

**If you have any comments you would like to provide to help the Council in reaching a decision, please use the box below:**

I think a retail facility on the current site of the livestock market would be extremely damaging to the town centre. The Council should make more of Louth centre; it's so rare to have such a beautiful and vibrant centre and it would be almost criminal folly to squander it.

I would like the existing Market to stay where it is as my husband and myself visit the market most Thursdays, this gives me the chance to go shopping in the town spending money from £40 - £80 on food and clothing regularly. My husband worked for an oil company selling fuel and oils to the farmers and made many friends. Now my husband has retired from his job but still likes to visit to see all of his friends and keep in touch with everyone, hence this gives me the chance to walk into the town. If it was moved to the industrial estate I would not go as it would be too far to walk. Why can't you make use of the land on other days such as car boots, auctions or use as a truck stop etc. which would make you extra money?

Agree to a charter; however, the Louth money should be spent for Louth. There is far too much traffic on Upgate, fast and dangerous - any expansion on the use (cattle market use etc.) would be only amplifying the problem. Put the footprint of the land to good use.

The market is in the best location

Why is sale price confidential it's our money?

It would be a shame to move the market or not have one.

Louth needs the cattle market to keep the money coming in to the town. It also helps the town keep going.

Instead of only using the market once a week we could have car boots, craft fairs, exhibitions etc. Make more use of it.

I would like you to visit Skipton Livestock Market which is run by CCM Auctions and see how they use their facility on most days of the week. They can install theatre seats to put on concerts and events which can attract up to 5,000 people over a weekend which also brings money into the local economy. They have a large restaurant with home cooked food and a big farm shop next door. This is how I would model the refurbishment of Louth Market on.

Market site should be used for new housing rather than some of the more out of town housing at the moment being pushed.

1) Louth should maintain its historic link and provide a Livestock Market. Develop the 'Tourist' side. 2) The Farmers in the area should all be asked to use the Livestock Market and asked to restore and redesign the present site. 3) Consideration should be given to the views of the Louth Auction goers. This is a social event as commercial venture - again it could become a 'Tourist' attraction.

Livestock Market belongs to Louth people (Not to developers)

Option 1 should also include: Run the Market itself and within the new build create flats to let and cafe under. The Council needs to increase the long term wealth of the Council and stop selling off. You need to increase the Councils owned homes.

We older farmers do not want to be travelling extra miles with our livestock. It is a meeting place where we have sold our livestock for years so the market should not be moved. Spend some money on the existing cattle shed, move sheep pens across there. You will ruin Louth Town Centre, farmers and their wives will go elsewhere to shop.

Maybe any re development include the ability to auction cars and vehicles on (say) a monthly basis.

The cattle market should be used to its full potential; many livestock markets in the country are used for e.g. Car Boots, Craft Fairs, Farmers Markets, other events. The market is run down and looks tatty. What do the bus loads of visitors think? The buses are parked on the market.

Viewing at Louth auctions on Fridays; it has been noticed that there are 2 or 3 coach loads of visitors on the Cattle Market. This market should be used to its full potential. Cattle Markets all over the country (more so Scotland) are put to good use, instead of being allowed to run down.

£200,000 to remove the Royal Charter would be better spent towards the refurbishment.

It would seem far better to invest £700,000 in renovating the existing Livestock Market. Repair the road. Cost of new market £5 million. Cost of removing charter £200,000. It is ludicrous to waste money on a new market.

There is a Royal Charter on the Livestock Market which is the law. ELDC is not above the law, therefore, it would be illegal to close the market unless the charter is lifted at what cost £200,000 plus?

I think the sensible thing would be to retain part of the existing Cattle Market (with refurbishment). The remaining area could be used for retail outlets or housing (retirement bungalows or complex) preferably.

Without the cattle market Louth will die and will become a large village, with no importance what so ever, even with a living museum.

The market is the last livestock market in Lincolnshire providing a valuable asset to the largest industry in the county. The loss of this asset would also impact on all the local High St butchers. Where do people think their food comes from? Why is there such an emphasis on finance in this description - social responsibility should be paramount.

Animal Welfare, the nearest livestock market to Louth would be Newark. Moving livestock to Newark would put these animals under even more stress and trauma. Louth is the last remaining livestock auction in Lincolnshire and is an asset to Louth. Tourism opportunities are being missed.

Please don't shut it down.

There are already 2 mini markets and one CO-OP on Newmarket.

Spend £700,000 and refurbish then use it to its full potential.

There are already plenty of supermarkets in Louth. As well as a considerable number of convenience stores. More than enough food stores. We don't need any more supermarkets.

ELDC has wasted so much money on this. It's time to draw the uncertainty to an end. Refurbish and support the cattle market. Look for other uses to maximise site e.g. car boot sales, music venue; (e.g. Skipton) bring more money in from it. There is no mention of the Boars Head - ELDC have not made it rentable (only offering short leases so blocked income from that). Time to get that back open as an income and pub.

Final cost of £200,000 would go a long way to refurbishment.

I believe Louth Town Council should determine the destiny of the Livestock Market. How can the tenants of the market be given notice to vacate the property in December when there has been no official decision made.

Current site appears to be suitable/modernised.

If the cattle market was to go, I would no longer go into Louth for shopping as there would be no reason for me to go out of my way.

It would be far better to encourage the site to be used as a Livestock Market and help expand it for other rural uses. For over 80 years, my family has used the market and also the local shops in the town and banks. If you let it go you will never get it back!

It would be a shame to lose the cattle market altogether because it's a community place for farmers on a Thursday to get together. Some farmers live lonely lives on their farms so seeing other people is good for them. Also the Auction on a Saturday is good and it would be a shame to lose it as well.

Please leave the cattle market as it has been for the last 400 years. We don't mind it being refurbished.

My husband has been coming to Louth market for over 60 years; we still come and I go into Louth shopping for the day. We do our business at Louth bank. Could you build some small shops and have a car boot sale.

This Livestock Market is unique to the county and must be retained. Consideration should also be given to providing a Council owned slaughter house to compliment this facility. If when completed as much effort/money is invested in promoting/advertising it as there has been spent on advertising such as the Skegness festival, it may just become a profitable asset instead of a liability.

Leave the Livestock Market where it has been for years and have one market for cattle on a Thursday and have sheep on a Saturday like Newark do. If you get rid of the Livestock in Louth all together you will have a ghost town.

I would like Louth to move with the times and provide its residents with more retail variety.

Please make sure the money from the sale of the site is spent in the Louth area.

A very friendly auction takes place there on a Saturday. It would be greatly missed. Plenty of car parking spaces. Enjoyed by many.

Louth does not need more supermarkets. Another will jeopardise the town's independent businesses. The loss of the cattle market as proposed in Option 2 would impact on the local economy and mean that local farmers would have to travel many miles to sell their stock at a cost both in time and money. Option 3 keeps the market and provides more scope for the town's residents.

My preferred option would be option 3, but would suggest splitting the site and use what is not required for the cattle market for other purposes. An equitable solution all round.

There is no need for another retail park there are empty shops in town without building more 'Keep the market' but build homes for first time buyers on spare ground, not shops or supermarkets. We have enough.

The existing cattle market should be a free park and ride facility. The town is over crowded with parked cars on streets and existing car parks are not big enough.

Important to keep market going. Plenty of supermarkets in Lincolnshire but only one cattle market.

The whole site could be developed in order to benefit the cattle market, the users, the community and the town as a whole. Take a look at other cattle markets i.e. Melton Mowbray, Bakewell and Skelton. Louth does not need another supermarket. The town is thriving and adding another supermarket would not help matters. You may well gain jobs on the new site but I could guarantee jobs would be lost in the town. Why does everything in East Lindsey have to centre on Louth? East Lindsey covers 681 square miles so let's look at the other areas in order for them to become as successful as Louth. Please develop the existing site to make it more efficient and then let's see what else can be done elsewhere.

Talk to the markets users about better utilisation of the existing facilities.

This market is no longer viable I am afraid, volumes are low, there is no road infrastructure and the market is dead on its feet...

There is no place for a modern society to have to put up with a stinking horror show subsidised at great cost by the public. The majority of who don't want it. We want investment in the town to help it grow and thrive. Not investment in agent warped practice that will drag it into the gutter.

Huge consideration should be put on preserving the areas rural /agriculture heritage. The market has been and remains an important part of this. More consideration could be given on how best to support the market and encouraging growth rather than encouraging decline to justify redeveloping the land. After the proposed street light switch off East Lindsey was investigating; when this was looked at properly it transpired fitting LED light made a bigger saving than reported and meant the lights could remain on. Maybe the positive benefits of the market remaining should be fully investigated now and save a similar error, which this time could result in a loss of such an important part of our community.

I think a fourth option should be examined - the sale of part of the site with refurbishment to existing facilities. This could result in fit for purpose facilities as well as a capital receipt for ELDC (the Newmarket car park could be added to the sale site).

It is a disgrace that the Council finds itself in this position. The last cattle market in Lincolnshire and you are even considering seeking an act of parliament to get rid of a charter. Shame on you. If the Council had the foresight to realise the value of the market it would have put the money into it to not only maintain it but to develop it. As usual the money men have been allowed to control what is going on and they don't care about history, tradition, welfare of farmers or stock. There is more to running the District than pure money. Get a grip, think of the asset, think of the history, think of the culture, and think outside the box. Be a proactive outward looking Council and don't keep taking the easy options; the accountant's options. Keep the existing site, get it back to scratch, get the pub open again, think about what the site could be used for on top of that. We the people, vote you in to look after our needs and our assets.

If the Council is serious about delivering its Corporate Strategy and Economic Action Plan ambitions, there is only one serious option here (number 2). I am a Louth resident of over 40 years and would prefer to see the site sold for redevelopment to give new employment opportunities and retail choice in the town. The funding received could also deliver much needed investment in the industrial estate to further sustain the future jobs market for Louth. There are some major employers on the estate who are at risk of becoming landlocked in their current location. Existing farmers will find other viable routes to market and it may be better for animal welfare to sell direct to slaughter houses. Could the Council work with ADV and reserve a small proportion of the potential capital receipt to task local partners/retailers to come up with an improvement plan for the existing high street? I hope the Executive Board will back option 2 (however vociferous the short term opposition from a small number of local pressure groups may be) rather than backing alternative/easier options to enhance their prospects of re-election.

Any new build of a cattle market in Louth would be a waste of taxpayer resources and an unnecessary drain on finances from the District Council. As someone who has grown up in Louth, with friends within the farming community, I'm fully aware that the current cattle market is an underused piece of land that is used more as a social gathering than any serious market trading. Any new investment into the town should be considered, especially those that will provide more jobs for the area. What is put in place on the site should be carefully considered as part of the town as a whole, especially how it works with and against the product found within the town centre. The knock on effects for parking provision within the town should also be considered.

The town needs another supermarket as yet again every day Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury and Waitrose all deliver in the town, with each delivering to 20 plus houses. Also still a lot of the population go out of town to do their main shop. You state an average of £3,000 per year is not helping the economy of town centre. Whereas you would attract more into the town centre as customers would wander down do shop in the centre and then do their main shop before going home. Also, you cannot have Livestock plus small shops due to serious Health and Safety and Hygiene issues.

A traditional market town must maintain that tradition and the tourist trade within the town relies on this. The final livestock market in Lincolnshire is something that tourist organisations should utilise in its advertising. The recent BBC Lincolnshire programme broadcast from the market gave a multiplicity of very strong reasons why the market should remain and councillors would do well to listen to the iPlayer version of this. Short term monetary gain seems to be the only reason to destroy a very long standing Louth

tradition. Admittedly the present site requires an upgrade with a good purpose built cafe and state of the art animal handling facilities - this would attract more trade and visitors alike. Newark livestock market shows exactly what can be done with little investment and also the excellent livestock market in Dingwall which incorporates a museum within its walls. Innovative thinking is required on development of the market not thoughtless "let's destroy our heritage for a few quite quid". Even thinking of destroying this valuable asset is crazy it's an asset to be nurtured not destroyed!

There is a fifth option. Proceed with Option 2 so that Louth no longer needs the livestock market, which has become an anachronism. Retain ownership of the cattle market site in public hands and lease the land. This avoids the privatisation of a public asset for which the ELDC has inherited a duty of stewardship in perpetuity and from which a rental income will be received that can be put to the common good, also in perpetuity.

Louth is a market town and should be kept as such, and as we are farming county, and the nearest cattle market is over the border in Nottinghamshire, the market should be kept. Also we do not need more retail units as there are several empty shops in our town centre.

Louth is a market town and needs to keep some old fashioned ideas else we will just go like lots of other towns. We have individual shops in town that sell original items and it brings in tourism. We don't need another big supermarket we do need more leisure facilities for 6 to 16 years.

Make Louth unique and keep the livestock market as there is not one locally otherwise.

I don't understand why 'loss of sale value' in option 3 is classed as a loss. It's money that ELDC have not had, so how can it be a loss? Nevertheless, it seems to me that option 3 is the best value for money. With Brexit within the next couple of years, the UK livestock market will be a much more important part of a much more localised economy (because of tariffs on imported meat, making it more expensive), and meat production is a strength within this part of the country. In my view it would be foolish to give away (or 'sell' as you call it) a facility that could prove to be an important part of the local economy in the very near future.

No reason why we cannot have a market as prosperous as Newark's - a proper cafe, a real hub of the community! We do not want to lose the only market in Lincolnshire!! A huge loss for the local community and surrounding area if it shuts!!

Build a new market and also include a slaughterhouse

To sell the site for development would reduce footfall from the town and just shift jobs from the town to the site, which would be a shame as Louth is a beautiful town with lots of unique shops and places to eat. It's not as if you can't afford to refurbish the site and done in a proper way, should encourage more people to use it. I have been involved in recruitment processes for new supermarkets and the jobs stated that they will provide have always ended up only being 50%.

I have considered option 2, but I do not know how significant the impact would be on the farming community in the district as the nearest livestock market would then be Newark and Nottinghamshire leaving Lincolnshire without any livestock market whatsoever. If the impact on farms, farmers and farm workers in the district can be

demonstrated to be negligible, then I would be happy to opt for Option 2 because of the potential for making the town more attractive and bringing employment and visitors into the town and surrounding area.

A cattle market is part of the heritage of Louth and the wider district. To remove this from the current site would be wholly inappropriate and detrimentally affect the town.

Louth is at the centre of agricultural trading in Lincolnshire. Throughout the time that farmers have attended a market here, trends in farming have fluctuated. Whilst traded animal sales through the current market are at a low point, there is clear evidence that agricultural practise is undergoing another shift in emphasis. This time concern for soil degradation is generating not only debate but also emphasising the need for livestock in a healthy rotation. Where there are livestock, there is a need for a market. Animal welfare dictates that travel should be minimised, which is also good for reducing overall emissions. I would encourage the Council to retain a facility whilst generating the centre of town growth that will create wealth and jobs for the town's residents.

I do not believe the site belongs to the Council to sell. It was "gifted" and (like the old Louth swimming pool site) should be used for the reason why it is there. The Council are stewards of the site and not owners. Equally, it is not appropriate as a retail site as it draws people away from the town centre. When considering a larger retail outlet, it is not in a suitable position. The road access is not safe enough. Also it is very difficult to give opinions/make a decision based on the proposals as there is nothing to state how much the site could be sold for. This does not give us tax payers an insight in to how much money could be saved or indeed outlaid by selling the site and building a new cattle market. In my view, selling is morally wrong.

We all know the land is already sold to some local Housing Developer. Shameful if I am proven right.

In my view, the way that the options have been portrayed are somewhat misleading. In addition to the current £3k pa income from the Mart, I understand that there is £30k pa from parking. This equates to annual income of £33k against an investment of a max £700k, which in the current climate is a reasonable return. In addition, the figure of £700k of capital expenditure seems on the high side given the breakdown provided - I would question the requirement for all of the items suggested. In summary, it seems to me that attempts are being made to press the public into making the wrong decision for the town by exaggerating the costs and minimising the income. I would specifically question the fact that against capital expenditure of £5m on a new build the end valuation of the building is projected at £250k?

The cattle market should stay on the present site. Half to be used to revamp as a cattle market and the other half for development.

As a historic market town, renowned for its traditional character, I feel a thriving livestock market is something; it is incumbent upon the Council to retain. Living near the current site, I feel that it works perfectly well. Some of the costs suggested appear unnecessary - surely farmers and their beasts need something basic, not a state-of-the-art facility. No mention is made of current and potential income from car parking or of the possibilities of the Boar's Head element of the site. I feel that the way the "information" in this survey is presented it is skewed towards what I assume is the Council's preferred option, altering the charter. This option would, in my opinion, be

another step on the slippery slope of changing the character of Louth materially for the worse.

I do not believe that the current site should be sold for retail purposes. If anything, it should be sold for housing; thus preventing more Greenfield areas being turned over to housing.

The decision to sell the site has already been made and should not be reversed due to political pressures. Option 2 should be progressed to give certainty to the town about new retail and employment as well as opportunities for additional investment in the town and surrounding area

I am extremely concerned for the welfare of livestock if Louth Cattle Market shuts and animals have to travel to the next nearest livestock market being Newark. From Louth this is over an hour's journey in a car, let alone by tractor, lorry or truck and trailer. The cattle market could be seriously enhanced in order to provide more services to the community e.g. a meeting place for youth groups, car boot sale, antique sales etc. There would also be a large loss of car parking if the site were sold. The industrial estate is not suitable for livestock and this site could be resold quickly at a high price

Louth is supposed to be a historic market town. How can it claim to be this if there is no longer a market? Furthermore if the market is to be sold to developers will this not also be of detriment to current small local businesses who have been the core of the town for so long. The recent opening of the new Aldi store has given a glimpse into what the effects of introducing large commercial retailers means for the town centre with Robinson's fruit and veg store closing; a store that has been part of the town for many years. One of Louth's USP's is that it has so many individual stores that cannot be found anywhere else. If these stores could no longer compete with larger retailers this would be a huge loss to the town. Do we want to lose our sense of community that never does anything face to face whether it be buying or selling of cattle or just general socialising and deprive future generations of the market which is currently being taken for granted? (No cattle are sold direct to abattoir with buyers never meeting the seller). Do we want to keep Louth on the map by keeping it historic and a place people want to visit, with it being the only market in the county. Should more effort not be put into looking at how to make the market more profitable by following other examples around the country by staging a variety of sales at the location instead of looking for reasons to close it down?

You are failing to say how much you will raise from the sale of the existing site which is likely to be much greater than the expenditure you claim there will be. Monies raised should not repeat not be spent on Skegness or even Mablethorpe which needs it - Louth residents are fed up with Skegness bleeding the district dry.

My husband used the Louth cattle market for the buying and selling of store/fat beast on a regular basis until his retirement. This facility is essential for all the farmers in this area and it would be a huge loss to the town if it closed. Forcing the farmers to transport their animals all the way to Newark would just increase costs all round. I hope the Council will see sense and keep this valuable market open for business.

Louth needs to keep the cattle market at all costs. With this being the only market in Lincolnshire it is absolutely critical to keep this open. It would have such a huge impact on the industry and cause many livestock farms to sell up, I feel. It wouldn't be viable for many farmers to travel to Newark just to take their cattle to be sold. Louth should

be proud to have the market and it could have such a big potential in the future with a refurbishment

My husband is a retired farmer and used the present site frequently. Louth Cattle Market is essential to the local farm trade and social integration. The present site is also a major part of the street scene of Louth and moving it to a new site will not be beneficial to the residents of Louth.

There are more small farmers/ smallholders trying to start up in the area, I feel a local livestock market will make all the difference to their chances of success.

The cattle market is an integral part of the farming community. The £700,000 bill may seem large but reflects years of under investment in the site. The Council should investigate more and look into how it can use the cattle market buildings for other purposes when not in use by the market. Louth is a market town and it is integral to its culture that it has an active market. The cattle market helps set buying prices and is an important part of the town's culture that is vastly undersold. It could be a tourist attraction in its own right if the Council offered guided tours on market days. As a Council it is important to work harder to market the town's culture and heritage rather than suggest that you give up, sell and walk away.

The location of the existing market allows traders to walk into Louth centre and use local facilities. Developing a retail outlet on this site would have a huge impact on local businesses which Louth council have fought so hard over the years to keep traditional and locally owned. Further housing would also impact the town's already oversubscribed schools doctors and parking situations.

Louth Market is the only remaining Livestock Market in the county and is a valuable asset to the farming community. Why not look at working with the auctioneers to make more use out of the existing site.

Louth livestock market is an integral part of Lincolnshire agriculture. Farmers not only use this to buy and sell their livestock but also as a social opportunity. The industry we work in is isolated and without this excuse to get out weekly then mental illness within the industry could get worse especially when it forces many farmers to sell all of their livestock, some families have had herds on their farms for generations. Do not get rid of the livestock market!

Why is all the money directed at the coastline? This is to the detriment of all the market towns inland. Also, by denying the farming industry an outlet for its stock you are forcing the industry into the hands of the large abattoirs and the supermarkets. We need competition in the Livestock industry. You are also forcing animals to be transported further and further away which is not welfare friendly.

The market needs investment and also needs proactive management of the market. It has not been promoted actively and as a consequence a small circle of cattle buyers and sellers attend Louth preferring to go to Newark or sell direct to the supermarkets backing British Farmers. The small farmers use Louth but this is not sustainable. The agents of the market need to be keen and pull the buyers and sellers but I fear they have lost out to Newark and some Northern markets.

Regular visits to the market with my children as this is a way of educating them as to part of the food chain process. I also use this market as a social place with meeting and catching up with friends from the local farming area. I have several friends in the area who use the market for selling on their livestock etc. and the closure of this would indeed affect the local and surrounding areas with their livelihood.

I believe the livestock market is an important part of Louth heritage as a market town and that the town and livestock market should be receiving ongoing investment to help support and improve them.

My preference is 3 but not as described. I think a compromise to upgrade and refurbish one portion of the site and sell off another portion to a different developer would be a way to retain this vital facility for our farming community. Both from a business and social context, but would also allow the council to realise some of the assets of the site.

"Moving Louth Forward" does not necessarily mean developing more houses or shops on this site. In this instance, leave well alone please.

There is a perfectly adequate livestock market in Newark. Louth Livestock Market is a waste of valuable development space, build some houses, get a fast food chain in, and bring Louth up to date.

The Council should stop wasting Tax payer's money on such like consultation schemes that usually come to nothing apart from lining a chosen ones pocket. Refurbish the Cattle Market ASAP. Louth is a Market Town it should keep the only remaining Lincolnshire Cattle Market where it is. It's an absolute obvious solution.

Too much money has already been wasted on failed consultations. It's time to stop wasting money and start refurbishing the present Cattle Market ASAP.

The Council has grossly over-egged the cost of option three. It just needs a new roof, nothing more. There is no detail on option two - What is a 'retail-led' development? How can we decide between that and an existing good business livestock sales?

Farming is in decline because of lack of support and facilities from government. The existing site should be refurbished and used. If the site had been maintained properly over the years then today's refurbishment costs would not be as great.

The Council need to realise that redevelopment of the existing cattle market for retail use will obviously affect the town centre shops. Louth has a superb reputation for small private shops that are different to most other town centres. So, perhaps free parking in the town centre, as is being offered now in other areas to boost footfall, would offset the competition from a redeveloped cattle market. Louth is a 'special' town. I am not a native but I do appreciate its uniqueness and ELDC would be well minded to take care not to wreck Louth and turn it into 'any town - anywhere'? My second choice would be Option 3, retaining the character of the town 'as is'!

With Brexit in place we need to maintain local farmers and markets to secure a strong British food chain.

It would be a shame to lose Lincolnshire's last site and lose the connection between people and farming. I have emailed the Council as a parish councillor before (former now) and as always ignored by a named Councillor. The main problem with the decrease

in sales on the current site is the lack of buyers from major supermarkets and therefore resulting in lower prices. The new site could address this somewhat by inviting major buyers to the relaunch and making a big, commercial promotion of the new site. Add the large agricultural dealers, a major name and it would raise the profile considerably. Ending the market will result in some very bad publicity for ELDC and will be detrimental to the area.

Refurbish and use it for other things too such as auctions, markets and retail sales. Not a supermarket though.

Having looked up ADV partnership (no information on your website) my wife and I are not satisfied with the idea of a private equity firm controlling an asset that would completely change the nature of Louth. Private equity firms have no interest in working with local planners or indigenous populations and concentrate on profit at any price. When Councils shrug off their responsibilities to the local voters and ignore the needs of towns and villages the decline of quality of environment is inevitable.

Louth needs a cattle/sheep market; it's the only one left in Lincolnshire. In a TB4 area a lot more could be made of this status than is already. If I go out of the area to say Newark; a TB1 area; I have to pay to have my cattle tested after 60 days of buying them. In that time I run the risk of bringing TB into Lincolnshire and it spreading in that 60 days. So they could do a lot more in pushing stock sales in a TB4 area.

This appears to be the best outcome for the use of finances and would benefit all residents of East Lindsey and not just the few residents who use the cattle market. However, the proposed alternative uses for the money saved must go ahead if the cattle market is sold. It seems ludicrous that so much money is spent on maintaining a service for a minority of landed residents when the Council cannot even afford grass cutting services which benefit all residents.

Is no one at the Council brave enough to make (or stick to a previous) a decision on this site - or are they more concerned with getting re-elected every four years as soon as a potentially contentious issue arises? If we never make (or implement) a decision we can't be blamed for getting it wrong, can we? Going out to consultation again keeps the wind in this political football, which will be used against the Council and hijacked by a noisy and outraged minority again. Most people don't care and won't engage - those that do will coerce and mobilise a small bandwagon of fellow disgusted and the only people the Council really end up "listening" to be those with their non-viable and emotive arguments who successfully perpetuate a continued malaise and lack of faith to enable elected officials to do anything. We haven't even got close to seeing who ADV are proposing to bring to the town before some have thrown up their arms in disbelief and absolute certainty that it will only be bad for the town. I have lived in Louth all my life and the occasional sale of a few sheep and cows is not part of my heritage or love for the town. Nor should retiring family businesses be linked to failing policies to support the town centre, when businesses themselves aren't prepared to invest in their premises, staff service, new technologies or even extend opening hours to meet changing consumer trends. Where are the future job opportunities to come from as these family businesses continue to retire and larger employers on the industrial estate have no space to grow (and can't attract new employees to the town to live in new houses that we don't want either). Certainly not through the Willsons and Masons continuing to sell livestock on behalf of ageing farmers. In the meantime, the Council

and the town potentially lose out on a multimillion pound capital receipt for reinvestment and external investors prepared to bring new jobs and a different retail offer to the town are turned away with their abortive costs and interest in the town. Confidence is lost, the status quo remains and those that stand in the way of progress will soon return to the Council's doors blaming them again for why there is never any new investment. And then expect to park everywhere for free. If Livestock Markets were a viable and sustainable commercial opportunity, they would exist elsewhere in an agricultural county the size of Lincolnshire. The fact that they don't and have closed down elsewhere suggests to me that the Council should not be burdened with this ongoing liability to prop up a declining market and partnership of auctioneers who make very little investment themselves in retaining the current market operations - yet are firmly "committed" to maintaining this important community facility.

The Livestock Market is of historical importance to Louth. The proposal for redevelopment would have a profound effect on Louth not least in the effect to existing small traders already in the town. Louth is known as a specialist town with a variety of small traders offering excellent ranges; there are already two supermarkets which give choices to users. Previous decisions by the Council, i.e. increasing car parking costs, has already had a bad effect in Louth resulting in the loss of footfall which hopefully will now improve due to changes in the car parking since made by the Council. Louth does not need another retail site. If the Council had kept up with repairs on an ongoing basis rather than ignoring them such a large amount of money would not now have to be found! Extremely poor planning by East Lindsey District Council again - the cost of the car parking at the site must have been considerable and now (currently) not used.

Louth Livestock market is the only one in Lincolnshire, the next nearest being in Yorkshire. Consequently the market should be retained as option 3 and possibly more money spent on it to allow multifunction use. It would be interesting to know sales income has been over say the last three years. Does the nine years represent a skewed net average?

I would not wish to see the cattle market facility come to an end. I think the building should be refurbished and should have been done years ago. The District Council should be ashamed at how they have neglected the facility. Monies raised in Louth (if the sale went ahead and option 2 won) should not be spent in other areas.

Option 1 is a variant on the failed McLagan Investments scheme, with the same weaknesses. There is no definite site or planning permission for a new market and it has effectively the same potential planning problems of having a retail-led scheme on a site that could be argued is "edge of centre" but in practice is up a hill and poorly linked to the town centre. There are better-related potential sites for retail-led development that would be closer to and benefit the town centre. A significant retail development on the other side of Newmarket is likely to draw trade away and further weaken the position of the independent shops that are its main attraction. In addition, after what happened with Asda, there must be questions about whether the capital receipt would be sufficient to make the scheme viable. Option 2 will give the Council its capital receipt without the need for it to spend any significant money. However, the potential planning problems are the same as for Option 1. The Council has been running down the market for many years. Closing down the last livestock market in Lincolnshire would be a symbol that East Lindsey has no real commitment to the local farmers who supply Louth's butchers' shops, pubs and restaurants or to the people of the Louth area. Almost all of the benefits

listed would go elsewhere in the district. That is on top of the tactless attempt to alter an historic charter which goes back nearly 500 years and will not be quietly accepted. Option 3 would, the Council's own figures, not be an expensive investment. A well-designed market is likely to attract more trade and thus bring more income and create more jobs. It is not surprising that, in the current situation, the market is trading badly, while others in similar areas elsewhere have been holding their own or even growing. A modern, better laid-out market could also enable part of the site to be sold or leased to other businesses, thus offsetting the loss of part of the anticipated sale revenue. Please note that as a retired planning officer I will be doing everything I can to ensure that Options 1 and 2 are not successful.

The Council always goes through the motions of consultation but always ignores the results and does what it already decided to do. Everyone knows that you've decided to break your word to provide a new livestock market because it's too expensive. You just don't care about anything except the money.

It is essential that a livestock market is retained in the town. With the possibility that the market at Newark could close, there needs to be somewhere local for livestock to be transported, not just for the convenience of the farmers, but for the welfare of the animals that are clearly stressed when taken by road. ELDC has a duty to provide a market for the town, the farmers, and for the well-being of the animals.

Any option other than 3 is a short term financial fix which will damage Louth in the long-term. The court's finding in favour of ELDC rested on preservation of a historic cattle market. ELDC seems to have little grasp of Louth's needs and its action appear characterised by disregard to the strength of feeling in the town on the cattle market site issue.

In the longer-term economic, business and community interests of Louth, Option 3 makes the most sense. It involves upgrading the county's sole surviving cattle market at a fraction of the cost of building a new one (£700,000 v £4-5 million), preserves existing businesses including the historic Boar's Head pub and Bowler Auctions while providing Louth with extra community facilities focused on the town's younger population. Louth residents realise that the Council seeks to sell the site to private retail interests to improve its financial position. But yet another supermarket must impact adversely on the town's popular independent shops and markets and exacerbate existing problems with traffic congestion, carbon pollution and parking, especially in nearby residential streets. Also there is no guarantee whatsoever that Louth will reap any benefits from the sales proceeds. On the contrary, many residents believe the proceeds will be directed towards the coastal towns in ELDC's remit.

One of Louth's most exciting visitor attractions is its superb town centre with all the quirky little businesses and buildings. By developing the cattle market for shopping the town centre will be decentralised and many of those tiny businesses will flounder. There are many other uses the cattle market could be put to in addition to livestock sales on Fridays, which would bring more income and employment. You will blight Louth town centre businesses if you sell the cattle market site for development into a shopping/lifestyle centre, and Louth will lose its originality, its quiriness, its heart and its identity. Stay original.

Providing that the market operator doesn't build another CO-OP or a fast food restaurant. A Waitrose would be nice, or M & S, something in keeping with Louth.

Councils are very short of money and having a cattle market is not a good use of public money.

So much money has been wasted already trying to grab millions from the site. Keep Louth Special had a great plan to help the site become multi use but this was rejected by ELDC. I live right next to it and the developer who bought the house next door extended his garden into the market and the Council ignored my objections and wouldn't pursue the issue. Strange as it's such a valuable piece of land.

People come to Louth because it is not like other towns. The ancient cattle market is one of the attractions. To spend a huge amount of money on a new market away from town is crazy when a much lesser amount will bring the existing one up to date. We don't want further retail outlets that far away from the main shopping centre as that would adversely affect the town shops. This is the only remaining cattle market in Lincolnshire and a part of history. There are other ways to raise the money for repairs and depriving Louth of this site to pay for projects in other areas seems very unfair. If you want to provide facilities for more visitors, they need a reason to come here. They come because Louth is different from most other towns with their identical shopping arcades.

Please bear in mind that as a resident across the road I must adhere to the rules of the Conservation Area and therefore I have strict restrictions as to what I can and can't do to my property to ensure it looks in a certain way and to preserve the areas appeal; how would new build housing fit in with this? There are a lot of new developments in Louth already yet there isn't the infrastructure for these residents once they are housed. Please bear in mind the impact on the area; the cattle market whilst not fit for purpose at present is of significant historical value which I believe has been devalued because of large scale neglect by ELDC for the very purpose that you can say it costs too much to refurbish to line the pockets of the Council. This site belongs to the people of Louth and should remain in agricultural use; to do anything other is in my opinion criminal and once done cannot be restored. Bear in mind all of the horrific decisions to tear down historical sites in the past. Please learn from these mistakes and not steal the land and purpose of the site that belongs to Louth residents

How many other industries would have weekly clubs subsidised for them by the public sector? Sell the site for better use

Lincolnshire being a large agricultural county needs this market.

This is the last cattle and sheep market in Lincolnshire. If this closes we will have to travel to Newark or Melton Mowbray which is not viable. I am sure the refurbishment costs can be trimmed or left as it is. We need our local market and so much more could be sold from there if given the opportunity as there is no fur or feather market presently

The cattle market should remain where it is and be refurbished. Louth has lost so much of it's identity in recent years it needs to keep its cattle market....it's obvious that it's needed as in its current state it's used. If it wasn't needed it wouldn't be used. Why should the trade move to Newark? Why not invest in the cattle market and have more trade come into Louth? Louth needs rebuilding, its facilities need upgrading and not to be lost!

Livestock sales should be focussed on the larger markets, Louth is not one of those larger markets. The royal charter was granted at a time when a local market was necessary as people walked their stock to market so they needed to be local; this is no longer the case. The demands on the rates are huge, if the return is so poor from the market the authority should seek to invest in employment opportunities that secure employment within Louth on a permanent basis

It seems crazy to take away a facility that brings trade to the town and for a farming county to lose its last cattle market!! Selling the family silver to support the coastal strip??? I note none of the projects mentioned include anything in Louth! Why can't option 3 be chosen and as a compromise a developer part of the site?

This is a council asset. Market it properly and as a tourist attraction. Kids need this experience and local farmers need to stay local

Keep Louth as a traditional market town, providing facilities and support for farmers on the present market site. Promotion of tourism in the area relies on the preservation of what is special and unique about Louth. Visitors will be interested to experience a Livestock market when it is a unique part of the tourist trail, enabling them to gain an important insight into rural life and farming in general. Development in that area also brings economic benefits and national recognition of Louth and Lincolnshire.

My view is not available as an option. So for the avoidance of doubt my preferred option would be to maintain the current market facility as it is without refurbishment but with a basic level of maintenance that keeps it functioning for another decade at least. The land should not be sold and should be kept in public ownership. The world is changing and the needs of the town will be better served by keeping that large tract of land near the town centre open for a change in use when new demands are made. The demand for change at the moment is based on short term thinking which is forcing local authorities to sell off public assets to fund services. This is flawed thinking and is not a long term solution to the provision of valuable public services for the next generation. If we value our public services we should fund them through annual taxation revenue and not through the short term gain, long term loss of capital asset disposal.

Transport and logistics has changed massively in 400 years. I am confident that a much better alternative could be looked at outside of the town. The market will only benefit local farmers who won't have to travel as far. Redevelopment could benefit the area and residents to a greater extent than a few farmers.

The market is valued by local farmers so should be retained. It is also important to the character of Louth a rural market town. Louth has sufficient shops and a further retail development would damage the viability of the town centre, which is important for the tourism appeal of the town. The market site provides valuable parking, any future development would surely have terms and conditions ANPR based 2 hour limits etc. attached to their parking provision meaning it can no longer be used if you are spending 3 hours or so in the town centre. Restoring the current market seems the most pragmatic solution. It is possible that the future need for a market in Louth could increase. Arable farmers are struggling to control the weed black grass, which is developing herbicide resistance, consequently it is likely that more will return to mixed farming and reintroduce livestock onto their farms. Therefore over the medium term it is possible that the amount of livestock and thus potential users of Louth market could

increase. Secondly with agricultural policy returning to UK competence after Brexit and the Environment Secretary having today announced that in future agriculture will place a much greater weighting on environmental management, it is likely that grassland, grazing, mixed farms will be encouraged. It is also likely that import and export tariffs are restructured after Brexit, high quality beef and lamb products will be a niche in which the UK can remain competitive thus again encouraging a switch more towards livestock production as the wolds and marsh were 50 or so years ago. Regarding the costs you have for a new market they seem artificially inflated, possibly to influence the consultation responses. £4-5 million with £850k of it on car parking and landscaping, seriously! Melton Mowbray is a much bigger market and cost £5.5 million in 2016. Hereford was £7 million, but is a 16 acre site, so again not comparable to what Louth would need in terms of scale but suggests your cost estimate is too high.

Keep the Charter. Keep the market on this site it is important to our rural community. Do not sell our family silver; invest in our assets, stop running them down. Councillors should understand the community they serve, how many have ever visited? Invest and make the site better and give the market stability so it can rebuild after years of uncertainty caused by the District Council and the lack of maintenance and investment. Think carefully about animal welfare and stop talking about Newark for goodness sake, it is too far for small farmers in any case. Where are your figures on the effect on Louth's small businesses and services? Your figures do not hold water and do not tell the whole story. This is a very misleading and poor consultation, leading and badly informed.

This is a great asset to the town and once repaired could be used to bring great events to the town, making the town and area more vibrant bringing in more people to help the local economy. Please think about our towns invest in them for all our futures

If the innovative ideas of KLS are incorporated, it will be a good (tourist) asset to the town. Option 3 is the clear optimal compromise - there is sufficient remaining space for profitable additional facilities, whilst still upholding part of the fabric of this town. What do you think will be the attitude of your Council Taxpayers if you push to change the legal status of Louth? Option 2 is a very nasty aggressive stance to take.

Invest in our market towns don't let Louth down and become like everywhere else

As much as I hate to say this, most Council officials do not understand the retail High Street and if one looks at Louth it is becoming a haven for bars, cafe's and takeaways which long term will not attract any form of Tourist or inhabitants of near towns.

Too much new housing plans going through already as Council never take into consideration what is already passed through planning at that time but not yet built. Town isn't big enough to cope with any more housing unless new road structure, more schools, doctors, dentists, jobs. Wrong site for big supermarket due to parking restrictions and traffic chaos it would cause on Newmarket. Louth is a country market town which is why it attracts people. Keep it that way.

We really need to look at additional uses of the entire site to generate additional income. Louth needs to protect its identity; it's too easy to sell the family jewels. No jewels, then there's nothing special and what next? Keep Louth special!

There is zero point in spending time on this comments section, seeing as ELDC has already decided on its preferred outcome (blindingly obvious without knowing the

background, simply by how the wording of the options has been phrased) and has designed this sham of a consultation accordingly.

Using option 3 will allow for development of part of the site; it will give the opportunity to develop further, ancillary uses of the market, such as the drop in medical centre and rural related industries. It will maintain the support the farming families of East Lindsey currently have.

The market is vital to the future of Louth, and is traditional and the whole point of a charter is that it remains. If the Council is so concerned with money why spend thousands in legal fees to have it overturned which is against the principle. The money would be better spent on the current market. If you think there is not enough revenue currently why do you allow the site to be used for other things, car boot, dog training, craft market, club shows, the list is endless

Promote the livestock market and more traders and farmers will come. This is the last cattle market in Lincolnshire and it is a disgrace to even think about shutting it. Think of the animal welfare of livestock having to be hauled miles away into neighbouring counties to be bought and sold!

This is part of Louth history and should be kept in its existing location and the site used for other purposes when not used for sales

Look after the current asset you've got and make more of it. It's the right site for a livestock market. So much money has been wasted getting to this point over the years - think outside the box and expand the uses of your current market on the current site. It's the best thing for Louth

If this site is used for retail purposes all it would do is provide low paid jobs which this area is over-run with. It would be best left as it is which will keep the farmers and conservative voters happy as change is what they oppose.

Whilst I am not involved in the farming industry, it is important that traditions and industries in the UK are not lost forever due to cost cutting exercises by layers of Government. Of the items ELDC wants to spend money on A) monies for items 1, 3 and 4 should come from businesses that will profit from the developments. B) Monies for the Sports Centre should be covered by user fees. C) Don't the EA cover these areas?

Frankly there is no other option than 3. As to the Private Act route there is no option there as it doesn't state what would happen afterwards. Just repair what's there to keep the Boar's Head and develop it with some vision. Not difficult.

It is a bit misleading to say 'the end value of the completed building is estimated to be £250,000'. The value of the whole site, including the land which you value at £480,000, and the other improvements would have been more realistic as some people will see a cost of £5m only being work £250,000. The more sceptical of us would think that this was done on purpose to get the result you want.

There are more pressing needs in the district than a cattle market used by an elite few. Better to spend funds bringing area up to date providing facilities for all.

Seems to me that this is an anachronism, those who want or need a livestock market should fund it themselves. If such a market is not a viable business they have to look at alternatives.

Local people like to know where their meat is coming from and what better than local butchers buying from the last remaining local cattle market in Lincolnshire. Please let's keep Louth individual and not just another clone.

Society is saying that our children are confused about where our meat comes from. What better way to teach them about the cycle of food than seeing them at the cattle market. Louth is a market town after all and it's the only cattle market left in Lincolnshire.

The Council promised to provide a market and now seem to be considering not doing so (in option 2). That means you can't be trusted to keep your word.

Developers should not be given planning permission as they wish, which seems to be the way nowadays.

The market should remain where it is. I support the market regularly. I don't wish to travel elsewhere with my livestock putting extra stress on them. I also support the local shops in Louth on a Thursday. I presume most of you Councillors are 'Townies' and do not understand the farming community. We meet up at Louth Market on a Thursday - it is our social event where we meet up with farming friends.

Retain part of the existing cattle market with refurbishment. Develop the remaining site for possible retail (no supermarket) or retirement housing.

We don't need any more traffic down our street - it's like a race as it is and someone will get killed.

Makes more money than Leisure Centres. 2 years SO festival money. About 100 more come for the festival. The rest are here or residents. Waste ratepayers money!

I have voted for option 3. I feel that option 1 would be money wasted as the present livestock market is on the decline and therefore not viable. I believe that option 3 refurbish the current market is the answer - condensing the sheep pens with the cattle pens. This leaves room for cafe/restaurant/bar; introduce units for antiques auctions, car boot sales, agricultural facilities (to be open throughout the week). Is it possible for a Truck Stop? The market needs new blood to promote business from the surrounding farms - they need to be told 'use it or lose it' - give it a chance.

Invest in the future for our farmers and ignore short term political dogmas that do not benefit the area.

So the Council has an asset once valued at over £11 million that earns you less than £3K per year in a declining market and still no one at the Council is brave or smart enough to make a decision about its future without giving Louth Town Council another opportunity to oppose its sale

This is the heartbeat of the community. Louth is a wonderful town with great tradition. If the Livestock market goes the town will slowly die as have others. Refurbishment is only required.

It would be a travesty to lose our Market. The traditions that it represents can never be reinstated and once lost, will be gone forever. This is one of the things that makes Louth so special and unlike many other towns. Keep our market!

