

**Boston Borough Council  
Community Governance Review  
Consultation Report  
Published**



## Introduction to this consultation

1. This report details the responses received for the 'Creation of a Parish or Town Council for Boston' consultation undertaken between 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 and 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025.
2. The exercise was performed to seek residents' views on whether Boston should have its own Parish or Town Council as part of the Community Governance Review (CGR). Residents were advised that unlike many other towns in Lincolnshire, Boston does not currently have a Town Council. Since 1974, local decision-making and accountability have been the responsibility of Boston Borough Council. In contrast, other areas benefit from Parish or Town Councils made up of locally elected representatives who may manage community events, advocate for local services, protect community assets, invest in parks, and contribute to planning consultations.
3. Residents were also advised that Boston Borough Council has a Mayor. The role of the Mayor of Boston Borough Council is primarily ceremonial and civic. The Mayor represents the borough at official events, supports local charities and community initiatives, and acts as an ambassador for Boston.
4. Boston Borough Council asked whether residents thought that Boston should have its own Parish or Town Council. All those that completed the consultation were asked to read the page on the Council's website explaining that the consultation was part of a Community Governance Review (CGR) which gave residents the opportunity to share whether they would prefer more localised decision-making or if they were satisfied with the current arrangements.

## Methodology

5. A media release was issued to local newspapers to promote the consultation and social media activity was ongoing throughout the consultation period.
6. A link to the electronic questionnaire was made available on Boston Borough Council's website.
7. The consultation was shared with a range of partners and stakeholders, a full list is included below:
  - Richard Tice MP
  - Dame Andrea Jenkyns DBE, Greater Lincolnshire Mayor
  - Lincolnshire County Council/Councillors
  - Parish Councils/Councillors
  - Local Government Boundary Commission for England
  - BBC/DWP Reception area
  - Boston Market
  - Boston Stump
  - Pescod Square
  - Boston Library

- GMLC
  - Boston United
  - Local businesses/banks etc in the Market Place
  - Paid advertising on Facebook
  - Interview on Endeavour FM by Cllr Cresswell
  - Promoted as part of other consultation events by Boston Town Board
8. It should be noted that base data has been rounded to the nearest number (so may add up to between 99% and 101%).

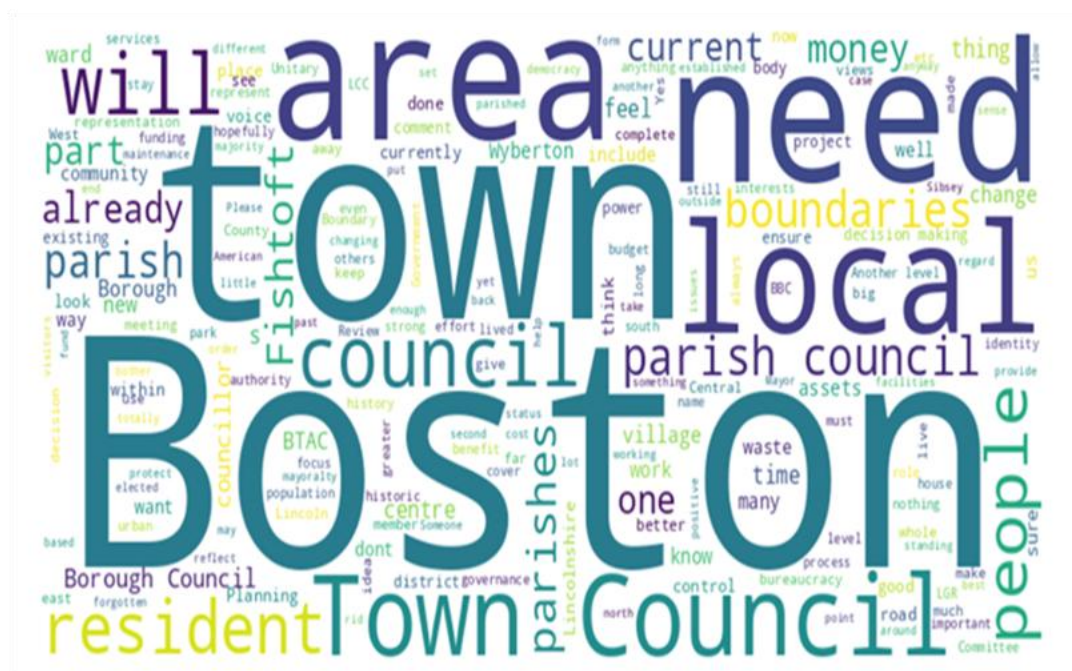
### Response Rate

9. 125 electronic responses and 1 paper copy were received.

## At A Glance

### Common Themes in Responses

10. Open-ended responses revealed recurring themes such as the need for local representation, concerns about bureaucracy, and protection of Boston's identity and assets.

