

A Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire

Policy SS1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to support development that improves the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire, in line with the requirements of the NPPF, which seeks to balance development with environmental protection and enhancement.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to support developments that improve the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire, in line with the requirements of the NPPF, which seeks to balance development with environmental protection and enhancement. This could result in enhancements to biodiversity, habitats and species. - The NPPF environmental sustainable development objective requires contributions towards 'protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy'.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to support developments that improve the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire, which may result in improvements to water quality. - The policy seeks to grant permission for developments provided the benefits significantly outweigh the impacts. While this may result in negative impacts to water quality and quantity, it is likely that the overall impacts associated with all developments as a whole will be positive.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to grant permission for developments provided the benefits significantly outweigh the impacts. While this could result in new development at risk of flooding, it is reasonable to assume that overall, flood risk to new development will be reduced. - Additionally, the NPPF considers sustainable development as 'mitigating and adapting to climate change' which will include consideration for increased flood risk associated with climate change.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to support development that improves the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire, which could result in environmental enhancements to soil. However, at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects. - The NPPF environmental sustainable development objective requires contributions towards 'protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy'.
6	Improve local air quality.	0	M/L	The policy seeks to support development that improves the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire, which may result in environmental enhancements to air quality. However, at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.

Meeting our Housing Needs

Policy H1: Site Allocation				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the delivery of substantial housing development across numerous sites within North Lincolnshire. - New housing development has the potential to adversely affect existing landscape character. - Restricting development in smaller rural developments and the countryside can have positive impacts on rural landscape and contribute towards maintaining local rural landscape character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Given the scale of new housing development proposed and the number of areas that would be affected by new development, there is potential for adverse effects on biodiversity through habitat loss and damage or disturbance to important habitats and species. - Restricting development in the countryside has the potential to positively impact biodiversity by protecting open green spaces and important rural habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X	M/L	The development of 7,128 new homes may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	X?	M/L	Housing can have a negative impact on the risk of flooding by increasing the amount of impermeable land and increasing surface run off.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources directly. - However, new housing development has the potential to affect both greenfield land (which may have an adverse impact on soil resources) and previously developed (brownfield) land (which is less likely to have an adverse impact and will support the protection of other areas of important soil resources).
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	The provision of significant new housing in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have negative effects on air quality due to increased energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	Increasing the amount of housing in North Lincolnshire can have negative impacts on climate change due to greenhouse gases emitted during construction and the lifetime of the development.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		The provision of significant new housing has the potential to have both positive and negative effects on heritage features. The type and scale of effects will be specific to the location, design and scale of development.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	The policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by improving access to housing and key amenities.

Policy H1: Site Allocation

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with promoting healthy and active lifestyles, either directly or indirectly
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	M/L	By setting out a housing requirement for new dwellings to be provided, the policy contributes towards improving access to affordable housing, and ensuring there is a mix of dwelling types available.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- This policy has the potential to support a sustainable economy by ensuring there are sufficient dwellings available to support a strong housing market. - Setting out a long-term requirement for housing can support jobs in the construction industry, improving skills and employability of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with increasing access to a wide range of services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Four alternative options were considered during the Issues & Options stage of the Local Plan, since which the Government released new guidance on housing needs and the policy has followed this suggested approach. The four options differed in the scale of new housing to be delivered, ranging between 365 homes per year (Option A) and 754 homes per year (Option D). The SA undertaken at Issues & Options stage identified a range of sustainability outcomes; Options A to C had similar outcomes, with minor negative effects predicted in relation to most of the environmental objectives and neutral or minor positive outcomes for the social and economic objectives. Option D differed in that it was more likely to have significant adverse effects on the environmental objectives and had the potential for significant positive effects in relation to access to housing and the local economy. Broadly speaking, it is predicted that the proposed policy will have similar outcomes to options A to C.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to negatively impact upon multiple environmental objectives. The delivery of significant new housing could have a negative impact upon biodiversity, flooding, air quality and climate change. To ensure these negative impacts are mitigated against, detailed assessments will be required at planning application stage and developments assessed on their individual merits and adherence to other policies in the Local Plan as well as UK environmental and planning policy, legislation and guidance. The policy has the potential to achieve a range of social and economic benefits, improving access to housing and supporting the growth of a sustainable economy.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy H1: Site Allocation

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H2: Housing Mix and Density

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy states that housing developments should 'be built at a density appropriate to the character, location and setting of the area' and provide justification on the proposed density ranges. This can contribute towards maintaining local character and sense of place. - Setting net density ranges can also contribute towards maintaining local character and sense of place by ensuring that an area does not become overcrowded through over provision of housing.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with biodiversity and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with Water Quality and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with risk of flooding and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with North Lincolnshire's important soil resources and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the historic environment and is therefore unlikely to have impacts directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with reducing deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy H2: Housing Mix and Density

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Policy has the potential to improve access to affordable housing by increasing the availability of dwelling in North Lincolnshire. - Policy states that housing schemes 'should deliver a mix of house types, tenures and size' which directly accord with the requirements set out in this sustainability objective.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	Ensuring a diverse mix of housing types can have benefits to the economy by ensuring the housing market is diverse and options are available for the requirements of different people.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to a wide range of services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

This policy is a combination of two options for housing mix considered at the Issues & Options stage. Both options had a largely neutral impact on most of the SA objectives as the housing mix on a development site was considered unlikely to affect most of the environmental criteria or social or economic factors. The exception to this was in relation to the provision of affordable housing. Option A sought to provide a housing mix that reflected the then most recent (2017) SHMA recommendations and as such was likely to have a significant positive effect in relation to SA objective 11. For Option B, the housing mix would be determined on a case-by-case basis; whilst this approach would provide greater flexibility to deliver different housing mixes at different sites that reflect particular local requirements, there was greater uncertainty with this option as to what outcomes would be achieved. Therefore, whilst this option was still likely to have a positive impact in relation to the housing objective, this uncertainty was reflected in the assessment score.

The proposed policy has very similar predicted sustainability outcomes to the two options considered at Issues & Options stage. However, increased provision in the policy wording regarding ensuring development that is appropriate "to the character, location and setting of the area and should support the development of sustainable, balanced communities" strengthens the current policy and has the potential to support positive impacts on local landscape character.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy requires housing schemes to deliver a mix of house types, tenures and size, based upon the current need. Providing a mix of housing types can make a significant contribution to SA objective 11, and the requirement for developers to consider the character of the surrounding area can have landscape benefits.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H3: Affordable Housing**SA Objective****Impact****Duration****Assessment****Environmental**

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		• This policy seeks to deliver affordable housing as part of major housing developments, which may impact on local character. This would be particularly likely in the rural exception sites. • However, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on landscape character on its own.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		• This policy seeks to deliver affordable housing as part of major housing developments, which if constructed on greenfield sites or biologically diverse brownfield sites, will likely impact on biodiversity. This would be particularly likely in the rural exception sites. • However, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on biodiversity on its own.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		• As with any new development, there is potential to impact water quality and water resources; however, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on water quality or quantity on its own.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		• As with any new development, there is potential to increase flood; however, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on flood risk on its own.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		• This policy seeks to provide affordable housing in rural exception sites, which may result in minor negative impacts to soil quality. However, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on soil resources on its own.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		• This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		• This policy specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on climate change on its own.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		• As with any development, there is the possibility that the development may negatively impact the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting. However, the policy itself specifically considers the requirement for affordable housing within such development and therefore is not likely to have an effect on the historic environment on its own.

Social

Policy H3: Affordable Housing				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to provide affordable housing to achieve mixed and balanced communities, which may result in a reduction social exclusion and reducing deprivation. This is further supported by the requirement for affordable housing to be provided on site to achieve mixed and balanced communities. - Rural exception sites will also allow those with a local connection to the area to be given priority in the affordable housing allocation process, allowing families to stay together and to ensure that those wishing to live locally are not priced out of the housing market.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to achieve affordable housing of at least 10% in housing developments of 10 dwellings or more. - The affordable homes will also be of mixed tenures and types to achieve mixed and balanced communities. - Additionally, the policy supports the development of specialist housing. - Rural exception sites will also allow those with a local connection to the area to be given priority in the affordable housing allocation process, allowing families to stay together and to ensure that those wishing to live locally are not priced out of the housing market.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy may indirectly increase the availability of job opportunities, as the new developments will require a range of different skills to complete.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓/X	S/M/L	- By providing affordable housing, there is potential for negative impacts due to an increased demand for services and facilities. - Additionally, the policy requires the development of specialist housing to be accessible to local shops, services, public transport public transport and other sustainable modes of transport, and community facilities appropriate to the needs of the intended occupiers.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy H3: Affordable Housing

Two options were considered at the Issues & Options stage to address housing mix, with a further two options considered in relation to rural exception sites. In relation to housing mix, the proposed policy has very similar predicted sustainability outcomes to the two options considered at Issues & Options stage. In relation to rural exception sites, the two policy options considered aimed to increase the provision of affordable housing in North Lincolnshire and seek to achieve this through development on such rural exception sites, which were defined as sites adjacent to existing settlements but outside their development limits. Such sites would not normally be considered for development. Option A sought to deliver only affordable housing on these sites, whilst Option B would also have allowed the inclusion of market-led housing types on these sites also. Both options had the potential to adversely impact upon most of the environmental objectives. Conversely, positive effects were predicted in relation to SA objective 11 (housing) and 12 (local economy). The proposed policy therefore supports better sustainability outcomes by more clearly defining how affordable development will be delivered and the constraints on this. This provides greater certainty regarding the potential sustainability outcomes.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to the SA social objectives, through the provision of affordable housing aimed to achieve mixed and balanced communities. The policy has largely neutral impacts on environmental objectives.

Regarding the economic objectives, the policy is likely to provide minor benefits as new employment opportunities may be created.

An increase in housing and affordable housing may result in increased demand on services and facilities in North Lincolnshire.

The policy can be strengthened by requiring all new developments to be accessible to services and facilities as opposed to it only being required for specialist housing.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H4: Specialist and Supported Housing

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on landscape character and quality on its own.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on biodiversity on its own.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on water quality or water resources on its own.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on flood risk on its own.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on soil resources on its own.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on air quality on its own.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on climate change on its own.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for specialist and supported housing and therefore is not likely to have an effect on heritage assets on its own.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	By providing specialist and supported housing, this may result in a reduction social exclusion and reduce deprivation for older people, vulnerable people and those with a disability as they are able to live within communities and utilise facilities more readily.
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Policy H4: Specialist and Supported Housing

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to enable people to live independently in their existing homes, thus promoting their wellbeing as they are able to be more self-sufficient. - The policy also seeks to ensure that specialist and supported housing as satisfactory outdoor space which will help promote wellbeing and healthy lifestyles.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	- This policy directly relates to improving the supply of housing with regards to older people, vulnerable people and people with disabilities, to ensure there is an adequate supply of specialist and supported housing for the ageing population of North Lincolnshire. - The policy requires that all new specialist homes shall be built to M4 (2) of the Building Regulations, (or subsequent replacements), as a minimum, ensuring housing for older people and people with disabilities is appropriate.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	To deliver the new specialist and supported housing, there is potential for new employment opportunities to be created. Additionally, if more older people, vulnerable people and people with disabilities are able to live independently, there may be new jobs created for providing care in their own homes.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to provide specialist and support housing which will have regard for the ability of future residents to access essential services, including shops, services and public transport. Additionally, the provision of specialist and supported housing may free up hospital beds if patients have suitable housing to return to.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Four options for the provision of housing for older people were considered as part of the Issues & Options stage. Option A would not place any requirements on developers to incorporate housing for older people into development proposals; instead developers would be given complete flexibility to design housing developments that meet lower standards and deliver house types that suit the developer. Option B would require developers to ensure a certain (as yet unspecified) proportion of houses meet optional building standards, which are aimed at making homes more accessible. Option C would require developers to build a certain proportion of housing specifically tailored for older people. Option D would allocate specific sites for older people, within which all houses would be built to suit their needs.

All four options were assessed as likely to have neutral impacts in relation to the environmental objectives as the requirement for, or scale of, older people's housing was not likely to affect these criteria. The exception to this was in relation to Option A where the lack of policy guidance steering new development could have resulted in development proposals that impact on local landscape character, whilst application of lower building standards may mean that new housing is less energy efficient, which could adversely affect the climate change objective (7).

The proposed policy has similar sustainability outcomes to the four options considered previously. However, further information contained within the policy on the specific requirements for housing for older people, vulnerable people and those with a disability gives greater certainty as to the predicted outcomes, meaning that the assessment considers that the proposed policy would have more positive social and economic impacts.

Policy H4: Specialist and Supported Housing

Assessment Conclusions

This policy will positively contribute to all of the social objectives through the provision of specialist and supported housing for older people, vulnerable people and those with a disability, and therefore help to reduce social exclusion and deprivation and promote healthy and active lifestyles. The majority of the economic objectives are also likely to have minor positive effects as provision of specialist and supported housing may free up hospital beds and job opportunities may arise to care for older, vulnerable and disabled people in their own homes. This policy may positively contribute to some of the environmental objectives, however most are largely neutral. No significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

This is a new policy at the publication stage and therefore there are no previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H5: Housing for Older People

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0	S/M/L	This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on landscape character and quality on its own.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0	S/M/L	This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on biodiversity on its own.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on water quality or water resources on its own.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on flood risk on its own.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on soil resources on its own.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on air quality on its own.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0	M/L	This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on climate change on its own.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy specifically considers the requirement for housing for older people and therefore is not likely to have an effect on heritage assets on its own.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	By providing housing for older people, this is likely to reduce social exclusion as they are able to live within communities and utilise facilities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to enable people to live independently for longer in their existing homes, thus promoting their wellbeing as they are able to be more self-sufficient.

Policy H5: Housing for Older People

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	- This policy directly relates to improving the supply of housing with regards to older people, to ensure there is an adequate supply of suitable housing for the ageing population of North Lincolnshire. - The policy requires all new specialist homes designed for older people shall be built to M4 (2) of the Building Regulations, (or subsequent replacements), as a minimum, ensuring housing for older people is appropriate.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	To deliver the new housing for older people, there is potential for new employment opportunities to be created. Additionally, if more older people are able to live in housing, there may be new jobs created for providing care in their own homes.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to provide housing for older people which will have regard for the ability of future residents to access essential services, including public transport, GP surgeries and shops. Additionally, as highlighted in the supporting text, the provision of housing for older people may free up hospital beds if older patients have suitable housing to return to. - The policy will also consider if the housing proposal would result in an undue concentration of services in an area.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Four options for the provision of housing for older people were considered as part of the Issues & Options stage. Option A would not place any requirements on developers to incorporate housing for older people into development proposals; instead developers would be given complete flexibility to design housing developments that meet lower standards and deliver house types that suit the developer. Option B would require developers to ensure a certain (as yet unspecified) proportion of houses meet optional building standards, which are aimed at making homes more accessible. Option C would require developers to build a certain proportion of housing specifically tailored for older people. Option D would allocate specific sites for older people, within which all houses would be built to suit their needs.

All four options were assessed as likely to have neutral impacts in relation to the environmental objectives as the requirement for, or scale of, older people's housing was not likely to affect these criteria. The exception to this was in relation to Option A where the lack of policy guidance steering new development could have resulted in development proposals that impact on local landscape character, whilst application of lower building standards may mean that new housing is less energy efficient, which could adversely affect the climate change objective (7).

The proposed policy has similar sustainability outcomes to the four options considered previously. However, further information contained within the policy on the specific requirements for housing for older people gives greater certainty as to the predicted outcomes, meaning that the assessment considers that the proposed policy would have more positive social and economic impacts.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy H5: Housing for Older People

This policy will positively contribute to all of the social objectives through the provision of additional housing, reducing deprivation and promoting healthy and active lifestyles. The majority of the economic objectives are also likely to have minor positive effects as housing for older people may free up hospital beds and job opportunities may arise to care for older people in their own homes.

