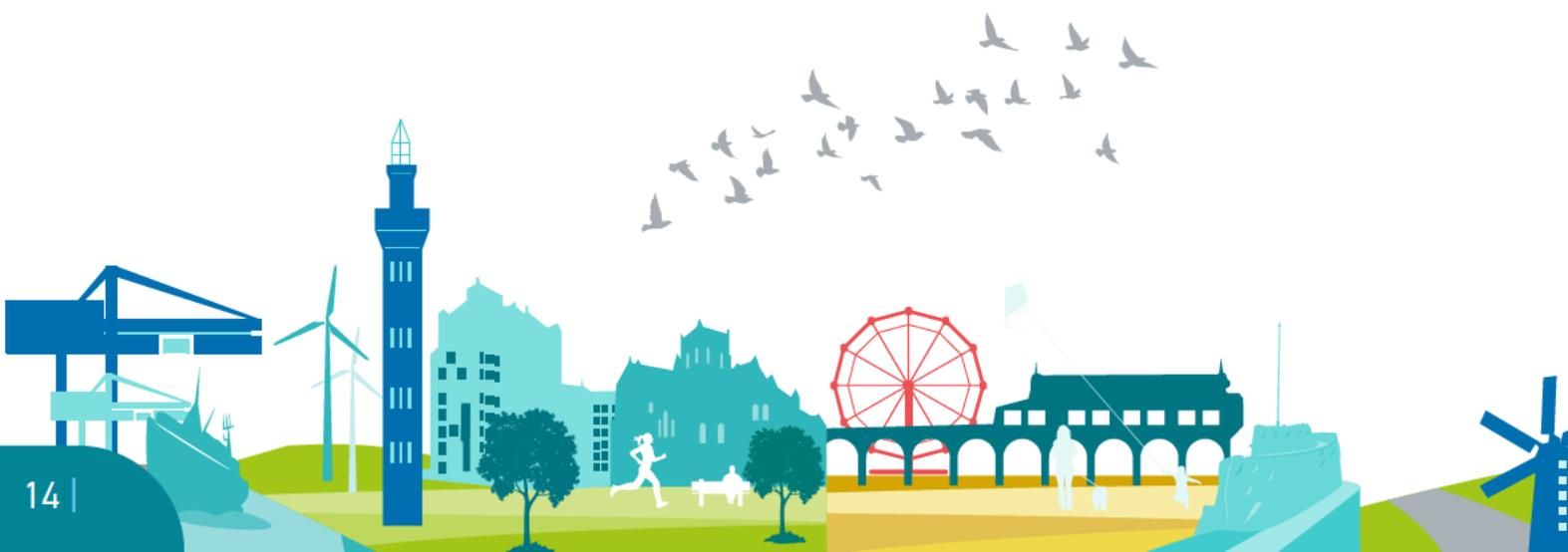
The evidence indicates that a merger between North and North East Lincolnshire would require

between £34 million and £47 million in total one-off investment to reach a steady operational state. The upper range aligns with the combined experience of Buckinghamshire and Somerset, scaled for the added complexity of merging two well-established unitaries with divergent delivery models.

Without ring-fenced support, this cost envelope would place significant strain on both councils' Medium-Term Financial Strategies. Moreover, the complexity of disentangling NELC's integrated health model and contracted delivery arrangements would likely extend the implementation period to two to three years.

3.5 Risks and Implications

- **Underfunded transition risk:** Any model built on lower assumptions would likely lead to under-resourced implementation, service instability, and inaccurate payback forecasts.
- **Service continuity risk:** Disruption to Section 75 agreements or CIC partnerships could destabilise adult social care and mental health provision.
- **Financial sustainability:** Both councils' ongoing MTFS programmes already aim to deliver significant savings. Delays or diversions caused by reorganisation would jeopardise these benefits and increase exposure to in-year overspends.
- **Implementation timeline:** Based on benchmarked experience, a safe transition to a single operating model would take a minimum of 24–36 months.



4. Potential Benefits and Savings Realisation

While financial prudence requires examining efficiency opportunities, evidence suggests that the scope for material new savings from a full merger of North and North East Lincolnshire is limited. Both councils already share systems, procurement frameworks and leadership capacity across multiple functions. The analysis therefore, focuses on the *marginal additional efficiencies* available beyond existing collaboration.

4.1 Existing Joint and Aligned Arrangements

Over recent years, the two councils have built a strong and practical partnership across the Humber sub-region. These arrangements already deliver many of the benefits typically expected from structural reform.

Table 6 – Existing Joint and Aligned Arrangements and Implications

Area	Current Position	Implication for Merger Savings
Waste and Environmental Services	Shared collection contract and joint procurement arrangements for waste disposal and recycling.	No significant additional economies are available through a merger.
Finance and Payroll Systems	Both operate on the same ERP platform (Unit4) with shared licence and support models.	Core financial and HR system integration already achieved.
ICT Infrastructure	Joint broadband and data-centre hosting; shared cyber-security framework through the Humber Tech Partnership.	Minimal further saving potential; integration largely complete.
Public Health and Commissioning	Shared Director of Public Health and aligned strategies across the Humber sub-region.	Limited scope for further management consolidation.
Procurement Frameworks	Joint use of YPO, NEPO and regional frameworks, with combined supplier lists.	Existing efficiencies already capture most potential economies of scale.
Emergency Planning and Resilience	Delivered jointly through the Humber Local Resilience Forum.	No incremental saving; statutory obligations already pooled.
Highways and Transport Planning	Coordinated through shared modelling and data within the Humber Local Economic Partnership.	Efficiency potential is minimal.

Sources: NLC/NELC published service information; Humber Local Resilience Forum; shared ERP/licensing records; local procurement frameworks (YPO/NEPO)

Together, these demonstrate that the councils already function as collaborative, efficient unitaries. A structural merger would therefore deliver diminishing marginal returns while introducing material integration risk.

4.2 Benchmark Evidence on Efficiency Realisation

Independent post-implementation reviews from other recent reorganisations (Buckinghamshire 2020, Somerset 2023, Bournemouth-Christchurch-Poole 2019) show that:

- **Recurring efficiencies** typically represent only 2–4% of controllable spend once fully implemented.
- **Full realisation** takes two to three years post-vesting day.
- **Headline savings** usually stem from management reductions, back-office consolidation, and procurement rationalisation, not large-scale operational reform.

Applying this to the Lincolnshire context, a realistic steady-state saving of £3–5 million per year is achievable, mainly from leadership and enabling-service efficiencies.

4.3 Potential Recurring Savings

Table 7 – Comparison of Recurring Savings

Benefit Area	Benchmark Evidence (Bucks 2020 / Somerset 2023 / BCP 2019)	Realistic Potential for NLC + NELC	Comment
Senior Leadership	Bucks ≈ £3 million p.a.; Somerset ≈ £2 million p.a.	£0.9 – £1.3m (including 30% on-costs)	Both councils already operate lean top structures. NLC's top 3 tiers comprise 16 posts (£1.56 million total). Combined structures would yield at most ~£0.7–£1.0 m gross savings before on-costs.*
Enabling & Support Services	Bucks £3–4 million; Somerset £2–3 million	£0.5 – £1.5m	Both councils already share core systems, and benchmarked support service unit costs for North Lincolnshire are already low. Unlike Bucks/Somerset, there are no legacy district structures or duplicated HR/payroll/finance functions to consolidate. Realistic efficiencies are limited to minor overlaps in corporate policy, performance, communications, treasury and internal audit/insurance contracts.

Procurement / Third-Party Spend	Bucks £3 million; Somerset £2 million	£0.5 – £1.5m	Both councils already use shared procurement frameworks (YPO, NEPO, CCS) and have long-term contractual commitments in major service areas. NLC's core services are largely in-house, while NELC's outsourced functions (waste, leisure, libraries) operate under contracts that cannot be aligned before 2028–29. NELC's insourcing of Equants further narrows the scope for savings.**
Democratic / Elections	Typical £0.3–0.6 million p.a.	£0.3 – £0.5m	One-off reduction in member and election costs; not transformational.
Property Rationalisation	Bucks ≈ £0.5 million; Somerset ≈ £0.4 million	£0.2 – £0.4m	Some opportunities through depot /operational buildings consolidation, but modest overall.
Strategic Capacity & Commissioning Scale	Bucks & Somerset each attributed ~ £0.5–1.0 million p.a. to increased capacity and stronger commissioning leverage	Already largely realised	Both councils operate shared commissioning arrangements and work across the ICB footprint. Collaboration already enables strategic influence without structural change. No material financial gain expected.
Total Recurring Benefit	Bucks ≈ £9 million p.a.; Somerset ≈ £7 million p.a. (realised over 2–3 years)	£2.5 – £5million p.a.	This is estimated to be optimistic and front-loaded, overlapping heavily with the current collaboration.

*Analysis of senior pay data shows that NLC already operates a compact leadership structure, with 16 officers across the top three tiers at a total cost of £1.56 million. Assuming a similar scale in NELC, the combined senior team would cost around £3 million. Allowing for consolidation of one Chief Executive and a small number of Tier 2 roles, a realistic recurring saving is £1–1.5 million per year.

** Review of NLC's July 2025 contract register (c. £220 million active value) shows a consolidated supplier base and extensive use of national frameworks. NELC's largest third-party arrangements (waste, libraries, leisure) differ in structure and duration, with expiry windows between 2028–2030. The councils' differing delivery models, one predominantly in-house, the other part-outsourced, mean that procurement harmonisation would take multiple years and deliver only marginal savings.

4.4 Contract Alignment and Realisation Timescales

The councils' major contracts differ in structure and renewal cycles, meaning any efficiency through alignment would be slow to materialise.

Table 8 – Contract alignment across key services areas

Service / Contract Area	NLC Delivery Model / End Date	NELC Delivery Model / End Date	Key Issue for Alignment	Estimated Window for Potential Re-procurement
Waste Collection & Disposal	In-house delivery; joint Humber disposal framework (Ongoing)	Contracted to NELC Waste Ltd (Teckal); 2017–2029	Different governance and operating models (in-house vs Teckal). Early alignment would require either externalisation or TUPE of staff.	Post-2029
Libraries & Cultural Services	In-house (part of Place Directorate); annual net cost ~£2.5m	Outsourced to Lincs Inspire Ltd to 2028	Different VAT and charity structures; harmonisation would require novation or re-commissioning.	Post-2028
Leisure & Sport Facilities	In-house portfolio (The Pods, Riddings, Baysgarth)	Managed by Lincs Inspire Ltd under same 2028 contract	Distinct contractual and risk-sharing models.	Post-2028
Highways, Transport & Built Environment	Framework with Balfour Beatty (2022–2027)	Formerly via Equans; services returning in-house from July 2025	Converging models may support future joint procurement, but immediate focus is stabilisation and TUPE.	2027 onwards
ICT & Digital Infrastructure	ERP: Unit4 (shared licence); CRM renewal due 2026–27	ERP: Unit4 (shared); bespoke CRM & telephony	Core systems already aligned; remaining gains minimal.	2026–27

Given these renewal cycles, most potential contract efficiencies would not be achievable until 2028–2030, beyond a five-year payback window.

4.5 Interpretation and Implications

- **Limited marginal benefit:** Given the councils' existing joint arrangements, a merger offers minimal further saving potential.
- **Realisation delay:** Even achievable efficiencies would emerge gradually, requiring 2–3 years for implementation and contract alignment.
- **Relative scale:** At £3–5 million per year, total efficiencies equate to less than 1% of combined spend, insufficient to offset £31–49 million in one-off costs within five years.
- **Alternative route:** The councils can continue capturing equivalent benefits through expanded collaboration, shared procurement, and joint commissioning without the disruption of a legal merger.

4.6 Narrative and Strategic Benefits

While the quantitative assessment shows limited financial return, several potential non-financial advantages are worth noting if the merger were ever reconsidered:

- **Scale and resilience:** A single authority serving ~330,000 residents would meet emerging guidance on minimum population thresholds, potentially strengthening perceived resilience.
- **Diversified economic base:** Combining industrial, manufacturing and coastal economies could create a more balanced business-rates base.
- **Strategic voice:** A single northern authority might have stronger visibility in regional investment discussions (e.g. Freeport, energy transition).
- **Simplified governance:** A merger could rationalise corporate policies and governance frameworks, though these benefits are achievable through joint governance structures without full unification.
- **Funding eligibility:** Some large-scale investment programmes favour “strategic geographies”, but this must be weighed against the loss of locally targeted grants (e.g. coastal regeneration, Towns Fund, Arts Council).

Recent experience across England shows that some of the largest councils (population 500k+) have required intervention or issued Section 114 notices, while smaller unitaries have maintained stable finances and service quality.

In this geography, the underlying risks identified in national reviews, service fragmentation, small-scale procurement, and duplicated management, are already being addressed. NLC and NELC share back-office systems, align commissioning through a single ICB, and have established joint operational models. They are already achieving the benefits of scale without the cost or disruption of a merger.

5. Disclaimer

The Customer is responsible for determining whether the scope of the work we have been asked to carry out is sufficient for the purposes of this report.

It should be noted that it is expressly stated that no independent verification of any of the documents or information supplied to us has been made. We make no representation or warranty and give no undertaking as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the information contained in this report or any document or information supplied to us.

In this report we have assumed, having raised queries as we saw appropriate: that all of the information supplied to us was, when given and remains, true, complete and accurate and not misleading; that the documents we have examined are true, complete and accurate copies of the originals and that the signatures on those documents are genuine; that appropriate personnel at the Customer will have read the documents in case any such document reveals matters of significance which could only be identified by people with knowledge of the Customer's specific circumstances; and that no term of any agreement comprised in the documents received by us has been amended orally by the parties or by conduct or by course of dealing without our being aware of such amendment. In addition, there may be agreements which are wholly oral of which we are unaware.

This report reflects the state of the Customer as at the date provided at the front of it. However, further information may be received, disclosures may be made or information identified which may change the position of this report after the date of it. We do not accept any responsibility or obligation to update this report, correct any inaccuracies or provide any further information which may become known to it after the date of this report.

This report is addressed to the Customer and is for their sole information and use in connection with the matter. We accept no responsibility for any reliance placed on this report for any purpose other than the matter or by any person other than the Customer. We shall not in any circumstances be liable to the Customer for any loss of profit or any other consequential or indirect loss (howsoever arising).

The contents of this report are strictly private and confidential and this report is being made available to the Customer solely on that basis. This report must not be made available; or copied, quoted or referred to (in whole or in part) without the prior written consent of us, provided that the Customer may disclose this report to those of its respective employees, directors and advisers who are directly involved in the matter. Neither this report, nor and right under it, as assignable.

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Section 3: The Economic Impact of Reorganisation

North East Lincolnshire Council

Local Government Review

Strategic Economic Case

November 2025



Grimsby · Cleethorpes · Immingham





Contents

Introduction	3
Part 1: North East Lincolnshire Context	4
Overview	4
Part 2: Performance Review	8
Overview and Selected Comparators	8
Economic Performance – Key Messages	9
Socio-Economic Performance – Key Messages	11
Economic Drivers	13
Regeneration Success	15
Planned Regeneration	25
Part 3: Economic Growth Trajectories	27
Labour Market Performance	27
Economic Contribution	27
Part 4: Options Appraisal	28
Part 5: Potential Effects on Growth Outcomes	37
Part 6: Summary and Conclusions	38
Appendix I - Evidence	39



Introduction

North East Lincolnshire Council has appointed thrive Economics Limited to prepare the Strategic Economic Case for North East Lincolnshire's continuation as a standalone Unitary Authority (UA).

The Strategic Economic Case includes:

1. **Part 1:** A contextual outline of **place dynamics**, including a brief description of North East Lincolnshire, an audit of key assets and an understanding of commuting patterns to establish whether the locality operates as a Functional Economic Market Area
2. **Part 2:** A detailed **Performance Review** that sets out the strategic context for North East Lincolnshire, including:
 - a. A socio-economic performance review, considering performance of North East Lincolnshire against three selected similar comparator areas.
 - b. An outline of regeneration successes in recent years
 - c. An overview of planned regeneration going forward.
 - d. An understanding of forecast growth locally
3. **Part 3:** A detailed **options appraisal**, considering the merits of various possible change options alongside North East Lincolnshire continuing as a standalone UA area - the appraisal includes consideration against the UK Government's six criteria, plus an outline of potential effects on the economy from any of the change options considered.
4. **Part 4: Econometric Forecasting** to speculate on the potential effects to the local economy from potential re-organisation.
5. **Part 5:** an overall **summary of findings and key conclusions**

Part 1: North East Lincolnshire Context

Overview

North East Lincolnshire is a 192 km² unitary authority area with borough status in Lincolnshire.

Positioned on the east coast of England, at the mouth of the Humber Estuary - the UK's Energy Estuary – North East Lincolnshire for generations has served as a major trading gateway for the north and midlands.

The growth of the Ports of Grimsby and Immingham have played a major role in North East Lincolnshire's development, and the ports continue to underpin the local economy today. The port of Immingham remains the UK's largest port by tonnage and the Port of Grimsby, once a thriving fishing port, is now also home to two of the largest offshore wind owner operators who have chosen the Port for their Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities.



The main administrative centre and largest settlement is the town of Grimsby and other core settles includes the towns of Cleethorpes and Immingham as well as the villages of New Waltham, Waltham, Humberston, Healing and Great Coates.

Grimsby emerged as a major fishing and trading port town with a significant traditional industrial presence, and today much of its industrial legacy is retained. With an 85,900 strong population (54% of North East Lincolnshire 159,900 residents), Grimsby is the areas core centre for administration, retail and civic functions, and it is home to northern Lincolnshire's largest shopping centre (Freshney Place). Grimsby town centre has itself been the focus of major regeneration in recent years, including efforts to bring a significant new leisure and town centre living offer to the town.

The nearby town of Cleethorpes is a traditional seaside resort with visitor attractions, a long quality beach, boating lake and a wide mix of boutique shops and restaurants.

The smaller town of Immingham is very industrial in nature, and there is major large-scale industrial development stretching along the South Bank of the Humber Estuary between Grimsby and Immingham and beyond.

This includes the major Europarc Business Park, Pioneer Business Park, Port Link 180, Stallingborough, HumberGate, Queens Road and Immingham Port sites.

Enterprise Zones, Freeport Status and the South Humber Industrial Investment Programme (SHIIP) is also unlocking 90 additional hectares of employment land over the next 20 years in this area, to support the success of some for North East Lincolnshire's major sectors – including Ports and Logistics; Clean Energy Technology; Chemical processing; Construction and Food processing and manufacturing.



North East Lincolnshire Assets

Audit mapping of key physical assets across North East Lincolnshire (shown below) has identified that the local area is well served in terms of key infrastructure. This reflects North East Lincolnshire as a well-developed rounded economy with a strong local offer.

Feature	Assets
Road Connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main connections - A180 (connecting to M180), A16, A46, A160, A18 and other ancillary routes, offering internal connections and connections to Lincoln, Scunthorpe, Hull, Doncaster, Skegness, and the national motorway network
Rail Connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail links - South TransPennine Line Rail link operating directly from Cleethorpes to Liverpool Lime Street and the Grimsby to Newark or Doncaster lines providing links to London. • Rail freight capacity - good capacity primarily linked to the ports
Waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humber Estuary – major navigable trading estuary • River Freshney – 14km river running through Grimsby
Ports and Harbour Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of Grimsby - UK leading automotive ports and a major offshore wind hub, also handling other cargoes, and retaining strong links to the fishing and food processing industries. • Port of Immingham – the UK’s largest port by tonnage, providing critical infrastructure for UK energy generation and trade
Natural Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor pursuits – Extensive beaches and 140 footpaths and 61 bridleways – totalling c.200 km of public rights of way. • Local nature reserve infrastructure: Cleethorpes Boating Lake and Cleethorpes Saltmarsh.
Educational Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools provision: 10 Secondary Academies, 35 Primary Academies, 6 Primary Schools, 2 Nursery Schools, and other specialized schools. • Further/Higher Education: Grimsby Institute of Further and Higher Education, Franklin College in Grimsby, and Linkage College's Weelsby Campus • Specialist Training Facilities – CATCH, Humber Engineering Training Centre (HETA), Offshore Training Centre Grimsby (OTC) and Maersk Training Humber
Cultural / Heritage assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum provision – Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre, Time Trap Museum • Archaeological/Heritage Assets – Humberstone Abbey, Wellow Abbey, Ross Castle, Ross Tiger, Victoria Mill • Events, Theatre and Arts Venues – Grimsby Auditorium, Caxton Theatre; Docks Academy, Turntable Academy, The Living Room, Meridian Showground Events Arena
Sporting Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure Centres - Cleethorpes Leisure Centre, Grimsby Leisure Centre, Grimsby Health & Wellbeing Centre, and Immingham Swimming Pool • Facilities/venues - King George V Stadium; Bradley Football Development Centre, Clee Fields, and Blundell Park • Various clubs including Grimsby Town FC ‘the Mariners’; Grimsby Borough FC; Cleethorpes Town FC; Grimsby Rugby Union Football Club;



	Cleethorpes Rugby Union Football Club; Cleethorpes Cricket Club and Grimsby Town Cricket Club, Grimsby Hockey Club; Grimsby Golf Club
Leisure Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor activities– Forthcoming Cinema and leisure scheme (Freshney Place, Grimsby), Horizon Youth Zone, Parkway Cinema (Cleethorpes), Cleethorpes Bowling Alley etc. • Seaside Leisure – Cleethorpes seafront and extensive beaches (Cleethorpes Fitties), Haven Holiday Park (Cleethorpes Beach) • Retail – Grimsby Town Centre, Freshney Place Shopping Centre, Cleethorpes Town Centre • Parks – over 50 parks and open spaces, including popular parks like Cleethorpes Country Park, Peoples Park, and Weelsby Woods
Major employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ports and Logistics: Associated British Ports (ABP), Carlbom Shipping, DFDS, GBA Group, Samskip, Eimskip • Energy and renewables: Ørsted, Siemens Gamesa, E.ON, RWE, RES • Food Production: Young’s Seafood; Country Style Foods; Hain Daniels Group; Morrisons fish processing facility; Hilton Seafood (Formerly Iceland Seachill), New England Seafood • Chemical and Process Industries: Tronox; BOC, Lenzing Fibers • Advanced Manufacturing: Myenergi, Auto-Trail, ProAmpac, Blackrow Group

North East Lincolnshire Administration and Strategic Planning

Following the devolution of Humberside County Council, North East Lincolnshire Council was formed in April 1996 as one of four Unitary Authorities covering the Humber area - Alongside North Lincolnshire, East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston Upon Hull UA’s.

Since 1996, North East Lincolnshire has had Unitary Authority and Borough status, with North East Lincolnshire Council serving the area’s residents and business community, with responsibility for a wide range of local services across the borough.

Beyond the Council, most other agencies operate at the Humber sub-regional level, including organisation of NHS, Police, Ambulance and Fire Services.

In terms of Governance arrangements and wider strategic planning agendas, much of this is carried out at the Humber level, although in recent years there has been added drives to better tie-in North East Lincolnshire to Greater Lincolnshire, including through the creation of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority (GLCCA) and the agreed Devolution Deal with Government – note, for both North and North East Lincolnshire the Deal included a commitment to continue working with Humber authorities on certain aspects (Humber Energy Board etc.)

The Humber Freeport, Humber Energy Board and the two Mayoral Combined Authorities (Greater Lincolnshire and Hull and East Yorkshire) work collaboratively with the four Humber Authorities and there are recent efforts underway to drive the implementation of the emerging Humber Economic Strategy (2025-2035) and associated Investment Plan, including through the creation of the Humber Estuary Growth Board.

The Humber Leadership Board has also been in existence since 2014, as a joint committee that facilitates cooperation and collaboration between the four Humber local authorities on cross-Estuary themes, such as clean growth; ports; shared management of estuary assets; and joint inward investment marketing.



Function Economic Market Area

As identified in the asset audit, North East Lincolnshire has a well-rounded offer for residents, and this has formed on the back of the locality operating as a relatively self-contained and self-serving area.

Analysis of commuting trends helps to confirm this view, highlight that North East Lincolnshire has a very self-contained labour market.

This analysis shows that:

- c.82% of North East Lincolnshire residents in work, work within North East Lincolnshire itself – reflecting very high levels of self-containment; and,
- c.81% of all FTE jobs in North East Lincolnshire are also filled by residents of North East Lincolnshire

Commuting Flows – to and from North East Lincolnshire (Census 2011, Origins-Destinations)					
NEL Workers – location of residents	NEL Workers		NEL Residents – work locations	NEL Residents	
Total working in North East Lincolnshire	61,605		Total residents working	60,724	
Of which from North East Lincolnshire	49,985	81%	Of which in North East Lincolnshire	49,985	82%
Of which from North Lincolnshire	3,803	6%	Of which in North Lincolnshire	4,692	8%
Of which from East Lindsey	3,336	5%	Of which in East Lindsey	1,257	2%
Of which from West Lindsey	1,760	3%	Of which in West Lindsey	864	1%
Of which from East Riding	548	1%	Of which in East Riding	330	1%
Of Which from Hull	704	1%	Of Which in Hull	685	1%
Of which from elsewhere	1,469	2%	Of which elsewhere	2,911	5%

As such, it is considered that North East Lincolnshire operates as a natural Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA).

Part 2: Performance Review

Overview and Selected Comparators

A review of performance since 2015 has been completed (c.10 years) across a range of socio-economic indicators, utilising ONS data. To understand relative change in North East Lincolnshire’s performance over time, a review of equivalent data has been completed against selected comparator areas.

Analysis against comparator areas is a useful way of considering performance, as it identifies where performance change (both positive and adverse) can be deemed significant, whilst also better reflecting on localised nuances where change in performance has been over, under or at odds with macro-economic trends. In effect, it helps to identify areas of strength and weakness.

Where typically a review against wider comparator areas (The Humber or Greater Lincolnshire sub-regions, Yorkshire and Humber or the East Midlands regions, or the nation per se) would be completed, we have been mindful of the fact that North East Lincolnshire continues to recover from significant legacy effects of post-industrial decline experienced in the latter parts of the 20th Century.

The overall dynamics of North East Lincolnshire’s economy, dominated by ports-linked production activities, is also very dissimilar to wider sub-regional or regional dynamics and this will also have had a significant influence on place performance.

Consequently, we consider that direct comparisons in performance against sub/regional or national performance as being less meaningful, and we have instead completed a high-level review of similar sized towns across the north and midlands to identify meaningful comparator geographies.

This review has identified two sensible comparator areas, namely (a) Hartlepool borough in the Tees Valley; (b) South Shields in Tyne and Wear and (c) Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth in the East of England.

Performance review – Selected Comparator Areas		
C1: Hartlepool	C2: South Tyneside	C3: Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
		

Whilst there are inevitable challenges in identifying economies that are entirely similar, these areas have very similar core characteristics in that:

1. Like North East Lincolnshire, they are predominantly urban dominated areas in coastal setting.
2. They have a strong ports legacy – with all areas having a significant retained port presence.
3. Each has witnessed significant post-industrial declines, with continued recover from legacy challenges underway.
4. Each area’s economy is driven by North Sea trading, with an ancillary seaside tourism presence.

A detailed review of evidence has been completed in each of the four selected areas, with a full outline of evidence provided in Annex I. The sections below summarise the findings, reporting on key indicators and messages from the data.



Economic Performance – Key Messages

The summary table and supporting key indicators below summarise the findings of a review into economic performance in North East Lincolnshire since 2015.

Overall Message

A review of key economic performance indicators has identified that North East Lincolnshire's economy is doing well, with comparably high jobs densities and significant growth in GVA and workplace-based earnings.

There has also been a noticeable shift towards higher-value jobs locally, as suggested by positive changes in GVA per FTE since 2015 – In this regard, North East Lincolnshire's workforce is becoming increasingly more productive.

Although business numbers and FTE job numbers have remained reasonably fixed over the years, losses elsewhere suggest that for a provision ports-led economy, North East Lincolnshire is fairing reasonably well.

Reasonably slow housing delivery rates have potentially led to house price growth across North East Lincolnshire, although with an identified 'static' population, it is likely that housebuilding rates are meeting housing needs locally.

Areas where North East Lincolnshire is doing well....

- North East Lincolnshire has a large business community, and business stocks have been reasonably stable** – North East Lincolnshire is home to around 5,670 businesses and stocks in 2024 were broadly on par with stocks in 2015, suggesting the local area has a reasonably 'static' business population. This is compared to each of the comparators which have all witnessed some erosion of stocks over the period. North East Lincolnshire also has a relatively large business community, with almost 60 businesses per 1,000 working age residents, which is significantly higher than in the northern comparators.
- GVA Growth has been very strong, and workers have become more productive** – In 2023, North East Lincolnshire contributed £4.36bn to the UK economy. There has been a 35% increase in overall GVA contributions in North East Lincolnshire since 2015, significantly higher than in the 20%-25% growth in GVA in the comparators. Moreover, per worker GVA growth has been equally strong (+38%), with GVA per FTE job (£64,674 in 2023) being higher than at wider comparators – this suggests workforces are becoming increasingly more productive.
- Improved business profitability has resonated to workplace-earnings, which are comparably high** – median average gross earnings in North East Lincolnshire were £34,509 in 2024, and there has been a 43% increase in workplace-based earnings since 2015, significantly higher than at the comparators - This suggests that improved business profitability/productivity has resulted in increased earnings.
- North East Lincolnshire is comparably 'jobs rich'** – with 67,375 FTE jobs present, there are around 7 FTE jobs for every 10 working-age residents in North East Lincolnshire, compared to c.5-6 FTEs per 10 residents aged 16-64 in the comparators. North East Lincolnshire is therefore comparably 'jobs rich', accepting that the area has seen some small job losses since 2015.
- North East Lincolnshire has retained sector strengths** – Although North East Lincolnshire has a shortfall of professional service activities, the area retains a strong presence of Energy, Manufacturing, Transport and Storage, Humber Health and Social Work and Wholesale and Retail sectors present, well above national averages. 10,000 FTE jobs alone are in

manufacturing, and at 15% of the areas overall labour market, this is significantly higher than in comparator areas (c.10-12%), and much higher when compared to the nation (8%).

- **Housing growth has been reasonably slow, but meeting housing need** – there have been 2,100 net new dwellings in North East Lincolnshire since 2015, growth of c.3% on 2015 levels. When compared to reasonably ‘static’ population growth over the period (+0.5%), North East Lincolnshire seems to be meeting housing need locally. Growth in stocks has helped keep house prices affordable locally, although 29% growth in house prices has nevertheless been observed locally since 2015 and this was significantly higher than in the northern comparators.

Key Indicator Summary and Direction of Travel (2015+) – Business and Economic Performance								
	North East Lincolnshire	C1: Hartlepool	C2: South Tyneside	C3: Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth	Direction of Travel Since 2015			
					NEL Change	Vs C1	Vs C2	Vs C3
Businesses (total, 2024)	5,670	2,200	3,935	8,820				
Businesses Density – Stocks per 1,000 working-age residents (2024)	59.3	36.7	42.8	78.7	↗	↗	↗	↗
Change in Business Stocks (2016-2024)	0.2%	-8.7%	-0.5%	-2.2%				
Total GVA (2023)	£4.357bn	£1.963bn	£2.525bn	£2.833bn				
GVA Growth (2015-2023)	35.2%	19.06%	24.41%	unavailable	↗	↗	↗	
GVA per FTE (2023)	£64,674	£65,453	£57,385	£40,267				
GVA per FTE growth (2015-2023)	38.46%	20.75%	31.92%	unavailable				
Median Gross Annual Earnings (Workplace, 2023)	£34,509	£32,947	£32,456	£32,201	↗	↗	↗	
Growth in earnings (2015-2023)	42.62%	24.59%	32%	unavailable				
FTE Jobs (total, 2023)	67,375	29,995	44,005	70,355	↘	↘	↗	
Jobs change (2015-2023)	-2.4%	-1.4%	-5.7%	unavailable				
Jobs density - FTEs per 100 working-age residents (2023)	70.5	50.0	47.9	62.8	↗	↗	↗	
Housing Growth (2015-2025)	2.8%	6.6%	3.0%	7.0%	↗	↗	↗	↘
House Price Change (2015-2022)	29.2%	4.8%	13.9%	50.5%				↘



Socio-Economic Performance – Key Messages

The summary table and supporting key indicators below nevertheless summarise the findings of a review into socio-economic performance in North East Lincolnshire since 2015.

North East Lincolnshire ultimately continues to face significant legacy challenges, but there are promising signs of improved performance, particularly in terms of having a reasonably stable labour market and some improvements in skills performance. There also appears to be a notable shift underway in terms of having a higher occupational offer locally, which likely reflects the improved business performance noted above.

Overall Message

Population growth in North East Lincolnshire has been reasonably 'static' since 2015 and like many areas, North East Lincolnshire has a significant aging population. Levels of deprivation have remained reasonably stable, albeit high, over the years relative to the nation, but when last assessed the area performed reasonably well in terms of income, employment and health deprivation.

Analysis of labour market statistics shows resilience in performance, and although persistent structural occupational and skills challenges locally remain, there is good evidence to suggest North East Lincolnshire is closing gaps in some areas.

Areas where North East Lincolnshire is doing well....

- **North East Lincolnshire labour market has remained reasonably stable** – Analysis of resident-based economic activity, employment and unemployment rates over the years shows that the labour market in North East Lincolnshire has remained reasonably stable over time, suggesting local labour markets have been reasonably resilient to macro-economic change.
- **North East Lincolnshire is becoming home to an increasing number of higher-order occupations** – North East Lincolnshire is home to a significant proportion of skilled trade occupations and in recent years, North East Lincolnshire has witnessed significant growth in those employed in high order occupations, with around 1,100 more residents employed in managerial and professional occupations in 2024, compared with 2021 levels. There has been an equivalent fall in the share and number of residents employed in lower order occupations, suggesting a sizable shift in the occupations profile of North East Lincolnshire is underway. Significant deficits in higher-order occupations in the area nevertheless remain when compared to some of the comparators, and North East Lincolnshire is in effect 'catching up'.

Areas where performance could be stronger....

- **Population change has been slow and North East Lincolnshire has an aging population** – North East Lincolnshire has witnessed almost negligible population growth since 2015 (up 0.5%), with underlying evidence suggesting some losses in younger (-1%) and working-aged (-2.5%) residents (those aged under 65) over the period, slightly outstripped by significant growth in older residents (+11% aged over 65). As such, like many areas, North East Lincolnshire has an aging population.
- **Deprivation levels remain high, but some progress made** – North East Lincolnshire was ranked as the 66th Most deprived area in nationally 2019 (IMD) and 30% of Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA's) were ranked among England's most deprived 10% of areas. When compared to 2015 IMD results where North East Lincolnshire was ranked 64th most deprived nationally on equivalent measures, deprivation levels appear to have in relative terms,

remained stable. In 2019, however, North East Lincolnshire was relatively less deprived in terms of income, employment and health when assessed against the comparator areas.

- **Higher-level skills gaps are widening, but reasonably strong mid-level qualification performance locally** - Qualifications data suggests that North East Lincolnshire has significant deficits in the share of its population qualified to RFQ level 4+ (degree-equivalent), with just 1 in 4 residents having higher order qualifications, compared to around 1 in 3 across the northern competitions. The share of residents qualified to RFQ2+ (GCSE equivalent) in North East Lincolnshire is however reasonably high, and growth in the share of residents possessing GCSE level qualifications has been strong.

