

Brexit: a local government perspective

Justin Brown
Lincolnshire County Council

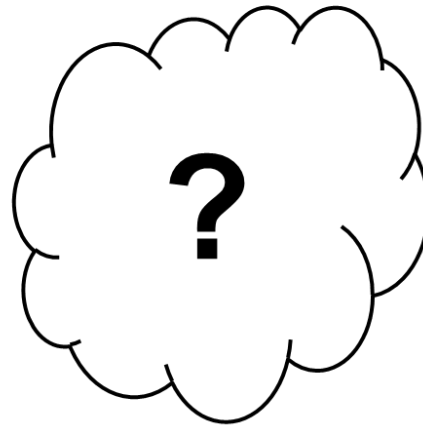
..."From Mr Europe to Mr Brexit"...

The Brexit environment for local government

Austerity

Demographic change and labour market

**Automation/
Productivity**



Regional disparities

Economic slowdown

Information age

Seeking to influence...building up our understanding



Trying to make sense of the impact of Brexit

- Members' Brexit working group which reports to the council's executive
- Questionnaire to all service heads
- Brexit considered by all committee chairmen
- Discussion with DEXU, BEIS, DEFRA

Issues we are exploring

Austerity

- £350m per week
- LCC investments

Demographic change

- Migration anecdotes

Automation/productivity

- Vulnerable sectors, knowledge, finance (LEP)



Regional disparities

- Agri policy
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Economic slowdown

- International trade

Information Age

?

Challenges we have faced

- Political view of Brexit
- Migration dominates all debates
- But...migration debates require anecdotes and assumptions
- Information deficit
- Interplay between national and local policy
- Fear of a blank sheet of paper; Brexit is opportunity for change but are we all ready to take it?

Lessons from LCC's Brexit journey so far

- Brexit is context for lots more change
- The head, not the heart
- Understanding migration patterns is essential
- Share, listen and contribute to different perspectives on Brexit
- Be comfortable in ambiguity