

North Lincolnshire Local Plan
Local Development Scheme
November 2025

**North
Lincolnshire**
Council

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Executive summary

The Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out a timetable for producing planning policy documents over the next three years. These documents will underpin planning and growth decisions the council will make in the years to come.

The document sets out at which point residents and other stakeholders can become involved in helping the council shape these policies. This LDS covers the period from 2025-2027, and replaces the previous LDS published in 2022.

The LDS does not cover detailed timescales for Neighbourhood Plans as these are led by individual town and parish councils. However, Neighbourhood Plans will later become part of the Development Plan and be used in the determination of relevant planning proposals.

If you would like to be kept informed on the Local Plan and other planning policy matters for North Lincolnshire, please contact the Place Planning Team at localplan@northlincs.gov.uk

Introduction

- 1.1 Local planning authorities (LPAs) are required through the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) (as amended by the Localism Act 2011)¹ to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS is a project plan setting out the statutory Development Plan Documents (DPD), also referred to as Local Plans, that will be produced and once adopted, form part of the development plan for North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 The Council is required to prepare and maintain a 'Local Plan' which set out a vision and a framework for the future development of the area, addressing needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure – as well as a basis for conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment. It also allocates sites for development and sets out policies that will be used to determine development proposals. The Local Plan is supported by an extensive evidence base, is subject to community involvement and involves joint working with a number of other organisations.
- 1.3 The LDS details the main stages in the preparation of Local Plans to inform members of the public, stakeholders and organisations about the timetable for their preparation. This document is the Council's LDS for 2025 to 2027.
- 1.4 The LDS also considers the risks that could impact upon the delivery of the LDS work programme, and an assessment of risks, together with appropriate mitigation measures, are set out in chapter 8. The risk assessment has been informed by previous work on preparing a Local Plan, taking account of both good practice and potential areas for improvement.
- 1.5 The last section of the document sets out how the LDS will be monitored and reviewed. The document will be revised as appropriate to reflect changes to plan preparation [schedules](#)², national policy contained in the NPPF or guidance and the plan-making system more broadly. Any revisions will be published on the Council's website.

The Council's priorities

- 1.6 The LDS needs to ensure it supports the Council's objectives and priorities. These are currently set out in the [North Lincolnshire Council Plan 2022-2025](#) with particular responsibility for the following Council Plan Priorities:
 - [Priority 1](#): Keeping people safe and well
 - [Priority 2](#): Enabling resilient and flourishing communities
 - [Priority 3](#): Enabling economic growth and renewal
- 1.7 Central to delivering the Council's Strategy to enable economic growth and renewal is the requirement to ensure the Council prepares a Local Plan, setting out a clear statement of intent for the development of our area to be plan-led. As many aspects of land use and spatial planning cross local authority boundaries, the preparation of an

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

² [https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/55/schedule/7/enacted#:~:text=15B-,Local%20plan%20timetable,-\(1\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/55/schedule/7/enacted#:~:text=15B-,Local%20plan%20timetable,-(1))

up-to-date Local Plan will need to ensure it has been undertaken in accordance with the Duty to Co-operate³.

The Development Plan

- 1.8 The development plan is at the heart of the planning system with a requirement set in law that planning decisions must be taken in line with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.9 The statutory Development Plan for North Lincolnshire is currently comprised of the documents set out below. These documents have all been subject to community involvement, as well as independent testing (by the Planning Inspectorate or other independent examiners in the case of Neighbourhood Development Plans) and are the starting point for making decisions on planning applications.
- [North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003](#) (Saved Policies)
 - [North Lincolnshire Core Strategy Development Plan 2011](#) - Sets out the long-term vision for North Lincolnshire and provides a blueprint for managing growth and development in the area up to 2026.
 - [Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan 2016](#) - This document sets out site allocations for future housing development and where new employment opportunities will be located. It also defines town and district shopping centre boundaries to show where future retail development should take place and settlement development limits.
 - [Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan \(AAP\) 2016](#) - Sets out the planning policy framework to deliver the Lincolnshire Lakes area. It aims to create a number of high quality, sustainable village communities, and create a new high quality employment space and Business Park.
 - Made (adopted) Neighbourhood Development Plans ([Appleby](#) & [Worlaby](#))
- 1.10 The Development Plan for North Lincolnshire is supported by the Policies Map⁴, which is available via our website.