Indicator Summary and Direction of Travel (2015+) – Demography and Socio-Economic Performance								
	North East Lincolnshire	C1: Hartlepool	C2: South Tyneside	C3: Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth	Direction of Travel Since 2015			
					NEL Change	Vs C1	Vs C2	Vs C3
Resident population (total, 2024)	159,911	98,180	151,393	194,500	↗	↘	↘	↘
Population growth (2015-2022)	0.48%	6.57%	2.83%	1.02%	↗	↘	↘	↘
Working age population (16-64)	95,608	59,988	91,863	112,032	↘	↘	↗	↘
% working age population	59.8%	61.1%	60.7%	57.6%	↘	↘	↗	↘
Working age residents in employment (2024)	68,400	37,400	59,300	114,900	↗	↘	↗	↗
as a % of working-age population	71.7%	66.1%	65.0%	73.6%	↗	↘	↗	↗
working-age residents in unemployment (2024)	3,600	1,900	4,000	Unavailable	↗	↘	↗	
as a % of working-age population	5.1%	4.9%	6.4%	Unavailable	↗	↘	↗	
Residents in higher order occupations (SOC 1-3, 2024)	32.5%	44.5%	43.1%	37.4%	↗	↘	↘	↗
Residents in lower order occupations (SOC 6-9, 2024)	46.9%	37.8%	37.6%	45.1%	↗	↗	↘	↗
Residents qualified to NVQL2+(16-64, 2024)	87.4%	83.1%	81.4%	81.4%	↗	↘	↗	↗
Residents with a higher-level NVQ4+ qualification (16-64, 2024)	24.3%	34.9%	35.0%	25.8%	↘	↘	↘	↗



Economic Drivers

The performance of North East Lincolnshire's economy has for generations been **driven by the success and vitality of its 5,670 strong business community.**

The significance of the **Port of Grimsby** and **Port of Immingham** to business success cannot be understated - The Humber benefits enormously from **international trade** through the Humber Ports - handling 64.3m tn of cargo throughput in 2024 alone, c.15% of UK cargo. North East Lincolnshire ports alone handled 43.7m tn of cargo in 2024 - 68% of the Humber's imports and exports.

North East Lincolnshire also now benefitting enormously from the success of the new industries forming along the South Humber bank, including a significant and **nationally important offshore wind O&M presence**, and **equally significant process-industry manufacturing clusters** - chemicals and food.

North East Lincolnshire has **many medium-to-large businesses operating** – 220 employing over fifty staff, thirty of which employ over 250 - including various nationally important businesses, including:

- **Ports and Logistics:** Associated British Ports (ABP), Carlbom Shipping, DFDS, GBA Group, Samskip, and Eimskip
- **Energy and renewables:** Grimsby's O&M cluster including Ørsted, Siemens Gamesa, E.ON, RWE, and RES
- **Food Production:** including circa five hundred food link businesses including Young's Seafood; Country Style Foods; Hain Daniels Group; Morrisons fish processing facility; Hilton Seafood (Formerly Iceland Seachill) and New England Seafood
- **Chemical and Process Industries:** including Tronox; BOC and Lenzing Fibers
- **Advanced Manufacturing:** including Myenergi, Auto-Trail, ProAmpac and Blackrow Group

The success of large-scale industry in North East Lincolnshire is clear, and the advent of **the Enterprise Zone, Humber Freeport** and **South Humber Industrial Investment Programme (SHIIP)** initiatives are bringing a new industrial future – the SHIIP alone is unlocking 90 additional hectares of employment land over the next 20 years, to support the success of some for North East Lincolnshire's major sectors.

Major **targeted regeneration** is also influencing performance, and North East Lincolnshire's overall investment of £350m+ over the last ten or so years, plus its £75m of schemes in delivery and £60-£70m pipeline programme is ultimately pivotal to building a new economic future.

Analysis of **sector strengths** also highlights a predominance of various sectors locally and those which have grown, as shown on the table below. The continued strengths in manufacturing, energy and ports-linked distribution in particular are very significant, but North East Lincolnshire also retains large health and wholesale and retail sectors.

	FTE jobs (2023)	Share of NEL economy	Change since 2015	Comparisons against national levels
Utilities (Energy)	600	1%	+450	2.4 times national levels
Manufacturing	10,000	15%	-	2.0 times national levels
Transport and Storage	6,000	9%	-	1.8 times national levels
Humber Heath and Social Work	12,000	18%	+1,000	1.3 times national levels
Wholesale and Retail	11,000	16%	-1,000	1.2 times national levels
Construction	3,000	4%	+500	0.9 times national levels

Beyond industry, North East Lincolnshire also proudly boasts an **underlying visitor economy**, largely premised on the success of Cleethorpes as a traditional seaside resort town.



Key physical infrastructure including **rail and road connectivity** provides excellent connections both within North East Lincolnshire and to and from neighbouring economies and this further supports business success.

The business community also benefits from excellent well-embedded **business support infrastructure**, including E-Factor which offers start-up and business support, grant funding and other resources and the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub which provides specialist advice and workshops.

As the largest settlement by some margin, **the town of Grimsby** continues to be critical to labour supply locally, with around 85,900 (54%) of the area's residents living in the town. Grimsby has and will continue to also serve as a critical centre hub for professional business, retail, leisure, health, and civic functions long into the future.

Cleethorpes, Immingham, Humberston and the smaller settlements all have a similar role in ensuring future labour supply, and significant planned **new housing development** will also bolster the labour market, including large strategic sites at Alexandra Dock, Grimsby West and Scartho Top.

Ultimately, North East Lincolnshire's **159,900 strong population** are the key drivers of the economy, and there has been a growing focus on supporting the **future talent pipeline**, not least to close persistent known skills gaps locally – good working relationships with the Universities of Lincoln and Hull have formed and within North East Lincolnshire, the Grimsby Institute of Further & Higher Education, Franklin Sixth Form College, Modal Training Centre (a state of the art facility for Maritime and Logistics training), CATCH Skills (an industry-led engineering apprenticeship provider) and Humberside Engineering Training Association (HETA), along with a number of post 19+ providers, are helping to ensure a future talent pipeline.





Regeneration Success

North East Lincolnshire Council has been progressing many regeneration initiatives since its inception, and in recent years, have been very successful in securing significant regeneration funding, including through various Government programmes.

North East Lincolnshire Council and partner organisation-led **schemes completed** are included in the table below. This represents an overall investment more than £350m over the past 10 or so years.

North East Lincolnshire Investments - Completed Schemes		
Programme	Scheme	Description
Local & Regional Growth Funds	Local Growth Fund (2015-21)	Capital grant schemes delivered across the Humber.
	Regional Growth Fund (RGF3&4)	A programme of business grants, skills and training activities and inward investment support across the Humber (Round 3) and 9 capital business grants targeting the food manufacturing and seafood sector (Round 4).
Humber Enterprise Zone	Humber EZ Project (2015)	Extension of Enterprise Zone designations to accelerate development and meet the needs of growing renewables sector and its supply chain, continuing the successful delivery of Green Port, and the O&M bases at the Port of Grimsby.
Tourism & Visitor Economy	Pilgrims in Immingham	Heritage based initiative to boost rural tourism. Revitalising Immingham's heritage offer, maximising visitor numbers linked to the national Mayflower 400 commemorations in 2020.
	Festival of the Sky	Delivery of Pilgrim Fathers heritage trail in Immingham, a Pilgrim exhibition for Immingham Museum and Mayflower400 commemoration events in Immingham.
Business Support	Humber Finance for Competitiveness	Humber-wide scheme offering advice to SMEs seeking finance to invest and grow, alongside some grants.
Cleethorpes Regeneration	Cleethorpes Masterplan and Central Cleethorpes Regeneration Programme	Strategic Masterplanning for Cleethorpes regeneration, resulting in the Masterplan Framework and Investment Plan for Cleethorpes, seeking to Develop and diversify the economic role of the resort; attract new visitors and extend their dwell-time in Cleethorpes around Sea Road/ Central Promenade; and support the attraction of new investment and the creation of new jobs by enhancing developer confidence in the area.
Culture & Heritage	Cultural Framework Action Planning	Funds to pay for specialist support to develop the Cultural Strategy and CDF programme (awarded 2018)
	Cultural Development Fund (CDF) - Grimsby Creates	Grimsby Creates Programme including business support, creative programme, St James Square and enabling works for creative workspace, including the refurbishment of the Kasbah to provide a creative industries hub with managed work space for artists and other cultural sector businesses. Additional funding support for a cultural events programme in Grimsby town centre.
	Heritage Fund -Area of Focus Grant	Delivery of NEL Heritage Network, Heritage Starter Fund and associated activities.
	Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre in a box	Support for Fishing Heritage Centre following COVID shutdown.
	Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre – Recovery	Support for Fishing Heritage Centre following COVID shutdown

	Time Trap COVID grant	Enhancements to Time Trap Museum and feasibility study to explore long term development
	Festival of the Sea 2021 - 2024	Delivery of Festival of the Sea annual programmes
	IVE Partnership Programme	Support for schools' engagement with creatives
Transport & Highways	Freshney Valley Chalk Stream Project	Supporting a green infrastructure network of public walking and cycling routes, providing habitat continuity and community access to green space and the wider countryside.
	Grimsby-Immingham Cycle Superhighway	Providing a continuous off-road cycle link to facilitate sustainable access to employment and training opportunities on the South Humber Bank, in the corridor north of the A180 between Grimsby and Immingham ports.
Future High Streets Fund	Purchase of Freshney Place	Strategic purchase of Freshney Place Shopping Centre after it went into receivership to protect and deliver the cinema and leisure scheme.
Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)	Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre/ Historic Vessels	Museum Development Study to look at extending the Fishing Heritage Centre building, including identifying urgent works, conservation, and other plans to historic vessels.
	Ice Factory Feasibility	Costed Condition Survey and options appraisal.
	Kasbah PSiCA Scheme	Repair grant scheme for historic buildings in the Kasbah Conservation Area.
SHIIP	Humber Link Rd and SHIIP Promotion	Improved highway infrastructure between the Port of Immingham and Grimsby, and creation of strategic mitigation sites to unlock investment alongside SHIIP promotion and marketing.
Sports & Leisure	Tennis Court Refurbishment	Grant funding from Lawn Tennis Association to refurbish 3x locations at Barretts Recreation Group, Sussex Recreation Ground and Haverstoe Park.
Grimsby Town Centre	Humber High Streets Challenge Fund	Initially a grant scheme to reactivate vacant buildings on the Kasbah, but due to Covid changed to supporting town centres with projects aimed at Covid Recovery.
	Accelerated Towns Fund	Delivery of Riverhead Square Phase 1 (Pilot national Town Deal scheme).
	St James Square	Public realm improvements to improve the setting of the Minster and to create an outdoor events space.
	Garth Lane Waterfront Improvement Scheme	Public Realm project to improve access to the waterfront and an improved approach from the town centre to Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre (Pilot national Town Deal scheme).
	House of Fraser	Outline repair costs and structural survey to provide baseline information ahead of redevelopment proposals.
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	UK Shared Prosperity Fund (2022-2025)	Mixed revenue and capital allocation aimed at building pride in place and increasing life chances across the UK.
Private Led Activities	Onside Horizon Youth Zone	Land acquisition and repurposing of disused building as a modern youth centre called Onside Horizon Youth Zone.
	Projekt Renewables	A new container park for events, skills and training.
	CDC	A new NHS Community Diagnostics Centre.



	Ice Factory refurbishment and hotel	Repair and refurbishment of Ice Factory buildings to form conference centre and office / R&D space; construction of new hotel; redevelopment of Fish Dock 2; associated public realm works.
	Petersons	Repair and reuse of a grade II listed smokehouse and the building opposite on the Kasbah.
	The Fusion Centre	Provision of community activities and services for the young people of Grimsby to tackle the social and economic issues, including music mixing and production, and cooking and baking skills.
	The Trin	Funding to offer a variety of sports to young people.
	Centre 4	A new drop facility for local young people, offering a warm safe comfortable space where young people can socialise seek support access specific activities.

Alongside those schemes delivered, there are various **schemes underway** as shown on the table below. Collectively, the programme of schemes underway represent over £75m being strategically invested in current regeneration drives.

North East Lincolnshire Investments – Schemes Underway		
Programme	Scheme	Description
SHIIP	Pioneer Business Park	Land and infrastructure for development – including improved viability to progress major industrial development land opportunities.
	Mitigation	Supporting large-scale strategic mitigation land to enable sustainable development.
Grimsby Town Centre (Towns Fund)	Riverhead Square	Redevelopment of the square to provide a welcome public space that can also be utilised for events and festivals with its large open space.
	St James House	Private/public investment to refurbish a highly visual derelict building to accommodate new office and business facilities to be operated and delivered by an external partner.
	Alexandra Dock Phase 1	Provision of aspirational exemplar low carbon housing in the heart of Grimsby Town Centre. The housing will be unique to the area, providing dockside quality housing.
	Activation & Community Engagement Fund	Capital grants for community engagement and business ventures that will bring a more diverse offer and to add local interest and value to the larger Council led capital projects taking place.
Freshney Place/House of Fraser	Freshney Place Leisure Scheme	Major development scheme supporting a new Cinema, re-provided Market, Public square and ancillary leisure offer at the western end of Freshney Place Shopping Centre.
	House of Fraser	Building Investigations being carried out, discussions with potential occupiers.
	Freshney Place RAAC	Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) replacement in Freshney Place Shopping Centre.
Townscape Heritage	Cleethorpes Townscape Heritage I - Main Project	Cleethorpes Townscape Heritage Scheme to bring Victorian buildings back to their former glory.
	Cleethorpes Heritage Revealed (TH2)	Follow-on focus on Cleethorpes Market Placa area. Initial development phase underway, identifying preferred option outcomes.
Transport Hub	LUF - Green Transport Hub (GTH)	Planning consent for full all phases, and demolition and first phase build of a new Green Transport Hub.
	Bus Depot Relocation	Relocation of Bus depot to a more suitable site.



Cleethorpes LUF Programme	Sea Road	A 3-storey building constructed at the former Waves site on the corner of Sea Road, comprising public amenities, changing places facility and commercially lettable space across all floors of the building.
	Market Place	New public realm to rebalance relationship between traffic and pedestrians, encouraging wider circulation of people through the town.
	Pier Gardens	14,000 square metre regeneration of the gardens at top of central promenade to make a new destination and a place for everyone.
Sports & Leisure	Play Zones	New build and refurbishment of small-sided pitches.
	Clee Fields - Phase 1 (Wider PPS)	2x 3G pitches, pavilion new build and grass pitch upgrades.
	Hockey Pitch Refurbishment - Ormiston Academies Trust	Refurbishment of Ormiston Maritime Academy hockey pitch in partnership with the Academy.
	Sports Place Partnership	Delivering the Council's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy, supporting residents to lead more physically active lives.
Culture & Heritage	Create North East Lincolnshire (Arts Council and Heritage Fund)	Delivery of ambitious creative activity across NEL, bringing renewed confidence, celebrating history and a green future. Cementing foundations of Grimsby Creates, with a focus on participation and engagement, strengthening partnerships and delivering NEL and ACE's aims as a Priority Place.
	Kasbah Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas II (PSiCA)	Repair grant scheme for tenants in the Kasbah Conservation Area.
	Festival of the Sea 2025	Delivery of Festival of the Sea 2025.
	GFHC: Humber Museum Partnership National Portfolio Organisation and NLHF Dynamic Collection	In 2023, NELC became a member of the Humber Museum Partnership NPO. The 3-year project includes 2 part-time posts, with various project targets included. A further two-year project, based at the Grimsby fishing Heritage Centre is delivering the National Heritage Lottery Fund (NLHF) Dynamic Collections project: 'Documenting Northern Lincolnshire's Local History,' including exhibitions, events, and digital content.
	Stories of the Kasbah: Revealing and Conserving the Heritage of Grimsby Docks	Revealing and celebrating the stories of people who worked in the buildings, including skills workshops.
	Heritage Place Scoping	Development Activity for Heritage Place.
Other activities	UK Shared Prosperity Fund (2025-2026)	Mixed revenue and capital allocation aimed at building pride in place and increasing life chances across the UK.
	High Street Accelerator Pilot & Green Spaces Fund	Victoria Street interventions to activate the high street by improving the look, safety, and activities in the town centre to drive footfall, reduce the number of empty properties and improve perception.
	Long Term Plan for Towns Fund	Capital and revenue fund to support 3 priority strands - Safety and security; Culture, leisure & business; Transport and infrastructure.
	(CCF) Public Art	Funds for public art projects in Cleethorpes. Focus on murals 'Paint Your Town Proud', minor funds allocated to remaining works for Luminations.



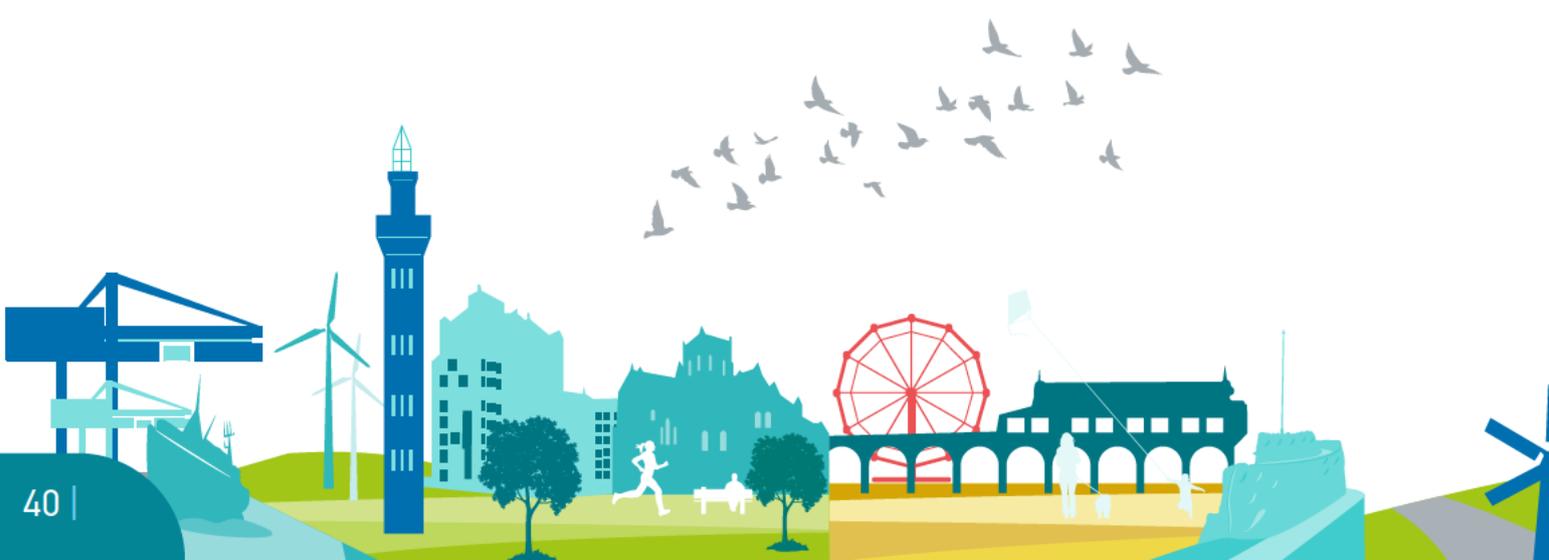
Below are selected **short case studies** to demonstrate some of the key recent regeneration successes.

Scheme 1: Freshney Leisure Scheme	
Scheme Description	<p>The Freshney leisure scheme will create a new destination for leisure on a key gateway adjoining Freshney Place Shopping Centre.</p> <p>It involves land assembly and removing aged detractor buildings on a 1ha site in Grimsby Town Centre.</p> <p>The scheme comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a new 5-screen multiplex cinema, • ancillary leisure and food and beverage space • re-provided 'Top Town' market and food hall, centred around; and • a modern public square. <p>Providing a currently absent leisure offer is critical to town centre sustainability and success, thereby addressing performance declines and long-standing town socio-economic and demographic challenges.</p> 
Scheme Cost	£50m (including £20m LUF, £6.1m Towns Fund and £2.4m Brownfield funding)
Lead	North East Lincolnshire Council
Delivery	2025 – 2027/28
Outputs	<p>The key outputs from the scheme are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New cinema (5 screen) on the current Market Hall plot (1,709 sqm) • New supporting leisure space provided onto Bull Ring Lane (1,356 sqm) • New/Upgraded food and beverage units (four) (1,564 sqm) • Relocated Top Town Market and Food Hall (1,867 sqm) • New Public Square and Events Space (3,468 sqm)  
Outcomes	<p>The Scheme has been designed as a major catalyst for town centre transformation, with all aspects addressing challenges associated with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Extending and Diversifying the Town Centre Leisure Offer – Providing a comprehensive leisure scheme that radically extends the leisure offer, thereby bringing new spending at the core. 2) Responding to Surplus Retail Challenges and Creating an Evening Economy – Consolidating surplus retail and creating a new evening (and daytime) destination 3) Tackling Socio-economic and Demographic Change – Ensuring Grimsby has a competitive attractive offer for residents (particularly younger residents), whilst also supporting town centre vitality to address persistent town deprivation.

Scheme 2: Alexandra Dock Phase 1 housing (formally Garth Lane Housing)	
Scheme Description	



	<p>Alexandra Dock Phase 1 comprises the delivery of 120 new low-carbon homes on the 2.2 ha Garth Lane site at Alexandra Dock, Grimsby</p> <p>The project is being delivered on an NELC-owned vacant waterfront site called Garth Lane, which will be transformed into a new residential district, supported by other leisure and community uses whilst also strategically connecting the town centre more coherently with Alexandra Dock.</p> <p>The scheme will help to reposition the housing market in Grimsby, providing demonstrator housing to prove that low carbon town centre living is in demand locally.</p> <p>Next Phase Alexandra Dock proposals will comprise similar residential development on the opposite side of the Dock.</p>	
Scheme Cost	£30m (£8m public, £21.5 private)	
Lead	North East Lincolnshire Council	
Delivery	By 2028	
Outputs	<p>The key outputs from Alexandra Dock Phase 1 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.2 hectares of brownfield land brought back into productive use. • 3 commercial units providing scope for a mixture of uses complementing the residential site and its' waterfront setting 120 residential units. • £21.5m in private sector investment leveraged 	
Outcomes	<p>The site is located on the edge of the town centre in a waterfront setting and represents a unique development opportunity in terms of both a distinct market proposition and enabling the town to reconnect positively with the waterfront and the activities along it.</p> <p>The scheme links the town centre with the developing OnSide Youth Zone - the former Grade-II Listed West Haven Maltings and Migar House buildings - and the growing water sport and canoeing activity in and around the River Freshney. It acts as a beacon to attract and retain a new demographic profile to Grimsby town centre and a catalyst for wider town centre economic regeneration.</p>	

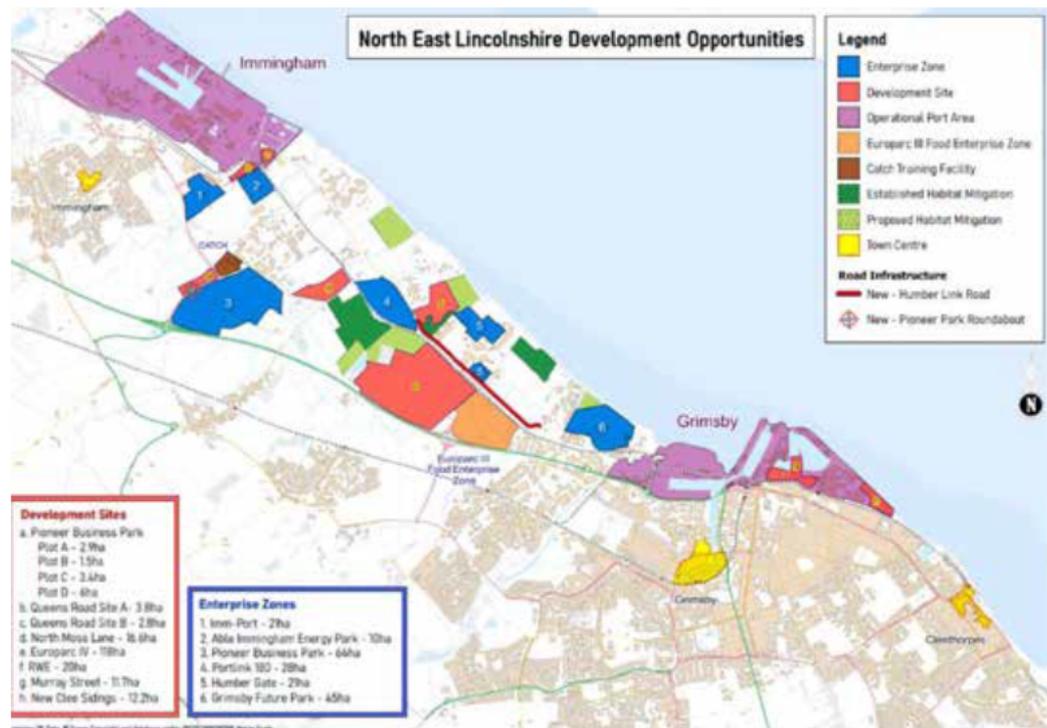


Scheme 3: South Humber Industrial Investment Programme (SHIIP) including Humber Freeport

Scheme Description

The South Humber Industrial Investment Plan is a major 15-year programme of investment enables large-scale economic growth, with a goal of creating a substantial new industrial infrastructure to support the major South Humber ports, reducing environmental constraints by releasing the potential of good-quality development land for employment between the Ports of Immingham and Grimsby.

Developed by North East Lincolnshire Council, the programme facilitates the development of the 'ready-made' Pioneer Business Park and five large Enterprise Zone sites. The SHIIP programme will create 189 hectares (467 acres) of developed land with 489,000sqm of built



floor space, ready to receive investment both domestically and internationally.

The major growth programme is premised on three core propositions along the South Humber Bank, namely:

- **Pioneer Business Park:** The 64-hectare site located between Immingham and Grimsby is an 'oven-ready' park that has already attracted green-energy firm myenergi, and a new £5.5m home for HETA (Humberside Engineering Training Association), with two further plots under offer in the first phase. In 2025, Associated British Ports acquired more than 200 acres of the site, now renamed 'The Helm' to bring forward port related activity and investment.
- **Humber Bank Link Road:** a new £8m highway, completed in 2020, supported by monies from the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) provides a vital link between the ports of Grimsby and Immingham, cutting journey time, providing an alternative to other busier routes and opening up undeveloped land, within the SHIIP and Freeport boundary.
- **Mitigation Schemes:** The jewel in SHIIP's crown are the ecological mitigation sites of Cress Marsh and Novartis Ings. Unique and the only project of its kind in Europe, in 2020 Cress Marsh won the Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment award at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Awards for Planning Excellence.

In 2023, the combined efforts of the four Humber Authorities, in partnership with private industry leaders, were successful in securing Freeport status for the region. The sites within SHIIP all form part of the wider Freeport boundary, and as part of the agreement North East



	<p>Lincolnshire Council (NELC) received £15m Seed Capital Funding to accelerate development and attract new investment to the Humber Freeport with three initiatives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pump prime the development of a Humber Industrial Decarbonisation Centre (HIDC) at the CATCH facility in Stallingborough. • Deliver Infrastructure upgrades to the Humber Gate enterprise zone. • Create a new £10m grant scheme to bridge commercial development viability gaps on speculative units, providing 100,000 sqft of new, quality, industrial space. <p>The SHIIP is ultimately providing key support towards the Humber Freeport, which aims to stimulate economic activity by establishing hubs for global trade and investment, promote regeneration and job creation, and innovation.</p>
Scheme Cost	£33m
Lead	North East Lincolnshire Council
Delivery	2020-ongoing
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120ha of strategic mitigation land. • 2.5km of new adoptable highway. • 489,000sqm built floor space. • 195ha of developable land, 60ha of which is serviced. • Creating 3,000+ jobs
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring a new industrial future • New employment and business capacity • Subsequent effects on economic contributions • Sustainable development • Contributions to Humber Freeport ambitions

Scheme 4: Kasbar Conservation Area Regeneration

Scheme Description

North East Lincolnshire Council, Historic England, and Associated British Ports (ABP) are leading the Grimsby Kasbah regeneration initiative.

The multi-faceted programme has sought to restore historic buildings in the Kasbah conservation area of Grimsby docks, converting former port buildings into creative and commercial spaces, providing grants for businesses and community groups, and bringing new life to the area by preserving its heritage.



The Kasbah sits within The Port of Grimsby. It is an area once famed for being the ‘foremost fishing port in the world’ and contains the ‘highest concentration of surviving smoke houses in the country’ along with a diverse collection of premises built to service the fishing industry. From 2018-2023 it was included in the Greater Grimsby Heritage Action Zone* which made provision for improvements to several of the buildings.

A Kasbah is Arabic for an area, usually a market place, with narrow darkened streets. The area gained Conservation Area Status in 2017.

Key investment include:

- **PSiCA 1 completed in March 2024:** The first Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas (PSiCA) grant scheme successfully concluded, having invested over £1 million to repair and improve 24 historic buildings within the Kasbah.
- **PSiCA 2 launched in January 2025:** A new, three-year grant scheme (PSiCA 2) was approved and opened for applications in early 2025. It continues to offer funding of up to £150,000 per property for eligible repairs and restorations, with expressions of interest and applications already received for several projects.



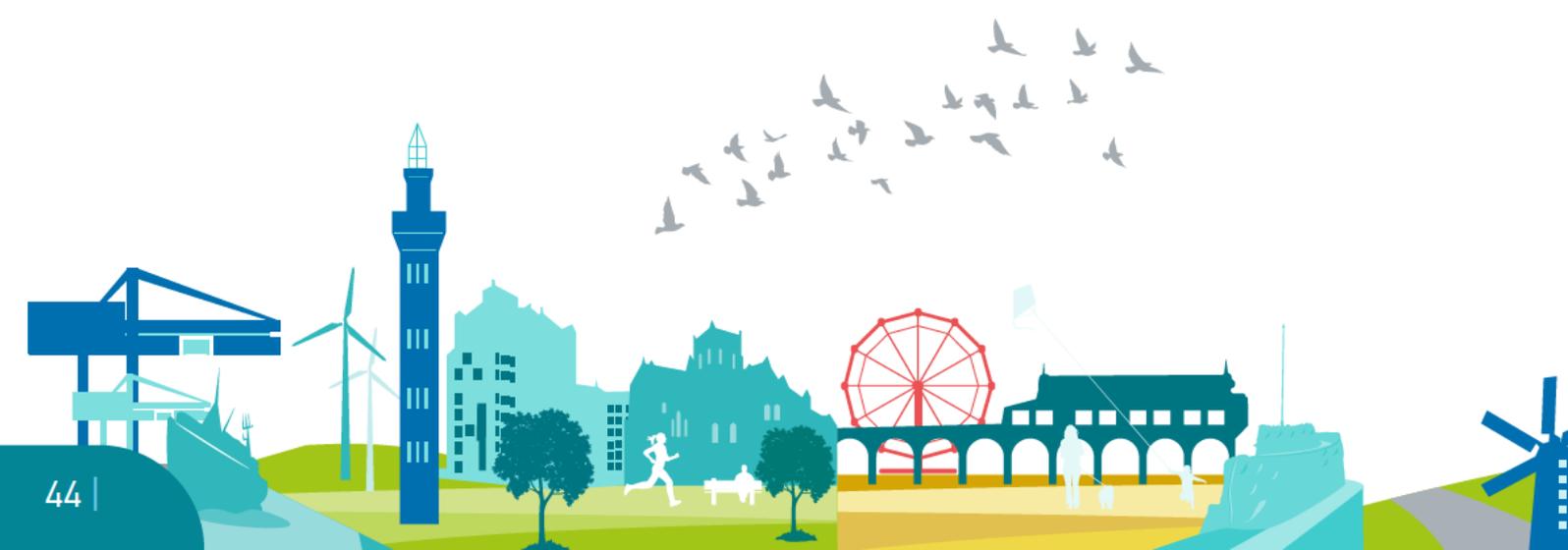
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £437k for arts space: In August 2025, Historic England provided nearly £500,000 in funding for a new arts and community space in the Kasbah. The project will repair and convert two historic buildings into a performance and visual arts studios, arts cafe, event space, and hireable makers' spaces.
Scheme Cost	Various – with funding from Arts Council England, Historic England, Associated British Ports, National Lottery Heritage Fund, North East Lincolnshire Council
Lead	North East Lincolnshire Council
Delivery	2018-ongoing
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple outputs across the different funding streams, with many buildings brought back into use. • The initial PSiCA supported repairs and improvements to 24 buildings, and several key developments have since occurred, including the successful completion of the first phase of funding, the launch of a new grant scheme, and continued progress on arts and community spaces. • 3,611 m2 of commercial floorspace improved / created through PSiCA 1 • 1,425 construction person weeks across the PSiCA 1 projects, and 20 contractors trained in working with lime mortar
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important heritage conservation and tasteful building restoration • New business, arts and cultural space enabled, with associated employment and GVA impacts. • The Peterson's Project, restoration of a Grade II listed Smokehouse, was the catalyst for the Heritage Action Zone, and marked the start of significant funding from National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) in North East Lincolnshire • Strengthen partnerships between public agencies and the private sector. • Transformation of the historic docks into a sustainable commercial and creative hub

Scheme 5: Cleethorpes Levelling Up Fund investments

Scheme Description	<p>Following the 2022 Cleethorpes Masterplan, North East Lincolnshire Council was awarded £18.4m of Government funding in 2024 to transform Cleethorpes seafront.</p> <p>The three projects comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ regenerating Pier Gardens ▪ reintroducing the historic Market Place; and ▪ delivering a multi-use landmark building on Sea Road. <p>The projects will enhance key existing assets that support the whole community, creating opportunities, and making it more attractive to a broader demographic.</p>	
Scheme Cost	£18.4m	
Lead	North East Lincolnshire Council	
Delivery	2024 - 2028	
Outputs	<p><u>Pier Gardens</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival zone and performance zone, including skate park. • Proposed water play area and structural play area under the tree canopy. • Year-round flexible education areas with a more local, community focus • Reflection area zone providing an area for relaxation and contemplation – seating set within naturalistic planting schemes. <p><u>Market Square</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebalancing movement towards active travel • A new green corridor to link St Peters Ave and the seafront. • Enhanced safety and comfort, including improved lighting. 	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating heritage and supporting local businesses • Creating an iconic new destination that celebrates the place. • A flexible space for market and pop events, and including public art. • Alfresco dining opportunities for current and future restaurants/cafes • Seating options for people to linger longer and green infrastructure. <p><u>Sea Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new three-storey landmark building at the former Waves site • State-of-the-art public amenities and changing facilities, • Commercially lettable space e.g. in retail and hospitality.
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Overall, the LUF projects are a key part of implementing the 2022 Masterplan which seeks the transformation of Cleethorpes. Large-scale consultation was undertaken with issues identified included sorting out congestion and parking, better linking up hospitality and shopping, making staycations a better prospect and transforming Market Place. Work has commenced on the 3 LUF projects with Cllr Philip Jackson commenting:</p> <p><i>"... the resort, which is fast becoming the jewel in the crown along the east coast of our country...is attracting growing numbers of people who want to not only visit here but live here too".</i></p>



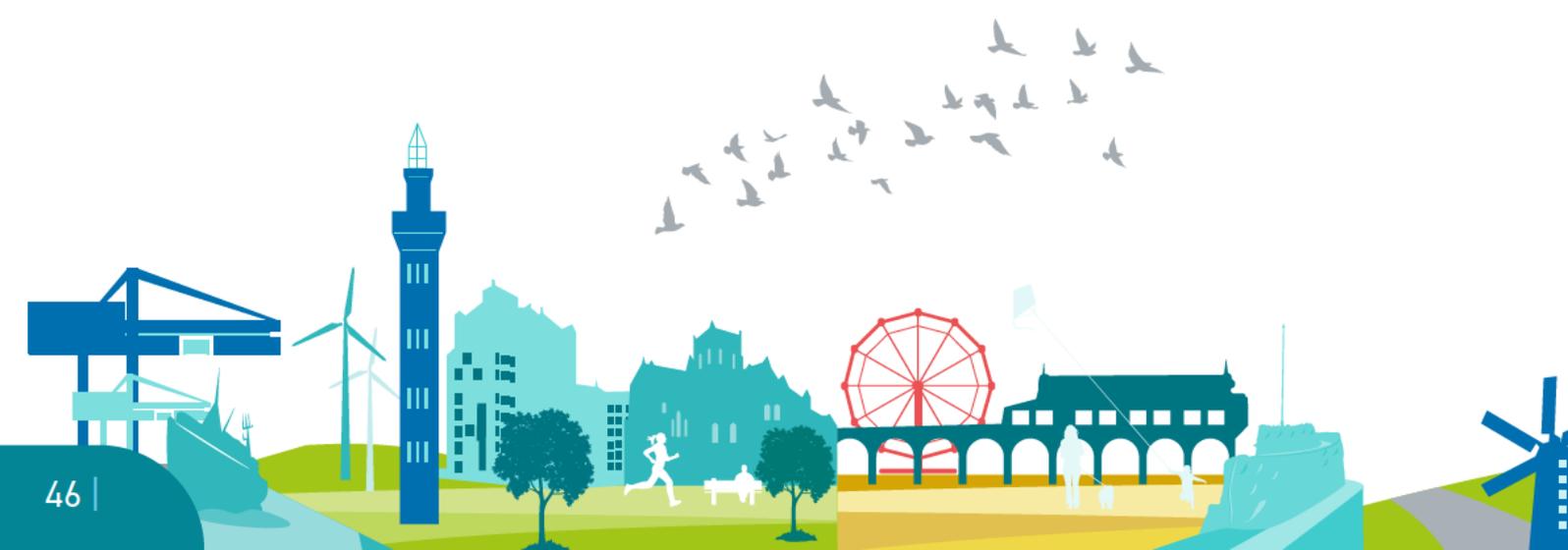


Planned Regeneration

Alongside the £425m+ of investment in a range of major scheme completed (£350m+) or underway (£75m+) over the last decade or so, North East Lincolnshire Council are committed to continued regeneration locally, and the Council is now seeking to progress the next **phase pipeline of schemes**. If progressed, the following schemes outlined in the table below will require investment in the region of £60m-£70m over the coming years.

