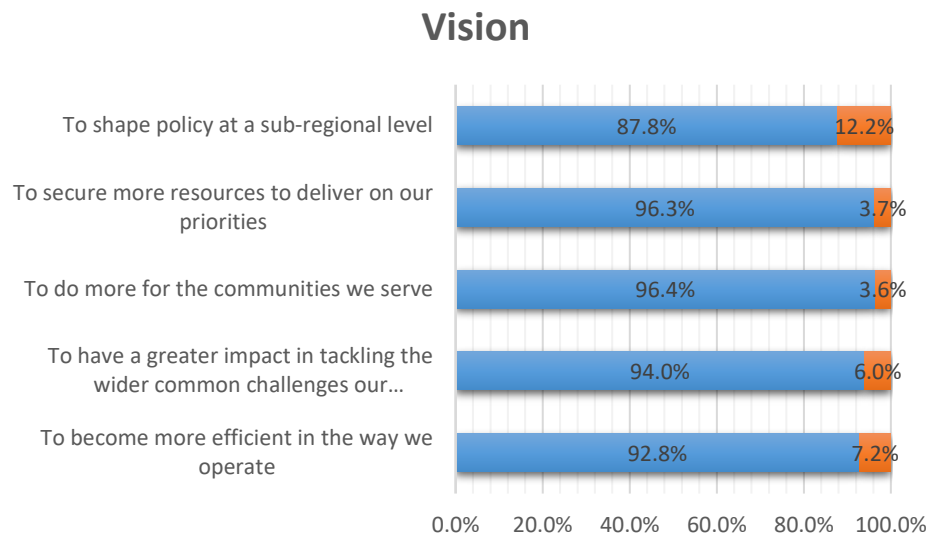


Appendix B: Sub-regional Strategy consultation findings

Vision

Do you agree with the overall vision? A bold and ambitious partnership of Council's, working together:

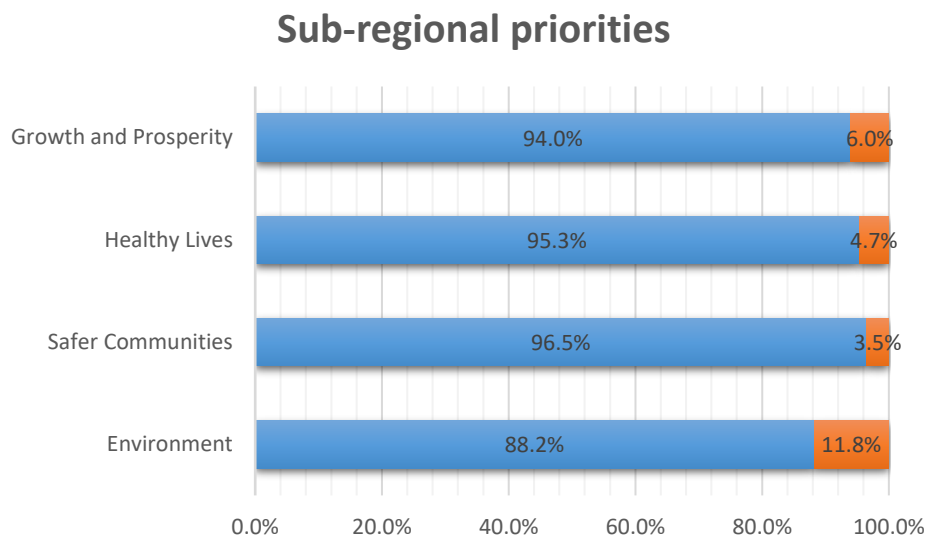


Comments:

- Closer links with other authorities in the country
- 'To shape policy at a sub-regional level to ensure that the best impact of these on our communities, businesses and visitors'
- Not 'our' priorities but those of the residents/communities we serve
- Clear, accessible, and transparent communication with residents, community, businesses; more up to date means, such as joining and responding in local social media groups
- Less of the council speak so that things are in tangible actions and its clear why things are done or not done, where money is spent, etc
- Greater focus on front line statutory services
- Doing the basics well (it's not all about the shiny stuff)
- More recognition of the challenges villages face and village halls/ leisure or community centres
- To build a louder voice to make National Government aware of our problems
- Bolder ambition to become one council with fewer overheads and therefore even greater efficiencies
- Whilst I support the aim to have a greater impact in tackling the wider COMMON challenges, the one team must share in the additional specific challenges each of the councils may face
- More involvement with the Parish Councils
- To secure more funding for the area
- An awareness of the importance of rural businesses.
- Working together to support our communities
- The vision is broad enough and ambitious. I like it.