The Royal Charter was put in place to protect exactly this type of thing. Louth is a thriving market town with quality farms and farmers around and about. To remove this livestock market would mean these farmers would have to travel so much further to the nearest market in order to sell their cattle and sheep. This would be detrimental and more stressful to the animals causing lower quality meat and higher costs for the farmers. At a time when we are going through the Brexit process and therefore want to show we are a nation that is self-sufficient. Surely it is obvious we should keep this market open to keep the costs low for local farmers, jobs for those who work there and high quality meat which can be sold to the local butchers and on to the local businesses and residents. As the Royal Charter is in place, you as a Council shouldn't even have been looking to sell the land for profit without first putting in place a new site for a new market or refurbishing the present one alongside selling part of the land for redevelopment if you are so determined to do this.

That money could go a long way in helping the wider community rather than a small sub-set of the community.

I do not trust any of the costings. Let someone who wants to see a cattle market stay in town put costings forward. What the question should be is do you prefer short term gain over the maintenance of history. Which is the next act that you might overturn? I don't remember any Councillor putting in their manifesto that they would vote for the end of an ancient charter. So in that case ELDC has no mandate for this. If a supermarket is put on the site it is quite possible that any employment gains will be balanced by losses in the town.

My preference would be to relocate into something akin to the Thirsk Auction Mart. We would benefit from a new centre and could add a much needed Country Store and other outlets. There could also be office space to complement the Fairfield Centre. This option would allow opportunity for wholesale producers and allied meat traders which would build on the historic roots of Louth and its links with the food industry. For me the second option would be to refurbish the current site, incorporating as much of the suggestions above as possible to increase the usage of the site. I could not support option b and the removal of our charter. I need to also comment that I feel the suggested alternative uses of the £5m are very subjective and it is not costed as the repairs are. The last offering of a suggestion in this way was the Brexiteers and the millions that 'could' be redirected into the NHS.

It would seem that the Council are determined to sell the site regardless of what anyone may want to happen. Why don't the Council think long term instead of short term gain! The site should be repaired and the cattle market remain. The site could be also used for other things alongside the market. It doesn't just have to be used on a Thursday. Have the Council even looked at what other businesses could use the area alongside the cattle market? We lost the auctioneers in the Cornmarket and now especially on a Saturday there are very few stalls - I wonder why?? We should be keeping Louth the beautiful market town that it is and not destroying it by selling it down the drain. We do not need another supermarket - shops in town are already struggling because of the recent opening of Aldi. Louth will soon become a non-descript town full of houses, very

few small local shops and no parking other than the horrendous street parking we now have, Please do not sell the cattle market - it is part of our heritage. Think long term - it can be done.

It's already in use and purpose built, keep it.

As it's really unclear what "selling for re- development "would actually involve I feel the best option is to refurbish the existing facility. This would avoid building elsewhere and the market could continue where it is and perhaps part of the area could become an amenity centre for the good of the local community.

As a Taylor family member from the original John Taylor that bequeathed the original land to the people of Louth for a cattle market, I say keep it. So much history, why mend what is not broken.

Animal Welfare should be taken into consideration and this should not be about the financial cost but about what is best for the animals. Animals are stressed by travel and the unfamiliar sights and sounds. Ensuring that there is a livestock market in Louth will benefit the local economy, especially with so few markets left in the country.

Does the current market act as a social club for the few farmers who still use it? Does the lack of other cattle markets in the area indicate that these services are an anachronism and the money could be best used to fund other services?

I would like to see the livestock market discontinued. I find it disturbing and unnecessary especially as the growing trend is towards a more compassionate society and veganism. I am totally in favour of option 2.

The Agriculture Business Centre in Bakewell built by Derbyshire Dales District Council in the late 1990s demonstrates that a new build cattle market can be a driver for economic growth. See also Welshpool Cattle Auctions in Welshpool, mid Wales. Agriculture remains an important part of the local economy and this is an opportunity to provide a hub for agri businesses on the Industrial Estate. The nature of the retail offering at the current site should be considered carefully to minimise adverse effects on independent traders in the town centre.

Without a livestock market in Louth local farmers will have to travel outside the County to Newark in order to attend a market. Lincolnshire is an agricultural county and we need to continue supporting the farming community which has enough pressures without increased costs involved in transporting livestock further afield. Added to that the welfare of the animals, for which longer journeys can be stressful. To spend £200,000 in an attempt to remove the requirement for a market is risking tax payer's money as there is no guarantee of success, besides the fact that the area needs a livestock market. If the current market can be refurbished to an acceptable level then this should be the route taken as the costs for a new market site seem excessive. The above explanations of the options do appear to come across as very biased towards the Council's obvious preferred option 2.

When visiting Louth on a Thursday there is a noticeable increase in people visiting the shops. It would appear that these people are associated with the business at the Livestock Market - farmer's wives and partners doing the shopping while the market is taking place. The current site is within easy walking distance of the town centre. If

moved to outside the town, would they still visit as now? They would have to drive in or be dropped off and picked up which would not fit in around the business at the market. This would decrease visitor numbers in the town on market day. The Livestock Market already employs many people. If the decision is taken to sell the current site and remove the Charter these people will be out of work. How can it be guaranteed that what ADV Partnership builds is going provide above this number of jobs and what are these people going to do for work in the current climate? Most people will have looked ADV up and can see that they do not build anything at present that would add value to the Louth and District economy. Continuing with the current site would guarantee the Council money year on year as selling the site will be an initial windfall then nothing. Moving to outside the town is an option but I am not convinced that the Council will follow up on that one! Go ahead sell the site and still go for removal of the Charter! I would like to hear from and see proper figures from the people who currently rent the market and see if there is a decline in numbers as is suggested and that the Council lose money each year. They are going to be the biggest losers in all this plus where are the animals going to be sent Newark or Selby? It's a long old way to either. It will be just another countryside tradition that will be lost for ever and Louth will just become another quaint town for tourists to visit March - October.

The cattle market is crucial in keeping Louth special. The town centre is struggling enough with empty shops without adding additional retail space in an away from town centre location. I also don't agree with the repair figures quoted in option 3 or the relocation costs identified in option 1.

Up to today, I would have been in favour of the market closing however, with London Road closed due to water main works, I have seen huge cattle lorries going past my house. I would normally think this was dreadful, however, it has brought to my attention that the market is a far larger business than I ever imagined it was. What a revelation that this facility is so greatly patronised and yet, even as a local resident, I had no idea!

Yes I damn well do have a comment! It is about time ELDC stop this cut cut cut mentality. If you had maintained the cattle market over the last decade as you should have done as a responsible Council then it would not have got into the condition it is in. It is your fault put it right. The money; £700,000 is likely to be near the amount you would have spent anyway if you had kept it up to scratch. Your statement that income has fallen over the last few years speaks for itself! If the building had been kept up to scratch it would have been fit for purpose. As it is now the sheep have to be sold outside because the roof leaks! Therefore their weights are heavier because they are wet! You must get a grip and keep this cattle market and invest whatever it takes. It is you, ELDC, who did not renew the lease to the pub on the site that would have been a good rental income for you! You can only sell the crown jewels once. If you keep this facility and invest in it will be a good quality asset. Also this is the only surviving cattle market in Lincolnshire and as such should be relished. It is a visitor attraction for that very reason even if for no other reason. Invest for the future and stop running things down and then selling them off. It is a disgrace. First it was beach huts so you have ended up paying out thousands of pounds on them to get them back up to a suitable standard. Next it will be public toilets. How far do you think you can cut before the residents really take umbridge and seek legal action for spending our Council tax money unwisely?

Where did you get these quotes from? They seem to be very high. Maybe put the work out to open tender and not to preferential contractors

I think it's important that both animal and human welfare be taken into consideration. The animals would have to travel further. It would be a shame after a livestock market being in Louth for so long to disappear. It seems short-sighted with Brexit getting nearer, we need to support the farmers in every way and they would incur costs travelling further.

Any thoughts of not having a market are disgraceful! Save the market!

Why has the current auctioneer been given notice of termination of his contract if this is a genuine consultation exercise?

Option 2 is quite simply not an option. Option 3 has one glaring omission, the value of the land, so to make that an option, when we do not know the value being lost from the sale of the land is quite frankly absurd, but is still a far better option than option 2

This Market is part of Louth and should stay. It's so easy to get rid of something these days but once it's gone we can never go back. I think spending money on this is worth it it's part of Louth history that we don't want to lose. It brings people into town for the market which is good for local businesses.

Consider novel uses under the livestock market which could regenerate net profits such as sales of other live animals and alternative products similar to the market at Melton Mowbray. Develop branded goods of local produce 'Louth Lincs' for Lincolnshire sausages, chine, haslet, Plum bread, Boston New Potatoes, Lincolnshire Spinach and other farm products.

Sorry, I don't buy this. Far too cloak and dagger. What are they going to build in its place? Why is the price the company have offered being kept secret? What if this company withdraws from the sale like the last one? And what the hell happens if you seek a private Act of Parliament and get it refused? You would then surely have to build a £5m white elephant. Don't do it!

Keep the market and just refurbish

This consultation should have been restricted to market users only. Opening up to wider input will just enable it to be hijacked by minority pressure groups to whip up opposition to the Council. No current Town or District Councillors in Louth who prevent the agreed sale and redevelopment opportunity for Louth on the current site (or freeing up of investment towards other priorities) will get my vote in the future

I know its part of Louth however I feel that the town needs to be updated for our children and their future. Why plough so much money into something that isn't pulling the money into our town.

The site is already there so upgrade and have units on site with agricultural theme as was suggested several years ago

We have pockets of high deprivation and seems odd to maintain liability at cost of support for vulnerable.

The last livestock market in Lincolnshire should not be closed! The market turns over around £3million a year which is very good although it's only one 1 day a week! Farmers would have to travel out of Lincolnshire to sell their stock making them spend more in fuel to get there, when there's a very adequate market in Louth. Farmers go to the market to sell their stock making money for their business it's not just a social time for the farmers every week!

We are an agricultural community and therefore we need a cattle market.

Louth needs a Livestock Market and when not in use as a market the space provides valuable free parking spaces.

Surely there is another option. Work with market operators and ADV partnership or similar to develop the site to its full potential so that the market continues or the site is used or developed to the benefit of the community at large with no cost to the Council and with an increased income.

Louth does want its cattle market. It doesn't want more shops!

I think it is a shame this site is not given the funding to make it as great as it once was. The options and opportunities could be endless. For once, can you look at the bigger picture?

Nowhere in your analysis do you take into account the contribution of the traditional market to the attraction of Louth. In terms of income generated you should look at Melton Mowbray; it has much better facilities.

Always been a cattle market

Belongs to the people of Louth

Too much history to let this site move or close. Please refurbish and set up more things to use it for.

Retain Livestock Market on present site but only with minimum expenditure required. Louth does not need another supermarket; there are plenty of excellent shops.

Keep the facility, Louth needs it. We don't need to spend money that is not needed to keep the facility running. Selling and then investing in other ELDC facilities would take the money out of Louth.

Possible to use the market site for other activities as any alternative purpose that does not clash with designated activities.

It's an industrial estate and not a farmer's yard. Please don't put the cattle market on Fairfield Industrial Estate. Instead set up an online market with full website and let farmers from anywhere access this, including a room in Louth. This way you are still providing a market. The total cost will be less than £50k.

The options are very confusing. Option 1 - I have assumed means the existing site can be sold for development. The costs of building the new facility seem very high but are (I'm assuming) covered by the costs of sale of the former site.

Louth is historically a 'market town' including the cattle market. It would be a great shame to lose this facility, for the town and for the farmers. We do not need any more retail outlets or housing - we have the Fairfield Industrial estate for cutlets. This would also mean the current local auction could continue - again a community event.

It would be a great shame to see the closure of the present site. I think refurbishment would be a good option. It would enable the market to attract new customers and allow the continuation of the Saturday Auction.

The cattle market is a valued part of Louth's heritage and future, looking at all options the only right and correct thing to do is refurbish the existing cattle market. Also cost wise, the correct and sensible thing to do. People do come and always have to Louth because of things like the cattle market, weekly town centre market; it's a market town and an ancient one at that. Keep our history.

Given the cost of options 1 and 3 and the annual income generated from an ailing business, neither option is a good use of local taxpayers money. The animal welfare issues are also a concern - many farms sell direct to abattoirs reducing the need for travel which continues if animals are taken to market. An Act of Parliament allows the area to move forward for the benefit of the economy and all residents; not just the few using the cattle market on an infrequent basis.

The Council must not sell. Must not waste money on changing charter. Who came up with the figures, they don't sound right. This is scandalous to say the least.

Please leave the cattle market on the site it's on. No more changes to Louth.

I believe Louth Market is one of the best markets in Lincolnshire. Farmers will have a long journey with their beasts if it is closed. Surely, having a charter granted by Henry VIII is something to hold on to. Do not throw away like a rundown shop.

I think it would ruin the culture of the town and I feel it's a part of our heritage and should be left alone.

I feel it would ruin the town if planning goes ahead and will compromise local businesses. It is the last market in Lincolnshire.

We need this market; it is an important part of this community. Couldn't the Council sell off part of it where the sheep are for housing with shops at the front? We park at the market when we come to Louth and we would miss that too. There are other uses to consider but this is about rural community and not just money. I also dispute the figures for work for work to be done. As a builder I dispute them. I would do the job if this was the pay.

It shouldn't be all about the money! What else will be lost; the soul of Louth!

Seeking the easy option for ELDC isn't necessarily the best option for Louth and its people, and importantly its heritage. We should be striving to achieve investment that maintains the special qualities of the area and not turn it into some sort of downtown, like any number of awful places that exist elsewhere. Keep an eye on what is worth keeping before you know it'll be gone and not for the better.

If a meeting place is important to the farmers that do not see many people then maybe a small amount of money could be used to encourage a business to provide a meeting place for those in need once a week. I don't see why everyone in East Lindsey should help pay for this on their Council Tax if they do not use it or purchase the meat sold there. If animals have to be transported for the gain of farmers then travelling to Newark will make little difference to the animal - We have to think of the animals, they have no say.

My husband and I retired close to Horncastle a few years ago. We go to Horncastle regularly, but we really like Louth. Yesterday we parked in the Kidgate car park, as usual, and went to a shop on Upgate. We were surprised to see a tractor pulling a trailer loaded with cows, then shortly after a land rover and trailer loaded with sheep. As we came out of the shop, the biggest cattle truck I have ever seen came past the church and southbound up Upgate. We watched it go up the Boston road (which was closed and this had obviously caused the vehicles with livestock to be brought through the town) and turn left interested, we decided to walk up and see where they were going. We found a huge brown building, which we never knew was there and looked very dilapidated. There were pens and pens of sheep outside, lots of cattle in the shed and the whole place was buzzing with lorries tractors and trailers, Landrovers and farmers. We watched the sale; it was so exciting and vibrant. We spent the whole morning watching it. We spoke with several farmers. Although it was exciting and everyone was so friendly, there was an air of sadness. We asked an old farmer why there seemed this odd mood and close to tears, he told us the council was determined to sell the market to a supermarket. I am appalled that this is even considered. How can you even think of closing this tremendous facility? You say on this survey the market has been in decline, the only thing that looked in decline was the site. It is a disgrace. As landlords you should be utterly ashamed. Get £700,000 and spend it now and stop looking after your pension funds, you can afford it because you have not spent a penny on it for many years.

I heard today the auctioneers have already been given notice so it would appear the results of any consultation are mute. However, as Lincolnshire's only remaining livestock market, we should invest in refurbishment for the historic and economic value. If farmers have to travel further to sales it will reduce their own ability to spend in our communities.

I decided to go to the market to see what happened there as I have never known. I think £5m is an awful lot of money to spend which rules out option 1. It would be a brave and likely foolish decision to go for option 2, which could be a total disaster for the town and the wider area. When I was there I saw around 300 sheep selling for maybe an average of £80. The cattle in one ring sold for approx. £1200 and in the second ring for approx. £1000 in 2 hours I would say approx. £60,000 worth of business took place. Not many businesses in ELDC could say that. I have a concern that the Council claim it generates a net income of approx. £3000. A Town Councillor told me that the first £80,000 the auctioneer takes is his commission, the Council gets 10%, and after that the auctioneer pays 20%. The auctioneer has posters up advertising their commission rate at 3.65%. £60,000/week is £3.1mn, 3.65% of this is £113,150 so the 1st £80,000 should generate the Council £8000 and the other £33,140 should pay an additional £6630, this is a gross of nearly £15,000. What the public need to know, is the auctioneer

lying to the Council? Are the Council lying to the public? If neither, what is happening to the other £12,000? It is definitely not being spent on the site. It is a disgrace!

The closure of its market tore the heart out of Market Rasen. Don't make the same mistake in Louth please.

This option would allow some of the site to be released for development which may contribute some of the necessary delivery costs.

As a resident I cannot see how ELDC can justify spending money on a private business - i.e. a refurbished or Cattle Market when numbers of users are declining and it has minimal impact on the economy of the district. I strongly believe they should adopt sound asset management by selling the site. However, some of the money from that sale should come back to Louth. All of the proposed spend of the capital asset seems to be directed towards the coast which is not fair - some of the money should be kept in the town.

It is essential that this one and only cattle market stays in the county. Butchers locally rely on it for quality product along with their customers. Farmers are Lincolnshire born and bred and should be entitled to the market to help keep Lincolnshire a farming county. Louth town shops would lose business without it. Why can't you encourage an education centre and tourist activities to help maintain a cash flow.

Listen to the people and don't base your decision on money alone. The town is in decline why hasten it by withdrawing something which generates foot fold. Look at utilising the site for other activities

The Livestock market is an integral part of Lincolnshire's history. We are one of the most agricultural areas in the UK and to get rid of the county's last remaining livestock market is short sighted and damaging. This is our heritage and something that should be fought for. Surely there is a potential for Heritage Lottery Funding to be applied for to help re-develop the site to ensure it can continue its use as well as educating the community and visitors into our rich agricultural background. This is a chance for East Lindsey District Council to be forward thinking. Don't mess it up. I'm certain there are many members of the community who would work with you to develop such a funding bid, if you don't have the skills in-house. There is so much potential here for something amazing to be developed both for the market users and for Louth as a whole.

The market site is grossly under used it should be operated like Newark and Melton Mowbray with facilities for other functions and events to make it more viable. The livelihoods of many farmers depend on this market; it won't be worthwhile having to transport livestock out of the county especially the northern part of East Lindsey.

It is incumbent ELDC retains local graduates in the area, by providing high skilled and well paid jobs

I feel option two would be the most cost effective and create more needed jobs for the district.

The people that come to the market help support businesses with the town especially the smaller businesses.

The town has no need for further retail development especially in this area. Refurbishment costs could be much less than stated. Other uses for the site for community purposes could be explored.

Keep the market. No-one wants another supermarket!

Use common sense!

Louth Cattle Market belongs to Louth Town therefore any decision on its future should be made by Louth Town council

It is used and it is needed. Keep it. Don't sell.

We are a country and should support the farmers who produce our meat etc. Louth has enough shops. Keep the Livestock Market; it's our only one in Lincs.

Run the Cattle Market as a business

Louth Cattle Market is our crown jewels; we should preserve it.

Support local business, support agriculture. Don't let our heritage go. Don't waste money changing charter; that is annoying to me and ratepayers

I volunteer in a local charity shop and as such meet very many people who visit Louth for its independent shops and characters. They travel here from Kings Lynn, Doncaster, Sheffield and Immingham to name but a few. They come by car and coach, putting money into the local economy and car parks. Holidaymakers bring their children to see the animals as well as shopping. The Cattle Market is the town's heritage as well as a big attraction. With refurbishment and the addition of an upper floor for receptions, antique and other fairs, with table top sale all year as well as car boot sales. All this will generate more income. Remember you have speculate to accumulate. Developers would kill the town and walk away with the profits. Local people only have so much to spend with 3 co-ops and 2 super markets plus local shops. We have enough.

My children love to see the animals. Cattle Market should be retained.

As a local resident we visit the market quite regularly and love the heritage on every occasion. We would much rather visit the market rather than look at a mosque.

Maintaining a livestock market in Louth is critical to the survival of the town. The Council should maintain its legal duty to provide a livestock market.

Louth needs its market, my friend uses it each week to buy and sell. It would be a short-term solution to sell.

Having a local livestock market is crucial to the economy of the area

Save money - also help the Farmers.

Please see common-sense in my opinion, and re-furbish existing site, cost-benefit analysis would clearly show 'option 3' is the right course of action. Secure all existing employment by innovative ideas on development of existing site e.g. improving the action facilities.

Having a cattle market is part of being a market town in an agricultural county!

Please keep the rural economy by keeping the market open

The careers and small businesses of many people depend on the Louth Livestock Market, so please keep it open.

The Council has put forward a very biased opinion. If steps were taken in 2013 and made a decision this would have halted (to a certain extent) the decline of the Cattle Market. The uncertainty and money spent on consultations has certainly not helped. The farming community has not been considered in this survey, they do still contribute considerably towards Louth as a market town.

When I visit family I regularly visit the auction

Louth does not need another retail outlet. The market town "feel" and history should be maintained.

Keep it

The present cattle market is part of the charm of Louth as a town and should be retained with some improvements so that it could be used for other purposes such as car boots and good buildings and for many activities such as antique fairs and conferences to name but a couple. Do not spoil this old tradition.

We have enough supermarket type premises in Louth. Cattle Market is our heritage.

Livestock markets are an anachronism in the 21st Century. I think any money saved or derived from the sale of the site or cessation of the necessity to provide a livestock market should be invested for the benefit of the people of Louth.

ELDC is stating, by implication, that the present state of repair and amenities at the Cattle Market premises and the curtilage thereto is unsatisfactory and cannot continue in their current form. Hence the stated view that up to £700,000 will have to be spent if a new market elsewhere is not going to be proceeded with. However, the market must surely be currently operating in accordance with all the various statutory requirements. You have referred to a reduced sales income over recent years but have given no evidence that this income will be significantly boosted by the construction of a brand new facility. Where is your estimate of the annual income to be expected from the new facility you are proposing? Are you able to state, positively, that a higher income is to be anticipated? If so, what do you expect the figure to be? How long will it take before the estimated building costs (say £4.5 million) are justified? It is probably pointless to mention to you the desirability of actual recovery of the expenditure! I think it is wrong to merely consider this issue in the light of offsetting the sale value of the Cattle Market site against expenditure on a new facility. Any new facility should be designed & costed in relation to its realistically estimated earning potential. Such an estimate cannot be made by ELDC alone. It needs to be provided by the various parties currently trading from the existing market. If it is found that local throughput of animals is unlikely to be significantly boosted by a new facility, then option 3 should surely be automatically exercised?

Allowing the last livestock market in Lincolnshire to close down would be a terrible defamation and an indescribable loss to the people of the county. Despite the current self-inflicted financial straits in which the Council's find themselves, the cheapest option enabling us to maintain and promote a functioning market should be pursued.

The reasons this market, and others, are seeing continued decline is due to the local Council's blatant disinterest in markets as a source of revenue. We all know that the high street is dying reinvigorated markets would bring people back. The same goes for livestock too. Reinvigorate; make the market a focal point of the Lincolnshire Farming community. You have a chance here to revitalise an industry on its knees. Option three as I see it is the best way to do this.

One day a week is under using this space, the income is pepper corn money to the Council.... This space is roughly the size of Marshall's yard in Gainsborough, and utilising the land for a similar purpose would bring far more income, not only to the Council but also in the form of jobs, also making the town more attractive to visitors. Time to consider the wider community here not just a few... do the right thing for the rest of the community who probably pay ELDC more in than the few that gain!

Best cost effective option with declining use and like that monies saved will be invested into all parts of East Lindsey

What is the Council's plan for attracting investment and jobs into Louth if the current site is not sold for development?

I find it extraordinary at the cost of re furbishing this building, £700000, how many quotations were sought? Answer please? The sheep section can be moved to within the main market building, liberating a large area for re development. I understand you claim that the income received is £3000pa. My information is that the figure is nearer £16,000 pa. ELDC could then sell the land earmarked for the new market to another buyer. This is all about the Council selling the family silver to put into some dubious scheme and probably frittering it away. The Council does not have a good track record. Finally how certain are you that your preferred bidder will not withdraw as did your previous bidder, ASDA, when you last attempted to sell this site.

Louth's status as 'Capital of the Wolds' and its role as commercial and social hub for a vast rural hinterland relies on its integrity as being a 'living and working market town'. Our town of Louth has the only Cattle Market left in Lincolnshire. As such, our market remaining is vital in maintaining a healthy and diverse economy of our town. We have grocers, butchers, bakers, poulterers, chocolatiers and markets that attract thousands of visitors from far and wide, along with some fabulous independent cafes, restaurants, bars and hotels, all maintaining our reputation as a Food Town. Louth, ELDC and Lincolnshire benefit as a whole from this and more should be made of it to promote our part of the world as a place to visit, work and live. As I understand the situation, which is not explicitly stated in ELDC's survey, our market is to be sold to developers and a national retailer build a supermarket. We are served already with Morrison's, Co-Ops in Northgate, Newmarket and Newbridge Hill, Aldi, Heron, (not forgetting the Louth Whole Food Co-Op and Spill the Beans), plus Spar, Costcutters, Londis, and McColl's etc. and home deliveries from the dominant supermarkets are another option. The introduction of another national retailer where profits and benefits largely are diverted away from our town seems ill-advised. Louth is bucking the national trend of 'the death of the high

street from out of town shopping' and is moving forward in its own independent fashion. Proceeds from the sale will not be of sole benefit to the town, rather the funds will be either put towards ELDC reserves or spent mainly elsewhere within the district. Is this a form of asset stripping? Our town helps define our identity and unite our communities, I believe the unique aspects of our town help maintain this and should be valued in more than just monetary terms. There are plenty of other options to utilise the facilities of the market and make a contribution to the local economy without losing such an asset and integral part of our town. This just needs vision. I have some questions and reservations regarding the outlining of ELDC's options which to me seem rather weighted and leading.

Option 1 – Title should read, "Buy a new site, build a new Livestock Market facility and sell old site" 1) "a new Livestock Market facility would need to look like to meet modern day standards." – Does this imply that the current facilities do not meet modern day standards? If the current market does, then good, however if not, are ELDC not responsible for maintaining such standards and then why have they let them slip? 2) "The new build facility would be specifically designed to accommodate the temporary holding of livestock... As such it would require further investment to tailor it to alternative uses." - What alternative uses are they suggesting? 3) "Sales and throughput data is pointing to a declining use of the Livestock Market facility in recent years. ... The Council has a net average sales commission income from the current Livestock Market of under £3,000 per year" – The market is providing income to the council, however are all council assets expected to be for the sole purpose of providing revenue? Would investment in the current site help to reinvigorate the business? 4 anticipated new build costs – around £4,999,238. This may be more, have they omitted to include the burglar alarm, fire alarm, CCTV costs of £150,000 which they believe is necessary for then old site? Option 2 - Suspend the current Livestock Market and seek a Private Act of Parliament to remove the requirement for the District Council to provide a Livestock Market in Louth (financial cost up to £200,000. Royal Charters remain in place but amended). 1, the word "seek" is key, their preferred outcome is not guaranteed but the costs which would be incurred are whatever the resolution. 2, "could invest the money that would have been needed for the new Livestock Market facility (£4m/£5m) into other local priorities" again this would only be pertinent if they decide to move the market in the first place, if our market remains then this is not an issue. 3, Louth's sacrifice is for the greater good "a range of projects in the East Lindsey Economic Action Plan that require funding", the list of schemes highlighted pertain little directly to Louth residents. Option 3 - Withdraw from the sale process with the ADV Partnership and refurbish the current site (financial cost would be the loss of the sale value for the site; the requirement for the Council to spend up to £700,000 on refurbishment of the existing facility and ongoing maintenance liabilities). 1, "the loss of the sale value for the site" You cannot lose something you don't have. 2 "spend up to £700,000 on refurbishment" Why and how long has the council had a policy of underinvestment for it to necessitate such a refurbishment? And if the market remains will the council commit to that investment? Anticipated refurbishment costs: Roof, wall repairs, windows and doors (inc pigeon netting) - £308,000 / Floor finishes and decoration - £41,250 / Heating, air-treatment system, water system replacement, ventilation system, lighting, burglar alarm, fire alarm, CCTV - £150,920 / Resurfacing and lining of car parks - £74,800 / New perimeter fence and signage - £48,576 / Contingency for unforeseen works - £56,700 3, "Withdraw from the sale process with the ADV Partnership" – If sold I imagine ADV Partnership are Arke Developments and VINCI Development UK look to maximise their returns however they see fit, which may not mean taking in consideration the best interests of our town and we will have limited say in any outcome.

This would be better if it was possible to rank preferences, options 1 and 3 would be my preferences, option 2 my least preferred.

Refurbishing the existing site may encourage greater use by the farming community. With initiative the site could also be improved to encourage retail and visitor attractions to utilise the same site. As the cattle market is now a solitary venue in Lincolnshire why not make it an attraction that people will travel to see

Louth deserves to keep the cattle market as part of its identity. The Council has made so many cuts recently to keep in line with budget constraints. It would be nice to keep the market for heritage purposes instead of thinking only about the money.

The Council has been allowing the cattle market site to deteriorate over many years. It suits the community and could have been used in a more lucrative way allowing farmers markets, car boot sales and fund raising events for the local community.

Keep the market in Louth. Farmers should not have to travel further to sell their animals. It is bad for animal welfare for the livestock to travel further.

Keep Louth the unique special place it is. We have enough shops and far too many houses with no infrastructure to support the increase in population, the town is too small to cope with the traffic we have now

Let's give this town something to be proud of. Make it a project you can get excited about. There are plenty of people to ask for advice; how and what they would like to see happen. As a community, I see we have already chosen the latter option.

Louth has always had a cattle market and should continue all old thing dying out and shouldn't.

The site should be used for other functions such as a Sunday market/Car boot site.

Lincolnshire should not lose its livestock market. The current market is perfectly fit for purpose, and is only in need of a little sprucing up, maybe better seating around the sale rings to make it a more pleasant experience for people visiting (and obviously farmers too). The prices quoted for refurbishments seems very high, the building looks sound and not in need of too much, perhaps the roof mainly, the car park and fence also seem good. It would not be the right move to try and change the royal charter, as this would send out a very bad message. The sensible and most reasonable answer is to keep the current market.

Louth has a market town and the cattle market has been there for many years with its royal charter. It must stay where it is and be refurbished.

As far as I am aware, Louth Cattle Market is the last live animal market in Lincolnshire. Please don't allow a multi-national business to ruin a Lincolnshire market town.

Keep some heritage please

As Louth's high street is rapidly going downhill it is ludicrous in my opinion not only as a resident but as a business owner to develop yet another retail site. This would more than likely take jobs away from the town centre therefore not increasing job opportunities. Many independent businesses in the main shopping street are closing earlier and earlier

due to reduced footfall. The current and my opinion best cattle market site perhaps could be utilised by groups if the internal buildings

are improved i.e. rehearsal rooms for the many art groups that the town is fortunate to have

As the last livestock market in Lincolnshire, it's a no brainer that the market has to be saved! Lincolnshire is one of the largest agricultural counties, and we're so lucky to have this in Louth. Once it's gone, it's gone! Anything that brings people in to the town is an asset. The market is well used, why not build on its success and expand facilities? The next livestock market is miles away...farmers have it tough enough these days, don't make it even harder for them please!

It is too important to local farmers and the wider economy, not to mention tourism, to get rid of this asset to the community. Maybe the tourism aspect could be better exploited to generate more income for the market? As the last remaining market in the county it must be saved.

Surely the only sensible option!?

Leave it as it is. It is a market town after all.

Saw the information about Halifax Piece Hall on TV yesterday. They have turned it into a centre for all the community to benefit from. I would favour this sort of approach to using and developing the existing site over time and adding extra uses to the facility - a farmers market perhaps, or farm shop, etc.

This is the most biased survey ever! Option 1 - Obviously gives the option to overspend, again, with no benefit to the community. Option 2 - One assumes the Council has £415m to spend - yet constantly says not! Option 3 - Spend spend spend with no benefit to anyone. Seems the Council is simply saying 'Do Nothing!' Disgraceful!

Louth needs to keep its Cattle Market - it is part of Louth's identity which is all the richer for it.

The ADV Partnership does not have the best interests of Louth at heart. They will make a huge profit and walk away.

The Cattle Market is a hugely valuable asset to the town of Louth, Lincolnshire, and the surrounding area. It must not be sold off and the proceeds frittered away. In the very worst scenario if East Lindsey is hell bent on selling it the money must be spent improving Louth and not on vanity projects at the coast.

Who is ADV Partnership? - I can't find anything about them. In Option 2 we are left with the normal - investment in Skegness and Mablethorpe. What about Louth? Is any money ever spent here? This is Louth's Livestock Market and not Skegness or Mablethorpe!

No more supermarkets needed in Louth. I visit most weeks because of family businesses. The site is central for farmers, visitors to conduct business at banks/shops whilst in town. I have spoken to farmers who visit the market; the comments mentioned mending the leaky roof is all that is needed. Other farming businesses could be encouraged to rent and use part of the site. Market in Cumbric at junction M6 and

main road to South Lakes seems to be a thriving site. Less of car parking is a serious issue and would affect the whole of Louth town centre.

I believe that is important to retain a livestock market, partly in order to maintain a historic customer, but mainly to retain a service for the farming community. Lincolnshire is a rural county and rearing cattle is an important part of that. Does it really have to cost £4 - 5 Million to build a new livestock market? It doesn't have to be in the city centre, there is already good access to the industrial estate and extension of that is already suggested in option 2. The animals are on site for a very short time and adequate facilities need not be elaborate to comply with their basic needs.

It works well as it is so leave alone

It is the only option; the market should be carried on.

Louth is a Market town and should remain as so, and it would be a great loss to lose the cattle market.

We need to keep this historic cattle market! We don't need another supermarket; the old cattle market is worth far more than any shiny new retail outlet. Spend money wisely by revamping rather than destruction of our town heritage!!!!

The cattle market is integral to the life of Louth and the farmers in the area. At a time when consumers are thinking about food miles and traceability of food, it makes no sense at all to withdraw a cattle market from the town. Sale of the site could very well backfire on the economy of the town.

I appreciate the site is not generating much income but if refurbished then this may increase. Also I disagree with the proceeds of any money generated from the sale/closure of the site (option 2) being spent outside Louth. This a site integral to the society and history of Louth - the proceeds of the sale (if any) should be to the benefit of the town.

Weak and wobbly leadership to do anything other than option 2 if your Council is serious about delivering economic growth and attracting new jobs and investment to this district

The market is an important and historic part of the Louth area.

Livestock farming in Lincolnshire is a vital part of our economy and lifestyle and should be supported by the Council not deprived of a market.

Quite simply a wonderful asset that adds character to our town and should be retained and cherished

It needs restoring/renovating but it also needs more use to be made of the grounds through the rest of the week. There is a massive income which could be generated but the Council just don't seem to want to make the effort. It could be used for auctions, large markets, and displays. It just needs someone with a bit of vision instead of the seemingly perpetual negativity we are faced with now.

It's supposed to be an animal market. Do it up and use not only for what it is intended but also as a tourist attraction, an educational facility for school children etc. Free car

parking or get rid of the traffic wardens would help too. As locals, half our staff don't shop in Louth because of parking and traffic wardens.

I would favour a variation on option 3. Re-tender part of the site for non-food retail, with the option that the developer pays for a refurbished cattle market on the Newmarket site. I understand there was a similar offer in the 2014 tenders which Lincolnshire County Council favoured. This offer was presented to Louth Town Council at the time.

A new market site could run in a similar way to Melton Mowbray having many types of events and sales as well as livestock. Louth should have a market and it should be left to an auctioneer who will move it forwards to provide a thriving venue for many walks of local life. My opinion is based on being a farmer's daughter, a horse woman, a business owner and a charity committee member all within Louth.

Remember that the car park for the cattle market is used to capacity every morning and afternoon as the main drop off point for children attending Kidgate Primary Academy. Where will these cars park if option 1 or 2 is chosen?

A livestock market really isn't necessary in the 21st century. Pursuing a change in law to remove a centuries old stipulation seems the intelligent way forward.

Supporting local businesses is key. Building a new retail park may damage the local trade for small independent shops and put jobs at risk for people who have worked within Louth for many years. People who have mortgages to pay. Children to look after and other personal commitments!

This is a market town, we do not need more retail, the retail we have are just about doing okay, anymore and it would kill the centre of town. We need to keep the cattle market as it is and market the town for what it is a beautiful Market Town. Well it could be as it look untidy at the minute

This market, the only livestock market in rural, northern Lincolnshire is vital to the stockmen of the area. The alternative markets at Newark or Melton Mowbray are a long way off and would add a huge financial burden on the farmers having to use one or other of these alternative markets. In a time of financial austerity in the farming world, this is just one more burden that livestock farmers would have to absorb which they might not be able to do so. This would have an extremely adverse effect on the rural areas of north Lincolnshire if there was no pasture or animals in the area. North Lincolnshire is already a largely arable area and to lessen the livestock proportion would greatly lower the attraction of the area to local people and the many tourists visiting it.

Cattle Market to stay as it is please.

Louth has always been a country town which is one of its main attractions and brings in Tourism. As a trader here for many years I feel, as has happened many times, a supermarket will result in killing this town centre, which will have a knock on effect in many ways i.e. loss of rates, car parking, and parking fines, etc.

It is a part of the character of a market town; I have a 28 year old and a 2 year old who have both spent hours there - learning about first animals and later a local economy and food chain.

Louth is the only cattle market in Lincolnshire.

Louth is a market town. It should have a cattle market in the town. The risk with option 2 is that it might not be successful. My view is keep it at the current site but consider mixed use - keep cattle/ livestock market & lease/ sell off part for further development e.g. commercial or housing but not a supermarket.

Option 2 is outrageous.

Leave it as it is.

As usual time and money has been squandered. ELDC stands for Expensive Lousy District Council.

None of the options are ideal. Moving the cattle market to the industrial estate and building houses on the current site would be best option but no retail park destroying our town which is already fighting to exist.

Would like to see option 3 with option 1 as a poor second. Absolutely against any plan to close it altogether.

I don't see the point in moving the cattle market. It is a huge waste of money. Improve it if you must. But we don't need any retail units or extra shops - we have enough already in this town.

Who will read this and how will these views be represented? As an exercise in public consultation I think this is a poor effort. There is no detail as to the proposed development mentioned in option 1. There is no detail as to the effects of closure upon the local economy, in particular the farming communities. I do not believe that total refurbishment of the current site is necessary and that it would cost anywhere near £700k. Surely ELDC should be promoting the cattle market and looking at making it a more viable asset? If the current site needs such an injection of cash it can only be that it has been allowed to deteriorate? There are plenty of 'brownfield' sites that the Council could develop - Eve Street? The Council has so far used ratepayer's money to poor effect with regard to consultant fees, etc. How much? - I dread to think.

Spend £200k and dump it. Then we make £480k to spend on more important services.

It is important to retain the character of the town of Louth. Historic towns require upkeep.

We must keep the charter and the cattle market.

I believe the livestock market provides a valuable asset to Louth and the local community. As it is the last such market it is even more important that it is retained. I understand the Council will be able to make a profit by selling the site but the value that the livestock market gives to Louth long term is greater than the one time profit. The Council should consider and investigate ways of promoting the livestock market for Louth and its visitors. As a unique example of a long standing market it would have very great interest to visitors of all ages. My family has lived in and owned property in Louth for over 80 years

You have not mentioned the 'Boars Head' which could again become a Public House and sold as a Free House attracting a quite substantial sum to offset your expected expenses

You could move the sheep section into the existing building and redevelop the sheep market for residential use which would leave plenty of cash to refurbish the existing building and have a cash surplus left over. You are not considering the local businesses that use the site that are already struggling to make a living providing cheap food for local people.

I do not like the thought of using the site for any supermarket, as I feel the existing local food stores could be forced out of the market and spoil the existing town centre.

No supermarket. There is room for a Cattle Market on the same site and development, but must have car park.

I believe that the cattle market is what makes our town special, it is also very important for the farmers; it is also an important part of our history

Build a 'state of the art' livestock market to encourage and make it worthwhile for all (Newark/sth. Yorkshire etc.) to travel to Louth. Turn the tables on the whole situation.

Put your thinking caps on and make something of the market? Perhaps if the Council had spent money, keeping it in good repair the problem would not be there. All the Council can see is nothing but money at the end of the day.

Try and keep the money in Louth because last time the Council made a big mistake selling the old swimming pool site what was left for the people of Louth forever. We need some money to improve the town and make it nice to live here.

Lincolnshire is an agriculture and farming area. We need to keep a cattle market in Louth for the farmers to sell their animals and to meet up. Why get rid of something that has been part of our history for 400 years. We are a market town. Why not try and use the site for other ideas. In Penrith they use the cattle market as a large car boot - market. If it closes farmers will have to travel to Newark which will cost them money and take too long to get there.

Deliberately too vague and biased

As stated, the site is over 5 acres. Surely this could accommodate a market of a size to reflect the reduced sales income with the remaining acreage sold to retailers.

If you carefully peruse your proposed options you will discover that the cheapest option, in the long term, is most likely to be Option 3 as it has the fewest unknown variables. On the other hand, if you fail to spot the inbuilt (and I would postulate, self-evident) contradictions in your wording; then you have no real business taking decisions affecting the lives of others and you should resign forthwith.

By far the most sensible option involving less disruption to the town and to the farmers and their animals!

As a resident of Linden Walk, but also as someone who works in the farming sector, I think I've got a reasonably broad understanding of the issues here. Option 1 is now nonsense, 2 is a ridiculous face-saving gamble, and 3 is what you should have done from the start. Stop faffing about.

Please don't let the privileged pensioners of Louth hold this town back. My family needs more local job opportunities and a bigger/better choice of local shops

The only one left in Lincolnshire, please save our cattle market, its history in our town.

Why not leave as it is. I like the free parking etc.

I feel that the money gained from this option should benefit Louth and its immediate locality specifically and not the wider area

As Ward Member for Sibsey and Stickney, I cannot justify spending £700,000, let alone £4million on a facility which produces so little benefit to East Lindsey, to the wider community, to the residents of the Ward I represent. Louth Livestock Market has essentially failed as a viable concept. It is only surviving at present because of the extraordinarily favourable terms on which the current operators have the site. In any earlier age, the market would have been built, maintained, and run on a purely commercial basis: to benefit those putting up the capital, who would very likely be the same people as likely to benefit from the running of the facility. No one would have had the cheek to ask the public purse for an enormous subsidy for no evident return. As a District Council, we have a duty to husband public money responsibly. That money belongs to taxpayers across East Lindsey equally.

It will be sad to see it close, but the costs speak for themselves.

I don't want that much of my council tax spent on a farmers market in Louth.

£700,000 to get £3000 per year. Don't be daft.

Can ELDC not spend £4,000,000 improving Skegness instead? At least people come here to spend money.

My response is not option 3, but you do not have an option 5 - any other ideas; I think ELDC should consider selling or giving the site to Louth Town Council and if they want to run a market they can do, if not then the future is entirely in their hands. It gets the problem off ELDC - Thanks for reading.

Why hasn't this been closed down years ago? £3000 per year is a joke. It might be funny if I wasn't paying my Council Tax for this...

How can we spend £4million to build something worth £250,000? I thought the country was short of money? ELDC would be insane to consider this. £3000 income- knock it down and do something useful with the site.

Please repair the potholes in our roads instead of building a new market. £4m will pay for a lot of tarmac.

I like Louth town and visit regularly; I sometimes pop into the livestock market to watch the auction. I think we should keep it where it is as it seems to have worked for all these years. I don't think the site should become retail as it would alter the character of the town and probably be detrimental to other local small businesses.

This is the least bad option available, refurbishment to this degree is not necessary. Some of the site could be developed and the rest refurbished for far less, with the end

result cost neutral, with the industrial site available to sell. This consultation is unbelievably biased toward the obvious; Council wishes to see the market closed.

