

**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL  
NORTH EAST COMBINED AUTHORITY DEVOLUTION POLL**

Our report for the above consultation which closed at 5pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 is as follows:

Number of eligible participants:		377,110
Responded by post:	75,163	
Responded online:	6,801	
Total number of responses received:		81,964
Turnout:		21.7%

**Question 1**

Number of responses found to be invalid:	371
Total number of valid responses to be counted:	81,593

*The Devolution Deal would mean that more decisions about spending on public services would be made in the North East, rather than by the Government in London. Do you think that devolving some power and resources to the North East would:*

Be a step in the right direction?	48,588	(59.5% of the valid responses)
Make little or no difference?	16,268	(19.9% of the valid responses)
Be the wrong thing to do?	12,120	(14.9% of the valid responses)
I don't know	4,617	(5.7% of the valid responses)

Continued...



### Question 2

Number of responses found to be invalid:	1,088
Total number of valid responses to be counted:	80,876

*If we agree the Devolution Deal we would have to have a North East Elected Mayor. The Mayor would be directly elected by voters across the North East area and would chair the Combined Authority, made up of Council Leaders. It's not yet clear how powerful the Mayor would be. If the Deal goes ahead, how powerful should the Mayor be? Do you think the Mayor should be someone who:*

Has quite a lot of power and influence - perhaps coming to be seen as someone who represents the voice of the North East area?	32,611	(40.3% of the valid responses)
Has limited power and influence - someone who chairs the Combined Authority but does not have a major role representing the area?	38,648	(47.8% of the valid responses)
I don't know	9,617	(11.9% of the valid responses)

### Question 3

Number of responses found to be invalid:	583
Total number of valid responses to be counted:	81,381

*The Devolution Deal would only cover some issues - some aspects of business support, post-16 education and training, transport, and housing. If the Deal does go ahead, do you think we should then try to get additional powers and resources devolved to the North East?*

No, I wouldn't want to see more devolution	18,235	(22.4% of the valid responses)
I'm not sure - it depends, let's wait and see	34,909	(42.9% of the valid responses)
Yes, I would like to see more devolution	22,992	(28.3% of the valid responses)
I don't know	5,245	(6.4% of the valid responses)

Continued...

**Question 4**

Number of responses found to be invalid:	537
Total number of valid responses to be counted:	81,427

*The Devolution Deal is intended to improve our economy and create more and better jobs. But do you think it will make much difference? If the Deal does go ahead, do you think it will:*

Help to bring more prosperity and more jobs to County Durham?	33,000	(40.5% of the valid responses)
Have little or no impact on prosperity and jobs in County Durham?	29,475	(36.2% of the valid responses)
Lead to less prosperity and fewer jobs in County Durham?	7,405	(9.1% of the valid responses)
I don't know	11,547	(14.2% of the valid responses)

Electoral Reform Services can confirm that, as far as reasonably practicable, every person whose name appeared on the electoral roll supplied to us for the purpose of the consultation:-

- a) was sent the details of the consultation and
- b) if they chose to participate in the consultation, had their response fairly and accurately recorded.

All consultation material will be stored for six months.

Yours sincerely



p.p Simon Hearn  
Deputy Chief Executive