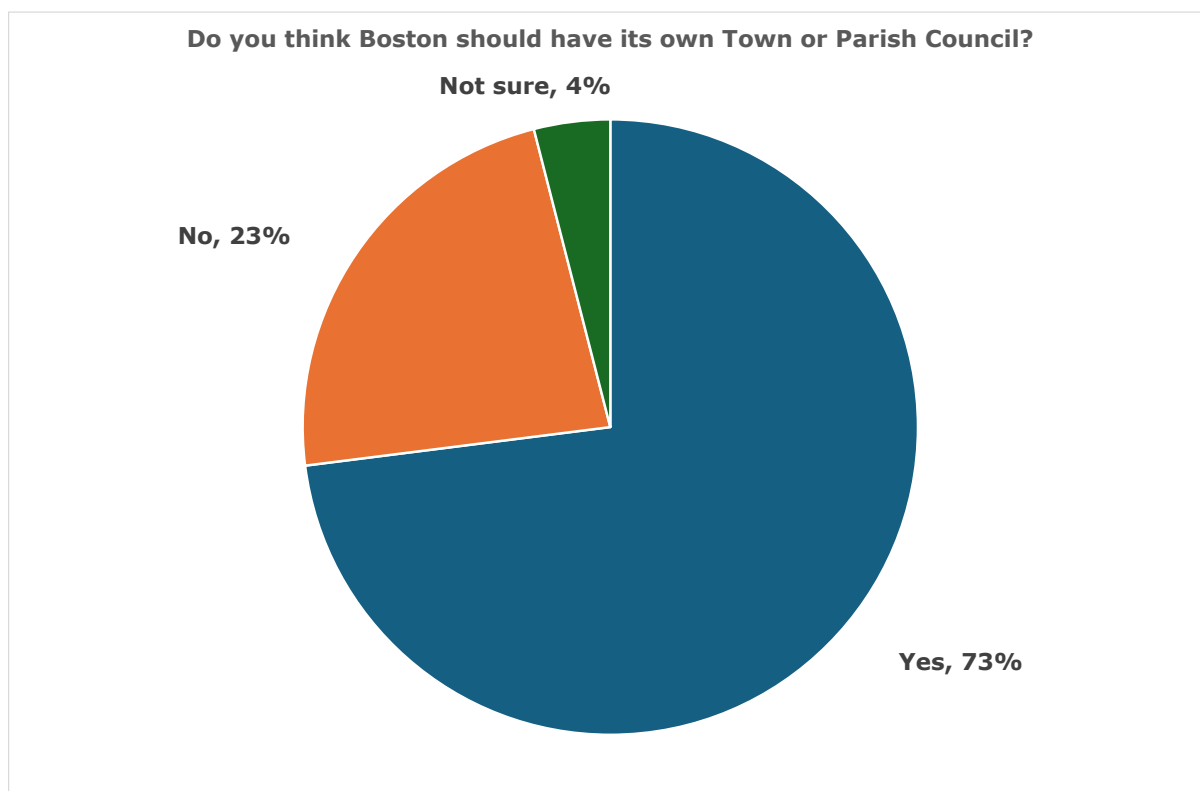


## Geographic Representation

- 11.Feedback was predominantly from central Boston (PE21), with representation from surrounding areas such as PE20 and PE22.

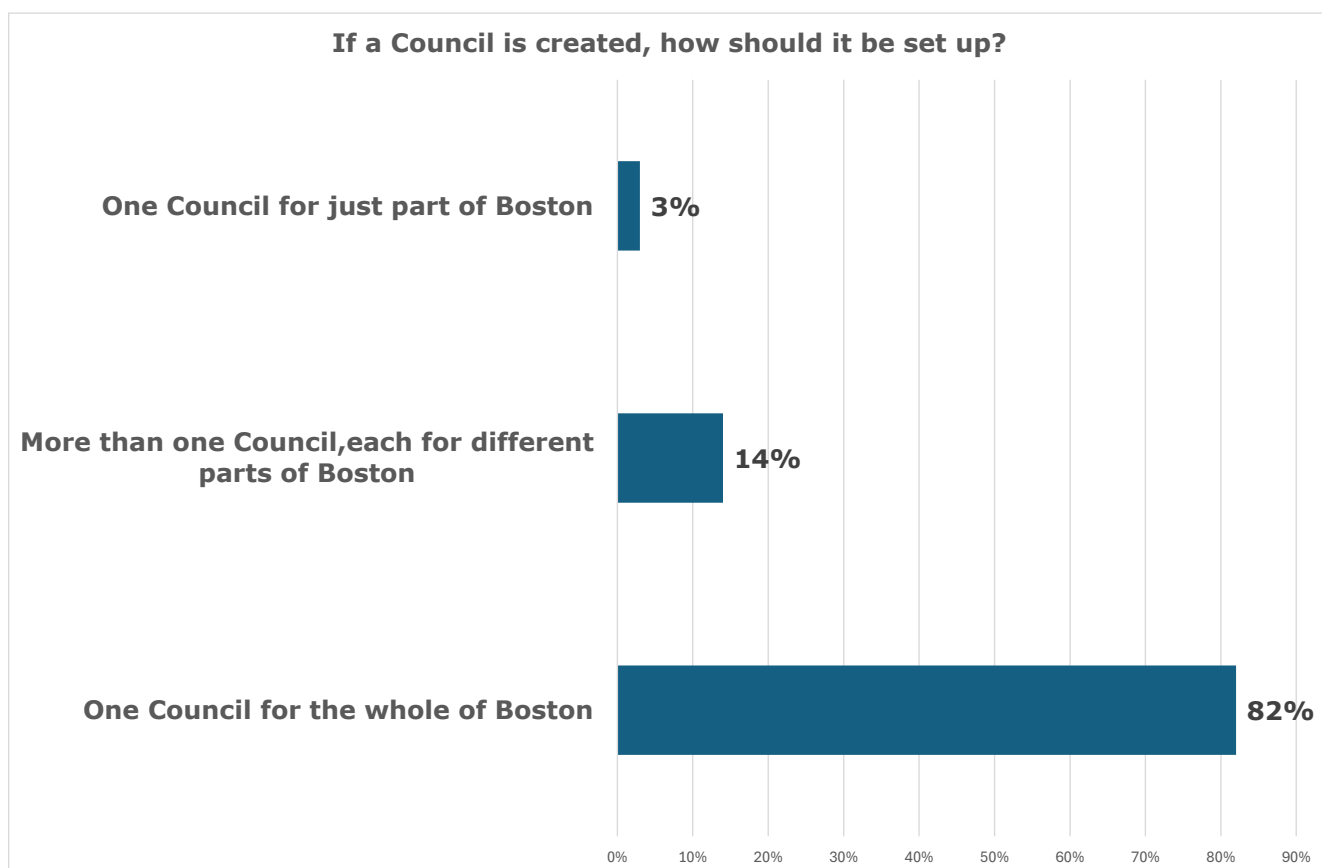
## Detailed Results and Analysis

12. All respondents were asked if Boston should have its own Town or Parish Council. The Chart below shows that nearly three quarters (73%) of respondents thought that Boston should, 23% thought it should not, with the remaining 4% stating that they were 'Not sure' if Boston should have its own Town or Parish Council.