This policy has potential to positively contribute to some of the environmental objectives, however most are largely neutral. No significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H6: North Lincolnshire's Travelling Communities

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to protect the local character by requiring additional pitches to be developed at pre-existing sites and one new site at Brigg, therefore it is unlikely that further impacts on the local character will be evident. The policy seeks to consider developments sensitive to character and appearance of the landscape and the amenity of neighbouring properties. - Additionally, simultaneous application of policy DM1 (General Requirements) will likely mitigate negative impacts to local character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- As with any new development, there may be a risk of impacts to biodiversity and habitats. - This policy seeks to protect the environment by considering developments where no significant constraints in terms of environmental impacts have been identified. - Simultaneous application of policy DQE3 (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) will likely mitigate any negative impacts to biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to protect North Lincolnshire's water quality by considering developments where no significant constraints in terms of poor drainage have been identified. - Additionally, the policy seeks to develop new sites that can be properly serviced and supplied with essential infrastructure, including water, power, sewerage, drainage and waste disposal.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to limit flood risk by considering developments where no significant constraints in terms flood risk have been identified. - Additionally, the policy seeks to develop new sites that can be properly serviced and supplied with essential infrastructure, including drainage. - Additionally, simultaneous application of policy DQE5 (Managing Flood Risk) will likely mitigate negative impacts.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	- There is the possibility, depending on the location of a proposed new site, particularly if located in the countryside, that there may be minor negative impacts to soil quality. - This policy seeks to protect the soil resources by considering developments where no significant constraints in terms of environmental impacts have been identified. - However, simultaneous application of policy RD1 (Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside) may mitigate negative impacts.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		The new developments have the potential to increase access to the Travelling Communities sites, which may increase the number of vehicles travelling to and from the area. Thus, increasing or decreasing levels of air pollutants dependent on the vehicle types (e.g. caravans or horse and carts).
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		The new developments have the potential to increase access to the Travelling Communities sites, which may increase the number of vehicles travelling to and from the area. Thus, increasing or decreasing levels of air pollutants dependent on the vehicle types (e.g. caravans or horse and carts).

Policy H6: North Lincolnshire's Travelling Communities

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		As with any development, there is the possibility that the development may negatively impact the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.
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Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- By providing appropriate accommodation and acceptable living environment for Travelling Communities, there is potential that levels of social deprivation experienced by this community will reduce. - In addition, all sites must give regard to suitable access to local services and amenities, which will benefit Travelling Communities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy seeks to provide adequate space for play and residential amenity facilities, promoting healthy and active lifestyles.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	This policy directly relates to improving access to housing for Travelling Communities by providing an adequate supply of pitches both on existing sites and one new site at Brigg, as per the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPT).

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		By providing additional accommodation for Travelling Communities, there is potential for negative impacts due to an increased demand for services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy H6: North Lincolnshire's Travelling Communities

Two options were considered at the Issues & Options stage: Option A sought to allocate sites as part of residential allocations, whilst Option B sought to allocate sites specifically for Gypsies and Travellers and travelling show people. Both options were considered unlikely to have an impact on the SA environmental objectives (1-8). In relation to the social and economic objectives, provision of additional sites for use by Gypsies, Travellers and travelling show people was considered likely to help alleviate levels of social deprivation experienced by these groups and would make a positive contribution towards promoting healthy lifestyles and access to community facilities. Both options were considered likely to make a significant contribution to the SA housing objective (11) as they would provide new accommodation sites for these target groups. During the public consultation on the Issues & Options stage Local Plan, Option B was most supported, and this approach complies with PPT.

The proposed policy has very similar sustainability outcomes to the two options considered previously.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the environmental and social objectives, where its main benefit is the provision of additional accommodation for Travelling Communities. There is also the potential for minor positive impacts on the local character, biodiversity, water, soil and flood risk.

The policy has largely neutral impacts on economic objectives.

The policy has the potential for slight negative impacts in relation to deprivation.

No significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while strengthening the benefits from a social perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H7: New Agricultural Workers or Forestry Dwellings

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to protect local character as the external appearance and materials must reflect local building traditions.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		- As with any new development, there may be a risk of impacts to biodiversity and habitats. However, given the scale of development proposed through this policy, any effects cannot be predicted at this stage and will need to be considered further at planning application stage. - By supporting the reuse of existing buildings and dwellings, the policy may indirectly reduce impacts to biodiversity and habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		As with any new development, there may be a risk of impacts to water quality. However, given the scale of development proposed through this policy, any effects cannot be predicted at this stage and will need to be considered further at planning application stage.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		As with any new development, there may be an increased flood risk. However, given the scale of development proposed through this policy, any effects cannot be predicted at this stage and will need to be considered further at planning application stage.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		Given the rural nature of developments associated with this policy, there is the possibility of negative impacts to soil resources. However, given the scale of development proposed through this policy, any effects cannot be predicted at this stage and will need to be considered further at planning application stage.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with historic environment and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	By providing new dwellings for agricultural workers, this is likely to lead to an increase in interest in rural employment opportunities and allow for diversification of North Lincolnshire's industries.
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Policy H7: New Agricultural Workers or Forestry Dwellings

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	By providing dwellings in rural areas, the policy may result in greater access to the countryside and open spaces for new rural residents.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	This policy directly relates to providing new dwellings required by agricultural or forestry workers.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in rural areas, creating viable options for employment as housing is made available for agricultural workers.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		- By providing additional accommodation for agricultural workers, there is potential for negative impacts due to an increased demand for services and facilities. However, simultaneous application of policy CSC10p (Community Facilities and Services) will likely mitigate negative impacts. - Additionally, it is unlikely that small scale developments for single occupants will place significant pressure on services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

There were no options for development in the countryside considered at Issues & Options stage; however, reference was made in other options. NPPF Paragraph 79 aims to avoid the development of isolated homes in the open countryside unless the development is an essential need for rural workers including taking majority control of a farm business.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has largely beneficial impacts on social objectives through the provision of additional dwellings for the agricultural industry, thus providing opportunities for employment and access to rural areas.

Economically the policy is largely neutral, however it may indirectly support increased rural employment opportunities North Lincolnshire's economy.

No significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy H8: Replacement, Alteration and Extensions to Dwellings in the Open Countryside

SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	This policy promotes the protection and enhancement of local character in replacements, alterations and extensions to dwellings in the open countryside. The supplementary text to the policy also seeks to ensure development respects and enhances character of the countryside as well as ensures the integration of the proposed dwelling with the surrounding environment.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	In the supplementary text to the policy, consideration of protected wildlife is included. Species which are often found in old buildings are considered and appropriate mitigation practices are described to tackle potential negative impacts on biodiversity. Ecological surveys are required to ensure protected species are considered, in particular bats and barn owls.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		- Replacements, alterations and extensions may impact water quality and quantity. However, simultaneous application of policy DM3p (Environmental Protection) to mitigate negative impacts related to air quality. - Additionally, impacts are likely to be minimal due to the size and scale of the developments.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		- The policy states that in areas at risk of flooding, opportunities to maximise reductions in flood risk and improvements to flood resilience. - As with any new development, there may be an increased flood risk. However, simultaneous application of policy DQE5 (Managing Flood Risk) will likely mitigate negative impacts. - Additionally, impacts associated with flood risk are likely to be minimal due to the size and scale of the developments.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- There is the possibility that replacements, alterations and extensions may result in minor negative impacts to soil quality as they are located in the open countryside. - However, simultaneous application of policy RD1 (Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside) will likely mitigate negative impacts.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	- It is likely that any new developments or alterations will be more sustainable and have improved energy efficiency than existing older dwellings, which may result in a minor decrease in greenhouse gas emissions. - Simultaneous application of policy DQE8 (Climate Change and Low Carbon Living) will likely mitigate negative impacts.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy promotes the reflection of the style, scale and character of the local architecture in new constructions to maintain the historic environment, as described in the supplementary text to the policy.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy promotes access to dwellings in the open countryside, thus improving community engagement from rural areas.

Policy H8: Replacement, Alteration and Extensions to Dwellings in the Open Countryside

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy may result in improved access to affordable housing in the open countryside, depending on the nature of the development, and makes the best use of existing housing through alterations to existing dwellings.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in rural areas, creating viable options for employment as housing is made available.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy will positively contribute to environmental and social objectives through the provision of additional housing, primarily making use of existing dwellings in the open countryside. Additionally, this policy promotes the protection and enhancement of the local character and biodiversity, in relation to the environmental objectives. The impacts on the economic objectives and the other environmental objectives are broadly neutral. No significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while strengthening the benefits from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H9: Self-Build and Custom Build

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with local character and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		- The policy indirectly protects biodiversity and habitats because it reduces the requirement for new structures to be constructed on both greenfield and brownfield sites, both of which offer habitat for local wildlife. - Additionally, the policy seeks to support developments that do not conflict with the environment.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with heritage assets and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles.

Policy H9: Self-Build and Custom Build

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to provide increased housing which may result in an increase in available affordable housing and an increase in different dwelling sizes, types and tenures.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in rural areas, creating viable options for employment as housing is made available.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0	S/M/L	This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two relevant options were considered by the Council at Issues & Options stage. Both options sought to support the self-build and custom build housing sector by providing allocated sites within which these forms of housing would be encouraged. Option A would allocate local authority land for this purpose, whilst Option B would instead allocate plots on larger residential schemes for self and custom build homes.

It was considered that the availability of self-build and custom build plots would be unlikely to have an effect on most SA objectives. However, both options were considered likely to have a positive effect in relation to housing provision because they would contribute towards the area's housing targets and would improve access to a mix of dwelling sizes and types. They would also be likely to make a positive contribution to the local economy as an increase in self-build and custom build housing would provide an economic stimulus, creating new job opportunities and increasing opportunities for education, learning and skills training in the housing sector and supporting industries.

The proposed policy has very similar sustainability outcomes to the two options considered previously.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are protecting biodiversity, air quality, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, meeting overall housing needs of North Lincolnshire, protecting employment land and increasing access to services and facilities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy H10: Flats above Shops and the Use of Vacant Buildings for Housing

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to use pre-existing premises, potentially avoiding impacts on the local landscape.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy supports the conversion of under-used commercial premises provided that there is no conflict with the environment. - Additionally, the policy may result in a reduction in the need to develop on greenfield sites.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the historic environment and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		The policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation; however, by utilising vacant spaces, the policy may indirectly result in an increased sense of pride for an area, and in turn improve how local residents score their wellbeing.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy H10: Flats above Shops and the Use of Vacant Buildings for Housing

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓?	M/L	The policy may result in a minor positive impact as by allowing for the development of vacant buildings, the policy indirectly support increased access to housing. An increase in housing stock may result in increased affordable housing.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓		This policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in rural areas, creating viable options for employment as housing is made available.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as flats above shops would likely be more centrally located in close proximity to services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy will have a broadly neutral impact on the majority of the sustainability objectives. However, the policy may positively contribute to some of the environmental, social and economic objectives, particularly in relation to the protection of landscape character and the environment and potential positive impacts to accessibility of affordable housing.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy H11: Backland and Tandem Development

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports the objective as it seeks to support developments that do not result in adverse effects on the amenity of adjoining development, which could include the pleasantness or attractiveness of a place. - Additionally, the policy seeks to support development that would not affect the general quality and character of the area.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to support development that does not result in the loss of important natural features.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it will not permit development that would result in impacts to the general quality and character of the area, the loss of amenity area of adjoining developments, or the loss of important man-made features, which may include heritage assets and the historic environment.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with social deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy H11: Backland and Tandem Development

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓?	M/L	The policy may result in a minor positive impact as by allowing for the development of housing on backland, the policy indirectly supports increased access to housing. An increase in housing stock may result in increased affordable housing.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓		This policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in rural areas, creating viable options for employment as housing is made available.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective backland development may be more likely be more centrally located in close proximity to services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy will have a broadly neutral impact on the majority of the sustainability objectives. However, the policy may positively contribute to some of the environmental and social objectives, particularly in relation to the protection of landscape character, heritage assets and their settings and potential positive impacts to accessibility of affordable housing.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy H12: Houses in Multiple Occupation

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to support the provision of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) provided such development would not have a significant adverse impact on the character and appearance of the area, including the historic and natural environment.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		The subdivision of houses that have already been developed will not likely impact biodiversity; however, there is the possibility that new builds could impact biodiversity, habitats and species.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly, although it does require that where the HMO is located in Flood Zone 2 or 3, no bedrooms are located at ground floor level ((unless a supporting flood risk assessment demonstrates that they will be above predicted flood levels).
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to support developments that have good access to facilities, services and public transport and local employment by walking and cycling, which may result in decreased reliance on private cars and long term improvements in air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the objective as it requires adequate provision for the storage and disposal of refuse and recycling. - Additionally, the policy seeks to support developments that have good access to facilities, services and public transport and local employment by walking and cycling, which may result in decreased reliance on private cars and long term decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with historic environment and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy H12: Houses in Multiple Occupation				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy may indirectly result in the concentration of deprived social groups. However, by limiting the impact HMOs have on family housing, the policy will not likely result in high concentrations of deprived social groups. - Additionally, ensuring good access to facilities, services and public transport may result in reduced deprivation for those that require low income housing.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks for developments to provide adequate provision of communal gardens and amenity areas which may contribute to healthy lifestyles.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as HMOs can provide low cost accommodation.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	S/M/L	The policy seeks to support developments that have good access to facilities, services and public transport and local employment by walking and cycling
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy has the potential to positively contribute to some of the environmental, social and economic objectives, with the greatest benefits being associated with increased access to services and facilities, long term improvements in air quality and a long term reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes to the previous assessment conclusions.				

Policy H13: Children's Homes				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy supports developments that are unlikely to cause unacceptable impact on the residential amenity, which may indirectly protect local character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		The conversion of properties will not likely impact biodiversity; however, there is the possibility that new builds could. Simultaneous application of policy DQE3p (Biodiversity and Geodiversity) will likely limit any significant negative impacts to biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality or quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		As with any new development, there may be an increased flood risk. However, simultaneous application of policy DQE5 (Managing Flood Risk) will likely mitigate negative impacts.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with heritage and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Social				

Policy H13: Children's Homes				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to ensure that children will not be placed at increased risk associated with crime and safety. - Additionally, by providing safe housing for children, the policy may indirectly result in the children becoming adults who reach their potential and contribute successfully to society. - The policy seeks to ensure that there is no cumulative impact relating from concentrations of similar establishments within the locality through liaison with the Council Children's Services and any other appropriate agencies.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to ensure the provision of satisfactory outside space. This may result in the opportunity for the children to play and be active.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		While the policy seeks to provide housing for childing, the policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with a sustainable economy and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy seeks to ensure appropriate access to services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				

Policy H13: Children's Homes

The policy has the potential to result in minor positive impacts on a few environmental, social and economic objectives; however, the majority of the impacts are neutral. The positive effects include protection of landscape character, supporting healthy and active lifestyles and increased access to services and facilities. The policy can be strengthened by clarifying what is considered appropriate.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy SS1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	L	- The policy does not specifically address climate change but seeks to support developments that improve the environmental conditions in North Lincolnshire. Improvements in the environmental condition may help reduce or mitigate the adverse effects associated with climate change. - Additionally, the NPPF considers sustainable development as 'mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy'.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to support developments provided the benefits significantly outweigh the impacts. While this may result in occasional impacts to heritage assets and the historic environment, it is likely that the overall impacts associated with all developments overall will be positive.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to promote sustainable development across North Lincolnshire and provides a broad policy framework to support the approval of proposals that reflect the sustainable development requirements set out in the NPPF. As such, the policy supports the creation of new homes, promotes health and wellbeing and the development of a diverse and vibrant economy, all of which has the potential to benefit deprived communities across the area. - The presumption in favour of sustainable development in the NPPF supports the development of Neighbourhood Plans, which may result in increased community engagement and decision-making and may contribute to the long-term reduction in deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The NPPF overarching social sustainable development objective states that sustainable development fosters 'a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being' which should contribute positively towards promoting healthy and active lifestyles.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	S/M/L	- The presumption in favour of sustainable development in the NPPF states that 'strategic policies should, as a minimum, provide for objectively assessed needs for housing and other uses' which supports the improved access to affordable housing and an appropriate mix of housing. Additionally, it requires the local planning authority to have 'at least a three year supply of deliverable housing sites. - Additionally, the NPPF overarching social sustainable objective states that sustainable development ensures 'that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- By supporting developments where the benefits significantly outweigh the impacts, the policy may result in increased employment opportunities. - The NPPF overarching economic sustainable development objective seeks to 'help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure'.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The presumption in favour of sustainable development in the NPPF states that 'strategic policies should, as a minimum, provide for objectively assessed needs for housing and other uses, as well as any needs that cannot be met within neighbouring areas' which supports increasing a range of services and facilities.