Louth doesn't need any more supermarkets as most people now have shopping online.

Louth is a traditional market town and losing part of Louth's tradition would be a terrible shame

Too much congestion in the town as it is without another supermarket!

Louth needs its tradition! Farmers support our county.

No brainer.

Let's get rid of this failing business and dilapidated shed and take Louth forward into 2017.

Have you thought about asking what other things people might like £700,000 spending on? I don't want it spend on something that only brings in £3000 each year. But a choice over the other options would be good.

The Livestock Market brings people and pounds in to the town.

This is the vibrant part of the Louth experience. As a visitor it is a big attraction.

The Royal Charter has not been removed can ELDC - close the Cattle Market until it is removed.

Buses bringing tourists into town park on the Cattle Market. If the market closes have facilities for bus parking been thought about.

Refurbish site as at Melton Mowbray; demolish the Boars Head to make way for some conference facilities.

No alternative site has been built for the Livestock Market - Why is this?

The Livestock Market should not be allowed to be closed until the Royal Charter is lifted or a new site constructed.

ELDC should not be allowed to close a market which is viable. The auctioneers make a living from the market. No regard is being given to their livelihoods.

Concerns over animal welfare! Next nearest market is Newark. Roadworks, accidents, etc would put some stress on livestock, which is already 40 miles + from Louth

It is vital that Louth Livestock Market remains open. It is the only Livestock Market in Lincolnshire. If closed, the nearest Livestock Market could be Newark, Selby or York. This would be detrimental to local livestock farmers and for many this would be the last show. This could change the character of the local landscape and also the character of the unique market town of Louth; both of which are vital to our local tourist industry. Why spend hundreds of thousands of pounds on the Lincolnshire Coastal Grazing Marshes Project over the last 15 years if you then close the local livestock market which is vital to local livestock farming?

Many people park their vehicles on the site and walk into town. There are not enough car parks in Louth.

The Livestock Market attracts people to Louth, Louth needs Tourism. The parking is important; there are insufficient car parks in the Town.

Call an election and get people in who know business!

Enjoy going to the market

Get real business people on board to know what they are doing not those who think they know it all.

Selling the site would be the ruination of Louth which is a lovely small market town with small shops selling most items people require; that is the reason we visit this special area. If the site was sold for development as a supermarket a lot of the smaller shops would close due to the public shopping at the supermarket. Everything should be done to keep Louth "special" which includes keeping the cattle market where it is.

Louth's Cattle Market is the heartbeat of the local farming community. It is part of Louth's charm which has developed over many centuries to give it the character and uniqueness of a rural Lincolnshire town. Our duty is to respect that and to give credence to it rather than erase it.

Refurbish the current site with purpose built market building plus retail shopping on second storey to increase overall use. If properly designed the market would trade at ground level while shoppers use the upper floors away from the commercial vehicles. The current site is ideal for this type of trading.

I have heard the Louth Cattle Market is expensive for selling livestock, so keep the cost of selling down.

Another retail/ supermarket would further damage business in the town centre. - Local farmers and butchers need to retain the cattle market - they are vital to the local economy - The parking facility the site provides during the week reduces on street parking in the local area. - Building a new cattle market would not provide value for money.

I was born in Louth and have lived here all my life, my brother, Dad and Grandpa used the market every week; don't let them move or close it. The cattle market makes Louth a bit different to other small towns. I can remember when every town around this area had a stock market; Louth is the last one we must not lose it from present spot.

You haven't included the option of selling part of the area and funding refurbishment with proceeds or renting part of it out.

The livestock market is so important not just for Louth but the whole county and all the associated businesses which depend on farming. For young people livestock is the only access they have to farming. Retain market at present site, but with economic expenditure and develop the surplus road frontages for town houses.

Please ensure the new market remains in the Louth area. i.e. the existing Council land on the industrial estate.

Louth is a lovely market town; it must retain the cattle market

Keep market on present site. Best for everyone.

Part of Louth heritage

Should option 1 be chosen then the sale of the existing facility will offset a lot of the cost (my second choice).

As a resident of ELDC, I feel that losing the Livestock Market altogether at Louth would be wrong and that in my opinion the best option in the current climate would be Option 3; refurbishment, even though I have considered and fully understand the financial implications if this option was taken. I understand ELDC's view on this subject re: low revenue collected from traders currently using the Livestock Market and use of savings from other options for other major projects. However, Louth has and has had, for many many years, its Livestock Market by Royal Charter and part of the interest for visitors is the inclusion of a Livestock Market. It is part of Louth's tradition and goes towards making Louth the lovely, interesting and welcoming town that it is! I do not think that building a new Livestock Market is a good option due to the large amount of money that would need to be spent in doing so. As a Council Tax payer I am fully aware that whatever the outcome of this debate, I have no doubt that Council Tax rates will rise to accommodate the final decision!

The refurbishment costs are ridiculous and should be re-tendered to gain a more realistic costing. If the market isn't bringing in enough income it should be assessed and alterations made to incentives an increase. The current system gives the auctioneers no reason to increase trade.

Louth is the greatest market town in England so let's keep it that way

Keep as it is

As an academic researcher experienced in detecting bias in research, this questionnaire is not objective. Its language attempts to influence people towards particular votes and away from others. Not a balanced piece of research at all. I would not trust the findings after such a strong steer.

This is the only market left in Lincolnshire so surely the Council can save it. They had chance to sell it 5 years ago at a lot more money which would have paid for a new one but as usual they messed about and lost out. This is a low TB area, why bring in animals from Newark or Yorkshire which have a high TB rate. Keep the cattle market and find other uses for it after a refurbishment; surely they can do that!

Reasons for option 3: 1) I do not see a reduced amount of usage for the cattle market. The car park is packed on a Thursday with farmers coming from all over the county to use this facility. 2) It has been a tradition of towns to hold a cattle market; there are very few left! Spend the money to keep this where it is. It is also a tourism feature of the town 3) I'm sure there could be ideas of how to re-use the money to spend on this option. The car park is being used daily by the community of Louth and is also a facility.

The market is an integral part of what happens in Louth and provides a bigger picture of employment.

The Trustees of the Trust - the House of Lords ruled a 'Trust' has a life of 1,000 years; left in trust to the people of Louth, and as a beneficiary of that trust, can the trustees have any legal right to a sale? How do you break a trust, when legally you cannot if one beneficiary opposes it? A trust is beyond the group of a democratically elected Council. You (ELDC) are facing 'restitution' and 'compensation' of millions

Please keep the cattle market open and do not move it

The Livestock market in Louth is a unique and historic asset. My preference therefore is to preserve this and enhance it if at all possible. I believe that the market should however be rehoused and the existing site given over to the continued development of the town (be that commercial and/or residential use). I am not however rooted in nostalgia and understand the need for the town and district to evolve and develop. In order to support a sale I would like specific answers to the following points: 1) in your analysis you point to declining revenues from the market over the past few years. I would like to understand why this is. If this is due to a strategic shift in the farmer's business model meaning that the market is obsolete, then my view may be different. 2) While I appreciate that East Lindsey must manage the district, this asset is not a District asset, it is very much a Louth Town asset. I would want and expect to see the proceeds from the sale and development of the site to be used very specifically to enhance Louth and not to be used on projects that do not directly benefit the Town specifically.

I think that Louth should keep its cattle market as its part of the town history and tradition. If it goes then the trades will have to travel for miles. Louth will lose part of its history. It should promote the cattle market as there not many left in England.

The traditional cattle market is one of the main attractions of historic and picturesque Louth. If Louth is to remain the heart and soul of the Lincolnshire Wolds without peer, it must retain the historic site of the cattle market. The redevelopment/removal of the old cattle market on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, Cambs, destroyed part of its historic heritage, and has been part-responsible for dumbing down Cambridge into yet another centre of modern consumerism. Please do not follow the dreadful precedent of Cambridge. Option 3 is the way to go. There are even many ways in which the £700,000 cited can be recovered from the public through organising fun events on site on days when the cattle market is not running. Consult on such too please.

I believe it is necessary for the Council to maintain a Livestock Market within East Lindsey to ensure that local farmers have somewhere locally to take their animals. Without a market these farmers are likely to plough up their grass fields for growing cereals instead, reducing the bio-diversity of the area and thus affecting the health and enjoyment for all. Footpaths for walkers would be reduced affecting the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors alike and may eventually impact on attracting tourism to the Lincolnshire Wolds. I believe the threat of asking for an Act of Parliament to annul the historic charters is an attempt by this Council to absolve itself of its responsibilities and pass this on to others, to the detriment of all. The Council is elected to serve the interests of all the residents and should not be seeking abdication of its responsibilities in this very shabby way.

I believe the cattle market should stay open and be refurbished, Option 3. The cattle market has such a friendly and lovely atmosphere; it would be such a shame to not only

the town, but the county, if it were to go. I may only be young but being a part of young farmers has really made me want to have a, or work in a farming business. Without the cattle market, I wouldn't be able to learn from the older generation or be able to meet other individuals like myself. I believe that if the cattle market was to be refurbished, it would draw more attention to site. This could mean more use by our own farmers as well perhaps us, Louth Young Farmers getting involved as well. I hope you take the time to put yourself in the shoes of a farmer, and see that option 3 is all we need. Thank you for your time and patience reading this, I hope you make the right decision for us farmers.

Option 3 keeps all options open. It gives the opportunity to make better use of the site whilst maintaining the market. It allows for the livestock market to determine its own future i.e. if demand increases and a bigger market is needed option 1 is still an option; if demand decreases and a market is no longer required the site could then be developed; if the market is redesigned part of the site can be developed. There will also be other permutations.

What do you do when you have sold off everything? Run ELDC as a business. It does not matter what happens

Complete review of site. Market could be used for so much more. I suggest councillors go and look at Melton Mowbray market

I think the cattle market should stay on its present site. It is clear there has been no proper maintenance of recent years. If refurbishment costs are as shown in the document could refurbishment be staged? Could other uses be found for the site when the cattle market is not operating? Maybe other types of auction, events, seasonal attractions.

Please keep Louth as a traditional market town. It is a farming town and needs to remain as such. I came from a similar town whose Council chose to 'embrace the future' and allow retail centres and large supermarkets to move inward to the town. Ten years down the line and the town has 'died'. 80% of the high street is either empty or let to charity shops and the once efficient town has become a slum. Don't let the same happen to Louth. Keep its history alive

Vast numbers of new homes are being built very quickly in Louth - the infrastructure of Louth needs improving including various services to cope with the rise in population and traffic. Therefore if the cattle market does get sold the money should be used in Louth not in other areas.

Your figures for market use and commissions (rent) are completely wrong and do not reflect current use; land was given to the people of Louth for a new market. If not used as a market should it be given back to family descendants? £200,000 for an Act of Parliament; it is not forced to go through; it might set a precedent for other towns.

Get rid of worthless festival each year

Why not sell part off i.e. the area of the open air stalls and part of the parking area to developers to raise capital for the upgrading of the existing market building?

It is important we have a cattle market in Lincolnshire. I have friends near Skegness who use the market weekly and without it they would be bankrupt. It is needed. We should support our butchers and the Council should support them. Come on Council do the right thing and help them, it is not just about money.

I think the Council has a responsibility to support the local farmers by keeping the cattle market maintained. I also think the car parking area needs to be kept - there is not enough parking in the town. The cattle market is the wrong place for a new retail venture as too much traffic would be created. A better place for more retail would be Fairfield Industrial Estate.

We certainly don't require another supermarket in Louth. I'm sure if the site was refurbished this is the better option. We are retired now but when we used this facility it was always busy. Lincolnshire livestock farmers need this market.

I choose Option 3, because: - you may not get a private Act of Parliament and you would therefore have wasted £200k, also, why throw away 400 years of history, Option 1 seems ridiculous why waste £5million when you already have a venue. Option 3 seems most acceptable. All the signs around the district saying "save the market", must mean that someone has a use for it in your district. Refurbish the site and try to find more uses for it when it's not a market

There appears to have been much incompetence in the Councils approach to this dilemma. Option 1 should not cost anywhere near £4-5 million and fails to confirm the full level of rent received. Option 2 fails to explain that we are in a predominately agricultural area and the Council should be supporting a cattle market. Option 3 fails to explain that there is much potential for the site to have a dual use with market becoming more concentrated and then the remaining site being developed for alternative uses. Because of the misinterpretations I would suggest option 2 is open to challenge. I have chosen option 3 because once chosen the Council will then realise there are other ways to extract economic value from the site without closing the market.

The current site is not up to scratch and the cost of refurbishing it will never be recouped where as if it was relocated and the new investors put in money towards this new development prime land within the town borders could be used for a variety of different facilities that would be more beneficial to the town. At the moment the site is wasted the majority of the time as it is only used in selling days and could do the same business wherever it is situated. It is generally residents who have moved here from out of the area who seem to reject this idea as they feel holding Louth back and in the dark ages will somehow keep it special. We have a growing population and very few amenities to cope with it. It would cost more on a decent transport infrastructure and improving sites outside of town to attract the businesses we need to be able to provide the employment opportunities and economic growth the town need then it would to use the prime site near the centre of our town. Also out of town retail developments would further damage the fragile retail environment which is our high street. Option 1 is the only sensible option that saves the cattle market for the few who want it and keeping this town thriving and able to provide jobs for its growing population. Jobs are very much in short supply with 40+ applying for each individual position. Leaving things as they are by refurbishing a little used building for a very small minority in our community would be foolhardy and a crime against our community.

Speaking as the son of a local livestock farmer and from a wide family of livestock farmers - Whilst there is a strong cultural and heritage tie between Louth residents and a Livestock market, I do not believe that this sentiment is a valid enough reason to continue to subsidise and invest in a declining asset, that has declining viability and that is situated on prime Town Centre real estate. The land in question could easily be put to much better uses, creating more direct employment for local people, create higher business rates revenue, than the current market and attracting and/or retaining visitors and shoppers. Local livestock farmers already sell livestock directly to traders and when requiring a market most appear happy to travel to Newark for wider selection and better sale prices. Quite simply from a cold economic standpoint there is only 1 sensible option and that is 'option 2'. I hope District Councillors' possess the courage of conviction to select the option that will release East Lindsey rate payers from this wasteful use of Tax payers money

Without having any idea of the 'confidential' sale value to ADV it is difficult to make a fully-informed choice between options 1 and 3. However, both of these would be hugely preferable to option 2. Your preamble states that the existing cattle market is experiencing a downward trend, but it is still very much a going concern in financial terms and the overwhelming view from market users at the public consultation event is that it is a very necessary service-provider for local (and not-so-local) agricultural business. The view was also expressed that the current cattle market has not been properly invested in over the past few years, which would not be surprising on the basis that ELDC has been hoping to sell the site. Dynamic investment and development could transform the site, bringing benefit not only to agricultural users but also a range of other retail activities along the lines you suggest. Usefully, Keep Louth Special has provided ELDC with a detailed proposal created by a professional consultant which you may want to review. The current economic (not to say environmental) climate is in flux. The effects of Brexit aren't even agreed on by Government ministers and no one knows what the fall-out will be over the next five-to-ten years. Surely retaining and developing Lincolnshire's only cattle market makes sense. Farming is one of the few significant industries in the area and it needs every help to survive the withdrawal of the UK from current funding arrangements with the EU. Clearly, ELDC has huge challenges on hand in terms of managing the difficult budget cuts dealt by Central Government and the need to achieve other economic goals. However, the decimation of the cattle market would surely be case of 'cutting your nose off to spite your face' with ramifications that might only make themselves felt once the service was irrevocably lost. I don't believe that the original review of the cattle market /retail opportunity concept was honestly objective, because the potential income was so attractive. The climate has changed, both in terms of the current offer and the UK's decision to leave the EU. Therefore I hope that our elected District Councillors will feel able to make the decision not only to retain the historic and still-functioning Louth Cattle Market, but bravely invest in it to create a 'must-use' facility which makes Louth the preferred destination for agricultural users from across Lincolnshire and beyond.

Option 1 is too expensive. As for Option 2, well, when Councils say 'invest', what they really mean is 'spend', so that's too expensive as well. Also, there is no detailed costing at all in Option 2. It seems to consist mostly of abstract nouns. It feels as if we're being asked to issue a blank cheque with this option - which clearly is not acceptable. There are costs associated with Option 3, but they seem reasonable.

Your costings for Option 1 appear to be a totally ridiculous over estimate, although I appreciate that in practice ELDC has great difficulty in organising anything at all in a coherent manner, so perhaps your figures factor in your own incompetence? If ELDC is not prepared to invest money in this scheme then one has to question why it has spent vast quantities of money in the recent past on other non-commercially viable schemes such as the Meridian Leisure Centre, Louth Cricket Club facilities, etc...

The loss of the cattle market would incur- - Loss of footfall to shops in town - farmers and their families shop regularly in town - Loss of free parking would mean the narrow town roads would be even more clogged up than they are now - Putting retail units up there is waste of time. Already several vacant shops including in Mercer Row and Eastgate (are you charging too much Council Tax?) if you think folk will park there and walk into town then you're living in cloud cuckoo land and out of touch with ordinary people. You should be proud and encouraging of Louth's heritage.

ELDC must begin to reduce staff overheads and pensions in preference to constant cuts to services. Louth cattle market is a vital local resource and part of the character and economy of this rural market town. Further commercial and residential development is not warranted or supported by the majority of residents.

Help the farming industry for a change; remember tourists need feeding whilst in the area. I visit the market regularly with grandchildren for educational purposes and then spend money in Louth and the area whilst staying near Skegness.

Look for private investors who would gain from Tourism, if you must "improve Skegness" but don't spoil it like existing on-going developments are doing.

Use common sense, don't just think of £'s for Skegness and area, visitors require feeding and appreciate "local meats".

Although this survey seems based on costs to the Council, I do believe the livestock facility is best on its present site. I don't think Louth needs a supermarket or a new cattle market site. It should not be all about money - after all Lincolnshire is an agricultural/farming county - be proud of it!!!

You clearly have presented this in a bias way with undiluted preference to selling the cattle market to developers. Profit on the part of the County Council and of course on the part of the developers seems to be the main priority. Had this questionnaire been less biasedly worded I might have chosen another option but obviously you are reluctantly seeking residents' opinion.

The Council has wasted money on this project. It would appear that the farmer is not considered in any of your determination to sell the market. The Charter should be kept. It would appear the Council is prepared to sell Louth so as to enhance other areas in the district. If the Council had maintained the site over the years, we would not have all these upgrades to the site. Councils have a way of taking property away and wasting the money. Any costs that this Council has provided should be taken with a pinch of salt. The market belongs to Louth and should not be sold.

I know any development such as a supermarket would have a devastating effect on the town through experience. All the butchers, all other independent shops would close, and any profits lost as they are at the moment, ploughed back into the community. The best

option is that the site should be used as a housing site. Do not believe any reports that say the town will be unaffected by a supermarket.

I have to say that the wording of the above text seems very bias, and although I am in favour of keeping the cattle market, the above text has not changed my mind, it makes for uncomfortable reading and I can see how some people will be swayed by this totally biased argument for selling the land. Selling Louth's land off to then invest the monies in other areas of East Lindsey seems inappropriate too. I think the Council's whole handling of the sale leaves me in no doubt what outcome they want.

As indicated in my survey document, my choice for the cattle market site would be for existing site to be refurbished and remain a cattle market. If the site was to be a large supermarket (ASDA etc.) the shops in the town would be devastated and the town would lose its individuality which is a huge attraction for visitors. Unused shops are an eyesore and generate no income for ELDC. A recent comment by a named Councillor confirms a suspicion I hold, that any money reused from the sale of the market would be spent across the District. If the sale was to go ahead, any money raised should be placed in an account and used to reduce the fates on shops in Louth only!

As East Lindsey District Council has a long standing reputation of spending £1000's when £100's will do. Would it not be a good idea to get the people who work and use the market, and find out what's needed to bring the market up to a usable standard. This will no doubt be far less than the £700,000. The Council has stated the £7000,000 which is vastly overpriced hoping people will choose option 1 and waste £4/£5 million of our money on a giant white elephant

I think Louth should keep its Royal Charter for a livestock market. It is part of the raison d'etre for Louth. It is good for prevention of disease TB etc., and saves time for farmers and stress for animals. A new market on the industrial estate is too expensive. Improving facilities and repair is a better idea. I am not convinced partnership is a good idea. The existing arrangement provides valuable free parking essential for local school and shops. More retail space not needed in this location.

We are in our late 80s and find it difficult to get to doctors. There is also not much seating anywhere in town - please keep the cattle market

The Council has wasted rate payers money. The questionnaire is biased, with some dubious claims made. The argument regarding the cattle market as it is not a brownfield site. I have no confidence in the impartiality of the Council.

The cattle market is important to support our local farmers who contribute to the local economy directly and indirectly by maintaining the rural landscape, which attracts visitors to the area. It should be retained. It is an essential part of Louth's heritage and character, as is the historic charter. I doubt very much if East Lindsey's preferred bidder could attract retailers to their site in the current economic climate, bearing in mind also the increase in internet shopping. I expect it would end up as yet more houses and traffic congestion. It is vital the car park is retained to avoid yet more street parking on narrow roads. Surely the Council can find users for the site on no-market days and improve income.

Dreading this, it sounds as if all the Council are concerned about is making money! Farmers on or near the coast would have many miles to travel if the market closed. To redevelop the site would take footfall away from the town centre.

Option 2 is no option. Louth is an historic town that over the years has lost much of its heritage to development. Paying taxpayer's money to rid the town of its century's old charter will alienate an already unpopular Council even further. Louth needs a livestock market if for no other reason than the welfare of the animals. Refurbish the existing, possibly selling of spare land (Boar's Head, etc.) for development to recoup some of the cost.

No sale, use the site as an 'all in one' medical centre, with parking. If the hospital does close this would be needed. Sell James St, Newmarket and Kidgate land to fund a cattle market on the industrial estate. To fund the new 'all in one' medical centre should come from the Council as the service from the three centres at the moment will have closed.

Louth is special. We have a good balance of retail and industrial businesses. We don't want any more large multi-national companies moving in. We need to keep our agricultural heritage and we need cattle markets to do this. Surely there's room for both plus parking.

The present market is too large in all sections and some thought could be given to move the sheep in and near the cattle keeping all land for building. I have sold stock at Louth for over 60 years and would greatly miss it.

Keep the Lincolnshire farmers in business. Give this rural county what it deserves some support!! Who will pay the fuel costs of farmers travelling to sell their livestock?

Do what the people of and around Louth want; to save the market. Do not do what the ill-informed Councillors want.

Only complete necessary maintenance on market site. This is the last commercial market town in Lincolnshire; we should support the local shop owners, no more supermarkets

Why build a new livestock market when we already have one - the last viable livestock market in Lincolnshire. No more supermarkets, we must support local shops. The money spent in our shops is kept locally. Money spent in supermarkets is coming away from one area.

Removal/restoration/modification of charter is a foolish road to go down, with many longer term penalties than appear to have been considered. Louth is a small market town, dependent on agriculture. Agriculture will continue to be a major dependency for so long as local Councils refuse to admit the 21st century is here. In short, a livestock market is a valuable requirement for the whole district.

East Lindsey should have sold this in 2014 when money was much easy than now. Money wasted.

I would like to retain the character of the town by retaining the cattle market in its existing position! Retaining the existing parking facility for cars (so as not to clog up all local streets) do sell some of the periphery land for other use. The Council should preserve this last market in Lincolnshire for the stock farmers of the county.

You cannot have a rural farming community such as the Lincolnshire Wolds and no livestock market in its capital. The market serves the local farmers well. Yes, it is in need of repair and refurbishment. The alternative to build a new one on Fairfield, better vehicle access, relieve congestion, would be fantastic as they have done in several areas of the lakes. Do what you usually do - put it out to private enterprise - wash your hands - sit back and wait.

Option 3 gives positive support to maintaining the current retail profile of local smaller shops, fewer international chains franchises; most importantly excluding mega store development with their inherent capacity to rape every town they develop in. Louth is unique! It should not be sold off on the whim of Central Government policy. They don't know we exist outside globally owned London. Louth thrives on local money circulated locally. Protect us!

ELDC will kill the town centre if it sells the cattle market. There will be no footfall into town. There would be nowhere to park with the cattle market gone and very few will be able to or want to walk down into town, and then have to get back up the hill Who are ADV - Let's have it out in the open. Who? How much? What replaces the cattle market? There are no actual promises from ELDC where money would be spent - just what needs funding. I find option 1 and 2 contradicts each other if read very carefully. Please ELDC for once do right by Louth and farmers and not 'the district' keep the cattle market, do it up and make Louth proud.

Cattle market is part of Louth's heritage and needs promoting as the asset it is. The local farming community is drawn to Louth for its needs, shopping and use of facilities. Visitors come for the local butchers for local meat.

Be proud of Louth and definitely keep a live market, which brings together the various farming businesses and their interests and needs. This makes it a much more interesting place to locals and visitors alike. "The best little town around here for miles". Farming and tourism are the largest earners in Lincolnshire. Generations have used this market why not anymore? It would seem to be more economical to upgrade the present market and have new development elsewhere, preferably on Council owned land. Try to have both if at all possible. Most important in these changes is the overall welfare of the local live animals and keeping their stress levels down. Travelling distances kept as short as possible and all their needs catered for, promptly and adequately. Keep and boast about your tradition and Royal Charter and make people aware of this. Emblazon this on signposts to the town. Don't lose it (many others have never had it). Have in the nearby area reasonably priced food facilities, snacks and hot meals would be very welcome bringing in the revenue whilst the public stay on longer in the town.

Any changes in parking provision immediately creates even greater pressure on local streets. If the parking at the cattle market site is lost because it is owned by a supermarket we can expect an invasion of displace parkers. Casual parking, anywhere and everywhere is already a major problem which blocks entry and access on a regular basis. Any financial benefit will go to the coastal towns we will be left with the problems.

Louth needs preserving, not breaking up at the whim of equity firms.

I have always thought that the town of Louth, its neighbouring towns and villages and the farms in the area are a single community. The cattle market is vital in retaining our identity as that single community. The cattle market is economically vital - directly and

indirectly - and is a key marker of our identity as a single rural community with Louth as one of its key centres. Without the cattle market, we would become just another ordinary town. The suggestion that we go to Parliament to remove the market obligation is outrageous. You, as a Council, would never be forgiven. Moving the market to the industrial estate would be as bad as doing away with the market altogether. It would leave the town and its surrounding countryside separated for good. An awful choice! Whether it happens to be managed by ELDC or not, the market belongs to the town not the individuals who happen to be Councillors today.

It seems a shame to lose a Livestock Market in a market town. So I think if it is restored it would be used more and the pub and Louth Auction could develop as well.

Keep the Cattle Market as it is for as long as it is needed. In 30-40 year's time ELDC may well be very glad it held on to this land. Site businesses on the Industrial Estate that is what it is for! Attract retail business to the town centre which is where it is needed. A town which builds retail parks on the outskirts dies! If ELDC is foolish enough to go ahead with the sale of the cattle market then the people of Louth have every right to expect that the revenue raised is spent on Louth; not Skegness, Mablethorpe or anywhere else.

Louth Cattle Market is part of Louth's historic' history. Just restore what we have. What is wrong with people who just see the £'s. Keep Louth lovely for future generations. Don't spend taxpayer's money on a new one which will not be used for long. Keep the old one going as long as possible?

If ELDC Councillors have little or no interest in Louth decide on options 1 or 2 then the vacant site should in no circumstances be used for yet another supermarket.

Why has the Council evaded this for so long? The value of this site is for the benefit of the whole town and many opportunities have been lost to utilise the funds from a sale of this land. Could some funds be set aside to develop a market say at Alford or another place nearer where cattle are reared so as to minimise travel distress and enhance some other place with ELDC? The economic reality is that change has to develop to market needs - it is unfair for the town to subsidise a minority to such a large degree.

The Livestock Market is a vital part of Louth's heritage. It serves a huge farming community and brings not only the farmers but also their families into Louth which in turn boosts the local economy. It is scandalous to even contemplate spending up to £200,000 to reverse a Royal Charter. Option2 is not an option!!

A market town with a cattle market is a rare commodity and should be preserved to protect our culture, history and keep making Louth special. We don't need any more supermarket developments particularly economy/ discount outlets. Option 3! And the cost probably reflects previous lack of car and maintenance.

As well as keeping the market in the current location, I think we need to promote the market as a visitor attraction, promoting farming, guests of the holiday cottage where I work often ask if they can visit the market, and visiting children are keen to learn about farming. Perhaps have an education centre, café and retail units connected with farming e.g. countryside shop or Love Lincolnshire Wolds/Visit East Lincolnshire representation there and tourist information? We are pushing to promote the area! Market the Market!

Please do not cause the last cattle market in Lincolnshire to be closed. It was granted by charter. You must not let it go.

Before creating more retail units get unoccupied shops in Louth centre back into use, even by a discount on the first month/year business rates.

The Cattle Market needs to be kept open to serve the local community and also for farmers in villages and surrounding Louth area. It also provides a good facility for parking when the market is not in use as the streets in Louth, in there day, were meant for horse drawn vehicles. There are lots and lots of reasons the market should be kept open I could write a book!

I have lived here all my life and am pleased that the Council has offered this consultation and that it will keep the Livestock Market in some form. Since its need is in doubt, it seem to me that option 3 is the most sensible; both in terms of cost and also keeping ownership with the community and therefore ensuring it will continue in its current site for the foreseeable future.

We must honour the Royal Charter and leave the Cattle Market where it is, and in Louth.

I believe Option 3 is the right decision for East Lindsey and Louth in particular. The Option proposed (at a much lower cost than stated) would retain Louth's heritage and enable part redevelopment (including the Boars Head - hopefully to be restored!).

The town must move with the times. We need to attract shoppers and a quality supermarket outlet could do that - many people use large supermarkets in Grimsby and Lincoln when they could shop here. The site is currently at risk of travellers using!

We do not need any more supermarkets in Louth with the ones we at present have and the excellent locally owned other shops we have are more than adequate choices. Another supermarket would alter the lovely town altogether. People come to Louth because it is different. Please don't make it the same as everywhere else.

This is historically a farming area, provision must be made for a livestock market, the best financial option for that is to keep and maintain the current facility.

Unfair to spend Louth's money on Skegness or Mablethorpe. No private equity company needed to cut and run!

Farmers need the market for social contact and business. The money for Louth should be spent in Louth.

The focus in this document is very much on direct revenue from the Livestock Market; however, the Council also need to consider wider revenue for the town as a result of the market. Louth has a large number of businesses e.g. butchers that rely on the Livestock Market for business and Louth in general gets a large number of visitors due to its historic markets - losing the market would impact on many businesses and therefore revenue for the Council. However, as revenues from the Livestock Market are low Option1 would be disproportionately expensive.

From economic and cultural points of view, I believe it is essential that the District Council continues to provide a livestock market in Louth to serve the local farming community. Having a local market facility enables farmers to take animals a relatively

short distance to and from market, to the benefit of their welfare. It also makes it economically viable for smaller livestock producers to sell their animals in small numbers. Reduced travelling, when compared with the option of taking animals to markets outside the county is environmentally more sustainable and minimises the impact of traffic. The market is also a vital place for social interaction between farmers who take their animals to market and, at the same time, meet with friends and neighbours. They might otherwise have to consign their animals to hauliers and stay on their farms in social isolation. It should also be recognised that the provision of a livestock market is required by the Royal Charter dating from 1551, which is a vital part of the area's heritage. This should not be ignored for the sake of short-term gain. Having considered the options set out, I believe Option 3 would represent the best balance between maintaining the market and generating development in Louth. It would also allow the development for other purposes of the land that would otherwise have to be used for a market if Option 1 was adopted.

This market is a valued part of East Lindsey as a whole. It is used by many livestock traders, who will have to travel out of the county to access the nearest market if this closed. Its location means that spouses/family members are able to easily walk into Louth to access the facilities there while the livestock trading is taking place. When the market is not in use for livestock the site provides a valuable much needed parking facility close to the town. To move it to another location, presumably on the industrial estate will mean the facilities in town will be not used, and will lose out. To consider revoking the ancient charter is a backward step and not progressive.

Is there a way to combine options 1 and 3: reduce the size of the cattle market on site and develop the rest whatever way considering the size? Combining might make the site more attractive for visitors

Firstly, the market town nature of Louth is strongly underpinned by the number of independent retail outlets available in the heart of the town. This wonderful environment needs to be protected. The arrival of a new retail centre in place of the livestock market would bring additional commercial pressures to bear on the small independent retailers who are already struggling to survive. New jobs here may only be a substitute for jobs lost elsewhere. Secondly, the historical nature of the livestock market and its uniqueness in Lincolnshire is reason enough by itself to justify the necessary investment in protecting the fabric of the site. Thirdly, if the facility is currently underutilised then secondary uses for the site should be identified and marketed. Some investment in consultancy services may be necessary to assist in the identification of ideas. Across the country Councils and the private sector are identifying myriad innovative solutions to protect failing and under-utilised old commercial and industrial premises. This should be the priority for our Council and any investment in the fabric of the site, necessary to facilitate such a move, could be recovered or at least partially offset by rental and other revenue generated. Please note I have no interest in any retail or consultancy business. I respond purely as a concerned resident of ELDC.

Retain this valuable site for the existing Cattle Markets and stop trying to force the issue of brain washing us into having something not required!

We have chosen option 3 as it is the only Cattle Market in Lincolnshire and it will be a future asset to Louth's history and because of the financial cost of changing an act of

parliament and building a new Cattle Market. We also do not want another superstore on the out skirts of the town centre as we wish to save the small shops in the town centre

Louth has enough retail space already and enough housing, especially taking into consideration the multitude of plans already passed but not yet built. The town can't support anymore

Refurbishment of the present building could include reducing the amount of ground taken up by holding pens (hardly even filled 15 capacity) and using the ground released to provide more parking which is always needed. A stay charge (say £1) per day would still attract - car owners and cause revenue.

For the last 20 years I have worked in retail within the town centre. Market (Cattle) days have always been a good trading day, of which I'm sure is due to the people this particular market brings into the town. Trade, as you know hasn't been great in recent years and I think the loss of this market will have a huge impact on the town. Plus, it's assets like this that makes out town different and special.

The Council should listen to the people who voted them in and agree with their decision. There has been several decisions made by the Council recently that has been totally against the views of the local residents. The Council were voted in and next time they can easily be voted out!

I came to Louth in 1975 and worked in Louth. I live on Quarry Road and have enjoyed the atmosphere the Cattle Market gives to the town. I can't say the same for the parking on Linden Walk.

We support Louth cattle market, the town needs the market.

It would be a shame to lose the last market in Lincolnshire. I feel it should be supported by the Council.

The farmers need the livestock market, the site needs to be developed in consultation with farmers and the local people to benefit all - not sold for profit to a supermarket.

This is a must to ensure the vitality of Louth and the community.

It is important to maintain and improve Louth's role as a service centre for the surrounding agricultural community - important role here for Local Authority. Losing this facility would have a negative impact on Louth's growing reputation as a food town and would fly in the face of all current trends re sustainability, reducing food miles, etc.

Before I was aware of the facts, I would have gone for option 3 but upon reading the endorsed statements, Option 1 has to be the most viable surely? Considering that back in 2013, the decision was made to market the site, a further 18 months wait until the new market is up and running is no time at all! The farming community and welfare of the animals has to be at the fore front of these decisions.

Retain the historic charter, refurbish existing facility. Improve animal welfare. The last market of this type in Lincolnshire (I believe) Support for farming community (work closely with).

Louth is special; your duty should be to enhance Louth's character. Greed should not be allowed to reign supreme!

A new cattle market at the industrial estate would be too expensive to build and maintain. Farmers who use the current site need some stability when may encourage further use and therefore increase profits. We should not try and avoid our legal duty as the Royal Charter dictates - or seek to amend it.

This market must be saved - it is the last one in Lincs and most necessary. It seems to me that the existing site was meant to be and to do it up will cost far less than your ambitious plan - costing far too much - and much more than is necessary. It seems to me that the proposals have been balanced to outweigh the common sense approach and as with many Councils, spend far too much unnecessary money to no better end.

The loss of money from sale of the present site is more than offset by the saving of the traditional market town of its shops. The cost of the refurbishment is also far cheaper than the cost of a new market. It will also leave a plot for sale giving an income. To sell off the present site would be a great mistake; one which could never get back.

I am a young person just starting my career in agriculture. I have a huge interest in the livestock area of our family business and have ambitions to continue and grow this side of the business in the coming years. If Louth Market were to close then this will have detrimental effect on the way my future plans can progress further my ambitions.

There has been a market there for centuries - why destroy more history and needed history, there are so few markets left - farmers need it and the country needs farmers and will do far more in the future - with rising populations. Hopefully one day soon they will value us and the work we do. After all, everyone has to eat.

Option 3 is the only one that will safeguard the future of the Livestock Market which is critical for the town and local community.

I feel the questions are very biased against Item 1. With any benefits to Louth overshadowed by the price of £4-5 million. This area needs the development of Item 1 which will improve the area down the road and keep valuable car parking spaces for the congested roads of Louth.

I think that the information you have provided to the public is inaccurate and misleading. The trust in your governance is questionable.

The stretch of road between Newmarket traffic lights and Julian Bower causes problems, as cars descending and ascending the hill often have to wait in lines to let traffic pass the cars parked outside the dwellings on the eastern side. This problem will intensify if houses are built on the site between the cemetery and the cattle market - as is planned! Any change of use of the cattle market especially a retail site will make this congestion worse if it continues to use the entrance road on Uppgate.

We have a car park raising how much money, an empty pub which used to be very popular, update it and generate income using the resources that are already there without wasting our money.

After leaving the EU I think an English Livestock Market will become more important.

We should keep the things that make Louth special such as the cattle market. Plus none of the things you suggested for spending money enhance Louth, my home town. Building up the infrastructure, i.e. roads, schools, hospitals are all needed and would provide jobs. We need to encourage good doctors, nurses and teachers to come here and commercialising the town is not going to do that.

Proposed retail park will only offer part time work and at same time put jobs at risk in the town centre.

This is the last Livestock Market in Lincolnshire. The site needs to stay where it is near to town. Louth is a market town. Let's keep it that way.

Sell or leave part of site to raise funds but retain cattle market and car parking. Market must continue to operate whilst future decided - remove notice to quit until definite decision made. Hard, if not impossible, to restart after closure and this is what seems to be behind ELDC giving notice (i.e. market fails) when it is doing well. Spend money; the market brings people into Louth who trade in the town.

Determined, continuous efforts made to incorporate additional activities on to the refurbished site in order to increase site usage....i.e. weekly comprehensive, perhaps multiple, auctions of useful, unwanted, household good.

We need to keep Louth as a character place - outside equity firms would not be interested in Louth at all.

Option 1 will decimate the retail core of the town centre.

The doughnut effect would kill off the unique shops in the high street - Cattle Market is unique to Louth - keep it!

Cannot understand cost of refurbishment to existing buildings will exceed cost of providing new buildings/facilities etc. - figures don't add up or make sense.

I would like to see the site developed into smaller shops to provide diverse and local shops run by and to serve the local community. Also to see a couple of higher quality named outlets such as M&S, Waitrose rather than Aldi, Asda, Tesco etc. The mid-range outlets are already in place in Louth.

The issue of football for our town centre will only improve when the current parking situation is altered. I like many others object to paying when only basic groceries are required so the option to stay longer and perhaps spend more in the town are limited due to half hour parking. The mix of shops now is also disappointing with a high proportion of charity and coffee shops. I do however use many of the butchers and bakers.

ELDC has responsibility for town and country. The neglect of the Cattle Market area in recent years is shameful. Renovation of the market, with incorporation of public car parking and housing, would be for preferable to more retail/businesses on the site - the roads in Ugate/Newmarket area would not support the volumes of people and traffic generated there. Explosion of business should be concentrated in the Fairfield/A16 area.

In my view the Council has run roughshod over the farmers, the auctioneers and the tenants of the Boars Inn. All of whom have been given notice although no firm offer has

been proffered. Misinformation has run rife and the castings are questionable. The meeting, which I attended, at the Town Hall, was arranged when the farmers were in the middle of harvesting. The time limit on the consultation leaves little time for the farmers, auctioneers or the public to put forward a comprehensive objection. The heritage of Louth is being eroded. The reason people come and visit is the refreshing change from cement, glass and plastic cities! If the Council want to make money leave Louth as it is. Help the farmers who are in danger of losing their livelihood.

Please make note of Masons professional opinion on Option 3. It is the correct and logical way forward. Please take note of the professionals.

I consider the Livestock Market to be a vitally important facility both for the farmers and the livestock. It should on no account be closed.

Whatever the option chosen I would still like there to be a Livestock Market in the town as it is part of the heritage of Louth. It seems to have been deemed that we cannot have any named stores in the town and we all don't want to shop in 'pound stores' so if that's the case let's keep Louth special and keep the market.

The Council should have a responsibility to our livestock farmers and local people who use this facility. The costs of refurbishing seem ridiculously high. The County Council should remember that you are public servants who should be looking after our interests as our taxes pay your wages. Do the right thing for a change.

Your track record on constitutions with the public are not good - look at the cash you made on Louth Market Hall. You promised the town and look at it now! We don't want the same thing happening to our Cattle Market. Listen to the people, not a named officer (that has left the Council) speak to all the Councillors at the meeting - he was very convincing!

I attended the Cattle Market meeting and was appalled to see that not many ELDC Councillors attended and not many had ever attended a Cattle sale (shame on you) just goes to show ELDC Councillors are useless at their job!

No.3 is the obvious answer. Saves a huge amount of money. When restored the area could be used for other events (more income). Thousands of pounds spent on outside opinions could have avoided the current situation then trying to turn Louth into a city. Cut the grass.

The existing market (refurbished) would continue to support the local farming industry supplying quality fresh food to the local retail re-owned small builder shops. The parking facilities are essential to attracting out of town visitors for both shopping and tourism. The market and land is owned by Louth and is an asset to be kept and not spread around Lincolnshire.

An economic 'organism' like Louth is an extremely finely balanced and delicate one. Small changes such as the sale of this site might solve short term needs of the Council but would result in an incalculable long term migration of cash away from the area. Don't do it. Long term it will only make the Council's job more difficult.

We need a large supermarket with good parking; it would bring more people to Louth instead of going to Grimsby - no houses on site.

As the income is only £3000 per year, it doesn't seem worth keeping it going with such a high cost to the town. More could go to a lot better causes.

I do have a view but it doesn't correspond with any of the aforementioned options. The loss of the Cattle Market, granted by Royal Charter, will present a genuine loss to the town both psychological, sentimental and will have an effect on the character of the town. However, I believe it should be sold to ADV and the site developed commercially, along the lines of Marshall's Yard in Gainsborough. A red line I would insist on is that all the proceeds of the sale should be used on improvements in Louth.

The thought that money saved by option 3 would go to improving the foreshore sickens me. Louth money is going to the coast.

Not to retain the market (livestock) will be a major disaster for Louth in terms of: - Farming community of Lincolnshire for buying and selling for slaughter and obtaining new stock for quality breeding. Severe loss of trade through reduced footfall to retail outlets (shops), and service businesses and professional businesses (more empty shops and therefore less Council Tax paid). - Loss of car parking and space to urgently increase provisions of same. Must stay in public ownership, as town economy depends on 'not for profit' car parking, with very limited public transport.

Increase use of facility - food units required or contracted in - for bike/ car associations, sand pit beach, amusements - similar to 'BIG' in Lincoln - as a wet weather venue. A business improvement Louth (Lincs) - i.e. 'Bill' using 1% of rates addition from business of Louth - a facility for Louth and Lincolnshire including animal market for bovine, porcine, ovine and poultry.