13. All respondents were asked why they had given their answer above. The full verbatim comments are set out at the back of this document, summarised below by response and theme.
14. Yes, Boston should have its own Town or Parish Council:
- Local voice/representation/input/funding/decision making
  - In response to Local Government Re-organisation (LGR)
  - Size/importance of the Town and its heritage
  - Protection of community assets/civic pride
  - In line with other towns/parishes
15. No, Boston should not have its own Town or Parish Council:
- Unnecessary layers of government/politics/bureaucracy
  - Things should stay as they are
  - Too much focus on the town
  - Duplication/cost
16. Unsure:
- It depends on how it's done
  - No power

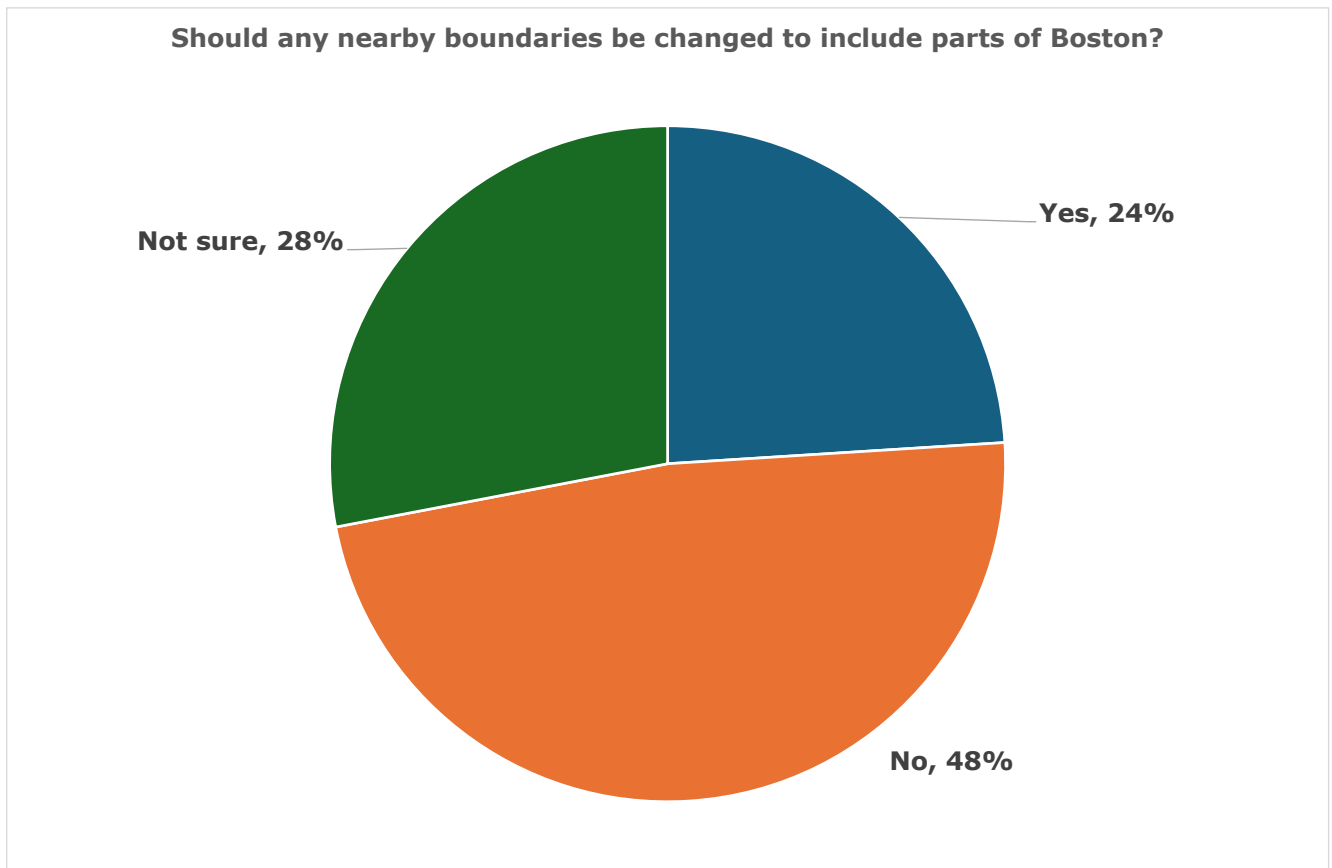
17. All respondents were provided with three options, and asked, if a Council was created, how they thought it should be set up. The chart below shows that 82% of all respondents thought it should be set up as 'One Council for the whole of Boston', 14% thought it should be set up as 'More than one Council, each for different parts of Boston', with the remaining 3% stating it should be set up as 'One Council for just part of Boston'.



Those respondents that selected 'More than one Council' or 'Part of Boston' were asked which areas they meant. The full verbatim comments are set out at the back of this document, summarised below by theme.

- BTAC/Town Centre/existing wards
- Centre then four around the boundaries.
- Spilt equally across four