Policy SS1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0	S/M/L	The policy does not specifically address mineral resources; however, the NPPF overarching economic sustainable development objective seeks to 'help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, innovation and improved productivity; and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure'. This could result in the sustainable use of mineral resources. However, at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.
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Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No reasonable options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. This policy translates the NPPF "presumption in favour of sustainable development" and ensures that the achievement of sustainable development is a golden thread running through the Local Plan, to ensure consistency with the NPPF. No reasonable alternative options were previously considered.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential to have positive effects in relation to most of the SA objectives; however, some of the objectives are more specifically addressed by the policy, where other objectives have more indirect positive impacts. In addition, in relation to soil and air quality and mineral resources, the likelihood of a positive effect is not clear and therefore the assessment has scored these objectives as neutral. It is recommended that the wording of the policy is considered further to look for opportunities to strengthen provision to protect and improve local air and soil quality, and to make specific reference to the sustainable management of the area's mineral resources.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS2: Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure that the natural and built environments are protected and enhanced, which could lead to improvements in local landscape character. - Additionally, the policy seeks to enhance town, district and local centres, whilst ensuring new development takes into account the nature and character of these settlements.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure that new development and growth in North Lincolnshire protects and enhances the natural environment, to secure nature's recovery. - Additionally, the policy supports the delivery of new 'environmental infrastructure', which may provide benefits for biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X	M/L	The development of 7,128 new homes and 91.5ha of employment land may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	X?	M/L	The development of 7,128 new homes and 91.5ha of employment land may result in a cumulative increase in flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure that the natural environment is protected and enhanced, which may result in the protection of North Lincolnshire's soil resources. - The policy promotes the use of previously developed, which may result in decreased requirement for greenfield sites. - However, it is difficult to predict with any certainty whether these potential benefits are likely to result in increased protection for the area's soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	0	M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of sufficient physical and environmental infrastructure to support the area's ambitions for housing and economic growth. In doing so the policy may indirectly result in improved air quality. - However, it is difficult to predict with any certainty whether these potential benefits are likely to result in improvements to air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure the delivery of sufficient physical and environmental infrastructure to support the area's ambitions for housing and economic growth. In doing so the policy may indirectly result in decreased greenhouse gas emissions. - The policy supports renewable energy generation by supporting such developments outside of the development limits.

Policy SS2: Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire				
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure that the natural and built environments are protected and enhanced, which could lead to improvements in the condition and setting of historic assets. - Conversely, as with any development, there is the possibility that the development may negatively impact the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting. Due to the large number of housing and employment developments proposed, the risk of impacts is therefore increased.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy directly supports the objective as it seeks to create 11,500 new jobs in priority sectors. - Additionally, the policy aims to develop at least 91.5ha of employment land which will likely indirectly support the objective. - The policy also seeks to promote local tourism, which may result in increased employment opportunities in rural areas.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The policy aims to regenerate, enhance and diversify retail, cultural facilities, leisure and services, specifically in town, district and local centres and rural communities.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓		This policy seeks to support the delivery of 7,128 new homes, which will include affordable homes and homes needed to meet specific individual and community requirements.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy directly supports the objective as it seeks to create 11,500 new jobs in priority sectors. - Additionally, the aims to develop at least 91.5ha of employment land which will likely indirectly support the objective. - The policy also seeks to promote local tourism, which may result in increased employment opportunities in rural areas.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	S/M/L	The policy aims to regenerate, enhance and diversify retail, leisure and services, specifically in town, district and local centres and rural communities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy SS2: Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire

No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. However, four options for growth were considered for the spatial strategy at Issues & Options stage. Options A (Scunthorpe and Market Towns) and B (Six Market Towns and Scunthorpe) would not allow growth in other settlements within North Lincolnshire, therefore not supporting their vitality and viability and meeting the needs of these communities. Option C (Six Market Towns, Scunthorpe & Larger Service Centres), whilst having more dispersed growth, would have a similar effect.

Option D (A New Settlement) attracted limited support and would result in negative environmental impacts. Its deliverability was a concern due to the long lead in times required to identify an appropriate location, for land assembly and infrastructure provision, before development could take place. This would mean that development would still have to take place in other locations during the early years of the Local Plan.

All four options were predicted to have a range of sustainability outcomes. Potential significant adverse effects on several of the SA environmental objectives were identified in relation to Option D, whilst Option A and Option B had the potential to deliver a range of significant positive effects. All options were considered likely to have similar positive social and economic effects.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be increased employment opportunities, improved access to services and facilities, the delivery of new and affordable housing, and the protection and enhancement of the natural and built environment. The policy may negatively impact on water quality and flood risk as a result of cumulative impacts associated with a large number of developments.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS3: Development Principles

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks for developments to be of a high standard of design that is a sympathetic and appropriate to the area's character, significance and setting in respect of its scale, massing, layout, function and materials. - Additionally, the policy seeks to minimise impacts including noise, odour, fumes, dust or other nuisance, or the effects of overlooking or overshadowing; which may help to protect urban and rural landscapes.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to enhance the natural environment and mitigate impacts on natural features and open spaces and provide measurable net gains for biodiversity. - Additionally, by seeking to ensure that developments make provision of good quality, accessible open spaces and green infrastructure, the policy may indirectly support the increased provision of wildlife habitat.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	M/L	- The policy seeks to minimise the use of non-renewable and finite resources including water, which may protect the quantity of surface and groundwater in North Lincolnshire. - It also seeks to achieve high standards of sustainable construction and design with integrated water management and measures to reduce water use, and separate surface water and foul drainage.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓✓	M/L	The policy seeks to minimise and mitigate against the impacts arising from climate change, including reducing flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to promote and encourage the effective use of previously developed (brownfield) land which may result in decreased development of greenfield sites and an indirect protection of soil resources. - The policy also seeks to ensure that brownfield sites are only used provided any contamination is remediated and not allowed to migrate into the water system.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	L	The policy supports a reduction in the need to travel and minimise car use, including through improvements for walking, cycling and public transport. This may result in long term improvements in local air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- The policy supports the objective by seeking sustainable construction and design through the incorporation of the principles of low carbon development, which may result in the long-term decrease in greenhouse gas emissions. - Additionally, the policy supports a reduction in waste and the reuse and recycling of materials.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to consider built heritage and heritage assets from the earliest stages in the design process, which may result in conservation and enhancement of their setting and the assets. - The policy supports a reduction in the need to travel and minimise car use, including through improvements for walking, cycling and public transport. This may result a long-term decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.

Social

Policy SS3: Development Principles

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓✓	M/L	- The policy seeks to create safe, secure and inclusive environments for local people and visitors alike by including design and security measures that reduce actual and perceived opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour which should contribute to a decrease in deprivation. - The policy supports a reduction in the need to travel and minimise car use, including through improvements for walking, cycling and public transport, which may result in increased accessibility between urban and rural areas.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure that developments make provision of good quality, accessible open spaces and green infrastructure which may support active and healthy lifestyles. - Additionally, the policy seeks for developments to contribute towards healthy communities and places, and to consider health impacts associated with new developments. - It also seeks to preserve/enhance the amenity value of existing walking and cycling routes and green infrastructure networks.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	- This policy does not deal with issues associated with a sustainable economy; however, by setting out clear requirements for new development to achieve, the policy should help facilitate new development, which has the potential to provide a range of positive effects on the local economy. - The policy supports sustainable travel and may indirectly result in increased access to employment opportunities, resulting in a more sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports a reduction in the need to travel and minimise car use, including through improvements for walking, cycling and public transport, which may result in increased accessibility to services and facilities. - The policy seeks to ensure that developments make provision of good quality, accessible open spaces and green infrastructure which may support active and healthy lifestyles.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy SS3: Development Principles

The Council has stated that this policy is a clear expression of those matters that need to be taken into consideration when preparing and assessing planning applications, and how they relate to North Lincolnshire. No reasonable alternative options were previously considered. No options were considered as part of the Issues & Options stage.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, with benefits identified for the majority of the objectives. However, the policy is unlikely to contribute towards the sustainable management of mineral resources and the provision of affordable housing as the policy does not deal with those issues. The policy can be strengthened by supporting developments that consider local wildlife in their landscape design.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental and social perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS4: Neighbourhood Planning in North Lincolnshire

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the object because by requiring the Neighbourhood Plan to meet the 'basic conditions', the policy requires the Neighbour Plan to have special regard to the desirability of preserving any listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest that it possesses. - Additionally, as part of the 'basic conditions' the Neighbourhood plan should have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of any conservation area.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	M/L	- The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which will require demonstration as to how the plan will contribute to improvements to the environment. This may indirectly protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species. - Additionally, should the Neighbourhood Plan require a strategic environmental assessment, consideration will be given to significant environmental impacts.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	M/L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which will require demonstration as to how the plan will contribute to improvements to the environment and mitigate any impacts. This may indirectly protect water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	M/L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in reduced risk associated with flood impacts.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in the protection of regional soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in long term improvements in regional air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in long term decreased greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the object because by requiring the Neighbourhood Plan to meet the 'basic conditions', the policy requires the Neighbour Plan to have special regard to the desirability of preserving any listed building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest that it possesses. - Additionally, as part of the 'basic conditions' the Neighbourhood plan should have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of any conservation area.

Policy SS4: Neighbourhood Planning in North Lincolnshire

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports the development of Neighbourhood Plans that ensure the membership of the neighbourhood forum reflects the character and diversity of the local population. This may result in increased community engagement. - Additionally, the policy supports the establishment of a robust programme of community engagement. - The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in sustainable employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓		This policy supports local communities to influence the design and delivery of new housing, including potential affordable housing, to ensure that new development supports their needs and priorities.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	SM/L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because as part of the 'basic conditions', the neighbourhood plan should contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development, which may result in sustainable employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy supports local communities to influence the design and delivery of new community facilities, to ensure that new development supports their needs and priorities. - By requiring community engagement, the policy may indirectly increase access to services and facilities through the identification of local wants and needs.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives were considered by the Council. This policy sets out North Lincolnshire's commitment to assisting communities to bring forward Neighbourhood Plans and the benefits it provides. No options were considered as part of the Issues and Options stage.

Policy SS4: Neighbourhood Planning in North Lincolnshire

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, particularly environmental with the primary benefit being sustainability. However, the policy is unlikely to contribute towards the sustainable management of mineral resources and the provision of affordable housing and healthy lifestyles as the policy does not deal with those issues.

The policy can be strengthened by clarifying that the 'basic conditions' are those set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the policy has been slightly strengthened by clarifying where the 'basic conditions' are set out within the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Policy SS5: Overall Housing Provision

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X/✓	S/M/L	The provision of significant new housing has the potential to have both positive and negative effects on local landscape character. The type and scape of effects will be specific to the location, design and scale of development.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X/✓	S/M/L	- The provision of significant new housing in North Lincolnshire has the potential to cause negative impacts on biodiversity through loss of habitat and disturbance to species. Conversely, high quality design that protects and enhances environmental and ecological characteristics, has the potential to provide some benefits. On balance, increased development and increased population is more likely to have negative effects. - New housing can reduce the amount of green space in North Lincolnshire, and impact upon links between habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X	M/L	The development of 7,128 new homes may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	X?	M/L	Housing can have a minor negative impact on the risk of flooding by increasing the amount of impermeable land and increasing surface run off.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources directly. - However, new housing development has the potential to affect both greenfield land (which may have an adverse impact on soil resources) and previously developed (brownfield) land (which is less likely to have an adverse impact and will support the protection of other areas of important soil resources).
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	The provision of significant new housing in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have negative effects on air quality due to increased energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	Increasing the amount of housing in North Lincolnshire can have negative impacts on climate change due to greenhouse gases emitted during construction and the lifetime of the development.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		The provision of significant new housing has the potential to have both positive and negative effects on heritage features. The type and scale of effects will be specific to the location, design and scale of development.

Policy SS5: Overall Housing Provision

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	The policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by improving access to housing and key amenities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with promoting healthy and active lifestyles, either directly or indirectly
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	M/L	By setting out a housing requirement for new dwellings to be provided, the policy contributes towards improving access to affordable housing, and ensuring there is a mix of dwelling types available.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- This policy has the potential to support a sustainable economy by ensuring there are sufficient dwellings available to support a strong housing market. - Setting out a long-term requirement for housing can support jobs in the construction industry, improving skills and employability of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with increasing access to a wide range of services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Four alternative options were considered during the Issues & Options stage of the Local Plan, since which the Government released new guidance on housing needs and the policy has followed this suggested approach. The four options differed in the scale of new housing to be delivered, ranging between 365 homes per year (Option A) and 754 homes per year (Option D). The SA undertaken at Issues & Options stage identified a range of sustainability outcomes; Options A to C had similar outcomes, with minor negative effects predicted in relation to most of the environmental objectives and neutral or minor positive outcomes for the social and economic objectives. Option D differed in that it was more likely to have significant adverse effects on the environmental objectives and had the potential for significant positive effects in relation to access to housing and the local economy. Broadly speaking, it is predicted that the proposed policy will have similar outcomes to options A to C.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy SS5: Overall Housing Provision

This policy has the potential to negatively impact upon multiple environmental objectives. The delivery of significant new housing could have a negative impact upon biodiversity, flooding, air quality and climate change. To ensure these negative impacts are mitigated against, detailed assessments will be required at planning application stage and developments assessed on their individual merits and adherence to other policies in the Local Plan as well as UK environmental and planning policy, legislation and guidance. The policy has the potential to achieve a range of social and economic benefits, improving access to housing and supporting the growth of a sustainable economy.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS6: Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X/✓	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the delivery of substantial housing development across numerous sites within North Lincolnshire. - New housing development has the potential to adversely affect existing landscape character. - Restricting development in smaller rural developments and the countryside can have positive impacts on rural landscape and contribute towards maintaining local rural landscape character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X/✓	S/M/L	- Given the scale of new housing development proposed and the number of areas that would be affected by new development, there is potential for adverse effects on biodiversity through habitat loss and damage or disturbance to important habitats and species. - Restricting development in the countryside has the potential to positively impact biodiversity by protecting open green spaces and important rural habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X	M/L	The development of 7,128 new homes may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	X?	M/L	Housing can have a minor negative impact on the risk of flooding by increasing the amount of impermeable land and increasing surface run off.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources directly. - However, new housing development has the potential to affect both greenfield land (which may have an adverse impact on soil resources) and previously developed (brownfield) land (which is less likely to have an adverse impact and will support the protection of other areas of important soil resources).
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	The provision of significant new housing in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have negative effects on air quality due to increased energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	Increasing the amount of housing in North Lincolnshire can have negative impacts on climate change due to greenhouse gases emitted during construction and the lifetime of the development.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		The provision of significant new housing has the potential to have both positive and negative effects on heritage features. The type and scale of effects will be specific to the location, design and scale of development.