³ [Localism Act 2011 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

⁴ [Planning policy - Local Development Framework - North Lincolnshire Council \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](#)

Neighbourhood Development Plans

- 1.11 Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) were introduced by the [Localism Act](#)⁵ in 2011. They are community-led documents, prepared by Town and Parish Councils which set out the vision and planning policies for the use and development of land in particular neighbourhoods.
- 1.12 A Neighbourhood Plan must be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework⁶ ([NPPE](#)) and in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Local Plan. Once 'made' (adopted), an NDP forms part of the Development Plan.
- 1.13 At present two Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) have been adopted (or 'made') in the North Lincolnshire, the Appleby Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2030 (adopted September 2019) and Worlaby Parish Neighbourhood Plan 2016 - 2038 (adopted December 2021). Barton upon Humber are at an advanced stage of NDP preparation following examination of their Plan and receipt of the examiners' report.
- 1.14 The LDS does not include timescales for the preparation of new NDPs as these are led by Town and Parish Councils on behalf of their local communities; however the Council has a statutory role to provide technical advice and support on preparing Neighbourhood Plans and at prescribed stages in the plan making process.

Other Documents

- 1.15 The government is changing planning law with the [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023](#)⁷. Further changes to planning law in the 2023 Act include abolishing the 'duty to cooperate' (introducing a new 'flexible alignment policy' instead), replacing supplementary planning documents (SPDs) used to expand on policies in local plans, and introducing a statutory requirement for LPAs to prepare design codes. Further legislation is also proposed later in 2025 through the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. This document will be revised as appropriate to reflect any changes as they are commenced.

Supplementary Planning Documents

- 1.16 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide more detailed advice and guidance on the implementation and interpretation of planning policies set out in the Local Plan. Unlike local plans, SPDs are not required to be submitted for independent examination but are subject to public consultation and are a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.
- 1.17 The Council also produce a range of other non-statutory documents such as Guidance Notes and Masterplans to promote development opportunities. They do not form part of the statutory development plan; however, the public are consulted on them, and they are evidence based so can be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>

⁷ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/55/schedule/7/enacted>

- 1.18 All existing SPDs and other non-statutory documents will remain in force as material considerations in the determination of planning applications until individually revoked, withdrawn or replaced. Copies of all SPDs, masterplans and other guidance notes are available on the Supplementary Planning Documents section of the [Council's website](#)

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)

- 1.19 The SCI sets out how the Council will engage, involve and consult stakeholders and the community in the preparation of planning policy documents and in the determination of planning applications. The SCI is a requirement of the [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#).⁸ As required by [Regulation 10A](#) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)⁹, a review of the SCI must be completed every five years.
- 1.20 The council's first SCI was adopted in April 2006 and following changes to the planning system, a revised version was adopted in July 2010. The current SCI was revised and adopted in August 2018 to address changes in legislation regarding consultation requirements. A review of the SCI is currently underway and will be updated to ensure it is in conformity with legislation and has regard to new methods of engagement. The revised SCI has undergone consultation and is scheduled for adoption in the near future.

Authority Monitoring Report (AMR)

- 1.21 The AMR monitors the progress of local plans and assesses the effectiveness of adopted local plan policies. Monitoring reports are a requirement of [Regulation 34](#) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012¹⁰.
- 1.22 AMRs are also useful in identifying whether policies are meeting their stated objectives, identifying development trends, patterns of land use and reporting on the implementation of policies. The AMR details activity relating to the duty to co-operate and reviews progress against the milestones set out in the LDS. The latest version on the [AMR](#) can be found on the Council's website.

Brownfield Register

- 1.23 The Town and Country Planning ([Brownfield Land Register](#)) Regulations 2017¹¹ require the LPA (North Lincolnshire Council) to prepare and maintain a statutory register of brownfield land (also known as previously developed land) which the Council has assessed as being suitable for residential development.
- 1.24 The Register comprises a standard set of data, prescribed by the Government, to help provide certainty for developers and communities and encourage the development of suitable brownfield sites. It must be kept in two parts and is subject to annual review. The latest brownfield register is available on the Council's [website](#).¹²

⁸ https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/pdfs/ukpga_20040005_en.pdf

⁹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1244/regulation/4/made>

¹⁰ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/34/made>

¹¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/403/regulation/3/made>

¹² <https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/planning-policy-monitoring-and-information/#1590673248023-d5428bc1-3d2e>

Self-Build Register

- 1.25 The [Self-build and Custom Housebuilding Act 2015](#) (as amended)¹³ places a legal duty on the council to keep a register of people and groups of people who are seeking to purchase serviced plots of land in the authority's area and to have regard to that register when carrying out their functions relating to planning, housing, land disposal, and regeneration. It also requires the council to grant enough planning permissions for custom and self-build housing to meet the demand on the register ([section 2A](#))¹⁴, on a rolling basis. The council currently maintains its self-build register and entry to it can be achieved through completion of an [online form](#).