North East Lincolnshire – Planned Regeneration Initiatives		
Programme	Scheme	Description
Infrastructure and Development	Transport Hub	Planning consent for full all phases of the new Grimsby Transport Hub, plus demolition and first phase build, through to full scheme completion.
	Connectivity	Improvements to pedestrian and cycle routes to better connect the town centre to the underutilised waterfront and Alexandra Dock.
	Bus Electrification	Investment to bring bus electrification to the network.
	Acquisitions around Alexandra Dock/ Duchess Street	Strategic acquisitions to bring assets into control for future Alexandra Dock Phases 2 and 3 plans (major housing growth).
	Grimsby Masterplan refresh and Movement strategy	Commissioning the refresh of the Town Centre Masterplan for Grimsby, reflecting on progress made since the production of the current Masterplan.
	Station Approach Public Realm	Strategic public realm improvements led by rail franchisee First Transpennine Express.
	Former Ticket Office Restoration	Restoration of the listed Ticket Office building on Station Road, owned and managed by Network Rail.
	CATCH expansion (Phase 2)	Major expansion of the longstanding CATCH specialist training campus.
	Manufacturing Zone / Cold storage infrastructure	Delivery of new production and cold storage capacity.
Grimsby Town Centre	Town Centre Living	New town centre aspirational housing, beyond Alexandra Dock.
	Victoria Mill Quarter	Bringing the silo building back into use, further embedding Victoria Quarter success.
	Fishing Heritage Centre / Vessels	Expansion of the Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre.
	GFHC: Humber Museum Partnership NPO Phase 2	Phase 2 of the National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) project, taking NPO membership beyond 2028.
	Grimsby Town Centre Activation	Bringing properties back into use, meanwhile uses, events and activities. Future phases to build on High Street Accelerator pilot investment.
	House of Fraser building	Bringing the current vacant building back into use.
	Grimsby Victoria Street Townscape Heritage programme - Development Phase	Development phase programme to confirm ambition for Victoria Street, including options for an area-based 'shop-front' heritage scheme and external works on key buildings.
	St James House	Investment in improvements to St James House office development.

Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sports	Coastal Heritage Action Zone	Awaiting announcement from Heritage England on a new national Heritage Action Zone programme (HAZ). Lord Parkinson has indicated there will be a coastal HAZ programme.
	Heritage Place	Comprising a range of projects being developed, with a long list of options currently under consideration.
	GFHC: Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND) R4	Stage 1 application (EOI) of a 2-stage process complete, seeking urgent maintenance works for the Ross Tiger and Esther, (historic vessels as part of the NEL Museum Collection), based at the GFHC.
	GFHC: Socialising the Collection	Co-curated project with North Lincolnshire Council to make respective social history collections more relevant and publicly accessible.
	GFHC: Unlocking the Collection	Reinterpret Gallery One (currently themed around navigation) to create a fun, interactive space telling the story of Grimsby's development.
	Sports England Place Partnership Expansion	Potential for Sport England to expand place investment into North East Lincolnshire sport and physical activity.





Part 3: Economic Growth Trajectories

Labour Market Performance

In 2023 Lichfield's was appointed by North East Lincolnshire Council to undertake a Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) for the Borough, including detailed analysis of forecast change in net FTE jobs within the North East Lincolnshire labour market under various scenarios.

Under baseline scenario conditions, taken from leading sector-based Experian forecasts, Litchfield conclude that 4,100 net additional FTE jobs would be supported in North East Lincolnshire's labour market between 2025 and 2043 (the current Local Plan period).

Litchfield's 2025 Update to the HEDNA also includes a 'Regeneration Led' scenario that builds on 'baseline' forecast change and reflects on planned infrastructure and regeneration initiatives locally.

The Regeneration Led scenario has been informed by a good understanding of planned infrastructure and regeneration schemes and through this modelling, Litchfield's conclude that a total of 5,375 net additional FTE jobs would be supported within the North East Lincolnshire Labour market between 2025 and 2043.

This infers that planned regeneration initiatives over the coming years will support a total of around 775 net additional FTE jobs locally, over and above expected wider growth within the labour market.

It is also worth noting that under the baseline scenario, many of the 4,600 net FTEs would also be supported by 'business as usual' regeneration, economic development and business support activities locally, meaning that the effects of targeted support in North East Lincolnshire would likely be significantly higher than the effects of additive regeneration drives.

A prudent but reasonable view would be that around 50% of the net FTEs forming in the baseline will be attributable to local government led activities, with the rest being enabled by private/third party drives.

By this estimate a total of **around 3,075 net additional FTE jobs would be supported in the North East Lincolnshire Labour Market by 2043 owing to local government activities.**

Economic Contribution

In applying relevant local sector-based GVA per FTE benchmarks to the regeneration-led forecast, it is estimated that at peak a total of around £225,000,000 of net additional GVA would be supported yearly within the economy (real terms, 2025 prices), representing a c.6% uplift on current economic contributions by the North East Lincolnshire economy from the 5,365 net FTEs.

When measures against a broad FTE jobs forecast, the net additional FTE jobs would support around £2.423 bn in cumulative net GVA by 2043.

Accepting that some FTEs would be enabled through wider business activities locally, it is estimated that the **effects of local government initiatives could support around 57% of the net cumulative GVA over the period, or £1.386 bn by 2043.**



Part 4: Options Appraisal

Options Appraisal Overview and Approach

A two-stage options appraisal has been completed to identify the preferred strategy.

The options appraisal has included:

1. Stage 1: Scoring of options against the Governments six criteria.
2. Stage 2: Reflections on the effects to the wider North East Lincolnshire economy from progressing change options under review

To help inform the options appraisal, we have:

- (a) identified sensible test options for potential merged Council arrangements within Lincolnshire.
- (b) Completed analysis of key performance indicators to understand distinctions between the areas.
- (c) Reviewed the effects of similar reorganisations nationally to help inform the assessment of economic effects.

Options Assessed and Key Indicators

There are a range of potential reconfiguration arrangements across the Lincolnshire authorities, with the current Unitary Authority model in North East Lincolnshire and neighbouring North Lincolnshire being in place since April 1996, following the devolution of Humberside.

Elsewhere in Greater Lincolnshire, a two-tier system is in place, with the overarching Lincolnshire County Council delivering some services, with the rest being delivered by various district authorities.

Four potential future arrangement options have been considered by blending local areas/districts together.

The shortlisted options are:

1. Option 1 – North East Lincolnshire remains a standalone Unitary Authority (1 area)
2. Option 2 – North and North East Lincolnshire merge to form a Northern Lincolnshire Authority (2 areas)
3. Option 3 – North East Lincolnshire and East Lindsey merge (2 areas)
4. Option 4 – North and North East Lincolnshire and East and West Lindsey merge (4 areas)

The shortlisted options are shown on the maps overleaf.

Options			
Option 1: North East Lincolnshire as a standalone Unitary (Business as Usual)	Option 2: Northern Lincolnshire – North and North East Lincolnshire	Option 3: North East Lincolnshire and East Lindsey	Option 4: North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, East Lindsey and West Lindsey
			

The following underlying key indicators have been assessed to help inform the options process.

Key indicator Summary – All Districts	North East Lincolnshire	North Lincolnshire	East Lindsey	West Lindsey	All Areas – blended
Population (2024)	159,911	171,336	145,183	99,208	575,638
Area (km ²)	193	847	1767	1,156	3,963
Population Density, people per km	829	202	82	86	145
FTE jobs	67,400	77,000	50000	31,000	226,000
Jobs Density - FTEs per 100 16–64-year-olds	70.5	75.8	63.2	54.0	55.7
GVA (2023)	£4.357bn	£5.577bn	£2.876bn	£2.059bn	£14.765bn
GVA per capita	£27,246	£32,550	£19,809	£20,754	£25,649.80
GVA per FTE	£64,668	£72,429	£57,520	£66,419	£65,332
Housing Stocks (2024)	75,370	77,725	46,615	46,615	246,325
Net Housing Supply over 10 years	+2,308	+3,285	+5,755	+5,330	+16,677
Housing Supply – 10-yr supply as a % of stocks	+3.1%	+4.2%	+12.3%	+11.4%	+6.8%
Tax Take per Capita (2024/25)	£1,001	£1,177	£951	£912	£1,026
Deprivation Rank (2019, 1=most deprived)	66 of 317	120 of 317	30 of 317	146 of 317	n/a
Health Index Score, higher is better	93.6	98.3	85.3	106.7	n/a

Options Assessment

The following table presents the findings of the options assessment – backed by robust evidence at hand. The Options process itself has been based on the Government’s criteria across the 6 core areas and various underlying considerations.

Each option has been scored (0-4) based on how well-aligned the option is with the ambition and intended outcomes. This simple scoring exercise has enabled options to be ranked to determine the Preferred Option.

The scoring parameters are outlined in the table below.

Scoring	
0	Does not meet objectives and intended outcomes / no fit
1	Unlikely to meet objective and intended outcomes / poor fit
2	May partially meet objective and intended outcomes / some fit
3	Meets objective and intended outcomes / good fit
4	Already in place / objectives already met



North East Lincolnshire Council – LGR Review – Options Appraisal								
	Option Scoring				Rationale			
	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
					North East Lincs remains a standalone Unitary (BAU)	Northern Lincolnshire – NEL and NL	Coastal Lincolnshire – NEL and East Lindsey	North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, East Lindsey and West Lindsey
1. Single Tier of Local Government.								
Sensible Economic Area - Economic Focus	4	2	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEL retains a strong economic focus on production and ports-related industries. Centralised core (Grimsby) with heavy production focus in Immingham and a linked seaside resort town (Cleethorpes) Current commuting trends reflect a functional economic market area (FEMA) 81% of working residents work locally. Strong focus on micro-businesses requiring very localised business support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complementary sector strengths including in ports/logistics, linked to Humber Estuary Limited labour market interactions between the two areas – less than 8% of residents in either area work in the other area Operates as two FEMAs with some overlap among large industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disparate larger centres (Grimsby/Cleethorpes and Skegness), although coastal resort town links Very limited labour market interactions – just 3% of EL’s working residents work in NEL, and vice versa. Very different economic focus with separate FEMAs – heavy industry, coastal resorts, rural market towns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large area covered, including three large centres (Grimsby/Cleethorpes, Scunthorpe and Skegness) Very limited labour market interactions Very different economic focus and separate FEMAs – heavy industry, coastal resorts, rural market towns
Functional Interactions - Connectivity	4	3	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal connectivity is reasonably strong. Boundaries broadly align with functional travel patterns, albeit a reasonably tightly drawn local area boundary Supports effective place-based infrastructure investment and transport planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East-west connectivity is dominant. Well-connected by road and rail (M18, rail link) Boundaries broadly align with functional travel patterns, which would support place-based infrastructure investment and transport planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong east-west connectivity from NEL, but reasonably poor from EL Poor north-south connectivity – single A-road connecting Grimsby to Skegness (via Louth) Boundaries would not align with functional travel patterns, creating disconnected 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong east-west connectivity, Relatively poor north-south connectivity Boundaries would not align with functional travel patterns, creating large, disconnected geographies that undermine transport coherence. Very poor diagonal connectivity (i.e. Scunthorpe



										to Skegness, Grimsby to Gainsborough)
Appropriate Tax Base	4	3	3	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-standing effective tax systems in place generating significant revenues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar tax-takes across authorities on a per capita basis offers opportunity to align 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some disparities in current tax takes when assessed on a per-capita basis, but possible to align. Offers some opportunities to better pool resources where needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant disparities in current tax takes when assessed on a per-capita basis. Offers some opportunities to better pool resources where needed 		
Helps increase housing supply	4	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEL has increased housing supply by 3.1% over the past 10 years. Reasonably 'static' population diminishes housing needs locally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both areas have delivered good net housing supply over the past decade to meet housing needs Housing viability challenges common to both areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modest net housing supply in NEL and very strong net housing supply in EL over the past 10 years, albeit from a low housing base. 6.6% increase in stocks over 10 years when blended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All areas have witnessed significant net housing supply over the past decade, particularly EL and WL 6.8% increase in stocks over 10 years when blended 		
Better Local Outcomes	4	3	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEL continues to recover from major post-industrial decline legacy challenges. Ongoing efforts are helping to bring a new economic future, but performance in some areas still lags. Transformation underway – good history of securing funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar legacy challenges facing both authorities, but both are progressing place-based regeneration strategies seeking transformation of performance. Pooling of resources may bring some improvements, particularly in conforming known growth opportunities (Freeport, Energy Hub, Offshore Wind etc.) Transformation underway – good history of securing funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very different economies with different challenges Pooling of resources unlikely to radically tackle underlying structural issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very different economies with different challenges Pooling of resources unlikely to radically tackle underlying structural issues Access to services may be more limited is streamlined delivery models delivered from more centralised hub locations (Grimsby, Scunthorpe, Louth, Skegness and Lincoln) 		
Positive Cost/Benefit	4	3	3	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of economy significant outstrips Council spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of economy would also similarly outstrip any service spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of economy would also outstrip any service spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value of economy would also outstrip any service spending 		
Effective Structures / Democracy	4	2	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-embedded UA structures in place since UA formation in 1996 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New structures would need establishing, with known competing political interests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New structures would need establishing, with known competing political interests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New structures would need establishing, with known competing political interests 		
2. The Right Size										
Meets 500k guide	0	1	1	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEL population is 159,911 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combined population of 331,247 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combined population of 305,094 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combined population of 575,638 		



<p>Identifiable Efficiencies / best VfM</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Continuous working to identify efficiencies in service delivery and governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some potential for greater efficiencies in governance and delivery. Some shared services in place (business rates) but some past shared service models have not been effective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require reorganisation of service models and better tie-in of governance arrangements. Past shared service models have not been successful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced overall economy that may be slightly more resilient to shocks, but FEMAs would likely still remain separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management Relationship with Humber retained to mitigate against shocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant financial reorganisation, but both UA's have long-standing financial systems in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for some efficiencies in governance and delivery arrangements 			
<p>Manageable Transition</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>No significant transition requires, arrangements in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require reorganisation of service models and better tie-in of governance arrangements. Past shared service models have not been successful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced economy, but again FEMAs would be separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management, although somewhat limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced economy, but again FEMAs would be separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation of service models and better tie-in of governance arrangements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation of service models and better tie-in of governance arrangements 			
<p>Right Size to absorb shocks</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Proven record of managing economic shocks – Financial Downturn, Covid, Energy Crisis, Cost of Living Crisis etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some inevitable exposure to macro-economic conditions / externalities, but local response plans in place Business diversification agendas underway Relationship with Humber maintained to mitigate against shocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced overall economy that may be slightly more resilient to shocks, but FEMAs would likely still remain separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management Relationship with Humber retained to mitigate against shocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced economy, but again FEMAs would be separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management, although somewhat limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced economy, but again FEMAs would be separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant financial reorganisation, but both UA's have long-standing financial systems in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would result in a more balanced economy, but again FEMAs would be separated, so unlikely to bring significant additional resilience. Some economies of scale possible in terms of response management 			
<p>Finance on firm footing</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Pre-existing financial management systems in place, balancing Council budgets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant financial reorganisation, but both UA's have long-standing financial systems in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant financial reorganisation, but both UA's have long-standing financial systems in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require significant reorganisation and agreement over financial priorities, but all Councils have existing financial management in place 			
<p>3. Quality Sustainable Public Services</p>						<p>Avoids service fragmentation</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Mitigates change in services and builds on continued existing cross-service working patterns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would better align service provision across both areas in longer term. Distributes areas of deprivation and service demand evenly across areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would better align service provision across both areas in the longer term. Distributes areas of deprivation and service demand evenly across areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would better align service provision across all areas. Distributes areas of deprivation and service demand evenly across areas. Risks temporary service fragmentation



					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risks some temporary service fragmentation Provides opportunity for service reform and economies of scale, albeit untested Would require significant merging of services, with shared service models previously tested and failed. Planning for transition may mitigate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risks temporary service fragmentation Provides opportunities for service reform and economies of scale, albeit untested Would require significant service reorganisation, which is less well-aligned to wider services (Police and Health) Planning for transition may mitigate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides opportunities for service reform and economies of scale, albeit untested Would require significant service reorganisation, which is less well-aligned to wider services (Police and Health) Planning for transition may mitigate 	
4. Meeting Local Needs								
Addresses Local Concerns (known or potential)	4	2	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigates any public concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for significant public concerns over service changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for significant public concerns over services change, particularly regarding changes between urban, rural and coastal communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for significant public concerns over services change, particularly regarding changes between urban, rural and coastal communities
Local Identity	4	3	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains local identity and sense of place. Avoids reputation risk of increased bureaucracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds on northern Lincolnshire identity, but potential for some erosion of distinct town identities locally – Grimsby vs Scunthorpe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for Lincolnshire Coast identity building, but again some erosion of very distinct local identities – Grimsby vs Skegness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds on Lincolnshire identity, but again some erosion of very distinct local identities – Grimsby vs Scunthorpe and ‘north’ and ‘south’ Lincolnshire identities. Would be a challenging area to adequately define and build a place-identity for
Cultural / Historic importance	4	3	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains cultural significance, including ports/fishing/coastal resort legacies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some complementarities over Humber Estuary/importance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited cultural links between areas, although seaside town significance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very limited cultural links between NEL and others
5. Supports Devolution Arrangements								
Helps unlock devolution	4	2	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains ability to secure devolution settlement on local priorities. Maintains relationship with the Strategic Authority Maintains devolution arrangements with town and parish councils / services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has potential to pool resources and unlock a greater devolution settlement? Introduces complexity and imbalance, diluting the capacity of authorities to make voting decisions (2 votes becomes 1) making majority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has potential to pool resources and target investment where needed from a larger devolution settlement. Introduces complexity and imbalance, diluting the capacity of existing authorities to make voting decisions (2 votes becomes 1) making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has potential to pool resources and target investment where needed from a larger devolution settlement. Introduces complexity and imbalance, diluting the capacity of existing authorities to make voting



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains balanced voting rights and influence /lobbying power in wider agendas (TFN etc.) Reasonably 'dense' urban area, but good balance and distinctiveness between towns – Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Immingham have different offers – and some rural areas. Population density held at 829 people per km2 	voting more difficult to achieve across Lincolnshire	majority voting more difficult to achieve	decisions (4 votes becomes 1) making majority voting more difficult to achieve	
Population balance / size ratio	4	3	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would shift more towards an urban - rural balance. Two core towns (Grimsby/Cleethorpes and Scunthorpe) would result in a more polycentric area. Population density would be 319 people per km2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would create a population imbalance whereby most people would live at the northern end/Humber banks, with vast rural areas to the South. Core towns (Grimsby/Cleethorpes, Louth, Skegness) would result in a more polycentric area. Would have an overall population density of 156 people per km2 which would be relatively 'sparse' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would create a population imbalance whereby most people would live at the northern end/Humber banks, with vast rural areas to the South. Core towns (Grimsby/Cleethorpes, Scunthorpe, Louth, Skegness and Gainsborough) would result in a more polycentric area, but most core towns would be 'on the edges'. Would have an overall population density of 145 people per km2, which would be relatively 'sparse' 	
6. Strong Community Engagement / Neighbourhood Empowerment.								
Empowered Localism	4	3	3	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retains continued drives for local decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would lead to some loss of local decision-making, although of a scale where this would likely be manageable. Some smaller towns may be overlooked by having more dominant settlements (Brigg, Gainsborough, Immingham etc.) Offer some potential for a stronger regional voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would lead to some loss of local decision-making, although of a scale where this would likely be manageable. Some smaller towns may be overlooked by having more dominant settlements (Immingham, Mablethorpe, Horncastle etc.) Offer some potential for a stronger regional voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would lead to significant loss of very local decision-making across individual areas. Some communities may inevitably have a reduced voice in local decision making - small market or seaside towns may be more overlooked. Does however offer potential for a stronger regional voice
All communities reached	4	3	2	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of a scale where all communities can feel heard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of a larger Council being less effective in engaging some communities, particularly in smaller market and coastal towns and communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk of a larger Council being less effective in engaging some communities, particularly in smaller market and coastal towns and communities 	
Total Score	82	54	44	39				



Potential Economic Implications – Change Options

To strengthen the options analysis, we have considered the potential implications of the three change options on the performance of the North East Lincolnshire economy over the short-medium and longer terms – this is largely premised on an understanding on the effectiveness of any arrangements to help shape and influence wider economic outcomes.

This evidence is summarised in the table below, which shows (a) potential positive or adverse economic outcomes in each option alongside the (b) likely magnitude of impacts.

Change Options – Potential Impacts on the North East Lincolnshire Economy						
Potential Economic Outcomes	Positive /Adverse	Change Options affected				Magnitude of Impact
		Op2: NEL & NL	Op3: NEL & EL	Op4: NEL, NL, EL & WL		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some FTE jobs losses through Council delivery efficiencies (NEL and others), with subsequent impact on local labour markets and GVA contributions 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inevitable slow down in planning decisions over the short-medium term (2-3 years), as new structures become embedded, leading to prolonged development outcomes being achieved 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-medium term impacts on business confidence, owing to uncertainties on progressing business operations in the wider business community, with unknowns in terms of tax demands, planning environment and joined up services 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts on housing and commercial developer confidence due to uncertainties of reorganisation impacts 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term impact on Council finances, resulting in asset disposal as a means to raise revenues. This may open new development opportunities, but limit the effectiveness of Council strategic regeneration drives 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges in engaging business representatives though non-alignment of business structures (Chamber, Freeport, Energy Board at Humber level etc.), with subsequent challenges in actioning business priorities locally 	Adverse		Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for reduced social support over the short-medium term owing to a need for structural reorganisation, leading to the potential for some reduced health, wellbeing and employment support outcomes – this may adversely impact on the levels of deprivation among communities 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A longer-term regeneration focus on larger settlement development with a loss of focus on some smaller towns/communities particularly in rural areas 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longer-term potential for securing a greater settlement through devolution with enhanced funding for future regeneration, albeit spread over a much wider area 	Positive	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for a greater regional voice in decision-making, with potential to have a greater influence over future priorities 	Positive	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for service efficiencies over the longer term, leading to some cost savings to support future regeneration drives 	Positive	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential to better target services and regeneration to areas of need, with longer term tackling of deprivation hotspots 	Positive	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for increased bureaucracy making it more challenging to bring changes in service delivery models, with adverse effects on efficiency drives and reduced social and economic outcomes 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Low	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destabilised markets owing to a need for reorganisation of commissioning/procurement, potentially leading to fewer but larger public contracts being available. This may push up provider costs through reduced competition 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges in case making for small areas when assessed on a wider more balanced economy basis (i.e. Pride in Places) 	Adverse	Y	Y	Y	Medium	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for improved ability to manage shocks 	Positive	Y	Y	Y	Low	



Options Appraisal Conclusion

The options appraisal process has identified clear differences between the economic and cultural focus of North East Lincolnshire and its neighbouring areas and fundamental differences between pre-existing systems and regimes in place, in part driven by political legacies across the Yorkshire and Humber and East Midlands regions, but also from the effects of local decision making on service arrangements over the past c.29 years.

The appraisal process has concluded that North East Lincolnshire remaining as a standalone Unitary Authority would represent the best outcome for businesses and the community.

Key messages include:

1. North East Lincolnshire Council serves an area that is a very clear Functional Economic Market Area
2. Reorganisation across regions (Yorkshire and Humber/Humber and East Midlands) would create a significant disconnect between other agency arrangements – including the Police, Fire Services, Ambulance Services and the NHS, all of which operate at Humber and Lincolnshire levels.
3. Most of the intended outcomes from Local Governance reorganisation have already been achieved in North East Lincolnshire and this is a testament to embedded Council structures over the past 29 years.
4. There are significant technical challenges in merging authorities, including for tax, pensions, procurement, service delivery models and democratic processes, and the likely cost and time needed for this would impact on the effectiveness of North East Lincolnshire Council (and others) to delivery its service offer.
5. North East Lincolnshire has made great strides in building a new economic future, and there are a range of potential adverse economic effects from reorganisation that could destabilise efforts underway, with knock-on effects on economic performance locally.

As such, we have identified the **Preferred Option for North East Lincolnshire to remain as a standalone Unitary Authority**.



Part 5: Potential Effects on Growth Outcomes

The appraisal process has identified clear short-longer term adverse effects on growth outcomes from any reorganisation. Beyond the likelihood of direct Council job losses as a result of efficiency drives, the greatest effects will be felt among the wider business community.

North East Lincolnshire is on course to building a new industrial future, building on the successful regeneration initiatives completed over the last 5 or so years, underway or planned.

Continuing strong public-private sector-based partnerships, whilst also avoiding unnecessary uncertainty among the business community will be critical to maintaining momentum, but the effects of any local government reorganisation would inevitably adversely impact on business confidence, with the potential to limit or delay growth outcomes being achieved.

As forecast, around 5,375 net additional FTE jobs are expected within the North East Lincolnshire labour market by 2043, supporting around £2.423 bn in cumulative net GVA over the next 18 years (by 2043), and as such even just a small loss in momentum could be significant.

Clearly there are inevitably uncertainties in the scale of adverse economic effects that may be witnessed through the potential loss of business confidence in any reorganisation scenario, but the table below nevertheless demonstrates the scale of potential adverse effects on forecast growth from just a small downturn in performance.

Potential economic effects from business uncertainty.	
	Effects on Forecast Growth Outcomes by 2043 – Change on Regeneration Led Scenario
Regeneration-led scenario net GVA by 2043	£2.423bn
Scenario 1: -5% in outcomes	-£151m
Scenario 2: 2-year delay in outcomes	-£496m
Scenario 3: Mix of scenario 1 and 2	-£592m

Accepting that there may be some efficiencies and a small upturn in some performance areas from reorganisation, we consider that the effects of destabilising business confidence locally would likely far outstrip any economic efficiencies elsewhere.



Part 6: Summary and Conclusions

Current Dynamics

North East Lincolnshire has been a **Unitary Authority with borough status since 1996**, and since then North East Lincolnshire Council has been serving the area, which continues to operate as a **well-rounded natural Function Economic Market Area** underpinned by **strong public-private sector-based partnerships**.

Regeneration Story

Major transformative regeneration complete or underway is **building a new economic future** for North East Lincolnshire, and although legacy post-industrial decline challenges remain, there is very positive signs of **strong business performance** among the local business community over the past decade.

Next-phase **major planned growth** will extend this success, and by 2043 is it forecast that **around 5,375 net additional FTE jobs will be supported within the North East Lincolnshire labour market, contributing £2.423 bn in cumulative net GVA over the next 18 years**.

The effect of new employment is expected to bring significant benefit to communities locally and **sustained momentum is considered critical** to addressing legacy challenges.

Options Appraisal

A **detailed options appraisal** has considered the merits of various Council reconfigurations across Greater Lincolnshire, including for North East Lincolnshire remaining a standalone Unitary Authority.

The options process identifies **clear differences between the economic and cultural focus of North East Lincolnshire and its neighbouring areas** and **fundamental differences between pre-existing systems and regimes in place**, in part driven by political legacies across the Yorkshire and Humber and East Midlands regions, but also from the effects of local decision-making on service arrangements developed over the past 29 years.

Key messages include:

- North East Lincolnshire Council serves an area that is a very clear Functional Economic Market Area
- Reorganisation across regions (Yorkshire and Humber/Humber and East Midlands) would create a significant disconnect between other agency arrangements – including the Police, Fire Services, Ambulance Services and the NHS, all of which operate at Humber and Lincolnshire levels.
- Most of the intended outcomes from Local Governance reorganisation have already been achieved in North East Lincolnshire and this is a testament to embedded Council structures over the past 29 years.
- There are significant technical challenges in merging authorities, including for tax, pensions, procurement, service delivery models and democratic processes, and the likely cost and time needed for this would impact on the effectiveness of North East Lincolnshire Council (and others) to delivery its service offer.
- North East Lincolnshire has made great strides in building a new economic future, and there are a range of potential adverse economic effects from reorganisation that could destabilise efforts underway, with knock-on effects on economic performance locally.

The appraisal process concludes that **North East Lincolnshire remaining as a standalone Unitary Authority would represent the best outcome for businesses and the community**.



Appendix I - Evidence

North East Lincolnshire Residents

Demography

ONS Population Estimates: Total Population

Date	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
2015	159,140	92,125	147,230	192,543
2016	158,877	92,260	147,664	193,154
2017	158,699	92,306	147,796	194,604
2018	158,460	92,288	148,076	194,996
2019	157,957	92,401	148,368	195,092
2020	157,313	92,202	147,919	194,524
2021	157,188	92,575	147,919	194,775
2022	157,842	94,161	148,987	194,500
2023	158,663	95,942	150,124	Not available
2024	159,911	98,180	151,393	Not available
Change 2015 to 2022	-1,298	2,036	1,757	1,957
Change 2015 to 2024	771	6,055	-	-

Key points

- North East Lincolnshire's population fell between 2015 and 2022.
- Over the same period the population of the comparator areas (Hartlepool, South Tyneside and Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth) grew by between 1 and 2.3%.
- All areas (including NEL) have seen populations grow more rapidly over the last two years, possibly due to increased levels of inwards migration.

ONS Population Estimates: Population by Age

Date	North East Lincolnshire			Hartlepool		
	Aged 0 - 15	Aged 16 - 64	Aged 65+	Aged 0 - 15	Aged 16 - 64	Aged 65+
2015	30,001	98,108	31,031	17,584	57,379	17,162
2016	30,041	97,490	31,346	17,661	57,297	17,302
2017	30,159	96,880	31,660	17,727	57,075	17,504
2018	30,236	96,246	31,978	17,773	56,760	17,755
2019	30,017	95,466	32,474	17,856	56,587	17,958
2020	29,692	94,833	32,788	17,685	56,435	18,082
2021	29,361	94,787	33,040	17,612	56,627	18,336
2022	29,344	95,031	33,467	17,802	57,617	18,742
2023	29,574	95,151	33,938	18,147	58,719	19,076
2024	29,713	95,608	34,590	18,544	59,988	19,648
Change 2015 to 2022	-657	-3,077	2,436	218	238	1,580
Change 2015 to 2024	-288	-2,500	3,559	960	2,609	2,486

Date	South Tyneside			Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth		
	Aged 0 - 15	Aged 16 - 64	Aged 65+	Aged 0 - 15	Aged 16 - 64	Aged 65+
2015	25,554	92,603	29,073	33,649	158,894	46,270
2016	25,901	92,331	29,432	33,724	159,430	46,826
2017	26,129	92,027	29,640	34,030	160,574	47,551
2018	26,440	91,718	29,918	34,016	160,980	48,018
2019	26,529	91,392	30,447	33,730	161,362	48,637
2020	26,410	90,881	30,628	33,158	161,366	48,765
2021	26,521	90,338	31,060	32,937	161,838	49,068
2022	26,736	90,737	31,514	32,818	161,682	49,650
2023	26,951	91,248	31,925	Not available	Not available	Not available
2024	26,991	91,863	32,539	Not available	Not available	Not available
Change 2015 to 2022	1,182	-1,866	2,441	-831	2,788	3,380
Change 2015 to 2024	1,437	-740	3,466	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

Key points

- Between 2015 and 2022, there have been falls in the number of people in both the 0-15 and 16-65 age bands in North East Lincolnshire, suggesting a falling birth rate, ageing population and the outwards migration of working families.
- Over the same period, the number of people aged 65+ grew in all areas (including NEL).
- Between 2015 and 2022, the age profile of comparator areas remained relatively stable by comparison.



Labour Market performance

Economic Activity

In common with comparator areas, the economic activity rate is lower than a decade ago. **However, the decline in North East Lincolnshire in economic activity over the last 10 years is lower than comparators.** In the year to December 2024, the economic activity rate in North East Lincolnshire was 75.5%, compared to 77.2% in the year to December 2015, a fall of 1.7 percentage points (pp). This compares to a fall of 1.8pp in Hartlepool and 7.4pp in South Tyneside. There was a 1.7%pp increase in Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft, as a result of an increase in Great Yarmouth, although overall economic activity rates are lower there.

Individual years can provide anomalous results and so it is helpful to look at the 3-year averages. The most recent 3-year working age economic activity average (Jan 2022-Dec 2024) was 75.6% in North East Lincolnshire, compared to 70.1% in Hartlepool and 70.8% in South Tyneside. Of the comparators, only Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft is higher than North East Lincolnshire, at 76.7%.

Economic Activity Rates (% of working age population, 16-64)	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft
Jan 2016- Dec 2018	75.8%	71.2%	75.0%	76.3%
Jan 2019- Dec 2021	75.4%	73.4%	73.9%	78.0%
Jan 2022- Dec 2024	75.6%	70.8%	70.1%	76.7%
Average (2015-2025)	75.8%	71.8%	73.4%	77.0%

Key points:

- Working age economic activity rates are good when compared to similar areas, consistently above those in both Hartlepool and South Tyneside. Rates are higher than in Great Yarmouth, although lower than in Lowestoft.
- Economic activity rates have remained fairly consistent in North East Lincolnshire, at a time when rates have fallen in Hartlepool and South Tyneside.