Social

Policy SS6: Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	The policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by improving access to housing and key amenities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with promoting healthy and active lifestyles, either directly or indirectly
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	M/L	By setting out a housing requirement for new dwellings to be provided, the policy contributes towards improving access to affordable housing, and ensuring there is a mix of dwelling types available.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- This policy has the potential to support a sustainable economy by ensuring there are sufficient dwellings available to support a strong housing market. - Setting out a long-term requirement for housing can support jobs in the construction industry, improving skills and employability of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with increasing access to a wide range of services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. Four alternative options were considered during the Issues & Options stage of the Local Plan, since which the Government released new guidance on housing needs and the policy has followed this suggested approach. The four options differed in the scale of new housing to be delivered, ranging between 365 homes per year (Option A) and 754 homes per year (Option D). The SA undertaken at Issues & Options stage identified a range of sustainability outcomes; Options A to C had similar outcomes, with minor negative effects predicted in relation to most of the environmental objectives and neutral or minor positive outcomes for the social and economic objectives. Option D differed in that it was more likely to have significant adverse effects on the environmental objectives and had the potential for significant positive effects in relation to access to housing and the local economy. Broadly speaking, it is predicted that the proposed policy will have similar outcomes to options A to C.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy SS6: Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites

This policy has the potential to negatively impact upon multiple environmental objectives. The delivery of significant new housing could have a negative impact upon biodiversity, flooding, air quality and climate change. To ensure these negative impacts are mitigated against, detailed assessments will be required at planning application stage and developments assessed on their individual merits and adherence to other policies in the Local Plan as well as UK environmental and planning policy, legislation and guidance. The policy has the potential to achieve a range of social and economic benefits, improving access to housing and supporting the growth of a sustainable economy.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS7: Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	- Creation of new sustainable village settlements, with 2,150 dwellings, is likely to have a wide range of impacts, both positive and negative, on local landscape character and visual amenity. - The policy makes specific reference to protecting and retaining key landscape features, including woodland, mature trees, hedgerows, drains and ditches. - Overall, this policy has the potential to improve the local landscape through high quality design incorporating sustainable development principles, including the creation of open spaces and supporting multi-functional green infrastructure. - The creation of lakes can have landscape benefits and contribute towards maintaining a rural sense of character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The development on the scale of Lincolnshire Lakes Strategic Allocation has the potential to significantly impact on existing habitat and species, and cause habitat fragmentation. - The policy has the potential to protect and enhance biodiversity through creation of green infrastructure and open space. - The policy states that development proposal should consider impact on biodiversity and opportunities for ecological protection and enhancement, to provide measurable net gains to biodiversity and demonstrate linkages within the strategic allocation and the greater wildlife network. - The policy states that existing woodland, mature trees, hedgerows, drains, and ditches should be retained and be integrated into the new development and landscape structure to provide for ecological protection and enhancement. Adjacent areas of biodiversity interest and amenity importance must be protected, enhanced, and integrated into the new development. - Creation of lakes and villages has the potential to have negative impacts on biodiversity through loss and disturbance to existing habitats. Such effects can extend a significant distance beyond the boundary of the development due to increased population pressures on the natural environment. However, the creation of lakes, ponds and wetlands as promoted by this policy can provide biodiversity benefits, if sensitively designed. - New areas of woodland, acid grassland, neutral grassland, ditches, swales, wetland and ponds will be established as part of new habitat creation. - Small scale opportunities to deliver ecological enhancements within the built environment will also be promoted (e.g. bat and bird boxes, hibernacula etc.).
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	- This large-scale development may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity. - The policy has the potential to positively impact to the sustainable management of water resources through surface water management in accordance with the drainage hierarchy encouraging reuse and recycling of surface water at source.

Policy SS7: Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes				
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	M/L	- The policy requires all proposals to submit a flood risk and drainage assessment, which has the potential to mitigate the risk of flooding. - The policy includes a provision to ensure that minimal floor levels are above that of certain flood risk events. - Drainage includes designs to reduce surface water runoff, and include SUDS into the design, both of which can contribute towards reducing the risk of flooding.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire’s important soil resources.	✗	S/M/L	This development of new villages is likely to adversely affect soil resources in the area affected. Given the scale of development proposed, this impact is likely to be substantial.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓/✗	S/M/L	- The development and occupation of new villages has the potential to adversely affect local air quality due to increased energy use, waste generation and transport. - The policy requires all proposals to provide footways and cycleways to promote sustainable transport that connect into the wider sustainable transport network. This may result in long term improvements in local air quality. - The increased capacity of the existing B1450, Burringham Road, may result in decreased air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✗	S/M/L	Whilst the requirement for high quality and sustainable design of these developments has the potential to incorporate measures to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, the large-scale of the proposed development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the developments.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓/✗	S/M/L	Large-scale development has the potential to both positively and negatively affect the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings. High quality design could protect and enhance heritage features; however, the scale of development proposed also has the potential to adversely affect such features either directly during construction or due to damage and disturbance during occupation.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new homes, including affordable homes, and new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development). - Additionally, policy requires all proposals to provide footways and cycleways to promote sustainable transport that connect into the wider sustainable transport network, which may result in increased accessibility to a mix of housing. - The proposed development has the potential to increase access to green infrastructure and open spaces. - Creation of a network of green infrastructure can support activities such as water sports, cycling, walking can reduce deprivation. - The development proposals include provision of new schools and a range of local facilities and services.

Policy SS7: Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to promote healthy and active lifestyles through provision of green infrastructure and open spaces, where activities such as cycling and running can take place. - Creation of new lakes that can support water sports as well as recreational activities such as running, cycling and walking in the surround public space has the potential to promote healthy and active lifestyles. - Additionally, policy requires all proposals to provide footways and cycleways to promote sustainable transport that connect into the wider sustainable transport network, which may have additional health benefits.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓✓	S/M/L	By setting out a plan for the spatial distribution of houses in North Lincolnshire, the policy ensures there is a mix of dwelling types, suitable for the areas in which they are based.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy will accommodate 25.15ha of employment, retail and leisure land, which provides opportunity to promote a sustainable economy, and create new jobs that can diversity skills in the area.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to increase access to services through creation of new junction to provide connectivity to Scunthorpe and the M180. Additionally, the existing B1450, Burringham Road, will be upgraded to increase capacity. - Providing schools can improve education attainment, whilst also increasing access to facilities such as playing pitches. The policy states that schools will be readily accessible to public transport, walking and cycling routes. - Providing a local centre for each village can ensure access to a wide range of services.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy SS7: Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes
This policy has the potential to have a wide range of sustainability outcomes. It could positively contribute to several of the environmental objectives, through high-quality, sustainable design that provides a network of multi-functional green infrastructure and open spaces, which could benefit local landscape character, heritage features and biodiversity. Creation of lakes can create new habitats and support new species, so long as they are properly implemented into the existing environment. The policy also has the potential to promote landscape enhancement and contributes towards reducing the risk of flooding. However, it must be acknowledged that the scale of development has the potential to have a range of adverse effects on the environmental objectives, increasing habitat loss and disturbance, and potentially negatively affecting local air quality and water and soil resources. In particular, large-scale development such as this is likely to have an adverse effect in relation to climate change through the significant emissions associated with the construction and operation/occupation of such development. The policy has the potential to contribute to reduce deprivation through a variety of means, including increasing access to housing and affordable housing and to a range of local facilities, including schools. The development could also promote healthy lifestyles through provision of a green infrastructure network including two lakes that can support leisure and recreational activities. In addition, through the provision of 25.15ha of employment land, the policy supports promotion of a sustainable economy, which could have a range of positive social and economic outcomes.
Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage
The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental and social perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions

Policy SS8: Employment Land Requirement (including Strategic Employment Sites)

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character through the creation of new office, light industrial, industrial and storage/distribution facilities. - It is anticipated that most of this development will be located in the South Humber Bank, which is an already highly urbanised and industrialised landscape. This reduces the potential for employment development in other areas of North Lincolnshire, particularly rural areas, where the local landscape character is more susceptible to negative effects associated with these types of development. - Notwithstanding this, overall, the provision of significant new employment infrastructure is likely to have an overall adverse effect on the landscape character of the affected areas.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	S/M/L	- Whilst this policy focusses new employment development in areas that are already highly urbanised/industrialised, the provision of more than 131.7ha of employment land has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity. In particular, there is a risk of adverse effects on sensitive habitats and species in the Humber Estuary. - Focusing employment development in these three areas reduces the potential for employment development in other areas of North Lincolnshire, particularly rural areas and areas with high ecological value.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	This large-scale development may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X/✓	S/M/L	- By focusing new employment development in these three areas, the policy reduces the potential for employment development in areas containing important soil resources. - However, employment development at the Lincolnshire Lakes site has the potential to adversely affect soil resources in the development area.
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	- Increased employment development in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have an adverse effect on local air quality during both construction and operation of the developments. - New employment development could lead to increased emissions to air from energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	The large-scale of the proposed development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the developments.

Policy SS8: Employment Land Requirement (including Strategic Employment Sites)				
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		- By focusing new employment development in these three areas, the policy reduces the potential for adverse impacts on important heritage assets. - Conversely, the policy is not likely to make a direct contribution to the protection or enhancement of heritage assets.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development).
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	M/L	- Policy contains provision to deliver around 131.7 hectares of employment land, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy. - Identifying three additional employment sites can contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy and improve skills and employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of Mineral Resources, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy SS8: Employment Land Requirement (including Strategic Employment Sites)
No reasonable alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. However, four options for employment sites were considered for the spatial strategy at Issues & Options stage. Option A would simply retain existing employment site allocations as identified in the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). This includes a mix of sites across the area including sites on the outskirts of Scunthorpe and the Market Towns, and sites in more rural areas close to main transport links. No additional employment site allocations would be provided. Option B could result in some of these existing site allocations being de-allocated and used for different purposes; sites in rural areas would instead accommodate uses that are acceptable to their countryside locations (i.e., agriculture, forestry, recreation, tourism etc), whilst sites on the edge of Scunthorpe and the Market Towns would offer scope for a wider range of alternative uses, including housing. Option C would abandon allocations in the DPD and allocate new sites for employment uses. This may result in an overall increase or decrease in employment site allocations in the area. Option D would also allocate new sites for employment uses but would focus these allocations alongside North Lincolnshire’s main transport links. Each of the four options were assessed in the SA at Issues & Options stage as having a range of sustainability outcomes. All four options were assessed as having minor negative or significant negative effects against the environmental objectives, particularly in relation to climate change, with Option C is particular having a number of significant adverse effects. In relation to the social and economic objectives, the options were broadly similar, with either neutral or positive effects predicted. Options A, C and D were assessed as having the potential for significant positive economic outcomes. The proposed policy has similar sustainability outcomes for many of the SA objectives as predicted for the four options assessed previously. However, in general, the number of negative effects has reduced, whilst the potential for positive social and economic outcomes has remained.
Assessment Conclusions
Providing increased provision of employment land can contribute towards a sustainable economy and increase employability. However, there is potential for a range of negative environmental impacts from designating land for use as employment sites, through adverse effects on landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and climate change. These issues should be considered in detail at planning application stage and appropriate mitigation incorporated into the design and delivery of new employment development so as to reduce any such adverse effects.
Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage
The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS9: Land at North Killingholme Airfield

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character through the creation of new office, light industrial, and storage/distribution facilities. - The policy includes provision to protect the integrity of landscape through ensuring a landscaping scheme is in place to screen the development. - The development will be located close to South Humber Bank within the North Killingholme Airfield, which is a previously industrialised landscape surrounded by undeveloped agricultural land. This reduces the potential for employment development in other areas of North Lincolnshire, particularly rural areas, where the local landscape character is more susceptible to negative effects associated with these types of development. - Notwithstanding this, overall, the provision of significant new employment infrastructure is likely to have an overall adverse effect on the landscape character of the affected areas.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	S/M/L	- Requiring ecological surveys as part of any development should have a positive contribution. - The policy states that any landscaping provided should provide biodiversity enhancement which will have a positive contribution. - Whilst this policy focuses on new employment development within an area that is industrialised, the provision of 138.21ha of employment land has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity. In particular, there is a risk of adverse effects on sensitive habitats and species in the Humber Estuary European Marine Site.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to protect and improve the quality and quantity of water through incorporation SuDS into the development where practical. - Infrastructure upgrades may be required to South Killingholme sewage treatment works, this may contribute towards improved water quality management within North Lincolnshire. - Notwithstanding this, the scale of development within close proximity to the Humber Estuary and East Halton Beck may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to reduce the risk of flooding by ensuring a flood risk assessment and mitigation is required for developments on the site. - The policy encourages the use of SuDS drainage into the designs where practical, which can contribute towards reducing the risk of flooding. - Industrial development can have a minor negative impact on the risk of flooding by increasing the amount of impermeable land and increasing surface run off.

Policy SS9: Land at North Killingholme Airfield				
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources directly. - However, new industrial development has the potential to affect both greenfield land (which may have an adverse impact on soil resources) and previously developed (brownfield) land (which is less likely to have an adverse impact and will support the protection of other areas of important soil resources).
6	Improve local air quality.	X	S/M/L	- Increased employment development within North Killingholme has the potential to have an adverse effect on local air quality during both construction and operation of the developments. - New employment development could lead to increased emissions to air from energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	S/M/L	The large-scale of the proposed development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the development.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	S/M/L	Several heritage assets designated within vicinity; the policy requires developments to undertake a Heritage Assessment to ensure no adverse impacts on the historic environment and elements which contribute to their significance are conserved.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development).
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	M/L	Policy has the potential to promote a sustainable economy through creation of a 138.21ha employment site that can support a substantial number of jobs. Providing new jobs will also contribute towards improving skills and employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0	M/L	This policy does not deal with increasing access to a wide range of services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.

Policy SS9: Land at North KillingHolme Airfield				
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of Mineral Resources, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
The Council has stated that it is investigating possible alternative access arrangements for the North Killingholme Airfield site and will support the development of an alternative access in addition to the existing Lancaster Way roadway.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy was added in the Publication Stage and as such was not assessed in the earlier stages.				
Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage				
Providing increased provision of employment land can contribute towards a sustainable economy and increase employability. However, there is potential for a range of negative environmental impacts from designating land for use as employment sites, through adverse effects on landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and climate change. These issues should be considered in detail at planning application stage and appropriate mitigation incorporated into the design and delivery of new employment development so as to reduce any such adverse effects.				

Policy SS10: Strategic Site Allocation – South Humber Bank

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy includes provision to protect the integrity of landscape through ensuring a structural landscape scheme is in place to mitigate the visual impacts to the villages of South Killingholme, North Killingholme and East Halton. - The policy states that any landscaping provided should be appropriate to the location and sensitivities of nearby habitats and species. - Notwithstanding this, the scale of development in this section of the Humber Estuary will significantly affect the landscape character of the estuary.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to protect and enhance biodiversity through ensuring development proposals give effective consideration to protected sites for nature conservation, comply with the requirements of the Habitat Regulations and provide measurable biodiversity net gains. - Ensuring development proposals comply with waterbird mitigation identified in the SHB Mitigation Strategy will contribute to biodiversity protection. - Requiring ecological assessments which addresses the avoidance, mitigation or compensation needed in relation to international, national and locally designated sites and protected and priority species will also have a mitigate negative impacts.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Policy has the potential to protect and improve the quality and quantity of water through ensuring a proper surface water and sewage management solution is in place. - The policy requires surface and foul sewage management solutions are required to accommodate development. - Notwithstanding this, the scale of development in this section of the Humber Estuary may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to reduce the risk of flooding by ensuring a flood risk assessment is required for developments on the site. - The policy states that land to the north of the Humber Sea Terminal will require a flood enhancement scheme.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X	S/M/L	- Increased employment development on the South Humber Bank has the potential to have an adverse effect on local air quality during both construction and operation of the developments. - New employment development could lead to increased emissions to air from energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	S/M/L	The large-scale of the proposed development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the development.