North Lincolnshire Design Code

- 1.26 The [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023](#) makes [changes](#) to planning regulations which affect the plan-making process and decision-making on planning applications. Part of these changes include introducing a statutory requirement for LPAs to prepare design codes, which set out design requirements for developments in their area.

The proposed regulations set out that design codes must either form part of the local plan or be contained in a Supplementary Plan. If this part of the legislation is commenced, the Council will produce Design Codes to comply with the requirement in [section 15F\(1\)](#) and intend for the Design Code to be adopted as a new type of planning document called a Supplementary Plan. Until North Lincolnshire adopts a Design Code, sites or specific applications for development will be assessed against current national guidance, including the [National Design Guide](#)¹⁵ and the [National Model Design Code](#)¹⁶.

¹³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/17/contents/enacted/data.htm>

¹⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2015/17/section/2/enacted>

¹⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

¹⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-model-design-code>

The New North Lincolnshire Local Plan

- 1.27 This Local Development Scheme sets out the timescales for the preparation of the new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire. The examination of North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020-2038 concluded with a recommendation from the Inspectors that the Council withdraw the Plan from examination in light of the Minister of State's [letter](#)¹⁷ to the Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate. Following the [withdrawal](#) of the Local Plan 2020-2038, the Local Development Scheme 2022 was also withdrawn.
- 1.28 Additionally, a revised National Planning Policy Framework was published in December 2024, which has substantial implications, including how we plan for homes via a [new Standard Method](#)¹⁸ for assessing housing needs.
- 1.29 The new North Lincolnshire Local Plan (NLLP) will set out the planning policies needed to guide new developments so they are designed and delivered in a way that will have a positive impact on communities. These policies will be subject to public consultation by Statutory bodies, Parish Councils, general public, community groups, developers and agents in accordance with Statement of Community Involvement.
- 1.30 As a unitary authority, North Lincolnshire Council is also a Minerals and Waste Planning Authority. This means it is responsible for preparing planning policies and determining planning applications for minerals and waste development. The new Local Plan will include policies for minerals and waste.
- 1.31 The role of the Policies Map is to illustrate geographically the application of policies in the Local Plan and sites with specific allocations. The Policies Map will be updated as the Local Plan is progressed, with the maps associated with each stage of plan preparation to be made publicly available.
- 1.32 The NLLP will provide the opportunity for the council to set out how it intends to deliver on its [priority outcomes](#) of enabling people to keep themselves and others safe and well, of enabling resilient and flourishing communities and of enabling economic growth and renewal. Once adopted the NLLP will replace the existing Development Plan.

Stages of Local Plan preparation

- 1.33 The [process](#) for the preparation of local plans is set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012¹⁹. Local Plans should cover a minimum of 15 years from the date of adoption. The time period that the Local Plan covers therefore needs to align itself with the above requirement.
- 1.34 The key stages are summarised below, accompanied by initial timeframes for the new Local Plan. The detailed timetable sets out timescales for the statutory public consultation stages. Dates for the examination stage, receipt of Inspector's report and

¹⁷ <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66aa157b0808eaf43b50dad5/minister-pennycook-to-chief-executive-of-planning-inspectorate.pdf>

¹⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-development-needs-assessments#housing-need>

¹⁹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/part/6/made>

adoption of the plan are not included as they fall outside the control of the Council and will be published, once known, in future iterations of the LDS.