Employment Rate

Similarly, **North East Lincolnshire compares favourably with comparators for its most recent 3-year employment rate.** The rate was 71.7% in North East Lincolnshire Jan 2022-Dec 2024, compared to 67.4% in Hartlepool and 64.0% in South Tyneside. Again, only Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft amongst the comparators performed better (at 73.4%), where it is Lowestoft (78.4%) that performs better than Great Yarmouth (68.5%). Indeed, North East Lincolnshire performs better for its employment rate than Great Yarmouth.

Employment Rates (% of working age population, 16-64)	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft
Jan 2016- Dec 2018	71.3%	63.5%	69.0%	71.8%
Jan 2019- Dec 2021	71.9%	67.7%	68.6%	74.8%
Jan 2022- Dec 2024	72.3%	67.4%	64.0%	73.8%
Average (2015-2025)	71.7%	66.0%	67.5%	73.4%

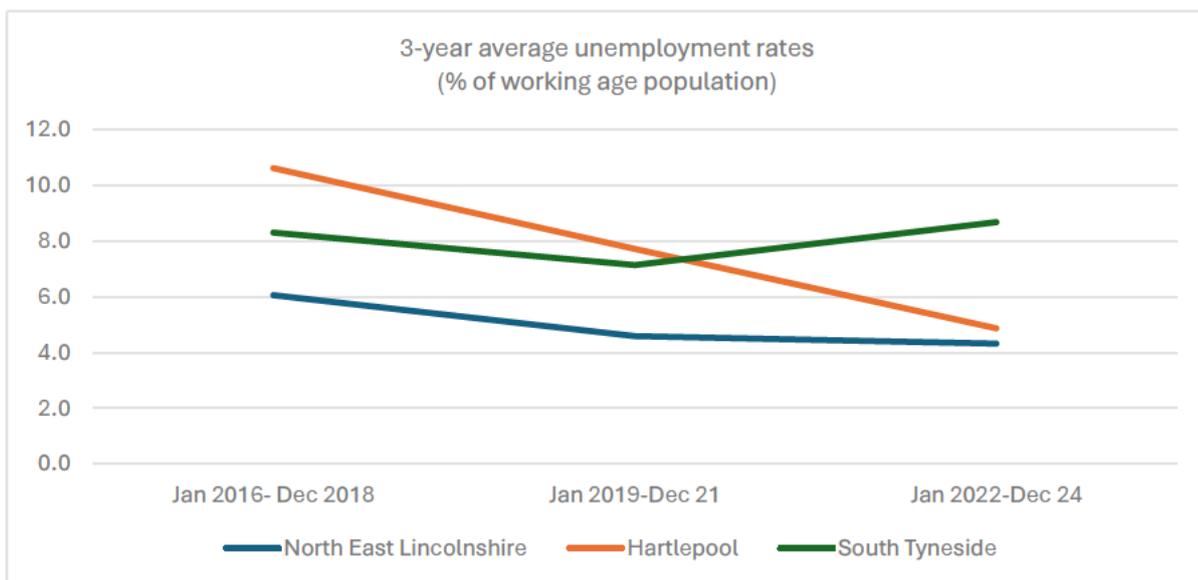
- Working age employment rates are good when compared to similar areas, consistently above those in both Hartlepool and South Tyneside. Rates are higher than in Great Yarmouth, although lower than in Lowestoft.
- Again, employment rates have remained fairly consistent in North East Lincolnshire, at a time when rates have fallen in some other areas, notably South Tyneside.



Unemployment Rate

The pattern for unemployment rates is similar to those for economic activity and for employment rates i.e., **North East Lincolnshire compares favourably with both Hartlepool and South Tyneside.** Recent data are not available for Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft. The unemployment rate was 4.3% in North East Lincolnshire Jan 2022-Dec 2024, compared to 4.9% in Hartlepool and 8.7% in South Tyneside.

Unemployment Rates (% of working age population, 16-64)	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft
Jan 2016- Dec 2018	6.1%	10.6%	8.3%	6.0%
Jan 2019- Dec 2021	4.6%	7.7%	7.1%	n/a
Jan 2022- Dec 2024	4.3%	4.9%	8.7%	n/a
Average (2015-2025)	5.3%	8.0%	8.0%	n/a



where rates in both Hartlepool and South Tyneside have been twice those of North East Lincolnshire in some 3-year periods.

Earnings

Resident-based Earnings

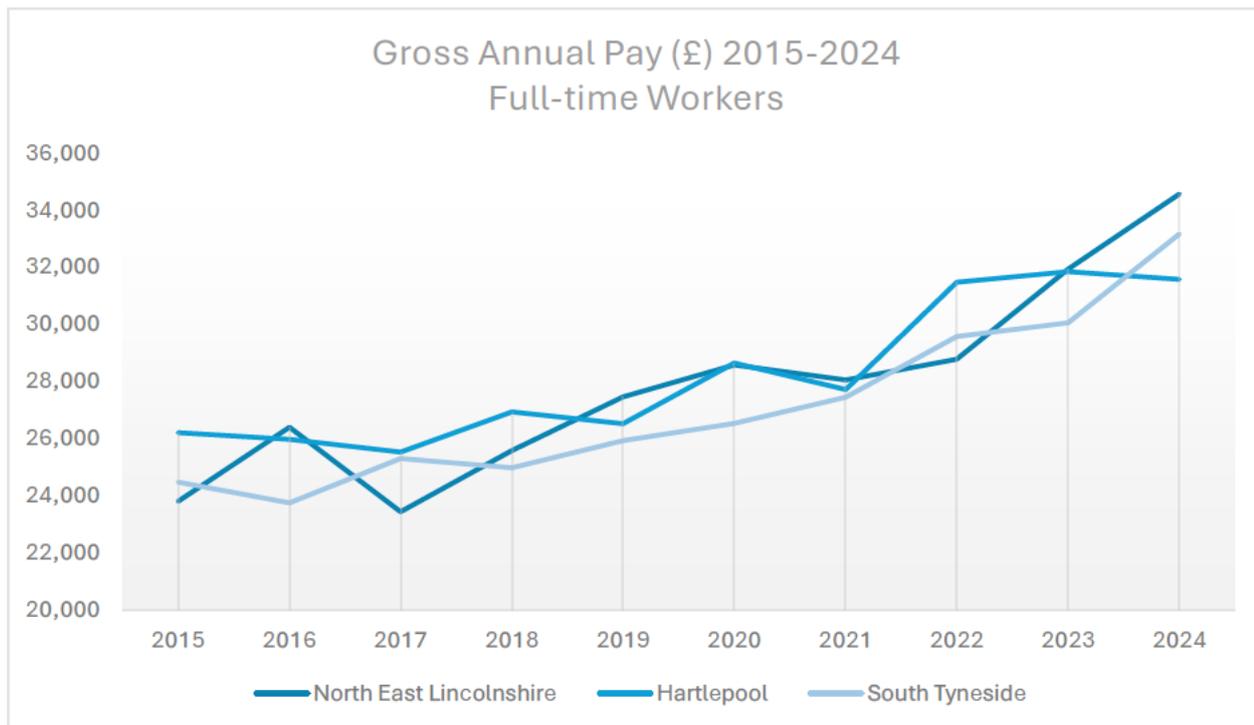
Those resident in North East Lincolnshire have a higher gross annual level of pay than comparator areas. In 2024, the annual gross pay was £34,575 for full-time workers, above each of the comparator areas. Average gross annual pay is 10% higher than in Hartlepool, reflecting the prevalence of higher paid jobs held by North East Lincolnshire residents, including those in engineering.

Annual Pay (Gross), 2024 (Residence-based)	Annual Gross Pay (median) Full Time Workers
North East Lincolnshire	£34,575
Hartlepool	£31,584
South Tyneside	£33,172
Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft	n/a
Great Yarmouth	£33,048
Lowestoft	£31,353



Average annual gross pay for full-time workers has increased by 45% since 2015 (up from £23,798), more than double the increase in Hartlepool of 21%, and well above the increase in South Tyneside of 35%. No other time series data is available for Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft. Increases in North East Lincolnshire full-time worker pay has been most marked between 2022 and 2024.

Change in Annual Pay (Gross) over time, 2015-2024



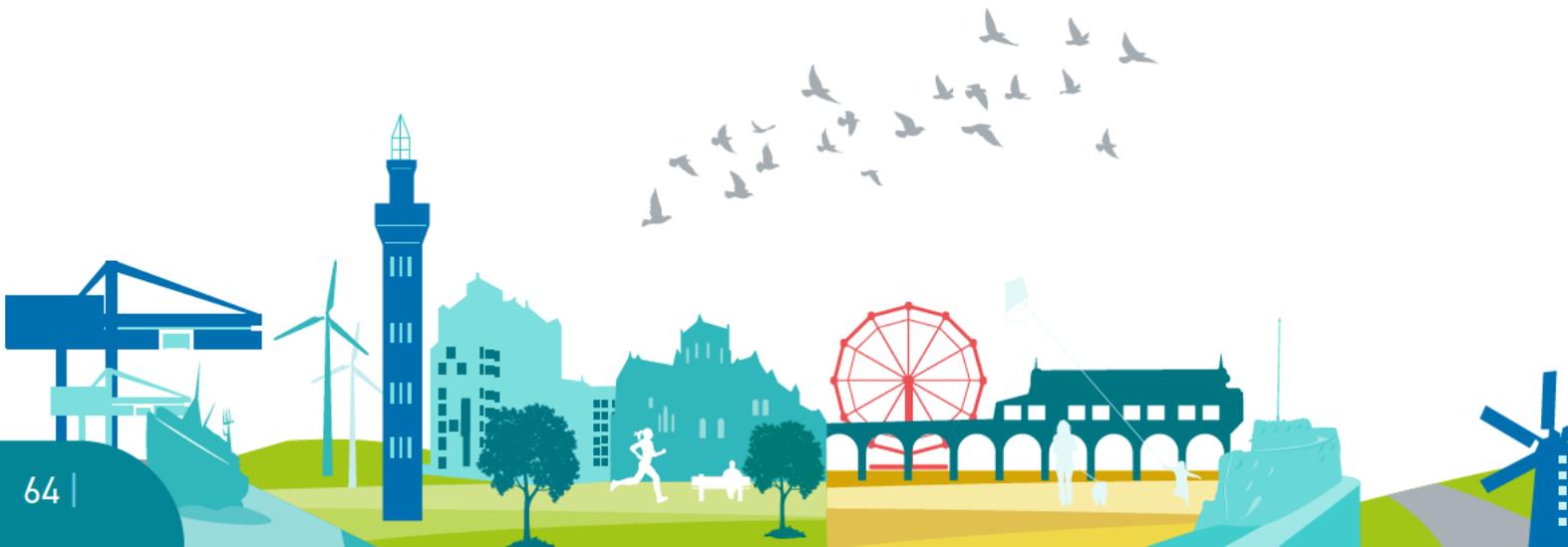
Workplace-based Earnings

Not only are residence-based earnings higher than comparators, but jobs also **located in North East Lincolnshire are far better paid than in comparator areas**. Indeed, the contrast between workplace-based annual wages in North East Lincolnshire and other similar areas is marked, with average earnings per full-time worker £31,000, compared to just £18,000 in Hartlepool (2023 data), £22,000 in South Tyneside, £19,000 in Great Yarmouth and £15,000 in Lowestoft. This pattern in full-time worker pay has been broadly consistent across these areas over the last 10 years, indicating full-time jobs in North East Lincolnshire paying on average at least a third more than similar areas elsewhere.

Annual Pay (Gross), 2024 (Workplace-based)	Annual Gross Pay (median) Full Time Workers
North East Lincolnshire	£31,000
Hartlepool	£18,000
South Tyneside	£22,000
Great Yarmouth & Lowestoft	n/a
Great Yarmouth	£19,000
Lowestoft	£15,000

Key Points

- Both those living in North East Lincolnshire and the jobs located in North East Lincolnshire are better paid than in comparator areas. Pay for full-time workers living in North East Lincolnshire is up to 10% higher than comparators, and jobs located in North East Lincolnshire are significantly better paid than other similar areas (by at least one third on average)
- Residents in North East Lincolnshire have seen considerable growth in average earnings over the last 10 years, outpacing comparator areas.





Occupations

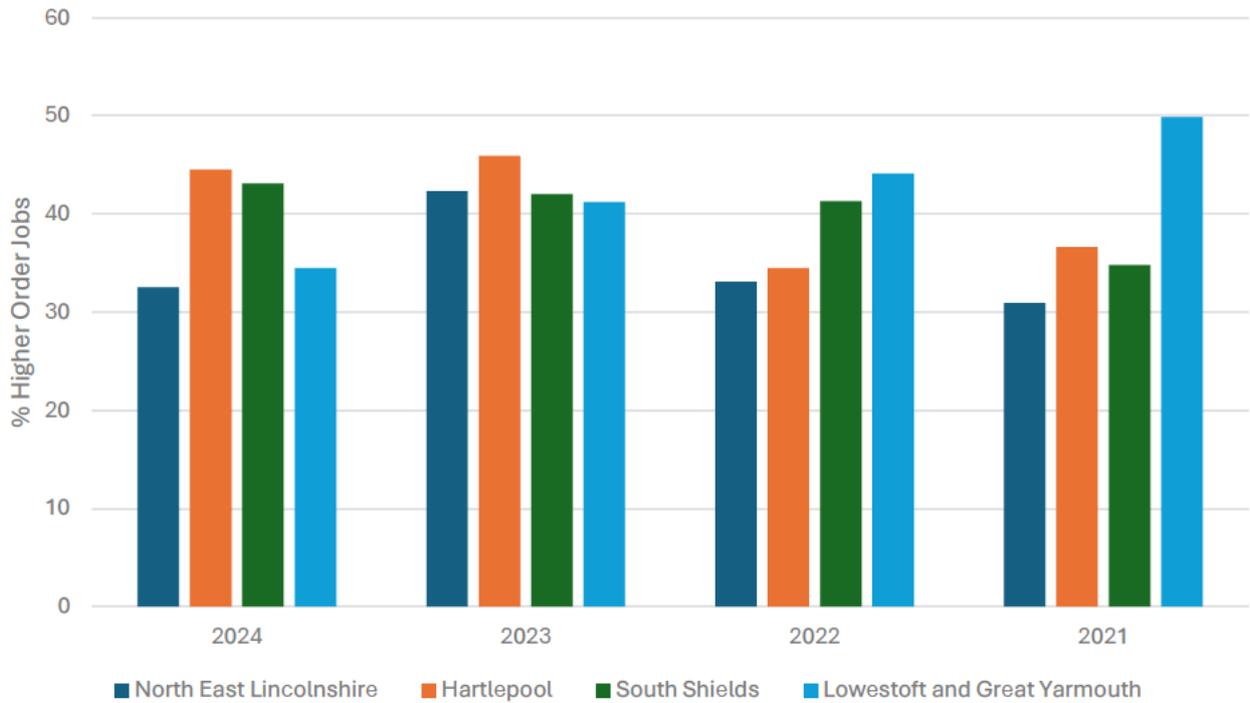
% in employment who are	Year	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
Higher Order Occupations (Groups 1-3)	2024	32.5	44.5	43.1	34.5
	2023	42.3	45.9	42.0	41.2
	2022	33.1	34.5	41.3	44.1
	2021	30.9	36.6	34.8	49.9
Lower Order Occupations (Groups 7-9)	2024	36.3	29.7	26.5	29.7
	2023	30.2	27.1	29.6	22.8
	2022	37.0	34.5	27.6	22.3
	2021	39.0	31.6	34.5	21.6

% in employment who are	Year	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
1. Managers, directors and senior officials	2024	7.0	6.6	6.9	5.8
	2023	7.3	6.8	6.2	8.4
	2022	8.2	6.4	6.2	14.7
	2021	4.9	8.0	6.8	15.0
2. Professional occupations	2024	15.8	23.8	24.4	11.5
	2023	21.2	24.1	19.4	13.7
	2022	16.8	14.5	20.8	17.0
	2021	14.2	16.1	14.3	23.5
3. Associate professional occupations	2024	9.7	14.1	11.8	17.2
	2023	13.8	15.0	16.4	19.1
	2022	8.1	13.6	14.3	12.4
	2021	11.8	12.5	13.7	11.4
4. Administrative and secretarial occupations	2024	9.5	9.5	9.2	8.5
	2023	9.6	9.0	10.4	12.2
	2022	9.6	11.8	11.7	10.4
	2021	8.5	11.7	10.8	6.9
5. Skilled trades occupations	2024	11.1	8.2	10.2	7.5
	2023	9.1	7.4	7.4	11.7
	2022	12.5	8.8	8.1	12.1
	2021	10.5	11.0	9.6	9.4
6. Caring, leisure and other service occupations	2024	10.6	8.1	11.1	15.5
	2023	8.4	10.6	10.5	10.0
	2022	7.5	9.3	10.3	9.7
	2021	10.8	8.9	10.0	11.1
7. Sales and customer service occupations	2024	7.4	6.5	7.1	6.4
	2023	7.0	7.1	8.0	5.3
	2022	7.3	8.7	5.8	5.5
	2021	6.4	10.1	11.6	10.7
8. Process, plant and machine operatives	2024	13.6	12.1	8.3	8.6
	2023	10.0	11.3	10.2	3.5
	2022	14.4	12.4	8.6	9.1
	2021	15.8	8.2	9.9	4.2
9. Elementary occupations	2024	15.3	11.1	11.1	14.7
	2023	13.2	8.7	11.4	14.0
	2022	15.3	13.4	13.2	7.7
	2021	16.8	13.3	13.0	6.7

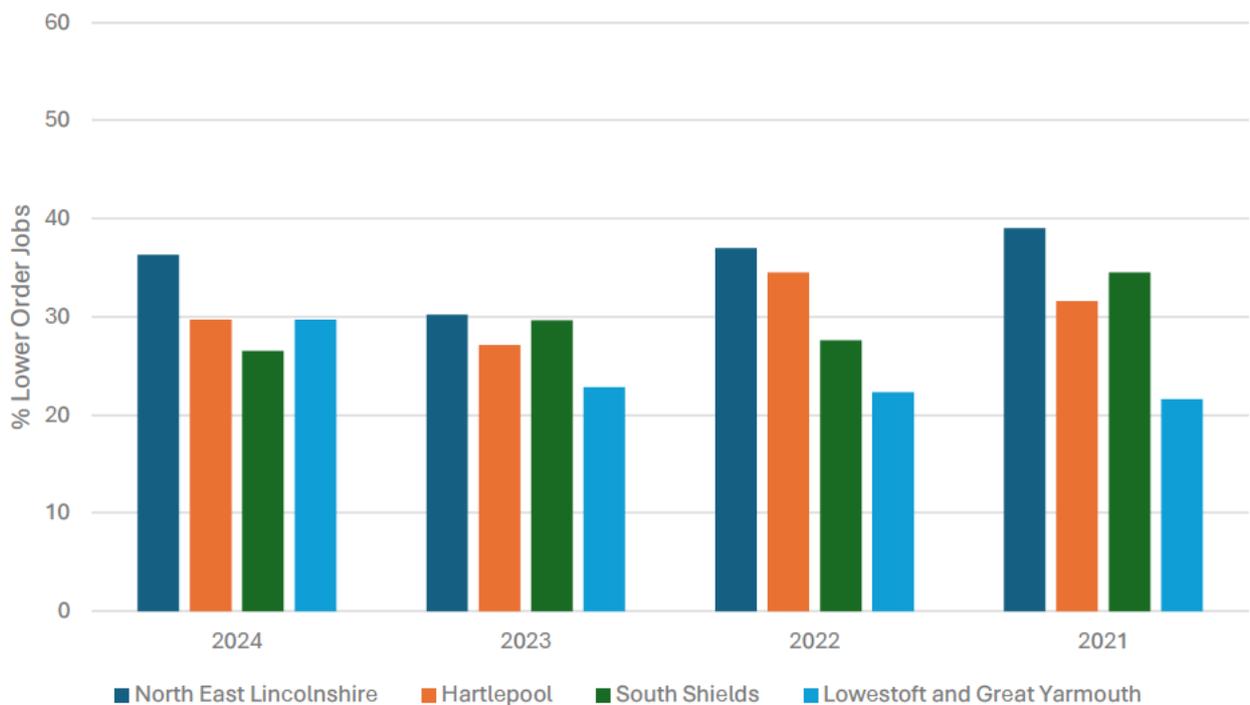


Data are based on annual surveys and should be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes in some categories.

Higher Order Jobs

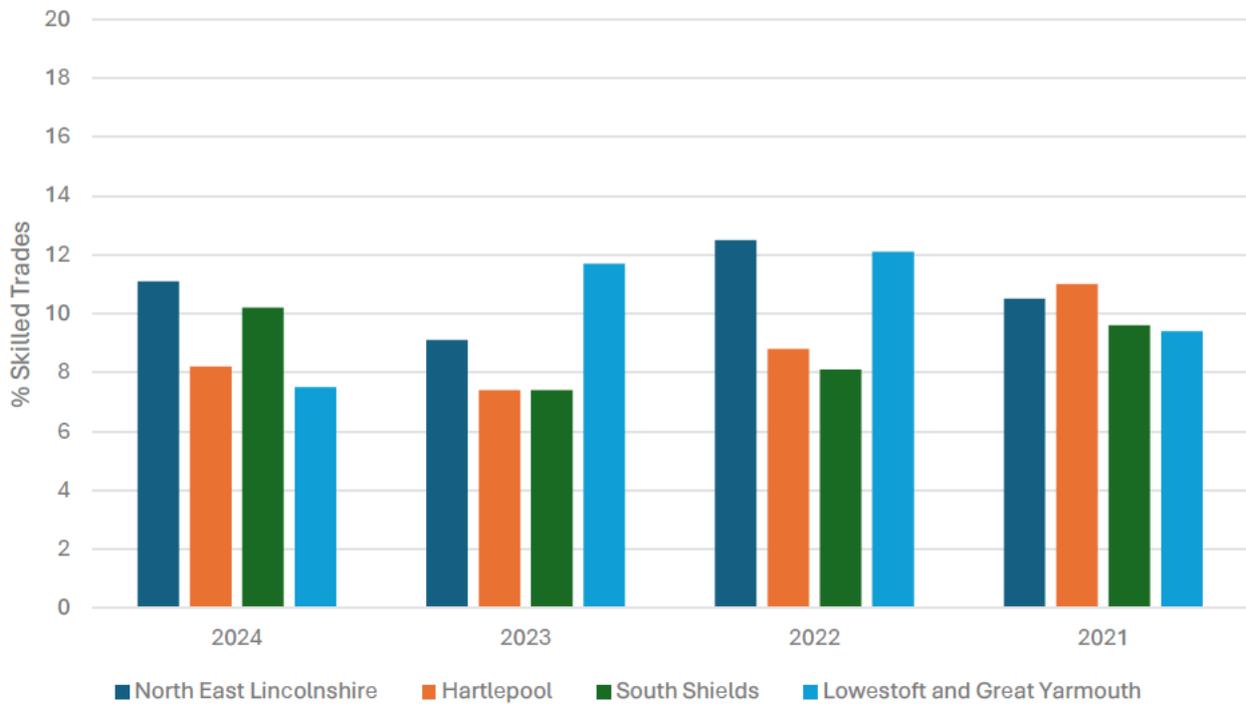


Lower Order Jobs





Skilled Trades



Key points

- North East Lincolnshire has a relatively lower proportion of higher order jobs (managerial and professional) jobs as proportion of its working age population than comparator areas. This difference primarily results from a lower proportion of professional and associate professional jobs.
- North East Lincolnshire has a relatively higher proportion of lower order jobs as proportion of its working age population than comparator areas.
- The proportion of skilled trades jobs is typically higher in North East Lincolnshire than in comparator areas.

Skills

% of Working Age (16-64) Population With	Year	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
RQF4+ (1 st Year Degree Equivalent)	2024	24.3	34.9	35.0	14.9
	2023	27.1	36.6	33.7	18.8
	2022	26.8	31.2	36.6	36.3
RQF3+ (A Level Equivalent)	2024	49.9	58.4	58.4	41.6
	2023	52.6	57.9	59.2	53.0
	2022	50.6	60.9	56.3	62.1
RQF2+ (GCSE Grades A*-C Equivalent)	2024	81.5	83.1	81.4	77.0
	2023	79.4	80.0	84.2	85.6
	2022	80.3	81.1	80.3	89.2
RQF1+ (GCSE Grades D-G Equivalent)	2024	87.4	84.3	87.4	82.1
	2023	84.4	84.0	89.6	86.3
	2022	84.4	88.4	84.8	92.0
other qualifications (RQF)	2024	2.5	4.0	2.9	8.3
	2023	7.3	4.8	2.4	7.3
	2022	6.7	3.2	5.9	-
no qualifications (RQF)	2024	10.1	11.7	9.8	9.6
	2023	8.2	11.2	8.0	6.4
	2022	8.9	8.4	9.3	5.3

Key points

- In North East Lincolnshire, the overall percentage of the population achieving RQF1+ and RQF2+ level qualifications is broadly equivalent to the levels seen in comparator areas.
- Fewer North East Lincolnshire working age residents are qualified at higher RQF3+ and RQF2+ levels.
- The proportion of North East Lincolnshire's population with no qualifications is broadly in line with comparator areas.

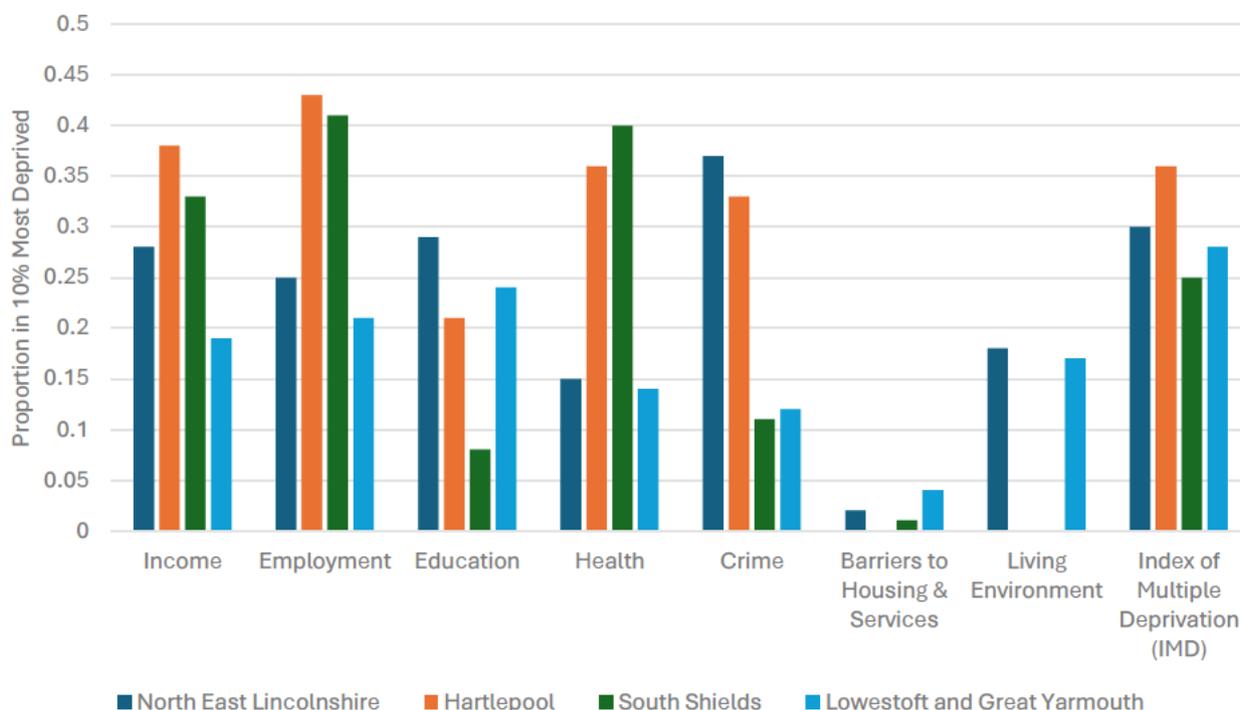


Deprivation and disparities

Deprivation Indices

Percentage of Lower Layer Super Output Areas in Bottom 10% Most Deprived Nationally

Deprivation Indices	Area			
	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth
Income	0.28	0.38	0.33	0.19
Income Deprivation Affecting Children	0.32	0.43	0.33	-
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People	0.13	0.29	0.12	-
Employment	0.25	0.43	0.41	0.21
Education	0.29	0.21	0.08	0.24
Health	0.15	0.36	0.40	0.14
Crime	0.37	0.33	0.11	0.12
Barriers to Housing & Services	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.04
Living Environment	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.17
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	0.30	0.36	0.25	0.28



Key points

- Levels of deprivation in North East Lincolnshire are broadly in line with those seen in comparator areas (See IMD Data).
- North East Lincolnshire is relatively more deprived in terms of crime, education and the quality of the living environment.
- North East Lincolnshire is relatively less deprived in terms of health, employment and income.



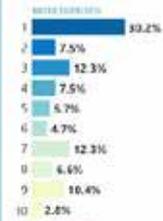
Deprivation Maps

North East Lincolnshire



Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile

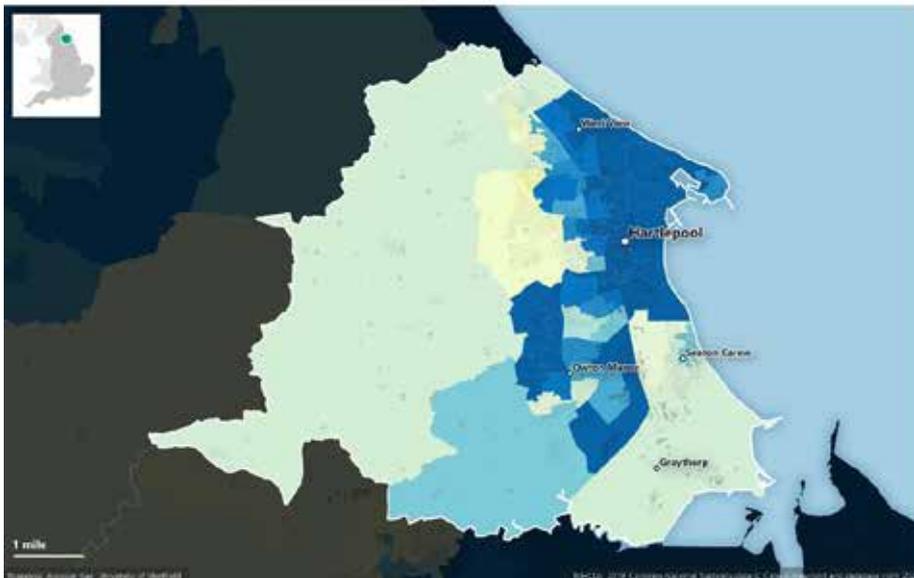


What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for North East Lincolnshire. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).

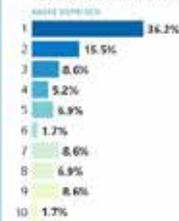


Hartlepool



Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile



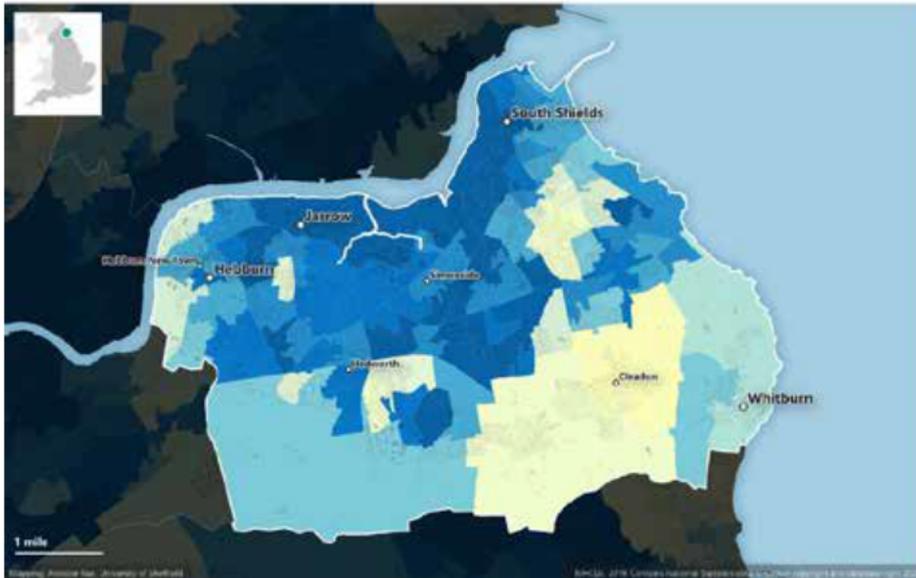
What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for Hartlepool. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).



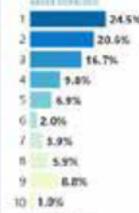


South Tyneside – Incorporating South Shields



Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile



What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for **South Tyneside**. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).

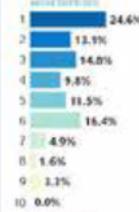


Great Yarmouth and East Suffolk – Incorporating Lowestoft



Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile



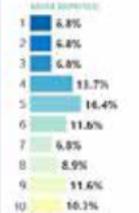
What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for **Great Yarmouth**. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).



Local authority profile

% of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile



What this map shows

This is a map of Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019 data for **East Suffolk**. The colours on the map indicate the deprivation decile of each Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England as a whole, and the coloured bars above indicate the proportion of LSOAs in each national deprivation decile. The most deprived areas (decile 1) are shown in blue. It is important to keep in mind that the data relate to small areas and do not tell us how deprived, or wealthy, individual people are. LSOAs have an average population of just under 1,700 (as of 2017).





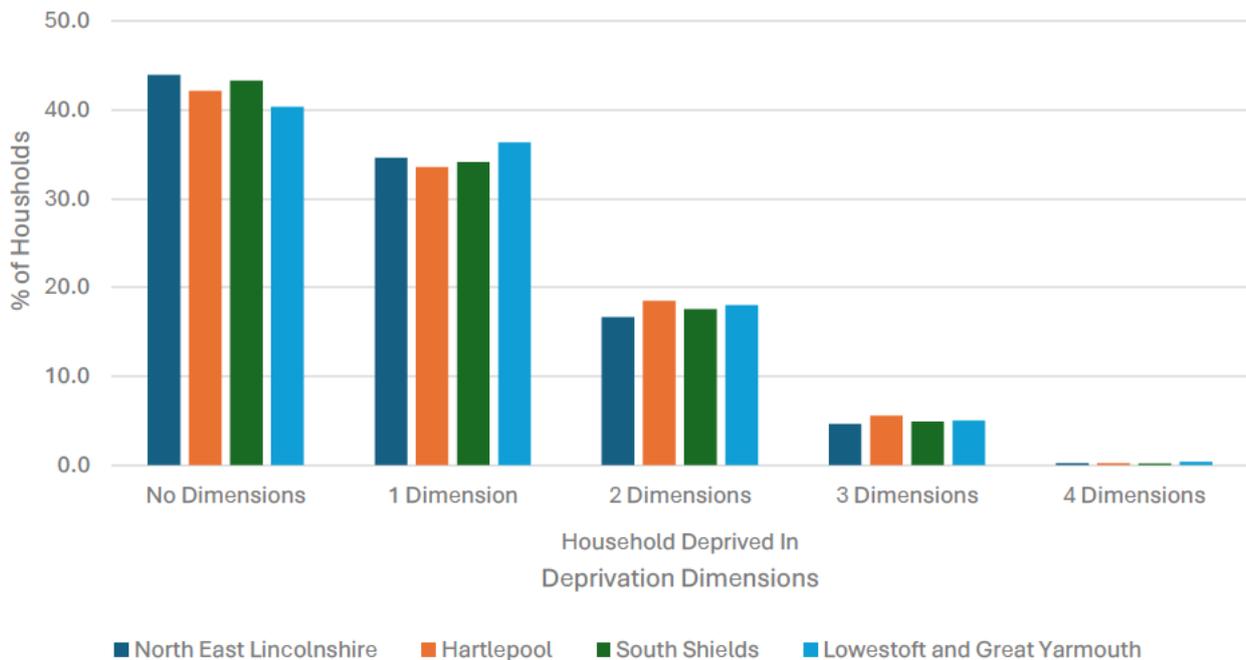
Household Deprivation

The dimensions of deprivation used to classify households are indicators based on four selected household characteristics.