Option 3 should be taken. ELDC has allowed the market to fall into disrepair and failed to exploit its potential, so should rectify this, and then hand the facility over to the Town Council for £1 to run or use as they see fit. If the land is sold the money should be given to the Town Council for use in the town, not on other developments away from the town.

We require a large supermarket on the site. I think this would bring people into Louth from surrounding areas, and this will stop people going to Grimsby and Lincoln. I do not use Louth supermarkets because of parking. We do not need any more houses on the site. It needs to be a retail park.

Parts of the site could be 'sold' for other development. Keep only what is need for operation of a small livestock market. Find another, more efficient operator - consider farmers' co-operative.

I have lived in Louth for 40 years, my family past and current have always lived in Louth and find the Cattle Market a fundamental part of this community. My children visit the Cattle Market to watch on a weekly basis and also use the area when it's not in use as their bmx and scooter play area. We would be saddened if the market was to either close or move and it would just be yet another nail in the coffin that is fast becoming a depleted town. The Cattle Market is part of this town and needs to remain, with some investments.

Why on Earth would anyone spend £500,000 to build something which is only going to be worth £1/4m? The existing Cattle Market should be properly maintained with an improved area for free car parking.

I don't think we need another supermarket or more houses.

Support our farmers. Taking money is the short term option

Market service serves local community as a whole. The property belongs to the people of Louth and should be retained not re-distributed and parking is essential and should be increased not diminished. Existing high street shops that many visitors use should be supported to avoid more derelict closed shops and not be in completion with further retail development. Louth's special and should remain so.

Sale value for the site is not a loss. It may be an unrealized profit but that is not the same thing! I would like the costs to be published for marketing 'twice, agricultural appointments, bidding selection process and consultation administration. They are losses and paid for by ELDC residents.

Still use the cattle market for parking, sell the Boars Head pub site to a private buyer, and sell the front car park to build affordable housing. This will bring in some of the money to develop the market.

We don't want the refurbishment of the present site as it would amount to £700,000; the Council should obtain at least 3 quotes for the work

The cattle market should not go, stay where it is as there is invaluable parking there. It is where I park most days.

Keep the cattle market. It brings trade into town from farmers and their wives.

These expenses appear to be imaginary: (anticipated refurbishment costs: roof, wall repairs, windows and doors (inc pigeon netting) - £308,000 / Floor finishes and decoration - £41,250 / Heating, air-treatment system, water system replacement, ventilation system, lighting, burglar alarm, fire alarm, CCTV - £150,920 / Resurfacing and lining of car parks - £74,800 / New perimeter fence and signage - £48,576 / Contingency for unforeseen works - £56,700) As none of this has been done in the past (apart from the pigeon netting) why the requirement to do them in the future?

Sell the Boars Head for refurbishment into viable licensed pub/restaurant/b & b. Sell the frontage land on Newmarket, London Road and Quarry Road for housing. Retain and re-furbish existing essential elements to facilitate a viable Cattle and Sheep Market. Re-design the parking to provide additional spaces. Sell the earmarked Fairfield site for industrial development. Re-think the overall concept to make better use of this Louth (not East Lindsey) property.

The continuance of a cattle market in Louth is important to the welfare and prestige of the town and the vibrancy of our community. It draws people into Louth and contributes to the survival of many small businesses. We have sufficient supermarkets for Louth and its catchment area. The market adds to the character of the town and its tourist attractiveness. Having grown up in Louth, I have also worked in Horncastle, Alford, Spilsby and Skegness in my banking career and each has different attributes. The closure of markets has not helped the smaller towns but may have had economic

justification. Louth, however, is a special case and has always been, I think it is the largest cattle market in the county. We should preserve and modernise it and sell off fringe areas to help finance improvements.

In my opinion it would be very wrong to lose the cattle market and certainly we should not spend money on seeking to overturn the Charter. This is what Louth is - 'a market town'. I do not wish to see a supermarket on that site. We have sufficient supermarkets, especially now we have Aldi. The site needs attention certainly, because it has been neglected, but there is sufficient land to keep the cattle market and to tastefully develop part of it. The cattle market is a very valuable asset to this town and area.

The Cattle Market is a unique asset to the town of Louth. Agriculture has been a mainstay to the area for generations, and will continue to be so. Do not destroy what has been important to the town for generations.

Herefordshire Council did just that. They sold the existing market site and built a new market costing approx. £8 million. This has led to Hereford market being one of the most successful in the country and now brings huge revenue into the Council. If you take this route then you will not look back. It is worthwhile looking at the rent structure and instead of charging the auctioneers extra rent put a levy on the animals...i.e. £1 per bovine and 25p per sheep collected by the auctioneers but paid direct to the Council. Hereford market has had to expand their facilities and is currently expanding the sheep pens due to the success of a new market. Herefordshire Council did it with huge opposition but it has paid off immensely. My plea to you as a Council is to wake up and see the possibilities a new market out of town will do along with the revenue of selling the existing site. On the levy note I have not yet heard a farmer in Hereford market complain about it. They are just happy to have a decent market.

This would be detrimental to the economy of Louth if it was allowed to happen.

The cattle market is a lifeline to small farmers and keeps 'the capital of the wolds' a true caption, rather than spin.

Refurbish the livestock market and develop some of the land for housing.

Any spare land to be used for residential development i.e. starter homes or retirement homes with the new ALDI we do not need any further supermarkets.

Could not part of the site be sold to fund the refurbishment? It would have been helpful to know more about the ADV partnership.

Could not part of the site be sold to fund the refurbishment? (It would have been helpful to know more about the ADV partnership)

I support option 3, but suggest you use the auctioneer's figures. I consider them to be fair, honest and professional values, which have an excellent knowledge of local costs and needs.

And keep the charter as well as the market. Foolish to sell and not support farmers and butchers.

It would be perhaps better if the council would refrain from understating income from Cattle Market and over egging costs. Spending approx. £200,000 and to apply to remove royal charter is a considerable waste of taxpayers' money. Sell you interim on the industrial estate, use some of the funds to implement option 3. Continue to let Louth be a market town!

Please publish the results of this survey by post code.

Option 3 council be developed much more positively and creatively, with the uncertainty of brexit we may well find in 3 years' time that the cattle market is more important and profitable. The site can accommodate an improve market and other development.

As a farmer's daughter and in my own right and know how important the Cattle Market is for the farming community.

In option 2 - there is no guarantee that the Council will spend £4/5m in the area - it only states 'could'!

If the site is sold, the money made should be spent in Louth NOT Mablethorpe and Skegness.

Very concerned about the loss of The Royal Charter and the cattle market, we are new to Louth and our main reason for choosing Louth was the character and charm of this lovely market town. I am from a farming background and know how important it is to keep rural traditions and farms going for everyone's benefit. More shops will destroy the centre of Louth with its wonderful independent shops and will become like every other town centre - here we all have what everywhere else wants and have lost. Please listen to the people of Louth and do not destroy what we all have here!

Please do not spend £700,000 on an outdated facility which will be in need of constant refurbishment to keep up with up-to-date requirements.

The situation we are now in is a good example of the saying "a stitch in time saves nine". In other words spending money on regular maintenance would have reduced the projected outlay we face today. I hold the same views as a named Councillor and I am not going to try and outdo her logic and well expressed opinion.

Look after farmers; look after Louth, not all money should be spent on the coast. No new retail units needed as plenty empty spaces in town. Parking space is vital - more businesses in Louth more rates paid. People come from far and wide to spend in Louth as has independent shops - none of them in Grimsby - few in Lincoln.

As an employee of an independent retailer in Louth town centre, my colleagues and I are extremely concerned about the effect any out of town development will have on our future.

Keep the market, keep the charter. It is Louth and it's important. I go a lot. Don't change it.

My family who live in the midlands visit Louth on a regular basis. They cannot believe we have small family run shops. They think it would be a disaster to the town if the livestock market closes. So few market towns have livestock markets.

Keep Louth special and listen to residents!

Whilst I understand that central government is putting pressure on local councils by reducing funding, I do not think scrapping or relocating the livestock market is the answer to saving money. Relocation would cost millions, which we do not have. Having a market in a market town is really what counts. There are so many towns in this country which are clones, controlled by supermarkets. Individual traders such as green grocers and butchers do not exist anymore in these areas. Louth is an attractive town with excellent shops, and a market. Large retailers have now realised that their foot fall has now drastically reduced (hence ASDA pulling out of the original purchase) and are looking at other ways to combat internet trading. Surely it is better to use what we have, look after a 400 year old charter and even build on it. Livestock markets are few and far between. If we are only receiving £3,000 per annum from a site, then when it is refurbished ensure it is done in such a way that it can be put to other uses when not selling beasts. An example is football grounds being used for big-name concerts. Use some lateral thinking and do not follow the herd. (pun intended)

When I joined the staff of Lincolnshire NFU in 1960 we organised a weekly Town Questions Country Answers Show at Butlins Skegness, which for a number of years filled their main theatre. We also ran twice weekly coach trips to local farms which were always full. Both were discontinued by Butlins for they interrupted Butlins events. When director of the International Mushroom Growers' Association we spent a year showing an industry film at Alton Towers, which was very popular with visitors. As part of my role working with the States of Guernsey I re-invigorated a popular island attraction demonstrating the many facets of Guernsey horticulture and its history. I believe that ELDC have an excellent opportunity to offer visitors something similar at the market which would bring more trade to Louth. This could include a demonstration of Lincolnshire farming/horticulture, a "farm shop", a media presentation on the industry - past, present and future - including local retailers and suppliers. I am sure that the NFU locally and regionally would support an investigation of these ideas and assist in carrying out practical work to bring them to fruition. I am happy to assist further in progressing these thoughts.

As long as there is a need for a cattle market in Louth it should continue at the current site. Certainly, building a supermarket on the site would not be good for Louth and the increased traffic flow would cause problems on Newmarket, Uppgate and London Road. Whilst financial considerations do play a part in any decision to be made, the most important consideration has to be what is the best for Louth town centre and the current retail businesses trading there.

In this day and age Louth is a unique market town in a beautiful location close to the Lincolnshire Wolds. It has numerous assets which many other locations will never have - wonderful buildings, Hubbards Hills, Louth Navigation Canal, Lincolnshire Wolds, the Coastal strip, etc. etc. including the Cattle Market. It is becoming more and more recognised for its individual shops, excellent personal service, fabulous food shops as well as restaurants, pubs, hotels and coffee shops ranging from economical to fine dining. Only this weekend there were many visitors to Cadwell Park who visit/stay in the area; there are always visitors from the coastal resorts in town, as well as the 'locals' and not so 'locals' who visit regularly because Louth is different - it is 'SPECIAL'. It is vital that every effort is made by ELDC to maintain every aspect that makes Louth different and that included keeping and enhancing the Cattle Market too. This has been

achieved in other towns and with the right input it can continue to be utilised in its current role and enhanced to create a vibrant site, close to the centre of town, for both locals and visitors to enjoy. We are fortunate that many assets within the town have recently been refurbished and others currently being enhanced - if private individuals feel confident in Louth's future then surely ELDC should continue this excellent work to secure an irreplaceable asset.

1) The current market, notwithstanding its livestock market use, provides the town with essential car parking facilities for 6 days each week. This invalidates a large part of the resurfacing /and lining of car park point. Where would the users of this parking find an alternative? 2) There have been previous consultations regarding the needs of the town of Louth. We have a wonderful town that has a wide variety of traders, the introduction of large retailers has been proven to kill small towns and inevitably lead to a reduction in tourism, one only has to visit such denuded towns to see the depressed state of closed shops and vandalism. 3) The livestock market, now the only livestock market in Lincolnshire, offers the chance for the farmers, and their families, to trade and bring trade to the town, to educate the public and to be the face of this great county. Where would the market be re-located to? Would it offer easy access to and from the town for the above reasons? 4) Has any work or consultation been carried out into extra uses for the premises? Why is it that East Lindsey can't manage to make profits when individuals can (example Stanhope Hall Horncastle?)

The wording of the consultation questions are biased and leave the council open to judicial review over the whole process. Selling the site to a national food retailer would destroy the essence of Louth as a food destination as it has every other small town where similar edge of town centre development of this kind has taken place. Anyone who has travelled out of the district realises that Louth is unique and the development proposals put forward may regenerate the site but it would destroy the heart of the town, creating problems elsewhere and reducing tourism in the town. There won't be any linked trips as the site is up a hill from the town centre and people will not walk between the two for this reason. If the site has to be sold for another use there other options - there is a district wide need for more housing and affordable housing and mixed use development in a town of this size would be far more sympathetic. It does not require much financial acumen to sell the family silver, accentuated by weakening your negotiating position by removing the existing use without a signed contract in place. ELDC executive committee will not have served the electorate correctly if they do not consider all evidence and base any decision on factual information in terms of realistic costs of the three options and the true impact of out of town development. Current information from councillors both officially and as revealed recently in the press suggest this is not currently the case.

Livestock Market Facility, Louth Note. While I fully appreciate that the Consultation is in respect of the future of the provision of 'Livestock Market Facility', I am also sure that it is not too late to reconsider the whole matter of the future of the whole of the site in relation to its disposal from public ownership. Since the previous decision was made some years ago to sell the whole of the site, mainly as a retail outlet, the overall needs of Louth have completely changed. I have therefore commented on this matter whilst expressing my views on the Livestock Market, and I would not expect them to be regarded as irrelevant, and ignored, as these other issues are also vital to Louth not only in relation to the future use of this site but the entire economy of the town. I would

recommend Option 3 in relation to the livestock market. How this is carried out has to be in relation to the user's needs, being that of the auctioneers, sellers and buyers who are all experienced experts and on which they have far more knowledge than me, and most of the none farming community. While building a new market, say on the industrial estate, would be an alternative, the retention of the existing site has the following advantages:-

- It will cost much less than building a new one and whilst the users require a livestock market now, the long term future could well be different.
- The work proposed to the premises and site to bring it up to date is really only 'catch up maintenance and improvement' over the last 29 years from when it was nearly all re-built in 1988. It was built for a larger through put but this was devastated by the 'foot and mouth' epidemic from which livestock farming in Britain is only slowly recovered.
- Retaining the livestock market in this location will enable and encourage the users to still go into the town centre for their shopping, other business and professional services. If it was relocated onto the industrial estate the farmers and wives would tend to just go to the market and not use the town centre.
- The retention of the livestock market in Louth would continue to draw people from a large part of Lincolnshire, being the only livestock left in the county, and it could well take trade from as far away as Newark. Louth could retain this central position in the county's stock farming industry in just the same way that Grimsby has retained its position as the leading fish market in the county, in spite of having no fishing fleet.
- Most importantly this would retain the remaining part of the site for other uses such as publicly controlled car parking, which needs to be properly expanded in size. The council could then redevelop other areas of the site by removing surplus buildings, such as the former calf market and possibly the Boars Head Inn. This development could include other selected businesses which could compliment the town centre facilities. This would be far preferable rather than another huge nationwide owner retail store controlling the whole site for their profits going out of town, in return for a few low paid jobs. Such development could well reduce footfall in the town centre and this could become a 'ghost town'.
- Any development on the site must compliment that in the town centre, not destroy it. In many market towns all over the country building supermarkets well outside the town centre has destroyed the latter. A comparable town to Louth, with a livestock market, is Hexham where a block of supermarkets outside the town centre has virtually close down the town centre retail shops and businesses.
- If the whole site is sold off and redeveloped the time will immediately lose 341 well used publicly controlled car parking spaces, on the north and south side of the Boars Head Inn and also those in front of the livestock market building.
- If Louth is to survive as a town it must have adequate and more public car parking not controlled by retailers for its own use, such as that of Morrison's and Aldi's, and the cattle market site is only land left where this can be provided and the need is urgent.
- The number of cars nationally has increased by over 50% in the last twenty years, and the distributed percentage of that is higher in places like Louth with very limited public transport. (There was an increase in the number of cars in the country by nearly a million between January and March 2017, and Louth had some of those.)
- Louth Borough Council provided all the present public car parking in the town before re-organisation in 1974, (42 years ago.) except that East Lindsey District Council has only added to it with Kiln Lane Car Park at the rear of the (Co-op Stores) and also the some of the parking set out above near the Boars Head Inn. But the latter will be lost if the whole of the site is sold. Obviously the provision for the public car parking in Louth over these forty years has not kept up with demand. If the number of public car parking spaces is not only retained but also increased people will not come to the town to shop, for business professional services and our growing tourist industry of visitors to the historic parts of the town and the

wonderful area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the adjoining Wolds. Whilst East Lindsey District Council is only consulting on the future of the livestock market, I would hope that it would seriously review its decision to sell off the site if its final decision on the livestock market is option 1 or 2, before it proceeds further. The needs of Louth, which should be the District Council's major concern, have changed since the decision was made to dispose of the site. The withdrawal of the original bidder partially confirms this. We now have another major supermarket in the town, and the present bidders will sell the site off to any 'supermarket' which will buy it, and/or sell the remainder to other buyers regardless of the effect on the town and existing businesses. The site, out of public hands, could then be used for all sorts of purposes, only controlled by planning powers, which are always subject to challenge and in many ways cannot force desirable development to take place. While the need for East Lindsey District Council to capital money from a sale is appreciated, the present and future needs of the town of Louth and its hinterland must have priority. People are proud of the town and have nurtured it for hundreds of years, and while it needs to be progressive, it must not be forced into decline. People enjoy living and working here.

You have a duty to look after our cattle market for our farmers and also the next generation of young farmers. In your hands lies the future of many small farmers this is their livelihood, also there is the welfare of the cattle and sheep having to travel 50 miles to Newark summer and winter. It is your responsibility to make the right decision to keep our cattle market for future generations and for the future of our lovely market town.

If the cattle market was allowed to close as well as being a loss to the farming community it also is detrimental to the town in general

Louth is rapidly losing its unique and charming character with all this third-rate development. Some of these estates are all eyesores.

The market town of Louth, there's the clue. ELDC have the obligation to provide a 'beast market' what a waste of money it would be to remove the act of parliament. The current site with refurbishment is completely viable. The Boars Head pub and surrounding buildings could be sold to provide revenue towards the refurbishment. Think outside the box ELDC and listen to the people of Louth. Option 3 forever!

Upgrade market and use as a tourist attraction. Lots of public have never seen a market, use it to buy tourists to Louth, all the year round.

Louth does not need another supermarket but support for the agriculture for which Lincolnshire is well-known. This is its last Cattle Market in the County and needs preserving with a suitable upgrade of the premises.

Louth's charm is its sight and diversity of small shops and businesses and market. The cattle market is closely bound to its agricultural function. There is not another Cattle market in the area; we should preserve its uniqueness.

use money wisely replace roof don't sell site for super market as that will destroy the town just look at Market Rasen what Tesco has done for that.

This is a facility of the people of Louth and District and all money raised should be spent on the town, also what right have the people of Skegness and Mablethorpe to have any say on such an important Louth issue.

ELDC have not kept the market in good repair and should be ashamed. Do it up for the sake of the town and farmers.

Loss of the market would spoil Louth as a small market town and have an effect on the surrounding area.

I was in business in Louth from 1949 any commercial development will adversely affect Louth businesses. Having had to walk from the cattle market to town and back I know what it is like people will shop up there and not go into town.

How many people on the Council actually live in Louth and have the welfare of Louth at heart? Louth is a market town and the toed market attracts people and we should be proud of this seeing as it's the only town with a market in Lincolnshire. So if the Council has anything about them they should bend over backwards to keep it and not grab the money and run.

The refurbishment costs seem extravagant. I am sure given a competitive tendering process any works may come in at a reduced cost. It doesn't say above whether the redevelopments all have to be done at once or whether they can be staggered. ELDC should listen to Keep Louth Special and perhaps integrate some of their ideas for developing the site, and hopefully increasing its income via diversification. Take Newark as an example, livestock markets can be made profitable with some creative thinking and enthusiasm from all involved. One option could be to sell part of the site and redevelop the market as a smaller operation, thus bringing in some finance. Some of the project that needs funding in Option 2 seems very vague.... "Foreshore rejuvenation and enhancement in Skegness and Mablethorpe ·The development of new year round visitor facilities and accommodation ·Further investment in flood defence to protect the whole district from future inundation" It is easy to throw in projects like this to bolster a case for selling the site.....where are the details? I would imagine much of the above may well be part funded at least by other agencies.

I am a small livestock farmer located in East Lindsey district. Preservation of the market is key to long term sustainability of agricultural in the area. Particularly small scale farms. I feel the new market option is too expensive and extravagant and Option 3 makes absolute sense. Also we regularly visit Louth and keeping the market in its current central location is the best option for the long term amenity and sustainability of the town. Development of new retail space is not needed. It can be seen over and over how small market towns have been damaged by retail parks located away from the traditional town centre

As the district is predominantly agricultural, in my view this option would, on balance be the best value option to retain an important facility.

I feel that it is not necessary to build on every open site in a town! I am aware that being just off the town centre this is a 'prime site' but I use it for parking - which can be difficult in Louth especially on market days! It's refreshing not to have building crowding in on every street. Louth has an unusual and wonderful feel to it, Independent shops, a quaint town centre and I wouldn't want to see it over-developed and spoiled!

This facility is crucial to the operation of livestock farmers in Lincolnshire, in particular as it is situated in what at present is a TB free area. To lose the facility would entail long distances for animals to travel and would also mean that animals coming into the region may have had to be moved from areas more susceptible to TB. Having a local market supports not only agriculture but also local industry and Louth would be a much poorer town without a local market. It is appreciated that all local authorities are short of funds but not to make this investment for the future of Louth would amount to dereliction of duty on the part of councillors.

If you are going to keep Louth livestock market you need to support it better, also it isn't about just the cattle market, it is about Louth as a town and shutting the market will have a bigger effect on Louth as a town than you could imagine,

If you sell the livestock market you are selling off a part of Louth's history. What will be next(town hall) if you sell the site Louth will be 1 more step closer to looking like any other drab town. Please listen to the people and farmers on this.theres too much of councils not listening to the voices of the people who put them where they are.

The Cattle Market Premises could be used for other purposes when not cattle market days. Trade Fairs, Car Boot Sales, etc.

Louth Livestock Market is an essential part of the economic, social and agricultural infrastructure of East Lindsey and beyond. It is crucial to the ability of livestock farmers, fatteners and dealers to thrive and survive and support jobs across a far wider spectrum than those immediately involved. Their prosperity, the jobs and economic activity which they support will provide a more sustainable economic future to enable the authority to carry out the important tasks it identifies in the consultation document. It is important that Louth does not subside into being just another commuter town for the Greater Grimsby area, especially as it has no rail access, poor road access, oversubscribed car parking, very poor bus services, a hospital under threat of closure, schools which are below standard, and there is already great pressure on its infrastructure. It is also important that the inherent character of Louth and the Wolds communities in East Lindsey should not be compromised. One should remember the old adage about "knowing the price of everything and the value of nothing" -- those in authority at East Lindsey DC, please note!

The commitment to build a new livestock marketing facility must be enforced - a time limit of 2 years should be targeted. The current market site is more suited in this day and age to retail and this would regenerate the area.

As a Louth resident of 45 years it would be nice to see the tradition/ heritage of Louth continuing to have a cattle market but..... in view of:- - it's declining use(which is likely to continue), and it's use on just one morning a week, - the large financial costs to the Council involved in refurbishing Louth's existing cattle market or huge cost of replacing it, - the small amount of income the Council derives from the cattle market - the potential benefits of the capital receipt from the sale of the existing site to the residents of East Lindsey, - the benefits to Louth and surrounding area residents from the redevelopment of the site I have to conclude that Option 2 is the sensible option

Why not provide permanent covered stalls on the site at a moderate rent so farmers can sell produce from their farms. This will provide additional money for the council and will

help offset the cost of the refurbishment etc. It will also encourage additional visitors to the market / town.

Option 3 but with essential repairs only, cattle shed roof and move outdoor sheep pens under cover but keep the market going. Redevelop London Rd and Newmarket frontage retaining access from Linden Walk and London Rd to the cattle market. Promote the cattle market as a visitor attraction, the smell and the noise is a fantastic experience. Create a visitor centre within the site to be open when the market is closed and display all the photos and history that has come to light during this consultation. Lincolnshire is a fabulous farming community lets embrace it not destroy it.

As a long-time resident of the area with connections to the farming industry we feel that the market should remain on its present site as a valuable part of the local economy. The council preferred option appears to be based on monetary reasons completely ignoring the fact that the market provides a meeting place for farmers, who now work the majority of the time on their own, it also makes no allowance for the extra costs which will be occurred if the animals are transported to Newark, the next nearest market, which is a travesty of current environmental concerns. Any decision to alter the market would seem to fly in the face of the council's constant emphasis on the area as a tourist destination. There has been much media attention around Louth being a special small town which attracts visitors and the market is part of this. In fact it could be said it is the link between the people and the agricultural community who help to look after the area for all inhabitants and generate income. Finally given that you as a council have spent the last ten years pleading poverty and asking council tax payers to pay for additional services it is questionable as to where you would find the funds for a new market. Perhaps you should stop selling the crown jewels of Lincolnshire and Louth and listen to the people.

We are a Market Town. The Livestock Market is needed by local farmers. Redevelop it for their sake. Money isn't everything.

I live in Taunton, Somerset. We lost our town centre market 12 years ago. The site is still derelict today with no development yet. Losing the market was a sad loss and derelict site is awful and frequently travellers take residence on it.

We don't need a new one, if we sold it; the money would be lost absorbed into nothing local. Plus having worked in the building agriculture market, I have seen the effect it has on the town and surrounding area, another nail?

Keep the Royal Charter of 450 years ago to provide a Livestock Market.

There is no need for retail investment. The car park is very beneficial to all the community. We value local farmers. They deserve our support; we don't need to move the cattle market.

Reduced sales of a net income of only £3000 are a death knell. An auction in Fairfield's is not supported by both current and future needs and is of no value to council payment citizens identifying and supporting future investments are the way forward. Option 3 is a messy and ongoing compromise - a pig's ear.

Support our local small farmers, so that we, the public, who use the people you represent, can still have local grass fed meat produce. Help to keep Louth special.

A lot of farmer's wives come with them and shop in Louth. If the cattle market moved they may not find it so convenient. Therefore we would lose the traders could result in more shops closing.

Market is essential part of the Louth and County economic fabric and must be preserved. Also Louth does not need to face the challenge to our independent shops of an additional supermarket. It would be best to improve the current site and avoid massive disruptions of closing the current market and building a new one at disproportionate cost to the rate payer.

The Cattle Market is close to people's heart in Louth. So I ask the Council to respect the will of the farmer and Louth residents.

Option 3 would be good. But the figure of £700,000 must be put under a big spotlight. Move over market day, should be moved - Friday day!

Keep the market open! And do it up

The future is unknown and mixed farming is starting to make a return nationally and in Lincolnshire. In the event of a disease and movement restriction for animals, a market in Louth, being the last in Lincolnshire will be essential.

The livestock market is a very important part of rural life in Louth and within Lincolnshire. Agricultural activities are the main income for the county of Lincolnshire, only the Council would see this as a negative, perhaps try running a business.

I am part of an agricultural business and producer some 12 miles north of Louth. As part of that business we use Louth as our predominant destination for trade. As such we would require the continuance of the Livestock Market supporting Livestock in our area and the surrounding county, which is an essential part of Lincolnshire's agricultural wellbeing.

Louth is the only true market town in Lincolnshire and visitors from far and void acclaim its original features - in fact many visitors to the East coast will spend a day in Louth because of its character. Surely ELDC must recognise the value of this unique town! Once the cattle market has gone it is gone forever - remember - you can shear a sheep many times but you can skin it only once! When the cattle market has gone you lose a jewel - and Louth becomes just another small town.

After all this time just get on with it and have to market to develop. For once make a decision.

Please do not interfere with the 'charters'. To do so would be sacrilege and changing the face of history. Repair the existing cattle market building and promote/ develop its use. What about a car mart/ auction. There isn't one close at hand and this could generate income.

Stop building houses, when services are stretched to capacity. You just want more income. There is no work, transport, doctors, dentists, car parks, and why should we have housing assoc dress shipped in from cities, carrying on Boris John sons ethnic cleansing.

I believe that option 3 could be made to work to the benefit of all interested parties. This is by adding from the ideas put forward by local farmers who use the facility. Also those of Louth Council. This would be to bring in small retail outlets amongst other options.

Farming and food are essential characteristics of this area. If Louth livestock market closes, ELDC will be responsible for the demise of many of our livestock farmers and butchers shops. Locally produced food is encouraged by central government. Please do not ignore your responsibilities.

Quality of the environment must come before £'s! This is a rural market town of exceptional quality - so keep it that way.

This 'consultation' and the accompanying option are biased towards one particular option. It is written so that all the benefits of option 2 and none of the disadvantages are clear. It is an exercise in gerrymandering.

If you had not deliberately let the current market run down it would not cost so much to refurbish.

I am of the opinion that a large retail development on the site (e.g. major food retailer) would NCOF significant detriment to the very special quality and nature of Louth's wonderful market town attraction with its wide range of independent food shops. Moving the cattle market out of the town would also suck the life out of the town which is an agricultural hub for the meat.

Removing the Market and Charter is taking away Louth's heritage. You will be replacing it with a supermarket or shops which will take away trade from the centre of town. People visit Louth because of its traditional character. The people who use the market bring trade to the town. It is needed and should stay.

I am a farmer in North Lincolnshire at the moment we have no livestock but in the past we had an used Louth market for the sale for most of our stock. We feel that Louth being the last market in Lincolnshire it is most important it is retained to provide for future changes and also it would fundamentally change the nature of the town to lose it. I note that no value has been put on the sale of the old market so it is difficult to assess the best option.

I feel that it is very important to have a livestock market in Lincolnshire. My home town of Skipton in North Yorkshire relocation to a new auction mart site on the edge of town and they don't limit themselves to selling livestock and other businesses use the site. Couldn't you refurbish and still let to a market operator like LCM.

We are a market town in a farming area. We need to support our farmers who also support our town, using our shops, businesses when they come into town. The town's economy needs them.

Why not use the rest of the site for car boot sales or Sunday markets!

I'm sure the refurbishment won't really cost £700,000

The primary consideration should be the needs of the farming community. If the farmers/ market users have a sensible proposal, this should be given greatest priority

We should be celebrating the individuality of having the market in our town along with the heritage - not trying to remain the character

To me, option 3 is the only solution. Do not get rid of the heritage and livelihood just for the sake of a short term cash boost. You manage to subsidies to the tune of £300,000 this year.

The cattle/livestock market is part of the town not something to be shunted out to the industrial estate.

It is a disgrace that the District Council is considering doing away with the market. This facility is VITAL to the farming community and could be used for many other events.

Louth is the ONLY Livestock Market in the whole of Lincolnshire. There is no reason why the site should not be in more regular use. Collective monthly sales for insurance. Hay, straw, silage, wood. Farm/garden produce. Cars. Household. Building materials. Horse/tack. Poultry live/dead. Bike nights. Vintage cars. Meeting place. Repair and keep for Lincolnshire!

I would prefer to keep the existing market where it is but would like to see usage of the site on non-market days, to bring in revenue.

The Cattle Market is an integral part of our historic Market Town, once (recently) rated the best in the country surely a compromise could be reached. Some of the existing site could be sold to free up funds for essential repairs and upgrading. A smaller more compact market (with maybe sheep inside also) would allow space for meeting places i.e. young farmer etc. as well as an essential car/bus park allowing people a short walk into town. The site on the industrial estate could be sold to fund investments elsewhere in the area. To close what is the last Cattle Market in Lincolnshire would be a travesty.

I'm wary of more retail as there are many empty shops in town and am concerned that more retail outlets will just spread existing shops over a wider area thereby worsening the problem. Consider a wider range of use rather than another supermarket type building. Partly residential?

The Cattle Market is part of our heritage. Animal welfare must be a consideration. More should be done to encourage local farmers to have livestock for the local economy and reduce the import of inferior meat Lincolnshire supermarkets should be encouraged to sell locally produced meat.

The livestock market is vital to the town, the district and the entire county. To remove it would destroy the livelihood of many small farmers plus there would almost certainly be a knock on downturn for businesses in the town. A closure would affect not only the present but the future. Compare the cost with your subsidy of Magna Vitae.

We would recommend developing top storey into retail outlets - the site is only a few minutes' walk from the so-called main shopping areas and has good parking facilities; also this would emphasise the importance of this end of town as opposed to the new cheap supermarket which is of no attraction or interest to us. Regarding animal welfare, a local facility is essential for the well-being of both animals and owners, resulting in greatly reduced stress to both parties compared with the lengthy, time- and money-

consuming journeys to Newark or - worse still - Melton Mowbray. Finally, if the Charter were simply to be amended, might not this have implications for the town market itself?

Louth is an historic Market Town, of which the "Louth Livestock Market" is very important to our farming community. We don't need any more supermarkets shops, coffee areas etc.! On this site, our farming community & its heritage is very important in this 21st century. Don't give it away please!

Lincolnshire is an agricultural county. To take away its market will mean an increased round trip journey time to the next nearest at Newark of approximately 3 hours. This will cause additional distress for the animals and reduce profit margins even more for the farmers.

When will ELDC accept that the site is out of the town as far as shoppers are concerned? By bringing in more retail outlets the centre of Louth will die. New jobs will not be created - just transferred from the town closures. How many shops do we have on a short term lease? Quite a few I think! Already it would appear that the coastal Councillors have the proceeds from the "almost done deal" earmarked for their benefits. Ruin Louth and we will have the money scenario! No thank you. We are in an agricultural environment all year round, not somewhere for the summer season.

ELDC should recognize first and foremost that this is an agricultural area and that by Royal charter a livestock market in Louth is there for a purpose. Clearly it is the intention of the Council to sell the land to then use the proceeds out of Louth on projects in Mablethorpe and Skegness which are of no benefit to anyone in Louth or the general farming community.

Having a cattle market in Louth has been always been great asset to this agricultural area and continues to be so. The loss of livestock markets in neighbouring towns over the past 3 decades (e.g. Alford, Spilsby) means that it is all the more important that Louth Livestock Market is retained. Not having it will diminish Louth's status as an important agricultural centre covering much of East Lindsey. It would also mean transporting livestock much longer distances to market, with associated concerns over animal welfare. The cost of moving to a new site is too much and gives no benefit. Amending the Royal Charter is simply wrong. I urge ELDC to retain the site as a Livestock Market.

It is hugely important to the area to have a local livestock market. The employment generated and the fact that we are a thriving agricultural area should be reason enough to keep it going. I am hugely disappointed in the use of language and wording when summing up the options. It is heavily biased in favour of option 2 and quite alarmist in the instance of option 3. It is quite apparent that you have the money to spend as you have already earmarked what would be spent on a brand new site elsewhere so the money would not be lost if option 3 is chosen. Please let's have some honesty and back the agricultural sector that is so prevalent in the area.

The livestock market is an important feature of the town which provides a part of its unique character in Lincolnshire. It is important that local farmers can sell their livestock locally both in financial, environmental and social terms. The character of East Lindsey as a whole may change if farmers give up livestock and plough up more grassland. I've lived in Louth all my life and my grandparents were farmers. The market reminds us of

what the bedrock of our locally economy actually is. The opportunity should've taken to revitalise the Boars Head too.

Such an important part of this market town

This rural area needs a cattle market; it is in the heart of a major farming region. Farmers have little enough time as it is, travelling to Newark would be a major inconvenience. As for a named Councillor claiming it was just a 'farmer's drinking club'...so? Are farmers not allowed to socialise, like any other person does in their own working environment. Would a café/pub in Canary Wharf in London not be a stock-brokers drinking club? Farming can be a very lonely working life and brings with it problems with depression, a market gives those farmers a chance to talk with colleagues, meet and discuss the problems and successes of their businesses and perhaps give a troubled farmer a chance to talk, vital in the treatment of mental troubles. In these modern times, large supermarket retailing has become faceless, profit-making, money-grabbing and prolific. Louth is so special; it has a charm rarely found elsewhere. The ambiance of the town is that of a rural, agricultural environment with quaintly different and largely independent shops and retailers. If the current market site were to be developed as another retail area it would not add to the character of the town, nor would it provide anything that is not already more than adequately provided for by existing businesses. I feel that a new cattle market on a new site, whilst perhaps being very smart, would surely be a vast expense and with it being situated out of town would it bring in the buying 'farming' public into the town? I am from a farming family, indeed there is a silver cup awarded to the butcher who buys the winning beast at the Christmas Fat Stock Market in memory of my father. I still feel strongly about retaining this facility perhaps however, would there be a chance for expansion or diversification to compliment the current cattle market such as that found in Bakewell where there is a chance for other rural trades to market their wares. A farmer's market, local crafts and Lincolnshire Food Festivals, look at the success of such events on the Lincoln Showground. This would then expand the facility to a wider audience but a different one to the supermarket shopper. Please keep Louth special and don't allow the silencing of cattle market sounds that reverberate around the site that so evoke a typically and vital rural way of life! I

If you are willing to spend £200,000 to remove the Charter why not spend that on upgrading the current building? You state it will cost £700,000 so there is a portion of it already. Offer the site for other retail opportunities - the market is only on a Thursday which means it is free for 6 days - Sunday car boot, craft/food market on a Tuesday, auto jumble (they charge £10 per person to enter at Newark ££££). Every business has to diversify in this day and age so why not try to enhance having the livestock market as an asset to the council. So many are too quick to get rid of anything that appears to be too costly. Make money out of the site. Not just a one off payment from a faceless developer but encourages local business on the site. Each Thursday there are micro businesses within the livestock market. Local businesses benefiting from the weekly market. To add an extra option - offer as a wedding venue - gain a civil licence and put it out there as the ideal agricultural setting for a wedding - its big enough and once upgraded will have the facilities. So many options to bring extra much needed revenue to ELDC. Don't just go for the easy option please

Rumour has it that the cost you are quoting has been widely over estimated. The facility belongs to the people of Louth.

I cannot believe this is being considered. This should have been put to bed years ago. It needs to be maintained to a high standard and kept.

Would it be possible to include some commercial use in addition to the livestock market as I assume that the total area of the site at Newmarket is not really now needed by the current size of the livestock market? As least then there would be some additional income from the site. It would be a shame for this market to disappear considering the distances stock would then have to travel to reach another livestock market. Finally, it would be a loss from the original charter granting a market - a long held important factor in making Louth the town it is today. Is it a clear possibility in fact that the livestock element can be divorced from the other market?

Why can a Council of a predominately rural county even consider getting rid of valuable agricultural resource?

I think it would be best to continue to use the present site, but reduce the area used for the market i.e. bring the sheep pens nearer to the cattle sales area.

The so called brown site could be more effectively used and bearing in mind the poor facilities offered to the wealthiest people and major earners better services should be provided. The council has purposely run down the facility over many years and now they should be repairing the damage done. Farming is largely what Lincolnshire is about and it's time we as a community realised this.

This facility must remain open

I attended the open meeting at Louth Town Hall and visited the market on sale day, and was very interested to hear from many who use the market. Whereas before hearing first-hand from users I was amn option 1/2 I can now only support option 3 as a just, fair and sensible option.

Options are very 'loaded', for the unbiased uninformed you presented a very biased option, completely misleading. ELDC not only should preserve our assets and council tax monies, but are also here to serve the community. Here you are considering the disposal of a unique asset that has served the community for many years. ELDC should be seen to explore more options to incorporate a multi-use site, i.e. the cattle market should continue, and other uses be made alongside the market. Some imagination should be forthcoming, and I am sure with negotiation with the current market operators, alternative income providing uses can be found, hopefully also being a further attraction for this traditional market town. Running holiday cottages in the locality with many visitors over the last 20 years, I can tell you Louth's main attraction is its tradition. A super market on this site is not going to enhance this view, and could detract. You must preserve this site.

The market wants keeping on its present site for the benefit of Louth and the agricultural community. The site could be used for other things on non-market days.

Present site once updated is ideally situated for the town and farmers. This would be the most cost effective and worthwhile investment. We need to take care of what we have on the doorstep.

I think you should get quotes from elsewhere! Cannot understand how a new fence can be that expensive. An absolute joke to sell it and not replace!

Why fix something that isn't broken. It is a huge part of Louth's history and creates no problems for any residents. I should know I live next it!

Keep and update current site. Provide hall/ room to be rented out to Young Farmers/ schools/ local organisations. Update and reopen the Boars Head/ Part of Louth and old pub that may be lost.

The Cattle Market site should be refurbished in my opinion. No large supermarket would be interested in the as the town has taken over, retail wise, by the Co-op not that - we were consulted - 3 branches is unnecessary.

We are a market town. So let us keep Louth special. Reinvest in what we have.

Louth is and should remain a market town. A site on the edge of town is not cost effective and would be inappropriate. If Louth is to retain a town centre that retains its small shops a new supermarket on the cattle market site would be the end of our identity. Many towns have gone down this route and it's been disastrous.

Surely it is not legal to disregard the charter granted to this town for a livestock market. We must retain it (refurbished) for the health and welfare of all our local farmers and livestock.

Louth is a market town and has been for many years and should remain so.

Louth will suffer if the market closes.

As a member of young farmers club and connected with cattle I feel the market should continue for future generations.

Leave Louth alone. People come here cause of what it is not what you would want it to be.

If you take the Livestock Market away from a market town, you kill the town - Alford is a case in point. Louth Livestock Market is still being used, it is the only one in Lincolnshire - it MUST be preserved it's not just farmers using the market to sell their livestock, it has knock on effect of those people then using shops and facilities in the town.

Louth is and always has been a market town. We do not need another supermarket so it seems clear to me that the only sensible option is number 3 - renovate the existing market and make more use of the land for parking for other events i.e. car boot sales, fairs, etc. Option 1 is a no go and your figures are confusing to £4m, value on completion £250,000, I don't think so. To spend £200,000 to remove the 'market town' is just laughable.

Louth market is currently supporting most of Lincolnshire's cattle industry.

A unique facility to be nurtured and enhance. Surely a use could be found to raise revenue and the facility kept as an asset to the area. E.g. a regular craft market and or car boot in keeping with its uniqueness. Similar ideas used in Wales - Carmarthen. Cresswelly et. al.

Increase the use of the existing facilities to achieve more income. Weekend car boot sales or craft markets; care parking at a comparative 4 hour or daily price. In currently used spaces. Refurbishment costs at up to £700,000 are excessive and unrealistic. Do not turn Louth into a mini Grimsby.

Option 4. Stay as it is until the Council address the following comments as to the previous 3 options; Option 1 -To spend £4-5m on a building worth £250,000 is stupid. Option 2 -As you state you will save £4-5m, what happens to the site then stay derelict or sell to someone like ADV for out of town shopping this site would sell for a vast amount why is this figure not estimated. Option 3 -Very loaded answers this is obvious choice that you would like, we should be given more information.

Although over the years there has been a decline in the small farmers, there is still a need for the market in Louth. For many, to have to travel as far as Newark would not be practical or possible. To close the Louth Cattle Market and not build a replacement would be another nail in the farmer's coffin.

The council needs to take into account all the spin off businesses connected to livestock farming. The county needs this facility to keep Lincolnshire diverse. Louth is a 'market town' and should remain so.

We are a farming community and as such we should keep a market facility at Louth.

I think Louth has a duty to its agricultural environment. We do not need or want a retail development. Are you trying to ruins Louth's unique atmosphere?

As a small business owner in Louth I feel this could have a negative impact on our lovely town. We need to rejuvenate this town and protect the cattle market.

Those higher up only benefit while local businesses and resident suffer. Selfish people making selfish decisions.

The cattle market is an asset to the town. It is another thing that makes Louth special especially the fact of being the only one in the county. It is a central hub for farmers who at the end of the day we could not manage without. Local butchers can then provide us with local meat which is so important.

I have completely changed my position now I have attended the public inquiry and found your numbers to be completely fabricated.

This part of the world is an agricultural/rural area and needs all the support it can get. Agriculture will die without a proper market for livestock and Option 3 seems to me to be the best guarantee of it. Louth was built on its cattle market and it would be such an act of vandalism to turn our back on history.