Policy SS10: Strategic Site Allocation – South Humber Bank

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0	S/M/L	Policy requires developments to undertake a Heritage Assessment to ensure no adverse impacts on the historic environment.
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Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development).
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	S/M/L	Policy has the potential to promote a sustainable economy through creation of an employment site that can support a substantial number of jobs. Providing new jobs will also contribute towards improving skills and employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with increasing access to a wide range of services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of Mineral Resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Through the consultation process it was determined that supporting the continuing development of the South Humber Bank as a Strategic Employment Site was the most appropriate option. It was determined that the amount of land identified was required in order to achieve growth.

Policy SS10: Strategic Site Allocation – South Humber Bank

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential to have a range of sustainability outcomes. In relation to several of the environmental objectives, there is potential for both positive and negative effects. The realisation of these effects will depend upon the detailed design of the development and the incorporation of appropriate environmental mitigation measures to minimise and/or avoid any significant effects. The potential for significant effects is reduced through the detailed policy requirements that seek to ensure appropriate design, including buffer zones around sensitive sites, and a high level of environmental assessment to support the planning applications for the development. Notwithstanding this, there is potential for a range of negative environmental impacts, particularly in relation to air quality and climate change. These issues should be considered in detail at planning application stage and appropriate mitigation incorporated into the design and delivery of new employment development so as to reduce any such adverse effects.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy SS11: Development Limits

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy may indirectly protect rural landscapes as it sets limits as to the availability and type of developments that may obtain planning permission outside of rural development limits. - Additionally, the policy seeks to protect land with the characteristics of open countryside within and adjacent to settlements by not including them within development limits.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy may indirectly protect biodiversity, habitats and species associated with the countryside as a result of restricting the types of developments in the countryside.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk; however, by restricting development to within the development limits, the policy may result in a localised increase in flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as a result of restricting developments in the countryside where the majority of the important soil resources are located in North Lincolnshire.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓/X	M/L	- The policy may indirectly result in negative impacts to air quality as a result of condensing of the majority of developments into development limits. - However, by applying development limits, the policy may indirectly support the objective because developments will likely be contained within areas that are currently better supported by sustainable transport, which may reduce lead to decreased reliance on private cars.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	L	By applying development limits, the policy may indirectly support the objective because developments will likely be contained within areas that are currently better supported by sustainable transport, which may reduce lead to long term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy SS11: Development Limits				
9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective by seeking to protect areas of open space.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	X?	L	By setting development limits, the policy may indirectly limit available land for proposed housing developments, including affordable housing. This is likely to be a greater issue in the long term as available land has been developed over time.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with a sustainable economy and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- By applying development limits the policy may indirectly support the objective because developments will likely be contained within areas that are currently better supported by sustainable transport, which may reduce the number of future developments that are less accessible. - The policy seeks to determine development limits based on the ability of the settlement to accommodate future development based on existing and proposed infrastructure, on its access to facilities and services and levels of public transport.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy may indirectly support the objective because placing development limits, the policy is reducing the risk of developments being located in close proximity to mineral workings and as a result being exposed to the environmental effects.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy SS11: Development Limits

Three options were considered at the Issues & Options stage: Option A (growth strategy determined by making best use of existing infrastructure), Option B (growth should not be constrained by existing infrastructure) and Option C (seek contributions to infrastructure to support sustainable transport).

Option A (continue to apply development limits to settlements) will continue to constrain new development to existing settlement boundaries. This reduces the potential for environmental impacts associated with development in surrounding areas. However, a negative impact may occur in relation to air quality as development is concentrated in certain areas. In relation to socio-economic sustainability objectives, the effects are likely to be largely neutral; however, there is a risk that restricting development to existing settlement limits could have a negative effect as it potentially constrains the delivery of new development.

Option B does not restrict the location of new development to existing settlement limits. Risks of a negative impact on several of the environmental sustainability objectives therefore increase. However, there may be potential positive effects in relation to housing provision and the local economy as the removal of the settlement limit constraint may help facilitate increased housing development in the area.

In relation to Option C, no details of an alternative approach are provided and therefore the impacts in relation to all the sustainability objectives are uncertain.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the environmental, social and economic objectives, with the greatest benefits being associated with the protection of local landscape character and soil resources and increased access to a range of services and facilities. The policy may result in negative minor impacts with long term availability of affordable housing.

Assessment Conclusions - Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Delivering Jobs and Supporting our Economy

Policy EC1: Employment Land Supply				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character through the creation of new office, light industrial, industrial and storage/distribution facilities. - It is anticipated that most of this development will be located in the South Humber Bank, which is an already highly urbanised and industrialised landscape. This reduces the potential for employment development in other areas of North Lincolnshire, particularly rural areas, where the local landscape character is more susceptible to negative effects associated with these types of development. - Notwithstanding this, overall, the provision of significant new employment infrastructure is likely to have an overall adverse effect on the landscape character of the affected areas.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	S/M/L	- Whilst this policy focusses new employment development in areas that are already highly urbanised/industrialised, the provision of more than 131.7ha of employment land has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity. In particular, there is a risk of adverse effects on sensitive habitats and species in the Humber Estuary particularly as proposals for port and port related use will be supported, and where appropriate, approved. - Focusing employment development in these sites reduces the potential for employment development in other areas of North Lincolnshire, particularly rural areas and areas with high ecological value.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	- New employment development may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity. - In particular, as proposals for port and port related use will be supported, and where appropriate, approved, this could adversely impact on water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓/X	S/M/L	- By focusing new employment development in these sites, the policy reduces the potential for employment development in areas containing important soil resources. - However, employment development at the Lincolnshire Lakes site has the potential to adversely affect soil resources in the development area.
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	- Increased employment development in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have an adverse effect on local air quality during both construction and operation of the developments. - New employment development could lead to increased emissions to air from energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	New employment development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the developments.

Policy EC1: Employment Land Supply				
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		- By focusing new employment development in these sites, the policy reduces the potential for adverse impacts on important heritage assets. - Conversely, the policy is not likely to make a direct contribution to the protection or enhancement of heritage assets.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development).
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	M/L	- Policy contains provision to deliver around 91.5 hectares of employment land, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy. - Identifying additional employment sites can contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy and improve skills and employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy EC1: Employment Land Supply

Four options for employment sites were considered for the spatial strategy at Issues & Options stage. Option A would simply retain existing employment site allocations as identified in the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). This includes a mix of sites across the area including sites on the outskirts of Scunthorpe and the Market Towns, and sites in more rural areas close to main transport links. No additional employment site allocations would be provided. Option B could result in some of these existing site allocations being de-allocated and used for different purposes; sites in rural areas would instead accommodate uses that are acceptable to their countryside locations (i.e., agriculture, forestry, recreation, tourism etc), whilst sites on the edge of Scunthorpe and the Market Towns would offer scope for a wider range of alternative uses, including housing. Option C would abandon allocations in the DPD and allocate new sites for employment uses. This may result in an overall increase or decrease in employment site allocations in the area. Option D would also allocate new sites for employment uses but would focus these allocations alongside North Lincolnshire's main transport links.

Each of the four options were assessed in the SA at Issues & Options stage as having a range of sustainability outcomes. All four options were assessed as having minor negative or significant negative effects against the environmental objectives, particularly in relation to climate change, with Option C is particular having a number of significant adverse effects. In relation to the social and economic objectives, the options were broadly similar, with either neutral or positive effects predicted. Options A, C and D were assessed as having the potential for significant positive economic outcomes.

The proposed policy has similar sustainability outcomes for many of the SA objectives as predicted for the four options assessed previously. However, in general, the number of negative effects has reduced, whilst the potential for positive social and economic outcomes has remained.

Assessment Conclusions

Providing increased provision of employment land can contribute towards a sustainable economy and increase employability. However, there is potential for a range of negative environmental impacts from designating land for use as employment sites, through adverse effects on landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and climate change. These issues should be considered in detail at planning application stage and appropriate mitigation incorporated into the design and delivery of new employment development so as to reduce any such adverse effects.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion, although the supporting of proposals for port and port related uses could adversely impact on the Humber Estuary. However, it is recognised that the requirements of the Habitats Regulations would be required at the planning application stage. The removal of this wording does not remove the need for a Habitats Regulations Assessment, as referenced in the supporting text to the policy, and so does not significantly impact the environmental conclusions.

Policy EC2: Existing Employment Areas

SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment	Recommended Mitigation
Environmental					
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to maintain existing employment sites, encouraging their use/reuse rather than the development of new employment sites. This would help to protect landscape characteristics in North Lincolnshire in undeveloped areas and would also potentially lead to improved landscape characteristics through the reuse of vacant sites. - The policy would only allow employment sites to be developed in areas previously undeveloped for this use if there is no significant impact on the character of the area. This would likely work towards protecting landscape character in the area.	
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy does not specifically reference the protection of biodiversity in North Lincolnshire; however, it is possible that by safeguarding existing employment sites for continued employment use, the policy would lead to a reduced requirement for development of greenfield land for new employment sites, thereby indirectly supporting the protection of greenfield habitats in the area.	
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the quality or quantity of water in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.	
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.	
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy does not specifically reference the protection of soil resources in North Lincolnshire; however, it is possible that by safeguarding existing employment sites for continued employment use, the policy would lead to a reduced requirement for development of greenfield land for new employment sites, thereby indirectly supporting the protection of soil resources.	
6	Improve local air quality.	0		The policy states that employment proposals outside existing employment sites will be supported where the proposals maximise opportunities for a modal shift away from the private car (among other requirements). This could result in small reductions in emissions of airborne pollutants associated with private car use in the District.	
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		The policy states that employment proposals outside existing employment sites will be supported where the proposals maximise opportunities for a modal shift away from the private car (among other requirements). This could result in small reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with private car use in the District.	
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.	
Social					
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.	

Policy EC2: Existing Employment Areas

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment sites and encourages the development or reuse of vacant or underused sites, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Four options for employment sites were considered for the spatial strategy at Issues & Options stage. Option A would retain existing employment site allocations as identified in the Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPD, with no additional employment site allocations provided. Option B could result in some of these existing site allocations being de-allocated and used for different purposes. Option C would abandon allocations in the DPD and allocate new sites for employment uses. Option D would also allocate new sites for employment uses but would focus these allocations alongside North Lincolnshire's main transport links.

Each of the four options were assessed in the SA at Issues & Options stage as having a range of sustainability outcomes. All four options were assessed as having minor negative or significant negative effects against the environmental objectives, particularly in relation to climate change, with Option C in particular having a number of significant adverse effects. In relation to the social and economic objectives, the options were broadly similar, with either neutral or positive effects predicted. Options A, C and D were assessed as having the potential for significant positive economic outcomes.

The proposed policy has similar sustainability outcomes for many of the SA objectives as predicted for the four options assessed previously. However, in general, the number of negative effects has reduced, whilst the potential for positive social and economic outcomes has remained.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy EC2: Existing Employment Areas

This policy has the potential to achieve small, positive effects in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives. The preference to utilise existing employment sites over development on new sites could support protection of important landscape characteristics and protect valuable greenfield habitats. If new employment sites are proposed for development, the policy states that they must be broadly accessible via transport other than the private car. This could help to combat issues associated with air pollution and carbon dioxide emissions.

In addition, safeguarding the provision of employment land can make an important contribution towards a sustainable economy and increase employment options, which could support actions to reduce levels of social deprivation in the area.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy EC3: Defined Industrial Buffer Areas

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	M/L	- The policy could support the preservation of several of North Lincolnshire's most well-known industrial (or previously industrial) sites – preserving its local landscape character as a mixed rural / industrial landscape. - The addition of indigenous trees and shrubs could preserve the tranquillity of some residential areas nearby to the industrial areas in question and minimise visual intrusion to residential areas, as industrial infrastructure can be unsightly. - The policy specifies four industrial areas and applies only to these areas. As a result, the contribution to the achievement of this SA objective may not be as significant as otherwise.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓?	M/L	- The policy could result in an enhancement of local biodiversity in the areas described by the policy, arising from the planting of indigenous trees and shrubs, resulting in increased areas of local habitat. - The increase in habitat biodiversity close to residential areas could increase public engagement in local habitats and biodiversity. - Not permitting development around the South Humber Bank could help to protect the Humber Estuary Ramsar, SAC, SPA and SSSI. - Preventing development in currently or previously industrial areas could result in areas of high quality habitat in North Lincolnshire becoming designated for industrial development, resulting in declines in biodiversity in some areas, whilst delivering improvements in others. - The exclusion of biodiversity enhancement schemes further supports the enhancement of local biodiversity in the areas described by the policy.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	M/L	An increase in new habitats, including aquatic habitats, and greenspace in previously industrial areas provides opportunities to improve surface water management and could improve surface water quality by providing a natural mechanism to clean surface waters.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	M/L	The creation of new habitats and greenspace in formerly industrial areas provides opportunities to improve surface water management, which could lead to reduced flood risk to surrounding communities.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	M/L	- Schemes for indigenous planting in previously industrial areas, arising from this policy, is likely to result in localised increases in soil quality by increasing the health of local biodiversity. - Additionally, these schemes may indirectly result in long term soil remediation should the sites be identified as contaminated.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	Schemes for indigenous planting in previously industrial areas may result in localised improvements in air quality by increasing vegetation cover that helps to filter and absorb airborne pollutants.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	- Increased vegetation and tree cover in North Lincolnshire will provide new habitats for a range of species and will help mitigate the effects of climate change. - Improved soils and increased vegetation cover will act as a carbon sink and thereby support actions to reduce carbon emissions.

Policy EC3: Defined Industrial Buffer Areas

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	M/L	The policy could support the preservation of several of North Lincolnshire's most well-known industrial (or previously industrial) sites – preserving its local landscape character as a mixed rural / industrial landscape.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	- The policy could result in an increase in greenspace in industrialised areas in North Lincolnshire, providing new recreation and amenity opportunities for local communities in areas including Brigg and North Killingholme. - Improving the living environment for nearby communities can contribute to reduced levels of social deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	An increase in accessible greenspace in industrialised areas of North Lincolnshire could result in employees and residents utilising outdoor space more frequently. Improved access to greenspace can support more healthy lifestyles and improve community wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- This policy can contribute to a sustainable economy by improving the landscape and setting of existing industrial areas, increasing their value as a place to live and work, whilst also safeguarding the current and future operational requirements of businesses in these areas. - The policy may also create new economic activities and employment opportunities associated with the creation and management of the new network of greenspace.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy could increase community access to greenspace in industrialised areas in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy EC3: Defined Industrial Buffer Areas

This policy has a strong potential to contribute positively to the SA environmental objectives, by increasing greenspace and the provision of new habitats in North Lincolnshire. This may contribute to improved soil, air and water quality and contribute to the mitigation of the effects of climate change.

An increase in greenspace in previously industrial areas has the potential to result in an improvement in local community health and wellbeing, by increasing provision of accessible greenspace.

By creating attractive and valued places to live and work, whilst safeguarding the operational requirements of businesses, the policy can contribute to promoting a sustainable economy, whilst the creation of a new network of greenspace can create new job opportunities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy EC4: South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	M/L	- The policy is likely to enhance the landscape character of the South Humber Bank Landscape Initiative Area as a result of increased screening, using trees, reducing the detrimental visual intrusion of the industrial sites within the Landscape Initiative Area. - The landscape character of the South Humber Bank has a history of industry, port development and agriculture and screening and softening of these areas could reduce the unique industrial landscape characteristics of the area.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓	M/L	- The fringing and screening of agriculture and industry with native shrubs and trees, the increase in hedgerow height, and the increased maintenance of these areas are likely to result in increased habitat provision and local biodiversity. - Creation of aquatic habitats in the form of new lakes, ponds and marshes and increased maintenance of such habitats are likely to increase the diversity of habitats, species and biodiversity in the Landscape Initiative Area. - The provision of a nature recovery network may contribute towards the long term improvement biodiversity and connectivity. - The addition of the focus on native species within the policy may result in supporting Biodiversity Net Gain through the increased provision of native vegetation and in turn improved habitats for local wildlife.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	M/L	- The creation of new lakes, ponds and marshes may help to ensure the sustainable management of water resources in North Lincolnshire and is likely to improve the quantity of water in North Lincolnshire's watercourses. - The increase in surface waterbodies in the South Humber Landscape Initiative Area is likely to increase the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in North Lincolnshire in order to manage flooding.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	M/L	- The increase in surface waterbodies in the South Humber Landscape Initiative Area is likely to increase the use of SuDS in North Lincolnshire in order to manage flooding. - The increased maintenance of new and existing surface waterbodies is likely to maintain the viability of these waterbodies to contribute to storing floodwaters, reducing the risk of flooding to local communities.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	M/L	- The increase in tree and shrub planting in the South Humber Indicative Landscape Area is likely to reduce soil erosion in the area and enhance soil quality. - The increase in landscape quality in the South Humber Indicative Landscape Area, resulting from increased landscape management and wildlife areas, could further encourage prospective developers to develop brownfield sites in the area, instead of developing greenfield sites.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	Increased planting of trees and shrubs, and the improvements in habitat associated with increased wetland areas, may result in improvements in air quality in the South Humber Bank Landscape Initiative Area.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	- Increased vegetation and tree cover in North Lincolnshire will provide new habitats for a range of species and will help mitigate the effects of climate change. - Improved soils and increased vegetation cover will act as a carbon sink and thereby support actions to reduce carbon emissions.