1. **Education:** A household is classified as deprived in the education dimension if no one has at least level 2 education and no one aged 16 to 18 years is a full-time student.
2. **Employment:** A household is classified as deprived in the employment dimension if any member, not a full-time student, is either unemployed or economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability.
3. **Health:** A household is classified as deprived in the health dimension if any person in the household has general health that is bad or very bad or is identified as disabled.
4. **Housing:** A household is classified as deprived in the housing dimension if the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating.

Area	% Households Deprived In				
	No Dimensions	1 Dimension	2 Dimensions	3 Dimensions	4 Dimensions
North East Lincolnshire	44.0	34.6	16.6	4.6	0.2
Hartlepool	42.2	33.6	18.5	5.6	0.2
South Shields	43.3	34.1	17.5	4.9	0.2
Lowestoft* and Great Yarmouth	40.3	36.3	18.0	5.0	0.4

*Lowestoft based on Waveney constituency data.



Key points

- Household deprivation is lower in North East Lincolnshire than in similar areas.
- More North East Lincolnshire households are free from any aspect of education, employment, health or housing deprivation.
- Fewer North East Lincolnshire households exhibit 1 or more dimensions of household deprivation.



North East Lincolnshire Economy

Business Structure

The data in the table below provides a summary of the scale of the overall business base in North East Lincolnshire compared with comparator areas. Data is provided for the total business base and for different sized businesses.

Business Counts

Area	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Businesses (All Sizes)										
North East Lincolnshire	5,560	5,660	5,795	5,695	5,760	5,810	5,930	5,925	5,835	5,670
Hartlepool	2,295	2,410	2,465	2,370	2,340	2,350	2,320	2,275	2,215	2,200
South Tyneside	3,870	3,955	4,150	4,110	4,060	4,335	4,160	4,115	4,045	3,935
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	9,015	9,000	8,970	9,075	9,065	9,045	9,130	8,945	8,820
Micro (0 to 9 Employees)										
North East Lincolnshire	4,420	4,520	4,650	4,540	4,575	4,640	4,765	4,770	4,715	4,575
Hartlepool	2,295	2,410	2,465	2,370	2,340	2,350	2,320	2,275	2,215	2,200
South Tyneside	3,080	3,200	3,405	3,370	3,315	3,565	3,415	3,365	3,285	3,195
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	7,425	7,455	7,415	7,515	7,520	7,530	7,610	7,405	7,290
Small (10 to 49 Employees)										
North East Lincolnshire	920	910	910	920	940	935	935	925	900	875
Hartlepool	415	400	395	395	410	395	400	405	415	425
South Tyneside	630	605	595	590	590	615	585	590	605	595
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	1,325	1,290	1,290	1,285	1,275	1,245	1,250	1,270	1,260
Medium-sized (50 to 249 Employees)										
North East Lincolnshire	190	200	205	205	215	210	205	205	195	190
Hartlepool	110	105	105	105	105	105	100	100	95	100
South Tyneside	145	140	135	135	140	140	145	145	140	135
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	245	240	240	250	245	245	250	245	250
Large (250+ Employees)										
North East Lincolnshire	35	30	30	30	30	25	25	25	25	30
Hartlepool	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	15	15
South Tyneside	20	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	15	20	20	25	20	20	25	25	25

Key points

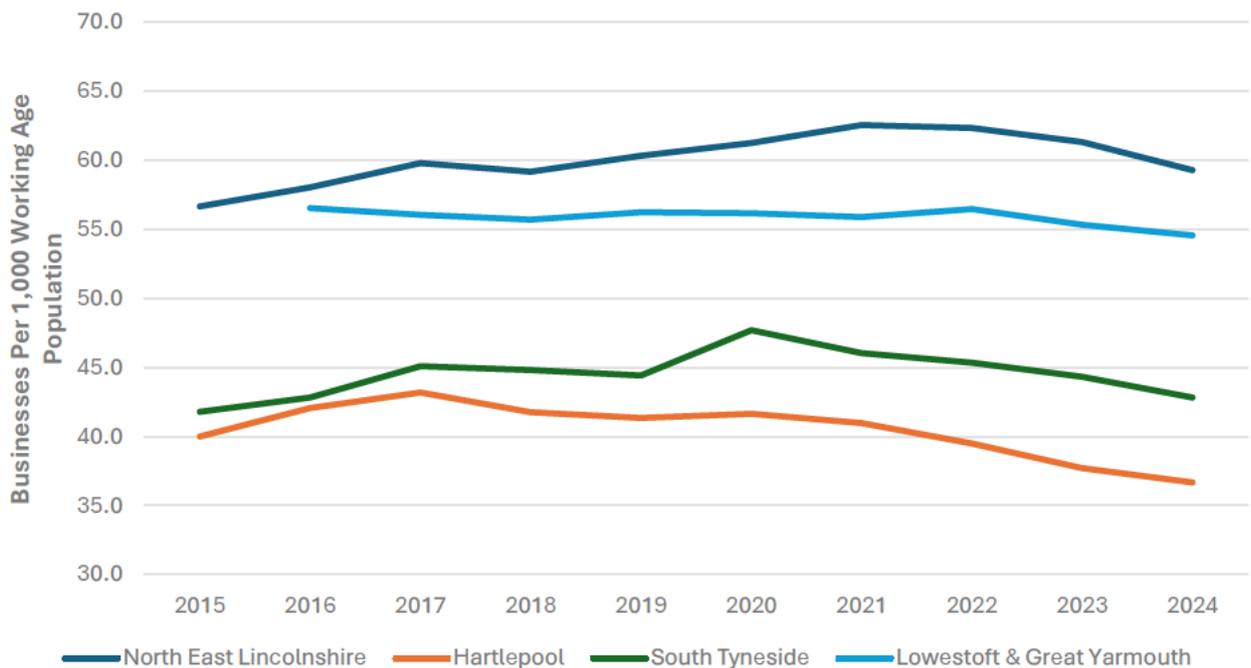
- North East Lincolnshire's total business base is larger than in comparator areas, except for Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth which is much larger in scale and population.
- There is a significant agglomeration of large (250+ employee) businesses in North East Lincolnshire, and the number of large businesses is greater in North East Lincolnshire than in any other comparator area.

The data in the table below provides a summary of the scale of the overall business base in North East Lincolnshire compared with comparator areas. Data is provided for the total business base and for different sized businesses. The data are normalised on the size of the working age population in each area, so that like with like comparisons can be made.



Business Counts Per 1,000 Working Age Population

Area	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Businesses (All Sizes) Per 1,000 Working Age Population										
North East Lincolnshire	56.7	58.1	59.8	59.2	60.3	61.3	62.6	62.3	61.3	59.3
Hartlepool	40.0	42.1	43.2	41.8	41.4	41.6	41.0	39.5	37.7	36.7
South Tyneside	41.8	42.8	45.1	44.8	44.4	47.7	46.0	45.4	44.3	42.8
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth		56.5	56.0	55.7	56.2	56.2	55.9	56.5	55.3	54.6
Micro (0 to 9 Employees) Per 1,000 Working Age Population										
North East Lincolnshire	45.1	46.4	48.0	47.2	47.9	48.9	50.3	50.2	49.6	47.9
Hartlepool	40.0	42.1	43.2	41.8	41.4	41.6	41.0	39.5	37.7	36.7
South Tyneside	33.3	34.7	37.0	36.7	36.3	39.2	37.8	37.1	36.0	34.8
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth		46.6	46.4	46.1	46.6	46.6	46.5	47.1	45.8	45.1
Small (10 to 49 Employees) Per 1,000 Working Age Population										
North East Lincolnshire	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.6	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.2
Hartlepool	7.2	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.1
South Tyneside	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.5
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	8.3	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.8
Medium-sized (50 to 249 Employees) Per 1,000 Working Age Population										
North East Lincolnshire	1.94	2.05	2.12	2.13	2.25	2.21	2.16	2.16	2.05	1.99
Hartlepool	1.92	1.83	1.84	1.85	1.86	1.86	1.77	1.74	1.62	1.67
South Tyneside	1.57	1.52	1.47	1.47	1.53	1.54	1.61	1.60	1.53	1.47
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	1.54	1.49	1.49	1.55	1.52	1.51	1.55	1.52	1.55
Large (250+ Employees) Per 1,000 Working Age Population										
North East Lincolnshire	0.36	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.31
Hartlepool	0.17	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.26	0.26	0.25
South Tyneside	0.22	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16
Lowestoft & Great Yarmouth	-	0.09	0.12	0.12	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.15	0.15	0.15





Key points

- For the size of its working age population, North East Lincolnshire's business base is larger than that of all comparator areas. This is true for businesses of all sizes.
- Over the past 10 years, there has been steady growth in the number of North East Lincolnshire businesses per 1,000 working age population. This compares well to the changes over time seen in comparator areas, where there has been a reduction in the number of businesses per 1000 working age population.
- The number of larger businesses (250+ employees) per 1,000 working age population is much higher in North East Lincolnshire than in comparator areas.

Business Births and Deaths

Business Births	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
North East Lincolnshire	540	595	665	580	645	525
Hartlepool	285	310	270	275	280	275
South Tyneside	470	645	515	610	525	450
East Suffolk / Great Yarmouth	1,210	1,210	1,195	1,495	1,175	1,080
Yorkshire and Humber	22,040	23,405	22,655	24,985	25,895	22,280
England	311,580	325,355	299,115	324,485	300,580	281,860

Business Deaths	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
North East Lincolnshire	490	520	480	660	645	580
Hartlepool	335	300	265	315	315	285
South Tyneside	520	490	505	590	595	505
East Suffolk / Great Yarmouth	1,110	1,145	1,095	1,215	1,420	1,260
Yorkshire and Humber	19,375	19,630	19,150	22,345	24,000	23,160
England	265,770	270,015	267,890	291,455	311,735	275,585

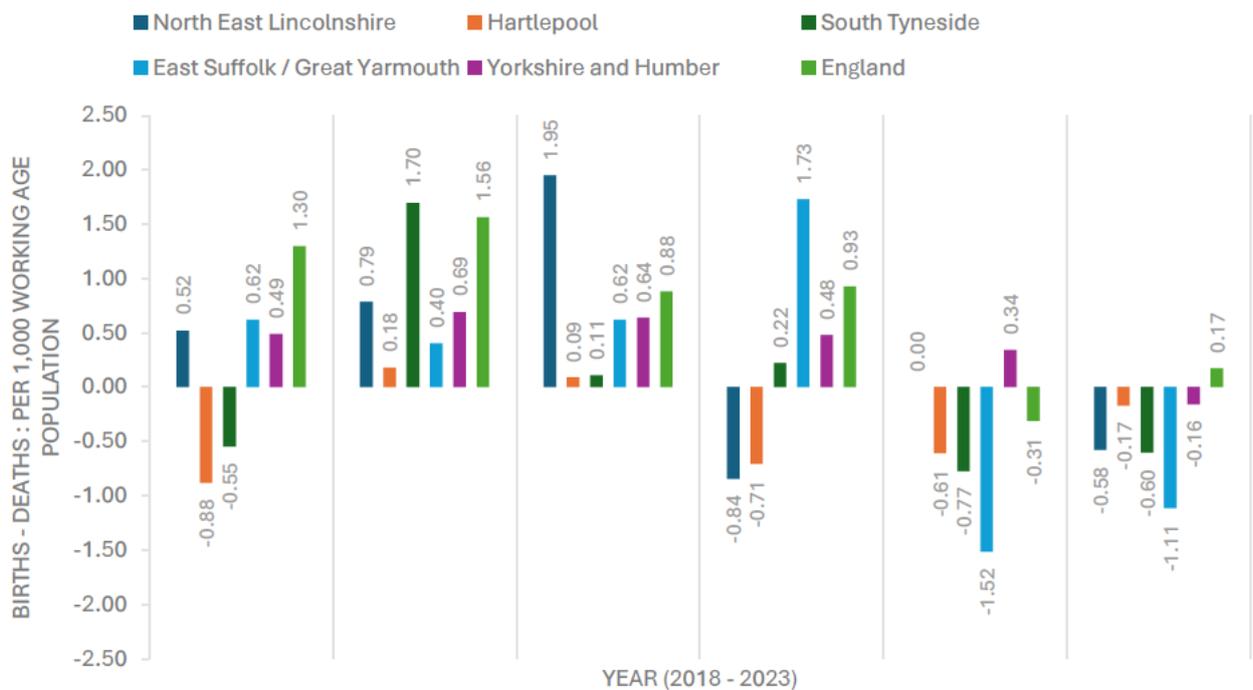
Net Difference (Births - Deaths)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
North East Lincolnshire	50	75	185	-80	0	-55
Hartlepool	-50	10	5	-40	-35	-10
South Tyneside	-50	155	10	20	-70	-55
East Suffolk / Great Yarmouth	100	65	100	280	-245	-180
Yorkshire and Humber	2,665	3,775	3,505	2,640	1,895	-880
England	45,810	55,340	31,225	33,030	-11,155	6,275



Business Births-Deaths Per 1,000 Working Age Population

The data in the table and chart below shows the net difference between business births and business deaths. The data has been normalised on the working age population in each area to allow meaningful comparisons to be made. A positive number indicates a net growth in the business base whilst a negative number indicates a net reduction.

Net Difference (Births - Deaths) Per 1,000 Working Age Population	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
North East Lincolnshire	0.52	0.79	1.95	-0.84	0.00	-0.58
Hartlepool	-0.88	0.18	0.09	-0.71	-0.61	-0.17
South Tyneside	-0.55	1.70	0.11	0.22	-0.77	-0.60
East Suffolk / Great Yarmouth	0.62	0.40	0.62	1.73	-1.52	-1.11
Yorkshire and Humber	0.49	0.69	0.64	0.48	0.34	-0.16
England	1.30	1.56	0.88	0.93	-0.31	0.17



Key points

- The rate of growth in the business base is, on average, lower in North East Lincolnshire than in the wider Yorkshire and Humber region and England overall.
- However, the rate of growth in the business base is greater in North East Lincolnshire than in comparator areas.

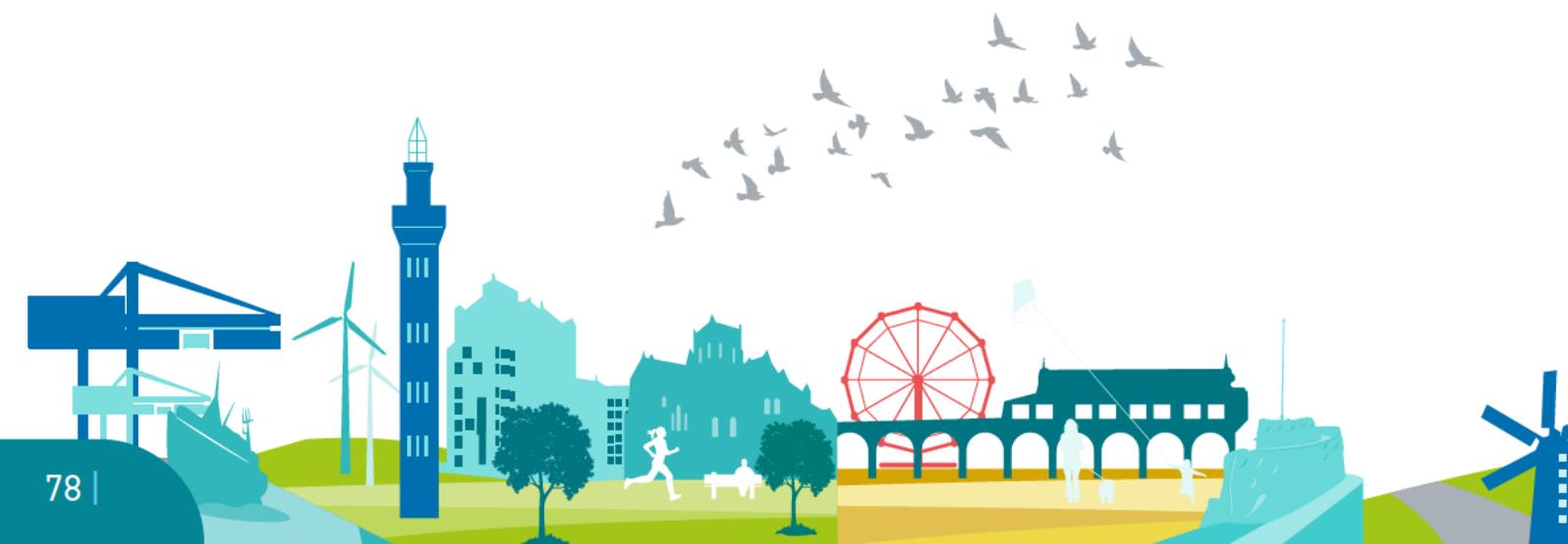


Business Survival Rates

Area	Birth Year	Starts	Number of Businesses Surviving					Percentage of Business Surviving				
			1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	4 Year	5 Year	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	4 Year	5 Year
North East Lincolnshire	2018	540	515	410	325	265	220	95.4	75.9	60.2	49.1	40.7
	2019	595	570	460	360	285		95.8	77.3	60.5	47.9	
	2020	665	640	405	295			96.2	60.9	44.4		
	2021	580	550	425				94.8	73.3			
	2022	645	580					89.9				
Hartlepool	2,018	285	270	210	170	135	110	94.7	73.7	59.6	47.4	38.6
	2,019	310	295	230	175	145		95.2	74.2	56.5	46.8	
	2,020	270	260	200	150			96.3	74.1	55.6		
	2,021	275	255	190				92.7	69.1			
	2,022	280	255					91.1				
South Tyneside	2018	470	435	330	245	200	170	92.6	70.2	52.1	42.6	36.2
	2019	645	605	445	305	240		93.8	69.0	47.3	37.2	
	2020	515	485	325	240			94.2	63.1	46.6		
	2021	610	555	400				91.0	65.6			
	2022	525	465					88.6				
East Suffolk / Great Yarmouth	2,018	1,210	1,155	940	765	635	550	95.5	77.7	63.2	52.5	45.5
	2,019	1,210	1,145	955	755	625		94.6	78.9	62.4	51.7	
	2,020	1,195	1,115	845	650			93.3	70.7	54.4		
	2,021	1,495	1,405	1,015				94.0	67.9			
	2,022	1,175	1,085					92.3				
Yorkshire and Humber	2018	22,040	20,885	16,485	13,070	10,725	9,045	94.8	74.8	59.3	48.7	41.0
	2019	23,405	22,135	17,850	13,600	10,975		94.6	76.3	58.1	46.9	
	2020	22,655	21,185	16,035	12,130			93.5	70.8	53.5		
	2021	24,985	23,335	18,005				93.4	72.1			
	2022	25,895	23,735					91.7				
England	2,018	311,580	295,435	231,390	179,140	147,155	122,625	94.8	74.3	57.5	47.2	39.4
	2,019	325,355	308,105	243,090	181,830	146,025		94.7	74.7	55.9	44.9	
	2,020	299,115	277,810	213,145	157,990			92.9	71.3	52.8		
	2,021	324,485	303,485	228,235				93.5	70.3			
	2,022	300,580	277,670					92.4				

Key points

- Business survival rates in North East Lincolnshire are higher than those observed in Hartlepool and South Tyneside, but lower than those in East Suffolk/Great Yarmouth.
- Business survival rates in North East Lincolnshire are better than those in the wider Yorkshire and Humber region, and for England overall.





FTE jobs

In line with the comparator areas, there were fewer employees in employment in North East Lincolnshire in 2023 compared to 2015. In North East Lincolnshire, there are 2.4% fewer jobs than in 2015, a fall of 1,625. This is a smaller reduction than the 5.7% fall in South Tyneside but a greater reduction than in Hartlepool (-1.4%). Comparable data is not available for Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

Total Employees in Employment, 2015-2023	North East Lincolnshire	Hartlepool	South Tyneside	Great Yarmouth & East Suffolk
FTE jobs in 2015	69,000	30,420	46,660	n/a
FTE jobs in 2023	67,375	29,995	44,005	70,335
Change 2015-2023	-1,625	-425	-2,655	n/a
% Change 2015-2023	-2.4%	-1.4%	-5.7%	n/a

Source: BRES, accessed via NOMIS

Sectoral Strengths

Three sectors employ 10,000 or more in North East Lincolnshire, some 45% of total employment. These are Human health and social work (12,000), Wholesale and retail and motor vehicle repair (11,000) and Manufacturing (10,000). There is also a strong Transportation and storage sector in North East Lincolnshire, employing 6,000. With strong Manufacturing and Transportation sectors, this reflects the importance of traditional industrial employment sectors to the local economy. By contrast, some of the sectors that are typically associated with modern, service-based economies (e.g. financial and insurance, professional, scientific and technical jobs) employ fewer (less than 5,000 across these two sectors).

Employment by Industrial Sector, 2023

Sector	Number	Sector	Number
Human health and social work activities	12,000	Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,250
Wholesale & retail trade; motor repair	11,000	Other service activities	1,000
Manufacturing	10,000	Real estate activities	800
Transportation and storage	6,000	Electricity, gas, steam and a/c supply	600
Education	6,000	Financial and insurance activities	600
Accommodation & food service activities	5,000	Water supply; sewerage, waste	450
Administrative & support service activities	4,000	Information and communication	450
Professional, scientific & tech activities	3,500	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	175
Construction	3,000	Mining and quarrying	50
Public admin & defence	1,500	Total	67,375

Source: BRES, accessed via NOMIS

Within North East Lincolnshire there have been some sectoral shifts amongst the employment base. There have been some increases in public sector jobs (human health & social work +1,000, 9%) although a decline in others (education, 1,000 jobs, -14%) and public admin & defence (-750, -33%). There has been an increase in construction employment (+500, 20%) and in some utilities (electricity, gas, steam etc, +450, a 300% increase). Some service sectors have grown in jobs terms (accommodation & food services, +500, 11%) but a decrease in others (wholesale and retail, -1,000, -11%).

Employment Shifts by Industrial Sector, 2015-2023

Employment Sectors where jobs have increased since 2015		Employment Sectors where jobs have fallen since 2015	
Human Health & Social Work	+1,000 (9%)	Education	-1,000 (-14%)
Construction	+500 (20%)	Wholesale & retail; repair of motor vehicles etc.	-1,000 (-11%)
Accommodation & Food Service	+500 (11%)	Public admin & defence etc.	-750 (-33%)
Electricity, gas, steam etc	+450 (+300%)	Administration & support serv.	-500 (-11%)

Source: BRES, accessed via NOMIS

North East Lincolnshire is characterised by a strong manufacturing sector, and this is reflected in its Location Quotient (LQ) i.e. its relative proportion of employment by sector compared to the Great Britain average. An LQ above 1 indicates a sector with above (GB) average representation of sector employment. Manufacturing in North East Lincolnshire has a high LQ – 2.0 – showing it is twice as concentrated in North East Lincolnshire compared to the GB average, again indicative of a strong underlying industrial base. The Electricity and gas etc. sector, which has grown over the last 10 years in North East Lincolnshire, has the highest LQ at 2.4, although it remains a relatively small sector overall (600 jobs, and less than 1%).

Location Quotient of Employment Sectors, North East Lincolnshire, 2023

Employment Sectors with highest Location Quotient in North East Lincs (2023)		Employment Sectors with lowest Location Quotient jobs in North Lincs (2023)	
Electricity, gas etc.	2.4	Information & Communication	0.1
Manufacturing	2.0	Financial & Insurance	0.3
Transportation & Storage	1.8	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	0.4
Human health & social work	1.3	Public admin & defence	0.5
Wholesale & retail; motor repairs	1.2	Mining & quarrying	0.5
Education	1.04	Professional, scientific, tech	0.6

Source: BRES, accessed via NOMIS

North East Lincolnshire is under-represented by employment in finance, information communications and professional services, higher value-added service sectors. There is 0.6 times the 'expected' number of professional, scientific and technical services jobs, and a third of finance and insurance jobs, reflecting ongoing challenges in transitioning to a more balanced modern economy.

Section 4: Letters from key stakeholders, organisations and businesses



HUMBERSIDE POLICE
Headquarters
Priory Road
HULL
HU5 5SF

Tel No: 101

Sharon Wroot
North Lincolnshire Council

Sent via email - Natalie.Francom@nelincs.gov.uk

3 October 2025

Dear Sharon

Local Government Reorganisation update

I am writing to express our full support for the proposal submitted by North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council to remain as two distinct unitary authorities within their existing boundaries, as part of the local government reorganisation across Greater Lincolnshire.

We remain committed to working closely with both councils to ensure the continued success of our shared objectives across the Humber region.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Todd', written over a light blue background.

Chris Todd
Chief Constable

Chief Constable C. Todd
| Deputy Chief Constable S. Baker |
Assistant Chief Constable (Local Policing) M. Walker | Assistant Chief Constable (Specialist Crime & CJU) A. Walker |
Assistant Chief Officer C. Philpott
Web site: www.humberside.police.uk



Care Plus Group

Westgate Park
Charlton Street
Grimsby
DN31 1SQ

Tel: 01472 266999
Email: lisa.revell@nhs.net
Web: careplusgroup.org

17th September 2025

Chief Executive Officer
North East Lincolnshire Council

And
North Lincolnshire Council

Re: Local Government Reorganisation Update

Dear Sharon Wroot, Alison Barker

I am writing to you on behalf of Care Plus Group regarding the proposed changes for Government Reorganisation.

While we understand the pressures and considerations involved in such decisions, we wish to express our strong support for maintaining the current boundaries, given the well-established and effective partnership working that exists across our communities.

Over many years, we have developed a close and constructive relationship with North and North East Lincolnshire Council and other local partners. This collaboration has led to demonstrable improvements in outcomes for local people building stronger communities.

The model is widely recognised at both regional and national levels as an example of effective joint working. These achievements have been built on trust, continuity and a shared commitment to serving our communities.

Altering the current boundaries presents significant risks. Such changes would inevitably disrupt established relationships and create uncertainty for local residents, partner organisations and service providers. This could undermine the progress we have collectively achieved and weaken the very foundations that have enabled positive outcomes across the area.

We believe that stability in boundaries is essential to sustaining the momentum of our nationally recognised work and to continuing to deliver the best possible outcomes for the people we jointly serve.

We, therefore, urge for carefully consideration over the the potential impact of reorganisation and to continue supporting the existing arrangements, which have proven to be both effective and resilient.

Thank you for considering our position. We value our relationship with both Councils, highly and remain committed to working together in the best interests of our communities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Revell', is written over a light grey circular stamp.

Lisa Revell
Chief Executive





Redwood Park Estate
Stallingborough
North East Lincolnshire
DN41 8TH

01469 552828
info@catchuk.org

7 October 2025

Sharon Wroot
Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council
Municipal Offices
Town Hall Square
Grimsby
DN31 1HU

Dear Sharon

Local Government Reorganisation & North East Lincolnshire

On behalf of CATCH UK I am writing to express our full support for North East Lincolnshire Council's proposal to remain within existing boundaries.

The £12 million CATCH site in Stallingborough is uniquely positioned to support the skills pipeline required to sustain and grow the industrial workforce in North East Lincolnshire, thorough industry led adult upskilling, reskilling and apprenticeships. Our site boasts an industry authentic training environment, including a live process plant, control room, simulators, workshops and the UKs largest welding and fabrication training facility which opened in September 2024. We see first-hand the value of a council that is close to its communities, responsive to local business needs, and proactive in driving growth.

We have a long history of support from the council, having been instrumental in setting up Humber Chemical Focus over 25 years ago – now operating as CATCH UK. Only this year our continued collaboration meant that we received Humber Freeport investment to expand our head office to include state of the art conference facilities, an AR/VR training capability and an inward investment suite which demonstrates how a local, agile council can deliver real outcomes that benefit employers, learners, and the wider community.

Continued local place-based support and the attraction of inward investment is critical to the future of the Humber industrial cluster and the UK's future energy and manufacturing footprint. North East Lincolnshire Council is a critical component in the future energy dynamics in the UK, with interests in carbon capture and storage, hydrogen production and distribution, advanced manufacturing such as sustainable air fuels plus our area is a prime location for further low carbon energy production. The impact of our industrial footprint reaches far beyond our local area, through the jobs we create, the supply chains we support, and the power, products and services we provide to the wider Humber industrial cluster and beyond.

CATCH UK is committed to supporting North East Lincolnshire Council and willing to contribute to its sustainability and development in any way we can.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Talbot".

David Talbot
Chief Executive Officer

Subject: LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

Hello

Having recently read a lot about the proposed re-organisation of Local Government, I wanted to write to advocate for the status quo in regards to North East Lincolnshire Council.

As a resident of the area and having lived and worked here for over 40 years – it's fair to say I have reasonable insight into the workings of NELC from a business perspective. Grimsby in particular has had to find the belief in itself again after the disappearance of its previous mainstay, the fishing industry. My family business was in the supply chain to that industry and suffered like many others did but thanks to the resilience, innovation and hard graft of many in the area and with the support of NELC – we are still here and going strong.

One of the many things I admire about this organisation and particularly the people within it is their personal resilience, I can't imagine how hard it must be to have to try and keep all of the people happy all of the time. Running a business with 156,000 customers can't be easy but that is essentially what they do and as one of the area's largest employers – they carry a heavy weight of responsibility to families across the borough. But in my experience, they do this with class and a resolve that is indeed rare in today's fractured world.

So, in summary – if it ain't broke why fix it. Please don't re-organise something that is already very well organised, well run and well delivered.

Thanks

Richard Askam
Businessman

Dear Sharon

As Chair of the Development and Growth Board for North East Lincolnshire I am fully supportive of NELC's proposal to remain within current boundaries.

Our experience as a board representing the interests of the major industries and employers within NE Lincolnshire is that NELC is highly responsive to the needs of industry and has a close working relationship with sector representatives that was instrumental during the Covid pandemic. We fully support the steps NELC has taken to develop the economic strategy and community regeneration, and believe this level of connection with community would not be possible under an administrative borough covering a larger area of more diverse needs.

Regards
Katharine York

Katharine York
she/her
Head of Sustainable O&M

<https://ore.catapult.org.uk>

CATAPULT
Offshore Renewable Energy



Centre4
17a Wootton Road
Grimsby
DN33 1HE
Tel: 01472 236680
www.mycpo.co.uk

9th October 2025

Dear Katie,

I just wanted to write in support of NELC's decision to pursue a position of status quo as regards Local Government Reorganisation. This is based on a number of factors which I will set out below.

From a personal perspective and as the Managing Director of Creating Positive Opportunity, I have worked hard to form alliances and partners within the current council arrangements. We have contributed to commissioning discussions, worked hand in glove with Children's Services during a period of change and currently enjoy the best working practices with NELC since I returned to Grimsby in 2004. This is largely due to NELC's commitment to a shared vision and equal opportunity with, and for, the VCSE Sector in our borough. I would be extremely sorry to see these arrangements change.

From a wider VCSE perspective as Vice Chair of the VCSE Forum and Alliance I feel we have enjoyed a sustained period of dialogue, debate and recognition between statutory sectors and the VCSE. NELC knows our local communities, and we are secure in the knowledge that communities know them. This has led to both better working arrangements and no little investment in the VCSE Sector as a whole. I know this isn't always the case with our neighbouring authorities.

Finally, during a period of devolution, which will come with both challenges and opportunities, I would implore UK Government to not throw the baby out with the bathwater, as organisations like mine look to develop new ways of working and partnerships with the newly formed Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority.

As always Katie, should you need anything further please ask, and let us all hope that common sense prevails.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Ryder





Grimsby & Cleethorpes Area Doorstep

115 Pasture Street, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire DN32 9EE

T: 01472 321444

E: info@mydoorstep.org.uk W: www.mydoorstep.org.uk

Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

10th October 2025

Dear Sharon,

Re: Support for North East Lincolnshire Council's Proposal to Remain a Distinct Unitary Authority

On behalf of Doorstep, I am writing to express our full support for North East Lincolnshire Council's proposal to remain within its current boundaries as a self-contained unitary authority.

As a local housing and community charity based in Grimsby, our work is deeply embedded within the fabric of North East Lincolnshire's communities. We see first-hand the value of having a local authority that is close to its people, understands local need, and works responsively with partners to achieve lasting impact.

The Council's ability to collaborate effectively across sectors - including with small charities like ours — is a key strength. This local responsiveness has underpinned important joint efforts around homelessness prevention, housing solutions for young people and families, and community-led regeneration. A larger, more remote unitary structure risks diluting this connectedness and the local knowledge that enables meaningful outcomes for residents.

We share the Council's view that retaining a smaller, locally focused authority will ensure decisions continue to be made with genuine insight into the social, economic, and wellbeing challenges unique to our area. North East Lincolnshire's proactive approach - seen in its regeneration work, cross-sector partnerships, and inclusive growth ambitions - has already proven its effectiveness.

Doorstep therefore strongly supports the continuation of North East Lincolnshire Council in its present form, confident that this is in the best interests of our local people, communities, and economy.

Yours sincerely,


Julie Wainman
Chief Executive Officer

Registered Charity Number 70288

Company Registration Number 2494315

RSH Registration No: 5215





E-Factor Group Ltd
The Enterprise Village
Prince Albert Gardens
Grimsby
North East Lincolnshire
DN31 3AT
www.e-factor.co.uk
1st October 2025

Chief Executives Office
North East Lincolnshire Council

Dear Sharon

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

I am writing to express my concern over the Local Government reorganisation that is being discussed by the Government.

Over the years, as business representatives and after discussing the same with many of our 400 member organisations, we are worried that the work we have done to strengthen partnership between the council and the private sector, the focus on working together to regenerate and grow our local economy will become diluted and set back some years should we become part of a larger local authority, moved further away from the population it serves.

There has been a significant growth in 'pride of place' in North East Lincolnshire, and the trust that has been building between the local authority and the local business community is having a significant impact on the pace of growth and how quickly people are getting behind it.

I am also conscious that whilst we certainly are part of the Greater Lincolnshire region, our business community, is made up of a diverse range of business with our seaside town on one side and industry on the other. In addition, the growing renewable energy sector, along with its supply chain requirements is very particular to this area and its port.

I recognise the need for efficiency and certainly anticipate our local authority working together with its neighbours more and more in the future, but more than ever, North East Lincolnshire needs to keep a focus on its growth plans, stay close to the 4500+ businesses that operate in the area, and retain a local authority committed to that endeavour

Regards
Mark Webb

10th October 2025

Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

Dear Sharon

I would like to take this opportunity to express our support for North East Lincolnshire Council to remain as a unitary authority known as the Borough of North East Lincolnshire.

As the only Ofsted Outstanding designated Sixth Form College, Franklin has always valued the local support and accessibility of the Council, and we firmly believe that our College vision 'to provide the best possible life chances for our community' is shared by NE Lincs Council.

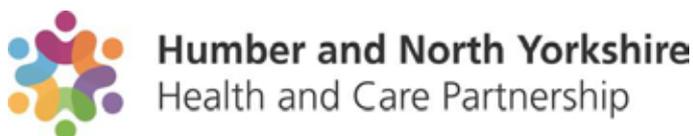
Within our local area the strength of collaboration and parentship working has achieved so much. This is an exciting time in education, with significant high ambition to drive through reducing the gap in qualifications achieved locally compared to the national picture, this will then increase the skills of the local workforce, leading to a significant improvement in the economic outlook of the area.