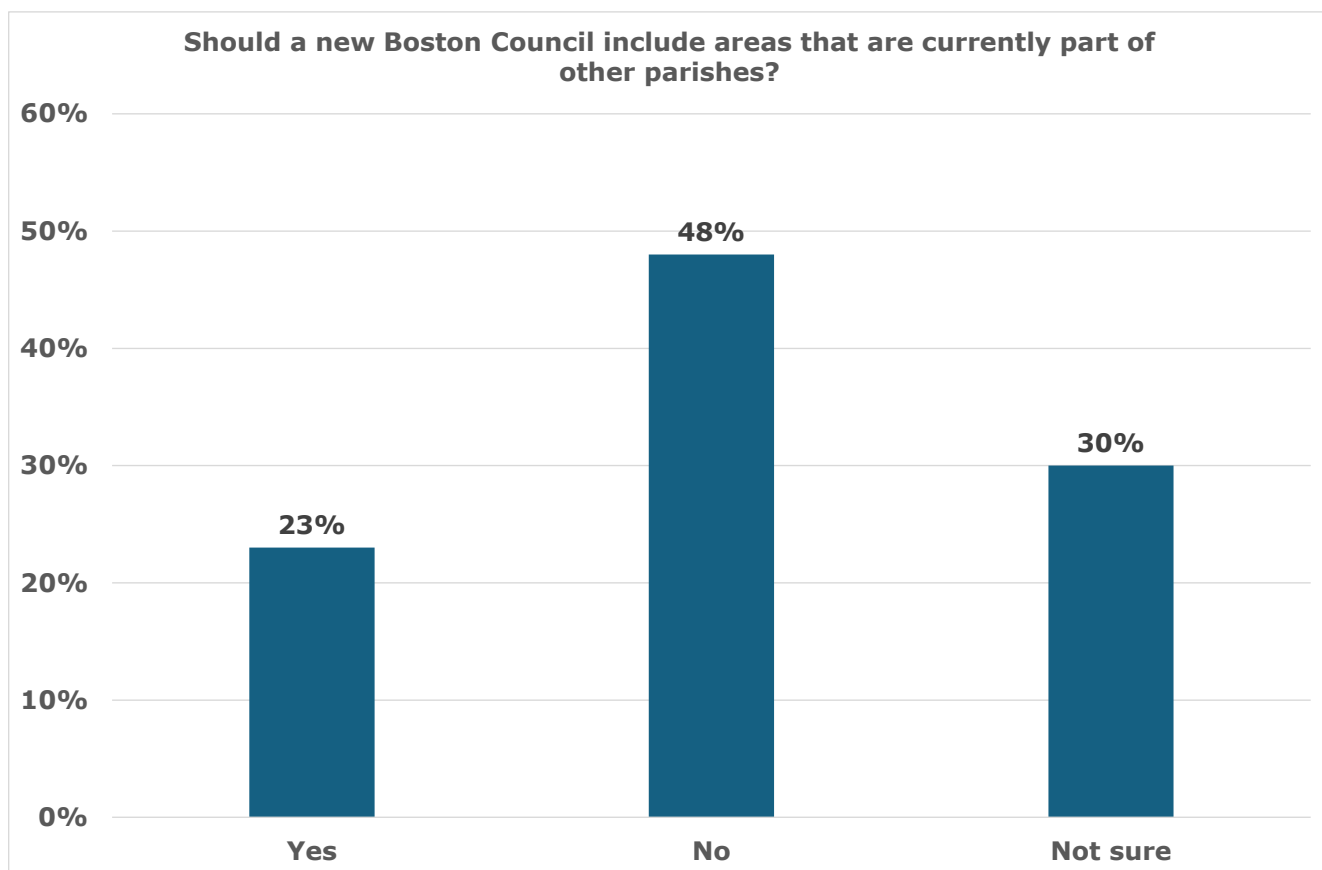
18. The chart below shows that 24% of all respondents thought that any nearby Parish boundaries should be changed to include part of Boston, nearly half (48%) of all respondents thought they should 'Not', with the remaining 28% of all respondents stating they were 'Not sure' if any nearby Parish boundaries should be changed to include part of Boston.



All respondents were asked to explain their response. The full verbatim comments are set out at the back of this document, summarised below by theme.

- No, Boston town and parishes have their own identity
- No, changing boundaries would cause problems
- Yes, more inclusive and clearer
- Unsure on current boundaries/impact
- Other, waste of time/why bother

19. The chart below shows that 23% of all respondents thought that a new Boston Council should include areas that were currently part of other parishes, 48% of all respondents thought it should not, with the remaining 30% stating they were 'Not sure' if a new Boston Council should include areas that were currently part of other parishes.



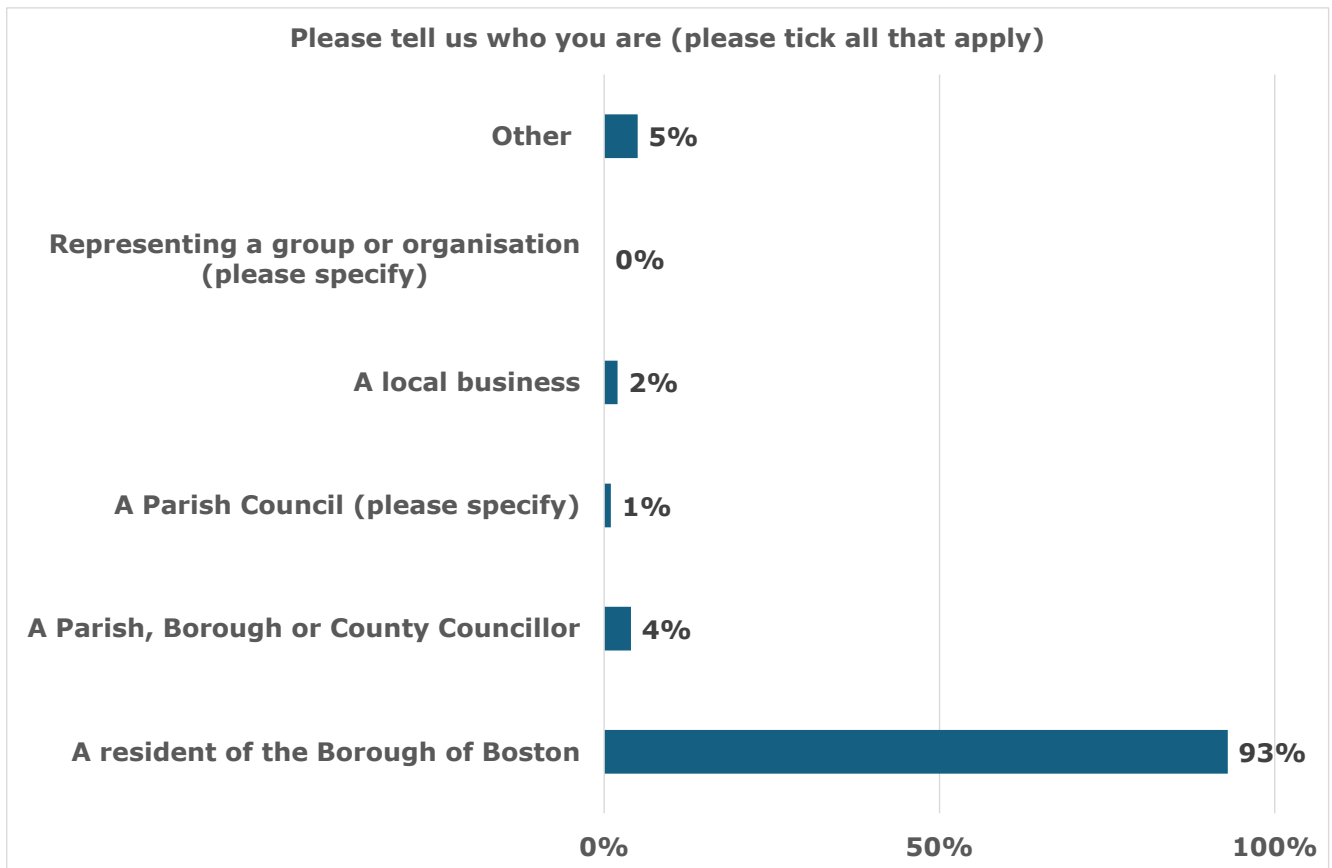
The full verbatim comments are set out at the back of this document, summarised below by theme.

