



**Date:-** 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016

**Please reply to:-** Box SH1104, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP

**Telephone:-** (01223) 699188 (office)

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP  
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government  
Department for Communities and Local Government  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Fry Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London, SW1P 4DF

Dear Sajid,

### **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough East Anglia Devolution Consultation**

We are writing to you with the results of the comprehensive consultation carried out into the devolution proposals for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is a vital economic area for the UK and is a driving force in the continuing prosperity of the nation. It is a world leader in science and technology, with unparalleled levels of cutting edge research, growth businesses and highly skilled jobs. The area has seen significant growth in the last five years and is internationally renowned for its low-carbon, knowledge based economy, with key sectors including life sciences, information and communication technologies, creative and digital industries, clean tech, and high value engineering and agri-businesses. The area is already a significant net contributor to the UK economy.

It is clear from the consultation that our communities believe the best way forward to continue to grow that prosperity is by devolving powers and funding from Government so decisions can be made locally. There is also widespread support for the proposals suggested in the deal around transport, jobs, housing and skills.

The consultation ran from the 8<sup>th</sup> July to the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. The attached report brings together the findings, the methods and scope of the consultation and the responses received.

As you will see not only did the response far surpass other larger devolution areas but combined various surveys from Ipsos MORI, online and a dedicated business consultation. Indeed, including MORI, online, face to face, social media, business, and other stakeholder groups, our engagement meant that more than 4,000 people had their say. We would invite you to join us in thanking all those who took the time to respond on these devolution proposals.

While the statistically more accurate Ipsos MORI poll and the business communities have shown a strong preference for there to be a directly elected Mayor the online poll has

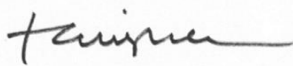
concerns about this aspect and over a perceived increasing of bureaucracy. This is an important issue that we will address as part of our drive to deliver public service reform.

We therefore ask you to consider the findings of this consultation and look forward to receiving your response so that we can continue to progress these proposals through our full Councils and the GCGP Board.

We would also warmly invite you to visit the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area at your earliest convenience. As well as discussing devolution and our ambitious plans for economic growth, we would welcome the opportunity to talk to you about how we intend to tackle our housing issues and transform public service delivery.

Our main concern, as always, is the prosperity of communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, but we would also like to thank you for your continuing support to a deal which could lead to major benefits locally, nationally and internationally.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Lewis Herbert

Leader – Cambridge City Council



Cllr Steve Count

Leader – Cambridgeshire County Council



Cllr James Palmer

Leader – East Cambridgeshire District Council



Cllr John Clark

Leader – Fenland District Council



Cllr Robin Howe

Executive Leader – Huntingdonshire District Council



Mark Reeve

Chairman – Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough L



Cllr John Holdich

Leader – Peterborough City Council



Cllr Peter Topping

Leader – South Cambridgeshire District Council