APPENDIX 2B

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough East Anglia Devolution Consultation

7th September 2016

Final

Contents

Appendixes

Executive Summary

The seven Local Authorities of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership have undertaken an extensive consultation exercise with residents and businesses about the proposals for devolution of powers and funding from central government to the local area.

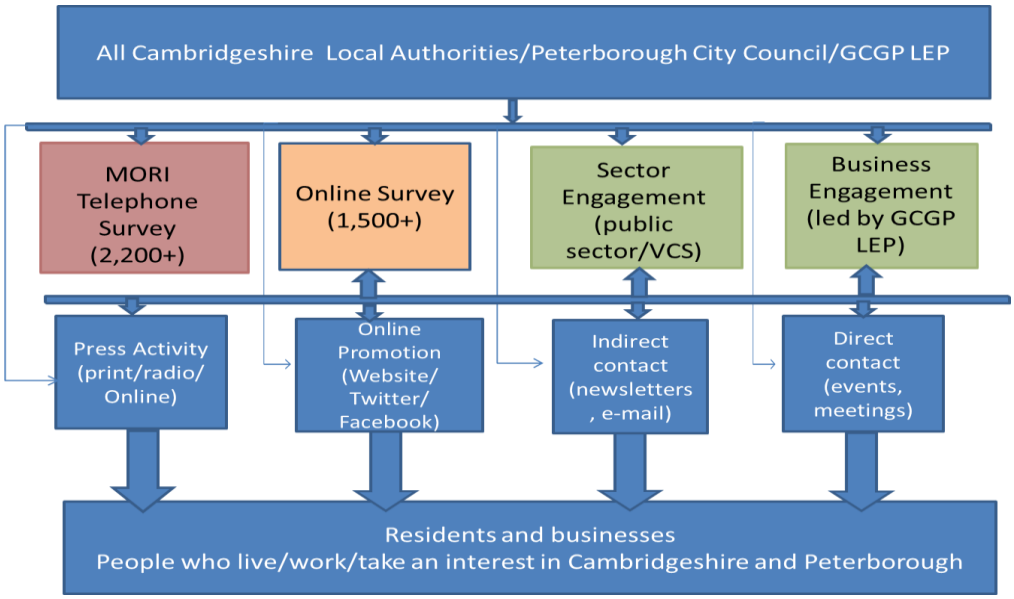
The consultation ran from 8 July to 23 August 2016. This paper brings together the findings, it summarises the methods and scope of the consultation, and the responses received.

Background to the Consultaion

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been developing their proposals for devolution with local and national stakeholders for many months. In June 2016, Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, Peterborough City Council, and South Cambridgeshire District Council, all agreed at full council meetings, to take the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Proposal, with accompanying Governance Review and Governance Scheme out for public consultation. Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (GCGP) Board also agreed this.

The Methods and Scope of the Consultation

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Consultation exercise was planned to provide comprehensive engagement with residents and businesses. An overview of the approach is shown in the diagram below.



Specifically consultation included:

- **Business engagement** led and conducted by the GCGP Local Enterprise Partnership. This involved tailored events with business groups from Cambridge, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough. There was on-going dialogue

with representative bodies such as the Federation of Small Businesses, local Chambers of Commerce, Cambridge Ahead, Opportunity Peterborough and Cambridge Network. Key areas such as Housing, Transport and Skills provision were directly targeted.

- Meetings and engagement with **community, voluntary and local public sector stakeholders,** including our important network of almost 250 local Town and Parish Councils and over 100 organisations and networks, including Peterborough Disability Forum, Cambridge Pinpoint, Peterborough Youth Council, and Cambridgeshire Alliance.

- An **independent survey of residents** was commissioned and undertaken by MORI. The statistically valid telephone poll saw over 2,200 residents contacted and asked for their views on the full range of the devolution proposals.