Scoping & Early community participation	2025
Gather key evidence and call for sites, including initial issues/options engagement/public consultation	Initial consultation Took place May – July 2025
Preparation stage (Regulation 18)	2026
Scoping/preparation work and draft version of the plan including stakeholder engagement/public consultation.	Draft Plan consultation. Expected Spring 2026
Publication stage (Regulation 19)	2026
Opportunity for stakeholders to say whether they think the draft plan and its preparation is 'sound' and fit for purpose	Plan Consultation Expected Autumn 2026
Submission stage (Regulation 22)	2026
Plan is formally submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector.	Expected Winter 2026/7
Examination stage (Regulation 24)	
Inspector chairs an examination in public to check that all legal requirements have been met and that the plan is consistent with the NPPF.	
Adoption stage (Regulation 26)	
Following receipt of the Inspector's Final Report, if the plan is found 'sound', it will then be formally adopted and implemented by the Council	

- 1.35 The Government intend to introduce future changes to the planning system, which could affect the preparation and timetable of the plan. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (26th October 2023) introduces significant changes to the plan making system. Further legislation was also proposed earlier in 2025 through the Planning and Infrastructure Bill. However, these changes require secondary legislation and national policy changes to be implemented.
- 1.36 The Government have set out a transitional timetable which requires plans prepared under the current system to be submitted no later than December 2026. As such, the new Local Plan will need to be submitted by December 2026. The preparation of the new plan will need to be flexible to respond to any potential future changes to the planning system including impact on the LDS timetable. The timetable will therefore be kept under close review and updated when necessary.

Project Management

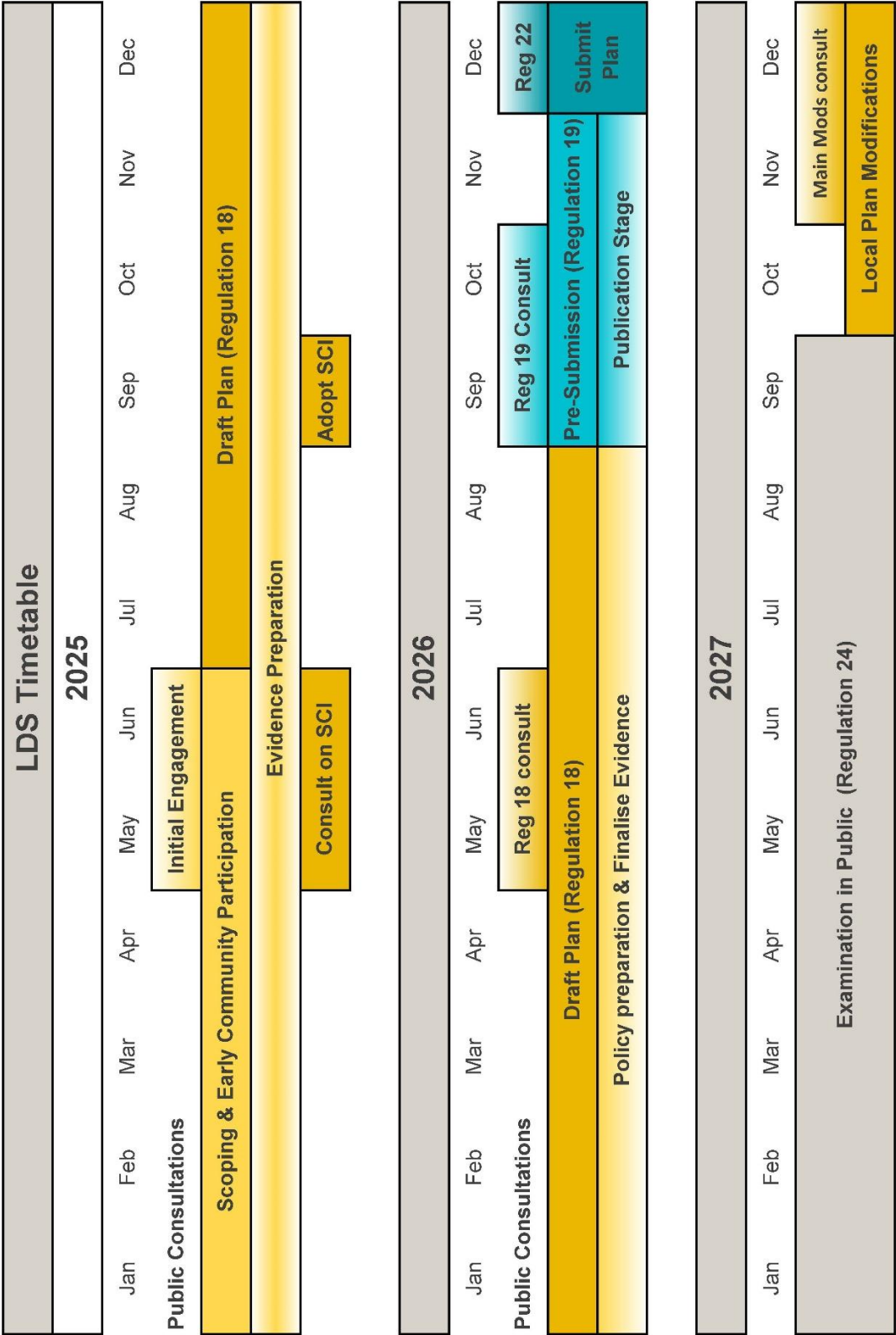
1.37 The Place Planning Team are responsible for overall production of the Local Plan, with various stages of the Plan Making process agreed by Cabinet via member Delegated Decision or Cabinet Decision. The council is proposing the following project management arrangements (however these arrangements may be subject to change):

