



MATT WARMAN MP  
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To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to support Boston's bid to become a city – whether it's because of its royal links, its international history or the Mayflower voyage's anniversary, there is no town in the country more deserving of this prestigious upgrade than the home to one the finest and largest parish churches in England.

Today Boston is known for its bond with Boston, Massachusetts. The awarding of city status – perhaps unique among applicants – would make a tangible and profound economic difference to the town as we build towards the 400th anniversary of the founding of that great American city and all the cultural and trading opportunities that will bring. Making Boston a city can boost tourism numbers in particular in a way that will not come again for a century.

Historically, the market town of Boston punched well above its weight with its flourishing port – second only in size to London – bringing immense wealth and trading links to Lincolnshire. King John, King Henry VIII and today the Princess Royal have all recognised the town's importance and many merits. Boston Stump – a great church that towers over the Market Place – is just one of many fine local buildings, and city status would further boost the town's extensive architectural restoration programme.

All that rich history gives Boston a unique sense of civic identity, which has evolved rapidly over the last two decades as it has become home to the highest proportion of Eastern European migrants in the UK. What more fitting symbol could there be for global Britain than to award city status to a town with such unique links to royalty, to Europe and to America.

I look forward to the outcome of the selection process and remain at your disposal for any further information you require. Should you wish to visit I would of course be delighted to show you at first hand the many and varied attractions of Boston.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Warman MP  
**Boston and Skegness**