I don't believe there is sufficient use of the livestock market to warrant building a new one. The money it would take to repair the existing one could be better spent elsewhere. If the land can be sold bringing income to the Council to invest elsewhere that will be of greater benefit to all residents.

Given current austerity measures and limited funding for much needed local services and amenities, the expenditure of such large sums of money on the cattle market cannot be justified (unfortunately).

The loss of yet another of Louth's historical heritage elements is not an option. In addition to the use of the livestock market people are drawn into the town on market days and use local facilities. It is an all year round facility and the site can also be used for other activities. There is no need for an additional Supermarket whose profits will do nothing to benefit the town. The loss of the car parking is also not an option, there is little enough as there is now. Keep Louth special and individual don't turn it into an over urbanised supermarket circus.

You state the "financial cost (of option 3) would be the loss of the sale value of the site; the requirement...to spend up to £700,000 on refurbishment...and ongoing maintenance liabilities". Firstly, the loss of the sale value could be offset by the amount made from selling the site earmarked for the replacement market. Secondly, from what people directly involved in running the current facility are saying, the true refurbishment costs would be considerably lower than £700k. Thirdly, there would be ongoing maintenance liabilities with a new market. Lastly, and I believe most importantly, Louth is a much loved market town (there's a clue there if you care to notice it!); beloved of many thousands of visitors as well as proud, local residents. It is loved for its marvellous range of independent shops (for which the people of many other towns would give their right arms!) and its unique and fascinating history - part of that history is the cattle market having been held since the 16th century. You do not need to travel far to find stark evidence that you tamper with the balance of a town at the risk of ripping out its commercial and civic heart. I believe the ultimate result of options 1 or 2 would be the devastation of Louth's centre.

A named Councillor lost our vote because she was against the market. We are a rural town and county so let us keep this precious resource.

Why put small farmers out of business travelling to Newark as well as stress to animals. Just upgrade what we have.

Why bother changing. Stick with what we have, upgrade and keep the small farmers in jobs and no stress on animals going to Newark.

Agriculture is the main industry in the county which is one food factory for the nation and it is important that Louth retains its agricultural heritage. With an ever increasing population to feed, agriculture will become even more vital to sustain the needs of the country and Louth should have the vision and ambition to be an important centre for the industry. With this in mind, the existing Cattle Market should not just be refurbished but upgraded to become one of the best in England. The Boars Head should be demolished to make way for meeting rooms and conference facilities which could also be used for educating people about farming in this great country of ours. With more homes being built in Louth, low parking will become a big issue, so it is important that the Cattle Market area be retained to cope with the increase in vehicle.

Stop wanting to sell all assets of Louth and balance your book of finance better. Give some encouragement to small business people instead of making it difficult for them getting started. Do you realise we are the only cattle market left in Lincolnshire.

I live near Louth, and keep a small flock of sheep. If the market closes, it would not be viable to take lambs to Newark. The stress on these lambs would be very bad. Why have the auctioneers at the market been given notice to quit in December?

There have been far too many changes to this beautiful town that have started to drain the soul out of Louth. As 'Capital of the Wolds' it needs something to be representative of its history. Option 3 provides this, Option 3 alone.

The facility is so much more than just the market. It is a meeting place. It is a community hub. It is a fantastic asset to farmers and young farmers. It needs to stay.

Louth is a beautiful market town. It owes its past, current state and future to agriculture and marketing. It also uses the functions in tourism. Option 3 is the optimum solution. It's what the community want. I believe the meeting at Sessions House, 9 Aug, comprehensively showed this.

I attended the meeting at Sessions House and noted the 'comprehensive' (almost unanimous) decision for option 3. This came from the people of Louth, the people who matter. The people want option 3.

I live near Louth, and cannot understand why both auctioneers have been given notice to quit, at Christmas 2017. Why? No alternate premises have been found. There is a Royal Charter on the Market!

Reading the suggests to me that you have already made up your minds. Some facts are presented in a negative manner.

1- Too many unanswered questions - what exactly is the "retailed proposals for the site"? Why is the sale value confidential? All smacks of an underhand deal. The ratepayers deserve better. 2- The site also has the potential to improve the quality of our lives. It also has the potential to be used as a site which could damage the character of the town. Too little info here for me.

The livestock market is an important part of infrastructure of Louth, in that it provides a focus for all farming community who have beasts. It is vital for the farmer's health and sanity in that a weekly meeting up allows more personal interaction. It is vital for good animal welfare and brings trade to struggling businesses in town. Tourism day visitors from Grimsby, Lincoln, etc. play big role in keeping Louth vibrant town and shopping is so much better in Louth. All tourists spending is believed by Councillors to be concentrated on the coast.

Louth is a market town don't destroy it. Keep the cattle market to help the rural economy. Don't put farmers out of business - especially small/ medium farmers who have grass fields they cannot plough up. Life could be difficult after Brexit and they are needed to feed the nation. East Lindsey spends too much on coastal tourism and forgets the livelihood of the local community.

I do not trust the figures given; they seem like a finger in the wind. I am concerned how this is a forgone conclusion - prove me wrong

Please listen to what the people said and indicated at the meeting at Sessions House in Louth.

Using any money saved in the Louth area.

Option 1 or 3 - Louth to retain a Livestock Market either new or refurbished.

I would hate for Louth to lose its charter for the cattle market, I feel it would be detrimental to the town itself, as I have witnessed the decline myself of a previous market town where I lived prior to moving here, it's become a town of hairdressers and estate agents, it lost its heart.

The area is a farming community. Lots of celebrities profess to prefer goods from Local Community. So keep the Livestock facilities. Goods can be followed from field/farm to consumer/store.

Being a retired butcher's wife I recognise the importance of a local cattle market. We will have lost all others in the County and it will have a devastating effect on the town and local community if Louth Cattle Market is lost! Local produce is so important today to the housewife feeding the family, and in closing the market would close many farming businesses too!

This has gone on long enough isn't it about time ELDC stopped wasting my money and made a decision.

We as a family visit my brother who lives in Louth. We enjoy the uniqueness of the town. We have nothing like this (small shops) we strongly oppose the closing of the cattle market; it attracts tourists into the town. To close it would be a disaster.

Do not take our charter. Do not take our market. Leave Louth market alone, just make it better, and end of!

I attended the meeting on Wednesday at Louth Town Hall standing room only and all but 1 person wanted option 3, but as the auctioneers have been given notice, I think that you in your Ivory Towers have already make your minds up. You don't care about the farmer's lively hood or the effects no Cattle Market will have on the town and its businesses, Think!!!! We don't need another supermarket.

Must help farmers in our rural town.

The cattle market is part of the history of Louth. The auction in the market place has gone and it would be a shame for the Cattle Market to disappear.

You must keep history or improve it.

You state sales income has and is reducing, therefore it does not make sense to spend £4 million pound on a new site. - Why not see the new proposed site for developments and the fields (and the cost of charter change you were prepared to fund) can be put to the upgrade of current site. - Are there any parties in the council who have any interest/conflict in benefiting from the sale?

Option 3 is best for Louth, for its people for its businesses from its future

Please keep out Cattle Market; it is local and well used by our livestock farmers. It would be prudent to repair the existing site, and let it continue to thrive. It is too far too travel to Newark Market, and more expensive.

Keep the market and refurbish it! But not where you have said. I am a young farmer! Please keep the only Livestock Meeting (Auction) in Lincolnshire going! As I want to farm

in the future, without the market this will be difficult. Also the only Market in a TB 4 area! We should see this for future economy.

The Livestock market is an important facility for Farmers in the locality. Louth is a market town, the jewel of the wolds. The market brings income to the businesses of Louth without it the town would undoubtedly be the poorer. Lincolnshire is renowned as an agricultural county it thus seems strange that a council in its heart is even considering the markets closure to the detriment of agricultural businesses. It <<https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/aJxxBuAnEGEcD?domain=businesses.it>> would appear that the council refurbishment figure of £700000 is misleadingly high to justify their closure intentions. The auctioneers, who work there and should know, consider only roof sheets on the main building need replacing. The council must be honest to its community.

Options 1 or 3 to me are preferable. For the welfare of animals, and to support smaller farmers in the area we need a local market. This is after all a rural community. The decision between options 1 and 3 would have to be purely a financial one, and as the public do not have access to sale price of the existing site, and the likely financial benefits of its redevelopment, it is impossible for us to give a reasoned answer.

The presence of the market is important to the town and surrounding areas, which are largely agricultural, and as it is the last in Lincolnshire the issue of animal welfare, should come in to consideration with reduced travelling times compared to sending animals to Melton Mowbray. The social, cultural and general benefits alluded to the town should be considered, not just the basic finances, and believe a proposed amendment to option 3 by the auctioneers seemed to offer better financial opportunities.

Consider Paul Robinson's alternative plans with lower costs but receipt from selling some of the road frontage land. After land earmarked for option one would be available for sale. More ... possible for car parking and coach parking with visitors to the town. Several business would close if any other option taken. Uniqueness of the town would be lost also historical significance would be lost. Mental health of farming community would be put at risk.

I believe a % of the space could also be used for parking or events on non-livestock trading days to generate more revenue back into the local town and surrounding areas or surplus land used for housing

Take one look at the photos from the public meeting and tell me that those people represent the future of the town and district Just a collective of friends of Louth Town Council and the current auctioneers presenting mischievous arguments and viciously discrediting anyone who dares to be brave enough to public ally disagree or present a different argument. Support farmers to sell direct to market - better for environment and animal welfare. How many butchers and restaurants in town sell meat purchased at the livestock market? Not too many if less than 3,000 beast get sold each year!! Sad to see Cllr Grist cowering to the noisy old farts too - more concerned with getting re-elected Adam than brining new investment to town? Or are you part of the "masons" club as well? How many other things from the 1600s should we bring back to preserve the spirit of the 1600 Historic Charter - famine, plague, horse and carts. Come on ELDC - this is our heritage. Keep us in the dark ages

I understand that the refurbish can be achieved at significantly less than the figure stated.

The figure of £700,000 has been drawn out of a hat. It obviously need not cost that. How about just spending on it the £200,000 allocated for attempting to remove the Royal Charter? Given that the latter is not guaranteed success it seems a more responsible move for a cash-strapped council to spend the money on something positive and guaranteed to show a result. I don't think the farmers will mind if it's not state-of-the-art. They just want their cattle market. And in this day and age it's important not to forget the social function of the market. Like the Lincolnshire Show it's a meeting place.

The outcome of the public meeting in Louth on 9.8.2017 proved overwhelmingly that there is massive support to choose option 3 and preserve our livestock market. You, the councillors are our elected representatives and should act upon and support the wishes of the electorate who put you there irrespective of your own particular points of view.

Surely as the site is rather large you could refurbish the building to incorporate the sheep sale. Then you could develop the sheep sale area. The market is needed for the rural economy with increased transportation of livestock for farmers particularly from the coast area they would suffer losses and our beautiful county would lose it heart and soul. There has to be a way with the site so large you can incorporate the livestock market in 1 building and develop some of the site.

Support our farmers - save existing site. The costs and figures quoted are a disgrace. Get rid of high paid executives costing the tax payer a fortune.

Please don't let this cattle market go. It's so needed. Thank you.

Option3 as proposed by Wilsons and Masons is the best. To build a supermarket would be a big mistake. It would damage the small shops if they go you will lose the tourists, and then the holiday trade on the coast will suffer.

The market is valuable and part of Louth's heritage. Hardly fair that the district council imply its priorities are more important.

The cattle market is a vital part of the town of Louth, many farmers prefer to take their stock to Louth, and they should not have to travel to Newark or further with their stock. It brings people to the town, which in turn is good for shops in Louth. WE DO NOT NEED ANOTHER SUPERMARKET IN LOUTH

Louth is an important market town in a farming rural county. Keeping its heritage of the Royal Charter and investing in the future of the cattle market should. If the site is enhanced and its use extended - with new ideas it should eventually be an asset to the town, you have to speculate to accumulate. Selling is a bad idea.

Not necessary to have further chain stores or supermarkets. Uphill shopping not desirable.

We need to hold on to our heritage and look at more creative ways to use the site when not required by our farmers for trading. E.g. Antique Fairs', concert venue, food festivals. We don't need another supermarket.

AS we have had the Royal Charter since the 16th century, I do not see any point in getting rid of it especially as we live in a farming community. The land would possibly sold for a supermarket - we already have 3, or alternatively for housing which we do not want any more as, we do not have the infrastructure to cater for more people - doctors, schools, jobs etc.

Essential for the rural economy and local farming businesses.

ELDC have not properly considered proposals to consolidate the facility freeing up land which could be sold for development. Politicians of all political parties and the whole agricultural sector are united on one point about Brexit - that agriculture will and must change. To close the Louth Livestock Market will close off the option for many farmers of turning from arable farming to profitable livestock husbandry.

Option 3 which could be revised and amended in line with the proposals put forward by Willsons/ Masons.

I have lived in Louth all my life. I played at the cattle market as a child and took my own children there most market days. Please do not let another part of our heritage disappear.

Keep the market here the directors of our business have used Willsons since any of us were born and acted in their clients best interests. Their clients best interests. They know what they are doing. Back them.

Why replace something that works perfectly well

Last cattle market in Lincolnshire. Only T.B. 4 year selling site in Lincolnshire. Brexit? We will need to have to look after own farmers after Brexit. If there was a T.B. or Foot and Mouth outbreak in Newark what then for our local farmers. ELDC & Councillors clueless about farming issues and the impact of shutting down the cattle market and the far reaching implications of this action. TAKE NOTICE OR GET VOTED OUT!!

As a large arable farmer in the area we have to try and improve our soils by having our straw haled and returned as farm yard manure. We may also have to grass down part of the farm because of Black grass problems and graze with Livestock. Both these options may not be viable in the future if Louth Market closes! A vast area of soil improvement and Caravan lock up could be lost!

I attended the meeting to discuss with the Councillors the issue of the future of the cattle market. It would appear that this is not a brownfield site and is, in fact, a thriving cattle market, and the last surviving one in Lincolnshire which makes the market town of Louth both unique and of interest both in terms of being culturally rich and of historic and touristic interest. In a room of 300 plus people, all were in favour of retaining this unique feature!

The Council need to consider value and welfare of the local community in reaching their decision. This is a massive opportunity to achieve this at very little cost to the district as a whole.

Cattle MARKET needs to stay where it is with option 3 put in place

Keep at least some tradition.

A possible solution would be to demolish the boars head ph. Extend the Newmarket car park. Retain the auction house, renovate the existing cattle market, and develop retail at the rear of the site. The extra car parking would be of benefit to the town.

The livestock market is part of our heritage, and Louth has seen many changes in the past decade. Please leave the market as it is.

Family farm @ Louth - come up each month to attend market / farmers market and also Butchers in Louth in which many towns do not have a choice as. To the selection of food - keep Louth special - Local market, local foods which bring us back after parents died to shop.

Vital to remain for local economy, no other livestock market in Lincolnshire, Least stress on animals, maintain valuable contact point for rural farming.

Its time ELDC, sorted itself out, you try to make out you're a business however, you are a service provider.

I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE VERY SHORT SITED OF THE CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS TO CONTEMPLATE SUSPENDING THE LIVESTOCK OPERATION COMPLETELY. I AM SURPRISED OPTION 2 WAS EVEN WRITTEN DOWN.

We are a farming family based some 25 miles from Louth but this remains our nearest livestock market. For about 20 years we bought and sold cattle here but due to a farm diversification project we no longer have time to visit the Market personally, but instead buy and sell our cattle through a local cattle dealer. The dealer uses Louth Cattle Market and so the provision of such a facility in Lincolnshire is vital to both farms and butchers in our country. The auctioneers who run the market are happy with the current site which needs a relatively small amount spending on it. Surely it makes economic sense for ELDC to improve the current market. It is vital for farms and butchers to have a Livestock Market in Lincolnshire.

The council has run the site down and should spend money to do it back up. It <<https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/qQooBcpMGmDFz?domain=up.it>> is not about money alone as the importance is on the community it supports and not just the farmers. Yet again the district council sees a short term financial gain to waste in Skegness.

I feel strongly that Louth should retain a cattle/livestock market. It is a traditional market town and I believe that the council should look to retain this into the future. Louth is independent shops. Local farmers need this we do NOT need chain stores/supermarkets.

To keep local rural businesses, local economy, rural community, want remaining livestock market, less stress to animals being with those who have reared them to the longest time and to enable local farmers to remain in business.

There is already 1 supermarket on the outskirts of town (Aldi) and this will have reduced footfall in the town centre. Another supermarket south of Louth will reduce it even more (people shopping and parking free on the cattle market will not walk into Louth to shop, as it means walking back up the hill!). The shops in Louth are predominantly charity shops and cafes. ELDC should follow the opinions of the people of Louth and not ignore

them as they have done on recent planning applications for housing. Louth is at the centre of an agricultural area and should have a cattle market.

We are a market town, and we have a farming background all around us. It is a very long way for the animals to go to Newark and stressful.

Louth's history is very much a rural community with farming an integral part of that. This should be encouraged. Animal welfare would suffer greatly if livestock have to travel from the coast to Newark.

Please don't sell the market! Repair it, develop it and then maintain it. It is a great asset to this community and support our farming community and all the associated business, and most importantly the last remaining market in Lincolnshire. It is not yours to sell!

I strongly believe a vibrant livestock market is an integral part of a successful market like Louth. We have seen too many towns lose their markets and independent shops as supermarkets kill diversity and the local economy. I am a newish resident of Louth and it's Louth's market town that attracted us.

We would only support option 3 if the whole project was re-launched and re-marketed this site surely could also support other income streams to ELDC.

The market is part of the fabric of our town. Please make it part of scene for another generation. Charge more rent or something!!

Do not sell out to highest bidder. Consider what's best for residents of Linden Walk and whole of Louth. No more eateries!

We need to retain our cattle market; it is the only one left in Lincolnshire and supports our framers, young farmers, auctioneers and associated businesses. Tourists come to Louth because it is 'special' and because it is an old traditional farming community. Take away the cattle market and you will tear the heart from it.

We don't want private equity firm taking money and running. We don't want to lose the market. Historically important.

Why are people in Skegness voting on what happens in Louth? Coastal regions have their own agendas and more money spent on them. This is unfair.

The costs quoted in options 1 and 3 look massively overstated! A ploy to persuade residents to vote for option 2? And as for the suggestion that our 500 year old charter should be 'bought off'? Disgraceful!

The operators claim they paid over £16,000 in 2016 which casts doubt on all figures supplied by the Council. The Council has a legal responsibility to keep the market and not sell the site to developers who could easily go elsewhere. A retail development on the site would bring much more traffic to the Newmarket area. Why not put the development where 300 or 400 houses will be.

Louth has a long tradition of having a livestock market and is a rural town located in the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB. The livestock market is comparable to the town hall, church and other public buildings in Louth and forms part of the greater fabric and character of the town. A livestock market should be maintained but moved to a new location on the

Fairfield industrial estate near to the agricultural dealerships and suppliers. Innovative uses of the cattle market should be explored when it is not a livestock market day/ days. Investing in a new site will mean lower maintenance costs. Sponsors for the new site, naming rights etc. could be explored to reduce costs to the Council. The quotes listed are preliminary estimates and formal tenders and full scoping should be undertaken to fully appraise costs and options. As a local resident and someone whose father and grandfather used the livestock market when they were sheep farmers I strongly state my opinion that option 1 and the continuation of a livestock market at a new location in Louth is considered and followed by the Council.

Currently Louth Cattle Market produces an income and helps to generate additional parking income. 'Let's go to Louth, its market day' a traditional saying that boosts Louth's economy in many ways. Sadly throughout the country professional offices are lying empty and retail units are closing. Why sell a thriving concern for possible failures? Asda had a vision of the future! Land is an asset of a long term nature for now and future generations. You can only sell these assets once. Plan for the future and resist this urge to dispense of this ELDC gold. The market and car parks have a future and will continue to generate a high level of income. Sadly shopping online is a present day innovation. N.B. review all financial facts quoted to avoid misleading judgements.

Option 1 comments: Are the two auctioneers (Willsons and Masons) willing to financial contribute towards a new build facility? What assumption was used to conclude that the completed building will only be worth £250k? Option 2 comments: Why does the council need to suspend the market while seeking an act of parliament to remove legal responsibility? How will the residents and stakeholders be assured that the money saved will be invested in the projects mentioned? Option 3 comments: Is there a cost to withdrawing from the ADV Partnership? Why is it not possible to have a retail area with the refurbishment? Why not ask for financial contribution from the auctioneers? Why not set up a trust funded from the livestock auctions to fund all repair and maintenance. If users want to continue with the facility, then they should be willing to pay for it.

The Livestock Market is an essential part of the history and current fabric of the Louth and North East Lincolnshire agricultural and more general community. My late grandfather and aunty were strong supporters of the Livestock market and Lincolnshire agriculture. I inherited and manage their land and lived in their farmhouse in Tetney for 8 years before moving in 2014. I consider you have a duty to preserve the Livestock Market - not as some decaying relic of times gone by for nostalgic reasons. But as a modern, dynamic part of the vibrant, successful diverse economy of Louth and the area. The bean counting way you have presented Option 3 is disappointing. You should be much more positive and forward thinking

Don't think the consultation really takes into view the true value of the market, current turn over, jobs; value to the agricultural economy, a more balanced view would have been fairer

Having attended the meeting at Louth Town Hall on 9th august, I feel very strongly from the presentation by Mr Grist and Mr Leyland, that regardless of very vocal opposition to scheme one, the decision has already been made. Why else would the auctioneers be given notice to quit by 31st December? I also feel that the costings for all schemes have been overstated with no evidence presented that they have been carried out accurately. How <<https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/Ak33BhMZp6mh2?domain=accurately.how>>

can a piece of land be valued currently at £280000 be only worth £250000 if the new build goes ahead? Who on earth does the maths at ELDC??? There was no assurance given, that if scheme one was chosen, that the money obtained from the sale of the cattle market would be ring fenced for the purposes of a rebuild. It was facile of the councillors to say that our local farmers could travel to Newark or Melton Mowbray to take their beast to market. No concern there for animal welfare or carbon footprint and I doubt very much whether either market would want the competition from the Louth area farmers. Not to mention the potential risk of spreading animal disease across the county. Louth cattle market has, for 500 years been the hub of the local farming community and its loss would be a disaster for the area. According to one of the speakers, the market had a turnover last year of £3.5million with payment of some £16500, not the £3000 quoted above. We do not need any more retail establishments "out of town". There are more than enough empty shops in town as it is. Frankly, the presentation, particularly by Cllr Grist was patronising and smacked very much of "nanny knows best" with, to my mind anyway, that the decision to opt for the first scheme has already been taken. As Cllr Grist says, ELDC are the custodians of the cattle market for the people of Louth, not the owners and as such, MUST listen to the wishes of the local population.

Let the people of Louth decide. Don't ride roughshod over public opinion as you usually do. You were elected to represent us, not to ignore our opinions.

Ludensians are proud of their heritage and all that Lincolnshire stands for. We're a community that extends beyond the town and we're thankful to the hardworking and grafting local farmers. Removing the age-old obligation, or rebuilding elsewhere will rip out the heart of this small community- Toll Bar Academy are trying their hardest to destroy the community spirit, so please ELDC, don't contribute any further. Renovate and allow our local farmers to gather, and have a heritage we can proudly hand to the next generation.

I think some of the comments used in this statement from ELDC are disingenuous and inaccurate! For example, "financial cost would be the loss of sale value of the site". You may as well say the loss to me this coming Friday is £27m because I won't be able to purchase a lottery ticket! You are obligated to provide a livestock market, so selling the site without providing a replacement should not even be considered. If you can't afford to do that then tough! You have only been considering the sale of the site as a short term fix to your finances, needed because of the economic down turn since 2008. What staggers me is that you appear to be happy to extinguish centuries of tradition almost at any cost. Option 2 is an example of that.

Lack of information about the amount of use and revenue both direct and indirect generated by the market and the sale price make it difficult to make an informed decision as to which option is the best however we as a farming business although in North Lincolnshire feel it is very important to retain the live market both as a necessary business outlet and as a focal point for farmers to meet and discuss issues affecting them.

The council's shameful disregard for a local auction mart providing business opportunity for both livestock producers in the area and local business in the town, as well as jobs and local business income is appalling. Its further flippant attitude to abolishing a centuries old charter is disgraceful and would be a complete waste of the public purse pursuing an application which is highly unlikely to succeed. Selling the site to a

supermarket would have catastrophic effect on town centre trade in what is regarded as a beautiful and traditional market town centre.

Thornton Le Fen Parish Council would like the funds from the sale of the cattle market to go back into the community via ELDC.

I do not live in Lincolnshire, but I am a small farmer, and have known of the market in Louth all my life. For that reason alone it would be a pity to close the market, for people like me it is the most famous feature of your town. (I have worked in agriculture since 1969 on a farm in Devon, spending 25 years in agricultural research in Hertfordshire including ecological survey work, and have been farming on a small scale in Carmarthenshire since 2000. In 2005, Bangor University suggested that ours was the most efficient farm in Wales, and we have been short-listed for three awards partly for our ecological work. We formally monitor moths, birds and bats here, and host the only flock of Norfolk Horn Sheep in Wales.) Although there have been changes in the use of livestock markets over the years, I think that you should be reminded of the importance of livestock markets for small farmers. At present, large farms can by-pass cattle markets by joining "food traceability schemes" and selling direct to supermarkets or their suppliers. Food traceability schemes depend on membership fees and inspection fees which can (do, in our case,) exceed the value of our flock. They also involve a lot of extra paperwork including recording batch numbers of bought in feeds etc. While this is easy for big farms, which buy whole lorry loads with a single batch number, smaller farms have to buy in small bags which often have different batch numbers, requiring a considerable amount of record keeping. This means that small farms are almost completely dependent on local livestock markets. Farmers are also prohibited from transporting their livestock for more than 40 km without a transporter's licence, and this often involves extra expense and time to do a course. While the money and time to train and licence a driver may not be a problem for a big farm, it certainly is for a small farm, as would be the cost of hiring a contractor to transport animals to a distant market. Supermarkets and their suppliers will not collect one or two animals from a small farm. This also means that small farmers are dependent on local livestock markets. On small farms the same person brings animals into this world, cares for them throughout their lives, and transports them to sale or slaughter. Although this cannot be recognised by conventional food traceability schemes, it is the ultimate form of traceability, and guarantees a very high standard of animal welfare, as the farmer benefits as much as his livestock from high welfare standards, and suffers as much as they do if welfare is poor. (Apart from increased vets bills, and lack of income when animals are sold in poor condition, neglected animals are much harder to handle, and hungry animals tend to break fences in their search for food and water. Strays may incur extra expense.) Small farms are important to wildlife, as they are areas of land that has to be managed in a different way from the neighbours. Small farms cannot compete directly with larger farms, so usually look for niche markets by using rare breeds of animals or unusual crops. Even when they do carry out the same management plan as their larger neighbours, they often have to wait to the end of a contractors list to get jobs done, and may not be equipped to carry out some of the less important weed, pest or disease control operations that are routine on larger farms. All of this means that species of wildlife exist on small farms that do not exist on their larger neighbours. Small farms are also more likely to make hay than silage as buildings and gateways may be too small for silage making machinery, or normal silage feeding methods. As is often stated the flora (and hence fauna) of hay fields is more diverse than that of silage fields. Small farms

dotted about the country provide stepping stones for migratory animals, and provide connectivity between nature reserves, allowing for gene flow to keep protected colonies healthy. (This is reflected in the ecological discipline known as Meta Population Dynamics described in more detail here <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metapopulation> <<https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/R2ppBUelWGXUQ?domain=en.wikipedia.org>>)

Small farms usually have to supplement their income by tourist activities, educational visits, craft activities and niche marketing of specialist foods etc. Please do not close Louth Livestock Market. You risk losing some of the highest quality and most unusual food that the county produces, much of the county's wildlife, and a significant part of your tourism and education. Please forgive me for interfering in a Lincolnshire debate, but I hope that something I have said will help.

I am a farmer in North Lincs and Louth is my nearest livestock market. Although Lincolnshire is principally an arable county there is a lot of livestock in the coastal and steep wold areas. We are about to have Brexit along with all the unknowns particularly within agriculture. I would humbly suggest that land less suited to arable farming will revert to stock farming. This scenario could easily double the market turnover and once again make Louth the livestock centre of Lincolnshire.

Lincolnshire's only remaining livestock market. Louth is a market town. I believe the greater good will come from a successful market rather than housing and development.

I believe the Market has other local economic benefits which are not mentioned above, whilst I understand the income is only £3k, I suspect the market's turnover is near £4 million and is vital for the local agricultural economy. I am sure the council could improve their return from the site by looking at other income streams i.e. retail and services, the is what the Market at Melton has done.

1. Your quoted figures are misleading. Rent received - 2016 - £16,300!! 2. The refurbishment costs seem excessive - but yes - 'compact' the livestock market onto a smaller area; that area to be used for many other 'events'/ sales meetings, conferences, exhibitions, etc. 3. At least 2 acres to be released for sale or leasing 4. The Fairfield site could be sold to release funds for other ELDC projects. 5. The livestock market is essential to maintain fabric of the rural economy for whole of Lincolnshire - not just ELDC area. 6. Also - it is a social meeting and networking centre for many people. 7. It is an employer of people and creates other employment.

How can ELDC sell it when it was left in a charter for the people of Louth?

It is essential to keep the town alive through its traditional markets. We do not need an Asda to further damage local shops.

Louth is well served with independent retailers and three medium sized supermarkets. It does not need any additional large retailers which would without doubt damage trade, particularly for the small independents leading to further empty high street shops.

The cattle market is a vital asset for the town. It draws farmers into Louth every week spending their money which they have done for hundreds of years. This supports our town centre shops and other local business. Listen to local people.

Keeping the last livestock market in Lincolnshire can only add to the uniqueness of Louth and add to its tourism 'draw'.

Consider Paul Robinson's very wise plans. By using the building during the week more income would be generated. There would still be social connection for farmers and workers, also mental and health care. All vital for them. By building more supermarkets, then more individual and local shops would disappear and ruin Louth. Why have auctioneers and businesses been served notice to quit, when you say you will consider the public's view? It seems you have already decided to sell the site.

Louth must have a cattle market. It is the only one left in the area. Farmers must have their facility. - An ex farmer.

The Market has been part of the towns and councils history for 400 years the site could be adapted for use for other civil occasions and public entertainment. It is sad that the true details are not disclosed to allow everyone responding to make a clear decision on the true cost to the council at the loss of the market. Markets such as these are closing and looking to the future there would be an increased need for such establishments. Has the council consulted other towns which have replaced their markets and created centres which provide other opportunities?

This is a valuable asset which is not used to its full potential ---many other uses in addition to the livestock market Livestock markets are being closed throughout the country and this one should definitely be retained for its historical importance

Where can the proposals of ADV Partnership be consulted? Where are the plans?

ELDC is solely concerned with safeguarding the salaries of its numerous employees. It does not support either local communities or local businesses. The proposals to yet again shut Louth market are a prime example of this. The effect on not just the farming industry, but private people, some who keep livestock would be fundamental.

This facility, in my opinion, has always been a slur on the Newmarket area of the town. Time for change.

I am not a personal user of the market but am partner to a gamer who does

I attended the public meeting in the town hall on Wednesday night. The auctioneer spoke very well and enlightened me to the council's lies! How this form has been weighted one way is a disgrace! Whoever put together these figures should be sacked. I was in favour of option 2 but having heard the auctioneer put his case and listened to the farmers opinions and the decorum they displayed in putting them across I believe there is only one option. But it must be delivered!

Struggling to see how a site which is unused for six and a half days a week (other than free parking) is such a vital jewel in Louth's unique crown and heritage. I've never "visited" a slaughter auction and would never choose to. If my kids want to see cows and sheep I'll take them to Rand Park Farm and the like People touting environmental and animal welfare appear to be missing the point that farms can sell via other means (i.e. direct from farm). Lots of emotive arguments being trumpeted by individuals who will either be dead or retired within the next 10-20 years.

At the beginning of this survey it reads in bold writing "Please read this information before taking part in this survey" it actually should read "Please do not read this information as the council's complete lies will lead you to make an uninformed choice.

Auctioneer, farmers, residents and town councillors' opinions that were expressed exposed this disgraceful attempt to hoodwink the Louth resident.

It seems pointless to waste millions on a new facility when it is not needed and the existing site can be renovated to provide the service. The Second best alternative would be to build a new facility, but under no circumstances should the cattle market, a vital process in the agricultural way of life, be lost. This provides value to the community which is in danger of being lost if the market closes, with an impact on animal welfare if animals have to go to a different location rather than Louth.

Whatever the outcome, Louth needs the cattle market to keep it alive.

The recent description of the market by Cllr Jones as a 'drinking club' for farmers is an absolute disgrace, and this councillor should be removed from office. A business with an annual turnover of £3.4m can hardly be described as an economic failure. ELDC has a consistent approach to the area's heritage: knock it down and sell it off for a fast profit. This short-term strategy will only last as long as there are assets to flog off to the cheapest bidder. The council has a responsibility to preserve and regenerate, not to simply do away with assets it views as an inconvenience. I, for one, will be doing my utmost to ensure this councillor's ignorance is exposed as widely as possible; and will be actively campaigning for the council to refurbish the existing market.

I feel it is very important for Louth to continue to have a livestock market and not turn its back on history. Louth is a rare gem - a thriving market town! To turn the site into a retail 'opportunity' will only detract from the wonderful market retail centre Louth has with its independent shops. Market the fact that it still has a livestock market, make the most of the traditional nature of the town and its long history and attract visitors to the region - this is worth so more than an Asda! I was very disappointed to read the very biased slant of your outline of the options - Is there not protocols that should be adhered to in such consultations that ensure wording is balanced and neutral rather than favouring a particular option?

I believe that it would be detrimental to the area to lose the facility as it illustrates its heritage as a rural market town. Louth is well-known and much admired for its trade in local produce, and the cattle market is a key part of that. Keep the town unique and it will always thrive. I also think that the options that we're being asked to vote on are rather narrow. Refurbishment of the site could involve mixing in new uses. The farmers market is not utilising the site every day and so other commercial partnerships or community uses could have access on the remaining days?

As an agricultural county it is vital that LINCOLSHIRE DOES NOT LOSE ITS LAST CATTLE MARKET. As long as the existing market is kept open until a new one is ready for immediate use and that there is no time when neither site is available. Thank goodness the law requires such a facility.

I am a totally arable farmer whose land straddles the border of East and West Lindsey near Wragby. I have no direct trading with Louth Market. I sell some corn and straw to one neighbouring cattle producer and have manure for straw swap with another. A sheep farmer also grazes my Sugar beet tops. Both the cattle farmers buy all there stock from Louth and one sells much of it back through, the other sells direct to an abattoir. Both tell me they CANNOT go to buy in Newark or Melton Mowbray because of Tb rules and

both would be forced to cease operating. This would be bad for my business as well as theirs, so I would like to support the renovation of the current market. Thank You

The facility should remain and the building refurbished as a better option to building a new facility. The market must continue.

Keep it open!

Expenditure should cover essential repairs only, together with moving the sheep pens undercover, thus reducing the anticipated £700K suggested cost. Also look at any areas thus freed up for sale (e.g. current outdoor sheep market).

Hi Just seen a Facebook post from Melton Mowbray cattle market. Even Louth Markets main opposition is behind keeping Louth market. Get with it ELDC

Prefer option 1. However I would like to see the site made multi use to give it a much more sustainable and viable future. Louth must keep its livestock market.

Absolute need to retain the facility. Louth has been built upon trade and links to the Cattle Market and should remain as such. We need the facility for future generations, business and attracting tourists to Louth and the surrounding villages. Additionally it would be nice to see the site (on non-market days) being utilised more: parking, car boot sales, fundraising activities. Need to be more more proactive and move Louth forward in a positive way!

As the last remaining Market in the county, in the premier farming area of the country maybe it's time for ELDC to remember that without a vibrant Agriculture its tourism will suffer. Look to invest and benefit from the rewards of getting behind the rural community.

If you sell out to a major supermarket group Louth will die with smaller businesses closing and only charity shops remaining. The market is vital for the farming industry and to preserve the "market town" status you should repair and retain the market. Some of the maths does not add up and I'm sure when you go out to public tender for the works businesses would welcome the opportunity and prices wouldn't be as high as quoted. If it's been good enough since 1660 then I believe we should keep it don't be fools!

I feel that the estimated cost of refurbishment has been grossly exaggerated & the site could be brought into good repair much cheaper. Also note that a number of imaginative suggestions have been made (notably by the Keep Louth Special Campaign) to utilise areas of the existing site to benefit the community & attract extra income. Farmers & the local community have an emotional attachment to the cattle market on the existing site which is close to the town centre where farmers can meet & socialise - a function vital to farmers whose work frequently leaves them in isolation. The cattle market is the only one left in the county & adds to the unique nature of Louth itself.

The Louth market is an intricate link between the farming community and the town itself, bringing business and employment to the town of Louth. The cost of replacing this site is huge and just leaving it to be challenged is not an economic decision that should be considered either due to the fact it could take years to reach a conclusion and this

would in turn create an issue with HSE of the site if no investment was made in this time frame.

Use the site better, car boot sales, car shows have the fair come and visit the town, food shows and exhibitions attract more visitors to the town. We do not need more food shops or any other business that takes trade from the existing shops and businesses in the main shopping area. We do not want to see shops empty and boarded up. If you can get out of your office go and see what closing the cattle market did for the Uttoxeter in Staffordshire main shopping area, lots of businesses pulled out because the big boys duplicated business.

The Council has a moral obligation to honour the Charter which the town was privileged to receive and as such is an important part of our history. The present market conditions are challenging for retail and the promise of more jobs and successful development on the edge of town will put further downward pressure on the town centre. There is an opportunity to develop part of the site, recognising that the cattle market is smaller than it used to be and therefore there is a more pragmatic option that would allow low cost housing to be delivered by the Council in conjunction with a developer which would yield a small contribution to the refurbishment costs and provide much needed housing close to the town centre. The benefit to the community would be significant in that the cattle market and associated trade in the town would be maintained, the area refurbished, and essential new housing provided. Projections associated with option 1 are unrealistic in the present market and if they were successful would disrupt and potentially damage trading in the heart of the town.

My late father was a smallholder farmer who used the cattle market on occasions to buy or sell milking cows and calves. However, he attended the cattle market every week for two main reasons: - 1) to keep in touch with the market value of such animals 2) to keep in touch with fellow farmers and smallholders - social media had not been invented back in the 1950s / 60s / 70s when my father was working. A very important factor within the farming community was, and still is, that it is a very isolating and isolated community of people. The mere nature of the occupation / vocation is that it is one where individuals work independently for hours on end, not meeting with others. The early mornings / late nights, when working with animals, meant that one opportunity to "socialise" with others in the same position was at the cattle market. It was, and is, a lifeline to these individuals. It is vital that the proposed sale of the cattle market site is withdrawn. The cattle market should be refurbished to enable it to serve future generations, as it has for many years gone by. It is vital for the future of the market town of Louth.

Due to the lack of provision in surrounding area it is necessary to continue to provide this facility for the surrounding farmers; which as a product brings shoppers for around the area on market day and if co-coordinated with local schools in the Lincolnshire larger area can provide a useful teaching aid to the pupils

A live stock market is a focal point of a town as it not only brings revenue in for the local farmers but for the other shops and business which are usually much busier on market day. If it's anything like our market at Melton Mowbray it also attracts a lot of tourists to the town which again helps to keep the town alive

Leave the site to local residents and businesses. Both Louth and the coast are isolated and need spaces for community to foster wellbeing among citizens, but Peter should not have to pay Paul.

The Fairfield Industrial Estate has a good infrastructure to cope with the traffic on 'market' days.

Louth have had a livestock market for a very long time and I think we should keep it as it is part of Louth's history. If the surrounding area was tied up it could be used as a car park brings in money to the council (except Thursday market day).

So farming is an lonely job, living in acres of open countryside Have they ever tried living in a cramped terrace house, trying to look for a job in Louth that doesn't require a car and feeding/raising a young family from Louth's small and overpriced shops If you are not going to sell the Cattle Market, what else can the Councils do to bring more shops and jobs to the town so that I can provide for my family properly please

Attending the meeting at the Town Hall last week confirmed my view that option 3 is by far the best. It appears to me that East Lindsey District Council has not been as open and honest as they might have been. The strong impression over this last few years is that they have been endeavouring to 'steam roller' their preferred option i.e. closing the market and selling off the site, without proper local consultation. The way these 3 options are set out/described is very biased to achieving this end. Closing this facility on this site would not be beneficial to the town, local residents or the farming community that is still a major contributor to the local economy.

I have lived in or close to 2 towns that have lost their livestock markets in Lincolnshire. One market has been built on with intensive housing and a supermarket about 30 years ago. It is not attractive. It used to be really busy in the town on market day now people drive to the supermarkets and go. The town centre is shabby and deserted. The other market closed more recently and the site has been tidied, but nothing else. I would be disappointed to see housing on that old market site or a supermarket as there are still a few independent retailers in the town. Having seen the loss of markets and the effect they have on the nature of rural towns, although I understand that practices change and investment is needed, I do think they are worth retaining as they really add to the atmosphere of the town even for those not directly involved.

Have a care with what you do with OUR MONEY! Remember, we can vote you OUT. £5 million for a NEW cattle market £700,000 to refurbish the existing one? NO CONTEST. Option 2 is a "dead duck" anyway

I have ticked option 3 but maybe get a couple more quotes, the costs seem excessive.

I am a farmer and sell sheep at Louth Market and am very happy with things as they are in the market. Louth has a wonderful shopping are with character and charm - we do NOT need another super market in Louth.

One point not mentioned during the public meeting regarding the threat to Louth's local businesses. The money they generate stays locally, whereas large or multi material businesses take wealth away from the local area.

Under option 3 the Council could enhance the use of the cattle market site e.g. use for exhibitions, concerts, Sunday car boot sales & some retail provision related to the new/ additional activities on site. Important to keep the livestock market connected to the town centre.

We need to remain a market town. The site needs to be refurbished and the farmers need support, especially in the face of Brexit. I would be supportive of partial development of hotel.

After attending last night's Town Hall meeting it's clear that the overwhelming view is for option 3. I particularly agreed with the proposition to revamp the site to include provision for a hotel, such as a Travelodge. This would raise capital for the refurbishment, plus provide much needed visitor accommodation. I've spoken to local service providers and they all agree that a hotel would be most desirable. Why is it that cities in the U.K. go out of their way to promote their history and tradition and market towns seem hell-bent on losing theirs?

The cattle market is a key part of Louth and Lincolnshire. There are farmer and animal welfare benefits as well as bringing business to the town as a whole. The Louth consultation meeting was overwhelmingly in favour of option 3.

We do not need another supermarket in Louth. It will kill our unique town centre.

A definitive No to the sale to ADV. Who are they? What do we know of their intentions? What is a retail-led proposal? We need more hard facts before a sale could ever be considered. What is to stop them selling the site on again? ELDC seem to think a cattle market is not necessary, so to talk about spending between £4-5 million seems very strange and cynical when they talk about "declining use". Perhaps ELDC should have promoted the market and spent more on its upkeep over the years. I think part of the site could be developed (not by ADV) - perhaps flats on the site of the Boar's Head. There are proposals for 1600 properties to be built in Louth. We should consider the parking implications. There's not enough in the town itself and this site is the one open space near the town centre which could be used. The Cattle Market could remain, part of the site developed, and a property laid out car park with better drainage at the low lying point near the gate leading to new market.

Keep the market up or the town will suffer.

I don't want the market to close. This will be bad for business and surrounding towns.

I am sure a facility for a new market could be built at a much lower price and this should be the project.

Please do not close the market the surrounding town will suffer detrimentally.

