

GENERAL

1. The town of Grantham, granted a Royal Charter in 1463, has a population of just 30,000. It enjoys good communications links; apart from its proximity to the A1, Grantham is an important station on the main King's Cross/Edinburgh railway line (now served with the High Speed Trains). It is the second largest town in Lincolnshire, and is the administrative centre for South Kesteven District.

INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE

2. The Employment Office Area, comprised mainly of the town of Grantham itself, has an employed population of just over 20,000. About one third of total employment is in manufacturing [a little higher than the national average], some 5% in agriculture and the remainder mainly in various service activities. The most important manufacturing sectors are Mechanical Engineering, and Chemicals and allied industries. Principal manufacturing employers include Aveling Barford Ltd (part of BL) - construction equipment - who employ just under 1400; British Manufacture and Research Co Ltd - guns, gun-mountings and ammunition - who employ around 1250; and Vacu-Lug Traction Tyres Ltd - tyre remoulding - who employ about 550.

UNEMPLOYMENT/VACANCIES

3. Unemployment in Grantham EOA in January 1982 stood at 10.8%, about two-fifths up on the figure at the beginning of 1981. The present level is, however, below both the East Midlands average of 11.4%, and the figure for Great Britain as a whole of 12.5%. There were, at the time of the January 1982 count, 2336 registered unemployed in the area. There were 93 vacancies notified to employment offices: this may well under represent the true number available.

REDUNDANCIES

4. During the course of 1981, 11 companies in the Grantham EOA declared

redundancies amounting to 532 jobs in total. No individual declaration entailed over 100 job losses.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL OFFICE

1 FEBRUARY 1982

GRANTHAM

Constituency Details

A scattered rural constituency, with Grantham and Sleaford as the main centres of population. In Grantham, apart from engineering works, there are malting, milling, shoe and clothing factories. Sleaford, the county town of Kesteven, is a market town in the centre of a fertile agricultural district.

Conservative Member of Parliament

The Hon. Douglas M. Hogg, was adopted as Prospective Parliamentary candidate for the Grantham constituency, in April, 1976. He was educated at Eton and Oxford and is a barrister. He is married and was elected Member of Parliament for Grantham in May, 1979.

Previous Election Results

<u>1979</u>	<u>May</u>		
D. Hogg (Con)	36,697	(55.5%)	Electorate 84,479 Turnout 78.2%
Mrs. V. Bell (Lab)	18,547	(28.1%)	
W.T. Bailey (Lib)	10,852	(16.4%)	
Conservative Majority	18,150	(27.4%)	Swing to Con. 6.8%

District Council (s)

North Kesteven	Conservative	11	Socialist	2
	Liberal	2	Independent	24
	S.D.P.		Others	
Part of South Kesteven	Conservative	30	Socialist	10
	Liberal	1	Independent	16
	S.D.P.		Others	

Current Electorate 89,328

Agent

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