

Appendix 9 – Partnership Working with Lincolnshire Police



BEST4GreaterLincolnshire

On 11 November 2025, Lincolnshire Police circulated seven universal principles to all authorities in Greater Lincolnshire, to ensure that the policing impact of LGR is understood, and to support partnership working going forward. We asked Kath O'Dwyer to give consideration the Lincolnshire Police's principles, building on her prior consideration of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and partnership working in relation to Children's Services in Appendix 5.

Lincolnshire Police Principle		Kesteven Proposal Consideration
1	<i>Lincolnshire Police have good working relationships with Humberside, and other neighbouring forces. However, local governments may experience differing levels of police service depending on each force's unique funding position.</i>	Our two proposed new unitaries are both within the Lincolnshire Police Force Area. Therefore differing levels of police service for the two new Lincolnshire unitaries are not expected.
2	<i>Any proposed restructure would benefit from considering the police and partnership demand which could be created if there were different processes for different areas of the county. A consistent set of processes for referrals, and access to support (whether via a single organization, or harmonized processes across different local governments) would be preferable for policing.</i>	We recognise that effective safeguarding requires strong operational and strategic links with Lincolnshire Police and as such there will be a need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update multi-agency safeguarding hubs (MASH). - Align thresholds and escalation protocols. - Share data securely across agencies.
3	<i>An area of particular focus for this would be the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for adults and children. The introduction of Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPT) would benefit from consistency of governance, assurance and systems, to best support children in need of protection, and to reduce duplication.</i>	This would create the opportunity to ensure a consistent set of processes for referrals, and access to support or harmonized processes across the 2 x different councils. Kath O'Dwyer's report suggests the opportunity for a shared LCSP, as a shared service across both new Unitary Councils hosted by one of the authorities. Nationally, it is not uncommon for arrangements that can

Lincolnshire Police Principle		Kesteven Proposal Consideration
		cover two or more local authority boundaries by agreement and where this is in place local authorities can agree to delegate their safeguarding duties to a single authority.
4	<i>It will be important during any potential transition period, to ensure there is clarity in responsibilities for key areas such as community safety, safeguarding and emergency planning</i>	We recognise that it will be essential for there to be clarity in responsibilities, where services are separated, who in each new council will be the point of contact, or if services are to be shared who the single point of contact will be.
5	<i>It is likely that priorities would be redefined with the creation of any new unitary authorities. The Force would be keen to work closely to ensure policing needs are reflected in this.</i>	We agree that Police colleagues should be integral to the planning discussions following the government's LGR decision for Greater Lincolnshire.
6	<i>Another area of where strong consistency across local governments would be important, is the area of Local Resilience Forums. Working across different LRFs would need high levels of consistency to ensure that a high-quality consistent emergency response could be provided to residents, as well as not increasing workloads of blue light responders and other partners.</i>	Our two proposed new unitaries are both within the Lincolnshire LRF area.
7	<i>Any changes to local government boundaries are likely to result in some modest delays in data availability, as new performance dashboards and datasets are created and collated. We would ask for patience during this time, and ask that data requests be standardized across local government(s).</i>	We recognise and accept that LGR will disrupt the data reporting landscape in any configuration. Current data requests would need to be considered as to whether they meet the needs of the new Unitary authorities.