I have recently moved to the area and have a concession in an antique emporium in Aswell Street. I also come to view the items in Louth Auctions alongside the cattle market. I used the cattle market car park. I hope there is not the slightest possibility of you selling the site to Asda - it would be akin to knocking down the church and building a Tesco. If you have spare land, what about people - houses, apartments, leisure facilities, children's facilities, an art & culture gallery. Anything but Asda.

We have bought and sold cattle and sheep from the market for 3 generations, and being very happy with it. Don't you think you have enough super markets in Louth?

Why should the council spend £5m on a new market when the one we have is quite adequate? The royal charter must be retained for the local farmers which are the backbone of the local community in providing much of the food eaten in Louth. Had the market been regularly maintained there would be no need to spend £700,000 to bring it up to standard. If the site was properly developed for hosting workers and visitors it could be eliminate many of the bothers of street parking (Church St) etc. As well as encourage visitors and creating revenue. Don't maim Louth.

Livestock farming is a vital part of the economy. Some farms sell to local butchers and some have national contracts but there remains a surplus of animals and a local market reduces stress on animals.

Should be left as they are. If it's not broke why change it.

It is the last cattle market in Lincolnshire. It is part of our heritage and should not be lost.

Assuming there are other Livestock markets within a reasonably local area, it makes no sense to spend £4-5m that would be much better spent elsewhere in the local community.

Refurbishment of the current site is the most sensible and cost effective scheme. The farming community have made it quite clear that this is their preferred option and say that it also brings in more revenue for the town's shops. A number of the financial statements made in the consultation document are inaccurate, and in my view are a blatant attempt to distort the true facts so that ELDC will achieve their own preferred objective. What will happen when they have finally sold off all of the family silver? Louth cattle market is an integral part of Louth and the only one left in Lincolnshire. They sold livestock to the value of £3.4-million and as landlords, ELDC receives a rent based on a percentage based of commission, which in 2016 amounted to £16,279 - more than five times higher than the figures you quote earlier in this document. The cattle market site provides a vital service - if it closes, or even suspends operations for a short period, then a number of farmers in this district and across the wider county will go out of business. The knock on implications of this are immense. For once, it is time that ELDC invests in this site and works with the local community and farmers to provide an asset that supports a range of operations beyond the current two days and adding value not just to Louth but to the whole economy of East Lindsey and beyond. This whole ELDC scheme is financially invalid and fundamentally flawed when broken down and looked at objectively. ELDC is there to serve the community, a fact which it conveniently ignores when the community disagrees with its viewpoint. This is an impoverished area which should be nurturing its farming community and associated businesses, not having this spend spend spend attitude and riding roughshod over its inhabitants, when they struggle to survive.

It is inhumane to herd animals into pens just to be sold off for meat and time and there are far more worthy causes to spend the money on.

We're being asked to reduce carbon emissions yet closure would force longer vehicle journeys; more and more people want good animal welfare, yet closure will add more

stress to those animals because of the longer journey. All you need are safe and dry areas for the animals, toilet facilities and a covered auction area with a small office area. I'm not sure how the council have reached a renovation cost of up to £700k?? (Even with your estimates). Lincolnshire is the centre of the agricultural nation so how can we have no cattle market?? This law has been in place for over 400 years so why now decide to close the current site down? Wouldn't a reduced sales income relate to the price that beasts are fetching, rather than a reduction in use? Is this perhaps just money making exercise by ELDC? Surely it's important that we source our meats locally, within our county, not in Newark, Notts? What happens when Brexit begins and we become more reliant on our own produce and not imported meat? Surely when people come to market they also use the local facilities in Louth, which in turn supports local businesses (food outlets, grocers, butchers, petrol). Closing the current site, so the plot can be sold to other retailers shouldn't be an option. Surely, the sale in itself would cost ELDC money to complete? Essentially ELDC are saying that it's legally binding duty to offer a cattle market is costing them money? And instead of looking at how the market can be profitable, you'd rather ignore your local farmers and sell the site to make you money. Yes, ELDC is a business, with a finite amount of money, and you have to offer value for money to all your residents. But I suspect this consultation is a dud, you're just going through the legal motions, and the site will be closed anyway!

Great to have a Market in the Town, draws people to the Town centre. Need to keep Town centres alive and interesting for visitors to come.

Additional retail in Louth has the potential to kill off the existing, very individual retailers which sets Louth above all other market towns in the district. So the net benefit of the investment would be nullified if thus were to happen. Given the current economic climate, an option not requiring finding massive funding is my preferred option. I think it would be totally wrong to seek to amend the Charter.

The livestock market is a very important facility to the farmers and livestock producers of Lincolnshire offering more services to users/visitors than solely the buying/selling of cattle and sheep. The closure of the market would put more pressure on an already stressful industry. Farmers would have to contend with the effect of having to pay the increased costs of transporting their animal's further distances to other markets or have the troubles of trying to find alternative avenues through which to sell their stock or possibly even take the difficult decision to change their farming policy. There would also be the knock on effect on the future of the businesses who occupy the market units as well as bringing less custom to the businesses in the town.

Live stock markets are outdated and cruel. Let's provide something different, cheaper and modern for everyone.

Only market in Lincolnshire, keep it.

If the figures are correct this seems the best option

There is more to life than farmers. Spend the money on more worthwhile causes outside of Louth and Skegness. We are residents too remember!

I was in Louth recently and was so disappointed in the lack of a good variety of shops, and a happy community vibe. I quite literally went home empty handed! Louth

desperately needs re - generating. A project that provides new jobs and shopping facilities is essential.

ELDC need to leave things as they are - too many things are being destroyed because of councils not thinking through properly.

The market is needed post Brexit, stop wrecking Louth's heritage!

The only cattle market in Lincolnshire.

Needs to remain where it is, it's a landmark.

It is important that the market is kept to service the farming community and protect Louth as a unique market town. A supermarket would kill the town, like Market Rasen.

Don't close it.

I think the loss of the cattle market would be a backward step. Why not re-furbish it or does common sense not work with councils? Many of our customers are farmers and they are already under pressure without you lot making matters worse.

As Britain prepares to leave the European Union there may well be an increased need for a cattle market in this largely agricultural area. I would expect the Council to adopt a more forward and innovative strategy rather than the somewhat limited and unimaginative approach demonstrated by its clearly favoured option.

1 The sale proceeds are going to be spent on the new site (which is where) in Louth. 2 There is a cost to pay to remove the charter (£200.000). 3 What type of retail outlets are proposed for this site? 4 In regard to the employment prospect`s that might create with this proposal, they could still be created by using the proposed new site for the cattle market for retail development instead. The sale of this site will raise money that will go towards the upgrade on the existing cattle market. 5 You have stated there is a declining income from the cattle market so why spend £4-5 million on the new site. 6 Why have you let an asset become so run down?

Keep it Refurb it Get good builders in and you won't have to shut it during works.

ELDC should all be sacked!

The Council has not behaved in a trustworthy way.

The farmers need that place to sustain their business, in turn help the local economy. If the farmers cannot sell their stock, the what?

The livestock market should remain for history, business and sustainability.

This is a TB free area and we want to keep it this way. Livestock markets are important to an agricultural area.

Very important to keep the market - even if a bit smaller.

Please keep.

To close this facility when the nearest available mart is Newark is beyond short sighted. All that will happen is the Council installing a new retail site, which has appalling access,

is poorly used and will close in 3 years time having cost a fortune. Louth is a rural market town, let's remember that, we have no want for big supermarkets or retail developments- we have enough issues supporting the 4 smallish supermarkets now! There are plenty of local shops in town struggling as well so the notion of just building something else seems nonsensical. Furthermore as a largely agricultural county, to send the livestock for sale out the county it is beyond preposterous! The drive with a stock box would be 2 hrs if not more when accounting for traffic. The sheer disrespect for the situation was shown in the email from Neil Jones, who deserves a disciplinary for such a lack of regard. Louth will become a dying town and in shutting the livestock market you not only halt the buying and selling of stock in the town, but you also put a halt on all the subsequent business that people do whilst there, such as using the post office, or hair dressers or coffee shops etc. Option 3 is the only option which would keep costs low to the council and allow the mart to continue trading as it should. How about instead of spending £200,000 to remove a legal charter you actually spend this money on simply replacing the roof to start with?

Your information appears to be very biased as your figures do not agree with the ones from the current operators of the market i.e. annual income of £3,000 when the auctioneers actually paid £16,279 plus parking charges and licence fee from Bowler Auctions, also your estimates for repairs appear to be exaggerated.

What consideration has been given to the animal welfare in regard to transportation if the Louth market closes? Lincolnshire is & will remain an agricultural county, providing a diverse range of quality food, for which we should be proud. The Council should be ensuring that all Lincolnshire produced products are marketed under that banner; it's the future for our economy.

Looking Ahead we are on the cusp of new agricultural development due to the withdrawal from the EU and changeability of world affairs. From past experience it will be evident that this nation must have the priority to be able to feed ourselves! I sense that in the future that the facility plus refurbishment will be useful once more.

Option 1 will best preserve the identity of the Louth area... I advise the council look into trade/tourism benefits for years to come and the marketability of such a cattle market... to increase the sales income (£3,000 per year over the past nine years).

My family have had a long connection with Louth cattle market both on my side and my husband's side of the family. We have been bringing livestock to Louth for many generations. The livestock market is important not just to farmers but to the town as a whole. If farmers don't come to Louth livestock market they will not come and spend their money in the town. The Royal Charter is something to be proud of. History isn't just about bricks and mortar of a town it's the social history too and should be made more of when promoting Louth as a destination. The market is important to farmers not just because it is somewhere they come to sell their livestock it's also an important meeting place in what can otherwise be a very isolating job and with the presence of the LRSN it's a vital facility for their health and wellbeing as most are not good at accessing health support. Farmers are not averse to change. Most farmers are progressive, innovative and forward-thinking (even though the 'Countryfilers' think we should still be ploughing with horses) but they are still proud of their heritage. Much more use could be made of the market where it currently stands if it were updated to include some sort of meeting or conference room where the Young Farmers could meet for example

(obviously with a bar!) or other meetings could be held to bring in income. In addition to this the market is important for: Traceability - consumers today want to know where their food is coming from Transport - it's a local facility so from a health and welfare point of view for moving our stock Transparency - farmers can bring their livestock and see it sold for a fair price rather than having to sell it to the supermarkets If the market goes many farmers will be forced to go out of livestock and this will have a knock-on effect on many other ancillary businesses. Following a very passionate meeting at the Louth Town Hall last night I hope that ELDC will take on board the unanimous show of hands for keeping the market on its current site. It's a pity you didn't have an attendance sheet there but I believe it was estimated there were 300 people there - a mix of farmers & Louth residents. The suggestion of a group of people to take forward the running of the market could be a possibility - a mixed group of farmers, auctioneers & residents with a formal constitution. Please take on board the very strong feelings of last night. Don't be the Council who close the last cattle market in Lincolnshire.

I believe that to retain the cattle market in Louth is of benefit to Louth & District businesses people and also the wider community of the area. Having no cattle market in Louth would be a retrograde step for Lincolnshire. We definitely do not need any additional supermarkets in Louth. The local High St. must be supported to retain the wonderful character of Louth.

Why not use it for other purposes as well, 1 farmers markets 2 car boot sales 3 drop in centre for farmers / rural health clinics 4 young person's farming /environment education 5 on site butchery /cheese shops 6 tap into huge local tourist numbers

Essential part of local farming in mid to East Lincolnshire, this must be preserved for future generations

Keep Louth as a market town and keep farmers in business

Have you enquired of the local farmers how many of them would use the cattle market? I suspect the reduction in turnover has been caused by the impending closure! If their travel costs are increased, surely the cost of the food would increase above and beyond other causes.

Cost of £700,000 is exaggerated and it must be put to tender. Some land can be freed up for development, possibly retail and agriculture related outlets. Parking could be increased by a multi-story park - maybe only 2 or 3 levels.

You do not state how much the sales of the existing site will bring in but if enough to build the new cattle market no problem. Invest in Louth not just on the coast!!

A third supermarket would destroy the centre of Louth.

To my mind the best option would be to make the whole area into a medical centre - for all three of our practices - separate areas of course. Free parking and on nipper bus route.

It is important to maintain local livestock markets to facilitate a choice for local farmers to buy and sell in a transparent public market vs being forced to use opaque price taking alternatives. As Lincolnshire's only market it is vital that Louth remains. If a new build is not viable in the short term then Option 3 of a refurbishment with security could also

work. Here at Melton Mowbray Market, we have benefitted from council investment in the town centre market and have a vibrant facility at the heart of the town, servicing the rural and urban markets, both economically and socially. If Council representatives would like to visit, we would be delighted to show them around.

Leave cattle market as is - best for Louth residents and businesses. Don't involve private equity company - they don't care about Louth.

Save this historic market for Louth. Don't spend on Skegness. At very least, town needs the car parking.

Louth needs more support for what makes it a great place to love - more local shops and unique businesses.

Alongside my serious concerns over animal welfare, distance travelled before market, I strongly feel that we should be supporting the local farming community. With the possible loss of subsidies to come, every effort, and that includes keeping things local, must be made to ensure that our food and products come from the farmers of East Lindsey.

This market is vital to Lincolnshire.

Please leave be

The town needs to move forward. Put the cattle market on the industrial estate and rejuvenate the area into a Tesco or Asda!

DO not close. Vital to Lincolnshire

Too much money wasted on change for the sake of it!

Leave well alone...

The nearest local livestock is now Newark. The market needs expanding e.g. Milton Mowbray

Leave alone!

It's part of Louth history, why waste tax payer's money on trying to get rid

Council please visit c.c.m LTD at Skipton N.Yorks. Having lived and worked there for many years it seems to be the ideal solution to your problem. The buildings and land there are use for many commercial purposes including a Craven College other small business. It is also used as a theatre and exhibition centre e.g. for yarn fest etc.

This is the only Cattle Market left in Lincolnshire and is traditional

Support local farmer and family butchers.

Best produce is local.

It's been a tradition for years, why change something what we all use.

After having a good walk around the site looking at all the proposal I cannot see where you would possibly spend £700, 00000 on refurbishment of the facilities and site. So in my view it is by far the best option.

The current market operator under uses thee facility, with the majority of livestock traveling to neighbouring counties to be marketed. Changing the market operator to another proactive auctioneer may be an avenue to explore.

Louth should keep its cattle market not only for farmers, butchers but also local jobs. Why should Louth supply money to a sports centre in Mablethorpe when there is a school sitting idle going to rack and ruin.

It is very important to keep this cattle market to Louth for farmers and butchers alike. It is disgusting to think money is taken from Louth and given to Skegness and Mablethorpe.

Lack of trust in the council to provide what they say they will. The new livestock market needs to be up and running before facilities are taken away from an established market, not only to support farmers but to allow visitors a place of interest and encourage the public into the area and therefore the theme of the beautiful town.

You want to close everything better pensions.

A great loss to Louth, it must not close, keep for Lincolnshire.

Part of Lincolnshire history.

Support local farmer

This is the livelihood of local farmers.

We need to keep it in Louth where it is because it will cripple the town if it is moved because there will be a decrease in people going to shop in historic town.

Why waste money when facilities serve a good purpose now!

Keep it as it is.

Lincolnshire is a rural county and needs to remain so; Louth is a thriving market town and attracts a lot of visitors. It already has two larger supermarkets i.e. Aldi and Morrison's; plus several small supermarkets, if another large supermarket was to be built on the cattle market all this would do is kill a lot of the local shops in the town. There is a large farming community round Louth which need the market should this market not remain then I am sure that a lot of their farming would be finished. To sell the cattle market would be very short sighted.

To remove the livestock market would do significant damage to the many smaller farmers within our community who are already struggling to compete with larger commercial farms. The option to remove the market completely will significantly damage the town and local businesses

The market could be refurbished and redesigned for a lot less than £700,000 land could be released (sheep market) for development.

The rate of return on renovating the old market is totally unacceptable.

Essential part of farming community especially coming of Brexit.

Louth needs livestock and farming to bring visitors to Louth

This cattle market should remain open, being the only one in the county. It brings in vital income to the town, is an important meeting place for the farming community, for some the only one. It would be a total disgrace to lose it.

I am a farmer that sells livestock at the market. After selling the cattle we visit Louth to spend money in the shops. The cost of £700,000 to repair the roof is highly inflated and misleading.

Something of a handicap not to have the ADV sale value.

I would prefer the market to stay as it is.

Louth should keep the cattle market on existing site and look at utilising the area around the market. The cattle market could be surrounded by buildings that could be used to make this area a thriving area instead of killing it off. We do not need another supermarket. People already get Asda and Tesco to do home deliveries. No more cars in Louth. It is being drowned. Look to the future not immediate gain.

Use your brains and not expensive consultants. Listen to the locals.

Market trader of livestock.

Removing the market would devastate the farming community

We are farmers we need it. Build one before thinking about shutting the one we use.

I feel it is important to keep the cattle market in Louth, otherwise livestock will have to travel much further increasing stress for them. It doesn't make sense to pay all the costs of moving to another site when the current one can easily be refurbished, especially as the cost of refurbishment may well be less than your projected figure. I understand the rent paid to council in 2016 was over £16,000, not the £3,000 quoted in your form. There is also income from the car parks to take into account.

The Fairfield Estate site new build is my preferred option. This allows regeneration of the old market sit to the towns benefit.

Response to the ELDC Consultation regarding the Future of the Louth Livestock Market site: The parish council agrees with the following statement from Keep Louth Special: To guarantee the prosperous future of Louth, the visitors who come in their droves, the thousand or more employed in local shops, the reputation as Britain's favourite market town, then you have to play to Louth's strengths: the depth of offering in the independent shops and the town market, the provenance of the food, the Georgian character and heritage of the town, and the many market events which are possible only through the unpaid work of dozens of volunteers at Louth Town Partnership. Louth has already made a mark nationally through sticking to what it does best. To go in the opposite direction makes no sense. There is, after all, no national award for 'Best Grimsby wannabe' and no tourism or jobs in it either. The council also agrees with the following statement by Transition Louth regarding East Lindsey District Council's public

consultation on the future of the Louth livestock market: The council's decision to engage with people and seek their views is welcome. Unfortunately, the way that the consultation is framed is unsatisfactory. It fails to set out all the options in a comprehensive and fair way. Good practice in option appraisal requires that "do nothing" should be considered on the same basis as all other proposals. ELDC precludes this under option 3 by presenting refurbishment costs for the cattle market without any evidence that they are necessary. Inviting respondents to make comparisons between these costs and the "multi-million pound capital receipt" to be generated by the sale of the site displays in-built bias. More importantly, instead of "option 4" (which cannot be compared to options 1-3 as it does not set out any future scenario for the livestock market) ELDC needs to consult people about the real, and perfectly viable, fourth option of retaining the site for community use. Because the Council seems not to have considered this there is no opportunity for people to support or oppose it. Our view is that the sale of the site (giving rise to a receipt of an undisclosed amount) needs to be judged against the benefits of its retention as a public asset. We believe that keeping the site (whether or not a new cattle market is built elsewhere) could, if properly thought through, offer the possibility of greater net benefits over the long-term. Clearly developing the site for public benefit involves a financial cost although this could be offset by development agreements for a part of the site. As long as ELDC does not take into account the community use option it is likely that the consultation will be interpreted as a means of leading people to support the Council's predetermined decision. The consultation will be seen as flawed and vulnerable to legal challenge. Consultation with a local farmer leads us to question whether the operator and contract are the reason the current Livestock market is not as successful as it could be and that would be an easy thing to change. The nearest livestock markets would then be in Yorkshire or Nottinghamshire and result in welfare issues for beasts travelling so far. SO, the first question, should the land be kept in public ownership or sold to private interest, needs to be consulted on. The consultation should then include an additional option for people to put their own ideas into the mix – closed consultations disengage voters and breed distrust. The council should not have the power to transfer a public asset, owned by all of us, into private hands. What we do with the land if farmers don't want or need it is a later question and some imaginative and prestigious ideas equivalent to the Tate Gallery in St. Ives should be sought – not just resorting to national retailers whose raison d'être is to take as much money out of the local economy as they can back to their HQ's, boards and shareholders. Out of town centre retail reduces the viability of existing town centre retail and loses skills such as butchery and fishmongery, so uses need to be found that avoid this unfortunate effect, such as concert hall, art gallery, park, allotments, playground, social housing, antique sales, car park, woodland – owned by the public. The council feels that although we disagree strongly with the closed nature of the questions, as it is currently written we would chose OPTION 3.

Don't see the need to spend more money on new development when refurbishing site would be more cost effective and more appropriate. Keep it in Lincolnshire please.

Dear ELDC, I've lived in East Lindsey for 78 years. It seems the councillors dodgy always, always up to something i.e. Premier Inn at Skegness front, completely unnecessary. The Wong at Horncastle always under threat illegally! A similar threat to the cattle market long running saga. I have visited Louth frequently over last 20 years, and love its markets a certain charm! Spilsby is dead already.

Lincolnshire is one of the foremost agricultural counties in the country and as such should retain its one remaining livestock market. In future we shall need to produce as much home grown food as possible and I think the market will help in this respect.

This is of historic value to the whole of Lincolnshire and not just a piece of land for ELDC to cash in for fluttering yet more money waste on unnecessary projects - time ELDC realised the district is more than just a coastline!

Option 3 is my preferred choice than Option 1. This is a traditional part of Louth. Louth is a town full of history and is an integral part of its charm and attraction. Please do not simply ride over that charm!

No more supermarkets needed - it will spoil the town! Longer journeys to market means poorer animal welfare!

Louth needs to retain its' historic market town status. Sale of the current site would be short sighted and damage the current traders with the town centre. There are very few successful town centres which are thriving in the current economic climate. Louth is the exception. Do not destroy this for a short term cash sale of land to a big retailer. Repair the market and ensure the town will continue to thrive for another 400 years.

Surely building a new cattle & livestock market on the Fairfield Ind. Estate would be the answer!! Safer for all!!

We need it on Newmarket.

No to a supermarket on the site.

I hope to use it for my cattle when I get them and I also use it for the sheep I have at the moment

I hope to use this for my business as I get older and have more sheep of my own.

Reduce size of cattle market to meet current requirements. Sell off part of site for housing. Not supermarket.

As a semi-retired farmer who until a few years ago used the market regularly I believe it is essential to keep a livestock market on the present site for the farming community and the town. The reason for not using the market is that I do not keep any livestock myself now but to whom I let the grassland he sells all his lambs at the market, he has about 140 breeding ewes, also one of my grandsons has a few sheep now and sells his lambs there. One must think where if this market closes do farmers take their stock to sell, if you live and farm in the west of the ELDC area Newark is not too far but as we are on the coast 10 miles to the east of Louth it is completely different. Reading through all the above options it does seem to me that ELDC has definitely got their preference, I ask you to take note of the rural community and that of the town of Louth.

I most certainly don't want to see the site sold for yet another supermarket in Louth. The town has enough provision of such retail outlets and doesn't need any more. It is very important that the provision of a livestock market in Louth is maintained for the future.

Supermarket trade would kill the local farming. Louth always been a cattle market. Supermarket sell cheap meat from Europe so why ruin local farming produce.

To refurbish the current facility is by far the best option for Louth now and in the future. A big part of Louth is that it has retained a lot of its old buildings which gives it character and individuality, the cattle market is part of that (there are not many left). When it is refurbished it should be done with alternative use during the rest of the week in mind, and any parking space when the market is not on would be ongoing income. It would be a big mistake to lose it for any short term financial gain.

Option 3 with partial redevelopment of site for social housing.

Spilsby has held a Monday market for 100's of years. It brings people to the town and helps local shops, cafe etc. Spilsby needs it market.

It's part of Lincolnshire.

I am Lincolnshire born and bred. It is my heritage, my right to keep what's important. When it's gone it's too late and it will be very much missed. I don't have to live in Louth either.

This is the only livestock market in the county - the Council should be marketing this facility to farmers throughout this and neighbouring counties. This would bring people to Louth and they would wander into the town and spend money in the shops. Louth is a beautiful market town and we should be championing it nationwide as an unspoilt market town! Our cattle market must be saved and kept within the town! If a new facility was built there could still be space to build a health centre for the town on the remainder of the site. East Lindsey councillors should be looking to the future NOT selling the 'family silver' which is the cattle market site.

Louth is a market town and getting rid of one of our long standing markets does not go with the image we worked hard to get. It should be in the town as it brings in money and tourists.

History respected. Scarce facility in this part of the country. Opportunity to diversify facilities and develop retail opportunities. Changes in future developments in agriculture e.g. diversification. Environmental advantages e.g. reduction in travel. Hopefully this could be done whilst retaining the use of the facility. I believe the council should be discussing broader, more imaginative proposals from the agricultural/horticultural/educational fraternities not just the narrower urban/commercial interests.

As a resident of Louth. I have followed the progress of the proposed sale of the cattle market with interest. I am interested in your proposals and am pleased that you have given the residents of Louth the opportunity to present their views. I trust that the Council will honour their word and will indeed listen to what residents prefer. I am sure that the Council will be keen not to spend money in order to save it, as shown in options 1 and 2. At a time when we are all paying more Council Tax and receiving less for our money, the option 3 would surely further demonstrate that stringency is required by all, especially by the Council, who are needing to demonstrate cost cutting exercises in these times of austerity. I also hope that the Council will consider the ideas that a number of groups have suggested for the use of the site at times when the cattle market

is not taking place. These ideas make the site more economically viable and are indeed a positive way forward for the future.

Option 3 should be refined to provide a new building on the site for livestock sales, with enhanced facilities as part of the market, bar, cafe, clubhouse etc., rent from which would remove ongoing liability costs. Look at how Bakewell has done this piece of work. The rest of the site should have an enhanced retail offer centered around high quality boutique shops and one or two key anchor retail outlets. The site should be used to enhance the current Louth offer, support long term growth. Louth provides the only livestock market in the County; it could do so much more with support and business direction. Louth should be the food centre of the Wolds and county and a redeveloped more modern site could reconnect the area to its farming roots and open it up for a new generation.

Well between them the current auctioneers are certainly good value in terms of delivering guaranteed bull shit if livestock markets are so vital to Lincolnshire, why does only Louth remain? hardly well connected are we compared to the likes of Lincoln, Grantham, Spalding Very noble of them to commit to running the market too so long as they continue to pay no rent and take on zero operational risk to sell 3,000 cows each year and take home half of the profit. Talk about the tail wagging the dog. No doubt the rural elite will follow suit and deny the working class families anything new for the town why put withdrawing from the sale back on the ballot paper having already agreed to sell the site

There isn't really a good option. Under option 3 there is no mention of the significant financial gain from the sale of the proposed alternative site. I believe the projected cost of refurbishment has been greatly over estimated. The current tenants' proposal looks better than any, and would release more funds to be put to other improvements for the town.

This site should remain the cattle market. It is well used and after all Louth is a market town! We need to keep the only livestock market left in Lincolnshire alive, on the site where it has always been.

I feel that it is extremely important to retain a livestock market in the town and the area as the provision is limited and farmers etc. would have a significant increase in travelling time and costs for selling their livestock, which could potentially have a negative impact on the welfare of the farming community and potentially put some out of business, and also to the excessive journey times for the livestock which will not be good welfare. I also feel that the town needs to be developed especially with the increasing population, but without detriment to the current businesses and town and area as a whole. I feel that it is about time that this part of the district was developed in a positive way, as certain areas, I.e. Skegness and surrounding areas always seem to be benefiting from ELDC in some way or another. Louth is a market town and supposedly "Capital of the Wolds" and as such it should retain its market status. If the current site is going to be sold, then a condition of sale could be made to ensure that the developers contribute towards the cost of a new livestock market site in the town.

Louth needs a livestock market to support the local farming community. To take this away, for many farmers means traveling to Newark or further afield with their livestock in tow. This puts a lot of strain on the animals and would reduce furthers the amount of

livestock kept in this part of Lincolnshire which is an important part of the local economy. I think it is wrong for the council to take the very short term view of sale of the site for a profit. I also don't think there is a need for a brand new market as this is an unnecessary expense.

I would choose option 1 or option 2 they know where they putting the new cattle market near Windsor house on the industry. I would use the money from the sale site to improve the network In Louth and funds in Louth. I believe that cattle market where it is should be moved that the council should sell the site but though that there should be a larger cinema with 5 screen with a clothes shops for people can afford toy shop and a doctor surgery with bus stop/station as well I would also upgrade the current bus station and that clock does not work. Improve the transport links and also improve the road on st benards. People from Louth the younger generation are moving due to people are moaning they on benefits. People say don't take the trade of town but it is already is I am afraid and that's why need to work together not arguing.

Please let's keep what few Lincolnshire market towns we have left special! I'm sure the costs mentioned above could be negotiated with local contractors, keeping local businesses busy and thereby protecting local jobs. If the site were to be developed it would only be more low paid jobs, we are a rural farming community, let's keep what we have.

I think you should withdraw from the sale process and refurbish the site. This is an opportunity to make the site a multi-use facility and perhaps approach local businesses or educational providers (Riseholme or Lincoln Uni) to work in partnership and let them suggest how they could make use of this site in return for sponsorship. We could put Louth and East Lindsey on the map! Sunday markets could be held there and farmers markets, agricultural machinery sales. Surely a google search of similar successful facilities would show how they remain viable and a sub-committee (or Louth Town Council) could research possible ways to capitalise on the site and make it an even bigger asset for the town.

Please don't destroy our lovely town. I have lived here since 1967 and it is a very special place to live and raise a family.

Council figures way over the top auctioneers estimate is more realistic

Why are we making such an expensive effort to close a facility bringing tourism in an area like this?!

Brexit will make a lot of difference - Farmers need support

We are tourists to the area and love attending Louth on market day, close it and you lose us.

Keep the Cattle Market

We love to visit Louth particularly on Market day. Think like the cattle market keep the county side traditions going which as a tourist is what we like to see. So closing the cattle market will be a detriment to the area and farming communities.

As a local resident of Louth district I think that the Cattle Market should be kept open on the present site - easy access into the town, could be used as a park and ride access

point. I don't think any excess in shops would benefit the town centre, Animal welfare, long journeys and slaughter house/market, affects meat eating quality.

The market is the hub of the town.

We don't want other shops, not enough shoppers, leave things as they are

The Livestock Market provides social cohesion within the Town and the site could provide a focus area for agricultural education within the County alongside accommodation for Young Farmers events and meeting area.

I feel that Louth is going through a lot of planned development now, and all the support facilities have to be developed. I do feel, however, that any new shopping facility development must go to a separate consultation.

No change please!

More long term car parking to be able to travel through or from Louth by bus etc. 4hrs is not long enough to spend the day enjoying the parks and walks and lunch etc.

If you the council really want local opinion you should do more to make people aware of this survey I only found out via a relative's Facebook account

Keep the cattle market for the sake of the town and local businesses. Do not deny the small/ medium farmers the chance of carrying on their livestock enterprises.

Perhaps the new livestock market could be multifunctional with secure car parking to deter travellers. Agriculture is still a major industry in East Lindsey.

It is very disappointing (but understandable) that ELDC figures for option 1 do not match those of the users. I do believe this disparity makes this consultation irrelevant; if not null and void. Louth is a market town. Part of this title refers to the (ancient) requirement for a beast mart. As a past user of such I can state categorically that visitors to the cattle market also use other town shops and facilities with the beast mart being situated where it is at present.

Keep the agricultural heritage of Louth to the town centre. Keep the parking close to the town centre. Since your original idea to sell the cattle market Aldi has arrived. If you do not 'need' a market keep the large site for different e.g. new primary school with parking facility?

Keep the local market there but allow minor alterations to encourage local businesses to grow not some faceless multi-national that will suck every last penny and move on plus partial redevelopment of the site for social housing.

1. Utilise the 'parking' areas on both sides of the current cattle market i.e. Wed-Fri-Sat markets to be held there to avoid congestion of traffic in town centre 2. Car boot sales on Sundays (generates income) 3. Hire out for i.e. fete/ craft fairs (generates income) 4. Keep the cattle market on that site; keep the market town there as generated by the act to keep Louth with a livestock market.

By taking the market away I believe Louth will lose its appeal.

The ELDC seems to be unaware that agriculture is a major industry in this area and vital for England's future. It doesn't even seem to be considered a valid objection to housing development when huge areas of arable land are being concreted over. The cattle market is an essential facility for the local farming industry. There is also the consideration of a free-parking area for people from the outlying villages who work in the town. Some of our streets, such as St. Mary's Lane, have been choked with parked cars since the free parking facility was withdrawn.

The market should stay open as it makes Louth livelier

We live in a predominantly rural environment and it is not the job of our council to "flog off" the family silver but support diversity amongst all of our community. I live in town but recognise the need to support our agriculture and if it costs 700k so be it. Start listening to the local community as the county councils wish to see East Lindsey council disbanded will probably get wide support as you never listened to local resident's concerns anyway so we would be no worse off by being under the control of a central body based in Lincoln. No doubt you will ignore this email as your arrogance can sometimes be breathtaking-start listening for a change!

I believe a mix of affordable housing and a smaller cattle market (refurbished) would be best for the local area. And also allow the council to meet some of the required housing that is so needed.

A big supermarket on the site would kill small businesses in the town centre

Current site is an excellent position for a cattle market. Refurbishment offers an affordable route forward

Though Lincolnshire is not principally a livestock county, it is famed for its native sheep and cattle and for those farmers who breed and rear them; a livestock market is an essential link in their marketing chain. If Louth were to close, the cost of transport to the next nearest markets would seriously damage farming profitability. Equally importantly, for many farmers who work in isolation and with little daily contact with friends or neighbours, the market represents a welcome meeting place for the exchange of farming information and simply for conversation.

I would like ELDC to be a forward thinking council and not sell off all their crown jewels.

The councils 'vision' for Louth is about making money at the detriment of the thriving traditional town centre. A new retail site would damage the town at the cost to retailers and eventually the residents of the district, simply for the council to make a short term financial gain and no doubt foreign retail shareholders would be the long term benefactors of the destruction from a short sighted council like East Lindsey.

While it is clear that a new Livestock Market is not financially viable. The sale of this site to allow the building of a new supermarket would lead to withdrawing people from the town centre and a potential decline in the number of independent retailers. Which is a unique feature of Louth Town Centre. Unfortunately, new supermarkets tend to become "one stop shops". Therefore we should try to find other uses for it which would maybe support the need for more space for Fairfield Industrial estate. Perhaps one way of doing this would be to build small industrial units to bring some of the little businesses off this estate.

Option 3 with partial redevelopment of site for social housing

Despite the rhetoric and localised furore in small parts, it seems to me that this consultation is more about the future of Louth, than it's past of course, the auctioneers would want to continue their current arrangements and take money from a site that they make no investment towards. Could the Council provide me with a free site to make money from each week please? Of course, local shops will object to the threat of any increased competition, the Town Council don't want ELDC to bring any new jobs or investment to the town. The question is, are your Councillors brave enough to do what is best for the town, or what is most popular with those that shout the loudest? Sell the site, and let the planning process judge whether what is proposed is sustainable or not. Don't let the old shaft the town for the young

I feel the cattle market is part of Louth's heritage, why spend £5million on a new one when the current one can be refurbished at a fraction of the price? Also I live next door to the cattle market (my house is on Linden Walk) and don't really want to live next door to a supermarket (or any other retail facility). I feel Louth has enough of these already! With the above in mind I have opted for option 3.

Stop trying to ruin market towns, if you need the money cut out the over generous pension scheme for council employees

Our best option is to refurbish and use the existing market more effectively to bring in more revenue. Can other auctions be held there, farm machinery for example? As a member of the community that lives next door to the market, I do not believe that another supermarket (or something similar) would be a benefit to Louth. The cattle market helps to make Louth the place it is and is part of its heritage.

Any monies must be used in Louth. For Louth people.

The market is an important feature in Louth, and is invaluable to the farmers and their continued livelihood. The sheep pens could be sold off to provide funds to help refurbish, and the sheep could be moved inside with the cattle. Leaving farmers without a market could cause them to go out of business, as not all farmers have the means to travel long distances. Plus there would be added stress to the livestock.

1. The consultation only gives an estimated cost? 2. How much has been spent already from July 13? 3. And how much will the sale with ADV Partnership bring in?

Modify and revise the existing layout. Sell off surplus parts of the 5.3 acre site; redevelop to include retail outlets along Newmarket street area. The cattle market is part of Louth and should not be sold to raise funds for developing Mablethorpe and Skegness.

The only cattle market in Lincolnshire and it's in Louth, why would we want to lose it.

Whilst the loss of the livestock market is regrettable, the economics make no sense to spend millions to continue.

The Livestock Market in Louth is a symbolic area to all those who live in this area. It provides a place for farmers to trade stock and in turn is a beneficial place for many businesses. It would be a true shame to lose the last livestock market in Lincolnshire when it is used and relied on so much. Also why have the council pay £4 to £5 million on building a new livestock market when revamping the current one is a lot cheaper?

The market does not bring in much capital so the council would be waiting for the new market to pay them back for a much longer time.

Put this money to fixing Fodder Dyke Bank.

Shops and jobs would be good for Louth. We cannot stay stuck in the dark ages forever.

If I ran my business by investing £700k to make £3k pa, I would be stupid, bankrupt, and divorced.

It's a farmers club bankrolled by the ELDC taxpayer. Time to move on.

There is a large area of land around the livestock market which doesn't appear to be fully utilised. Could the council sell some of the car park area but retain and refurbish the market?

We need to conserve the cattle market as it is one of the remarkable aspects of Louth as well as being the last cattle market in Lincolnshire. It will be a tourist attraction while being a necessary Farmer's market.

I parked at the cattle market this Thursday. It was extremely busy!!! This is a well-used facility. Don't take it away!!!! The ONLY one left in the county!!!!

Louth doesn't need any more shops certainly not supermarkets, Vape lounges and coffee shops. See Market Rasen. I value our local shops, independent traders. So what if it's a valuable brownfield site. Just think of the loss of local shops and businesses if any changes are made. Why not just leave it alone and let it get on with things as it always has done. It's an ancient site. Would you call Tattershall Castle a brownfield site, demolish it and build a supermarket?

This should remain part and parcel of this community

I was of the understanding that the cattle market was bequeathed to the people of Louth, not the council!!! The cattle market should be maintained as a historical site, for the people of Louth to be proud of and not lost to yet another supermarket or housing development too many of our 'public' areas are sold off to benefit the council and not the people and community.... school playing fields, public play areas and railways to name a few. A referendum for every resident of Louth could be the only other fair solution to the decision.

Would it be possible to redevelop part of the site and leave the rest as it is? I agree that the site is probably too large in its entirety to remain as a cattle market, but I don't see the point of building a new one to the detriment of businesses on the industrial estate. It also has to be considered that the parking provided at the moment is a huge asset to the town. Is there any plan to replace this parking facility, or will we see the return of increased parking on the street as we did when parking charges were introduced?

I disagree with ELDC's plan to relocate the existing cattle market. ELDC should examine the opportunity to improve and market the existing facility.

Louth is a market town and the use of the cattle market is an asset to the town bring people in for already local businesses also the need for farmers to save the significant travel to other sites. The town doesn't need any more supermarkets or housing.

As a matter of general principle, existing facilities should be properly maintained and modernised when necessary. The second alternative of demolition and rebuilding, probably on a Greenfield site, is expensive and disruptive. A retail park in the Newmarket area is unnecessary and will hasten the demise of traditional family shops in the town centre. I am dead against the "Private Act of Parliament" action to close Louth Cattle Market with no replacement. There is demand for a cattle market in East Lincolnshire, the nearest otherwise being Newark. That would entail long stressful journeys for animals, and the closure of local abattoirs and probably butchers' shops, for which Louth is renowned. Maintenance and modernisation of Louth Cattle Market, and its public house the Boar's Head, have been disgracefully neglected for years; indeed the only gents' toilet at the pub is across an open-air yard. Such a facility will soon qualify for listed building status!

Option 3 most viable as the millions spent rebuilding a livestock facility could be spent elsewhere. However the refurbishment should be done to a higher spec than detailed, so that the facility can be properly marketed nationwide to encourage greater livestock sales - as you would do in Option 1.

Why let the 'people' of Louth decide anything. The Louth Town Partnership delivered nothing and got rid of four managers in four years. The Town Council want no progress and deliver nothing but nostalgic objections to anything new. It's your asset, take the investment and jobs on offer and give the young families in the town some reason to stick around.

The council has brought about any growth of maintenance costs by failing to fully support the cattle market. If there has been any reduction in use then it is also down to lack of promotion. Why can't there be a greater use of the site to enhance the retail offer with greater employment numbers? The council is too ready to shed its assets; this is one of the last few standing.

We are a market town surrounded by farms. The cattle market is not only part of the town's heritage it is a necessity. The present site is far preferable and practical than other propositions. Any monies made from the sale of this vital site would only be frittered away by the council across the district - the amount paid back into the Louth economy would be minimal although the impact would be great. ELDC need to understand the support the cattle market enjoys - they do not need to depend on even more council taxpayers' money on this and move on.

Why does it always seem to come down to money? How the council managed to sanction the demolition of Skegness railway station buildings which should have been listed to make way for the costly load of nothing is beyond me. The cattle market in Louth is part of our Lincolnshire heritage and should be saved and maintained and turned into a profitable and unique place as it is the only one left. What will you decide next???

Bulldoze Tattershall Castle and put a few luxury homes on it. The Market at Louth should be listed as a heritage site and made sure it stands and is used for future generations. Stand up for the Lincolnshire people and our heritage and let the greedy unpatriotic, uncaring money grabbers build on a less questionable site.

New facility must be multifunctional to secure a sustainable and viable future. I do not believe the current market is viable on its own. However I do not want Louth to lose its

livestock facility. There could be huge economic benefits for Louth and the area if the existing site is redeveloped and a new market facility created on the industrial estate.

I consider that the prices quoted are unrealistic and need to be reassessed on the basis of necessity not luxury.

Keep Louth a special market town

Contrary to the statement in the 5th paragraph of the first page, building a shopping centre on the site of the livestock market will not increase footfall to the town nor will it create jobs. It will draw the local retail trade away from the town centre forcing closure of high street businesses and consequent loss of jobs. This in town will reduce the attractiveness of Louth town centre to residents and tourists alike thereby reducing footfall, with consequent second order effects to the retail trade and the wider economy.

Ruin the town centre and its businesses

I attend the market from time to time and see the social value the market brings, not only to the farming community but to Louth town itself. Holding a livestock market is an historic event and a piece of history that should not be allowed to be lost. It should be embraced and enhanced as an additional visitor attraction to Louth, which is an historic town with many visitors/ tourists throughout the year. The site is currently underutilised and could be redesigned and redeveloped as a modern Livestock market on part of the site whilst developing the remaining site as a multipurpose visitor /retail attraction, showcasing the many rural and individual crafts and shops that exist in the town already- enhancing their presence and viability and enhancing Louth's ability to attract more visitors to the area, increasing the rural economy and profile of the area.

As a small sheep producer, it would not be viable to travel out of Lincolnshire to other markets plus the welfare of our livestock would experience considerable stress with travelling long distances. What is wrong with the present site? The present market with some refurbishment is ideal and could be utilised for many more market events to make it more vibrant. There could be fur and feather auctions, horse sales, farmers markets, crafters events, antique auctions, even car auctions enabling many more groups of people use of a good facility. Nottingham Cattle Market have a very active centre but with the recent demise of Derby Cattle Market, I have seen local small farmers in the Derby area suffer great consequences with having to travel further afield, long distances, less profit and longer working days. Please leave Louth livestock market where it is!

The Market Venue, if managed right could be used for other purposes. As the only market left in Lincolnshire it is important that it is maintained.

Over the years the market as seen its use by the local farmers as a sales facility for their animals drop off and more use as been made of the market in Lincoln. Let's invest monies and create jobs by selling to the highest bidder.

I can't say that I agree totally with any of the options as I can see positive and negative aspects. What I will say is we do not want another supermarket. Louth does not need another supermarket.