The current rate of positive change must continue, and in my view, this is best achieved by remaining as the Borough of North East Lincolnshire.

Kind regards



Wendy Ellis
Principal & CEO



Ref: JS/ TF/EVJ

16 September 2025

Sent by Email:

Alison Barker
Chief Executive, North Lincolnshire Council
alison.barker@northlincs.gov.uk

Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council
sharon.wroot@nelincs.gov.uk

Dear Alison and Sharon

Re: Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation

Thank you for your recent update on proposals for local government reorganisation across the Greater Lincolnshire geography. In the context of this, we thought it would be useful to highlight key issues for consideration from a strategic NHS perspective.

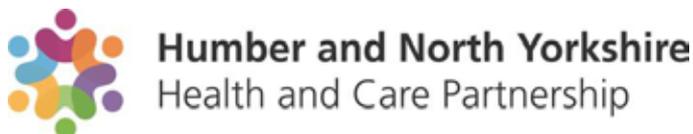
Background

The NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board covers a population of 1.8 million with six Places across a diverse geography. Two of these Places are North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire, which represent circa 300k of the Humber and North Yorkshire ICB total population.

The acute hospital for this geography is **Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust (NLaG)**. This Foundation Trust is part of a larger hospital group known as **Humber Health Partnership (HHP)** – which includes **Hull University Teaching Hospital NHS Trust (HUTHT)** on the North bank of the Humber.

Both hospitals struggle with service provision largely as a consequence of geography and population size with some fragile services and their sustainability threatened by even minor patient flow or other changes. However, by working together they assist with meeting residents' acute health needs. **HUTHT** is also a provider of a large range of tertiary services.

In addition, there are other health and care service provision on the south bank which include community and mental health services provided by Community Interest Companies (CICs) including **NAVIGO** and the **Care Plus Group**. These organisations are an integral part of the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Health and Care provision.



As part of the Department for Health and Social Care and NHS England Reform a blueprint for a Model ICB has been developed and ICBs were asked to respond. This introduced a consideration of the optimum population size for ICBs which has led to the opening of conversations around clustering / mergers of ICB but also refers to alignment with Mayoral Combined Authorities.

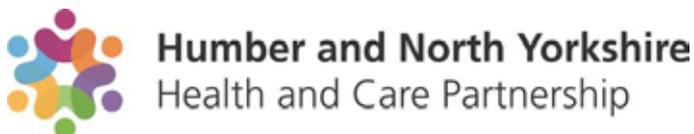
As we have previously discussed, whilst consideration was given to the potential ceding of the South Bank population to NHS Lincolnshire ICB, the Government have confirmed that at this point there are no plans to change the geographic footprint of the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board, which will continue to work closely with our Local Government colleagues across North and North East Lincolnshire in managing our transition to a strategic commissioning organisation focused on collectively improving outcomes for our local populations. The NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board sees these strong local relationships as key to delivering transformational change in responding to the increasingly complex health and social care needs of our populations and jointly developing the capacity and capability of our providers.

The development of our shared work around Neighbourhood Health represents a valuable opportunity to build on a localised collaboration of key stakeholders including Local Government, primary care, community services and the voluntary and community sector in order to best meet the needs of our diverse communities across North and North East Lincolnshire. We are also pleased that North East Lincolnshire has been selected as a pilot site for this new approach, which will help inform the wider work of the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.

Areas for Consideration

In responding to the proposals for Local Government reorganisation across the Greater Lincolnshire footprint, consideration should be given to the following points from a NHS perspective:

1. There is concern relating to the impact on the **Humber Health Partnership** and both side of the Humber in terms of viability and sustainability for both District General Hospital (DGH) and tertiary services across the Humber region.
2. The impact on **Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust (NLaG)** in relation to its ability to continue its core role in the development and delivery of the neighbourhood health is a concern. The role of all of our providers is key to developing a strong and effective Neighbourhood Health offer on a very localised level. The aim of Neighbourhood Health is to ensure that services are developed and delivered in response to the specific needs of local populations, recognising that Neighbourhood Health offers need to be different in North and North East Lincolnshire.
3. The impact of changes on the South Bank will also be felt by the wider population of NHS Humber and North Yorkshire ICB, most especially the North Bank and East Coast populations – populations that often feel forgotten due to geography. There may be a risk that this may increase if these populations become part of a wider Greater Lincolnshire geography.



4. There is also a potential impact on other service providers, particularly Community Interest Companies which are integral to NHS service provision across our ICB. These include **NAVIGO**, which is a mental health provider of integrated mental health services with a focus on integrated delivery of holistic care including provision of employment for service users and on demand mental health services.

In addition to these very specific health issues the Humber estuary is a key asset for economic development providing the backbone of employment on both the North and South Banks. HNY ICB recognises the economic significance of the Humber subregion and see our current and future work as an ICB as being essential in continuing to meet the increasingly aligned health, skills and work agenda being set by government. This remains a key priority area of work for us, alongside engagement with our elected mayors on a collaborative approach to the work and skills agenda.

The NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board shares our Local Government partners vision for building strong and resilient local communities and believe that the work we have jointly supported are fundamental to achieving this. The integration of our work around both Adults and Children's Services has provided us with a framework for thinking and working differently at a Place level, supported by key ICB strategies around Children and Young People, Frailty and End of Life Care services, and we are keen to see this work continue.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support to the NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board as we navigate our own period of transition and transformation. As always, this is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J-Stamp".

Jason Stamp

Chair – NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teresa Fenech".

Teresa Fenech

Acting Chief Executive – NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
With best regards.



Grimsby Fish Dock Enterprises Ltd
Wharnccliffe Road
Grimsby
North East Lincolnshire
DN31 3QJ
Telephone: +44 (0)1472 350 023
info@portofgrimsby.com
www.portofgrimsby.com

20th October 2025

Sharon Wroot,
Interim Chief Executive,
North East Lincolnshire Council
Grimsby

Dear Sharon,

Since the inception of this business in 1993, NELC, and formerly Grimsby Borough Council, have been an integral part of our progress, diversification and success. We have been supported by NELC in every phase of our developments over a number of years, either in the Port for 'Renewables' or on the Auction Market for the sale of fresh fish.

We have always worked with NELC in attracting funds for these developments from various governmental sources. The local knowledge of the importance of the Port to the community has allowed NELC to make strategic decisions. As well they have displayed consistent proactive support for our business with their forward thinking, working with dedicated people making it happen.

In 2012 the £1.4m Grimsby Fish Market modernisation project, which reduced the size of the auction and compartmentalised the rest of the building for other fish businesses, was a fundamental change to the structure of the site and the way we worked. There was a decline in fish supplies but an increase in offshore wind farms and renewables. Contentious at the time, but NELC recognised the need to balance the local history of the past with the development of the future and supported the change wholeheartedly.

The game changer was in 2015 when NELC recognised the importance of 'Renewables' and supported a £1.2m modification plan to extend the penning capabilities of the Lock Gates to the Dock. This innovative project showed the flexibility of the approach of NELC. The successful project enabled us to attract more and bigger vessels from the renewables sector, which in turn spurred numerous developments such as new pontoons, warehousing and craneage.



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The pinnacle of the development was the creation in 2017 of a completely new business, Grimsby Shipyard Services Ltd. The support and vision of the Council and the Chief Exec at the time was immeasurable. The £2.3m project to redevelop the area included a 200t ship lift at the heart of the operation which supports Offshore wind vessels, fishing vessels and other craft.

In 2023 we invested into a Training facility, OTC, which provides bespoke training for anyone who has to work offshore. This supports the Renewables Industry and anyone required to have certification to work from or on a vessel, including fishing.

Our group of businesses, Grimsby Fish Market, Port of Grimsby east, Grimsby Shipyard Services Ltd and Offshore Training Centre Ltd (OTC), provide jobs, commercial activity and opportunity for the community. Grimsby has always been synonymous with fish and is now recognised as the leading Operations and Maintenance (O&M) base for Offshore Renewables in the UK.

Much of what we do and where we are can be credited to NELC. We appreciate the need to reorganise local government; however, Grimsby is a destination and needs local knowledge which is why we support entirely remaining as the Borough of North East Lincolnshire.

Regards

Martyn Boyers
 Chief Executive
 Grimsby Fish Dock Enterprises Ltd



Healthwatch North East Lincolnshire

Suite 4, Alexandra Dock Business Centre,

Fisherman's Wharf,

Grimsby

DN31 1UL

Date: 10th October 2025

To:

The Leader and Members of North East Lincolnshire Council
Municipal Offices
Grimsby
DN31 1HU

Subject: Support for North East Lincolnshire Council's Opposition to the Proposed Local Authority Restructure

Dear Sharon Wroot,

Healthwatch North East Lincolnshire would like to formally express its support for North East Lincolnshire Council in its opposition to the proposed restructure of local authorities.

As the independent voice for people who use health and social care services, our priority is to ensure that any changes to governance structures protect and promote the wellbeing of our residents.

Alongside residents of North East Lincolnshire, we share the Council's concerns that the proposed restructure risks undermining local accountability, diluting community representation, and disrupting the delivery of vital services.

Through our experience of Healthwatch service delivery we feel that the current structure of integration between health, social care and the voluntary and community sector works well. There is a strong feeling of



community and partnership within North East Lincolnshire, and residents are incredibly proud of their local identity.

We believe that centralising authority or merging governance across broader regions could reduce the ability of residents to influence decisions that affect their lives, and any progress made towards reducing health inequalities would become lost in a much larger system.

We urge decision makers to reconsider the proposal and ensure that the voice of the residents of North East Lincolnshire is truly valued and listened to throughout the process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carrie Duran', on a light pink background.

Carrie Duran

Head of Health and Care Programmes

Hull CVS and Meeting New Horizons - contract holder for Healthwatch North East Lincolnshire



Monday 6th October 2025

Dear Sharon,

Re: Letter of Support for North East Lincolnshire Council’s Proposal on Local Government Reorganisation

I am writing on behalf of Horizon Youth Zone to express our full support for North East Lincolnshire Council’s proposal to retain its current boundaries and remain a standalone unitary authority as part of the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) process.

As a local organisation, we have witnessed the council’s deep-rooted commitment to its communities, particularly in its work with children, young people, and families. The development of the Grimsby Youth Zone (named by young people locally as Horizon) is a shining example of this commitment, a transformational project that will provide a safe, inspiring space for young people to thrive, build confidence, and access opportunities that shape their futures.

North East Lincolnshire Council has consistently demonstrated a forward-thinking and collaborative approach, not only in economic development and regeneration but also in nurturing the next generation. Their investment in youth services, education, and skills training reflects a genuine understanding of the long-term value of empowering young people and supporting families.

We believe that a locally based council is best placed to respond to the unique needs of our area, localised decision-making and partnership working is a key strength that must be preserved.

The council’s proactive efforts in securing investment through initiatives like the Humber Freeport, the development of Pioneer Park, and the expansion of the CATCH facility have created new opportunities for growth and innovation. These projects, alongside the Youth Zone and other community-focused initiatives, demonstrate a holistic approach to building a stronger, more inclusive future.

We also value the council’s commitment to pan-Humber collaboration and its ambitious regeneration plan for Grimsby and Cleethorpes town centres. These initiatives reflect a deep understanding of local priorities and a genuine desire to improve the lives of residents.





In our view, a larger, more centralised authority may risk diluting the strong local focus and community ties that currently exist. We believe that retaining North East Lincolnshire Council as a smaller, locally based unitary authority is the best way to ensure continued progress, responsiveness, and meaningful engagement with the people and businesses it serves, especially our children and young people, who deserve to grow up in a place that puts them first.

We hope our support will contribute positively to the council's proposal and we remain committed to working together to build a thriving future for North East Lincolnshire.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Ottewell-Key

Chief Executive Officer



Subject: LGR

Dear Sharon,

Following the recent publication of North East Lincolnshire Council's position regarding the proposed Local Government re-organisation, may we take this opportunity to outline the Humber Freeport's view.

The Humber Freeport recognises the excellent support given by NELC towards the Freeport initiative and in particular in its role as Accountable Body. This we note is as a distinct entity in its own right and would question the need for change. It performs as an Authority and represents well the community it serves. A way forward may be to enhance formal collaboration and partnership working across the Humber rather than structural change which will lead to a period of uncertainty and as yet for undefined benefits.

Yours sincerely,

Simon

Simon Green, Chief Executive, Humber Freeport

Dock Offices, Cleethorpe Road, Grimsby. DN31 3LL

✉ simon.green@humberfreeport.org



Hello Sharon

I hope you are keeping well and very belated congratulations on your new role.

I am writing on behalf of NEL GPs, and we would be very keen to support anything that keep boundaries within NEL. I know the deadlines have gone but if there is anything you require we are more than happy to support. We very much agree with continuing the strong working relationships within NEL across health and care and believe this is the key footprint required to continue developing the services we need to make a difference to our population.

I know there is a lot of noise at the moment, but NEL GPs are committed to North East Lincolnshire. We have a newly formed GP federation and have even named it NEL Fed due to the importance we place on our footprint.

We would also be very keen to work with you in ensuring as much delegation and authority / accountability to come through our Joint Committee/HWBB and into NEL for everything and anything related to Neighbourhood Health.

Happy to have a conversation if you think that would be helpful.

Ekta

Dr Ekta Elston

GP Partner The Roxton Practice

Meridian Health Group PCN

North East Lincolnshire Health and Care Partnership



+44 (0)333 300 1303

www.myenergi.com

October 2025

To:
The Rt Hon Steve Reed OBE MP
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

Dear Secretary of State,

Subject: Letter of Support for North East Lincolnshire Council's Proposal to Retain Current Boundaries

I am writing to express my full support for North East Lincolnshire Council's proposal to remain within its current boundaries and not become part of the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

As an international business headquartered in North East Lincolnshire and key stakeholder in the region, I strongly believe that the Council's current structure as a smaller, locally focused authority is best suited to meet the needs of our community and businesses. The Council's close connection to its residents and businesses ensures that decisions are made with a deep understanding of local priorities, which is vital for fostering growth, supporting the economy and improving health outcomes.

The Council's proactive approach to attracting investment and supporting local businesses has been evident through initiatives such as the Humber Freeport expansion, the development of Pioneer Park, and the increase in apprenticeship opportunities. These efforts have directly contributed to the growth of our local economy and the strengthening of our community.

I also appreciate the Council's commitment to maintaining pan-Humber business collaboration and its ambitious vision for the transformation of Grimsby and Cleethorpes town centres. These initiatives are critical to the continued growth and prosperity of our region, and I believe they are best served by retaining the current administrative structure.

In conclusion, I firmly believe that North East Lincolnshire Council's proposal to remain as a smaller, locally focused authority is in the best interests of our community, businesses, and residents. I urge the Government to consider the unique strengths and achievements of our Council and to support its proposal to retain its current boundaries.

Thank you for your leadership and dedication to our community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Clint".

Andrew Clint
Chief Executive Officer
✉ andrew.clint@myenergi.com



17th September 2025

Navigo Health and Social Care CIC
3-7 Brighowgate,
Grimsby
North East Lincolnshire DN32 0QE

Telephone: **01472 583000**
Email: simon.beeton@nhs.net
navigocare.co.uk

Dear Sharon and Alison,

Subject: Letter of Support re: Local Government Reorganisation

Thank you for your letter dated 5th September regarding the above.

We are writing to express support for the proposal in the letter to retain the two existing Local Authority boundaries for North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

In North East Lincolnshire we have a long history of working across Health and Care boundaries including delivering fully integrated NHS and Adult Social Care services in Mental Health. At Navigo, we believe, and evidence confirms that this delivers well for the people of North East Lincolnshire. We feel that a reorganisation of Local Authority boundaries at this point could potentially destabilise these services and impact on the quality of care we are able to deliver to our residents.

Further to this and as you are already aware, North East Lincolnshire Health and Care Partnership has also recently been successful in our bid to be a National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Pilot (NNHIP). In order to fully focus on delivery against the pilot requirements for this high profile piece of work, it would make sense to maintain existing boundaries.

In summary, Navigo would support maintaining existing Local Authority boundaries for Northern Lincolnshire.

North East Lincolnshire VCSE Alliance



Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

10/10/2025

Dear Sharon,

Re: Support for North East Lincolnshire Council's Proposal to Remain a Distinct Unitary Authority

On behalf of the North East Lincolnshire VCSE Alliance, I am writing to express our strong support for the Council's proposal to retain its existing boundaries and remain as an independent unitary authority.

The voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in North East Lincolnshire benefits from a uniquely close and collaborative relationship with the local authority. This partnership is built on shared trust, a shared commitment to inclusion, and a collective understanding of our communities' needs. It allows us to co-design and deliver services that respond quickly and effectively to local priorities - from tackling homelessness and improving mental health, to building resilience and opportunity for young people and families.

The Council's openness to partnership working, its recognition of the sector's contribution, and its continued investment in the VCSE infrastructure - including the VCSE Forum and the Sector Support NEL partnership with the VCSE Alliance - are examples of good practice that have drawn regional and national attention. The Local Authority's willingness to listen, collaborate and innovate alongside the Sector is one of North East Lincolnshire's defining strengths.

We are concerned that a merger into a larger unitary structure would risk weakening these local networks and the responsiveness that has been critical to achieving real outcomes for residents. The current model enables the VCSE, public and private sectors to act as true partners - building local solutions for local people.

For these reasons, the NEL VCSE Alliance fully supports the Council's position to remain as a smaller, locally focused unitary authority, which best serves the interests of our communities, our sector, and the people of North East Lincolnshire.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Walmsley".

Julie Walmsley
Chairperson
North East Lincolnshire VCSE Alliance



Humber Health
Partnership

Enquiries to: Carla Mitchell
Telephone: 01482 675783
Email: carla.mitchell2@nhs.net

NHS Humber Health Partnership (HHP)
Trust Headquarters
Hull Royal Infirmary
Alderson House
Anlaby Road
Hull
HU3 2JZ

06/10/2025

Local Government Reorganisation – Greater Lincolnshire

Alison Barker
Chief Executive
North Lincolnshire Council

Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

Dear Alison and Sharon,

Thank you for your recent correspondence. We are grateful to be engaged in ongoing discussions regarding local government reorganisation across the Greater Lincolnshire area.

Humber Health Partnership (HHP) is the main provider of acute hospital services across Northern Lincolnshire and community NHS services in North Lincolnshire

As a group organisation spanning the Humber region, we place a high value on our partnerships with key strategic partners on both banks of the Humber estuary. We value the strong and productive relationships we have in place with our local authority partners in both North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

We are committed members of the North East Lincolnshire Health and Care Partnership (HCP) and the North Lincolnshire Place Partnership and value the opportunity these strategic forums provide to work collaboratively across the Northern Lincolnshire area for the benefit of our patients and our population.

In particular, we are committed to working with local authority and other health and care partners in North East Lincolnshire to progress the work of our Health and Care Partnership, benefiting from national support as a Wave 1 pilot for Neighbourhood Health Implementation. Similarly, we will continue to support the work in North Lincolnshire, through the Place Partnership, to progress the development of Neighbourhood Health in the area.

The strong relationships we have in place with North and North East Lincolnshire Councils support us to deliver on a number of key operational priorities, for example, our Integrated Discharge Team in North Lincolnshire is vital to delivering the reductions needed in patients within hospital beds who do not need to be in hospital. In addition, through our joint working over recent years we have leveraged significant investment into the region, for example, into new Community Diagnostic Centres in both Scunthorpe and Grimsby, supporting regeneration of town centres in both areas.

Working in partnership:
Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust

United by Compassion:
Driving for Excellence

We recognise also that a sizable minority of our patients travel from other areas, including from East Lindsey and West Lindsey local authority areas, and we continue to work with the relevant local authorities to support with key priorities such as hospital discharge.

Some of our key priorities for future collaborative working with our local government partners include:

- Supporting economic regeneration and investment into the region
- Working with social care teams and other partners to improve flow through our hospitals by preventing unnecessary admissions to hospital and supporting timely discharge
- Working with public health teams and other partners to improve the health and our population and reduce the burden of disease over the longer term
- Improving transport links to healthcare services

It is very important to our organisation that, whatever the eventual makeup of local authorities within the Greater Lincolnshire area, we are able to maintain and build upon the strong working relationships we have with local government across Northern Lincolnshire. These partnerships are vital to ensuring we deliver our strategic goals, ensuring our patients get the best care and our population can live more years in good health. We look forward to continuing to work in close partnership with you and your colleagues on these and other priority areas over the coming months and years.

Yours sincerely,



Lyn Simpson
Interim Group Chief Executive



Andy Haywood
Group Chief Strategy, Partnerships and Digital Officer

Sharon Wroot,
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

8th October 2025

Dear Sharon,

We so appreciate our partnership with North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) and the work we do together to build a thriving future in North East Lincolnshire.

Over the past three years, we have built a collaboration based on shared values and a belief in the potential of the region. There are so many strengths that your team and organisation bring to the work. Many of your team and senior leadership at NELC are from and live within the council area. Their proximity to citizens and their understanding of the opportunities and challenges in the region enables them to build deep and longstanding partnerships with the community.

Your team's commitment to the region is evident through your desire to explore and develop models that build community wealth and keep assets and income in the region; whether that is through the new procurement regime or being trailblazers in how Pride in Place funding can back all citizens to contribute to the positive change underway.

We feel incredibly lucky to partner with you and your team to drive change in a place we all care deeply about.

With many thanks,

Emily Bolton
CEO, Our Future

Thank you for reaching out. As you can imagine the University has been lobbied by all the local authorities to support their plans, which vary considerably. As a consequence we have decided to remain neutral as to support one plan over another would be divisive and we cannot support them all as they do not align. This is not ideal and is not where we would wish to be, but we judge it to be the fairest approach to take to all our partners.

Regards, Julian.



Mr. Julian Free CBE | Deputy Vice Chancellor

Vice Chancellor's Office
University of Lincoln, Brayford Pool, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 7TS
email: jfree@lincoln.ac.uk tel: 01522 886100

Executive Assistant: Mrs Tracey Watson

Email: TrWatson@lincoln.ac.uk tel: 01522 886109



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The Carers' Support Service

Working with Carers in Northern Lincolnshire



The Carers' Support Service
1 Town Hall Square,
Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire
DN31 1HY

TEL: 01472 242277
carerssupportcentre.com



1st October 2025

Sharon Wroot
Interim Chief Executive
North East Lincolnshire Council

Dear Sharon,

**Re: Support for North East Lincolnshire Council's Proposal on
Local Government Reorganisation**

On behalf of the Carers' Support Centre (registered charity 1070028) I am writing to express our strong support for North East Lincolnshire Council's position in relation to Local Government Reorganisation.

As a local voluntary and community sector organisation supporting unpaid Carers and their families across North East Lincolnshire, we see daily the benefits of having a council that is close to and engaged with its communities. Carers often navigate complex and demanding responsibilities, and they rely on services that are responsive, accessible, and tailored to their needs. The council's current structure ensures decisions are taken with an understanding of these local circumstances, which is vital for Carers' wellbeing.

We particularly value the strong working relationship between the Council and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector. In partnership, we have been able to provide holistic and wrap-around support that recognises the role of Carers in improving health outcomes, preventing crises, and reducing pressures on wider public services. These joint efforts have ensured that Carers and their families receive the right support, at the right time, in the right way. We are concerned that this close partnership could be weakened if the council were absorbed into a larger unitary authority where local voices risk being lost.

North East Lincolnshire Council's scale and focus allow it to remain connected to Carers, families, and communities while driving forward improvements in health, wellbeing, skills, and employment. Retaining the current authority structure gives the best chance of continuing to strengthen local networks of support for Carers, tackling issues such as loneliness, isolation, and inequalities, and enabling Carers to live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

For these reasons, The Carers' Support Centre fully supports the proposal for North East Lincolnshire Council to remain within its current boundaries. We believe this approach best serves carers, their families, and our wider communities, ensuring that strong local partnerships and innovative solutions continue to flourish.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important decision. We are proud to stand alongside the Council in support of this proposal.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Wilson & Mike Humphries

Joint CEOs





11th November 2025

Dear Sir / Madam,

Lincolnshire Police have received requests from local representatives regarding their views on Local Government Reorganisation. Rather than comment on specific proposals, we welcome the opportunity to provide feedback relating to LGR more broadly, and to continue with the strong partnership working in Lincolnshire.

Having discussed Local Government Reorganisation with colleagues the following are areas which we would be grateful if they could be considered alongside and your wider proposals:

- Lincolnshire Police have good working relationships with Humberside, and other neighbouring forces. However, local governments may experience differing levels of police service depending on each force's unique funding position.
- Any proposed restructure would benefit from considering the police and partnership demand which could be created if there were different processes for different areas of the county. A consistent set of processes for referrals, and access to support (whether via a single organization, or harmonized processes across different local governments) would be preferable for policing.
- An area of particular focus for this would be the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for adults and children. The introduction of Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPT) would benefit from consistency of governance, assurance and systems, to best support children in need of protection, and to reduce duplication.
- It will be important during any potential transition period, to ensure there is clarity in responsibilities for key areas such as community safety, safeguarding and emergency planning
- It is likely that priorities would be redefined with the creation of any new unitary authorities. The Force would be keen to work closely to ensure policing needs are reflected in this.
- Another area of where strong consistency across local governments would be important, is the area of Local Resilience Forums. Working across different LRFs would need high levels of consistency to ensure that a high-quality consistent emergency response could be provided to residents, as well as not increasing workloads of blue light responders and other partners.
- Any changes to local government boundaries are likely to result in some modest delays in data availability, as new performance dashboards and datasets are created and collated. We would ask for patience during this time, and ask that data requests be standardized across local government(s).

We intend to share these universal principles with the writers of alternative proposals in the interest of fairness, to ensure that the policing impact is understood, and to support partnership working.



Lincolnshire Police remain committed to working closely with partners to support local service delivery, and we remain confident that our Neighbourhood Policing Teams and colleagues across all departments will work hard to ensure that any Local Government Reorganisation is a success.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Anderson', written over a horizontal blue line.

KATE ANDERSON

T/ Assistant Chief Constable,

Police Headquarters,

Nettleham,

Lincoln,

LN2 2LT

www.lincs.police.uk

 Kate.Anderson@lincs.police.uk



Subject: Local Government Reorganisation

Good afternoon Sharon,

Thank you for the email relating to the proposals from North East Lincolnshire Council with regards to the Local Government Reorganisation.

As Managing Director of Carr & Carr (Builders) Ltd, Chair of the Grimsby District Builders Association and Chair of the North East Lincolnshire Housing Development Forum, I support the Council's decision to try and remain within the existing current boundaries.

Under your leadership, I believe you are delivering a great service to the residents of North East Lincolnshire, and with regards to housing/planning/regeneration I think we are extremely strong compared to our neighbouring Authorities.

Kind regards

Chris Carr

Carr & Carr (Builders) Ltd

46 Park View,
Cleethorpes,
DN35 7TF

Tel 01472 354950

Mob 07714700978

Web www.carrbuilders.co.uk



Working in partnership on the climate and environment plan for new homes



Protection for new-build home buyers

Section 5: North East Lincolnshire LGR public engagement survey

Local Government Reorganisation 2025

Survey Results – Overview

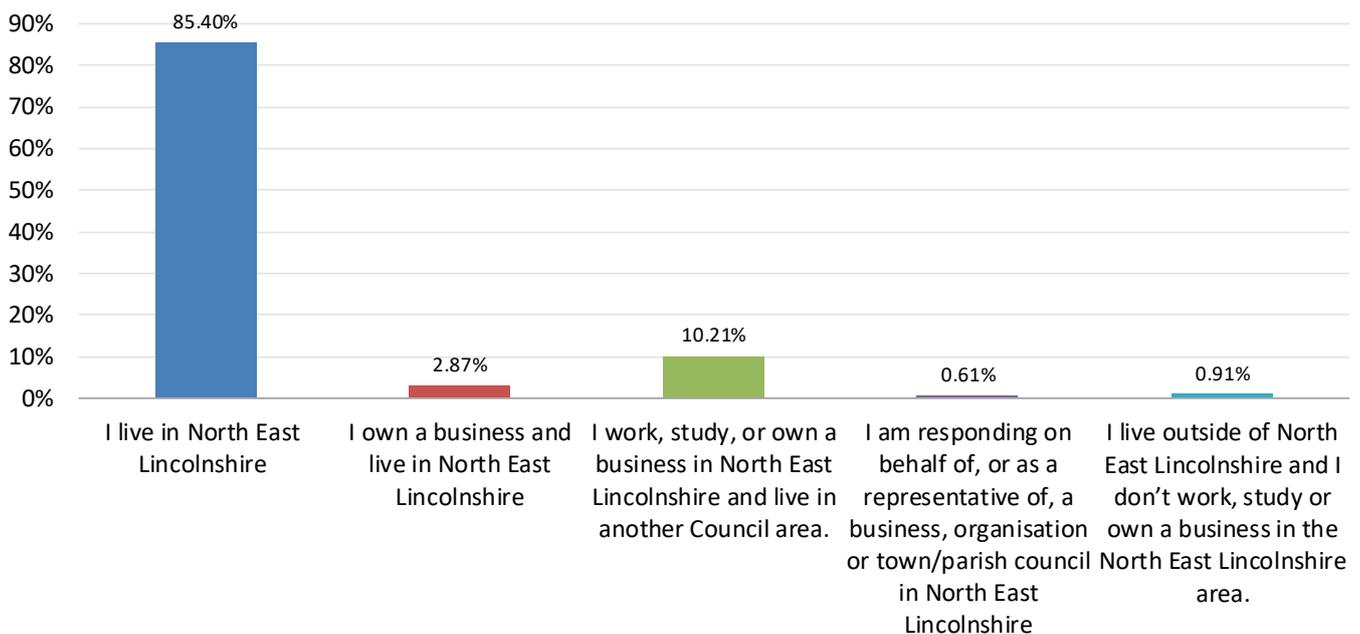
Opened - Weds 20th August

Closed - Thurs 18th Sept

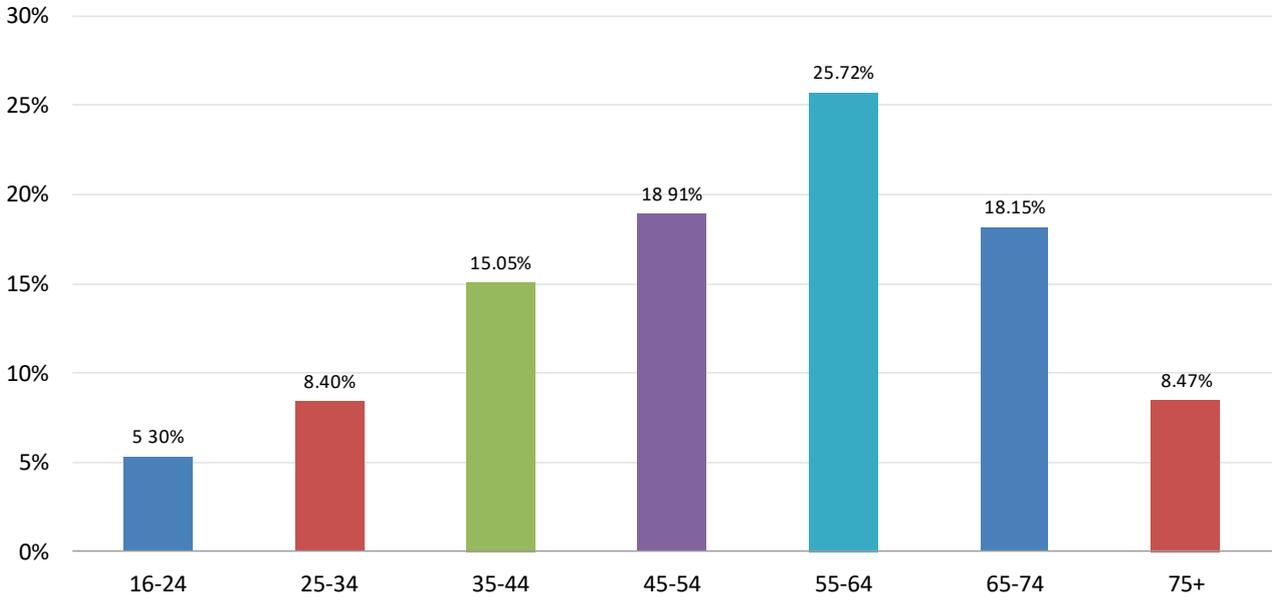
Total No of Days Open – 31 days

Total Responses - 1398

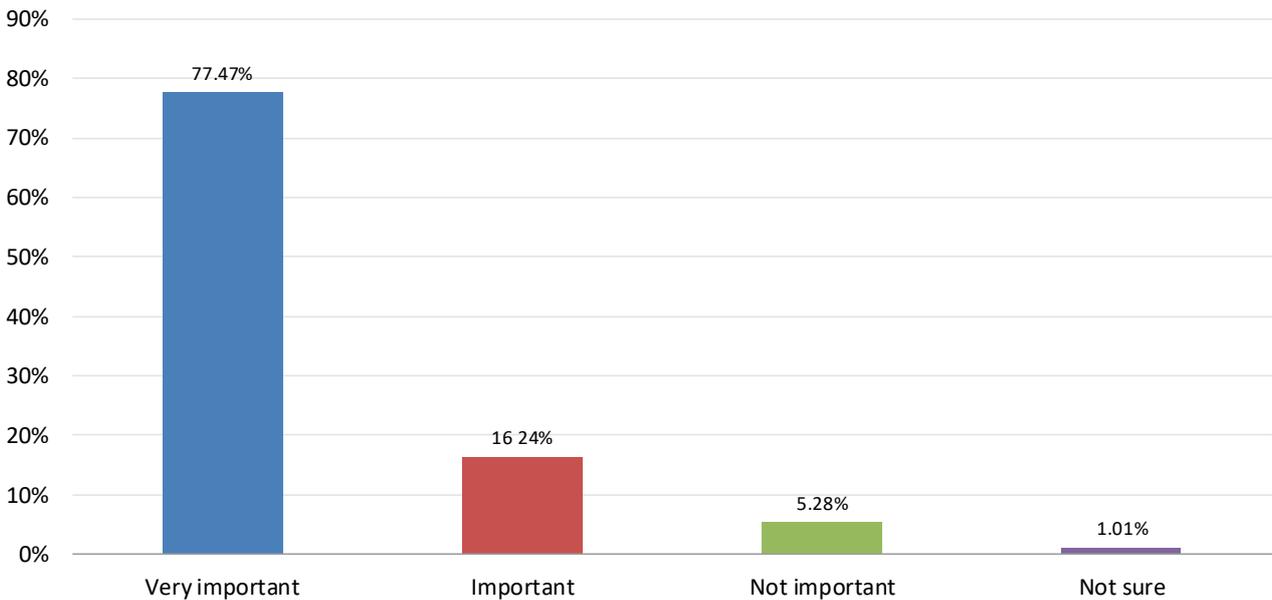
1. In what capacity are you responding to this survey?