- Fishtoft/Wyberton
- Sibsey
- General comments re villages/parishes

20. All respondents were given the opportunity to provide any other comments. The full verbatim comments are set out at the back of this document, summarised below by theme.

- Local democracy/voice/assets
- Councillors/representation
- Too much bureaucracy/layers of government

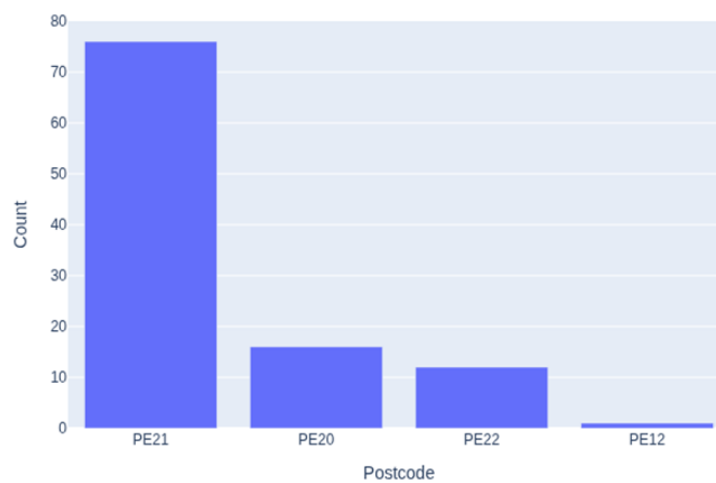
21. All respondents were asked in what capacity they had completed the survey. (Please note that the figures in the chart do not add up to 100% as respondents were asked to select all options that applied). However, the chart clearly shows that the majority of respondents completed the survey in the capacity of a 'A resident of the Borough of Boston'



## Geographic Representation

22. The chart below shows that feedback was predominantly from central Boston (PE21), with representation from surrounding areas such as PE20 and PE22.

Top Postcode Areas Represented





## **Verbatim comments by question:**

### **Should Boston have its own Town or Parish Council?**

#### Comments in favour

Local voice/representation/input/funding/decision making:

- Because it needs local people to help organise it
- Creative planning and decision making for the benefit of the 'local' residents. Opportunity for the sole residents of the town to express concerns, share views and ideas.
- Local voice
- More individual and not just a blanket set of rules
- We the locals are not getting value for the amount of taxes we pay. Boston Council Tax is already more than Kensington, yet the vast majority of that money is whisked away and spent, and sometimes waisted on projects that we have no control.
- We need a way to reflect the views of the residents of the town, otherwise we may get ignored!
- We need to get local control
- A Town Council would give Boston more direct local representation, independent decision-making powers, and greater control over services like parks, events, and community funding. It would increase accountability and allow residents to influence local priorities more effectively than the current arrangements under BTAC.
- Local decision making and protection of assets
- More might be done this town is a terrible place to many immigrants and feels unsafe to local people now.
- Boston people need to decide about Boston things not by people forty miles away
- Yes, because it gives the residents that live within the particular areas to have a voice.
- It would give people in the town to have an elected body to decide what they want to happen in the town
- We need something local
- This will ensure the town has its own voice for local matters especially if it ends up part of a huge new district. Everywhere else in Boston district is parished (as is most of Lincolnshire) so no reason Boston its self shouldn't.
- We should have people who know the area and lived in the town for a long time who will know what is needed for the town. We need someone who will advocate for the good of the local people and communicate well with other areas to work together to do this for the towns people
- To have a voice in Lincolnshire
- Need local decision makers
- Its big enough to need to listen to its residents
- We need to keep control of our town, so we keep what matters to locals
- To get more funds spent locally and decisions based on our needs
- Why would we not want a team with our town a priority
- So local input can be made well. Lincolnshire is a big county and diverse areas.

- A statutory body that hopefully will listen to Boston residents, then champion and deliver beneficial changes for the good of all.
- I think the parish councils should be the eyes and ears of local people, representing their views

In response to Local Government Re-organisation (LGR):

- In the case of LGR, it is to ensure that the interests of Boston and its residents, are prioritised.
- provide representation for post devolution
- With an unitarian authority being forced upon us, it is crucial that the residents of Boston have representation and a say at a local level.
- LGR will abolish the Borough Council, so there needs to be a level of democracy below any Unitary Council, further it is vital to protect Boston's Borough status and for an organisation to exist to hold the assets which rightfully belong to the Town and People of Boston
- With the abolition of the borough council, we must have something that represents and works for the people of Boston. Lincoln have not got a very good history of supporting Boston.
- If it is clear that the current borough council has to fold, then it is essential Boston continues to have good local governance and should replace it with a whole town Council. Boston has a remarkable heritage for a small town, and many believe it should have City Status. 2030 brings the four hundred anniversaries of the founding of Boston Mass. in the USA. This should be a time of growth and development which hopefully will attract many US visitors and is a chance to put our Boston town on the map
- Because it would provide Boston residents with a focus point re local issues and a sense of identity which could be lacking when Boston as a town gets swallowed up by the plans for Local Government. It is very evident that Boston citizens have a strong sense of pride in their town and a wish to identify with and contribute to Boston
- Local Government Review. The town needs its own Council. One that is local and will be a voice for Boston. We will get forgotten in LGR.
- A unitary authority would be too remote and not have Boston's best interests at the forefront

Size/importance of the Town and its heritage:

- It needs a Town Council because of the size of the town
- Boston is the second largest urban centre in Lincolnshire It has ample and significant heritage and history Boston has many assets that should be retained, preserved, and enhanced by a Town Council
- It's in the name "Boston Town"
- Boston should stay as a town
- historical and ceremonial stuff in Boston would otherwise be lost to some other place when unitary authority is imposed on us; also, Boston residents deserve representation
- Boston has always been a town council; the history of the town is a town council and the American visitors from whom see Boston as their historic place their land came.