- **Project Board:** Senior Management Team and other Lead Officers as appropriate
- **Project Executive:** Interim Investment and Delivery Lead
- **Project Manager:** Place Planning Specialist
- **Project Team:** Place Planning Team, other Council teams, working groups, and external consultants as appropriate

1.38 The table below identifies the various roles, responsibilities and reporting arrangements:

Project Management Arrangements	
To be agreed by Cabinet Decision or via Delegated Decision or by the Cabinet member in consultation with the Project Board & Project Executive	
Compliance with corporate/political directives Overall direction of project Approval of plans/documents Decision making	Approval of changes to timescale Monitoring progress against key milestones Commit resources Budget management
To be overseen by Project Manager	
Day to day control and management on behalf of the Project Executive Planning and monitoring of project Issuing work instructions Local Plan editor Progress reporting to Project Executive	Production of deliverables of the required standard within the specified timescale Efficient use of resources Planning the Project Team's work Day to day management of the Project Team

Development Plan Timetable



Evidence Base

- 1.39 The National Planning Policy Framework ([NPPF](#))²⁰ sets out that Local Plans should be based on adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the plan area. Therefore, the new Local Plan will be supported by a wide range of information including background studies, research, surveys and public/stakeholder consultation feedback.
- 1.40 The work to prepare these documents, which will form the evidence base for the new Local Plan, will be undertaken by the council, and where required, by external consultants. Other work may be undertaken in partnership with external bodies. Once complete, the Council's evidence base documents are published on its [new Local Plan website](#).

Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

- 1.41 All policies and proposals contained within the new Local Plan will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) where appropriate. This will ensure that policies in the Local Plan reflect sustainable development principles and take into account the economic, social, environmental and resource effects of any development.
- 1.42 The SA process examines the concept of sustainability through an assessment of the social, economic and environmental effects of the plan's policies, alongside consideration of any significant adverse effects on protected biodiversity sites. The SA process begins when work starts on developing the Plan and should only focus on what is needed to assess the likely significant effects of the Local Plan.
- 1.43 The SEA involves the assessment of the environmental impact of the plan. A European Union Directive (July 2006) requires that all plans likely to have significant effects on the environment must incorporate a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 1.44 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is required²¹ for all plans which may have likely significant effects on a European site and are not directly connected with or necessary for the management of the European site. European sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and listed Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites).

Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 1.45 The Local Authority has a legal duty to eliminate discrimination and promote equality through service delivery. The policies of the Local Plan will have an impact upon service delivery in terms of how we can support and provide for all our communities from young to the elderly and those from varying cultural backgrounds.

²⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

²¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2010/490/contents/made>

- 1.46 Although there is no longer a requirement to produce an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) for a Local Plan it may still be useful to produce an EqIA to have regard to the aims and demonstrate compliance with the General Equality Duty, as set out in the Equality Act 2010, when drafting policies.
- 1.47 The purpose of the EqIA is to show the likely impact of the Plan and the policies on the groups with protected characteristics (e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, race and pregnancy/maternity etc), and if necessary, modify and improve the Plan and Policies where possible.

Duty to Cooperate

- 1.48 The Localism Act 2011 introduced a requirement for local authorities and certain specified public bodies to cooperate with one another (the 'duty to cooperate') in the preparation of local development plans. The duty requires local authorities and other public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis in order to maximise the effectiveness of their development plans in so far as they relate to strategic matters.
- 1.49 The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 will revoke the Duty to Cooperate in relation to the reformed plan making system. However, the Duty remains a legal requirement under the current local plans system and will continue to apply.
- 1.50 Changes to the 2024 NPPF mean strategic policy making authorities should make sure that their plan policies align as fully as possible with those of other bodies where a strategic relationship exists on these matters and take into account the relevant investment plans of infrastructure providers, unless there is a clear justification to the contrary.