This is a valuable community facility. Income can also be obtained by letting the facility, or parts of it, for alternative uses. Funds for refurbishment could be obtained from

alternative sources such as the lottery or from the Eu (before the UK exit), or from large-scale, local livestock, businesses.

It is a total disgrace that the Council are looking to rob Louth of one of its oldest assets, and something which is the part of the town's heritage. The money raised from any sale will no doubt be frittered away on the coast, in support of businesses there which are owned by vested interests. Louth does not need any new supermarket now that Aldi are here but that isn't the motive here. It's all about a profligate Council getting its hands on more cash. I am in no doubt that the decision has already been made and that this is a box ticking exercise as is always the case with East Lindsey

The current Livestock Market should be retained and refurbished. There is no requirement for any more supermarkets etc. in Louth. We want to see it kept as a market town with individual shops and the current provision is ample.

The refurbishment could be done to enable the building to be used for other purposes (such as trade fairs, antique market, farmers market or food festivals) when the livestock sales are not taking place. It would be a shame to lose the Livestock market which has survived all this time and is one of the last of its type in the county.

Cleaning up and refurbishing the current location could generate funds with special parking fees and it should also take over the redundant public house and reopen as another means of generating funds. Maybe as a community pub/bistro with right talent

It is an important part of Louth history that should not be lost.

Why can't the cost of the livestock facilities be paid for by the Farming Community? If the sales income is as low as stated £3,000 per annum? The cost of Repairs and Insurance liabilities cannot, logically, be funded by Council Taxpayers. If the Livestock Market is essential to the Farming Community then they should (in the 21st Century), pay the running costs/upkeep of the site. If they don't or won't meet this cost then inevitable losing of the Market will happen. But they firstly will be able to decide on this!

Refurbishment seems to be the better option financially as the sale value is still confidential. Why? The history and heritage of the County and Country is being forsaken for possible improvement. Louth is a small town where the cost of keeping its tradition should be put before new business (does that mean new empty offices) Sports centre Mablethorpe!! The schools can't even be kept open.

Refurb the buildings. With vision look at alternative uses on other days. Running the site for just 1 day per week is outrageous. Think big - other cattle markets in the country have adapted, expanded and prospered. Louth could too. Boars Head should be brought back to life ELDC - don't kill it.

Not having a market will mean livestock having much longer travel times to the next nearest Livestock Market. Plan to develop it into a Food and Agri-business hub open five or six days a week to develop more employment, this should attract tourists and shoppers. Don't kill off farming in the area.

Greedy council trying to sell whatever land they can to make quick money. You may only make £3000 a year from it but how many farmers would it effect getting rid?

Survey is worded very biasly towards selling and not rebuilding. Look at all the things we could do if we didn't rebuild, most of which would probably not happen.

£700,000 investment in Louth would be really good, but not spent on a failing livestock market. Options 1&3 would just be throwing good money after bad.

In my opinion, having lived in the District for 30 years and having worked in or near Louth for all of that time, it is clear that the livestock market is no longer important to the wellbeing of the town and the wider district. To invest in a new market or refurbish the existing would only seek to preserve an anachronism, for no other reason than nostalgia for times gone by. Modern food chain planning sees wholesalers and food retailers buy straight from the farm, from brokers, or from abattoirs rather than the added expense and inconvenience of bidding in an auction. This is evident from the declining throughput figures at the auction. Preserving a Livestock auction premises at public expense to effectively subsidise a lifestyle choice for a minority seems to be poor value for money when there are so many very deserving projects that would add to the quality of life of residents. What to spend any receipt on is a judgement for councillors, however my vote would be for new industrial land to help real jobs for young people and an indoor sport and recreation facility for Mablethorpe, which is a much needed facility in that town. These seem to be much better uses for public money, instead of pouring good money after bad in to a livestock market.

We need a local run livestock market. We need to keep it operational. It is essential to those farming communities to the local area. The nearest market if this was lost would be over 30 miles away which is too far to transport animals.

Please do not destroy Louth Town Centre

I fail to understand the obsession councils seem to have with retail outlets. The public can only buy so much. Having more retail outlets does not mean that people will buy more, they will just buy from one place or another, leaving rows of empty shops in either one place or another. Whilst I understand that councils feel that they for evermore need more cash, I don't believe that this cash should be raised by selling off sites which currently produce a service/income. What this country needs is more production/manufacturing, not more retail. Refurbish the market, increased usage may happen after Brexit, you should be looking to the future not just making a quick buck.

The cattle market is a vital part of the district's infrastructure and must be retained on its current site because it underpins the livestock rearing activities of the local farming community which directly and indirectly bring trade and economic activity into the town. There are many opportunities to reconfigure the current site to make better use of the space and facilities and allow alternative use of spare space; there are other activities which can take place in the market on non-market days. Look at what is done in Newark, Otley and Malton and take advantage of best practice. The notion that Louth needs another Supermarket and can profitably sell the cattle market site for that or any other purpose is fool's gold has led ELDC to scandalously waste huge sums of public money

Best and most economic action - renew/refurbish what we have and then attract other types of auctions there and get new business into our town.

If you want Louth to prosper as a town keep the market open!!!! The market brings economic life to the town in so many ways. Don't close it for the sake of plundering

more money away by selfish councillors, like what was done with the sale of the new Tesco site on Richmond Drive Skegness.

Refurbish part of the existing site and use the remainder for affordable housing. If the market is to move the whole site should be for housing and not retail. Keep life in our town. I would be very happy to talk to someone about my suggestion.

We must bear in mind that a livestock market is an integral part of a farmer's life. All too often we and hear of farmers having mental health problems brought about by the loneliness of farming life and a market where he or she can not only see the n market trends but get great relief from farming problems and much more. I can see that the sale of the market site would be a profitable exercise but once it's gone for ever. Selling via the internet is the present day option but lacks the face to face interaction found in a market. The new knob market in Stirling (Scotland) is a prime example of a new popular market and a vibrant hub for their community let's hope how this ends up will be the right choice

Is the council really serious about this consultation? From the dates given on previous screens the public have already missed the dates given for visits to locations across the District. It is now the 7 Aug - no dates shown as after today! As I open up my emails each day and this has just arrived I presume the Council does not wish the public to have its say.

Clearly the site cannot be left as it is. However with the closure of the livestock market there would be none left in the county noted for its agricultural contribution to the national economy. The nearest would be Newark which has undergone some re-development with more planned or Melton Mowbray which has also been subject to significant investment to upgrade the facilities which are working well. Perhaps the latter could be considered as a viable model to follow.

Your anticipated prices are way over the top in all depts, if Councillors were paying the bills, it would be nowhere near these costs. In every option.

There are a significant and increasing number of empty shops in the central town area; perhaps effort could be made to engage retailers to invest here. A market town should have a market. Perhaps a more modern facility would attract more beast market trade.

The facility must be maintained on the current site. As the Royal charters state we must have a "beast market" why replace a perfectly good venue, just needs some renovation.

No more traffic in Louth, it's bad enough now

I would encourage ELDC Councillors to consider facts as opposed to sentiment with this decision. Tax payers across whole of ELDC shouldn't be funding the current 1/2 pay a week use of the market. Time for some tough decisions to be made!

I think in these cash strapped times common sense should prevail and go for option 3, the cheapest option

Louth is a rural market truth - the livestock market, should be a part of the local environment.

-Louth needs to prosper and land needs using. Flooding defences are a priority - Affordable houses needed - car park charges need to stay reasonable and do we need more to stop street parking? - Look after environment for our health and future generations - Where is nearest market? Shocking net profit figures for Louth

Louth needs a Livestock market. It is a vital part of the town's identity and if lost, would be detrimental to the town.

Livestock Market is a big part of this town and would have a negative effect if we were to lose it

It is a lovely market town, and with all the agricultural business in the area it is beholden upon us to support the farmers therefore to this end we must have a cattle market

Although the market is only used once a week, it is still important to keep it for the sake of future generations. Our exit from the EU may well mean we will need to rely on home produced meat and therefore the market may well become of far more value in the future. It is wrong of you to want to make a saving for short term benefits / profits. As for your estimations of the cost of a new build, I see one of the items is making a road to the site. I can think of at least 2 or more existing plots on the Fairfield estate which would be ideal for a new cattle market and which already have a perfectly good road running right past them. I suspect the reasoning and argument you have adopted in Option 1 are deliberately scaremongering and intend to overestimate the costs. Project Fear failed miserably in the referendum and it surprises me that you are naïve enough to attempt it here!

I feel it is an asset Louth should keep. We will never attract decent shops like Waitrose and we do not need any small units as these would detract from the town centre

The market must stay, if refurbished then consideration must be given for a facility for community groups to have access all week.

I am very concerned that the proposed retail development would adversely affect the current high street, the character of which is one of the great attractions of Louth.

I have concerns over the welfare of the livestock. I understand the nearest livestock market to Louth is Newark. It is felt; having to transport livestock even further would put even more trauma and stress on the livestock.

The site provides parking in option 3 which is not a guaranteed option in the others. The residents of Louth have been battling parking spaces outside of their own properties for a number of years now. A multi-functional refurbishment could and should benefit the whole of East Lindsey. A town of Louth's status should have its livestock market in the town preserving its heritage.

Louth needs a quality supermarket e.g. Sainsbury's, Waitrose, M and S (not a cheaper supermarket such as Asda). Like many other people. I drive to Lincoln, Grimsby or Cleethorpes to use these better supermarkets. We need these facilities locally, thus providing more local jobs. A quality supermarket would bring more shoppers into the town, therefore would benefit all other local businesses. This would be better for the environment, as people would not need to travel greater distances outside Louth to do their shopping.

The figures stated for building a new facility are just outrageous ...nearly a million pounds for a car park and landscaping and electrics and plumbing at over 1/2 a million more ....wow....I appreciate a public sector building contract is a licence to print money but my suspicion is that the council has vastly inflated a new build cost to ensure that the vote goes another way.

Despite the cost, it is important that a livestock market is maintained. There is plenty of land available on the Fairfield Estate with existing road access where a new market could be built. With our exit from the EU we will need to become more self-sufficient in meat and farm produce generally. Getting rid of this facility is a mistake and your estimate for it to be built elsewhere seems extremely high. It seems you are trying to scare people into accepting the option which is profitable to you and not in the interests of the farmers or the town of Louth. Project Fear was tried in the Referendum and failed. Think on, gentlemen!

It is a little like selling the family jewels, please look at the longer term than making a few pounds from the sale and then the facility is lost forever. Surely if it was marketed (no pun intended) correctly the site could be used for more than just a cattle market. Think outside of the box and keep this facility for future generations.

Louth is a rural community with some thriving local producers of quality foodstuff. Agriculture is our heritage. I think we should put together a working party to include local entrepreneurs, farmers grant funding orgs to look at ways the existing building could be redeveloped in a way that is in keeping with all that is good in our community. There could be spaces for microbrewery cheese maker's local food producers and other micro businesses which would add value to our local Area.

Redevelopment in Louth area- large supermarket, more shops? Retail site/chain restaurant site would be preferable

Please consider, this is people's lives, livelihoods and their very way of life you are threatening to change. I propose if you can afford to invest £5million into a new market, invest the money in re-developing the current site and the remainder in the projects that have been advertised above as sorely needing money. Being irrational with people's livelihoods when you are not from a farming background and do not understand that it is more than just a sale site for livestock, is the very reason it is a dangerous thing to consider removing a cattle market altogether.

I think live markets are/should be largely irrelevant in today's economy. Animals are stressed unnecessarily when they are transported to and from the market. The handlers at the market may be rough. I think modern farmers can find buyers surely without subjugating their animals to unfamiliar surroundings. How many cattle and sheep are actually bought by butchers and are killed immediately?

The council should make the best decision for Louth. Adding a bunch of extra "retail" outlets the town does not need - that are not going to be owned or operated by locally owned businesses - is not in the best interests of the town. It is a false inducement that jobs will be created and sustained. It would simply put other worthy, loyal, historic businesses out of business and would create unemployment. This happens. Check out other towns. It's basically a zero-sum game. Remember, by retaining the site, the council retains the option to develop the site in future with the towns people - not external entities who have their owner's interests at heart, not Louth's. Be aware of the

trap many other town councils have fallen into - the trap of selling off assets to large companies who then drive out locally owned businesses, weakening the quality, reputation and revenue of their town. Rather than being progressive it is the first irreversible step in the race to the bottom. Far better, is to build on the unique history, characteristics and spirit of the town of Louth. Have confidence as a council that you can work with the local farming community, industry and townspeople to upgrade and develop the site into one of England's outstanding meat markets. Build strong, successful partnerships to achieve this. Get help from the partnership on how to do this, including ideas - because it seems you've run out of them. There is no shame in it - most of the best ideas are from larger groups of interested peoples (employees, public, townsfolk, etc.).

I don't think that the options outline how you will utilise the option and what income you can create.

Louth Livestock Market is essential to the continuing traditional mixed farming of the area, particularly that of the Wolds. Without the market, raising livestock is less sustainable as transporting a greater distance means rearing livestock then loses money. The Wolds - and also the coastal grazing marshes - have been defined over the centuries by a mix of arable and livestock farming; without this continuation the landscape for which East Lindsey is so much appreciated will be lost forever. Indeed, the recent Coastal Grazing Marshes Project (led by East Lindsey) brought to the fore the importance of this method of farming. It is vital that the market is retained as an integral part of this system. The current location is not ideal, but it is sustainable. It brings trade into Louth; it provides a point of sale and purchase for farmers and meat traders from a wide area. Stock raised in East Lindsey are very much sought after by breeders and meat traders for its quality. When not in use as a cattle market the site is used as parking - Louth is very short of this, especially for coaches. Moving to an out-of-town site would work on a practical level but would remove a lot of trade from Louth itself. The present balance works well. The only reason for change would be to sell the site to inflate ELDC's coffers at a considerable loss to the farming community, local businesses and residents alike.

Sell the site. Move the livestock market out of town as a residential area as this part of Louth has become, is no place for such things. Develop the site as a proper full size supermarket with petrol station and free car park. This would balance with the Aldi site on the other side of town. Downgrade the existing Coop site to a small coop shop and develop the remaining site for housing for or other town centre facilities. Downgrade the existing Morrison's site to a local Morrison's or Coop shop and develop the site for housing or retain as a car park. Use the whole opportunity to explore further the pedestrianisation of the town centre (at least on certain days of the week) to enhance and develop its existing character and become more attractive to tourists.

Given that there isn't an option to require more details before I can make a decision, I have chosen option 3. It is interesting that all approx. costs are given except the sale cost should the land be sold off. This questionnaire is very one sided and almost leads the result to one of selling the market off.

I am strongly in favour of keeping an active livestock market in Louth for many reasons. This is the cheapest way of doing so. I am fully aware of investment opportunities but it has become self-evident since the opening of the new store on the malt kiln site that any

future supermarket venture would have a striking effect on other food and grocery businesses...even on other supermarkets. Individual shops are a major part of Louth's charm and its attractiveness to its clientele and its many thousands of visitors. The town is becoming extremely busy even on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and if you talk to the visitors (as I have) they will tell you that it's because Louth is so different from Grimsby and Lincoln. They feel safe here. They feel totally charmed and they love the originality of the local produce and shops. The Cattle Market may not be a major visitor attraction, but it is definitely in their consciousness. They are very much aware of it and support it as a very important part of the chain that provides them with the individuality, flavour and quality of the produce they buy. It is a huge part of the history of the town that visitors find so hard to resist. Farmers, whether they use it regularly or not, strongly support the idea of keeping a livestock market. I also see no reason why a livestock market on the current site cannot be part of a more general development of that site.

I believe the site would be better used for the benefit of the wider community including giving Louth a new retail area. Whilst Louth retains a traditional charm it needs to modernise to prosper and I believe that releasing funds in this way is a step in the right direction.

Louth does not require another supermarket which would reduce footfall to the centre of Louth. As a resident who sometimes parks in the cattle market I can assure you returning up the hill is no fun. Why not the present site could be reconfigured to release some land/ sell the pub to raise money.

1. With "Brexit" pending, the need for the UK to self-supply fresh meat will increase. There will be increased use for the Louth Livestock Market. 2. Re-developing the existing Livestock Market as a large supermarket will be the death knell of the many independent (and excellent) bakers, butchers, green grocers and delis currently trading in Louth. These shops are what make Louth the place it is today.

Market dead money. County mainly arable.

I feel the market should stay as it is because of the culture of the town as it's the only one left in Lincolnshire of its kind.

It's part of Lincolnshire's heritage and is the last remaining one in our great county. Do we really need another supermarket?? No!

If you pull it down, why not build a housing estate as you are not getting on top of this area with off road parking as too much of footpaths and roads are cluttered with vehicles shopping area up the road.

I believe that if the plans were to go ahead, the town itself would suffer business wise, if it moves.

Louth is probably the best small town in Lincolnshire for shopping, market and entertainment, foot, etc. It would spoil the town if the market was moved and seem very short-sighted considering the cost.

Lose of money for town. Last market in Lincolnshire

ELDC do not own the cattle market, it was gifted to the people to be used solely as a cattle market, so it's not ELDC's to sell. It's the last cattle market in Lincolnshire? So

why close it and send all the livestock to Newark!! Not very green is it!! ELDC say the cattle market is not profitable but ELDC have not invested in Louth Cattle Market, go to Newark C/M and look at how profitable it is, why investment. All ELDC want to do is sell, sell, sell and get money for nothing even if it means changing the law to suit itself, the spend Louth C/M money outside of Louth. Sheer greed and nothing to do with investing in the people of Louth.

Retaining the Livestock market on its current site is the most cost effective and socially viable option particularly with sensible. If less than 700k spending and better site including developing the periphery.

I feel that by attempting to sell the Livestock Market ELDC is betraying the people of Louth and doing a U-turn on their promise to abide by the 450 year old Louth Charter. There has been a total lack of investment in the market over time. I remember around 8 years ago talk of providing a drop in medical service for the farmers alongside other proposals; but this was shelved. I believe the lack of investment has been a deliberate ploy to run the market down and to try and reduce its importance to the town and local farmers. This is immoral and driven by the, thinly veiled, desire to sell the market and use the money elsewhere, ignoring ELDC's obligations. Louth is viewed nationwide as one of the best market towns, I believe the best option (option 3) would be to invest in the current site, refurbish it, build on and promote the history of it and in the process it would add to our visitor attraction.

ADV Partnership has no interest in Louth and its residents - they are only out to make themselves a profit and cannot possibly know or care what happens after they have made their money.

Design the market so it can be viable to be used for other activities such as car boot, drive in movie (as in America). Act smarter and don't lose a tradition because of lack of ideas. Instead of just cutting everything be first and lead the way, sometimes it is the best way.

How unthinkable not to have a livestock market in Lincolnshire!! Present site much easier access for farmers etc.

There is very little in options 1 and 2 for anything to help Louth regenerate. Indeed option 2 seems to favour anywhere but Louth - again.

Louth should remain a market town. That is its chief attraction to visitors, not an out-of-town-centre retail area that is depressingly like so many others.

Sell the site. Don't spend any money on a sports centre at Mablethorpe. ELDC needs to reset its mind away from spending money to reducing council tax.

Louth needs to make more of its cattle market as a feature now unique in Lincolnshire. It should continue to be part of the town, not moved to the outskirts. Hopes of retail redevelopment as a source of income are over-optimistic. We are a market town and need to look to the town centre for that: small, independent businesses, with the emphasis on local food, support tourism. Louth is too small to attract a large retail outlet such as some residents would like. It is important that we retain as much parking on the site as we have now. There is a large area, fronting on the east side of Ugate

and close to the cattle market, which is an eyesore and a disgrace and which doesn't get mentioned. It is to be hoped that it would be included in any plans.

Keep it local. Trauma for animals travelling further. Stop selling our nice unique town off to large corporate businesses where the profits go out of the country. Not everything should be for profit; you are elected to do the people will listen to their voices

Louth has wonderful small shops, which will continue to attract both locals and visitors, but the current supermarket provision is not good for a town of this size. Morrison's is very small and is only able to stock limited lines. Louth needs a quality supermarket (e.g. Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Marks and Spencer-food)). At present, people (including me) need to drive to Lincoln, Grimsby or Cleethorpes for quality supermarkets and a wider range of non-specialist products. This week, I will be driving to Grimsby to shop at Marks and Spencers and Sainsbury's - but I wouldn't drive to Grimsby to shop at Asda! People will continue to visit Louth for its butchers, delis, cheese-shops etc., as well as the market. (I use the green-grocers, delis etc. and will continue to do so). Indeed, a new supermarket may well increase visitors to the town and so increase spending in the independent shops. More new jobs would be created. Towns such as Lincoln continue to attract large numbers of tourists, who enjoy the history, the architecture, the small independent shops and the larger stores. Louth could do the same, albeit on a smaller scale.

To the best of my knowledge, the cattle market is used only once a week. As the site has enormous potential, this would suggest that it is drastically under-utilised. As planning permission has recently been awarded for the construction of almost 300 new houses in the Legbourne Road area of Louth and another 90+ in the offing, creating more retail facilities etc. in Louth has to be given priority and the cattle market site would be an ideal starting point.

Lincolnshire needs a Livestock Market, preferably at Louth. Option 1 or 3 would be ok. The present market plus its parking has no spare space on a Store Lamb sale day, so it's essential that space isn't cut down on from any option.

Louth has enough supermarkets and convenience stores spread around the town. A large supermarket/retail area would detract from the town centre shops therefore would not be a good thing for the town. The cattle market should be retained as such and possibly be moved to another day to coincide with market day in the town as it used to be before the foot and mouth outbreak some years ago. When not in use as a cattle market it could be used as an amenity space.

This is a valuable fixture for the Lincolnshire agricultural community as a whole. On top of that it brings people into the town. A new market on the edge of town would not benefit the whole town in the same way. Selling the site to a major supermarket would be a disaster for the town, more empty shops & bankrupt businesses. You only have to look at Gainsborough town centre to see the effect. People come to Louth because of what it is, and the options of either moving the market or a major retailer coming in (or more likely both) would destroy the very reason people come.

The Council should still provide a Livestock market in Louth.

I object to the sale of the market with the (substantial) funds being spent (well) outside of Louth. It's a Louth facility; the proceeds should be spent on Louth.

On a market day farmers and their families come into town, not only to do business on the market, but to shop in the town. This is good for local businesses.

Louth has the only remaining cattle market in Lincolnshire, it should not be lost. Probably trade has decreased recently due to farmers' uncertainty as to its future and feeling they need to look elsewhere for stability. The existing site could incorporate other events on day other than Thursday. The farmers and their families bring trade into the town which might be lost if you re-locate to Fairfield - which I don't think is suitable anyway.

We do not need any more supermarkets or homes - do try not to be greedy.

Please keep it open.

I object on the grounds of animal welfare because cattle will have to travel to Newark. Also the money raised will be spent outside of Louth at Skegness or Mablethorpe.

My mother used to farm, I remember going to the livestock market as a child/adult. The market is a form of socialisation for many farmers do you want to take this away?

This seems the "least bad" option, but I wonder what plans exist for the current site? The listed proposals don't appear to benefit Louth itself very much. I wonder if there could not be some tiny part of the current area kept for a 'small-livestock' market, keeping the Royal Charter in spirit at least, alongside development of the greater part. My hope is that any development would be in keeping with the character of Louth - an eye on beauty please!

I would like to see the cattle market stay where it is and to use half for the cattle market and half for something else. And I would like you to look after our farmers. It is too far for them to travel to Newark and the Fairfield Industrial Estate is not suitable.

Louth is a market town and needs the market to help the local businesses.

We need to keep something of our agricultural heritage in place - put the houses/ supermarket elsewhere or simply don't build them at all.

There has been more than enough development going on in the area in recent years. The town needs to retain something of its character. The existing facility if refurbished will be adequate for our needs for many years to come.

Definitely don't want retail. If housing was an option, I might have voted for that.

I would like the character of Louth to remain so there is no threat to the shops and businesses in the centre of Louth. If a retail development is allowed to be placed on the Cattle Market site there will likely to be less foot fall in the town and that could mean the loss of jobs and income to local people. I do not wish Louth to stay in the twentieth century and realise that sensitive progress is necessary. To lose the Livestock market is a backward step. It is a necessary facility that generates income for the council and if invested in on its current site could also bring extra revenue if the area was to be further developed. Please consider the value of the environmentally friendly conference centre on the Lincolnshire showground and how useful that building is a venue. A similar structure could be built on the Cattle Market site to run alongside the Livestock Market facility.

If ELDC followed option 2, then apparently any money gained from sale of the site would not be spent on improving things in Louth, but would go to other areas of the District. This is totally wrong as the Market was originally granted to Louth not the District. Any money received should be spent in Louth. The sale of the Swimming Pool comes back to mind.

It is good that the Council have decided to consult. However, the information provided has been misleading and biased against the market continuing. The cost of refurbishment of the existing market is not as high as was stated, and the income received recently greater than stated. If the Council decide to close the market (by act of parliament or whilst a new facility is built) they may be faced by legal challenge. The market is good for Louth and good for farmers. More could be made of the market if energy and money were put into making more of it. It could be a tourism asset, bringing in visitors and boosting the local economy. Visitors could be encouraged to attend, and packages created including food markets, farm stays and tours etc. Funding is available for tourism and business development. New development of parts of the site for livestock related new businesses could generate more income for the Council to offset repair costs.

1. Loss of charter would be criminal and would be challenged very strongly. 2. ELDC has failed to carry out regular maintenance so the costs quoted should be challenged. In 2014 the 10year maintenance was put at £325k, information provided by the now Leader and the property Services manager to a council Scrutiny group (see council records) 3.the market must be kept as it is vital to the economy of eastern Lincolnshire. 4. This site has many uses apart from Cattle Market and this survey completely disregards this - another auction, well used bus park, vital car parking for Louth. 5. No attention is paid to the impact it will have on the rural community and separately the Louth community - it is an important aspect of how this market town interacts in conjunction with its hinterland. 6. Farmers are a hard to reach group so having medical and mental health facilities on a site is vital as part of council's wellbeing strategy. 7. This present site works for its present usage, the industrial estate would be completely the wrong place to site any alternative. But in any case building a new market would be a complete waste of our money, renovating represents better value for money. 8. Last remains Cattle Market in an agricultural county should be promoted not used as a cash cow. 9. ADV's proposals are not shared but if they were to bring retail development it is outside the town centre, the profits would go out of town and would be a threat to our independent shops which are a huge tourist asset to the Wolds tourism project. 10. Animal welfare is important. It lacks understanding to suggest the farmers should go to Newark; Louth users off the Marsh would not drive 60miles to market for so many reasons. The closure suggestion would see sheep farming disappear from this area - we produce excellent lamb and mutton here which is sold for premium prices countrywide and this fits with the GLEP objectives. 11. There are vets on site giving advice weekly, for free! Farmers talk about farming and help each other on a weekly basis. (It is far from a drinking club, not least as there is no alcohol on site since the council closed the pub two years plus ago). Take this away and you hit having an agricultural centre for exchange of ideas and policy in a farming area. With the challenges of Brexit this is vital for taking this important industry forward. 12. Farmers bring to market from 7am, they can sell and buy and be back to their animals early afternoon. This is not possible if they have to go to Newark which means a day away from the farm, which poses difficulties for small operators. 13. This market pays the farmers into their banks within three days.

This sustains the many subsistence farmers living in the area - they are not all rich, big boys round here by any means. If councillors bothered to talk to members of the industry they would understand this... 14. This has been a TB free market for four years. We throw this away at our peril. It is a huge selling point for our industry. 15. Traceability. The public is ever more demanding of high production standards. Animals sold here give local butchers traceability. British beef and lamb commands good prices and this will sharpen up even more when we leave Europe. 16. We are taking away young farmers futures if we do not have a market. The audience at Louth Town Hall should have left the council in no doubt about this. 17. We have a large concentration of egg producers in East Lindsey. Sheep production fits in perfectly with the enrichment of the soils and grass produced as a result - e.g. At Bilsby where a very large flock benefits from this rotation. 18. If money is the only object viz a viz this site the idea of selling off the sheep market has merits and should be explored. 19 selling off the community owned family silver for unknown purposes is immoral and will be challenged. 20. Serving notice on the auctioneers was such a bad PR move, giving the community the impression the council had already made up its mind. This was ill conceived as vindictive by the general population and has been affected the public perception of the way this council does business. Add this to the council trying to wriggle out of its responsibilities under the Charter; it gives the public a poor perception of East Lindsey, a reputation which is already not rosy...

In my opinion the Council has a duty to our local agricultural community to continue to provide a livestock market, even if, as your report suggests, there is minimal return to Council on the running of the current livestock market. I also understand that should the Louth livestock market close, and not be replaced in Louth, there is no alternative Lincolnshire livestock market where farmers can buy and sell their stock. This would be a complete travesty to Lincolnshire as a County, the farming community and Louth as a prominent market town. Perhaps I am being somewhat of a traditionalist, but Louth was granted the Royal Charter hundreds of years ago, and we owe it to our heritage (the past) and our residents (the future) to keep this building going. Please spend £700,000 of residents' Council Tax to keep this institution alive. It will be a very sad day to see this building disappear, which in turn will have a detrimental effect on Louth as a market town, and in turn a negative impact on the Lincolnshire Wolds in general. I am proud of where I live, and desperately wish the rural "feel" of the area to remain. This is, after all, what brings so many visitors into our area.

It is beholden on the council to maintain the only livestock market left in Lincolnshire. Livestock marketing is an important tool in the national agricultural industry and therefore should be maintained. It is also important as the movement of live animals can be stressful to them so the closer the market the better even if some of them have to be moved on later for slaughter. The council are being short-sighted by putting short term gains ahead of the long term survival of the market town of Louth. Imagine in the future it would be called the supermarket town. Not at all the same. Please reconsider and keep the cattle market.

It appears that all of the figures quoted are biased towards not having a livestock market in the future. The council have exaggerated all the costs and vastly understated the rental income from the current auctioneers. There is no evidence of declining numbers through the market in recent years. It is an important facility for both the farming community into the future (for the whole of Lincolnshire - the UK's premier farming

county where a local council is considering closing the last livestock market still operating) and also for the nature of Louth as a market town. We are in the tourism industry near to Louth and any visitors think Louth is a wonderful town. We should realise what a special place Louth is and keep both the livestock market (in the town) and the 'shopping' market and continue to support all the independent businesses which are almost unique to Louth now. There are options with the current site which could make it much more sustainable. The facility could be used for other uses on other days of the week and I understand that the auctioneers don't need all of the site so a portion could be sold off to help with finances.

Repairing the cattle market would be in Louth's best interest as a better market would attract more farmers to use it and bring more trade to the town. Louth needs to keep the cattle market as it was passed by law years ago to always have one. Louth is a beautiful town and needs to keep its history.

Louth market needs to stay open, the town itself will die, ask the shopkeepers what it was like in the last foot and mouth outbreak!

Let's keep Louth special and not morph into just another dull little town.

It provides a vital service that is needed by local small farming businesses especially out towards the coast. It would mean the loss of car parking for workers, visitors and shoppers of the town causing unprecedented levels of on street parking again and loss of footfall just as it did when the car parking changes came into force before these then were reviewed. Maybe part of the site could be used to provide a skate board ramps & BMX facilities for the younger community of the town.

Having spoken to people at the cattle market, their ideas about improving the site and building a few houses on the periphery make a lot of sense. Keep the market close to the town centre.

I have learnt from experience it is very easy to sell assets and see the monies received spent with no long term benefits ELDC area is an agricultural area, a new cattle market, a refurbished one will give long term benefits to the area financially and indirectly employment wise unfortunately I can see part of any gains financially disappearing over the long term otherwise.

None! Keep the market and do what needs doing! Look after your Market! But the cost! Is not beyond what you said. The last Lincolnshire Livestock Market! Stop ELDC! You lose this you lose Louth? Farmers and residents need the market as a live auction adds value to the town, to farmers and their wellbeing!

This option serves the people of Louth and local businesses the best by far. The cost of refurbishment is the cheapest option, other than the closure of this important facility to the detriment of the livestock farming community. The estimated cost of Option 3 may also be defrayed by the charges paid to the Council whilst the huge cost of a new build market will be unsustainable from the income unless stock levels, particularly of fat cattle, exceed all expectations. The other important issue is will yet another supermarket on the edge of town has a detrimental effect on the present viability of the shopping centre along Mercer Row and Eastgate. This seems to be the pattern in other towns of a similar size, resulting in local traders not being able to compete because of

the high cost of business rates, reduced profits and parking charges. A row of empty shops in the high street is the inevitable consequence.

The district should help our farmers as we need them now and in the future!

This site is essential to the continuation of viable livestock farming in this area and, with the uncertainty surrounding the whole farming industry in view of the decision to leave the EU, this would be vital marker of support for the local industry and it is therefore essential to maintain the market in a re-vamped condition.

I think it's vital to retain the present cattle market for the additional reason that beasts will not have the added stress of longer travel to other facilities.

It seems that the council's position is at odds with that of the Louth Livestock Market's regarding the data you have presented. When reading the text, your 'consultation' is heavily biased in favour of option 2. My preferred Option is 3, however it is evident the sort of spend being proposed, is not required. The market buildings are in a good state of repair and in any event, I am quite sure that many in Louth would make a contribution to any works needed. ELDC are using grossly inflated figures in order to manufacture a position around jobs and 'investment'. Towns and villages up and down the country are losing their identity to greedy developers and Council members/officers who believe that quality of life is wrapped up in cash and shiny new buildings, it is not and some elements of our heritage are worth preserving.

I would like preserve the heritage of this site and feel it is imperative that this provision is retained for farmers and local businesses in Louth. Both would suffer losses if any other option were chosen. Sincerely hope the council can see a similar view.

I believe that option 3 is the only sensible option to safeguard the future of the Livestock Market facility at minimal cost. I believe that losing this facility could well be one of those things that could contribute toward depressing the town and would be a short term decision made without full consideration of the long term negative effects.

Close

Do not know where you got your £3,000 from the Tractor shop pays £800 per year for sale office there. There are four in total. I make that £3,200 per annum. Just in rent alone. The Tractor shop and before that m w shepherd as seen business grow as a result of their market presence.

Lincolnshire is based upon agriculture, the Council should be encouraging and helping local small farmers to survive and thrive not take away their livelihood. If the nearest cattle market is Newark they will not survive. Louth has had a cattle market for years, why now remove it.

Sell off part of the car park at the front and boars head pub for development. This would provide additional funds for the refurbishment of the existing cattle market. It would be a travesty to remove a Royal Charter, heritage and services for both the livestock and other functions that utilise this space. It is essential for supporting further events in the town such as the great Wolds Cycle Race as well as numerous other sporting events. I would suggest that weekly car boots on Sunday's would be greatly

attended. It is a key local livestock service, with farmers having to go over an hour a way for an alternate market. I implore you to refurbish the livestock cattle market.

To ensure that the Lincolnshire countryside continues to be a vibrant, working landscape which supports mixed agricultural businesses that also help protect and enhance the countryside for the tourism offer for walking, cycling and horse riders.

In such a strong agriculture area, I feel it would be foolhardy and irresponsible of the district council to contemplate closure of the livestock market as moving farm animals across county borders (to Newark) would present unacceptable red tape and extra costs.

Stay where it is and do it up

Refurbishment would be by far the most sensible option as it would preserve the historically important facility (the only cattle market in Lincolnshire), as well as removing the spectre of a supermarket the town does not need, as well as presenting the opportunity to explore wider public engagement with the site. Don't 'flog-off' the family silver just so you can have a good time at the seaside!

Keep the existing market, refurbish it but develop the site at the same time to make it multi-use and bring in income. I hope you will publish the results of this consultation?

Keep it!

Louth market is important, keep it please.

In light of consent funding cut-backs of the ecologic situation - option 2 appears to be the only sensible option. I am a retired private citizen with the farming or livestock defrock and have no personal axe to fund.

The money you have wasted on printing this, posting it both ways, could have been used to rebuild the market! Didn't we elect you to look after the towns unique features?

There would be no cattle market facility in the area or indeed in Lincolnshire if the Louth market was to close. In a farming county I feel an important facility would be lost. Travelling to a market in Newark would give extra stress to the animals and indeed to everyone involved. Louth is a market town & removal of such facility would remove an aspect that makes it special.

We live in a rural farming community which does not need more obstacles put in its path to ensure that food is locally produced to support the East Lindsey and Lincolnshire economy.

This is a delightfully worded document with unfair bias.

The Council have clearly missed the boat in selling this site. Wait until more houses built, refurbish in the meantime, wait until future of Newark Cattle Market becomes clear, and then look again at selling the site 5-10 years' time from now.

Please ensure towns - Louth, Mablethorpe, and Skegness - have equivalent investment, without one town benefiting more.

Lincolnshire is a farming county and it would be a tragedy to lose it only remaining cattle market. If it was replaced with a retail park it would kill the centre of Louth.

It's not just selling livestock, it's a community, for young and old, brings trade to Louth itself.

The handling of the cattle market by the Council over the past few years has been a complete disgrace. Presumably the cost of refurbishment has been increased due to lack of proper maintenance in the past.

Build a new cattle market on Bolingbroke road, Fairfield Industrial Estate for traffic purposes. A smaller than planned with a restaurant/cafe, function room, action room, offices for rent, etc. to generate an income if local contractors are used on a 2 million budget would be sufficient, sell the existing site for 3 million and 1 million surplus to be used on other projects i.e. football ground on Fairfield Industrial Estate as well.

We do not need any more retail - food, charity, etc. shops in Louth! We do need parking so visitors can come here & spend - contribute to our economy and reduce the irresponsible parking of some residents who cannot park outside their own homes - on the street!

Car parking for free should be re-instated - this will help alleviate problems of parking on streets. Someone is going to die because an ambulance or fire engine cannot get past parked vehicles! If you insist everyone (Inc. workers) should pay parking then put parking metres on car park at Manby ELDC!!!

We should retain and refurbish the present site,, because this option is far less expensive than building a new livestock market. A new retail complex on the site of the present livestock market is not needed, and would be detrimental to the trade of our town centre shops; these shops contribute a great deal to the essential character of Louth, as does the present livestock market.

We need a good farming sector, keep Lincolnshire's only market. Don't get another one built, it's a waste of money, do this up. Wife and I visit market and Louth every week and it works but needs council investment.

Spending millions £s for yet another retail outlet would be the death of Louth as a tourist town. It is a market town. Small businesses and shops would die. It would no longer attract tourists who bring in millions of £s every year. "Guarantees" of new jobs have often been cited in other ventures in other towns but guarantees and promises have not been forth coming, or are you only seeing the manage cash sign.

Having visited the site, it is apparent the only repair required is a new roof. A fire alarm may be required but a burglar alarm is not necessary; there are very few removable assets on site. The costs of a new roof could easily be recovered by selling some land on the perimeter for housing, which must include off street parking - say along Newmarket. Having spoken to farmers at the market, it is apparent they would not bring income into Louth town from the proposed new site. It also appears some businesses on site have been given notice. This is at the discussion stage but Council appears to believe they are free to make decisions on the part of others.

Louth cattle market is a historic part of the Lincolnshire Wolds. Promote it; keep the market in Louth, Lincolnshire. Help the farmers are busy people and don't want long travel to Newark. Why not exhibit the ancient charter. (We're always seeing browns "panorama!")

Lincolnshire is a farming county so let's keep the remaining market in Louth area: 1. to save travel by existing users 2. Too much of local facilities are being demolished for new supermarket.

It is essential to retain a market in Louth (only one in county). Our family are fourth generation small farmers selling throughout the year, as do many others, who may find it a problem if they have to travel outside the county (costs & time). I feel Option 3 is the only realistic solution, and feel sure it could be made to work.

Get the sheep pens in part of the beast market. Then develop the sheep market end.

Reduce the cattle market and refurbish it and develop the remaining land for housing, and leisure facilities.

Louth is already showing symptoms of economic downturn. The possibility of yet another supermarket on its outskirts may well tip the balance and kill the town centre as we know it altogether.

As a frequent visitor to Louth I am sure the re-locating of the livestock market would result in, not only the loss of an historic site, but more importantly significant loss of trade to shops in the town. This would also be the case if the market was suspended.

I come every year on holiday to the area and spend a day or two in Louth. We especially enjoy our annual visit to the cattle market. It is tradition and a lifeline for local farmers. We would not visit if the cattle market was not there.

The market provides a vital social focal point for individuals from the surrounding rural area of East Lindsey.

I look forward to meeting up with old friends at the market on a regular basis.

I feel that this cattle market is an integral part of the community. My family have been using this market for years, without it it will severely impact upon the farms. I currently live in Herefordshire where we are extremely lucky to have use of various markets within the area; unfortunately people in Lincolnshire do not have this option. The extra cost in time and travel to a market further away outside the county will negatively impact the farming community of Lincolnshire.

Loosing too much of our rural heritage and facilities.

This market is the only one for miles, how are farmers going to make a profit when they have to send their produce further away, more money on transport! Leave it alone! Farmers work hard; don't make their lives more difficult.

Leave it alone close/sell the pub!

Keep the Livestock Market.

Keep it.

Tradition and people before money.

Leave things as they are.

A part of Lincolnshire Life.

Why take away trade and business away from a small Market Town which needs these resources?

We, supporters of Transition Town Louth, are writing to East Lindsey District Council about its public consultation on the future of the Louth livestock market. The council's decision to engage with people and seek their views is welcome. Unfortunately the way that the consultation is framed is unsatisfactory. It fails to set out all the options in a comprehensive and fair way. Good practice in option appraisal requires that "do nothing" should be considered on the same basis as all other proposals. ELDC precludes this without providing the evidence that should allow it to be compared fairly with the other options. Instead, refurbishment costs for the cattle market are provided under option 3. Here, respondents are invited to make comparisons with a "multi-million pound capital receipt" to be generated by the sale of the site. Excluding "do nothing" as an option while including (unsupported by any evidence) the financial cost said to be associated with it is misleading and displays an in-built bias in the consultation. More importantly, instead of "option 4" (which cannot be compared to options 1-3 as it does not set out any future scenario for the livestock market) ELDC needs to consult people about the real, and perfectly viable, fourth option of retaining the site for community use. Because the Council seems not to have considered this there is no opportunity for people to support or oppose it. Our view is that the sale of the site (giving rise to a receipt of an undisclosed amount) needs to be judged against the benefits of its retention as a public asset. We believe that keeping the site (whether or not a new cattle market is built elsewhere) could, if properly thought through, offer the possibility of greater net benefits over the long-term. Clearly developing the site for public benefit involves a financial cost although this could be offset by development agreements for a part of the site. As long as ELDC does not take into account the community use option it is likely that the consultation will be interpreted as a means of leading people to support the Council's predetermined decision. The consultation will be seen as flawed and vulnerable to legal challenge.

You need to give residents a voice on whether they wish for the livestock market site to be sold or not. This is a completely separate question to whether a livestock market should be maintained in Louth. I strongly believe that the site should be retained in public ownership, with or without a livestock market. There should then be further consultation on how the site may be used to best serve the local community.

The market is in a primarily agricultural area and should therefore be retained as best can be done, and it should be the council's duty to provide the same. While the costs of the new-build are clearly exaggerated, this is probably the best option for the moment.

Consider an option for the current site which accommodates a livestock market and other development options such as older persons care home, affordable housing or small scale business units.

I do not think Louth needs another edge of town retail development when older shops are empty and even being converted to residential eggs on Ugate. One of the unique

points about Louth is its wealth of local shops in the town centre and they need to be supported. The cattle market is the last in Lincolnshire and one of the town's last links to its agricultural heritage - this should not be closed down or hidden away on the industrial estate but celebrated. The market could become a must see attraction for visitors and schools. If necessary some of the land could be sold for housing. There could be a car boot sale there every weekend. The council could ask for suggestions for activities at the site that would increase its usefulness even further.