- **Online consultation** was a prominent feature of all seven Councils and the LEP's websites, generating over 1,500 responses. (in comparison, Greater Manchester's equivalent consultation received 240 responses, covering a population of 2.8m people)

- **Engagement with the public sector** and higher education establishments, including the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Clinical Commissioning Group and health organisations, Cambridge University, Anglian Ruskin University, and Schools.

This activity was generated through a full range of communications channels and regular promotion activities including press releases and use of social media to further encourage participation in the exercise. The aim of the process was to enable all Cambridgeshire and Peterborough residents and stakeholders to have a say on the devolution proposals.

The Response

There has been a positive response from residents and businesses to devolution for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In particular:

Business Engagement

- The overwhelming response from this was that **businesses strongly supports the devolution proposals** and are very keen that the opportunities these present are taken up. There was a general consensus across different audiences in favour of devolution, with a strong Mayor (who could provide the right leadership and strategic focus).

Local Stakeholders

- Community and voluntary sector groups and local Parish and Town Councils made direct submissions to the consultation. Overall these demonstrated

support for the opportunity that the proposals represented **and a strong desire for ongoing engagement**.

- There was also a clear steer that in practice devolution should not mean an extra layer of government and bureaucracy and it should mean further powers being devolved down to the most appropriate local level.

Independent Survey of Residents

- The MORI telephone poll of over 2,200 residents showed that **55% of all respondents in the local community support devolution with only 15% of residents being opposed.** Over 80% of residents felt that decisions are better made locally with generally three quarters supporting the range of devolved housing, transport and infrastructure powers and budgets contained in the proposals.

- In every authority area for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough significantly more people supported the principle of devolution than opposed it.

- In the same survey 57% of residents supported the election of a Mayor to access the devolution deal (with 25% opposed) and 61% supported a Combined Authority involving that Mayor and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Councils (with 23% opposed).

Online Consultation

- From the online poll **55% supported the general principle of devolving powers down from central government** to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In every authority area for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough more people supported the principle of devolution than opposed it.

- Online, just under a third of respondents (31%) supported having an elected mayor for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough with 59% opposed.

Public Sector

- There is **widespread support for devolution from across the public sector** including Police, Fire Health and Education, including Cambridge University. A number of organisations highlighted the opportunities that they felt devolution represented for public service reform, given the high-level of co-terminosity across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

1 The Business Voice

1.1 The Local Enterprise Partnership brought together members of the business community at a series of local events and also gathered views through social media engagement (see section five). They then submitted a response to the consultation, bringing together all the views expressed by local businesses (including Cambridge Ahead, the Federation of Small Businesses, Cambridgeshire Chamber of Commerce, and Cambridge Network).

1.2 The overwhelming response from this is that **businesses strongly support the devolution proposals** and are very keen that the opportunities these present are taken up. There was a general consensus across different audiences in favour of devolution, with a strong Mayor (who could provide the right leadership and strategic focus).

1.3 Not only did they support the additional powers and funding coming for much needed investment in areas like infrastructure. They also recognised the opportunity to improve local governance and decision-making through the new structures, including the leadership role a Directly-Elected Mayor could provide in lobbying government for further funding on behalf of the area.

1.4 Concerns that were voiced about the devolution proposals covered the level of funding on offer, compared to the scale of investment required in both infrastructure and skills across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area.

1.5 A separate submission from the CBI supported the principle of devolution and also welcomed the clear terms within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Deal. However there was also a call to *"sustain visible, accessible leadership over the long term, executing the plan as outlined"* together with a focus on improvements to local education, in-work training and business practices as being keys to the region's success. The submission also called for on-going in-depth engagement with the business community.

2 The response to the consultation from stakeholders (including the public sector)

2.1 These responses are particularly informative regarding views as to whether the devolution deal and proposed scheme would improve the delivery of statutory functions, as they include larger organisations with particular expertise in delivery of areas of the devolution deal.

2.2 In terms of public services, a number of organisations highlighted the opportunities that they felt devolution represented for public service reform, given the high-level of co-terminosity across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough public services. Which it was felt could be built upon to further increase co-operation and reduce duplication and operational costs. Many also indicated a desire for further devolution in areas like health and social care, policing, and fire services to enable more of a whole-system approach. Greater devolution in this way would enable more successful upfront preventative activity that would reduce longer-term costs.