Risk and Resources

- 1.51 The production of the new Local Plan and other planning policy documents will be undertaken primarily by the Place Planning Team and, where possible, utilise in-house staff resources. However, it will be necessary for specialist external expertise to be appointed for some evidence gathering and specialised tasks, such as viability testing. The use of this expertise can increase staffing capacity, but also has associated costs.
- 1.52 The process of preparing planning policy documents requires resources to undertake consultation (e.g. printing documents and the hire of premises for public consultation events) and for the formal examination process (e.g. employing a programme officer and paying a planning inspector's fees). The need for these resources will have to be taken into account in future budgets and work programmes.
- 1.53 An analysis of risks has been carried out. The main risks and mitigation measures that have been identified in relation to the programme, are set out in the table below:

Risk	Impact	Mitigation
Changes to national planning policy or guidance and the plan-making system more broadly Risk level: High	Delay to overall Local Plan programme. Work completed no longer relevant or requires significant modification to fit new policy or format.	Monitor emerging guidance, consultations and legislation and respond to changes early. Reassess priorities through review of LDS
Evidence base work takes longer than expected to complete or there are unforeseen delays. Additional evidence base studies or further work required as identified via Consultation and engagement Risk level: High	Delays to evidential studies which will impact the production of the final plan. Unable to meet timescales committed in the LDS or keep within the allocated budget. Evidence base challenged/undermined	Effective programme management to constantly monitor project progress and arrange additional support where necessary. Ensure key studies have been undertaken to ensure a robust evidence base
Joint working with other internal directorates and/or external authorities causes delay Risk level: Medium	Delays to evidential studies will impact the production of the final plan. Key milestones in programme not met	Ensure close working with other authorities to detect issues early in the process. Prepare and share plan development timetables. Confirm milestone dates which realistically reflect key partners ability to contribute to joint working.

Risk	Impact	Mitigation
Volume of work greater than anticipated , both within the Planning service but also across other services inputting into the Local Plan. Risk level: Medium	Delays to evidential studies which will impact the production of the final plan Impacts upon officer wellbeing.	Ensure effective programme management to spot and address pinch points or developing capacity issues. Commissioning external consultants to deliver evidence base studies. Reassess priorities through review of LDS
Requisite expertise is not available in-house. Delay in Procurement of external support with specific expertise Risk level: Medium	Delays to evidential studies which will impact the production of the final plan. Key milestones in programme not met	Identify areas where there are gaps in the team's knowledge and specific expertise and make suitable arrangements for external cover in advance
Key stakeholders lack capacity to respond within required timeframe Risk level: Medium	Increased time required to assess and respond to comments Delay to overall Local Plan programme	Provide stakeholders with clear timescales and make them aware of the consequences of not meeting timescales. Ensure the timely provision of data and other inputs to facilitate responses within required timeframe
High response rates to Regulation 18 consultation and Regulation 19 publicity Risk level: Medium	Increased time required to analyse comments. Delay meeting key milestones	Build in flexibility & monitor progress of LDS Draw in additional resources Employ digital tools to accelerate task completion
Delivery of Local Plan programme too ambitious Risk level: High	Unable to meet timescales committed in the LDS or keep within the allocated budget	Monitor progress of the LDS through AMR and adjust where necessary Reassess priorities through review of LDS
Duty to Cooperate issues that require resolution prior to the plan progressing Risk level: Medium	Delay to overall Local Plan programme	Establish & maintain robust joint working arrangements with DtC partners to resolve issues at an early stage. Engage with external parties, e.g. PAS, to seek advice and