- Boston has all ways been a town
- Boston is second most important town in County
- Boston has always been a town

Protection of community assets/civic pride/funding:

- Protection of mayoralty and civic pride. Community assets are protected and funded by precept. Focus on local community and projects.
- To finance the area of the Town Council and retain the historic nature of the town and, hopefully, the Mayoralty
- We need focused decision-making regarding fund allocations and services.
- To protect the civic role of the mayor and assets

In line with other towns/parishes:

- Most towns and villages do

### Comments against

Unnecessary layers of government/politics/bureaucracy:

- Another level of politics and another level of members to ensure are happy.
- As it's not fit for the area
- Feels like it is a way to keep jobs for certain people. Not sure I trust the people meant to be representing the town at present so why would this be any different? Maybe a fresh start would be for the best.
- Another level of bureaucracy
- With the borough council being based in Boston I don't think we need a second committee to oversee what the borough can already see.
- No. there is no funding and if no funding then it has no teeth
- We already have BTAC so if we end up having a Parish or Town Council, BTAC should be dissolved
- We already have the Boston Town Area Committee . . . made up of councillors and appointed by councillors. Democracy should include everyone living in the old Boston town area, and the residents have their say. The villages already have their own parish councils, and that should be sufficient.
- We have no need for another level of authorities to go through BBC are able to do that role. Plus, we cannot afford to waste money on this scheme which will result in the majority of cases in the same people from BBC standing to be Parish Councillors and then earn more money in expense and attendance claims.
- We already have BTAC. Why waste taxpayers money on more bureaucracy
- Don't want to be increasing councillor numbers
- Already far too many people with far too many fingers in too many pies. Nothing ever gets done because there are too many layers of governance as it is
- I have never noticed BTAC doing anything of use to ordinary Bostonians.
- It's more bureaucracy and cost and unnecessary

Things should stay as they are:

- As it should stay as the Borough council
- Stay as we are

Too much focus on the town:

- I feel that too much of Boston Borough Councils focus is on the town centre and that other areas on the borough are forgotten about

Duplication/cost:

- Duplication of roles, added cost

Unsure

It depends on how it's done:

- It depends on how it is done and who might benefit

No power:

- Parish Council - The current Fishtoft Parish Council although well-meaning has little or no power whatsoever - it is totally ruled both financially and by way of governance by Boston Borough Council. The current Parish Councillors because of this lack of power end up as little more than 'names on a list of officers.' A prime example is the strong and factual arguments put forward by the current Chairman of Fishtoft on Boston Planning Application B/23/0379 - 89 houses to be built on the rear of the Scout Hut Gaysfield Road Fishtoft at the Planning Meetings on 6th May and 1st July 2025. The Chairman was treated with complete disdain by the Chair of Planning and her arguments were totally ignored even belittled on several occasions. Town Council - I have no doubt should Boston have a Town Council it will carry on as currently with no regard for the residents of Boston - i.e. what they want with regard to their residencies and surrounds. Again, application B/23/0379 clearly shows this with the Planning Committee having no regard of Fishtoft villagers' comments and how the Village of Fishtoft, the community and they residents will all have their and their children's lives changed for ever and not for the better. To introduce a housing estate with little road access no infrastructure, no doctors, dentists, secondary schools, transport facilities, entertainment etc. etc. can only be to the detriment of village life. But they don't care. Confirmation came from the Planning Development Manager and members of the Committee with comments which showed they didn't even know where Fishtoft and yet they decided our future.

### **If a Council was created, how should it be set up?**

BTAC/Town Centre/existing wards:

- The area covered by BTAC
- It should be the same with north south west east Boston and all villages should keep the own as it is
- It could be divided up by areas like the elected councillors are now .
- Would be best to stick as far as possible to already existing ward boundaries. 'If it works (as it does) don't try to fix it'!
- It could be done as each council ward

- Based upon one or more wards
- Town centre, the area that doesn't already have a Parish council
- Some areas are worse than other e.g. town centre and surrounding areas need more help.
- Within the Boston town area.

Additional areas:

- Boston Wyberton Kirton
- Centre then four around the boundaries.
- Freiston, Fishtoft, Benington Wyberton Frampton as well as Boston town -to cover the outlying parishes too
- Central/ town, Fishtoft, Wyberton, Sibsey etc
- Spilt equally across four

### **Should any nearby boundaries be changed to include other parts of Boston?**

No, Boston town and parishes have their own identity:

- The town needs its own council, the Parishes already cover the areas outside of the town
- Boston town has its own identity.
- No, I feel that the current boundaries represents the town of Boston.
- The body needs to reflect the views of the whole town clearly.
- Boston's urban area has distinct needs and identity that differ from surrounding parishes. Changing parish boundaries could complicate governance and dilute the focus on Boston-specific issues. A dedicated Town Council for Boston, within its current boundaries, would provide clearer representation and better serve the town's interests.
- Existing Parishes boundaries need to be respected
- Existing parish councils manage their area well so why change what's working for the parish councils.
- Parishes should autonomous
- No need, Wyberton and Fishtoft have their own parish councils.
- Each parish needs locals who understand the area each area has a councillor who should lease with the Parish councils in any case and know the feelings of residents
- As previously stated, no valid reason to change the way Boston wards are organised not to remove Boston's autonomy
- The parishes around Boston should maintain their individuality.