2.3 Specifically, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Police and Crime Commissioner expressed his support for the proposals, specifically around the ability to access devolved funding and make more decisions locally. Which he felt would provide opportunities for public sector reform, including more integrated approaches to community safety. Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority also expressed their support for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution, highlighting the opportunities it would offer for new, innovative, and collaborative approaches to supporting communities, and for drawing down additional powers to ensure a more cohesive approach to community safety.

2.4 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group also expressed their support for the proposals, highlighting the co-terminosity of the local health and social care sector and the opportunities for close working through devolution across the local health system.

2.5 The Greater London Authority also stated their desire to work with the devolution proposals, to support the London-Stansted-Cambridge-Peterborough growth corridor, and welcomed the opportunities for collaboration between London and the Wider South East on strategic infrastructure issues.

2.6 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's network of community and voluntary sector and local Parish and Town Councils also made direct submissions to the consultation. Overall these demonstrated support for the opportunity that the proposals represented and a strong desire for ongoing engagement in how the devolution proposals are delivered in practice. There was also a clear steer that devolution should not mean an extra layer of government and bureaucracy and it should mean further powers being devolved down to the most appropriate local level. These concerns were relayed in submissions from Caxton and Histon and Impington Parish Councils amongst others.

2.7 In their response UNISON acknowledged that the overarching aims of devolution to a combined authority are, in principle, positives for both UNISON

and its members. However concerns were expressed about the initial development of the Combined Authority, its future financing and structure. Unison expressed the wish to work closely with any future authority on matters concerning employees through a joint protocol agreement and the creation of a Workforce Engagement Board. This would be in line with arrangements that have been successfully implemented in the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

2.8 From the Higher Education sector, Cambridge University also expressed their support for devolution as a means of enhancing the area's competitiveness, including the proposed powers and funding around housing, infrastructure and skills. They did however want to see measures to ensure that opportunities for joint-working across East Anglia in areas like transport, academic and business links were maximised and also commented upon the governance changes, the role of GCGP LEP and the need to address inequality and deprivation.

3 Responses received from the surveys

MORI Survey

3.1 Who was surveyed?

3.1.1 MORI surveyed 2,280 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough residents using questions developed by the partners, and quality assured by MORI. The respondents were chosen according to MORI's criteria (not self-selecting as in the online poll).

3.1.2 MORI completing 380 telephone interviews per district, giving statistical robustness to the consultation, with sound confidence levels of +/- 5 per cent from the 'true' value. This is generally an accepted level of confidence used within the research industry.

3.1.3 It is also worth noting that changing the sample from 380 per district/ city area to 1000 only changes the level of confidence to +/-3 percent.

3.1.4 The detailed responses are set out in annexes but in summary, of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough respondents, the survey demonstrated:

- 89% of respondents identified themselves as English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British.
- Almost half of respondents (48%) owned their own homes outright, followed by those buying with a mortgage (38%).
- 83% of respondents did not identify themselves as having a health problem or disability lasting, or expecting to last, over a year.
- With a view to the public sector equality duty MORI were instructed to interview a demographic representative sample of the population.

3.2 What did the responses to the survey say?

Understanding and support for devolution

3.2.1 MORI initially asked about the level of understanding of respondents of devolution in England with 63% stating that they knew at least 'a little bit' about devolution. Respondents were then asked the extent to which they supported or opposed the principle of devolution and 55% either tended to support or strongly support it with only 15% opposed. Support within each of the local authorities was strong, ranging from 57% support (and 17% opposed) in Huntingdonshire to 48% support (15% opposed) in Peterborough.

Devolution of powers and funding

3.2.2 On the proposals for particular powers to be devolved from Westminster to a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Mayor, the survey of respondents showed that:

- In relation to **housing,** over 80% (83%) supported this for decisions on housing and development strategy, almost three quarters (73%)

supported this for the proposed £100m fund for new housing and affordable homes and over 80% (83%) supported this for the proposed £70m fund for council rented homes in Cambridge.