Risk	Impact	Mitigation
		help resolve challenging issues. Maintain awareness of best practice
There is a Legal Challenge at any point during the consultation, examination or adoption process Probability: Medium	Delayed adoption of the Plan	Minimise risk by ensuring preparation of 'sound' documents. Ensure all procedures, Primary and Secondary legislations are complied with. Work closely with Legal Services and utilise external legal support as required.
Change in political control of the Council or competing priorities. Risk level: Low	Work already completed requires significant revision in light of new political landscape or priorities.	Outside of the control of the Place Planning Team but monitoring and planning for the situation will lessen any impact.
Priorities of Members out of sync with national policy and legislation over the Local Plan strategy, policies or contents of the Local Plan (for example housing targets) Risk level: Medium	Delay to overall Local Plan programme, whilst a compromise is reached during plan production, or at examination.	Early and continued engagement with members throughout the plan preparation period Brief members on changes to National Policy and Legislation as soon as they occur
Responsibilities of Project Team (Place Planning) greater than anticipated (i.e. facilitate Neighbourhood Plan preparations, consultation response to planning applications etc) Risk level: Medium	Delays to the production of the final plan as insufficient capacity to deliver all workstreams	Ensure the Development Plan remains a corporate priority Consider additional resources/ re-prioritisation of work Identify key staff to be 'shielded' from other work Utilise IT to streamline & accelerate task completion
IT system issues e.g. consultation platform, land monitoring database, GIS Risk level: Low	Delays to consultation Key milestones not met	Work closely with Data and Innovation Teams Allow adequate time to procure and test consultation platforms

Risk	Impact	Mitigation
The Planning Inspectorate are unable to meet the timescale for examination / final report Risk level: Low	Key milestones not met Delayed adoption of the Plan	Determine when liaison with the Inspectorate should take place to ensure that a timetable can be agreed.
The proposed plan fails the Tests of Soundness or duty to co-operate. Risk level: Medium	Plan requires significant revision and therefore Council's target date of adopting the plan is not achievable. Limited pragmatism at Examinations requires plan to be withdrawn again Intervention by Secretary of State	Ensure the Development Plan is based on a robust evidence base with sustainability appraisal and genuine widespread community and stakeholder engagement Establish & maintain robust joint working arrangements with stakeholders and neighbouring authorities. Commission an external health check to assess the soundness of the plan prior to submission
Insufficient allocated budget provision to finance the project (new local plan) Risk level: Low	Delays to the production of the final plan as insufficient capacity to deliver all workstreams. Objectives on quality compromised	Confirm the Local Plan as a corporate priority, with budgetary provision made available to ensure a robust Local Plan is delivered. Budget/cost to be kept under review by Budget holder and Local Plan Programme Board
Staff resourcing - Failure to recruit and retain qualified, well-motivated staff Risk level: Medium	Delay to overall Local Plan Programme as insufficient capacity to deliver all workstreams. High turnover introduces inefficiencies and potential for repeated work due to lack of continuity, plus harder to defend work at Examination if officer has not been involved in production.	Ensure staff capacity meets requirements and promptly fill vacancies with staff with the required skills Consider use of consultants to fill resource gap. Ensure workloads fit staff capacity and skills sets to reduce staff turnover.

Monitoring and Review

- 1.54 It is vital that timely progress is made with the new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire, therefore monitoring will play an important role. The LDS will be monitored through the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). This will set out whether the Council is meeting, or is on target to meet, the timetables for preparing the planning policy documents set out in the LDS and, if not, what the reasons are.
- 1.55 Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme set out in this LDS is fulfilled, however there are risks and mitigation measures that have been identified in relation to the programme. If changes are appropriate these will be brought forward through the review of the LDS.

Glossary

Brownfield Land	Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.
Development Plan	The framework of policies that, by law, planning decisions on planning applications must be taken in line with unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Is defined in section 38 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and includes adopted local plans, neighbourhood plans that have been made and published spatial development strategies, together with any regional strategy policies that remain in force Neighbourhood plans that have been approved at referendum are also part of the development plan, unless the local planning authority decides that the neighbourhood plan should not be made.
Duty to Cooperate	A legal test that requires cooperation between local planning authorities and other public bodies to maximise the effectiveness of policies relating to cross-boundary strategic matters in Local Plans. It is separate from, but related to, the Local Plan tests of soundness.
Local Plan	The main planning policy document for North Lincolnshire. It contains strategic and detailed policies to guide the location and nature of housing, employment and retail development and other forms of development. It also includes policies and proposals for specific sites.
Neighbourhood Plans or Neighbourhood Development Plans	Community-led plans for guiding future development, regeneration and conservation of an area. Once made (adopted) they become part of the Development Plan and used in the determination of relevant planning applications. Neighbourhood Plans are subject to examination and referendum before they can be brought into effect and must be published for public consultation as they are prepared.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	Published by Government in March 2012 and last updated in 2024. It contains national policy guiding the preparation of Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions.
National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG)	Published by Government in March 2012 and regularly updated since. It contains national guidance to aid interpretation and application of national policy contained in the NPPF. It sets out the process for preparing Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions.