This is a necessary and productive facility for the farming community as a whole and therefore should be helped and supported by the East Lindsey District Council, as the district's elected body. It is both untenable and shocking that you are attempting to remove this valuable and necessary facility.

We must not lose this market! Farmers in our area, many of whom are only small, cannot afford to travel to Newark with their livestock. It is ridiculous to even think about getting rid of such a vital asset to the town

My family and friends love to visit Louth. Where we lived once, there is no longer a livestock market. The town died.

I am a firm believer Louth cattle market should remain as it is the heart of the community and would have a huge financial effect on the town centre

No to the closure of Louth cattle market as it is the only one remaining in this county

Animal welfare issues as the next nearest livestock market is Newark. It's a disgrace.

Do we really want to close the cattle market for ever? Once it is finished it is gone for ever. Think it through. Tourists are needed.

The Market is part of Louth's history and still is a viable working part of the town and surrounding countries life. The town it's not a self-contained commercial entity but needs to support the farms around.

ELDC are acting illegally serving notice on the auctioneers. How can you do this when the decision has not been made or has it?

Do not sell family silver; do up cattle market where it is. Common sense

When ELDC stopped a named person from operating on the Wednesday market, it had an adverse effect on the town. Don't make the same mistake

If there is not enough business at the cattle market you need to ask yourselves why and what ELDC is going to do about making it more attractive and viable. Maybe making use of facilities or more market days for other activities. Closing it is too easy and a lazy option for ELDC - make it work!! Who are adv?? Sounds dodgy!

The excess funds after build and save of existing site could still be used for other investment projects. The development of the Fairfield site to provide serviced employment land should be coordinated with the build of new livestock market. This is the last livestock market in the area.

There have been massive improvements to Louth in recent years - the development of the old abm site, the new leisure centre, the play goers theatre, the co-op on

Newmarket are good examples, all being used daily by numerous people and I feel that the cattle market site is now Louth's biggest eye-sore, massively under-used and out dated. It has been increasingly so over the 40 years that I've lived here. I believe that this enormous site with much potential is in urgent need of a complete re-development, not a patch-up job.

The cattle market is a historic part of what Louth is. It should be preserved. We do not want another supermarket.

Why not keep the livestock market, 2nd create on extra area of "farmers market" shops as well, even make it a place of interest for tourism

Newark is the nearest cattle market to Louth and I think with the closure of Louth cattle market, Newark would be much too far to transport livestock anytime of the year, regarding the safety of livestock.

The market is important for the area, it would be very wrong to close it and change the historic charter. The council needs some imagination to utilise the site more effectively. Perhaps sell some of it to pay for the maintenance which needs doing.

We need a market and I need a job

It's part of Louth's history, close to Louth's popular town market. It's part of its attraction, like the boars head pub.

Upgrade and develop into centre for food and agriculture. Market could be used for sales and exhibition/ demonstrations, meeting/ conference facilities included.

The charter needs to be respected. Farming in this county is important/ way of life we should support this community/Lincolnshire farmers. Animals need correct/up to date facilities (moral issues) option 1, as I understand gives land a new 'life' - change of how economy is, visitors, modern facilities for town/about and 9 new, appropriate facility for the market.

Do the site up we don't need more shops. Help the farmers.

Part of our heritage, local livestock farmers dependent on it for marketing, many will cease livestock breeding if it closes. ELDC has no business to be involving it's with national and international business concerns, in enabling them to obtain land here at the expense of our council tax payers, I call that corruption.

Give over to Louth Town Council

It would be madness to close it or move to another site. Keep market on existing site.

Don't lie about £700k cost No supermarkets No housing No bloody immigrants housed here No housing elsewhere Cattle market no just for Louth but Lincolnshire

The great heritage of Louth and the district should keep things as they are with extra uses being made for the site for functions, meetings etc.

Keep the market on the existing site do not sell off the site - who are ADV? Use the site more for events. Farmers need the market.

Maintaining a livestock market in such a rural area is essential. Redevelopment of the existing site into affordable housing and relocation of the market to a more practical site would be best in my opinion.

I am a Louth town councillor and the Louth cattle market situation has been discussed since before 2013 by the LTC. On 22-8-17 no 214c. It was agreed Louth Town Council Clerk and Cllr. A Leonard should arrange to meet with ELDC leader. On our agenda 5th Sept 2017 we shall get feedback. My own view regarding this consultation has many flaws but common sense does not seem obvious in any reports I have heard or seen. Louth is a market town of the top order. The cattle market is vital to our continued viability across so many areas of our county especially ELDC area. It's as valued as the coast and brings food, employment and care of our land in the 2nd largest county in the UK. I want to keep the cattle market, improve it and have other business to do with our agricultural area. I also want to have an opportunity to contribute and help by working together with ELDC.

Do not sell the site it just needs doing up. This will cost less but gives more. Use the industrial estate site for industry and use the sale money to do up the new market site.

You have blatantly chosen to ignore the cost and consequences of horrendous traffic delays and inconvenience should the site be sold. Your figures for all options seem manufactured to suit the sale of the site. Are you actually saying that a developer would pay way in excess of what it would cost to build a new site, when it was made clear last time that they wouldn't. You came across as a bunch of cynics who know the price of everything and the value of nothing. If you want to make sure money from the site build a few houses on the property.

We have a great facility in the existing cattle market - let's just update it as required. We live close by on Linden Walk and it is a thriving utility for Louth as a rural market town. We do not want to lose it. It also provides much needed parking close to the town centre. The historic 'Boars Head' pub needs selling so it can re-open and provide refreshment and meals. Stop wasting our money on trying to sell this amazing Louth asset - Louth cattle market.

Farmers in this area need a livestock market and it must remain on Newmarket

If Option 2 board pay out of own money!!

Call election if you cannot do job!!!

You only mention Skegness and Mablethorpe as benefiting from the sale of Louth's heritage. The £200,000 spent in parliament would be better spent towards revamping the current market. Who would pay if you lost the cash a lot of wasted money from rate payers to find? We only have a couple of councillors in Louth I have very little confidence in other councillors who would just think of themselves and not the people of Louth. The traffic and parking is bad enough without another unneeded retail unit business from the town

We need this market, it is vital for country folk like my family

I value the heritage factor of the provision of a charter to hold a livestock market in the town - how do you put a value on such a charter? Let us not throw our proud history

away for the sake of a short term financial gain. Despite the decline in the use of the market, it still has a useful function and is important to net market prices, in the livestock sector. As the last remaining livestock market in the county, this facility should be maintained. We are in danger of knowing the price of everything and the value of nothing!

Traditional market town

Keep it

Get better quotes from local people!!!

I prefer the revised option 3 as described by the auctioneers who operate the cattle market. This would bring revenue from development to the council; would retain the market and would help people in Louth. Several generations of my family have traded at Louth cattle market. I have previously used the market and my grandson had his first herd of sheep during this summer. We should treasure the fact that we still have a 16th c. Chester that enables Louth to promote the only remaining market in the county. What an asset!

I think it is imperative the market is retained on its current site. The market is part of Louth's heritage. It is important that the farmers and their families support the town centre and that we support them. The proposals put forward by the livestock market / auctioneers are eminently sensible and workable and ELDC should support these. There should be no temporary closure or suspension of the current livestock market.

Tourists love to visit Louth, its small unique shops. ELDC should be working with the public not against them

Closing the market will put people working there out of business we don't need another supermarket.

The livestock market attracts visits to Louth much needed tourism for local economy

Invest not sell off assets!

It's our money use it wisely

Get businessmen to run Council not amateurs.

To close the market will put small livestock farmers out of business. No regard is being shown

Farmers looked after us in war times, look after farmers.

Look at the revenue made in town by local businesses when market day is run.

You should think about local businesses. Farming is important and will become even more so if we're out of the EU community. Think people, not money for once.

Keep open

Another thing to go what next give back to Louth

Cattle market, hospital, whatever next gives back to town.

I want it to stay, I may be young but I appreciate Louth's traditions.

I like to see farm to store/ shop food

Resort back to the town. Tradition.

Louth is a traditional market town let us keep something!! We want our town to stay

Louth needs the car parking

Need to keep car parking and retain smaller local retailers

If I was you I wouldn't take on a Royal Charter. It will only highlight to the public the Council can do as it pleases when it pleases.

I support all of the people who went to defend our market towns stake in the cattle market at the recent meeting at the town hall. People spoke with passion and interest in Louth's future and legacy. Keep our cattle market!

Keep the current site, but look to redevelop some of the site/make more use of the facilities

ELDC has no rights to serve notice on the auctions a decision has not been made or is it?

Retention of the livestock market will not only provide the ongoing sale platform for livestock without the necessity of travelling to Newark or Melton Mowbray, but will allow the retired farmers and people from the local rural community to continue to meet together, thus reducing social isolation and enabling access to other services such as health screening and casework from Lincolnshire Rural Support Network.

So much could be done with the livestock area. Car boots, car sales, it is not used to its full potential. Needs investment!

In view of the information provided, option 3 is the only choice I could make. However, I remain open-minded and if I was furnished with the following details my response may differ. A. What sale price has been agreed with adv? B. The "retail offer" for the site is much too broad a description - exactly what is planned i.e. supermarket, mill shop, cut price retailer - the options are endless. I believe if there is a "charter" then this should be honoured. However, if data indicates a winding usage of the market, could a smaller facility be for "retail" purposes? Alternatively a smaller facility could be provided on the industrial estate at a lower cost than the sum quoted.

Even having spent 0.7m on refurbishment there would be a nominal £4.3m for the other projects mentioned in option 2. The market is currently an underutilized asset with unrealized potential to support the agriculture/rural community and economy and has benefits for the continued sustainability of the town centre of Louth that should be maximized, not lost.

Money is not everything! When all tangible assets gone \_ no benefits left. Market is too valuable in other ways - historic, practicalities for farmers & benefits for tourism in Lincs and East Lindsey

Not many towns have the unique shops of Louth. Come on ELDC try and help the local businesses instead of Louth! The cattle market needs to stay.

Closure of the cattle market would be bad for the livestock producers. Nearest market Newark! A negative effect on the farmers and their livestock.

ELDC have no rights closing the livestock market without removing the charter

We hope ELDC are listening to the people of Lincolnshire. The majority of the people do not want to see the market closed. Another supermarket is not needed.

Holidaymakers love to visit Louth. Closure off the livestock market would have a detrimental effect. We hope you are listening to Lincolnshire people.

It's a no brainer. Keep the market on the existing site. The refurbishment costs supplied are questionable. Some development of the site, so the site can be used more - not a supermarket. Car parking must stay

What does ELDC want the sale of the livestock market for.?

The last remaining livestock market. In Lincolnshire ELDC should be ashamed.

Leave the livestock market where it is. Keep doing, relevant repairs/maintenance. If there are any areas of land or any buildings not needing to be utilised for the livestock market (look long term) then sell them for purposes that benefit the town and residents. Do not sell to any party without knowing and having ultimate control over relating plans for use.

Keep the cattle market where it is. Renovate the site but don't go overboard on spending unnecessarily. Attempt to increase the sales commission income if possible - identify any land not really required for the continuance of the market, look long term, and sell that off - perhaps for retirement homes. To sell the site to adv, not knowing what their exact proposals (for use) would be is a 'leap of youth' which ELDC should not take. Please bear in mind have that ELDC may not have ultimate central ever the use should a sale to adv be effected.

the commercial landscape is about to change with Brexit. As an agricultural county we need state of the art facilities to take the best advantage of the opportunities afforded by this historic decision.

ELDC needs to invest in this facility which is at the heart of not only Louth and the surrounding area but the whole of Lincolnshire's livestock farming industry. To even consider Option 2 is abhorrent and ELDC should be ashamed of itself. The misinformation provided during this consultation by the authority is also disgusting and it is only fortunate that the auctioneers had the opportunity to provide the public with the true facts and figures at the public meeting held at Louth Town Hall. The cattle market is key to the farming heritage but also the community and future of our area. It brings people into Louth who in turn spend money in the local shops and services. It also provides a far greater social service for the farming community - many of whom would otherwise not have the opportunity to catch up with others in what can be a very lonely profession, particularly given the rural nature of our area. If the cattle market was to close, for any period of time, it would have a dramatic impact on the rural economy - small, independent farms cannot just simply travel to Newark or Melton Mowbray instead. They would lose their livelihoods and the knock on impacts of that could be significant. Rural isolation and the social issues associated with that are a side issue of

this whole story which needs to be given serious consideration. The cattle market site has the potential to offer so much more. There are organisations that could make use of it and it could provide commercial opportunities seven days a week if the right investment and management is put in place. There is no need to build a new facility - the current facility is more than adequate but with a small additional investment could offer so much more. ELDC needs to stop this mentality of selling off assets to line its own pocket and for once put the needs of our communities first. You represent the community; you serve this community and its time that you listen to the community. Everyone wants to see this facility kept and prosper. Don't let you community down.

Louth is a market town and that is its attraction. It is important to preserve these market towns - and keep them for future generations. We cannot afford every town to just be a retail outlet. Let us keep England having a variety of towns, villages etc. It will be dreadful if every city, tow, and village all look alike and have the exact forms.

Any other option risks losing Louth s unique characteristics. Refurbishing the market is a least cost option in complying with its Charter obligations

Louth without a cattle market detracts from its very being as a Market Town. Cattle markets have all but disappeared from Lincolnshire yet the county and East Lindsey in particular remain livestock producing, breeding, selling and buying centres of high commercial activity. This creates and maintains employment, and creates tax rising to offset East Lindsey's profligate attitude to spending. Building a new cattle market sends strong signals that Louth and East Lindsey are open for business, a sign that would not go unnoticed within the wider business community!! Tourism and Farming are the lifeblood, even now, of our area, we, as the larger community should be supporting this. Councils should be looking after their residents that are what they are charged to do, not sell off assets to plug black holes in budgets that have resulted from wastage, inefficiency, mismanagement and inflationary salary and pension settlements for executives.

I believe that the way in which this consultation paper has been presented and phrased has been knowingly and deliberately designed to channel the reader into avoiding the option of refurbishing and keeping the current site. The figures used e.g. "contingency for unforeseen works - £56,700" appear to be a nonsense. How is it that you are able to calculate, so precisely, unforeseen works? We recently had an extension built on our property. We got a quote. We worked on the quote. We did not feel it necessary to allow tens of thousands for unforeseen circumstances. This consultation paper is possibly, because of the leading way in which it has been written, not even fair or possibly legal. Shame on you.

Option 3 gives the Council the opportunity to update and improve the current facilities and hopefully provide community-inclusive options for the site when not in use as a livestock market. Making a profit from the requirement to provide such a market (as per the Royal Charter) should not be in the forefront of the Council's decision-making. Good value for money is not always profit-based. The farming community has a huge role to play in the East Lindsey District and providing the best facilities will offer an opportunity to persuade those currently using other markets to utilise the improved site at Louth and thus increase its gross takings. Included in Option 3 should also be the aim to deal with the various empty and derelict buildings adjoining the current cattle market site. Perhaps the private development of these areas could help with the cost of up-dating the current

livestock market. Also, is this site really the most appropriate place in Louth to position another supermarket?

This is an opportunity to retain and develop the identity of this market town.

We are appalled at the decision of ELDC to close Louth Cattle Market, however, not surprised. All the money seems to be spent on the coastal area especially Skegness. Louth is special and the market is part of that having the only cattle market in Lincolnshire. We are currently investigating setting up a beef enterprise for the younger member of our farming family. We need somewhere near at hand to sell these animals. Taking beast to Newark and Selby must be very stressful for any animal. Livestock trailers are not the most comfortable things to ride in. We are also disgusted at the ignorance of some of the councillors - how out of date can you be. The days when farmers went to market to have a drink with their friends on a Friday are long gone - along with pony and traps which they travelled in. Any business person will tell you that short term solutions are exactly that and are not necessarily made for the right reasons. Why not make more use of the site for more days of the week. With the correct refurbishment to include other attractions would be a better long term plan. Come on Councillors use your imagination. Keep the market charter alive on the best site - the one it currently has on Newmarket.

As I run a business, to me it does not make economic sense for ELDC to sell an asset that will continue to bring in an income. Whilst the sale of the site might act as a buffer during these difficult economic times, long term it will only serve to be just that - a quick fix. I urge ELDC to embrace what it has, make better use of the Cattle Market on its current site and develop the area of land where the Cattle Market stands to make better use of the current facilities during times when the Cattle Market is not being held. This decision is right for the tradespeople Louth, right for residents and consumers in Louth and right for the farmers of Louth and surrounding areas whose livelihoods depend on the Livestock Market continuing on its current site.

1) The cattle market provides an important meeting place for farmers; an increasingly isolated profession and as such has benefits for their well-being and mental health. As a lay minister in the church I recognise the importance of this type of mutual support. 2) In recent years there have been concerns with food traceability, e.g. 'the horse meat scandal'. It is an advantage to be able to buy food from people who can clearly trace their stock. This is one of the joys of a real market town; the butcher knows where the meat came from and the greengrocer knows which farm the vegetables came from. This would be lost with a distant cattle- market and may herald the demise of more independent shops. 3) I lived in Bury St Edmunds for 28 years. The cattle market was closed there and a shopping centre developed. Instead of attracting new stores many of those from the town centre moved to the new development. The development, on the old market and a car park, cut off the town centre from parking so footfall in the centre was reduced by lack of shops and parking. The development works, sort of, but the stores that have come only maintain smaller stores; their big flagship ones are at Colchester, Ipswich and Cambridge, all about 30 miles away. Louth is smaller than Bury St Edmunds but about the same distance from Lincoln so I suspect it would not be as attractive a proposition for new stores. 4) Option 4 seems a lot of money for a building worth £250 000.

I have many reasons for opting to choose option 3. My first is personal, I have just started working and living in Louth over the past year. I work within a thriving local business which has been established for over one hundred years. And I feel that if the cattle market was to be sold for retail then a major supermarket chain would drastically affect the business I work within. And over time this may cause this business to downgrade and maybe make redundancies. This could drastically affect my life. And I wouldn't be able to repay my mortgage payments. The second reason is for the farmers. The farming trade is the biggest trade within Lincolnshire. And if our farmers lost this amenity it wouldn't do their incomes any justice either. And finally the last reason I want to give is for you the council. Just imagine if all the small independent shops closed and disappeared where would you be getting your business rates from? Yes you may have made some money from the sale of the cattle market. But in this day and age the figure wouldn't cover a lot of costs. Whereas business rates for the foreseeable future would be much more beneficial. And the cost to cover the renovation of the market is much less than the cost to build a new one. So yet again which is the logical option? Anyway I hope these words have done some justice. And I hope the market stays open for my future and for the future of the children that I have!

In my opinion Louth is a unique market town and should stay that way and that includes keeping the cattle market as it is and carrying maintenance as necessary. I believe any funds raised by the sale of the site would be largely spent on other areas and not Louth. Therefore having lived in the area all my life I strongly oppose the sale as it seems the main aim is to make money for the council.

I believe that the current site should be maintained and then utilised to its full potential. It was clear from the Louth town Hall meeting that there are many people from different groups who have ideas for using the site. It was obvious that people present felt passionate about the cattle market and the importance that it has within the farming community. The impact for local farmers and communities would be far reaching if the market was to be closed and the charter for Louth was lost. I feel that the uniqueness of the market could be used to the advantage of many people.

The Cattle Market is important to the town and this is the cheapest option to keep it. Council should consider charging for parking on the site in the week and other uses for the site when livestock market isn't on. The wording of this survey is also misleading it talks about positives only for the option the council want people to select!

A cattle market in Louth, the last in Lincolnshire, is an integral part of the town's heritage and history. I feel that the site has been under-utilised for a long time and if the repairs go ahead the market days could be expanded in the style of Melton Mowbray, bringing increased revenue and interest in the newly refurbished site. The cattle market brings business to Louth and jobs to local people as well as being a convenient meeting place for those in the cattle trade, and I firmly believe that losing the cattle market would be a blow to Louth.

Should not be allowed to be sold - Royal Charter

Lincolnshire is essentially a farming community, take away Louth livestock market and you effectively damn the farmers in the whole of Lincolnshire as Louth is the last Lincolnshire livestock market left. We certainly do not need another supermarket that will take away yet another part of Louth's heritage - the local shops in the town centre

that would certainly suffer yet again, as they have suffered from loss of footfall since the car park charges rose. For the sake of a lovely, heritage town, you need to keep the livestock market. For the sake of the Lincolnshire farmers you need to keep the livestock market, and keep it exactly where it is. I've heard Louth often called the central town of the Wolds. As an original outsider (we've only lived here 30 years!) I am imploring East Lindsey to think of the bigger picture instead of just the usual one of filling coffers now.

I think it's important for Louth to retain a market town status and not become like the other towns in the area. The regular markets in the town centre, along with the cattle market, make Louth "special". We don't need any more food supermarkets, Aldi & Morrison's are sufficient - along with the Co-Op and various smaller convenience stores. Louth is unique because of the small independent retailers on the high street, the butchers, bakers, cheese shop, and cafes. Why build a new cattle market and use up precious land when Louth already has this facility - even though it is in need of updating. I wouldn't mind paying an extra pound on my Council Tax bill to keep it. The costs listed to renovate the existing building and surrounding area are not excessive - could they be reduced by allowing apprentices from local businesses and educational establishments to put their theory lessons into practice? Could local business owners be contacted to ask if they are prepared to "donate" time and possibly materials towards the work? Keep Louth a special place - don't let it go the way of Grimsby...

This facility belongs to the people of East Lindsey. The Council only hold it and administer it on their behalf. Don't sell it. Once it's gone, it's gone. Listen to, and react to, the wishes of the people for a change. Livestock farming will always be here. The current batch of councillors won't. Also, some of the refurbishment items seem excessive, only included to exaggerate your case. So, too, do the supposed benefits of selling.

Louth Town Council supports Option 3 with the following statement from the Mayor – 'Louth Town Council appeal to ELDC to choose to renovate the Cattle Market site and that there should be a collaborative approach with Louth Town Council to improve the facility notwithstanding the need to develop a commercially viable proposal for the wider site, but this must not be detrimental to existing business and the general infrastructure of Louth'. Louth Town Council would like to draw the attention of the Executive Board and the Full Council of ELDC to the comments submitted below for each of the three options Option 1 – Build a new Livestock Market and complete sale of current site for redevelopment This option should not be considered as a viable option for the Livestock Market function or as an investment for ELDC. ADV have not confirmed the manner of the retail business that they would develop on the site which could be detrimental to the viability of the town centre. The Industrial Estate is not a suitable location for a Livestock Market, a view that has been supported from high profile businesses based there, and it is felt that ELDC could sell this site raising funds and save the rebuild costs which would be a poor investment. This option and also option 2 also fail to take account of the impact on Louth with the loss of parking for residents, workers and visitors and the removal of central coach parking. Option 2 – Suspend the current Livestock Market and remove the Charter requirement The council has grave concerns regarding the sale of the site without a planned replacement and similarly if ELDC sought to remove references in the royal charter. To proceed with this option would incur an undetermined cost to the council tax payer and would deny the future rights of established and future young farmers. There was outrage at the Public Meeting of the proposal to tamper with

history; the purpose of a charter was to create and define the privileges and purpose of a public or private corporation such as a town or city. To attempt to alter, amend, or defer such charters interferes with the historical purpose. Charter Rights aside, the farming community was very evident at the public meeting in support of retaining a Livestock Market, the closure of which could impact negatively on the fragile rural economy. This option whereby the site is simply sold also fails to identify the impact of the loss of this sector of the farming community on the shops, businesses and services in Louth and the importance to us all either directly or indirectly. A frequent viewpoint is that this option would be seen as selling off the Family Silver. The removal of the Livestock facility in Louth altogether will give rise to significant animal welfare issues with the potential of changing the agricultural landscape drastically. The historical Brown's Panorama clearly identifies the importance of the Livestock Market, with cattle in the fields and sheep being driven along the streets in the town. The recent ELDC supported Coastal Grazing Marshes Project used the Panorama as its promotion header demonstrating the importance of this sector of farming historically and into an uncertain 'Post Brexit' future. The farming industry provides long term food security for this area and indeed nationally and we need to retain the facility to alleviate doubt for the future. The Town Council believes it as a duty of the District Council to work in partnership with communities to strengthen and not put them at risk. Option 3 – withdraw from sale process and refurbish the current site On behalf of the farming community, and in fact all of us that directly or indirectly depend on its wellbeing, Louth Town Council supports this option of refurbishing the current building. We do understand that this would require funding without the benefit of sale proceeds. This council would be receptive to the remodelling of the facility to reduce the footprint .Once proven that the facility can function safely could be used to generate further income, either by development or sale of land surplus to requirement. Louth Town Council have put forward this Hybrid option as No 5 and are happy to work with other potential stakeholders, engaging with the farming community, and the District Council to deliver a viable option that is affordable. This option would also be caveated that the additional use of the site should not be at the detriment of existing businesses or impact the town centre which needs to be protected. The market requires physical improvement, however it is questionable whether the funding is all required at the beginning or whether this could be a phased approach and it should not be 'over-refurbished' at higher cost than required. Any investment in the facility also needs to be supplemented by additional economic development support to ensure that the market is portrayed with a positive image and reflects the importance of the farming industry locally and wider. There is also some scope for the incorporation of further / higher education being based on the site which would further protect and enhance the future of the industry. Alternative uses for parts of the site could be – extending fee paying car parking areas, refurbishment or change of use of the Public House, farming connected retail units, farming related tourist attractions and residential use.

We need more independent shops to attract visitors to Louth. The last surviving livestock market should survive and allows future farming and business needs to grow the local economy.

ELDC should respect the wishes of the people of Louth and the County and retain the livestock market and develop to make it sustainable.

Refurbish the current building and extend it to include the sheep market. Sell/develop the current sheep penning and adjacent areas.

ELDC have no regard for farmers who will lose their livelihood Disgraceful

If any money is raised it should be spent on Louth and not the coast or tourism but in reality the market should not be sold but developed.

This survey form was unclear, biased and distorted.

Having attended the public meeting on 9th August 2017 and listened to the arguments put forward by the Council, local farmers (especially the young farmers) and other interested parties, I have concluded that Option 3 is the only viable option open to the Council. Option1 it was clear put many farmers livelihoods at risk during the building phase, and the cost was too high. Option2 would have incurred costs without any guarantee of the result wanted by the Council. Losing the Livestock Market provision in Louth is indefensible after centuries of trading and risks alienating the farming community. The point was made that Lincolnshire is TB free and moving livestock to be sold outside the county puts this at risk as well as putting the animals through a lot of stress. The practical and economic proposals that were presented in a document handed out at the meeting make a lot of sense and would ensure that Louth remains a vibrant and busy town. As a local taxpayer I feel that these proposals make most financial sense and would lead to a sensible use and development of the current facilities.

Farming County - we need the market where it is. Alford changed when you closed the market there - wives and family did not come so changed the general marketplace. Louth is lively, the market left for cattle and sheep & we are a country area with farming one of our main areas of employment and we need country activities i.e. market, etc.

Louth has the only cattle market in North Lincolnshire and it should stay where it's always been, due to history.

None of the above. I am concerned the cattle market site will be used for a supermarket which will destroy the small shops in Louth town. So Option 2 as it stands is not an option, I as a resident would choose. However, if a proposal was made to sell and redevelop the site, without a supermarket and with facilities which would benefit the town then I would support the redevelopment of the site.

Leave well alone, stop wasting money.

Important to keep the market we need it for Louth

Manipulated figures that actually bear no relation to actual costs.

I don't understand why the Council is hell bent on closing the market, for years it has tried to find all sorts of ways to close it... Keep off!

Think of the future for young farmers and what market visitors bring to the town.

This forms part of a larger picture which involves the relentless destruction of the fabric of small market towns within East Lindsey, combined with schemes currently proposed for new housing developments with no compensating increase in local services for hospitals, schools etc. option 1 is consistent with the past and suitable future structure

of Louth and similar market towns i.e. the sale of the site for other commercial development would form part of.

Whereas all money gone from football field Skegness, what have you done with the money from field next to pier. Salaries - pension funds, why do you want more. I will find out Freedom of information!

I think the Livestock market should be retained at Louth for the following reasons: - a) Transporting livestock many more miles across county e.g. Newark is inhumane and stressful to the animals') If there is an outbreak of disease such as foot and mouth or blue tongue in the county where the market is located - all movements would be stopped causing further hardship and stress to farmers and animals alike. c) Lincolnshire is a traditional and historical farming county - by closing the last livestock market is to dispose of farming heritage which should be preserved for the generations to come.

Have the shopkeepers and traders in the Louth Town Centre been approached or informed of the type of retail led business would be carried out on the Livestock Market Site. Small or medium livestock farmers in the county would be affected by the closure, and would mean a long journey to another livestock centre, out of the County! The shopping in the Louth Town Centre by farmer's wives would also be reduced, if not lost.

The Council needs to recognise the ongoing to agreement to support local farming and not sell out to another supermarket which the town does not need and would have a negative impact on existing businesses.

I feel it would be very detrimental to Louth to close the livestock market as it benefits so many farmers in Lincolnshire enabling them to continue to buy and sell their livestock locally. And also of course benefits Louth Town with shopping facilities for resident and many visitors which it attracts.

I think the social aspect of the farming community should be strongly considered. It is easy to ignore the isolation of long term country folk. Most of whom are too busy to feel in touch widely or media wise. A lot still rely on word of mouth. Hence the importance of regular visits to cattle markets!

We will be submitting a detailed letter suggesting option 3.

The wolds area is becoming a destination place so ought to be supported in order to retain its unique offer of interesting and independent business. The selling off of the Cattle Market does not support the sustaining of the local area, but invites generic nationals to decimate. Short sighted vision.

I have been married since 1962. I have always shopped in Louth. My husband always called to pick me up. I think Louth Market is by far the best too much petrol to Newark and Traffic is dreadful.

Louth is the best market town in the county please don't help to destroy it. Farmers go to market to sell and buy livestock and wives go into town and do weekly shopping.

The loss of the Livestock, market from its current position would take away the status of Louth as a market town and the revenue it brings to the town.

Would like to see a breakdown of option 3. Costings made public. Several items appear arbitrary.

To sell is short termism and ignores longer term economic planning. Sale also loses an opportunity to access Brownfield land for housing. Farming will develop over the next 50 years and more mixed farms are likely i.e. more need for Livestock Market.

Anything other is a short sited quick fix solution. What should be explored is how to support Louth as a thriving market town with one of the very few towns that have independent business and is not awash with generic national enterprises that have no interest in Louth at all other than a source of revenue. People come here because it is unique more imagination required.

Option 5 is option 2 plus not selling to ADV partnership we need more free car parking in Louth. Removing free parking at the cattle market will continue to strangle Louth town centre. Louth will die without free car parking!!! More options please.

I think with the closure of Louth cattle market would be devastating for the farming and rural community alike. The reason being Lincolnshire is a rural county and employs people far and wide.

I voted for Option 3 but consider the cost of £700,000 refurbishment to be rather extreme.

The Livestock Market needs to remain. No other site has been provided it is illegal what ELDC plan to do.

What is East Lindsey going to do for "money" when they have sold all the family "silver"? Cut in pay for top (workers!!!)? Cut in employees?

Keep cattle market on original site, refurbish with retail units selling Lincolnshire produce making Louth a food centre for Lincolnshire. Woolpack would make nice cafe/restaurant selling home produced products. Site could be an asset to encourage tourism to Louth.

Farmers prefer the current facility they find it convenient for travelling to and from. Its close proximity to Louth town centre enables the farmers and their families to do shopping in the town in addition to attending the market. They therefore make a significant contribution to the economy of the town, as do visitors attracted to the market. Local residents who do not necessarily have connections with farming, like to visit the livestock market and socialise with members of the farming community. If a new Livestock Market was built on the Louth Industrial estate it would be further way from the town centre, less attractive to the farmers and their families, visitors and local residents. Shops in the town would lose the trade referred to previously. Quite likely a livestock market at this location would be under used, the figure of £4/5m is quoted for a livestock market there. This money would be better spent on more industrial and retail outlets which amongst other things would create more jobs. If no livestock facility was available in Louth, it would mean farmers having to transport livestock as far as Newark. This would be very inconvenient for the farmers who would also incur considerable increased costs and the longer journey would be very stressful for the livestock, thus compromising the high animal welfare standards currently provided by the farmers. Louth already has sufficient supermarkets, including Aldi, Morrisons and the Co-Op then there are other medium and small sized shops selling the same goods - food, household

and gardening products. It seems likely that the present livestock market site would be earmarked for another supermarket, as stated another one is not needed. If provided it would result in closure of small shops. In addition to those already closed. The small shops provide a special and more personal service which is an attraction to both local residents and the many visitors coming to the town. Supermarkets cannot provide the same kind of service. We note that a figure of £700, 00 is quoted for refurbishment of the present livestock facility, this sounds excessive. We suggest it be examined in consultation with the local farming community who could, we are sure, put forward some helpful suggestions for reducing the cost. We also note a figure of £200,000 is required to amend the Royal Charter which if granted would allow the Council to suspend its duty to provide a livestock market. If such a proposal were to be put forward it would meet with many objections and thus costs more than the £200,000 quoted. Local council tax payers would have to foot the bill. We therefore believe the present livestock market should be retained and that any refurbishment needed could be undertaken for less than the £700,000 quoted.

This is a critical rural business centre for Lincolnshire, it needs to be saved.

Selling an empty pub makes sense!

Ancient market, Lincolnshire history will be lost forever. For what...new housing?? Shouldn't be allowed. Come on LCC - Listen to the residents of Lincolnshire please!!

It is the only Livestock Market left in Lincolnshire. Why do we always have to say goodbye to history? Once gone no getting it back!!

Lincolnshire County Council response to Louth livestock consultation: Lincolnshire County Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on Louth livestock market. ELDC colleagues will be aware that LCC has aligned its economic development strategy with the Strategic Economic Plan. The Strategic Economic Plan was prepared by the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership and carries the signature of the leaders of the ten local authorities in greater Lincolnshire. The Strategic Economic Plan seeks to promote economic growth through the biggest and most important sectors in greater Lincolnshire including agri-food production. Collectively, Greater Lincolnshire LEP and its partners have the ambition of doubling the value of the agri-food sector in the area, and have gained recognition from Midlands Engine of the importance of agri-food to the region. LCC's response to the consultation on Louth livestock market is primarily concerned with helping to maintain the strategic assets that the agri-food sector requires such as a high-quality livestock market. LCC supports option 3: to withdraw from the agreed sale and undertake accrued repairs on the current site Our research has shown us that the value of the livestock sector in Lincolnshire is in the order of £73m, representing 15% of all Lincolnshire holdings. This is a significant sector in its own right. Cattle stock density is most prevalent in East and West Lindsey with some lower densities around Boston, South Kesteven, and North Kesteven. Louth is geographically central to the main area of density of livestock agriculture. Food and farming is a substantial part of East Lindsey's identity. LCC has sought advice from the Country Land and Business Association (CLA) and the National Farmers Union (NFU). LCC has also visited the Louth livestock market to view the site. LCC has also received unsolicited representations from farming and rural community concerns in Lincolnshire. It has been clear from our meetings and from media coverage that there is substantial support for maintaining a livestock market in Louth. The advice that LCC has received,

and which supplements the data which shows the significance of the livestock sector, is that: 1. the presence of a livestock market in Lincolnshire provides a strategic asset that will be essential for the agri-food sector should restrictions on livestock movements be enforced due to disease either within Lincolnshire or elsewhere. Louth livestock market is free of Bovine TB and that makes it more attractive to traders than other livestock markets in the wider region. 2. The pace of diversification in the agri-food sector continues, with more of a move towards mixed farming and therefore an increase in livestock. This is allied to consumer interest in quality and in traceability. Interest in locally sourced products is expected to increase substantially, not least due to the effects of Brexit. It is therefore entirely possible that there will be an increase in livestock numbers in Lincolnshire. 3. The cost for transporting livestock to markets may be low when it is done in bulk, but the cost –both in financial terms and also in time- makes travel to distant markets an inviable proposition to smaller businesses who are often those who use the Louth market. 4. The market has a wider social value. One often overlooked aspect is that the presence of a local market gives farmers the opportunity to establish a price for their products. Other social benefits of the market include the ability for smaller farmers to network with support services and with their counterparts. LCC therefore believes that option 2, to suspend the current livestock market, would be seriously to the detriment of the agri-food sector in Lincolnshire and should not be pursued. In terms of continuing to provide a livestock market, the two options are to provide a purpose built facility or to renovate the existing facility. LCC supports option 3, to renovate the existing facility. In order to immediately make this building totally fit-for-purpose would be the low cost of renewing the roofing cladding. This immediate cost of pursuing this option will be significantly lower to ELDC than pursuing option one: undertaking a new build on Fairfield Industrial Estate. It is also because having a facility like the existing market on the edge of the town centre will retain important footfall in the town centre on market days -not only to the benefit of the retail sector but to banks, insurance companies, etc. Where small banks have recently closed in Lincolnshire market towns they have cited a reduced footfall as one of the main reasons for their closure. In our visit to the site LCC noted that the footprint of the existing market is large, and we note from ELDC's briefing notes that parts of it are unused. Therefore, and whilst it is not specifically mentioned in the consultation questions, LCC would ask ELDC to consider a mixed-use approach to the current site making use of the necessary land for livestock market purposes and then using the remainder of the site for relevant other purposes. The livestock markets of Dingwall, Taunton, Lanark, and Sedgemoor have done this successfully. There have been a number of useful discussions in the past about establishing Louth as a nationally recognised "food town" and there is an excellent opportunity to use the current situation with the livestock market as a catalyst to achieving that recognition. LCC would be keen to work with ELDC on pursuing this. LCC also notes that Melton livestock market successfully sought regeneration funding for its renovation. The Lindsey Action Zone Leader funding programme could potentially assist ELDC with some of the costs of a similar renovation in Louth, thus bringing the cost to ELDC down. We hope that you find these comments useful, look forward to hearing the outcome of your decision on Louth livestock market, and hope to work with you on increasing the town's reputation as a nationally recognised food town.

Stop taking the heart out of small towns and villages

I will shut Louth off all together. It's been used for years.

For the good of Louth and residents keep the market open.

I'm a young farmer. No local jobs

Please do not close it for the good of Louth.

I believe maintaining the cattle market in Louth would preserve an historical link in the community and maintain a feature that is now sadly unique in Lincolnshire. Doing this would help to develop tourism in this historic market town and be helpful to the local farming community.

The market provides marketing services for vendors in a TB free area, an important issue for sale of rearing/fattening livestock. The site has suffered from a lack of initiative (by both ELDC and the market auctioneers) to grasp, review and evaluate development potentials on the site, bearing in mind Louth is in the centre of an agricultural county. Development at the Lincolnshire Showground with Riseholme College (Bishop Burton) has shown how sites can lend themselves to other possibilities, selling to a developer is a one-off 'harvest' - the asset has gone - forever. Look at how livestock markets have been developed further up the A1 where associated and agri-supply organisations have made market sites centres of activity/business throughout the week. Look to wider development opportunities - Meeting/Conference/Concert/Entertainment facilities, a county centre for the Young Farmers Organisation. New starter units for fledgling business's, the opportunities to create a centre 'in-Louth' easily within walking to the town centre, good parking, all add up to an opportunity to add value to Louth. The 'hidden' benefits for the continuation of the market for those using it are not easy to quantify, - the social interaction for farmers/vendors who's lifestyle can be quite solitary work, cannot be gauged in financial terms. If ELDC were to sell the proposed development site on the industrial estate, the rather inflated Option 3's costs could be substantially reduced.

keep the cattle market and keep louth special and rural

Having visited the site I believe the market to be in generally good condition, with the exception of the vandalised roof. Following discussion with farmers it is apparent that option 3 is the only option to benefit the town as option 1 is too far for the farmers and their families to pop into town. If some of the peripheral land on the site on Newmarket and London Road were sold off to provide housing with the necessary off street parking, this would pay for the repairs on the existing site.

One thing is certain to me - Louth must maintain a livestock market. It is one thing that sets Louth apart from other rural market towns and is vital for sustaining the future of livestock farming in the area. Travelling to Newark would be prohibitively expensive for small local farmers and would mean that they would take livestock before it was fully ready for sale in order to keep transport costs to a minimum and therefore reduce the income that they get from the inevitable lower sale prices coupled with increased transportation costs. It would be an absolute disaster for small scale local farmers who have been the life blood of the county for countless generations. It would be a betrayal of all that Lincolnshire stands for if the cattle market in Louth were to close permanently. Option 2 should be rejected out of hand. I do not have sufficient understanding of the financial implications to support Option 1. ELDC has the financial capacity to support the continuation of a livestock market in Louth and has a moral obligation to do so.

The cattle market is an important service for local farmers so should continue to be provided. Option three seems the most cost effective and is attracting widespread support. I would question if further retail development (option 1) is required in the town anyway, there is a risk such development would undermine the independent retailers in Louth which give the town much of its desirable character.

I used the cattle market for many years before I retired, it was then and remains an important place for local farmers to easily trade their cattle. It is particularly important for sales of store cattle, where young stock is sold by suckler herd to local finishing units. I believe option three should be adopted as it keeps the market running without the significant capital outlay associated with option 1.

Louth is special. We have a good balance of retail and industrial businesses. We don't want any more large multinational companies moving in. We need to keep our agricultural heritage and we need cattle markets to do this. Surely there's room for both plus parking.

Parking currently there essential for the town

Why does the Council have the right to decide the fate of the market? More than 55 want it to stay

Refurbishment in this based on a huge market like Melton Mowbray! Shocks me! Get into the real world. Tourism! is all you spout off look at the bigger picture farming and farming market livestock adds to the tourism?

1. Overflow car park for Louth town 2. Space for town to use for local events and fairs 3. Area for locals to use for recreation.

What has the council come to! We need the livestock market to keep going! Shame on you.

Suggest Council not ignore groundswell of opinion in wish to demolish and modernise; we don't want a shopping mall etc.!

If this is closed I would not visit Louth so often

I'm from the city and it would be a terrible shame to lose the livestock market. You are so lucky to live in beautiful Lincolnshire. Keep it as it is now.

By selling out to an investor it is a short term financial gain only! but this will destroy the town centres unique shops and tourist attractions. Don't destroy our special town - look after it responsibly

Louth's livestock market is the last in Lincolnshire and as Louth is in middle of the massive agricultural area, is it not time ELDC remember where a lot of income comes from! If ELDC got rid of all the unnecessary people at Tedder Hall and stop wasting money on it, there would be plenty of money for other areas in the ELDC area. So Louth market needs to stay to avoid Louth becoming a ghost town like many others.

However - my preferred option would be to see the site redeveloped for housing combined with the option 2 i.e. remove the obligation for the local authority to provide a livestock market in Louth. I do not think it is necessary or desirable to have another

supermarket on this site. The long term advantages of housing would be much better for the town and local community.

Save money Keep it where it is

Save the market for future farming changes. Cattle and sheep will always be important here and we need traceable animals with good welfare standards and no TB. Newark too far away. Louth pays quickly too which is important.

Great tourist asset which we should make more of with our tourist trade. Imagination needed to make it more profitable. Come on Council - think about it better

Save our cattle market and our charter and support this important industry

You will lose something which is your USP. You will never regain what you lose and all for what. Louth is thriving partly due to the market and you lose your heritage. Remember, the BBC described Louth as the last true market town in England on Country file. Shame on you if you trade in your heritage for money and houses.

If the cattle market site is closed/relocated or whatever - please provide more car parking even if it is 'park and ride'. Please please please make your decision; this matter has gone on too long.

We need the cattle market to stay where it is and to be refurbished. Please don't take this cattle market away from this area. It is part of Louth heritage.

Louth has the reputation as the jewel of the worlds. Do we want to risk that for yet another supermarket!

No taking charter No closing market No new market

We should improve what we have. East Lindsey seems intent on disposing all Louth's buildings!!