

**RESOLUTION OF THE CORPORATE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE OF 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

**SOUTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP**

Following the Chief Executive's presentation of the draft Business Case and Memorandum of Agreement, Members' comments included:

- Recognition of the significant opportunities the partnership would present in terms of economic development and speaking as a region with one voice
- The important increase in resilience that a larger workforce would provide and the ability to access more experienced staff to achieve more ambitious projects and attract more funding
- The chance to improve marketing to increase tourism and attract more businesses to the area
- The opportunities for staff to advance their careers and specialise
- Appreciation of the pace the process was taking

The following concerns were addressed by the Chief Executive:

- The Council could risk losing its individual identity; it needed to be strengthened, not simply retained
- The financial projections appeared speculative
- Other partners seemed to benefit more than Boston
- Staffing costs could increase
- Customers should be able to contact staff with local knowledge
- The whole of the borough's offer should be promoted more visibly

**The Committee resolved to that Members' observations be put together to go forward to Full Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> August.**

**The main comments and suggestions were as follows:**

- Name the proposed partnership the "East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership"

This would more accurately reflect the wide area covered and to differentiate it from the South East Lincolnshire partnership formed between SHDC and BBC previously to establish a Joint Local Plan.

- Add the following to Section 4 Scope of Services, to populate the list of Boston's Lead Specialisms and Highly Performing Services:
  1. Success in the delivery of affordable housing through various partnerships – 750 new affordable homes over the last five years, one new home every 2.43 days.
  2. Securing external funding for community benefit – for example, Towns Fund, Housing Infrastructure Fund, Controlling Migration fund, Community Champions fund
  3. Strategic partner engagement – for example, with Boston College, Port of Boston, Platform Housing Group
- In Section 9: Programme Governance & Management, remove the self-evident responsibilities from the list for Programme Board Members