- In relation to **transport and infrastructure**, almost three quarters (73%) supported this for decisions on transport planning (to better co-ordinate road, rail and bus services), over 80% (85%) supported this for decisions on road maintenance and over two thirds (68%) supported this for the annual £20m fund to improve local infrastructure, such as road and rail improvements.
- In relation to **education and skills**, (70%) supported this for reviewing 16+ Further Education provision, over three quarters (79%) supported this for apprenticeship funding and training, around three quarters (76%) supported this for 19+ adult education and skills training.
- In other areas of **public services**, (63%) supported this for joining up health and social care services and over two thirds (69%) supported this for reviewing all public sector land and property for development.
- Just over half (52%) did however think that programmes to help people with health conditions or disability and the long-term unemployed back into work should be done nationally.

Governance, scrutiny and accountability issues

3.2.3 On the proposals in relation to questions governance, the survey of respondents showed:

- In regard to the **Mayor and Combined Authority**, 57% either strongly or tended to support the election of a mayor (25% opposed) in order to access the powers and funding in the devolution deal and 61% either strongly or tended to support (23% opposed) an elected Mayor becoming part of a Combined Authority with other councils and Chairing that Authority.
- In regard to **decision making,** around three quarters (77%) either strongly or tended to agree that decisions should be made by everyone, including the Mayor, having a vote, 90% either strongly or tended to agree that the Mayor should require the support of a number of Combined Authority members to progress proposals and almost three quarters (71%) strongly or tended to agree that some decisions, such as seeking new powers from Government or funding the authority's running costs, should require a majority of members to agree, including the Mayor.
- In regard to **scrutiny and accountability,** 67% thought an independent scrutiny committee was either essential or very important, around two thirds (63%) thought that the scrutiny committee being able to review Combined Authority decision was either essential or very important, 83% thought that having an audit committee to hold the Combined Authority's finances to account was either essential or very important, 81% thought that residents' ability to directly-elect a mayor was either essential or very important means of accountability and over two thirds thought that a Government Assessment every five years was either essential or very important for accountability.

3.2.4 Overall the MORI telephone poll showed clear majorities amongst respondents in favour of the overall combination of funding, powers, governance, scrutiny and accountability proposals being put forward by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

4.3 Online Poll

4.3.1 Who was surveyed?

4.3.2 The promotional activity outlined later on in this report drove people towards the online survey, which yielded over 1,500 results across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Hard copy versions sent in were also inputted into the survey.

4.3.3 While this response is significantly greater than responses generated by other areas in their devolution consultations and demonstrates the reach of the consultation work, this is still **a self-selecting sample of people** and hence much less representative of the population as a whole compared to the MORI survey.

4.3.4 The full survey results will be published in a separate annex but in terms of the respondents:

- 61% of respondents were male, over 79% were local residents, and almost half of respondents (48%) were 45-64 year-olds with a further 25% being over 64.
- Over 90% (91%) of respondents who disclosed their ethnic identity identified as British.
- The highest response rate to the on-line survey was from Huntingdonshire with 452 people responding (2.57 per 1000) and the lowest response rate was for Fenland with 127 people responding (1.33 per 1,000). Response numbers are included in the table in Annex B.

4.4 What did the responses to the survey say?

Support for devolution

4.4.1 Initial questions focused upon the principle of devolution, with 55% either strongly or tended to support the general principle of devolving powers down from central government to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In every authority area for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough more people supported the principle of devolution than opposed it.

Governance, scrutiny and accountability issues

4.4.2 The second set of questions focused upon the proposed governance, decision-making and accountability questions and here the answers were mixed, specifically:

- In regard to the **Mayor and Combined Authority** 44% of respondents either strongly or tended to support the transfer of powers from central

government and then District, City and County Councils becoming part of a Combined Authority.