No, changing boundaries would cause problems:

- They are established and have strong understandings and relationships with their residents as it stands currently. Forcing Parish boundaries to change will cause nothing but annoyance from residents and utter carnage from the members.
- As people already know the boundaries
- Why mess with tradition

- This will take too long to expedite if a Town Council is to be set up in time to receive the Town's assets before Vesting Day (the point at which the Borough Council cannot hand anything over, and it transfers to the Unitary). A Boundary Review should be done once a Town Council is established. Moreover, anything which requires the Local Government Boundary Commission to undertake a review will simply add to delay.
- Don't fix what isn't broke!
- You should not change anything which was from the past, that's our history for the town.
- As people know where the boundaries are and should not have to learn a new boundary
- the new Boston town council should include all the parishes that were included in the earlier Boston rural and Boston urban districts. it should not be necessary to change parish boundaries except perhaps to include areas not designated in parishes
- Don't want to be increasing councillor numbers
- If a village already has a parish council that should stay in place
- Most cost and unrequired changes.
- Let's make this process as simple as possible and not include other established parishes

Yes:

- Yes, because we should cover local villages that are serviced by the current council
- All under one parish would make it more practical and shorten decision making in the long run
- One single decision-making group
- Just a Boston Borough Council, to cover the town and all its parishes
- More inclusive and efficient
- There needs to be sufficient number of households so a decent amount of precept can be raised. It may make sense to merge all adjoining parishes for a greater area and funds to be raised.
- the border between Wyberton and Boston, parish and town, borough council ward boundaries etc. is unclear - some people don't know whether they're in or out of both
- Because some villagers are forgotten about
- Yes
- If there was a council set up, you can have centre then north east south west as other areas.
- They could follow the present election areas in the town
- The part of the town in Fishtoft parish (namely the part east and north east of Skirbeck) could be added to Boston.
- yes, they should as the town is spreading out towards the villages now with all the new building
- Living in Swineshead I think this should be included so we do not get neglected for things like road maintenance, green areas maintenance, green waste and refuse collection and local facilities

- I feel that it would be beneficial to include all parishes within a 4-mile radius of the town centre.
- Wyberton. It's a suburb of Boston anyway.
- If this supported a positive impact for the parishes and Boston
- There needs to be a definitive boundary to allow concentrated use of funding in order to bring the town back to standard.
- One entire council

Unsure:

- Unsure on current Parish borders.
- Not sure you have explained the impact and reasoning for anyone to be able to complete this survey honestly and accurately.
- What are the current parish councils? What drain are payments to councillors on the public purse? We need to save money, not waste it on politicians
- I'm uncertain
- Not sure where all boundaries are
- I don't have a map !
- Not sure I understand the need if we haven't had it before
- Depends on where the boundaries cross

Other:

- get rid of parish councils altogether - a complete waste of time and effort
- Why bother - no one takes any notice of our comments anyway. It is only for show.

**Should a new Boston Council include areas that are currently part of other parishes? If yes, please specify**

Fishtoft/Wyberton:

- There is a chunk outside of the current Boston boundaries (to the East), that are within Fishtoft boundaries, but that are very much connected to the rest of Boston in reality. These areas are separated by fields from the rest of Fishtoft, so certainly feel more a part of Boston than Fishtoft.
- The town areas of Fishtoft and Wyberton where they form part of the main urban area of Boston as defined in the local plan.
- Some parts of Wyberton and Fishtoft relate more to Boston than their own official parishes
- Pilley's Lane and Sibsey Road which are closer to Boston than Fishtoft Parish

Sibsey:

- Sibsey only down the road. Should be part of Boston i.m.o

General comments:

- yes, the areas of Boston can be divided to include the villages close to them, but it will not be an easy task deciding on the parish boundaries

- Some rural parishes that currently form greater Boston there can be confusion between ecclesiastical parish council and local authority parish council, every effort should be made to clarify this
- To include entire geographic areas not streets or roads split down the middle.
- Boston should be governed as a whole
- All

### **Any other comments?**

#### Local democracy/voice/assets:

- Areas not currently within a town council should be part of a new town council. Other parishes should be fine as they are.
- A Town Council should protect the mayoralty and community assets which should be transferred to the town council. This will allow local community projects and partnerships to form for the betterment of the Town.
- I believe that a lot of significant issues get passed through LCC, if BBC handled our town, it would essentially be handled by us for us.
- It looks as if we are not being treated fairly by others. Do we get value for money from LCC Highways??? and others. The recycle centre is LCC, yet the waste is dumped onto BBC land. Health provision needs looking at, but no one seems sure of who runs the decisions. Simple things as grass cutting should be looked at. (The other week it took 6 big tractors to cut the grass outside of my house, and I'm told that is the cheapest} Central Government, no matter what party are in at the moment, seem to want to collect as much money as they can to spend it on their chosen project. Local Governments are controlled by their Party Policy that is controlled by their organisation, often clashing and not considering local needs.
- Creating a Town Council is a positive step toward stronger local democracy and more tailored services for Boston residents. It's important that the new council actively engages with the community to ensure transparency and responsiveness. Clear communication about the council's powers, budget, and decisions will help build trust and encourage participation. Additionally, careful planning is needed to avoid duplication of services with the Borough and County Councils.
- Formation of town Council should ensure that Boston's interests and assets are protected, before LGR swallows it all up!
- Boston town is a historic town with a large American following, we need to do more to have the American connection after the Mayflower ship left from Boston after the crew were in jail in the guild hall. The more we go away from our town history is killing the visitors who need to find their historic background and in 2025 the town is changing too far away from what we should be . When you look at French and Dutch towns, they make their houses still look like they would have been in the early years and now it's like going back in time and lots of visitors.
- Boston has got to look after Boston not LCC because Boston and the small villages are poor relations to over big towns like Lincoln how many new roads do they have. Were others can't even get pot holes repaired
- Great idea as Boston and south of County always loses out when control is in Lincoln