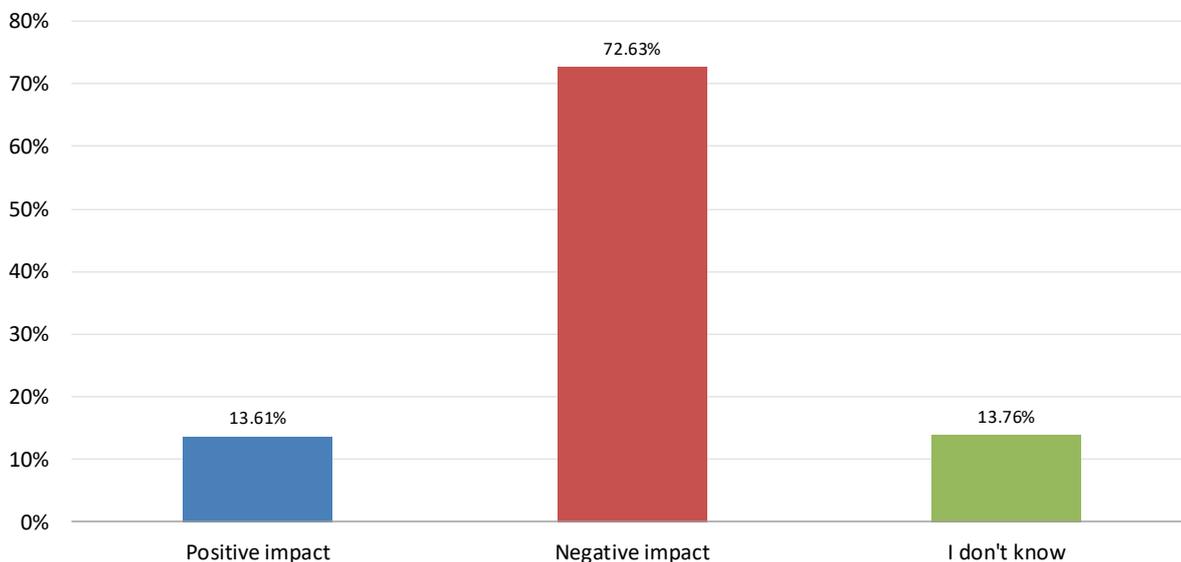
What is your age range?



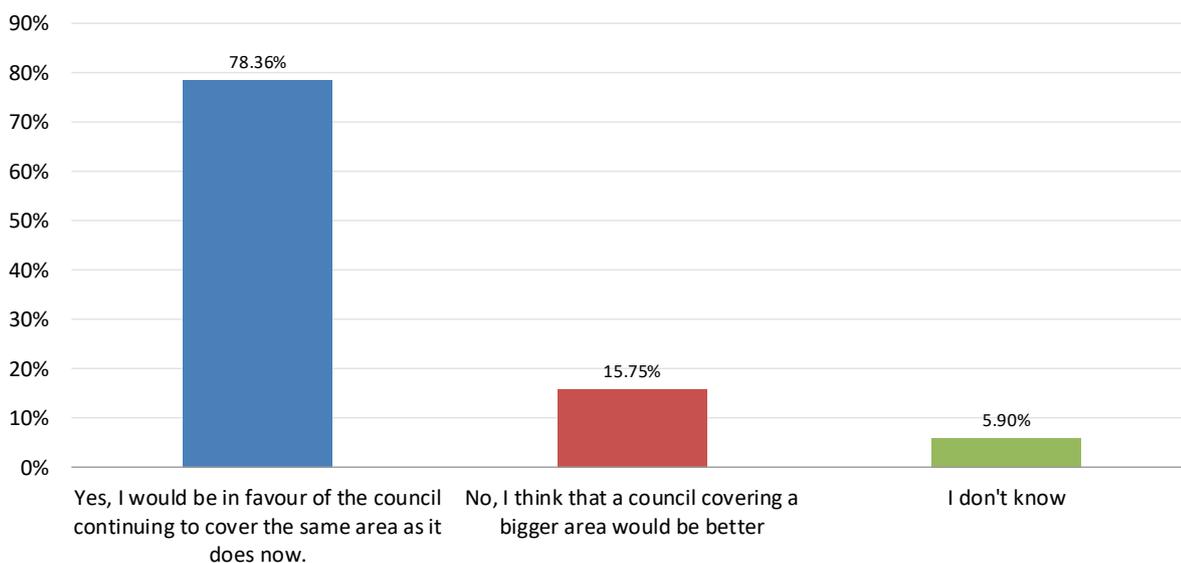
How important is it to you that council decisions that affect residents and services are made as locally as possible?



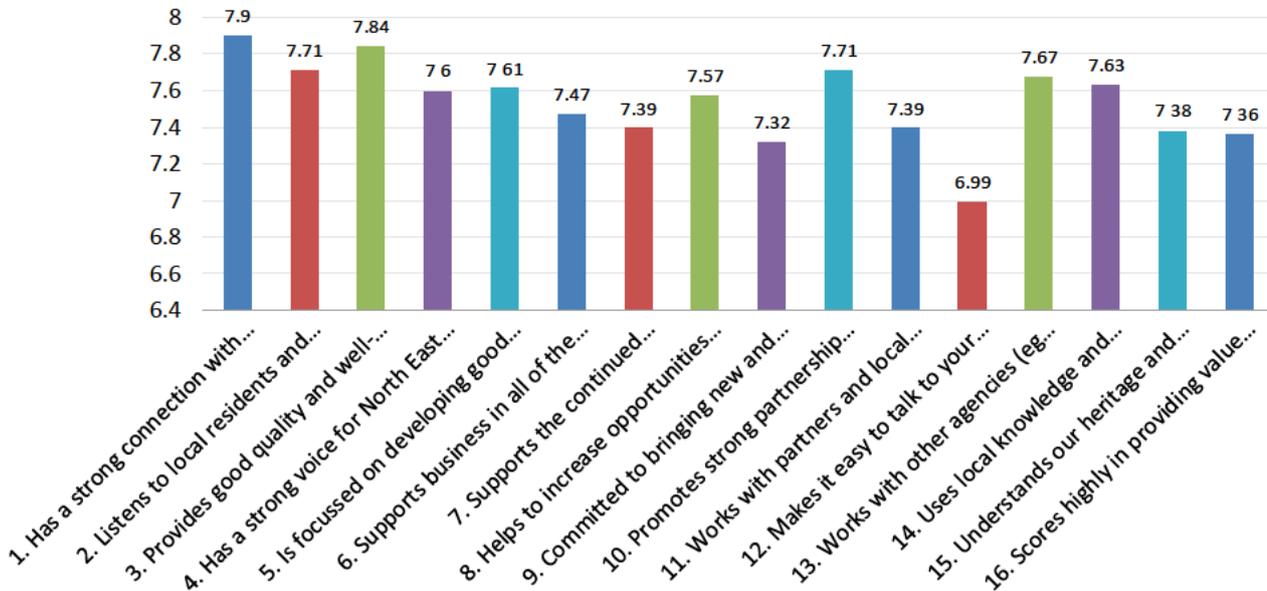
If North East Lincolnshire became part of a larger council, how do you think that would impact the way the new council connects with local people and influences decisions about local services?



Would you prefer things to stay as they are, with the council continuing to cover the same area as it does now? (ie North East Lincolnshire Council remaining as it is)



Please rate out of 10 your top considerations for any council covering North East Lincolnshire (Scale - 10 being most important to you and 1 being least important) We have a council that.....



“Has a strong connection with local communities and understands their issues” tops the vote with a score of 7.9

To gather our community’s opinion and thoughts on Local Government Reorganisation and what it might mean for North East Lincolnshire, we created a simple survey. Once created the survey was promoted via our engagement teams existing pathways (eg mailing lists, webpage), NELC social media channels, intranet and within the local press. A short film was created to help convey what LGR is and means for North East Lincolnshire to further help with the online and social media communications. Visual aides in the form of flyers and posters were distributed to a host of public facing sites across the borough including GP surgeries, leisure centres, family hubs, libraries and community hubs. Display screens were used to showcase the LGR poster/image within leisure centres, our main council office and local library.

We utilised our local partnerships in North East Lincolnshire to help us better reach our various communities and residents, partners such our local VCS support organisation Sector Support who shared it with the sector and thus all the engaged VCS groups and organisations within it, ICB colleagues to reach into health services and sites, those are just to name a couple. Our partners supported by sharing the social media imagery, LGR text via their social media, internal communications, with services users, etc.

To ensure we captured the voice of our younger community members we used routes into local education and attended one of our local colleges Freshers Fair at which we engaged attendees in supporting them to access the LGR information and survey.

Our approach on engagement encapsulates our ‘place based’ ethos in North East Lincolnshire. Working with our partners and organisations to achieve a more cohesive and collaborative approach.

Section 6: Engagement survey: public comments

Local Government Reorganisation 2025

Comments relating to Local Government Reorganisation from the North East Lincolnshire Council Engagement Survey

(Any comments that are not related to Local Government Reorganisation have been removed)

11. Please use this space to add anything else important to you that you would like to say about reorganising Lincolnshire's councils. (maximum 500 characters)

1665119944	The council services are stronger when people who you work with live in the same areas, it builds bridges and a human aspect. If you speak about your area someone in Lincoln or Boston has never heard of half the streets you reference. The greater Lincolnshire area covers different policing areas, one forces area stops halfway through that council will cause issues in providing safer communities. Smaller areas of nelc will be neglected in favour of larger towns
1665116795	I believe a local council understands the demographics of its community to be community led and the further away these decisions are made the less individualised they are
1665115109	If this is happening everywhere else, we shouldn't stay the same and miss out on the extra capacity/resources this would bring.
1665114475	Thank you for this opportunity. For me, it makes sense to end the two-tier system in the Lincolnshire county area and leave North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire as they are.
1665112641	I think we have done some great work recently with regards the Grimsby/Cleethorpes town centres I wonder if projects like that would get lost in a reorganising of councils, think the size we are now is a very manageable size to be able to give everything it's best shot.
1665112202	I believe merging NELC with other local councils and increasing the areas that a single council have governance over would dilute the ability to focus on local issues.
1665110911	NELC have put a lot of work into regenerating the area, particularly Grimsby Town Centre and Cleethorpes. I worry that if we were to become part of a larger council, Grimsby and Cleethorpes wouldn't get as much attention/funding for projects as we do at the moment. Also, NELC knows the areas of concern which need extra support with NEL but these may be less prioritised if we were part of a larger council.
1665110710	It should stay as it is. The smaller the better and the greater the impact of the differences they make.

1665109554	As something grows larger, there's a risk that some important areas may be overlooked or forgotten. As an organisation scales, the personal touch that once defined its culture can fade and whilst geographic responsibility can bring broader influence and resources, it may unintentionally sideline the local, community-focused elements that were once central.
1665109383	As a resident of NEL, it is essential that our local council remains focused on the unique needs, challenges, and opportunities of our distinct geographical area. Expanding to a wider footprint risks losing local insight and tailored services that matter most to our communities. It could also mean financial disadvantage, with resources potentially diverted away from our priorities. Maintaining a local focus is vital to protect both service quality and funding for our communities.
1665109240	I think the localism that NEL creates will be lost and moved elsewhere where the connection with Council teams will not be so close. The value for money due to the authority being small, every penny matters and isn't wasted.
1665105074	Decisions which affect local people should be made locally taking into account the views of local residents. Once things are done centrally instead of locally it often feels that locals are not being listened to.
1665103181	I support the idea and movement to a larger greater Lincolnshire council, NELC is poorly run with vested interests of both councillors and officers taking over decision making and operating.
1665102563	In my opinion, once councils go out to become part of a larger area, NE Lincs council would get swallowed up in the mix. Funds would go to other areas and we'd get dropped to the back of the queue. Our council are working hard to give back what is missing here, a renewed shopping area, places for the youth to go to. In my opinion its a huge bonus and will go a long way to stop much of the boredom of the youths, which in turn can turn to vandalism. It will also create more jobs and give focus
1665099259	The current council don't listen to the views of the local population at all.
1665097249	Maybe only a set amount of councils merge like 2 at the most. Times are hard difficult etc tough decisions have to be made. Every avenue resource should be explored. We need to stick together more. Help each other.
1665096734	I think NE Lincs should interface with local district councils in Lincolnshire to get better value for money when it comes to infrastructure projects.
1665095134	NELC do their utmost to connect with locals & provide resources & services to the best of their ability. We are a community in an unusually disconnected geographical position. People and business do not pass through Grimsby, we are in a corner without a direct connection to our capital city by train & an hour's journey to arterial motorways. This council understands our needs. A larger body would not.
1665094479	To realign boundaries and expand would waste millions We need to focus on finishing our local infrastructure projects that have commenced without committing to additional projects We need to look after our own area, people, businesses and public services rather than lose track by expanding and diverting focus away There is so much more to be said..
1665093934	I don't think that the current council do much that the local people want, just do what they want even after consultations. If it was a larger further away council they would listen even less.
1665089577	Looking at other councils where this has happened eg Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, it has been financially disastrous for the smaller areas
1665082163	We need a local council but 1 that works for local people

1665080212	Most people in Grimsby are fed up with our council as there are too many mistakes and No accountability. It
1665075004	We have been part of a bigger county before (South Humberside) where unfortunately our side of the river got the least funding for the residents, the bulk of it all went to Hull with it being a city and a larger population. Being part at a bigger county will not improve things in our small county. We will be shouted down by the bigger ones again. The government might think it will work better but we've been there before and it didn't work for the good of our population.
1665074970	My main concern would be the loss of independent councillors who genuinely listen to the residents
1665074874	I do worry, because the issues, priorities and demographics between NE Lincs, N Lincs and Gtr Lincs are very different. I cannot possibly see how this can be managed effectively, giving quality to all.
1665074680	An additional and unnecessary layer of government which will need paying for presumably by higher council tax bills or cuts to local agencies. Based in the south of the county obviously their priority will be to their region.
1665074505	As a whole, I consider the local population has no confidence in local councillors or the administration of local needs and refuses to listen to the opinions of residents.
1665074394	Don't do it. It can't do what it says now.
1665074190	You already know the carnage that partnering with NLC has caused. Don't make life even worse for your overworked and underpaid staff by becoming a unitary authority.
1665073742	Councils must be close to the people it represents. Big is not always beautiful and in this case the existing council size works and supports local people to which we can hold them accountable.
1665072951	Working WITH your local area/residents and NOT DOING TO. This would not work if we were a bigger area.
1665072661	I think it's very important to keep a local council that understand local needs and a I feel a larger council wouldn't be able to do this.
1665070001	It's about transparency and genuinely wanting to help those in the area. Not wasting money, and spending money appropriately, not just because the National government has their targets. The right resources for the area not just ticking a box. Open discussion with local people and our needs, not what can give you the most money, but what can help
1665069391	The choices for responding to the first 2 questions are over simplistic. For example I think it could work being linked with N Lincs but not the whole of rural Lincolnshire
1665068869	I am totally against the reorganisation of Linc's Councils. How could it possibly improve? Leave well alone!
1665068150	We need a council that actually listens to it's people and has to be transparent in there dealings , we need local people who care about the area and will stop the current rot that has taken over the area
1665067956	A larger council based in a city, many miles away where many of the councillors will have never even visited our area, will make our rather small and out the way area on the bottom rung of the ladder, as the larger council tries to encourage more for the larger, more affluent areas and cities. This is not something wanted by myself or anyone I know local to the area. Our town has a long way to go and positive changes are only just beginning to happen and this will set that back.
1665067504	My local Independent councillors are amazing. The rest of you not so much. I'd like to keep our independent councillors. They are the ONLY ones listening.

1665067246	Steve Holland local councillor is amazing and supportive of his area. Listening and responding and finding information. Local council are important for the area and heritage of our community.
1665066848	The current council for the smaller area doesn't listen to its residents now, therefore if there is a move to a bigger area, how are local residents ever going to be listened to??
1665066113	I feel it is important appoint people with the ability and empathy to keep this county in top condition . We have a unique nature reserve which was appointed by Rothschild and protected for its outstanding bird species/ trees etc . This should be looked after along with the town's heritage, this will only happen if the council has a grass roots approach. The moment it merges and people with no knowledge of geographics demographics, this will fall apart . Keep the faith
1665065989	Decentralization is no good in this regard & seldom is in any regard. Local decisions aren't closely enough based upon what local people need, or want, as it is! Already, far too much work that has been undertaken by NELC is badly done & isn't what's needed. Local groups of resident trying to further what is needed, should be closely consulted & supported, as should Independent councillors, which are presently being shunned, or experiencing attempts at being removed, with boundary changes.
1665065983	We would probably lose our independent councillors who are brilliant. They listen to residents, help out with issues that are affecting us and try their best for the good of the town. They are able to do this by being incredibly localised. They understand that local issues, however small, can make a big difference. The council is better placed to serve residents on a more localised level. We would be lost in a mega council.
1665065855	I would like to see N.E. Lincolnshire remain in its present form.
1665065698	We have had change with county names and boundaries before, which all costs financially and yet there is talk of attempting it again. We need to concentrate on correcting the issues the county already has without spreading the resources even further .
1665065618	We fought to have Humberside removed as an extra layer, we have autonomy as a Unitary Council. It's almost as if it's change for change sake to justify a Govnmt dept to look at changes.
1665065540	A larger council would be more remote from the people it's suppose to serve, I would like N.E. Lincolnshire to remain in its present form.
1665064960	NE Lincs Councils of all political colours have been terrible. The current Councillors with the exception of a few are awful. That said replacing our council with an authority which the North of the county has little in common with anyone south of Holton Le Clay would be disastrous
1665064613	For the Councillors to understand and be interested in the local area, which can only be the case on a local level. What do our councillors know about Scunthorpe and vice versa.
1665063195	We don't want a repeat of Humberside when all the money went north of the river. Lincolnshire is enormous and the likes of n e Lincolnshire residents will be bottom of the list and forgotten about
1665062183	I would like a local council that actually listens to its residents. All of the above points are important to me so it would be nice if the actual elected council that are supposed to serve OUR interests not their own, would be in power.
1665049953	From personal experience we already have councillors who make decisions that don't reflect the will or the people, and residents already aren't listened to (Grimsby West for one massive example). Decisions that are made even further away is not a good idea. The future is more localisation, not more cost cutting and mystifying decisions made by London (housing quotas being just one).

1665049487	Having a 'greater' council would make it harder to listen to what people actually want and what's best for communities. We need to be heard and protected, as well as protecting our wildlife
1665048970	Decisions concerning local matters might be treated less favourably than other more populous areas and money taken away from local areas for projects important to those living in NE Lincolnshire. ie London and the South East get more money per capita than the North of England currently so that may also apply to NE Lincs council area if it is swallowed up by a larger more populous area.
1665045907	We have the benefit of local independent councillors in our area at the moment who strongly reflect the views of those local constituents not a political party. My fear is this will be much less likely to happen in an extended greater Lincolnshire council. It's the first time I've been able to feel connected to councillors who really fight for why people want and care about. We don't want to lose this.
1665041606	A local inward facing body cannot bring the depth of understanding and experience to any of these areas despite the importance of them. Many of the instances of the word local being used in the questions would be of equal importance if the words national or regional or even international were used. A broader pool of expertise and experience to draw from could improve the vision for the area and further cost savings could be made as well as potentially attracting a greater pool of applicants.
1665040084	I like the accessibility of local councillors and the prompt action they take when requested. They live here and care about residents and the area. A larger council will not understand local issues or structure which will be to the residents' detriment.
1665039070	NE Lincs in most instances has demonstrated good decision making and governance and would not have the same community links if it were to be swallowed into a larger Authority
1665033746	Reorganisation will cost money and take years to pay back. It risks taking money away from local services without central funding to support the process It's a long term decision that should be taken only when the business case is clear and benefits quantifiable.
1665032418	Local knowledge is so important. I fear that NEL will lose all the good work the foundations it has been putting in if we are part of a larger council. For years we have been underfunded we need to continue to do what we are doing now. By being part of a larger council area will only push us back further.
1665025068	It is important that the local authority has a place based approach to service delivery, though this does not necessarily prevent moving to a bigger geographical area. Any reorganisation should consider how local authority officers and decision makers come to understand the needs of the different areas they cover and the decision making processes have enough flexibility to consider different needs.
1665022885	Councils should be accessible to local residents when needed. A bigger footprint would mean that local offices are less likely to be staffed by senior staff and bureaucracy would probably be even greater than it is now
1665014547	Local knowledge plays a crucial role in ensuring a council is well-run and responsive to its community. Each area has unique needs and challenges that are best understood by those who live and work there. Decisions made without this insight—especially from outside the region—risk being disconnected from local realities and may not lead to constructive outcomes.
1665013423	Accountability and local knowledge essential in good governance....engagement needs to be timely relevant and constructive...and that requires living within the community that one serves.

1665013203	Having two smaller councils in the wider Lincs area (North and North East Lincs) means the expertise available is very limited across these two areas, whereas in larger councils the resource pool including expertise can be / often is much wider.
1665007731	A bigger council would take democracy further away from the residents. please leave it as it is.
1665006640	I think it is vital that North East Lincolnshire Council does not merge with other councils. Councillors needs to be local with local knowledge for maximum input and performance. In my opinion, becoming a larger authority would simply not work and I think it would be a decision that would be regretted pretty much as soon as it was made. If it isn't broken, don't fix it!
1665005800	If any change were necessary, joining North and North East Lincolnshire Councils would make most sense as they already work as a shared service in some areas.
1665000470	Although overall I think they do a good job, I do believe that being small means a lot of services have to be outsourced and this can mean these company's cream of a lot of money and their experts who often live away make decisions. I think a bigger council should be able to do much of this work in house and provide jobs for local people
1664997754	I lived for many years in West Lindsey and being swallowed up into the likes of an area like this would be madness. The rural nature of Lincolnshire/West Lindsey/East Lindsey etc would be a totally wrong fit for the more urban, and unique needs of a seaside area such as Cleethorpes.
1664991585	Our Council needs to remain local.
1664985460	There is a saying "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"
1664985368	Local means accountable.
1664981110	Surrendering the control of our locality to distant and unknown officials, who do not know us or our community is a real cause for concern. History has shown that this repeated cycle of moving from small localised to large centralised authorities and then back to small localised ones again, is a massively expensive and meaningless rebranding exercise.
1664974582	Leave as they are...
1664958949	We have a good council, its under 30 years old. If we are forced together with Scunthorpe or Lincoln, that might undo decades of hard work.
1664955933	By joining a wider authority of greater Lincolnshire we should avoid undue influence on planning decisions by councillors who have either a vested interest or a personal view not in accordance with the majority of the electorate.
1664955192	Unfortunately nelc isn't fit for purpose. I never thought I'd want to see us as part of a bigger authority again but I believe we wouldn't see failures and the unbelievable waste of money that we have seen. The authority doesn't listen to the community, they are not accountable, hide behind press releases that are often beyond incredulous and give the impression the authority thinks the public absolutely stupid and totally gullible. Some, indeed many of these are beyond laughable.
1664954419	I feel it is important that decisions are made at a local level however do the current council have resources? Would more resources be available if we merged into a larger council? I worry that if we become part of a larger council the focus will be on other areas and not Grimsby, where a lot of work is needed to improve the standard of living.
1664953712	We are a large County, our towns location is fairly isolated, yet unique as we are also a resort, we need local knowledge and understanding. am concerned we would not benefit from becoming part of a much larger demographic . Our uniqueness is our strength

1664952297	The clue is in the title LOCAL. Unless the council is from and represents local people it will not properly represent the them.
1664951571	Regional government can still provide local services and should have economy of scale in many of the services.
1664951235	All these things are very important but I don't think our current council are achieving many of them. I am amazed at the difference between here and N.Lincs, I think a Lincolnshire wide council would be terrible but a N and NE Lincs council would be a great idea
1664950660	Currently we get grants etc and this money is used within North East Lincolnshire. If government was at a wider level, we would be at the end of the list when this money was being allocated to projects. We have major work being done in the town to bring a new bus station, close to rail links and shopping centre. A new cinema and surrounding area regenerating jobs being built. A central nhs hub in our town. Police are out on the streets where needed. Schools are being built. All positive.
1664950163	What worries me is that as one of the most industrial areas in Lincolnshire we generate a larger income than some rural farm based areas, therefore there's the risk of money going out of our area to support others, we need to keep what we currently have to continue the redevelopment of our patch. Similarly, others who live out of our area, who don't understand our particular needs and necessities could be decision making without the crucial knowledge of our area. I see no benefits in that.
1664945256	Keep it local under local control
1664944575	I believe that amalgamation of North and North East Lincolnshire Councils would be the best outcome from the current reorganisation exercise.
1664944506	The council does not listen to what the residents want or need. They constantly waste money starting projects that run over budget, time or never get completed. The council do nothing to add value to this area
1664944184	I believe there can be huge back office efficiencies to be made resulting in more effective use of resources.
1664942970	What we lack in size is made up for in importance with 2 large ports and a seaside resort on the up. It is a complex mix which needs local governing.
1664942770	Important to take to account all the single villages that are next to tollbar that are classed as Lincolnshire council when shouldn't be as isolated villages they should be joined up to north east lincolnshire council, in regards to it being joined with Lincolnshire itself is a no but the lincolnshire villages like Holton le clay yes definately as closer to go to with services such as social care and healthcare.
1664935595	In my business experience 'bigger' organisation tend to be less efficient and effective with less ability to manage customer issues.
1664933260	I think local issues are better understood by local councillors. We have a mix of councillors from across the political spectrum here, and I fear any chance we may become absorbed into a Reform led Greater Lincolnshire council. Important to me are issues such as good social care, public transport and preservation of the environment. Immigration is not my main concern.
1664930634	Keeping councils small supports local identity, ensures decisions reflect community needs, and maintains close accountability. Smaller structures can be more agile, responsive, and better aligned with residents' priorities.
1664930438	NELC does have the best interest of the local community at heart. This will be eroded and dissolved if the LA becomes a bigger area, funding will be drawn away from the area as was the case with Humberside County Council. These mistakes should not be repeated.

1664929661	The local focus is one of the biggest assets that NELC has, and has been key to the successes that they have achieved. I think it would be a great misstep to remove that local connection in pursuit of a larger council body
1664928263	There is currently a good feel around the area, I would say a positive sense better than it has been for a long time. I believe the current N E Lincs unitary council have been a part of developing that feelgood factor around the town because of the recent work that has already been done. It is therefore very important for the current work to continue with eyes and hearts fully focused on this particular area in order to serve the people here most effectively.
1664928152	We are already notoriously an area for low family welfare, high benefit usage and high crime. These people cannot risk being swallowed up into a larger area where they will get missed or overlooked because other areas are good. They need the individual time and more personal attention that a smaller council can give them.
1664928142	I think that changes to the council wouldn't be all bad, it will also give opportunities to a larger audience and possibly improve some services.
1664928019	I like the regeneration that is happening in our area and I feel it is very much needed for the community to feel more positive about the place that they live. However, if we were part of a large area, I am concerned that our area may lose out and the regeneration money may be taken away from our area.
1664927933	The council should be able to offer quality provision for the diverse needs of those work work and live in the area
1664927874	Too big a council might lose its community feel
1664927836	I would be happy if NE Lincs merged with another council like North Lincs but if the councils were to merge too many, I feel this would be too big of an area to cover and would lose the local feel of the council. Being slightly bigger might open access to more funding but being too big and if Lincoln was included then the costal regions would suffer as they have different issues to bigger towns.
1664927813	I think the key thing about having a smaller Council is the local focus. A Council covering a larger area would inevitably mean that services are delivered from further away, so a 10-minute journey to the community recycling centre might end up being 40-minutes or an hour away. Further, costs of services such as waste collection, grass cutting, park maintenance, children's social work etc would increase as transport costs increase.
1664927789	I think it is important to have a council that fully understands the unique area of North East Lincolnshire, its history and heritage, and its wide variety of residents. I think a bigger less-connected council would be a negative thing for the area.
1664927772	I do not feel that bigger is better, I feel that being subsumed into a larger council would cause greater disparity over the allocation of budgets and resources across areas.
1664927769	I support local and the strong work NELC provides for its local communities and residents. I am opposed to LGR due to these reason.
1664927729	We do not want to go back to the scenario of Humberside where all the money was put into Hull. How can people/organisation know what we need when they are 50+/100+ miles away from us and they don't know our landscape and our challenges.
1664927726	Considering I live in Lincolnshire (east Lindsey) and work in NELC . I think that there are huge differences in need within the communities and feel that if NELC where to become part of a bigger local authority those in the greatest need would be overlooked and the communities would not be as well served. Having a smaller geographic area allows the councils to make their resources fit the needs of their communities. In a bigger authority this would not be possible.

1664926893	We need to make sure that whatever comes of this, we don't lose the ability to impact positively on local people
1664925554	the area is expanding at a great rate. There are new housing estates, new schools and greater input into the area is needed. Grimsby is at the end of a branch line and is often forgotten about and ignored. IT NEEDS people locally who understand and care about it to run it, not some super council miles away. It was bad enough with the mayoral election. We were linked with areas with nothing in common with this area. We need our own strong, dedicated council
1664923952	My concern would be all the local jobs the Council provides would be lessened if combined with another authority. Particularly with remote working. That would have a huge negative effect on the area. Also, it could cause delays in services and take away people who have an intimate local knowledge. Would there be an expectation for example for planning officers to cover larger areas? That would incur higher mileage submissions and a change to quality of life for individual workers.
1664909111	North East Lincolnshire has quite a lot of deprivation thanks to underfunding by previous governments . If we become part of a larger organisation I fear that as an area we will become even less important and will have to compete even harder with more affluent areas in Lincolnshire for funding and policy decisions. As a smaller authority NELC are best placed to identify the needs of the local people.
1664908574	I support forming a full Greater Lincolnshire Council rather than staying in our tiny corner of the country. I fear that if we stay small and other councils join to form larger councils, our voice will become smaller in comparison over time, and this will be to the detriment of the area. I feel that we're very silo'd in our little area and struggle to look further outward than our boundaries.
1664907388	Merging North East Lincolnshire into a wider Lincolnshire authority under LGR risks diluting NEL's distinct identity and priorities. Local decision-making could be weakened, and services may become less responsive to community needs. The loss of established partnerships and reduced local accountability could hinder progress on key issues unique to the area.
1664906485	I feel our local area will not benefit in a larger area council and in fact will be unheard and not understood as we are quite unique.
1664905688	We are distinctly different to the area of North Lincolnshire for example, and creating a new boundary will mean that we lose our identity and sense of community (which we are working so hard to achieve). Currently well delivered services will be negatively impacted by becoming a bigger area.
1664882002	Being a Northern town we are already left behind with government funding, this would make things much worse as we know from South Humberside days.
1664866915	I think a local Government in our area in the only way. If this is given over to a larger area then we would be a small fish in a large pond. We may not be heard for funding, support, resources and our local pride for our community would be lost/diluted.
1664863727	All the above items are important to our community. But that does not mean that a larger council will not task care of it. It depends on how the unit is constructed and lead. If we look at the current situation: Children's services have improved recently but why did they get so bad to begin with? Corporation Road bridge over the dock has been so badly managed that the contractor had to be sacked. What happened to the Council's Project Manager? A broader council will have better staff to manage!

1664863343	I think North East Lincs Council has worked really well. The Councillors know the area well. They do their best, with the funding provided to provide excellent services. The palliative care provided for my Mother was outstanding. The Council constantly send out surveys to find out local views and act accordingly. If we were governed under a larger umbrella, being at the end of the line, I feel we would not be seen as a priority for funding and decisions would not be made locally.
1664862906	Greater Lincolnshire is a vast area containing many different demographics so makes effective local governing more difficult. I'm assuming it would be run from Lincoln? The current Lincolnshire Council view us as their 'poor relation' and have very little understanding of the needs of NEL so would be completely ineffective at governing. Adding a second tier of administration doesn't 'simplify' anything, instead it complicates matters and is purely a cost cutting exercise by the Government.
1664814081	We have been here before with Humberside & we know what that was like. Monies collected from housing rates & business rates should be used locally & not put into what would be a central pot used over a larger area. Wherever the larger council was based would end up trying to fet the lions share of available monies. Why would sonebody from Say Lincoln want to spend money in Grimsby - its human nature to want to get the best for local area.
1664808349	We are satisfied with how this Council is run and the committment our local councillors have to their community - please keep it the same
1664801909	I think NEL will get lost in a larger council. NEL should remain independent and not become part of a larger council. It can work collaboratively with other councils without becoming absorbed in a larger one
1664795265	NELC is defunt. Reorganizing bigger may or may not support value for money for each poll tax area
1664786766	We in NE Lincs need more transparency on all issues which has been lacking for years particularly from this current Council and Councillors . We need change
1664771464	I believe we can still stay a more local Council on a smaller scale and still look at ways of cooperating county wide which could lead to financial savings and benefits such as joint purchasing initiatives.
1664770650	Its a great idea! Less spending on the industry of politics. A bigger voter pool.
1664769963	I do not agree with where the council stands as staying singular and I feel that it will be dismissed and we will be forced into a situation we do not want. Out of all areas propos- ing, the 3 separate unitary councils suggested by North Kesteven with their evaluation of all data across Greater Lincolnshire and the consideration of changing the boundaries associated offers the residents of NEL the best chance to providing high quality services.
1664747345	Local issues should be decided at local level not out of area.
1664744261	The council currently provides very little value for residents. Letting the current council loose with a bigger area & potentially more funds is dangerous. The council have wast- ed lots of money on various projects (most of which remain unfinished). Giving them more area and more money is just irresponsible. The current council needs replacing and monitoring. They don't listen at all to the residents, they say they are consulting & listening but then still do as they please.
1664727933	I really don't believe that bigger = better in this instance. I think better communication and partnership is important between councils, but I don't believe merging into one big council is the answer.

1664724218	The area is so diverse with different needs that it can't cover all the priorities and meet everyone's needs. Even though we are a coastal town, Cleethorpes thrives in comparison with Mablethorpe and Skegness. Boston has a very diverse community and Lincoln has high levels of homeless and rough sleepers. How can we respond to all these issue without having a broad sweeping brush and those without the loudest voice drop off the cliff.
1664708295	Many local amenities are being eroded for local people, (we have lost our main post office in Cleethorpes, and banks are closing, we need alternatives like a finance hub- there are plenty of empty buildings to house one) we need to make the avenue / high st, more cost efficient for local food businesses to thrive, (fewer vape shops, bookmakers) this will also be favourable to our much needed visitors. measures can be done effectively on local platforms by councillors who live and serve here.
1664697388	There has to be local intelligence to make local decisions effectively and react appropriately.
1664687338	More emphasis needed on achieving the best possible outcomes for local residents. Eliminate political bias and concentrate on teamwork and cooperation to reach required outcomes.
1664681636	I don't think merging with Lincolnshire council would be helpful for our area. The amount of Reform MPs they have is not ideal. I don't think it would be beneficial for NELC to merge with a council that has a majority reform councillors set up, people who are divisive and stir up hate within communities.
1664678047	They need to be held accountable for the decisions they make! I really dont know if going bigger is going to better, but the current council cannot get it right.
1664675754	The governments new plans are all about centralising government, and their use of the term decentralisation is completely Orwellian when used here. True decentralisation gives people's vote more power. We would just get lost as part of a larger council. We would not be a priority. We would have people making decisions for our area who simply don't care and don't know the area.
1664675567	North East Lincolnshire has unique attributes and challenges and its interests are best served by a locally focused authority that can build on the progress made in recent years and help us deliver on the opportunities the future presents.
1664675018	Having local representatives that understand the local community is vital to ensuring that money and resources are utilised correctly to ensure local people are part of the solution to local issues. Lincoln is a very different place to Grimsby. As a result people from Lincoln need to make decisions about Lincoln and People from Grimsby need to make decisions about Grimsby. making decisions at a more distanced location doesn't Work which is why devolution is important.
1664666607	Overall, we feel that the North East Lincolnshire council has put forward a number of initiatives to support community action groups, regeneration of the city center, and support the vulnerable to access better life-chances.
1664662387	Scrap NEL
1664661839	While I wouldn't support a accross Lincolnshire aka from Boston to Barton, I cannot see why the south bank authorise cannot be merged.
1664654635	We are a highly industrialised local area, Scunthorpe differs in its industry and needs - to expect one council to be able to represent our differing needs and claim it will be financially more stable and better off is foolhardy and incredibly short sighted.
1664650018	I would strongly support a single tier system of government. Each of the ninety-six new authorities could form a national assembly.