- Just under a third of respondents (31%) supported having an **elected mayor** for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, with 59% opposed.
- In regard to **decision-making,** over two thirds (68%) of respondents strongly or tended to agree with the proposal that decisions by the Mayor should require the support of Combined Authority members, around three fifths (59%) strongly or tended to support the proposal that a majority of the Combined Authority members, including the Mayor, must agree to proposals around borrowing, funding and costs of the Combined Authority.
- In regard to **scrutiny and accountability,** 83% of respondents thought having an independent scrutiny committee to hold the Mayor and Combined Authority to account was essential or very important, 81% thought that the ability for a scrutiny committee to review Combined Authority decisions was essential or very important, 89% thought an audit committee to monitor Combined Authority finances was essential or very important, about three quarters (74%) thought it was essential or very important to have accountability through regular Mayoral elections, 93% thought that open and transparent decision-making with mostly public meetings was essential or very important for accountability and 68% thought that Government Assessments every five years were essential or very important for accountability.

Devolution of powers and funding

4.4.3 The final set of content questions focused on views about the key policy areas and specific measures proposed in the deal to be devolved from a central government to a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mayoral Combined Authority. These all showed a majority of respondents supporting devolution of these proposals, varying from very strong to simple majorities.

- In relation to **housing,** 67% either strongly or tended to support devolved decision-making around building new and affordable homes, (69%) strongly or tended to support it for devolution of housing and development strategy, 52% for devolution of the housing infrastructure fund (£100m) and 56% for devolution of the additional housing fund for council rented homes in Cambridge.
- In relation to **transport** 65% either strongly or tending to support devolved infrastructure project funding (such as road and rail), nearly three quarters of respondents 71% either strongly or tended to support devolution of area wide transport planning, 69% strongly or tended to support devolution of road maintenance budgets and 53.2%% strongly or tended to support devolution of the infrastructure funding pot (£20m x 30 years).
- In relation to **skills**, 57% either strongly or tended to support devolution of apprenticeship funding, 61%.strongly or tended to support devolution of 16+ skills provision, and 61% strongly or tended to support devolution of adult skills funding.
- In relation to **public services,** 58% either strongly or tended to support devolution of joined-up health and social care services and (62%) of

respondents either strongly or tended to support devolution of powers to review public sector land.

- In relation to **employment** 56% either strongly or tended to support devolution of powers to helping people with health conditions or a disability back into work and 57% either strongly or tended to support devolution of employment service provision.

Summary of comments

4.4.4 The survey contained two sets of open questions where respondents could explain their answers. The first question asked for further explanation of the views on the principle of devolution. Of those supporting devolution these comments tended to broadly focus on the "benefits of local control and decisions being taken closer to local communities". In the negative comments there was a strong consistency in the language about "not wanting another layer of government".

4.4.5 The second open text question was a broad request for further comments, did not have the same consistency in responses. Positive comments tended to focus on the potential benefits of more local devolution and mentioned specific positive benefits of the deal like local infrastructure and housing funds. On the other side, a number of negative comments mentioned the directly elected Mayor, and perceived extra bureaucracy and costs of the proposals.

4.4.6 Overall, these online survey results demonstrated majority support for most of the aspects Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution proposals. There were however a majority of respondents who did not express support for a directly elected Mayor in this survey (unlike the MORI poll), which has been a long-standing requirement of Government for this deal. There were also, for some, strongly-felt concerns that devolution might mean another layer of government, bureaucracy and cost.

5 The Methods and Scope of the Consultation (detail)

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 It is a legal requirement that public consultation is undertaken in relation to the creation of a Combined Authority and the receiving of devolved powers and functions to that body. The consultation was co-ordinated by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council in conjunction with Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (GCGP), and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

5.1.2 The consultation was launched on 8 July and ran over six weeks until 23 August. It aimed to offer the opportunity for every Cambridgeshire and Peterborough resident, business and stakeholder to respond if they wished to do so regarding the proposed devolution of powers and functions and governance changes set out in the scheme.