Sub-regional priorities

Do you agree with the proposed sub-regional priorities listed below?



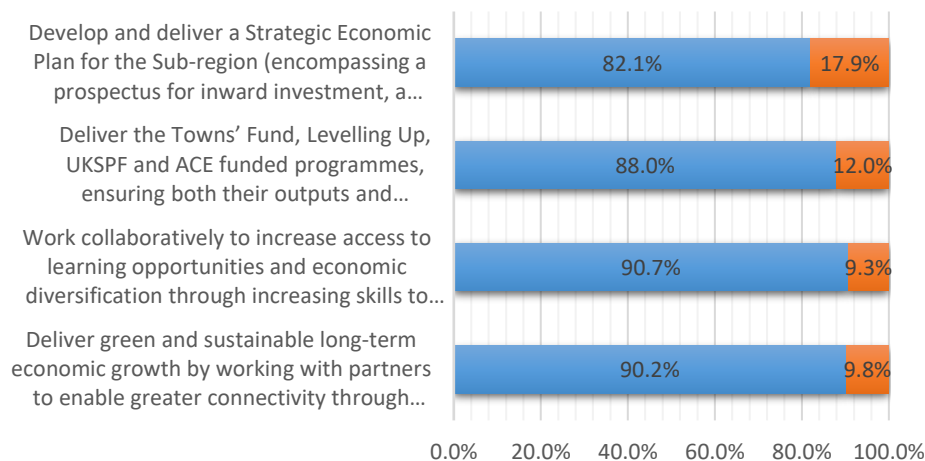
Comments:

- Bus reliability; safe and reliable transport for all is essential
- Safe communities - not 'safer'
- Simply stating 'Environment' doesn't feel very ambitious compared to the other priorities
- I care about the environment but think that policies are based on false information especially around wind farms etc. Too much emphasis is placed on supposedly "green" policies
- Traffic monitoring and roads and trains /ease of access of pedestrians, cyclists, and car users to facilities in and around town
- Nothing additional because these are all worthy priorities and fit with ambitions for the rest of Lincolnshire and beyond, but would have flood risk as an environmental issue and potentially utilities (or further expansion on the particular priorities within it)
- Disability access to amenities and services, better services
- Investment into our young people providing and encouraging social activities, supporting mental health including young people struggling with social anxiety
- Transport infrastructure across the county
- Homelessness is a growing problem in our community. This needs to be a priority.

Growth and Prosperity

Do you agree with the proposed areas of focus? We will:

Growth and Prosperity



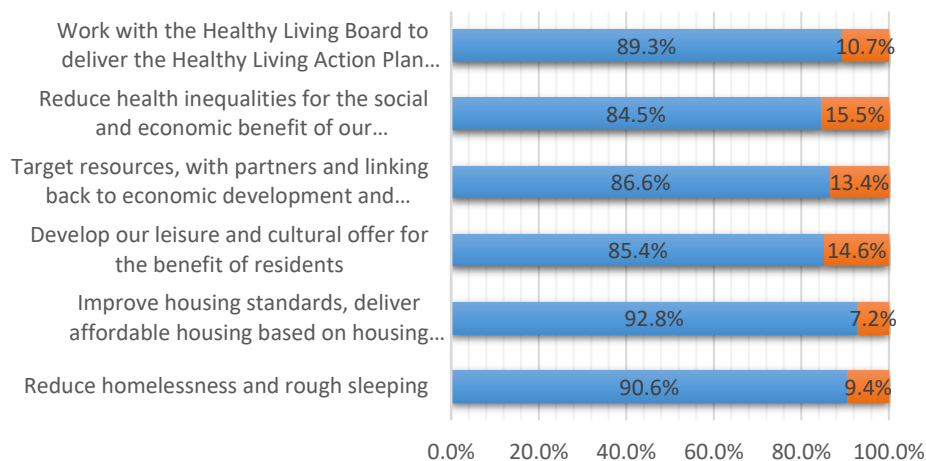
Comments:

- Agree with the premise but the wording needs to be better to understand how to make economic growth green and sustainable. This doesn't come across very strongly
- No idea what the benefits are of the Art Council? I'm not sure how increasing employment land, improved roads and transport links is green? As long as our beautiful countryside is protected, I'm ok with this
- Lincolnshire definitely requires improved road networks
- The need for resilience and so called soft and transferable employment skills development - e.g., team working, communication, self-promotion etc
- Housing growth is only viable if the infrastructure is also focussed on alongside the growth, currently this is desperately lacking and rarely enforced. It is viewed by large developers as an afterthought and brings major issues into all areas, affecting health and wellbeing and general standards of living
- Link to Lincolnshire's wider ambitions, e.g., through GLLEP. These match perfectly with broader levelling up and DLUHC priorities so can feed up to that agenda.
- Full investment for businesses.
- Enhance the promotion of tourism to all parts of the area in equal measure and working in co-operation with neighbouring authorities to create a strong Fenland identity. Enhance the understanding of the history and heritage of the fens, ensuring that developments do not significantly alter the flat fenland landscape
- Far too much emphasis on towns - I doubt very much that rural residents/businesses would consider this be very important.
- Specific promotion/marketing of the area - to bring in new business, employment opportunities etc.
- Too many houses being built and designed incorrectly. Roads are too narrow on new estates. Focus should be more on access to housing estates by bicycle or on foot. Vehicles should be parked away from the estate but within walking distance of houses. This is common practice in Denmark.

Healthy Lives

Do you agree with the proposed areas of focus? We will:

Healthy Lives



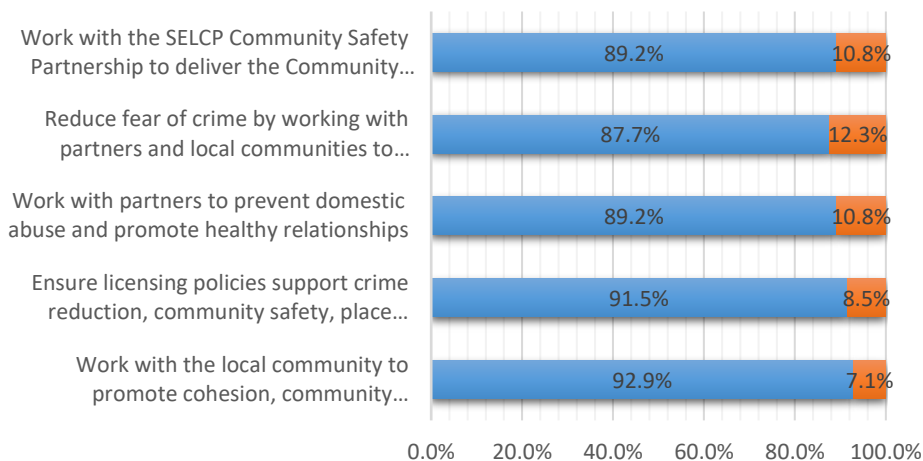
Comments:

- Housing and Homelessness should definitely be a priority. Access to health services has gotten much worse and needs to be a priority
- I would hope to see mental health and supporting personal resilience incorporated into healthy lives language to help continue the support and reduce stigma around this
- Voluntary sector engagement in regard to health inequalities is already reaching its peak, more focus needs to be turned to getting relevant funding and effective groups in place to ensure the inequalities with health are improved. Focus needs to be on young children and educating them how to eat well and participate in regular exercise. For those on benefits with non-severe physical impairment there should a process of voluntary work around the communities be it simple street cleaning or tidying or helping to assist the mental health of those with simple needs, such as those who are isolated or have suffered loss
- You will not reduce homelessness until drug use has been addressed and the focus here should be on access to medical facilities including dentists
- We need more focus on mental health and suicide prevention
- Leisure and culture should be left to the volunteer sector with minimum financial help from government
- Housing growth is not something this area can sustain without vast improvement to infrastructure
- Disability opportunities/mental health/investment in services
- Homelessness and anti-social behaviour often have shared causes. This probably should be delivered as a single package under Safe and Resilient communities
- Improve housing by requiring 75% affordable homes minimum, build blocks of flats up to 6 storeys (12 homes).
- Children & Youth Service - putting money back into youth work.
- Concentrate on cycling for leisure and sport as well as for transport. Build a new BMX track and offroad trails.

Safe and Resilient Communities

Do you agree with the proposed areas of focus? We will:

Safe and Resilient Communities



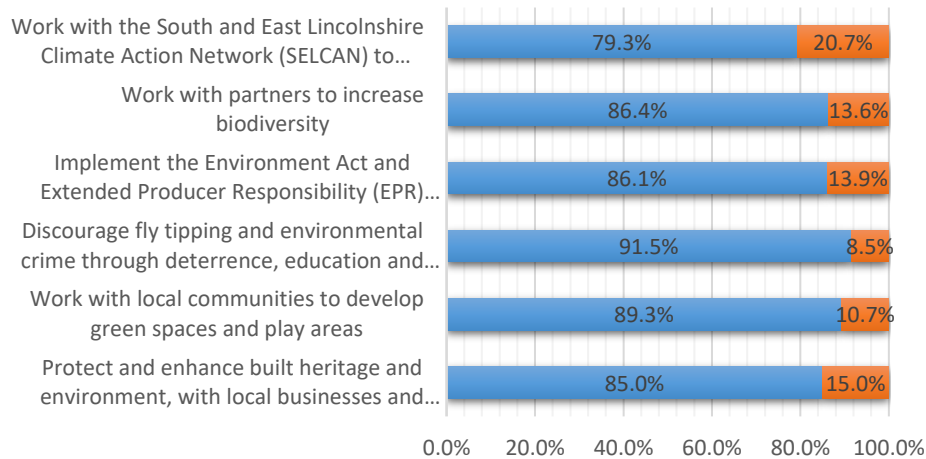
Comments:

- Awareness of emotional and physical abuse behind closed doors, increased knowledge and awareness of what support is available and how to access it
- Policing and ASB needs better funding without which improvements unattainable
- Safe and Resilient Communities is better than Safer Communities referenced earlier
- Broadening cultural awareness is important, for employees of the partnership as well as across our communities
- Having more visible Police officers would provide confidence. Invest in them rather than other initiatives
- How about more police on the streets arresting people involved in drug dealing
- Ensure we have adequate patrols in rural areas that are seeing an increase in Antisocial behaviour
- More police!!
- Review police / cctv and process for monitoring local area
- Very big issues to tackle so needs close working with cross-sector partner agencies
- Safety of disabled groups
- Increase Police Presence in our Communities
- I agree with the proposals, but, how can you get the community to engage with the Police with positivity when there is friction between them?
- Seeking to change perceptions of crime does not reduce crime. It infers that there should be an acceptance of low level crime due a lack of resources. All crime is bad. All anti-social behaviour is undesirable. That is not perception. It is fact.
- Promoting pride in the smaller communities, litter picking, floral displays all done by the small villages and Hamlets.

Environment

Do you agree with the proposed areas of focus? We will:

Environment



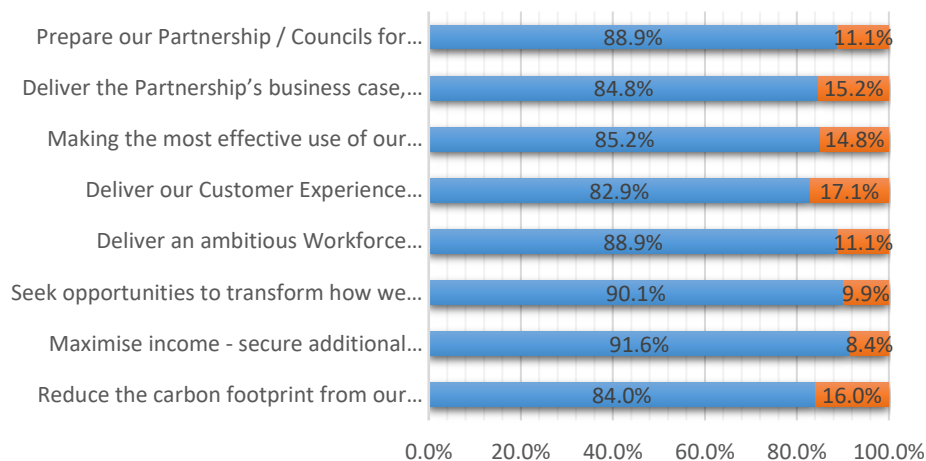
Comments:

- The point on biodiversity should be strengthened to link into health outcomes and understand the value that increase biodiversity has also relative to a sense of place. Also ensuring biodiversity net gain delivers - linked to current environment policy
- There already are lots of green spaces. Ensure developers provide & maintain green spaces
- Support the development and streamlining of household waste and recycling both at home and in town centres (e.g. multi waste bins)
- Ensure businesses who sell food do so safely and that the tourism economy is a safe industry
- How will the partnership embrace green / decarbonisation in its homes?
- Our heritage should be saved especially on the coast which is often seen as not worthy
- Fly tipping would not take place if there were better and cheaper ways to dispose of rubbish, there is no point in penalising people who cannot afford the cost of disposal
- Retaining open green spaces and committing to protecting play parks and green spaces
- Nothing about tackling heritage at risk (which is also a requirement of the Government's Environmental Improvement Plan) or enforcement action on owners of derelict historic buildings. The Levelling Up Bill will also introduce statutory requirements to protect and enhance cultural heritage and biodiversity. Plans need to be in place for this.
- All recycle centres to be open 7 days a week for key times of the year, not all year
- Speed of providing new play areas in villages need to improve
- Do not reduce public green space in a town where it is already in short supply
- Discourage fly tipping by strict enforcement
- "Work with partners to protect and enhance heritage and create a sustainable built environment."
- Fix planning and introduce zero-tolerance to developer fraud. Increase biodiversity by only building on existing brown-field sites.
- Don't build on flood plains
- Encourage businesses to allow their employees to cycle or walk to work and provide shower and changing facilities. Provide a cycle and e-cycle hire scheme.