1664642316	Did we learn nothing from joining Humberside ? That was a complete disaster, please don't make the same mistake again.
1664641473	I think reorganising the councils and our council merging with another would make the services a council delivers worse
1664641318	It would be a very poor decision to combine authorities that have different requirements. Having experienced the debacle of Humberside whereby a large country was form to appease political masters with little benefit to those in NE Lincolnshire. I am definitely against any change full stop. A local council should work for the benefit of local communities.
1664640828	That holton le clay and individual villages should be part of north east lincolnshire as just past the border and not fair to be under a different council as local services in grimsby and cleethorpes are more accessible from holton le clay than going to louth/ lincoln. As well as be easier for social care.
1664640697	Councils are struggling under present government , N.E/Lincs cannot benefit by being governed by a wider area, needing more support to maintain.
1664635113	If we are to reorganise with anyone's council it should be North Lincolnshire Council. We're more similar in needs and economy and I think there should be a greater link between us and Scunthorpe.
1664634528	I do not currently feel north east Lincolnshire council do a good job for all residents. I find it distracting navigating the health and social care sector in this area as it's different to other places with navigo controlling all the mental health things but doing a bad job. The current council prioritise non working people and so much of support funded by the council are during office hours. A larger council might improve this. The support for villages is rubbish under current set up
1664633805	I think changing it would we would not get as good a service as we do now and it wouldn't help the local people with employment and understanding
1664632891	The reconfiguration of Linc. as per the information provided is based on the political/ council inept holding on to their jobs, Linc council's are far to insular. I see nothing about industry, health, transport, education, jobs etc. To go forward we need to bring in professionals who without biases or without any political interference will paint the real state of Lincolnshire and how to proceed to reunify the county. Give the people the honest facts and hold a referendum, its the democratic way.
1664631578	I am concerned for the impact on my work due to the proposed changes. The changes need to be communicated well to the residents and people who work in NE Lincs at every step of the way.
1664627960	I feel by merging the councils together North East Lincolnshire is going to be 'lost' in the system. Similar to how it now works through the Integrated Care Board (ICB). North East Lincolnshire which includes Cleethorpes and Immingham is such a tiny and well deprived area and I feel by joining to become a larger authority we will get overlooked and therefore our highly deprived area will suffer.
1664621951	I strongly believe there is value in retaining NE Lincs as a separate council given the value of local decision making and links to both the Humber and Lincolnshire. I think merging into a larger council would be detrimental for how services are developed and provided locally with the NHS and other bodies and for would be negative for residents connection with our local government.

1664620679	When council finance becomes more restricted (as I believe it will) there will be more resilience within a larger authority with a larger pool of funding. There should be some significant economies of scale opportunities available within a larger organisation (e.g. no need for several chief executives, finance directors etc.) and a stronger pathway to implementing best practice. Coterminality with the new mayoral function must surely be beneficial.
1664620626	North East Lincolnshire Council is focused on what local people want. This would not happen if we merged.
1664616450	NELC is a shambles. It is too small. This has seen years of decline. I would like to see Cleethorpes and Villages (Humberstone, New Waltham, Scartho, Waltham) merged with Lincolnshire County Council as a large Lincolnshire Unitary focused on Tourism, agriculture and rural communities. I would then merge Grimsby/Immingham with North Lincolnshire Council as a North Lincolnshire authority focused on Industry and more urban communities. This would mean all local authorities would have more in common
1664616036	Not everything can be 100% right with any organisation but I believe thinking "small" is the way to go for the time being - when the improvements are finalised give the town a chance to recover and move forward before any change of government policy. Too much change is not good for stability from the top down. Stay as we are for the foreseeable future.
1664614182	Whenever the government try and make savings through economies of scale, they end up saving no money as public servants just increase their own salaries and attend endless internal meetings about the bigger organisation - just look at the recent ICB fiasco after moving from CCG's. Although this council has its problems - at least the people working there and councillors are local and can held accountable by their electorate.
1664609466	By merging with parts of Lincolnshire County Council area any relics of Humberside could be lost i.e. police fire services etc as we could merge fully with Lincolnshire. This would save costs with the top tier jobs been lost. North of the Humber could merge with North Yorkshire. NEL wants to remain super local but what is local about being in a health region of North Yorkshire instead of Lincolnshire.
1664607679	Perhaps form a new county such as Linsey and Holland in order to promote the counties Industrial area. Plus by including Scunthorpe rather than having the two councils compete, they can pool resources and possibly attract far better corporate interest to the area.
1664607097	Please reconsider the model of having adult social care and mental health services separate from the council. I think the services would function better under the council and would cause far less confusion for people trying to access them. More open forums like the 2025 group do would be beneficial too. Overall though I think the councils approach to the community and using data to make informed decisions is a good thing, I feel life in NELC has gotten better and I feel more proud of the area.
1664606801	A big focus here with leaning questions on local service, and North East Lincolnshire being unique, however the reality of the situation is that this is no longer the case. North East Lincolnshire is another in a long list of areas, that is isolated and has struggled have a significant voice. A merger with North Lincs and their shared issues and strengths would support us more than remaining a small isolated pocket.
1664604934	Im in favour of being part of a larger area because we don't have enough money coming in to support all the services the council should offer. We are already cooperating with certain areas, police and health for example. I think your survey questions are skewed in favour of saying let's stay as we are. We need more houses and people coming into the area so that the area is wealthier.

1664604691	I consider all of the above to be extremely important functions of the Council, which quite obviously, it seems to me, are far more sympathetically dealt with at the current local level. As part of a larger authority, our local issues and requirements are much more likely to be overlooked or considered to be of lesser overall importance.
1664604385	I would like North East Lincolnshire to retain it's own identity. We have been part of a larger authority before - Lincolnshire and Humberside and neither have addressed our local concerns - small is beautiful!! We have our own needs and this current arrangement works for us all at a local level.
1664603076	this council is poor. It lacks vision and quality. Any alternative would be better.
1664596340	Lincolnshire is to large an area to be one large council and will be come more distant. Local issues will get lost.
1664592251	I believe that if NELC is merged with other LA's NELC will become more deprived, I worry that funding a wider area will mean that funding will be directed to the most needed areas and due to us being small our needs will be less than a larger regions.
1664584817	I feel LGR if forced to combine with others to make a larger unitary authority, focus and priorities may shift to other areas in the combined authority with a louder voice etc. taking resources away from this area.
1664577482	One council does not mean focus would need to be lost on communities. There are areas within both councils that would benefit from joining (cost saving, efficiency) such as IT, other areas such as children's could have locality focussed teams.
1664574223	Dont do it
1664564835	I think a bigger council would offer lots of opportunities for improvement.
1664562286	We already have an overstretched health and social care sector with limited funding making a bigger area would increase demand and there isnt enough staff teams to meet the demand.
1664561017	Keep Grimsby Council the same as it has always been, thank you!...
1664553389	Joint money, I don't think NE LC area will get its share - Greater Lincolnshire will get the bulk.
1664552539	The geographic structure of North East Lincolnshire has come from a process of multiple iterations, over a period of over 100 years & is in a position where it's able to operate on a level that is cohesive to the local area & the provision of effective services that are generally at a much better level than that nationally. We're also a financially stable authority that may struggle to grapple with the debt levels of other authorities and bringing in their unstable financial decision making.
1664550438	This is a lovely area. Yes it needs investment but I believe this can only happen at a local level.
1664543758	North East Linc could easily become overlooked if we were to become part of a large Lincolnshire authority, seeing more affluent areas like Lincolnshire continue to prosper, whilst areas of deprivation are not seen as attractive areas to spend much needed money and to bring in new businesses etc.
1664541545	This area is very insular and focused narrowly on specific sectors
1664541463	I acknowledge that being part of a slightly bigger council could be beneficial in many ways. However, I am very concerned, especially since the election of the new Greater Lincoln mayor that Greater Lincolnshire is such a diverse area and I don't believe that the needs of North East Lincolnshire (and probably North Lincolnshire) could be met if one authority covering all of Greater Lincolnshire was formed.

1664540929	I don't want our current government taking this decision to unite local councils into larger ones as this means they cannot possibly have the best interests at heart of each regional area. Aldo this government only wants to do this so they have more control and say over the regions who don't like them because they will make sure the ones with the power will be there chosen ones
1664540550	The cost of reorganising Lincolnshire's councils would be an unnecessary waste of money that could be better spent on services for local people.
1664540534	What does a farmer in Gainsborough know about the needs of the Fishing Industry in Grimsby? What would a steelworker in Scunthorpe know about Bulb-growing in Spalding?
1664537093	We need the area to be run and controlled locally by locally elected councillors who know the area ...we used to be run by Humberside county Council where most money and new business as well as regeneration went to hull where the council was based ..we need a local authority to fight for NELINCS....as we are still paying for years of mis management by Humberside county council
1664534643	The council have not done anything for this north east Lincolnshire for years.
1664533237	The points raised regarding top considerations are all very important. For a local council to run successfully & create revenue for growth all points need severe attention within N E Lincs. Changing to only 2 authorities would, in my opinion, create a left-until-last approach. Those who shout loudest would be heard first. More accountability is needed by any council structure & there in lies the huge issues we face currently. Too much red tape, head scratching & far too much money disappearing
1664531684	Whatever Labour wants to do is a disaster, please stay as we are
1664530949	Personally I think Grimsby is, a very unique area and you need to be able to understand this to work with it. I am worried that we are mixed with a more affluent area and the residents of Grimsby are missed out again. It seems other places such as Hull are able to get what they want all of the time but the likes of Grimsby miss out lots
1664529474	It is important that while councillors should be local people with local knowledge, they can still effectively communicate why a decision should be taken if it betters the community, even if that community might not agree. Decisions about business should be made based on how it betters our area, which again, should be clearly communicated. I don't care about having the best retail shopping experience if I can't get/won't go there because of too much crime and not enough police.
1664527828	A wider area council could make way to support capitalism which will then take away support from the people who need it the most
1664526017	I believe that a council representing the whole of North Lincolnshire is a more logical way of improving that area, very different from the rest of Lincs.
1664525359	We need to join with the other councils to bring vfm into services as Govt funding reduces for councils. NELC is too small. This doesn't remove locally focused services, just delivers them in a more sustainable way and enables sharing best practice
1664524813	NELC currently struggles to serve its constituents effectively due to too many councillors fighting for power ahead of serving the public interest and wasting resources on unwanted and unnecessary projects (freshney place, Osborne street redevelopment, etc..)
1664524031	Our current council isn't the best but we are north east lincs ...we should be under control of elected councillors who know and work and live in this area ...
1664519510	We need businesses to come to north east Lincolnshire and if we are part of a larger council, experience tells us it will go somewhere else.

1664519186	I have lived all of my life in Grimsby, Lincolnshire. In South Humberside, it seemed most of the funding went to the North Bank. We were no longer a “fishing port” of importance. I have seen the town become sad, neglected, run down and the “jobless capitol of England”. It breaks my heart. I dont think a larger authority would improve the situation but existing councillors must step up and put Grimsby first
1664518530	It didn’t work the last time it was tried.
1664518309	North East Lincolnshire council area is varied & has specific challenges & needs which would not be best served by a large council
1664517305	I don’t want to have a bigger council, miles away from our area but I do want the local council to be asanswerable to the people of our area. If necessary, get them removed for bad decisions and continually wasting money.
1664516901	I strongly believe that NELC is the best council for this area. I fear a larger council will create more hardship for an already deprived area. NELC do what they can with what they have.
1664515669	I believe that North East Lincolnshire needs to be more flexible to the boundary of the humber than to the areas of mid, west and south Lincolnshire. It’s a very different place (economically, educationally and employability wise) to the majority of Lincolnshire and putting it into a greater lincolnshire area would cause substatial stress to the services that serve the community.
1664515123	We would be better with a local council, but not the one we have at present. In my opinion they’ve not worked for the people of NE Lincolnshire, they don’t listen to local people they claim to but then do as they like.
1664515119	When we were made to join humberside everything got worse. When we were part of of lincolnshire no one cared and we got nothing
1664514608	Current council set up is outdated - less councils joining up bigger regions add more influence to central government
1664514523	Humberside county Council was a disaster for our area, bigger is not always better. We have already had a greater Lincolnshire mayor forced upon us, despite many people having no desire for it.
1664514235	There are plenty of other things that need fixing so why change what currently works. NE Lincs is fundamentally different to the rest of the county and a one size fits all approach won’t work. Gradually resources will be “optimised” in the name of efficiency and centred around Lincoln and Boston to the detriment of the NE Lincs community.
1664514020	it’s ridiculous to have Lincoln in North Lincolnshire and Louth South. Also the naming what’s wrong with a more historic term like Lindsey.
1664513828	Get a full new council, as our councillors now are no good
1664512242	I would like a council that offers all of the above but sadly we haven’t got that, and by joining with others it will only get worse
1664512188	It will be good if we are called Lincolnshire and not call Humberside
1664511319	When the south bank was part of Humberside CC we never saw any benefits it all went North to Hull
1664511076	Having seen the upheaval that followed the Humberside demise, why should we now have to suffer another reorganisation just for change sake. Keep things small and accountable. Not large and unwieldy with a large city taking all the best bits.
1664510921	While NE Lincs council may have there faults, like any other council, I believe it would be a bad idea to combine with a bigger council, because they would loose touch with the small business and community memebbers.
1664508883	Probably the worst council ever but still better than a larger unitary one

1664506400	Although I don't necessarily think making the council area larger is a good idea, I think the current council is failing miserably and needs to have a complete overhaul. Local problems are not listened to. Local problems are not fixed and money is wasted.
1664505708	I don't think the current NELC does a good job so I think us joining with better councils such as North Lincs or East Lindsay would be a positive thing.
1664504259	I believe that NELC has greater affinity with the Humber estuary councils than Greater Lincolnshire. Therefore under the current proposal I wish to remain within its current boundary.
1664503574	so far the new reform council doing a very good job and has only been in office a few months only time will tell if the council can keep up.the good work.it think.
1664500291	We have a terrible council now making it bigger would only make it worse
1664499911	Our local councillors need to accessed locally... Services need to be run by local organisations not from a larger base ...
1664499643	Joined councils bring efficiency and cos savings which can then be passed onto the local communities
1664499486	ocal constituents want a council that understands the local community
1664499197	The towns of Grimsby and Cleethorpes should have their own separate councils like before. We were dumped into believing we were coming out of Humberside back into Lincolnshire. It was a con to merge Grimsby and Cleethorpes borough councils. We never really came out of Humberside we are now part of Yorkshire and the Humber!
1664498872	I believe that by working on a local level the council has been able to really focus on improving facilities and opportunities. There is a really positive feeling around the area which would be lost if we become part of a bigger administrative area.
1664495939	Our council have not only managed their budget well, without going bankrupt like several other larger authorities, but they have started to positively regenerate a once deteriorating town centre, put on community building activities, develop local employment & business development, continue to provide excellent services like refuse & recycling, and put more bobbies on the beat where they can be seen. Local people running our local council are achieving this, don't try to fix what isn't broken!
1664492451	I am against reorganising NELC into another authority. It will remove the ability for local people to impact local decisions and lead to a decline in positive investment in NE Lincolnshire as Lincoln and Scunthorpe will dominate any new council area.
1664491351	Our boundaries have changed so many times. Our county name has changed too. It doesn't help. It won't help this time. Horrible idea!
1664490424	If the councils covered bigger areas then the ivf funding across the country might be fair. North east Lincolnshire gets 1 funded round whereas Hull area get 3. How is that fair?
1664488236	We need decisions to be made locally, we are quite a unique area and relatively isolated so need people who make decisions for us to understand us and our area
1664487851	They should use the bigger council areas to remove the useless councillors we currently have that only use the position to feather there own nests and interests
1664485966	Small town, small area, with very specific needs. I fear nel residents eill be left behind and money funnelled off to the cities, and Grimsby will suffer even more depravity
1664484075	Historically being locally governed has been best for our area
1664483392	We have tried a larger authority ie Humberside and it was a disaster. All emphasis went to Hull, the larger authority.

1664481847	It is important that people that make decisions about an area live, work and know that area. A bigger Council will lead to such a variation in challenges that areas will get neglected and forgotten, you can see how this happens currently on a smaller scale with places like Immingham not necessarily getting the focus that other areas of NEL do. This will only be exacerbated by the proposals to create bigger areas. It is important to recognise the creation of Greater Lincolnshire
1664480807	The administrative cost of doing this would out-weigh any benefits. Change for change sake. North East Lincolnshire is a unique entity in it's own right and would not benefit from being swamped by wider Lincolnshire decision-making. Those that work for NELC do a tremendous job with local knowledge, understanding and commitment.
1664479372	The cost of this reorganisation would be spent on servicing existing facilities. Residents or business will not benefit at all.
1664479061	I have lived through various reorganisations (ie from Lincolnshire County to separate borough councils for Grimsby and Cleethorpes to Humberside County Council. The Unitary Authority for North East Lincolnshire has been the best for a achieving improvements for this area. Too large eg the County Councils saw resources more favourably allocated to other larger towns and cities and increased rivalry between areas. Reorganisation usually end up costing millions and achieving little, also seen in NH
1664478704	This is a disaster waiting to happen. A bigger council will be less concerned with local issues.
1664478609	Amalgamation into a larger council would most probably result in this area getting less funding, as at the moment it seems that Hull gets more than this area does so as far as I am concerned it would be a backward move!
1664478373	Please keep it local focused to ensure care and consideration of local residents is taken into factor when making decisions.
1664476301	If it ain't broke don't fix it.
1664475642	Wasting huge amounts of money 'restructuring' for efficiency doesn't make sense to me
1664474879	I don't think our council is good now, but handing it to some stranger in Lincoln or somewhere is ridiculous. Stupid idea. Give more funding for poor areas like ours
1664474334	NELC is a small but well formed Council that has close links to the local community. There is so much good work going on here right now, why on earth would we want to change that. Yes it could be better and additional resource could/would help. But we will get lost in a larger Council/area and this can only be at a detriment. Clearly larger areas will benefit and no wonder they are pushing for it. Let us keep the status quo and do what we do best.
1664473781	Facts are local council serve local people . Don't make it big and out of contact with local people
1664473407	In some ways it would be useful 3.g. supporting each council. However, each council has more local knowledge and I would think be able to use the local history , especially so with the local counsellors.
1664472545	It is imperative that NELC stays as is to keep supporting at a local level.
1664471170	We should have a Lincolnshire Council and NELC should no longer exist
1664470984	NE Lincs authority have previously been part of Humberside and prior to that Lincolnshire. Each time the authority changes it disrupts services hugely, costs millions of pounds and result in little change to the service delivery. It also disrupts staffing and causes redundancies without the efficiency and service improvements anticipated.

1664470639	I support the reorganisation of our local councils - if we can drive better value for money through this change then everyone will benefit from better services - improvement to roads/rail are essential to making this change work!
1664469572	My answers reflect what I would like and expect from a council but I don't think that is necessarily what we currently have.
1664469271	Making an organisation bigger does not help make easy decisions. More money may be available but less will be used local people and more on roads and transport. What is the benefit to council tax payers ?
1664469009	I genuinely believe Grimsby council is out of date and stuck in its ways. I don't know if a larger area council will improve things. But continuing the way we are now is not an option. Council needs look around at how other areas are being run and learn. Our town has been going down hill for years and changing the block paving in town will do nothing to change that. Look to our twinned towns in Europe for advice on infrastructure and learn something. I'm pro change all the way!
1664468814	Humberside never worked. A complete waste of resources, do government never learn ? A little fish in a big pond, stays little until eaten
1664468236	Local councillors are disconnected from electorate, they appear to be self serving instead.
1664468108	My worry would be that like when the area was part of Humberside my community will be the poor cousin getting little funding and '2nd hand' service. With the funding being kept for the likes of Lincoln etc. I am worried decisions might be made without fully understanding our local dynamics and community needs and a one size fits all approach might not work.
1664465923	Grimsby needs to be parished, it only has a charter trustees, it needs a town council. As far as North East Lincolnshire goes I don't support the proposal where it merges with East and West Lindsey but I do support it merging with only North Lincolnshire and the Lincolnshire County Council area should then be divided into 2 district as described as the "third option" at https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crmjxpygkxjo .
1664465662	Bigger is not always best, the little things that matter often get left behind
1664463604	Local council for local people. I feel that funds would be drawn away from our area
1664460988	Having a local council to support and represent the community they know and understand is vital. Moving to a larger area will disseminate any connectivity with communities and allow people from literally miles away to make decisions affecting our lives. NO! Stay as we are!
1664460882	How can one big council have any idea what's going on at the local level? Local councillors live in their unitary area so they understand its needs. Don't fix what ain't broke!!! Leave it alone!!!
1664459284	Im not convinced that a larger authority would stop the waste of money. I do believe that there needs to be more scrutiny and that the public should be part of that process instead of failure to answer concerns of the public.
1664458682	Leave well alone..if we need to improve whatever we can say so
1664457666	Expanding the size of N.E.Lincs council to integrate with others would make it less effective.
1664455352	Should be able to operate more efficiently by combining back office facilities and duplication of some roles.

166445237	A single Greater Lincolnshire unitary will deliver efficiency and stronger regional voice, but protections for North and North East Lincolnshire are essential. Their distinct urban populations and economic weight demand guaranteed influence, preventing domination by the county majority. Safeguards ensure balanced decisions, fair representation, and confidence that all parts of Greater Lincolnshire benefit equally.
1664452824	The area is geographically remote and different in its make-up to the Greater Lincolnshire. IE It is a dock town, not related to farming as is the greater part of the County. There are however aspects which require expertise from outside of the area. The swing bridge overhaul disaster being outside the local expertise it would appear.
1664452515	Bigger is not always better in fact nobody wins when organisations are too big. we have seen what happens to social housing when small companies are taken over by larger ones run from further away. Nobody knows the needs of a locality except people who know it and preferably live there. It is also harder to hold councillors etc to account when they live miles away. A larger council area does not mean better services nor a saving of money with travelling and wasted time involved. Keep it.
1664452293	I feel that change needs to occur but not by extending to other areas as I feel NELC are not provisioning for there own community members.
1664451711	Please, don't let them do this. Decision makers in Lincoln will care nothing for Grimsby / Cleethorpes. It would be like the bad old days of Humberside, except Beverley were not actively hostile to any of our local industries.
1664451162	It is important to listen and work with the residents and be open and transparent with what happens
1664450969	Ambulance service is East Midlands, Fire and police are Humberside, healthcare links into Yorkshire and Humber - if NE Lincs were to become Great Lincolnshire (or whatever) and be the entirety of Lincs, what happens to these services? We were also viewed as the "poor relation" when we were South Humberside, I think it will be the same if we go into Lincolnshire. Poverty is high in some areas of NE Lincs - council will need to distribute fairly, not according to population by size of area.
1664448723	It would have been useful if alternatives had been suggested rather than using generic phrases like bigger. For example, I'd be favour of merging with ELDC but not N .Lincs.
1664448610	Having worked in the civil service, I know from experience that bigger is not better e.g. when inland revenue and customs and excise merged to form HMRC standards and service in this area went drastically downhill and departments were not as effective
1664448468	Some services need to be shared, to reduce costs. One big county with two police forces; only one is needed.
1664446017	Having lived under Humberside when we were seconds class citizens, the last thing we need is to be part of a larger authority. Leave things as they are
1664444875	I think a "Northern Lincolnshire" Council (Combining NEL and NL councils) would be okay for decisions and services, transport, health and Environmental issues but anything bigger than that just wouldn't work because the rest of Lincolnshire is much more rural/ City based with completely different populations and requirements.
1664444607	N E Lincs is clearly different from much of Lincolnshire in that it has an industrial base rather than a rural one. This inevitably means differing solutions to issues for each area. It is a fact that rural areas have bigger economic struggles than most towns, so would that see money which currently supports our needs going out of our area? How can a council not associated with a specific area decide what is best? It's not through stats but knowing and understanding its history and culture.
1664444343	I believe it is a long overdue change.

1664444082	Even in NELC is abolished, the new council should not be too large. Perhaps two or three council areas. Not half the county.
1664444071	This was tried before when Lincolnshire was amalgamated and made Humberside and it was not favoured by local people. A larger council will mean different parishes competing, with I feel at times, an unfair disadvantage. It would be like someone in London deeming what's best for my local area, I think not, someone outside the local areas do not have a clue on local issues.
1664443497	Great Grimsby in North East Lincolnshire has made mistakes in the past but has now a bright future as it is!
1664442951	If North East Lincs is smaller than other new local authorities, both regionally and nationally, we will undoubtedly be marginalised and receive less than other areas. A Northern Lincolnshire Authority (North East, North plus either East and West Lindsey or Lincoln and West Lindsey would have a strong identity & be a powerful economic driver regionally/nationally. Straddling the Greater Lincolnshire and Humberside footprints, would put us in an extremely strong position. We should get bigger.
1664442333	I think that a larger council might find it easier to access greater resources, and be less isolated. Bus transport in Lincolnshire is dreadful.
1664441734	North East Lincolnshire has a well-established identity and sense of community. The needs of the wider north Lincolnshire area, including Scunthorpe and its neighbouring areas, require local representation and focussed local negotiations with central government for their benefit. We here in NEL need the same. The two areas will be best served by the extant successful local authority boundaries.
1664441527	Local knowledge and understanding is key but there must be opportunities for leverage from a large area such as Care facilities, roads, buses, schools, transport, general services & maintenance of leisure facilities across certain areas.
1664440807	Time to realise once elected most councillors do not respond. This town, Grimsby, has been destroyed as a shopping area by the the partnership (equans). To expand the NE Lincs council would become more remote.
1664440796	The splitting up of Humberside CC did not result in a high performing local council. Strong local engagement can still be found within large authorities. There has been limited success in partnership working and shared services so perhaps a larger authority is the only practical way to achieve economies of scale and provide specialist services.
1664440692	NELC must reintegrate with Lincolnshire and remaining separate is not an option as the authority is too small. Two authorities in greater Lincolnshire meet these demands and NELC and North Lincs should merge with East and West Lindsey. This leaves Lincoln to merge with the rest of Lincolnshire to form the second authority of the right population size.
1664440618	We are out on a limb where we are placed . If we have to be part of a larger authority I am positive that our area will be overlooked on many if not most decisions, making the Grimsby are more derelict and run down.
1664440372	Greater Lincolnshire does not have the ease of connectivity or good transport links. Centralising services would still require a large amount of satellite operations and depots to avoid excessive travel times, this is not economical. Plus NEL is an urban area with urban challenges, unlike the majority of Lincolnshire which is rural and has its own unique challenges. Each authority area holds knowledge and expertise of their geographic challenges.

1664440291	Originally, i thought keeping it local would be the best idea, but thinking about i realised the council has made this area a laughing stock and complete mess. corporation bridge and freshney place
1664440285	Localism can be negative, and the 'big picture' or 'the right thing' can be overlooked by focusing on minor issues that affect a minority of people who shout the loudest. A combined north and north east Lincolnshire would have significantly more influence nationally than the current arrangements.
1664440245	My concern with LGR is that Grimsby and Cleethorpes would not be priorities if a mega council was based in Lincoln. The needs of these areas are so different and I struggle to see how a mega council could adequately address them all. It more than likely the poorer, less affluent areas would miss out.
1664440192	By joining a larger Lincs council, savings will be made by reducing duplication, especially around executives and back office functions.
1664439820	Our heritage is important to local people. We are proud, we do not want to be taken over. It was horrible when we were Humberside. We live in a unique corner, please treat us as such. We do not want too much change on infrastructure and we do not like the invasion of ethnics over taking our town. We want our politicians to protect us. We would like a nice harbour to walk round, make us a tourist destination from our history we have more viking history, our fishing industry, keep library
1664439427	Our existing Council is very poor. They make ridiculous decisions and never complete works to a timetable. A larger council that probably wouldn't be run locally would be a disaster.
1664439217	Excellent council, they should have more funding from national government.
1664439212	Any change that results in a dilution of funds available to the local area would inevitably result in a reduction in services. Lincolnshire is a large area with a sparse population compared to that of N E Lincs. The funds from a council like N E Lincs should not be diverted away from the area that the population is paying for.
1664437241	no need to do anything, we are ok as we are
1664436609	I do not believe that expanding the overall area of organisation can ever to anything other than dilute and detract from a more locally focussed council body. I'm sure it makes sense on some budget form, but such reorganisation would be detrimental to the people of the regions affected.
1664435311	Having seen how Cleethorpes has improved in the 7 years I have lived here, I believe the current local structure is working well for the area.
1664435306	Keep the council's local and from the areas that input for the community's surrounding people.
1664434495	I believe that local people will have a greater interest in what is happening in their area. Because what they vote on directly impacts them.
1664434188	We need our council close to home to understand some of the unique challenges we have here.
1664434136	As a smaller council it is likely that we would not be able promote our area compared to others. A plus would be that sourcing together may result in financial savings but would they benefit our area?
1664433776	There definitely needs to be more oversight and scrutiny at the local level just not sure a larger council is the answer.

1664433683	If NEL Council is trying to suggest it is an effective and efficient council providing value for money for its services, simply ask about Corporation Road Bridge renovation and those responsible who have refused to resign in shame. The sooner NELC is abolished the better for the residents of North East Lincolnshire, roll on a Greater Lincolnshire Council under the Mayor who can lead Lincolnshire into the 21st century instead of a council throwing tax payers' money away on shopping centres etc
1664433666	I think that being part of a larger organisation would be detrimental to NEL as most of the mentors would go to Lincoln.
1664433608	I support the merge of councils into a larger council. I do not think NE lincs council has been effectively run since I can remember and when I compare services available locally to those across the rest of Lincolnshire I feel we do not have as good a selection of services.
1664433179	I feel very strongly that they should stay with NELC & not include North Lincs. NEL is a totally different requirement to N Lincs. N Lincs is full of farmers & totally different requirements to e.g. Grimsby fishing & Cleethorpes tourism & helping keep small local independent businesses open & working together. Stay in NELC supporting local villages; waltham, new waltham & NOT IMMINGHAM.
1664432946	I agree that unitary councils are more efficient than the two or three tier councils in some parts of the county, but NE Lincolnshire council works well because it is smaller. A bigger unitary council would be out of touch with local issues and requirements. It's easy to be critical of councils, but having seen how some others operate, we're lucky in NE Lincolnshire.
1664432791	Unfortunately, although I would prefer the council to stay local, I cannot say that the current council works in best interest of residents and there have been a catalogue of failures including the debacle of corporation bridge
1664432568	While I don't think a unitary authority would benefit North East Lincolnshire, myself and other tax payers in Immingham already feel the impact of being controlled by a bigger authority in how we're taxed the most in NELC in order to subsidise tax payers in Grimsby and Cleethorpes. Therefore, a bigger unitary authority would get my vote since Immingham will probably be no worse off and Grimsby and Cleethorpes will get to know how it feels to be paying council tax only to get nothing in return
1664432518	Whilst I have not been overall positive about the local council, I would still prefer to keep things managed locally. There is hopefully an opportunity to make it more responsive and accountable at the next local election
1664432379	A Council covering a wider area could make more Strategic decisions and not not be unduly influenced by nimbism
1664432332	remember Humberside
1664432253	I strongly disagree with bigger is better. I feel larger cities would get the focus rather than villages.
1664432140	Put NE Lincs to bed debacle after debacle has ruined the town I love and live in. Suggest merge with East Lindsey , And North Lincs would be a good option reduce red tape and with Gy and Clee as Center could reduce pen pushers by over half current total from Louth to Grimsby,Cleethorpes , Brigg , Immingham and Scunthorpe. Massive cost savings for tax payers in region.
1664432128	Need to stay local and with the people not mo Are big gaps and distance them self for the people who voted for them

1664432101	This is clearly a money saving exercise that will no doubt have a detrimental effect on N E Lincs if we are to become one big Council Authority. It will cease to be local anymore and history has shown that trying to govern from one central location only works for the few, and everyone needs to benefit.
1664431916	Why fix what's not broken?
1664430008	Please don't. Remember the area of Humberside? That didn't go well back then, and it won't go well now.
1664429866	We need to protect our identity, heritage and local decision making. We are not, nor the same as Greater Lincs in many ways, we are culturally different and economically reasonably diverse. Our industry and connections with the north bank of the Humber must be protected. As a resident I feel it would be a travesty and any progress we have made for NEL would be lost in a large geographical area of which our strategically important region could get lost. I say no!
1664427891	A bigger area dilutes away from local issues, having an organisation that will need to prioritise certain things that may result in the place level items getting lost or under funded. I think we have unique challenges in the area which needs a focused approach to overcome these. While I understand shared resources under the combined authority I think there are certain items, such as health and deprivation that need a local approach and team to tackle this.
1664427279	Keep NEL decisions & resources in NEL
1664426682	We were part of a larger council before - Humberside. It felt like this area was neglected and forgotten about during that time. A larger Lincolnshire council would probably be similar.
1664426601	whilst the government may believe that 'big is better', I certainly do not. I have experienced first-hand in my career the consequence of bigger is better. The challenges caused by moving to a bigger organisation that covered all needs proved to be very damaging in my experience.
1664426407	The Council works well as it currently is. Whilst some decisions may not be perfect, no Council is but NELC works well for the area it covers. Merging with another Council would result in a negative impact on NEL and the needs of the residents of this area
1664425850	I don't really think our opinion matters. Government will do what they want anyway. I'm happy with our local council. I believe they care for local people, skills and opportunities.
1664424551	The council does a good job with appreciation.
1664424521	Feel that it is now impossible not to change and staying as things are is no longer an option.
1664423615	We have enough large industries closing in our area, which is impacting jobs and the mental health of local people. Doesn't feel supported by central government so why would we trust them to not mess this up to. I wouldn't want to see major changes to the council as could be more impact on local jobs, local people, families and people's health. I don't go into the town centre very often but I hear and read it is improving so wouldn't want any big change to affect this and the future plans
1664422616	It would be an absolute disaster to lose the NEL borders! Local people and organisations have good relationships within the NEL border and it gives us a great sense of identity. We can work better, represent ourselves and local needs, and collaborate beyond the NEL border in a much more effective, efficient and meaningful way as NEL than as part of something too big. It's always the case, the larger an organisation gets the less personal it gets and the more people suffer! KEEP TEAM NEL!!!

1664422502	I think a re-organisation is long overdue. The current council does not take into consideration the vast majority of people's views. Council tax is through the roof for poor services-waste bins collected every 2 weeks but what else am I paying for?? Where does the rest of the money go? The roads are horrendous, continuous traffic lights causing mayhem all over town, a town which was once thriving now looks and feels like a third world country. No where feels safe and no accessible facilities
1664421561	Keep the council we've got it's lovely like a family. Don't want to go bigger we'll just get lost in the bra attic hole and it will all go to lincoln
1664421357	Immingham is largely forgotten about within NE Lincs council so it will be completely overlooked in a larger authority.
1664421169	I do think our council should be local, but I also recognise there should be more scrutiny from external sources
1664420859	There needs to be some action about NELC. The area doesn't need changing BUT the over comfortable set in their ways approaches currently seen by both council and leading councillors needs to be completely revised, more power to the people.
1664420224	Larger councils would cut waste, reduce duplication and make services more efficient. It could also improve learning from other local authorities across the country and the system will become less complex to navigate for both the public and officers. Local connections could still continue with local offices but corporate resources pooled.
1664415418	Our council has shown that it is well run with the low council tax rises, that would all change if we was merged with other areas not so well run





North East Lincolnshire Council

**Local Government
Reorganisation Proposal
Evidence Bank
November 2025**