5.1.3 The consultation process included the following key elements:

- Business engagement – led by GCGP.
- Stakeholder engagement (including key public sector delivery agencies, parish and town councils and the community and voluntary sector).
- An independent telephone survey of residents conducted by MORI.
- An online survey across all eight partners:

5.1.4 The following communications channels were used to promote these elements:

- Pro-active media releases and engagement with local and regional media.
- Social media promotion using all channels of local authorities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and GCGP.
- Online information/links, newsletters, articles.
- Stakeholder events and meetings
- Staff messaging, employee engagement.
- E-mails to stakeholders organisations and networks.
- Specific meetings with organisations and groups.

5.1.5 These different mechanisms enabled stakeholders and the public to enter submissions, make comments and answer questions to the extent that they wished. Digital responses were encouraged but hard copies and alternative formats/language versions of the consultation were available on request and information provided at locations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough e.g. Libraries, community hubs, business centres. Results for the on-line survey were checked to ensure that specific parts of the Community had been reached. Older people (aged 65+) formed 23% of the sample, people of a non-white British ethnicity formed 7.2% of the sample and those with a disability or limiting health condition formed 6.7% of the sample.

5.2 Press and Media Promotion

Press activity

5.2.1 A co-ordinated media strategy across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was developed and delivered to inform the public and stakeholders through the press and media about the devolution consultation and survey.

5.2.2 A shared press release on the launch of the consultation exercise across all the organisations involved was issued on 8 July, which generated significant coverage across web, radio, TV and appeared in print, including links to the online survey. A subsequent reminder release was also launched on 5th August. Alongside the GCGP/Cambridge Ahead event, this generated coverage, and the print, online and broadcast media ran stories just before the close of the consultation. In total more than 30 media stories were run during the period about devolution and that a consultation was being held.

Examples include:

- Articles in the Peterborough Telegraph, EDP, the Ely News, Archant titles such as the Cambs Times, Wisbech Standard, Ely Standard, Hunts post.
- Coverage on Radio Cambridgeshire, Cambridge News as well as Look East, Anglia TV.
- The Leader of Peterborough Council also highlighted the devolution consultation in three Leaders Columns in the Peterborough Telegraph.
- The Leader of Cambridge City Council contributed an article in The Guardian around the Devolution proposals.
- An article in the CambsTimes featuring the Leader of Fenland on 19 July.
- The Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council was interviewed on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire.
- The Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council was featured in a BBC Look East news feature on devolution.
- Cambridge News covered the GCCP business devolution event and wrote a feature on it.

Social Media

5.2.3 All seven Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities and the LEP used social media promotion, particularly Twitter, to increase awareness of the consultation and online survey with stakeholders and the public. Partners in the proposed deal used Social Media and supported each other's campaigns as well as using a range of online materials such as animations, films and Gifs. In the last week alone of the survey the phrase Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution had an estimated reach of 71,499 Twitter Accounts and 179,282 Impressions.

5.2.4 Facebook adverts were also produced and published by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, directing people to the online survey. This went out to a potential audience of over 11,000 but reached 32,531 and had received over 1,102 post clicks by the 23 August.

5.2.5 Individual councils conducted their own local approaches to this activity, including:

- Peterborough City Council posted 14 tweets which generated 18,947 impressions. Peterborough's Facebook adverts directly generated 443 clicks, with a reach of over 21,000 people.
- Huntingdonshire District Council posted five tweets between the 5th July and the 3rd August either specifically about the survey or linking to other articles that linked to the survey to their almost 3,000 followers. They also posted four Facebook posts to their over 1,000 followers. They hosted a banner constantly showing the devolution page links and their devolution webpage had around 600 unique page views.
- Cambridge City Council created and promoted Youtube videos they produced of their Leader and Deputy Leader and a presentation summarising devolution highlights to drive up interest.
- East Cambridgeshire District Council tweeted the launch of the consultation, including tweets from all the Senior Directors, as well as keeping the consultation on the front of their website.
- Cambridgeshire County Council sent out 17 Tweets to its 24,000 followers producing 35,968 impressions. In addition the Council Retweeted partner and residents tweets.
- South Cambridgeshire District Council produced animated Gifs and Tweets that was shared across Social media channels reminding people to have their say.
- Fenland District Council posted 9 tweets generating 6,297 impressions. There were also 7 posts on Facebook which reached nearly 700 people.