Policy EC4: South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to minimise impacts on industrial archaeological heritage, whilst providing opportunities to safeguard heritage features and improve their setting.
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Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	- The policy could result in an increase in greenspace in industrialised areas in North Lincolnshire, providing new recreation and amenity opportunities for local communities in areas including Brigg and North Killingholme. - Improving the living environment for nearby communities can contribute to reduced levels of social deprivation. - The policy confirms that the operational needs on the local farm management industry will be safeguarded.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	M/L	An increase in accessible greenspace in industrialised areas of North Lincolnshire could result in employees and residents utilising outdoor space more frequently. Improved access to greenspace can support more healthy lifestyles and improve community wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- This policy can contribute to a sustainable economy by improving the landscape and setting of existing industrial areas, increasing their value as a place to live and work, whilst also safeguarding the current and future operational requirements of businesses, including farm businesses, in these areas. - The policy may also create new economic activities and employment opportunities associated with the creation and management of the new network of greenspace.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	M/L	The policy could increase community access to greenspace in industrialised areas in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy EC4: South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative

This policy has a strong potential to contribute positively to the SA environmental objectives, by increasing greenspace and the provision of new habitats in North Lincolnshire. This may contribute to improved soil, air and water quality and contribute to the mitigation of the effects of climate change.

An increase in greenspace in previously industrial areas has the potential to result in an improvement in local community health and wellbeing, by increasing provision of accessible greenspace.

By creating attractive and valued places to live and work, whilst safeguarding the operational requirements of businesses, the policy can contribute to promoting a sustainable economy, whilst the creation of a new network of greenspace can create new job opportunities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the addition of a focus on native species within the policy may result in supporting Biodiversity Net Gain through the increased provision of native, species-rich vegetation and in turn improved habitats for local wildlife.

Policy EC5: Wharves

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	The policy ensures that development of new port, wharf and jetty facilities are not approved if they adversely impact upon the landscape of river corridors and coastal margins, meaning these areas are more likely to be protected from new development.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy ensures that development of new port, wharf and jetty facilities are not approved if they adversely impact upon the sites of nature conservation interest. - The policy also ensures that new port development will not be permitted if it adversely impacts upon high quality agricultural land. This is anticipated to conserve the provision of open space, particularly around the River Trent. - The policy states the need to protect designated sites, protected and priority species, and to account for measurable biodiversity net gain; however, given the limited number of developments likely to be supported, the biodiversity net gain is not likely to be significant.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the quality or quantity of water in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	Proposals for new port development will only be permitted provided there will be no adverse impact upon the flood defence system around the rivers Humber and Trent in North Lincolnshire. The policy therefore ensures that no development will be put at risk from new port development.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	Proposals for new port development will only be permitted if it can be proved that there will be no adverse impact upon high quality agricultural land. The policy therefore is likely to have a positive impact on the preservation of ALC Grade 1 and 2 Land, especially around the River Trent.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with heritage and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?		This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
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Policy EC5: Wharves				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment areas and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The policy has the potential to contribute to several of the SA environmental objectives by safeguarding the landscape character of associated river corridors and providing protection for sites of nature conservation value. The policy also directly supports reduced flood risk by safeguarding the existing flood defence infrastructure in affected areas. As the policy is principally concerned with preventing adverse impacts to the environment arising due to port development, it is unlikely that it will have a significant impact, direct or indirect, positive or negative on the majority of the SA social and economic objectives. However, if the policy results in an increase in port development in the district, it is possible that it could contribute to the promotion of a sustainable economy and a reduction in deprivation, by encouraging growth in the maritime economy and associated employment.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy support biodiversity net gain; however, the changes unlikely to contribute significantly and as such the overall impact of the policy has not change.				

Policy EC6: Supporting the rural economy

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	M/L	- The policy aims to promote the diversification and growth of the rural economy, provided that it effectively safeguards local landscape character. - The policy could result in the local economy marketing local character, and the tranquillity of rural areas as a unique selling point of North Lincolnshire. Developing local character into an economic asset may contribute to its protection and enhancement.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓?	M/L	- The policy aims to diversify the local economy, whilst safeguarding and enhancing biodiversity through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity. Cumulatively, the impacts may become significant in the long term. - This could lead to local reduction in agricultural intensity, providing opportunities to increase biodiversity on farmland and increase habitat connectivity in the area. - The policy could lead to a greater focus on local wildlife as an economic resource for the local tourist and visitor economy. This could increase community engagement with biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	M/L	The policy will only support growth and diversification of the rural economy providing there is no unacceptable impact upon water quality. As a result, the policy provides increased protection for local water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	M/L	The policy states that the growth and diversification of the rural economy will not be supported where it creates an unacceptable impact on flooding or increase the risk of flooding.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	M/L	- The diversification of the rural economy could result in localised reduction in agricultural intensity and a switch to alternative uses for agricultural land. This could support localised improvement in soil quality. - The policy explicitly promotes the redevelopment of brownfield land as a priority where it is possible.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with heritage and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
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Policy EC6: Supporting the rural economy

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment areas and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two options for the rural economy were considered at the Issues & Options stage. Both options sought to support North Lincolnshire's rural economy by enabling the development of new rural employment sites. Option A would have included a policy to facilitate small-scale development (building conversions where agricultural buildings are no longer needed and limited new development) to promote rural enterprise. Option B would specifically allocate sites for small-scale employment proposals. Both options were assessed as similar in their likely sustainability outcomes. Both would have minor adverse effects in relation to most of the SA environmental objectives as a result of the construction and operation of new development. Both options would make a significant positive contribution to the local economy by helping to support and grow rural enterprise, and potentially diversify the rural economy, whilst also creating new employment opportunities. The proposed policy includes a range of provisions that seek to ensure effective protection for the environment. As such the proposed policy is likely to have more positive outcomes in relation to the SA environmental objectives than the options considered at Issues & Options stage.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is anticipated to have a largely positive impact upon the SA environmental objectives, predominantly by enabling diversification of the rural economy and potentially reducing agricultural intensity at a local level. The policy specifically incorporates a range of environmental protections that ensure that new development can only proceed if it effectively safeguards local environmental assets. The policy is expected to increase the resilience of the rural economy, providing new economic opportunities and driving new job creation, which will benefit the local economy and support actions to reduce community deprivation in rural areas.

Policy EC6: Supporting the rural economy

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Updates to the policy may result in cumulative long term increases in biodiversity net gain.

Policy EC7: A Sustainable Visitor Economy				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	M/L	- The policy states that new development aimed at tourism should be appropriate for the character of the local environment and new development will be approved providing it doesn't have an unacceptable impact upon natural, built and heritage assets. - The policy therefore seeks to safeguard local landscape character and ensure development is appropriate to a site's location.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	M/L	- The policy could result in greater numbers of people visiting both urban and rural areas of North Lincolnshire, including areas considered valuable for biodiversity and habitats, including the Humber Estuary. An increase in visitors could lead to increased damage and disturbance to areas of nature conservation value. - Conversely, it is possible that an increase in tourist and visitor numbers could result in a greater drive to conserve and enhance important habitat as an economic asset, in order to support and grow associated visitor activities. - The policy requires new developments to enhance the natural environment through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?		A significant increase in visitor numbers could place additional stress on water resources in North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0	M/L	This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	M/L	The policy could result in a negative impact on air quality in the area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	M/L	The policy could have an adverse effect upon climate change and greenhouse gas emissions in the area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is anticipated that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in the area.

Policy EC7: A Sustainable Visitor Economy				
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	M/L	The policy has the potential to provide increased protection for heritage assets as a fundamental component of the visitor economy.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	X?		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision. However, increased visitor demand for accommodation could act as an economic stimulus but could also have an adverse impact on housing provision.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	X?		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities. However, increased visitor demand for services and facilities could have an adverse impact on the provision of such services/facilities for local communities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with sustainable management of mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy EC7: A Sustainable Visitor Economy

Two options were considered at the Issues & Options stage. Option A would support a growth in the visitor economy by focusing on expanding existing tourism sectors and existing tourist facilities. Option B would seek to diversify the tourism sector and encourage new tourist attractions and facilities. Both options were assessed as likely to have the same sustainability outcomes. Potential adverse effects were identified in relation to water resources, air quality and climate change, whilst an increase in visitor numbers could also place additional stress on housing provision and access to local services and facilities. Conversely, the assessment found that both options could have positive impacts on the local economy as the tourism sector grows, stimulating economic activity in a range of other support sectors (i.e., food, accommodation, retail, etc) and creating additional employment opportunities. This economic stimulus could help reduce social deprivation levels if new employment opportunities extended to the more deprived communities in North Lincolnshire. The proposed policy is assessed as likely to have similar sustainability outcomes to the two options considered at Issues & Options stage.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is anticipated to have a range of effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives. It is expected to protect local landscape character, with potential to enhance it where it is considered to be an important asset for the development of tourism. However increased visitors to areas of high wildlife value, particularly if they are marketed more as tourist destinations, could put valuable habitat under pressure. Conversely, this could also lead to greater protection of such areas in order to safeguard their value as a visitor destination. As more visitors begin to travel to the area, there is likely to be an increase in road traffic, which could cause issues in relation to air pollution and climate change. The policy wording does provide some additional safeguards for the environment, local communities and existing tourist attractions, but could be further strengthened by ensuring the tourism-related activities are effectively monitored particularly in relation to unsustainable transport levels, water use and housing provision. The policy is expected to increase economic activity and provide new economic opportunities, driving new job creation, which will benefit the local economy and support actions to reduce community deprivation in rural areas.

Assessment Conclusions

The addition of enhancement of the natural environment through the provision of biodiversity net gain, while beneficial, may not outweigh negative impacts to areas of nature conservation value as a result of increased use and associated impacts such as disturbance, trampling, litter and vandalism. As such, it cannot be concluded that it will have a positive impact. Therefore, the impact of the assessment conclusion has not changed.

Prosperous Town Centres

Policy TC1: Retail Hierarchy and Town Centre and District Centre Development				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	M/L	The policy includes provisions to ensure the continued functioning of town and district centres as retail areas and provides constraints on non-retail uses. This will support the protection of existing urban landscape character, whilst the policy seeks to ensure non-retail use safeguards existing urban landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with biodiversity and habitats. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly. - The addition of the requirement for hot foot takeaway (Sui Generis) developments to demonstrate that measures to prevent the discharge of Fats, Oil and Grease into the sewerage may indirectly result in improved water quality as there will be reduced negative impacts on the water treatment network and/or fewer direct releases into the water environment.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk. Therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to maintain and promote town and district centres as the principal retail areas in the area, whilst also providing a framework for the diversification of central retail premises to non-retail uses. The policy seeks to stimulate economic activity in these areas, which will encourage residents and visitors to make use of the facilities provided. This could result in a negative impact upon air quality in the area, and particularly in Scunthorpe, by increasing the numbers of visitor journeys undertaken. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to stimulate economic activity in town and district centres, which will encourage residents and visitors to make use of the facilities provided. The policy could have an adverse effect upon climate change and greenhouse gas emissions in the area by increasing the numbers of visitor journeys undertaken. It is anticipated that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in the area.

Policy TC1: Retail Hierarchy and Town Centre and District Centre Development				
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	- Many of the high streets in North Lincolnshire contain listed buildings and are located within Conservation Areas. - The policy includes provisions that seek to support the protection of existing urban landscape character, whilst the policy seeks to ensure non-retail use safeguards existing urban landscape character.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	M/L	The policy explicitly states that residential development will be permitted on high streets in North Lincolnshire provided it meets certain requirements. This could result in more adequate housing supplies in the affected areas and the provision of flexible homes that adequately meet the needs of the community.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to improve the amount of completed retail, office and leisure development which will likely result in increased employment rates in the area. - The policy will directly contribute to an adequate supply for a range of sites to be used for employment. - Additionally, the policy seeks to maintain the viability of Town Centres in a changing economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	A movement to allow a greater range of uses on the high streets in North Lincolnshire is likely to result in a greater range of accessible, high quality, community facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				

Policy TC1: Retail Hierarchy and Town Centre and District Centre Development

No direct alternatives were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. However, two options specific to Scunthorpe Town Centre were set out at that stage. Option A would retain the town centre in its present form and promote it as a retail centre, whilst Option B would expand the centre boundary and diversify its uses. Both options were assessed as likely to have neutral impacts in relation to the majority of the SA environmental objectives. The exception was in relation to Option B, which was considered as having a positive effect in relation to Scunthorpe's townscape, with redevelopment and regeneration initiatives potentially improving landscape character and quality. Positive effects were also identified for Option B in relation to housing provision, sustainable economy and access to services and facilities. The proposed policy is assessed as having similar sustainability outcomes to Option B. However, adverse effects have been identified in relation to air quality and climate change due to the potential for increased car usage.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is anticipated to have an overall positive effect on several of the SA objectives. It supports the protection of urban landscapes and townscapes and will likely result in a greater range of accessible, high quality community facilities, contribute towards increased employment opportunities and maintain the viability of Town Centres in a changing economy. Additionally, there may be positive impacts on health and wellbeing and improved housing supply. Potential adverse effects as a result of possible increased car usage could be mitigated if the policy is strengthened if specific reference is made to ensure retail and non-retail development will be promoted providing it does not cause a significant increase in private car usage.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy may result in a minor positive impact on the water environment as a result of the prevention the discharge of Fats, Oil and Grease into the sewerage network which may indirectly improve water quality as there will be reduced negative impacts on the water treatment network and/or fewer direct releases into the water environment.

Policy TC2: Placemaking & Good Urban Design

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- The policy supports the protection and enhancement of existing landscape and local character through quality design. - The policy includes provisions to ensure that new developments do not cause damage to the character or quality of an area while still allowing for developments to be contemporary and adapt to changing needs over time. - The policy outlines a series of detailed design points that need to be considered which will help protect local landscapes, including the need to enhance and complement the existing landscape, ensuring appropriate materials are used etc.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	M/L	This policy may indirectly protect and enhance biodiversity as it supports developments that improve the quality of the wider environment, which may result in localised improved habitat for wildlife.