- I do not base my responses to my experience only. I have lived in Boston since 1989, but have lived in other places, South Wales where I grew up and continue to visit regularly, West Yorkshire, briefly, London, North and West London and worked in Central and West London. I can look at Boston objectively and can deduce that it needs to retain its autonomy and identity, having its own Town Council would enable this and empower the local residents, some of whom have lived here all their lives and have strong, long-standing family ties, others who have moved here and settled developing a great love and loyalty to Boston
- I confess I don't know much about politics but I don't think us not having control is a good idea, we already have a tough time getting things we need like facilities for local disabled residents and I feel it would be even harder if we didn't have a local council to fight our corner
- Not sure what you mean. An example would be good in order to comment. The new council needs to ask locals what we think of new projects instead of wasting money on things we don't need i.e. where the bus station is the redevelopment. I think is waste of money and time. We need investment from big name shops and free parking, things for youngsters to do either free or for few pounds to get them off streets causing havoc. Something to attract people not more shops just use the ones we have that are empty. Somewhere for clubs to use for adults in the evenings. Not less parking and a new park. Put landscaping in central park with a pond like there used to be. Bourne memorial gardens park is a far nicer walk than ours.
- The town has changed fundamentally and how the Indigenous population and integrated incomers cope with that change must reflect both the change and the concerns of the inhabitants of each and every part of the town and how they and their children live their lives and live alongside each other in harmony
- We have Boston Borough Council. We do neither want nor need another body. You approve more and more housing, but the infrastructure remains at 1998 levels. Talk to the local reform MP and together you can look at savings, streamlining processes, meetings, maintenance, efficiency. This can be done as part of the current schedule.
- The town needs regeneration. It needs to be cared for and promoted. There needs to be a move away from the thuggish, domineering presence within the town. We have a massive benefits culture, drug and homelessness problem. Underfunding and underachieving schools. The town centre would benefit from the introduction of a mixed residential and commercial use of properties, to promote local concentration of economic spending. I appreciate that we have a dense migrant population due to the nature of the local work available, however, we also have a large population of people who do not have leave to remain. They need to be addressed. We have houses being used as homes, which are not fit for purpose. We have spaces and public areas not maintained. We can do better. We must aspire to be better.
- It is important this doesn't become just holding onto the past. It must be positive and represent the community. Not meeting for meeting sake. Promoting the good things and encourages growth. A lot to ask for but it's the only way things will change for the better.
- If unitary control is to be successful It should include representatives from all areas to ensure voices are heard.

- I've read everything and feel that I can't work out the pros and cons, lack of information. I'm assuming Boston Borough Council will continue. My preference is that in any re-organisation we must have a Boston Borough Council.

#### Councillors/representation:

- The councillor that standing at the moment should all resign and reform as most have turn the backs on the leader of the council so I can only see nothing been done in Boston
- Just that this whole thing feels very dodgy to keep certain people in power! I do not currently feel represented so this would not be any different.
- The most important thing is to get on with it and quickly. I would suggest running with the existing Town boundaries and existing Borough/BTAC ward boundaries as changing either will delay the whole process and both can be reviewed at leisure on the other side. I would suggest doubling up on the seats-per-Ward to give a 28-member Council which feels manageable and compares helpfully to Skegness (21) which is a smaller town. The Borough/BTAC wards were last revised ahead of 2015, so are sufficiently up to date on population for these purposes, and again any review can be undertaken on the other side of Town Council. Things which will need working out are names/titles. The Borough status and charter rights will need transferring to the Town Council when the existing District-level Borough Council is wound up. Eventually the Borough of Boston Town Council should meet in the Chamber in the Municipal Buildings, but arrangements would need to be in place in the meantime.
- If we are forced to have a Boston Parish or Town Council, then you need to dissolve BTAC. What is the reasoning behind requiring the Boston town centre to have a Parish or Town Council? We as residents need to know more regarding the thought process and why this has come up? What will be their responsibilities, and will they be any different to what BTAC are supposed to do for us?
- The parish council should be called Boston Town Council and assets should be transferred at point of order being made to establish.
- borough ward boundaries do not represent real communities but were devised as a convenience by now retired council officers (e.g. the splits along Brothertoft, Fydell and Argyll); all residents should be surveyed to see where and the extent of the 'new' wards they prefer
- Maybe get rid of the mayor roll
- These areas could work like separate Parish councils but have council representative at each meeting. Major decisions would be made jointly by a majority vote . They would be responsible for their own budgets with a central budget for major projects . Each area could invite businesses to give their views and probably investment. This council would obviously still be answerable to a governing body
- I think all areas in England should be parished. In Lincolnshire Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Spalding are unparished and if Lincoln district is abolished Lincoln will also need to be parished.
- Newark Town Council currently has parish council powers, and it works reasonably well. Boston is a similar sized town, and I think it would work well enough there.
- Not enough information as to why this is happening. What is the difference being proposed to what is currently in place and WHY ????

- Difficult to make a comment when we are not sure of boundaries/areas of parish councils, we are not represented by our county council members very well as other areas of Lincolnshire seem to have a louder voice
- All parish councils should be answerable to an independent body. Some only become a parish councillor for the kudos and do virtually nothing for their area
- We don't want "Career Councillors" my suggestion is no more than three elected terms as a Councillor- then you're out/ retired.      2) We don't need a mayor anymore
- split equally that way each council section is responsible for their part it prevents over working staff and hopefully betters the people of Boston
- Why have a debate between parish and town councils if they are the same? Why debate on ideas that the borough has no answers for and they still have to debate?
- This is another complete waste of time, effort, and money - coming out of the Council's budget. Why bother? Over the past 5 years I have always argued that if one does not vote or the part in questionnaires such as this, we have no right to complain. Now - I am not so sure - hence why bother - no one takes any notice of you anyway. Once in office - they all do as they like.

#### Too much bureaucracy/layers of government:

- This would be a lengthy and drawn-out process that could decide rather than succeed
- There is too much bureaucracy without adding another layer which we have to pay for
- Bureaucracy should be reduced. I thought the Greater Lincolnshire Authority was to get rid of all these councils.
- This is a complete waste of time and money. The town centre looks like a third world dump, the grass around most of the town is 4 ft high, the weeds are ever bigger. Stop wasting time and money and effort on creating more council roles and wasting time and money and sort out the bare essentials first.