Online activity

5.2.6 All Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities and the LEP shared joint lines, information and questions and answers around the consultation, tailoring it to their own local approach, but pointing people towards the online consultation via their own websites. Pages with shared information were set up on partner websites to explain the proposals and point people to the online survey.

5.2.7 Shared materials and templates were also provided for District Councils to share with their Parish and Town Councils for their own newsletters. This resulted in a range of activity and results including:

- All councils disseminated information and the survey to their network of around 240 Parish and Town Councils.
- Messages and briefings to council staff, articles for council stakeholders to share with their staff, information to schools, community connectors, e-mails to key contacts and people who have responded to earlier survey work on devolution.

- Cambridgeshire County Council received over 2,000 unique page views for its Devolution web pages.
- GCGP sent their newsletter out to approximately 900 people receiving over 130 click-throughs, posted 31 consultation and related tweets with 23,518 impressions and had 500 visits to devolution articles on their website.

Additional promotional activity

5.2.8 Hard copies of information and the survey were also made available across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on Council premises. For example Fenland District Council made paper copies of the survey available in all their one-stop shops, community hubs and libraries in the following locations:

- March @ your service shop.
- March Library.
- Wisbech @ your service shop.
- Wisbech Library.
- Chatteris Community Hub.
- Whittlesey Community Hub.
- South Fens business centre.
- Boathouse business centre.
- Fenland District Council business reception.
- Rosmini Centre
- Oasis Centre.

This helped to ensure that people without access to the internet across the entire geography were able to be informed and have their say.

5.3 Business Engagement

5.3.1 The LEP led and conducted a process of business engagement that:

- Targeted companies with specific sectoral interests of particular relevance to the devolution deal i.e. housing, development, construction, transport, digital and technology, skills and education.
- Utilised existing business networks to disseminate and gather opinion, such as the Federation of Small Business, Cambridgeshire Chamber of Commerce, Opportunity Peterborough and Cambridge Network.
- Contacted large, small and medium-sized businesses to ensure companies of all sizes of companies could share their views.
- Sought to share information and seek views from businesses right across the entire Cambridgeshire and Peterborough geography.

This approach sought to ensure that all types of local firms were approached with information and invited for their thoughts.

5.3.2 The LEPs engagement took the form of:

- Encouraging the GCGP Business Representatives Group, to disseminate the online survey link to their members.
- Encouraging businesses to complete the online survey through direct contact (e-mail, face-to-face, Twitter and website).
- Hosting a Devolution business engagement event on 4th August, with Cambridge Ahead.
- Hosting a Devolution business engagement event on 9th August, with Opportunity Peterborough.
- Supporting a Devolution engagement event on 16th August for local businesses and voluntary organisations with Huntingdonshire District Council.

This combination of channels sought to enable businesses that wished to be informed or have their say to do so through their preferred means of communication.

5.3.3 Other partners also carried out business engagement as part of this consultation. For example, Huntingdonshire District Council held a business breakfast meeting on 16 August.

5.4 Stakeholder Engagement

5.4.1 Key public sector stakeholder organisations were targeted as having particular expertise and understanding of the needs of their particular sectors in regard to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and how they might relate to whether the Devolution proposals would improve local delivery and decision-making in the area. Submissions were sought from Cambridgeshire's Public Service Network (including (including the Police and Crime Commissioner, Clinical Commissioning Group, Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Service, Fire Authority), important public sector organisations like the Environment Agency and Homes and Communities Agency, and organisations in Higher Education, such as Cambridge University.

5.4.2 Over 100 stakeholders were contacted directly across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This was a combination of face-to-face meetings, e-mail, and invitations to events and briefings. A number of these submitted written submissions to the consultation.