Policy TC2: Placemaking & Good Urban Design				
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	M/L	This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity; however, the policy encourages the enhancement of character through planting and boundary treatment and consideration of landscape, open space and park appearance, which may result in increased permeable surfaces and as a result a minor local improvements to natural water treatment.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	M/L	This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk; however, the policy encourages the enhancement of character through planting and boundary treatment and consideration of landscape, open space and park appearance, which may result in increased permeable surfaces and as a result a minor local improvements to flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	M/L	- The policy supports increased development where they improve poor existing urban and natural environments. However, the policy does not specifically require developments to improve air quality. Stimulated economic activity and development could result in a negative impact on air quality by increasing the number of journeys undertaken, particularly in higher density areas. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire. - The policy promotes the ease of public pedestrian and cyclist movement which may reduce local reliance on the personal car. However, this will not likely minimise car dependency for movement from rural areas into town and district centres.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	M/L	- The policy supports increased development where they improve poor existing urban and natural environments. Stimulated economic activity and development could result in an increase in the number of car journeys undertaken. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire. - The policy promotes the ease of public pedestrian and cyclist movement which may reduce local reliance on the personal car which may reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, this will not likely minimise car dependency for movement from rural areas into town and district centres.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	M/L	The policy includes provisions that seek to enhance, respect and complement the historic arrangement of street blocks, plots and buildings. Additionally, it seeks to better reveal the significance of the historic environment.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by creating new employment opportunities. - The policy requires designs to reduce crime and the fear of crime and promote public safety throughout the day and night.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	M/L	This policy may indirectly promote healthy and active lifestyles as a result of promoting ease of public pedestrian and cyclist movement.

Policy TC2: Placemaking & Good Urban Design				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy may indirectly result in an increase in accessible housing as it requires developments to meet the highest standards of accessibility and inclusion.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the retention and creation of existing jobs by supporting good quality development. - Additionally, the policy may indirectly maintain or increase the viability of Town Centres in a changing economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks for developments to enhance and complement the character and appearance of landscape, parks, landforms, open space, planting and boundary treatment, which may indirectly result in improving or increasing publicly accessible open spaces.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
A similar but not direct alternative was considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. The option of Promoting High Quality Design was considered to have a positive effect across many of the sustainability objectives. The proposed policy is assessed as having similar sustainability outcomes to the option of Promoting High Quality Design. However, minor negative effects have been identified in relation to air quality and climate change due to the potential for increased car usage.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy was added in the Publication Stage and as such was not assessed in the earlier stages.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The policy is anticipated to have an overall positive effect on several of the SA objectives. It supports the protection of urban landscapes and townscapes and will likely result in a greater range of accessible, high quality community facilities, contribute towards increased employment opportunities and maintain the viability of Town Centres in a changing economy. Additionally, there may be positive impacts on health and wellbeing and improved housing supply. Potential adverse effects as a result of possible increased car usage could be mitigated if the policy is strengthened if specific reference is made to ensure retail and non-retail development will be promoted providing it does not cause a significant increase in private car usage.				

Supporting Sustainable Development in North Lincolnshire's Countryside

Policy RD1: Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	Recommended Mitigation
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	M/L	- The policy states that all development in areas classified as the 'countryside' will only be supported by the Local Authority providing it respects the intrinsic character of the surroundings. - Certain development in the countryside would only be supported provided they enhance the immediate setting of the area.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	M/L	- The policy will enable new economic development, including the expansion of industrial estate and business parks, outside development limits. Proposals are only permitted where it safeguards and enhances the natural environment and provides measurable net gains to biodiversity. - The policy may encourage development on greenfield land. - By placing stringent requirements on development, in particular net gains to biodiversity, in rural areas, the policy may increase protection for important habitats in the area. - The policy encourages the development of recreational facilities in rural areas and may therefore indirectly contribute to a greater involvement in conservation from the wider community, but potentially increase recreational disturbance to sensitive sites, such as the Humber Estuary.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	M/L	- The policy seeks to protect ALC Grade 1, 2 and 3a land (best and most versatile) by ensuring there is a preference for development on lower agricultural quality land. - The policy specifically requires that development must demonstrate effective protection of soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy RD1: Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside				
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	M/L	The policy enables the development of heritage assets for use as housing provided it “would represent the optimal viable use of a heritage asset”. This could help to conserve heritage assets through sympathetic housing development and by promoting heritage-based sustainable tourism.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	M/L	The policy supports the delivery of new affordable housing outside existing settlement limits.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	M/L	The Policy promotes the development of new community facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire’s mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant effects have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				

Policy RD1: Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Three options were considered for defining development limits at Issues & Options stage. Option A sought to continue to apply existing development limits, thereby restricting new development to within these areas. Proposals for new development would be more strictly controlled under this option and would normally be limited to uses suitable to existing locations. Option B sought to employ a criteria-based policy approach (criteria to be defined), whereby developments were assessed against a series of criteria to determine their appropriateness. Option B removed some of the certainty that the development limits (Option A) provides to communities and others as it would enable new development to be consented that is located outside existing settlements. Option C simply sought consultee feedback to further define an alternative approach.

Option A was assessed as having more positive sustainability outcomes, including potential benefits in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives as it would largely constrain new development to existing settlement limits. However, this constraint was considered to represent a potential economic barrier. Option B was assessed as having a minor adverse effect for most of the environmental objectives because it would support development outside settlement limits and potentially in areas of high environmental sensitivity. This approach was considered more likely to have positive economic outcomes.

The proposed policy is assessed as having similar sustainability outcomes to Option B. However, potential adverse effects on the SA environmental objectives are mitigated to an extent through the policy provisions, which seek to ensure new development “respect the intrinsic character of their surroundings” and also includes specific provision protecting high-quality agricultural land and soil resources. Positive effects are again noted in relation to the SA economic objectives, whilst positive effects are also predicted in relation to social deprivation and access to facilities and services.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is anticipated to have a neutral or positive effect in relation to the SA environmental objectives. A potential exception to this is for biodiversity, due to the potential for new medium/large-scale employment development (extensions of existing industrial estate and business park development) and development on greenfield land. The policy could be strengthened through specific provisions that ensure new development is permitted only where it safeguards (and ideally enhances) existing biodiversity.

The policy is expected to increase economic activity and provide new economic opportunities, driving new job creation, which will benefit the local economy and support actions to reduce community deprivation in rural areas.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the policy is strengthened by providing additional safeguards and enhancement requirements for the natural environment, in particular requiring measurable net gains to biodiversity and links to coherent ecological networks.

Delivering a Quality Environment

Policy DQE1: Protection of Landscape, Townscape and Views

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental			
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire’s urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓	S/M/L - The policy states that development proposals that cause harm to landscape character, features or views will not be permitted. - The policy also states that proposals should give regard to features within the landscape and townscape which positively contribute to the character of the area and avoid detrimental effects on these features. Where possible, coherent ecological networks should be established. - The policy refers to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB and states priority will be given to protecting this important landscape.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L - The policy promotes protection or enhancement of biodiversity through requiring reference to the requirements DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, and it includes provisions for the protection of important natural features such as trees, woodland, hedgerows, rivers, streams and the coast which will have positive biodiversity impacts. - The policy states that development proposals should aim to conserve, enhance or restore important natural and historic landscape features, and provide measurable net gains to biodiversity. The policy includes provisions to extend tree cover, replace trees that are lost and new planting to support green infrastructure.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire’s surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L Protection of landscape features such as trees and woodland have the potential to positively impact water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0	This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly
5	Protect North Lincolnshire’s important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L Policy has the potential to protect soil resources through the restriction of developments that will negatively impact the landscape character area, which could result in encouraging development on brownfield sites.
6	Improve local air quality.	0	This policy is not likely to have an impact on local air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L Protection of trees, woodland and hedgerows can contribute towards reducing the impact of climate change. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, planting trees can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L The policy states that developments should give regard to historic buildings and monuments which positively contribute to the character of the area.
Social			
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L Protection of landscape character features such as woodland and historic buildings can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion.

Policy DQE1: Protection of Landscape, Townscape and Views

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	Protection of landscape character and the proposed extension to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB could encourage healthy activities such as walking.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy is not likely to directly support economic growth or diversification, or the provision of new skills and job opportunities. - However, enhancement of local landscaper character through protection of certain key features can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy could increase community access to high-quality greenspace in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Four options for landscape were considered by North Lincolnshire Council during the Issues & Options stage. Each of the options was focussed on protecting landscape quality in North Lincolnshire. Option A promoted continuation of the existing policy-based approach to designate landscapes and assess development proposals in line with this. Option B advocated the use of a new criteria-based policy approach; it was assumed this would set out a series of benchmarks relating to landscape quality that new development proposals would be tested against. Both Option C and D relied on guidance-based approach rather than specific Local Plan policies to promote landscape protection. Option C would use the North Lincolnshire Character Assessment, which identifies areas of unique character, to guide whether development is acceptable. Option D would use a range of national and local guidance to achieve this aim. All four options were assessed as having similar sustainability outcomes, with Option A considered likely to have more positive effects due to the greater certainty in the policy approach proposed.

The proposed policy has been assessed as having very similar sustainability outcomes to the four options considered previously and has the potential to improve upon the outcomes predicted for Option A. The policy wording provides more certainty regarding the scope of the policy and its application, which is reflected in a slightly wider range of positive effects. The policy is in keeping with the requirements of the NPPF that developments be sympathetic to the landscape setting of an area and putting forward measures to ensure the protection of valued landscapes.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy DQE1: Protection of Landscape, Townscape and Views

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives, although its focus and likely outcomes most directly and significantly benefit the environmental objectives. The policy focuses on landscape and views; however, there are also benefits in relation to biodiversity and heritage.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

This policy continues to have the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives, although its focus and likely outcomes most directly and significantly benefit the environmental objectives. Updates to the policy may result in cumulative long-term increases in biodiversity net gain. The additional focus on conservation and enhancement of natural landscape features, alongside establishing coherent ecological networks, may result in improvements of habitat and habitat connectivity for local wildlife.

Policy DQE2: Landscape Enhancement

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓	S/M/L	The policy proposes a number of landscape enhancement schemes and states that development will only be permitted where opportunities for landscape enhancement or created are provided.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy does not explicitly promote protection or enhancement of biodiversity, but landscape enhancement, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner has the potential to provide benefits for a range of wildlife. - The policy does propose support of a variety of enhancement schemes including, but not exclusive to, trees and hedges which can have positive biodiversity impacts.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?		The policy does not explicitly promote protection or enhancement of the water environment; however, landscape enhancement, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, has the potential to provide benefits for water quality and water resources.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?		Whilst this policy does not explicitly seek to reduce flood risk, landscape enhancement, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, has the potential to benefit water management and surface runoff, which may lead to reduced flood risk in downstream areas.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓		The policy does not explicitly promote protection of soil resources; however, landscape enhancement, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, has the potential to reduce soil erosion and benefit soil quality.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓		Landscape enhancement schemes, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, may result in localised improvements in air quality by increasing vegetation cover that helps to filter and absorb airborne pollutants.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓		- Increased vegetation and tree cover in North Lincolnshire will provide new habitats for a range of species and will help mitigate the effects of climate change. - Improved soils and increased vegetation cover will act as a carbon sink and thereby support actions to reduce carbon emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓		The policy proposes a number of landscape enhancement schemes and states that development will only be permitted where opportunities for landscape enhancement or created are provided. Such schemes are likely to benefit heritage assets in these areas.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?		Landscape enhancement schemes, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓		Landscape enhancement schemes, particularly if delivered on a large-scale and in an integrated manner, could encourage healthy activities such as walking and biking, and increase community wellbeing.

Policy DQE2: Landscape Enhancement

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?		Enhancement of local landscaper character through protection of certain key features can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy could increase community access to high-quality greenspace in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential to provide a wide range of environmental and social benefits. Economic benefits may also be realised also, through associated job creation and through enhancing the desirability of the affected areas as high-quality places to live and work.
The policy could be further strengthened by including additional clarity on the types of enhancement schemes that will be supported and by seeking to ensure that such schemes deliver multiple benefits for the environment and local communities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while strengthening the benefits from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the protection and enhancement of local landscape character, it has the potential to support the delivery of both local-scale and landscape-scale habitat protection, creation, restoration and enhancement, which could make an important contribution to protecting and enhancing both rural and urban landscapes. - The policy requires developments to protect important wildlife and deliver a net gain in biodiversity and/or geodiversity, which will support the delivery of high-quality design that has the potential to enhance local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy provides a comprehensive framework for the protection of biodiversity and geodiversity in North Lincolnshire. - It promotes the protection of both designated sites and other important habitats and non-designated sites. This includes requirements for the provision of appropriate impact mitigation for both protected and important habitats and species and a requirement for this mitigation to be in place before the impact occurs. - It provides important mechanisms to protect against the harm to natural capital, biodiversity/geodiversity and ecosystem services and the protection against the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, such as ancient woodlands. - The policy requires development proposals to deliver a minimum 10% net gain in biodiversity, which will support local and national targets for biodiversity protection and enhancement. - The policy promotes a strategic approach to habitat protection and enhancement so as to support the development of a coherent network of wildlife sites and corridors. The policy includes the provision of long-term management and management of habitats created. This approach supports species resilience and adaptation to the effects of climate change. - It provides an important mechanism for the creation of new nature reserves and wildlife sites.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	The policy promotes the protection and enhancement of all-important habitats and habitat networks including designated and priority aquatic habitats (rivers, lakes, ponds, etc), which has the potential to deliver improvements in both surface water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the reduction of flood risk, it does support the delivery of both local-scale and landscape-scale habitat protection, creation, restoration and enhancement. This could contribute to flood risk reduction and improved surface water management through greater rainfall interception and transpiration, soil infiltration and slowing flow, and by promoting the creation of sustainable drainage systems.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	M/L	Habitat protection and enhancement has the potential to contribute to improved soil protection and management.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	Habitat protection and enhancement has the potential to contribute to improved air quality.

Policy DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- The policy has the potential to contribute to increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, benefiting both humans and other species. - Existing habitats and new and enhanced habitats play an important role in carbon capture and storage, thereby contributing to carbon dioxide emissions reduction. - The policy supports the delivery of both local-scale and landscape-scale habitat protection, creation, restoration and enhancement, which has the potential to make an important contribution towards enabling a range of species to adapt to the effects of climate change.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the protection of heritage assets and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly unless there are specific circumstances linked directly to specific development proposals; at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?		The policy has the potential to reduce social deprivation by promoting and increasing community health and wellbeing through nature-based activities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The protection and enhancement of designated sites and other important habitats and non-designated sites has the potential to provide new and improved access to green space and opportunities for recreation, promoting healthy lifestyles and community wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Protection and enhancement of important habitats and geodiversity sites has the potential to provide minor positive impacts on the local economy through new job creation associated with the management and creation of habitats, whilst these areas represent a key component underpinning the leisure and tourism industries in North Lincolnshire. - Conversely, it is also possible that this policy could create additional costs and constraints for development, which could discourage developers from investment in schemes in North Lincolnshire.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy could increase community access to high-quality greenspace in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy promotes the protection and enhancement of important habitats and geodiversity sites. There is the potential for this to conflict with the economic exploitation of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources. However, exploitation of mineral resources that also represent important habitats or areas of notable geodiversity may not be sustainable. Therefore, the continued and additional protection of these sites afforded by this policy would be unlikely to conflict with the sustainable management of the area's mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

Policy DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two options were considered at the Issues & Options stage. Of the two options proposed for the protection of biodiversity and geodiversity, Option A (creation of buffer zones around development proposed adjacent to a designated site) had the potential to have a number of beneficial effects not provided by Option B (encourage enhancement of designated sites). Option A would not only further distance development from such a sensitive site, but the creation of a buffer zone (potential new habitat, public open space or green infrastructure) would provide a range of additional benefits for landscape character, land and soil quality, water quality, air quality, climate change, public health, and local facilities.