Efficiency and Effectiveness

Do you agree with the proposed areas of focus? We will:

Efficiency and Effectiveness



Comments:

- Not just the environment councils operate in, their powers and available funds
- Push to digital is key but do not forget ageing residents who cannot access services digitally, and are being pushed out in the name of being more efficient
- Need to keep access to services local - danger service alignment means less easy access to services; need to ensure those less technology minded are not left out/behind
- I do not feel that customer service people should be replaced by online or digital offers. It is important to have a digital offer alongside anything, but not to lose people as an option. I feel that there should be more effort and emphasis on including alternative formats (such as BSL, foreign languages) prior to a focus on digitalisation. Staff within the partnership need to feel valued too
- Become a unitary authority
- Providing all sectors in all the Councils realise that there will not be 100% digitised services for various reasons; mistrust of internet, illiteracy, perceived to be less timely when a 'quick phone call' will do, lack of internet
- How will the partnership know how it is performing? With introduction of Oflog and new housing regulatory requirements, knowing how we perform is a key consideration. How will tenants and residents know what it's beyond the shiny stuff?
- You need to ensure that 'carbon footprint' is net zero and properly calculated to internationally agreed metrics.
- Partnerships to work together better to deliver better results and talk to parish councils to work closer with those that understand the local area
- "Maximising Funding" comment needs addressing. Wyberton Parish Council took on the costings of the street lighting quite some time ago. How is this "Levelling Up"?
- The digitally excluded must not be overlooked. Services and communication needs to reflect that there are significant numbers of digitally excluded people in the area, whether that be down to age, poor internet connectivity, lower levels of education or language barriers.

Boston local priorities

Please tell us the areas of focus you feel are most important Boston Borough Council in the next 5 years:

- Reducing ASB and fear/perception of crime without which the town as a place to go will continue to die. People need to feel able to be safe in the town otherwise they will not shop, use leisure provisions, pubs etc; income to the town will continue to fall. Town centre needs to have a better more vibrant look rather be a large car park with a road through.
- Access and improving the town's aesthetic.
- Community cohesion-pride of place, cultural awareness, breaking barriers, and stigma, reducing negative perceptions, town centre improvement, provision of more (free/low cost) benefits for health/wellbeing
- The High Street, town centre development including the market, levelling up and community safety.
- Making local people feel like they matter to the town, more than or just as much as the foreign nationals, that is the only way to regrow the town centre. Local people will not spend money on a high street they feel intimidated to walk down.
- Improvement and links to Boston and in terms of culture and promotion of positive place to the rest of the country so people are proud to live here, and people want to come here
- Income growth and budget surplus.
- Infrastructure, public transport, mental health, and rural inclusion. We pay council tax but get less services and parish councils need closer monitoring
- Economic and Infrastructure building. Vision and leadership from council; staff should be competent, highly qualified, and diverse creation, learning and development for those unemployed and underemployed. New strategies for increase in investment both from public and private support.
- Transport, Police and Town Centre investment.
- Jobs Integration Safe Community Technology Enhancement Community ID
- Create a more positive impression by example, be enthusiastic about the town and what it has to offer, believe, and focus on all of the good things about Boston and the surrounding area. Promote the efforts of local people and the local authority in tackling some of the more negative aspects and creating a better place to live, work and visit.
- Transport links for commercial activity, in all directions. Boston is a block to any travel and will lose commercial development because of this. Provision of local health facilities, Concern for pedestrians and cyclists who through need or choice are required to use routes without footway or cycle paths, particularly in rural village area. Lack of centres of community in rural and urban area School provision for the future
- Tourism and putting together a better plan to get visitors and locals interested in things to do. We need to build for the future.
- Regeneration of the Town. Investment in local businesses. Tidying up of the Town, The Wyberton Wombles do AN IMMENSE JOB, FOR FREE MIGHT I ADD! Assist the Parish Councils with the funding they need, as most of them are Pro-Active in re-generating their own area.
- Securing investment (both public and private) through a considered and ambitious approach to economic strategy. Without good companies, with good job opportunities and the skilled people to fill these roles, Boston cannot survive let alone thrive in the local, national and global environments without continued government 'hand-outs'. We need to be self-sufficient, proud of our history and aspirational for our future potential.
- Make Boston business friendly - we need the jobs and the rates income.