5.4.3 In addition the views of local public, community and voluntary sector organisations, including Parish Councils were sought via direct contact, e-mail and local community meetings. This included:

- All councils disseminated information and the survey to their Parish and Town Councils (around 240).
- Presentations given to stakeholder forums e.g. Peterborough is/has engaged the Peterborough City Leaders Forum, Parish Council Forum, Peterborough Youth Council, Peterborough Disability Forum and Connect Group (church and faith groups).
- Huntingdonshire District Council held a briefing with their Huntingdonshire Voluntary Sector Forum on 6 July, and a briefing for Town and Parish Councils on 9 August.

5.5 The Methods and Scope of the Consultation Conclusion

5.5.1 The methods and scope of the consultation sought to comply with the Cabinet Office Statement of Consultation Principles 2016. It was designed to be clear, concise and informative, facilitate scrutiny, take into account stakeholders, and be part of an ongoing engagement process with the public and stakeholders on devolution for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

5.5.2 The results of the process conducted were as follows:

- Media coverage across all local newspapers in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- Social Media work with a reach of over 500,000 people.
- Over 3,000 hits on Devolution web pages of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities and LEP.
- In the last week alone of the survey the phrase Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution had an estimated reach of 71,499 Twitter Accounts and 179,282 Impressions.
- Business engagement through different channels conducted by GCGP.
- Over 100 stakeholder organisations directly contacted about the consultation, including the key public sector agencies in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and a network of around 240 Parish and Town Councils.
- Over 2,500 responses to the MORI online poll.
- Over 1,500 responses to the online survey.

6 Conclusion

6.1 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities and GCGP will collectively reflect on all the comments included in these responses and continue to communicate with residents and partners on the development and implementation of devolution and wider reforms.

6.2 The feedback from stakeholders, including the business community and public sector agencies, indicates very strong support for the devolution deal and a Mayoral Combined Authority on a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough geography. This provides extensive evidence that important local stakeholders believe that devolving the powers as set out in the Scheme will lead to both an improvement in the exercise of functions in relation to the area of the Combined Authority and more effective and convenient local government.

6.3 Additionally, the extensive engagement and polling activity with local residents also demonstrates a solid level of support for the devolution proposals amongst the local community. The telephone and online polls provides sufficient indicative data that local residents support the direction of travel towards greater devolution of powers for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and believe it will reflect the identity and interests of their community.

6.4 That is not to say that support for the proposals is unanimous. The consultation does also demonstrate concerns about the proposed changes

which also need to be considered. One clear concern that comes through from some residents and stakeholders is that the new governance arrangements and Mayor will mean an extra layer of government, cost and bureaucracy. In order for the proposals to be successful and command local support it will therefore be important for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Leaders to ensure the changes can bring about better arrangements which reduce costs and bureaucracy.

7. Next Steps.

7.1 Responses to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution consultation will continue to inform the development and approach of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, as well as the strategies of the constituent members of the Combined Authority. The views expressed will support the work to strengthen transparency and accountability, ensuring that statutory duties are exercised in ways that support the diversity of communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

7.2 The consultation process is only part of an ongoing process of ensuring that local businesses, stakeholders and residents are kept informed and involved. As further moves are made towards devolution in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough the organisations involved will further strengthen our stakeholder engagement, engage with our parish councils and community and voluntary groups and pursue our ongoing communications activity with residents.

7.3 In shaping the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Agenda and the move towards a Combined Authority, drawing on the support of the different assets within local communities is paramount and decisions need to be taken at the most appropriate spatial level to support growth and reform public services. An initial Community Impact Assessment has been undertaken alongside the Devolution Proposal, Governance Review and Governance Scheme and the results of this consultation will be used to help inform a further Community Impact Assessment on the Devolution Deal, with individual specific projects that result from Devolution having their own detailed assessments.

Appendixes to follow (MORI Poll, Online Poll, Compilation of Responses)