No alternative options were considered through the consultation. There was overall support for including a Local Plan policy that positively plans for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of sites of biodiversity and geodiversity. It is felt that the policy creates an appropriate approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity features proportionate to their scale.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives, although its focus and likely outcomes most directly and significantly benefit the environmental objectives. Reinforcing the protection of not only designated sites, but also other local habitats, and then extending this policy provision to direct development towards delivering effective and functioning mitigation, and, crucially, providing a net biodiversity and/or geodiversity gain, has the potential to provide tangible environmental and social benefits, whilst supporting some job creation and economic growth. Some of the benefits identified are likely to be indirect and the extent to which they deliver against the associated SA objectives and provide environmental improvements, will depend upon the scale and location in which the policy is applied. Whilst the SA has identified a potential negative effect in relation to new development, this should be seen in the context of the overarching objective to promote a sustainable economy, which should also seek to ensure sustainable management of natural resources.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, whilst strengthening the benefits for environmental objectives, in particular by ensuring schemes shall deliver a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy DQE4: Local Nature Reserves

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the protection and enhancement of local landscape character, the protection and enhancement of Local Nature Reserves can enhance the landscape character of North Lincolnshire through the protection of important habitats.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Protection of Local Nature Reserves (LNR) will directly contribute towards the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, habitats and species in North Lincolnshire. - The policy encourages the selection of new LNR in North Lincolnshire. - There are provisions within the policy to ensure developments that would damage an LNR will not be permitted unless it can be shown that the benefits gained from the development outweigh the intrinsic nature conservation value of the site. - The policy includes a provision to ensure where development is permitted that may cause damage, such damage is kept to a minimum.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	The policy promotes the protection and enhancement of Local Nature Reserves, which may contain designated and priority aquatic habitats (rivers, lakes, ponds, etc), and has the potential to deliver improvements in both surface water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the reduction of flood risk, the protection and enhancement of Local Nature Reserves will promote habitat enhancement and growth. This could contribute to reduced flood risk and improved surface water management through greater rainfall interception and transpiration, soil infiltration and slowing flow.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	M/L	Habitat protection and enhancement has the potential to contribute to improved soil protection and management.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	Habitat protection and enhancement has the potential to contribute to improved air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- The policy has the potential to contribute to increasing resilience to the effects of climate change, benefiting both humans and other species. - Existing habitats and new and enhanced habitats play an important role in carbon capture and storage, thereby contributing to carbon dioxide emissions reduction.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the protection of heritage assets and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly unless there are specific circumstances linked directly to specific development proposals; at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.

Social

Policy DQE4: Local Nature Reserves

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to reduce social deprivation by promoting and increasing community health and wellbeing through nature-based activities. - Local Nature Reserves can also provide bases for numerous community activities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The protection and enhancement of designated sites and other important habitats and non-designated sites has the potential to provide new and improved access to green space and opportunities for recreation, promoting healthy lifestyles and community wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Protection and enhancement of Local Nature Reserve sites has the potential to provide minor positive impacts on the local economy through new job creation associated with the management and creation of habitats, whilst these areas represent a key component underpinning the leisure and tourism industries in North Lincolnshire. - Conversely, it is also possible that this policy could create additional costs and constraints for development, which could discourage developers from investment in schemes in North Lincolnshire. However, any such potential adverse effects are likely to be outweighed by the potential benefits to the local economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy could increase community access to high-quality greenspace in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options were considered through the consultation process, but support was given for a policy that prioritised protection of Local Nature Reserves. The proposed policy accords with the requirements of the NPPF to ensure development contributes to the protection and improvement of biodiversity (including priority habitats and species). The NPPF states that 'If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts, adequately mitigated, or, at a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused'. The policy includes a provision that where development may cause harm to a Local Nature Reserve, the harm should be kept to a minimum and conditions should be used to ensure the protection and enhancement of the nature conservation value of the site or provide compensation where appropriate. This is in keeping with the requirements of the NPPF.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy DQE4: Local Nature Reserves

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to most of the SA environmental objectives as well as achieve positive social and economic outcomes. The policy proposes protection to 17 Local Nature Reserves within North Lincolnshire, and states that development that would have an adverse impact on a Local Nature Reserve will not be permitted. The policy may also have social benefits by improving the health and wellbeing of local communities by safeguarding or increasing access to high-quality greenspace. Whilst the SA has identified a potential negative effect in relation to new development, this should be seen in the context of the requirements of the NPPF and overarching objective to promote a sustainable economy, which requires sustainable management of natural resources.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy DQE5: Managing Flood Risk

SA Objective

Impact

Duration

Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy does not deal with landscape considerations; however, the restriction of development in flood risk areas can improve the landscape and views along rivers and other waterbodies, potentially contributing towards maintaining local character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy does not deal directly with biodiversity; however, restriction of development in flood zones can provide protection to riparian and aquatic habitats. - The policy also states that development that does take place within flood risk areas should be done on previously used land, providing further protection to greenfield areas. - The policy looks to minimise the risk and impacts of flooding by ensuring wider environmental benefits of development in relation to flood risk.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- Restricting development in areas at risk of flooding has the potential to indirectly benefit water quality in North Lincolnshire by providing limits to on discharge rates into surface water and reducing the risk of sewers reaching their limits and overflowing into surface water. - The policy provides a hierarchical approach to managing surface water discharges, encouraging in the first instance the re-use measures for the conservation of water. - The policy encourages the full separation of foul and surface water flows.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Developments will not be permitted in flood risk areas unless it can be demonstrated that the benefits outweigh the risk, there are no other sites available at a lower risk of flooding, the development takes place on previously used land and a flood risk assessment shows that the development will be safe and will not increase flood risk elsewhere. - There are a number of conditions set forward which must be met before development will be permitted. The policy sets out that development in the Lincolnshire Lakes area will be required to comply with a flood Exception Test and be guided by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Environment Agency's standing advice.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	The policy seeks to reduce the impacts of climate change by ensuring that new development is not typically permitted in areas that are at risk of flooding.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy DQE5: Managing Flood Risk

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	X?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to constrain the delivery of new housing development.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓/X	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to benefit the local economy by ensuring new development and infrastructure is safe and secure from damage by flooding. - The policy may adversely affect the local economy by placing constraints on growth and new development.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on provision of services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Four options to manage flood risk were considered by North Lincolnshire Council during the Issues & Options stage. These options provided differing approaches for managing new development in areas at risk of flooding. Option A proposed to prohibit all new development in the 'functional floodplain'. Option B proposed to permit certain development in areas of high flood risk if it is clear that the benefits of delivering this development outweighed the risks or negative impacts. Option C would continue the existing policy approach as set out in the current Local Plan, whereby some development may be permitted in areas of high flood risk where certain tests are met. Option D promoted a more flexible approach than proposed under Option C, whereby development in flood risk areas may be permitted if it could demonstrate that it is safe and does not increase flood risk elsewhere. The SA identified that options B to D would have similar sustainability outcomes. Minor adverse effects were predicted in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives because these options would enable some new development in flood risk areas, subject to them meeting slightly different criteria. Conversely, these options scored relatively positively against the social and economic objectives as they were more likely to facilitate new development. Option A scored positively for several of the environmental objectives; by restricting any development on the functional floodplain, it ensured greater protection for these areas and minimised the risk of adverse impacts associated with new development. However, the greater restrictions proposed under this option resulted in it scoring less positively against the social and economic objectives as the policy may provide a significant constraint to new development. The proposed policy scores very similarly to Option A.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy DQE5: Managing Flood Risk

This policy seeks to effectively manage flood risk by setting out a clear framework guiding development in areas of flood risk. The NPPF states that development in flood areas should be avoided, unless deemed necessary and if so should be made safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere. The NPPF also states that flood risk plans should apply a sequential risk-based approach, which should steer new development into areas with the least risk of flooding. The policy complies with these requirements set out in the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy DQE6: Sustainable Drainage Systems

SA Objective

Impact

Duration

Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy does not deal directly with issues of landscape; however, Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) can contribute towards the quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, through creation of green and blue spaces.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy states that development proposals will be required to demonstrate that opportunities have been taken to integrate SuDS within new development and enhance biodiversity. - Developments should also contribute to a network of green and blue spaces, which can also have benefits to biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy promotes water re-use measures (before infiltration) to encourage the conservation of water and the sustainable management of water resources. - The use of SuDS has the potential to improve the quality and quantity of surface water in North Lincolnshire by ensuring water is effectively managed and pollution control measures are in place. - The policy promotes the sustainable management of water resources by requiring proposals to demonstrate measures to be implemented for the long-term maintenance of SuDs prior to the development being permitted. - The policy requires development proposals to adequately investigate brownfield sites and the surface water drainage systems designed to avoid any mobilisation of existing contamination to protect where possible surface water and groundwater quality, which can also benefit the achievement of WFD objectives.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Surface water drainage systems can reduce the risk of flooding by ensuring that surface water is sustainably and efficiently managed. - The policy requires major development proposals (>10 dwellings or equivalent non-residential development) to incorporate appropriate SuDS systems, which can reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities adjacent to or affected by the proposal.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- The policy seeks to reduce the impacts of climate change by ensuring that new development is not at risk of flooding. - Green space can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. - In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy DQE6: Sustainable Drainage Systems

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Creation of amenity and green open space can promote healthy and active lifestyles and support community wellbeing by providing areas for social and recreational activities to take place, which in turn, can support actions to reduce social deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	Creation of amenity and green open space can promote healthy and active lifestyles and support community wellbeing by providing areas for social and recreational activities to take place.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to benefit the local economy by ensuring new development and infrastructure is safe and secure from damage by flooding.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy could increase community access to high-quality greenspace in North Lincolnshire.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

The NPPF states that major developments should incorporate sustainable drainage systems where appropriate, and that developments built in flood risk areas should incorporate sustainable drainage systems where appropriate. The policy complies with these requirements set out in the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy seeks to effectively manage flood risk by setting out a clear framework guiding the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems within new development. The policy is assessed as likely to have positive outcomes for many of the SA environmental objectives, whilst the delivery of high-quality amenity greenspace has the potential to deliver wider social and economic benefits. The policy could be further strengthened if it more clearly set out the wider benefits that large-scale sustainable drainage schemes can provide and further encourage development to deliver multiple benefits.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy DQE6: Sustainable Drainage Systems

The changes to the policy to include the prioritisation of water re-use, long-term maintenance of SuDs and the investigation of brownfield site condition, has strengthened the policy, resulting in likely positive impacts on the sustainable management of water resources and the protection of the water environment.

Policy DQE7: Climate Change & Low Carbon Living

SA Objective

Impact

Duration

Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy does not deal directly with landscape but requirements for developments to incorporate green infrastructure can have beneficial influences on landscape, views and sense of character. - The policy makes reference to refusing development proposals that have a detrimental impact on the landscape.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy includes a range of provisions that seek to reduce the impacts of new development on the natural environment, which will provide increased protection for biodiversity, requires reference to the requirements DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity. - The policy requires new development to protect and enhance "habitats that provide important carbon sinks, including peat habitats and woodland." - Incorporation of green infrastructure into development proposals can benefit biodiversity, habitats and species by preventing fragmentation and isolation of habitats. - Reducing the impact of development proposals by utilising renewable/low carbon energy sources can have beneficial long-term impacts on biodiversity and prevent certain habitats from degrading.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy states development proposals should incorporate design features and technologies to support water recycling and conservation of water resources. This will contribute towards the protection and improvement of the quality and quantity of water in North Lincolnshire's surface water. - Promotion of Sustainable Drainage Systems and green infrastructure has the potential to benefit both surface water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	M/L	- The policy makes reference to reducing the risk of flooding by requiring that development proposals should take into account the risk of flooding when choosing a location. - The policy encourages the use of SuDS, which can reduce the risk of flooding. - Reductions in the amount of carbon used by a development can have long term impacts on the reduction of flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	- The policy encourages reduced energy use and promotes energy from renewable and low-carbon sources; these provisions could benefit local and regional air quality. - Provision is made to encourage development to reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable modes of transport, which could reduce air quality issues associated with private car use.

Policy DQE7: Climate Change & Low Carbon Living

7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓✓	L	- The policy provides a comprehensive framework to ensure development proposals mitigate their impact on climate change and reduce carbon emissions. - The policy sets out requirements that development proposals should follow to ensure they reduce the negative impacts of climate change on neighbouring areas. The requirements refer to the negative effects of climate change such as flooding and habitat fragmentation and sets out specific countermeasures. - The policy encourages the use of renewable and low carbon energy in order to abide by the NPPFs aim of a low carbon future. - Policy sets out specific requirements that major developments must meet with regards to energy saving and where viable and feasible the use of on-site renewable and/or low-carbon energy. - Policy encourages the use of green infrastructure to combat the effects of urban heating.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	- Promotion of green infrastructure can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion. - The policy seeks to reduce the requirement to travel, thereby requiring new development to be located close to community facilities and services.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	M/L	The policy encourages increased walking and cycling.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	M/L	- The policy provides a clear framework guiding new housing development in North Lincolnshire. - Whilst the policy does not specifically consider access to affordable housing, high energy efficient dwellings will reduce associated energy costs.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to benefit North Lincolnshire's sustainable economy by ensuring infrastructure built is safe and secure from damage by flooding.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	The policy seeks to reduce the requirement to travel, thereby requiring new development to be located close to community facilities and services.

Policy DQE7: Climate Change & Low Carbon Living

14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0	This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.
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Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

The NPPF requires the planning system to support the transition to a low carbon future. This policy is therefore required to implement support for reducing carbon emissions and improving climate change resilience.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is likely to make a positive contribution to a wide range of environmental, social and economic SA objectives. The policy provides a comprehensive framework for new development to reduce their environmental impact and contribution to climate change, whilst incorporating climate change adaptation and resilience measures.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy DQE8: Renewable Energy Proposals

SA Objective

Impact

Duration

Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to increase renewable energy generation in North Lincolnshire across all types of renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure. It provides a range of protection measures to minimise the environmental and social impacts of renewable energy facilities and requires development proposals to clearly demonstrate the effects it will cause prior to planning approval. In addition, the policy seeks to encourage wind and solar energy development in specific areas where such development is considered to be more appropriate. - Notwithstanding this, installation of new renewable energy facilities is likely to have an overall negative effect on local landscape character, particularly if permitted in rural areas – pressures on rural landscapes due to renewable energy generation have previously been identified – and therefore, the policy is not likely to protect or enhance local landscape characteristics.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X?	S/M/L	Whilst this policy requires renewable energy development proposals to demonstrate their potential impacts on ecology, biodiversity and nature conservation features, requires reference to policy DQE3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, and also seeks to encourage wind and solar development into areas of existing industrial/urban land use, and therefore potentially away from more ecologically sensitive locations, provision of new renewable energy facilities has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity. Therefore, there is potential that this policy may not support the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		- The Local Plan acknowledges that renewable energy development can adversely affect hydrology and water quality and the policy requires development proposals to assess potential impacts on hydrology. - At a strategic scale, given the influence of other policy provisions, this policy is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly on protecting and improving water quality and quantity in North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flooding and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		- Whilst the Local Plan acknowledges that renewable energy development can adversely affect soil resources, at a strategic scale this policy is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly, on protecting soil quality in North Lincolnshire. - The policy states that development will be restricted to areas of poorer agricultural land quality, this policy is likely to prevent the loss of Grade 1 and Grade 2 ALC land.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	The policy positively and directly promotes the sustainable design of renewable and low carbon energy schemes that should contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is the principal means for minimising the future impacts of climate change.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with the protection of heritage assets and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly, unless there are specific circumstances linked directly to specific development proposals; at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.

Policy DQE8: Renewable Energy Proposals

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly, unless there are specific circumstances linked directly to specific development proposals; at this stage of the Local Plan process, it is not possible to reasonably predict any such effects.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with health and wellbeing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- Renewable energy generation currently forms an important component of the local economy in North Lincolnshire. - This policy supports the SA objective by encouraging new, sustainable, renewable energy development, which has the potential to provide new employment opportunities, whilst offering opportunities for further economic diversification. - The policy positively views the small-scale rural-based sustainable renewable energy developments, which would support the rural economy and economic diversification.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with provision of services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resource management or exploitation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy DQE8: Renewable Energy Proposals

Two options for renewable energy generation were identified at Issues & Options stage. Option A focused on designating areas in the Local Plan for renewable and low carbon energy development, whilst seeking to ensure effective protection of landscape character and residential amenity. Option B required new major development proposals to incorporate renewable and low carbon energy generation. Both options had largely neutral sustainability impacts, although it was identified that Option A could adversely affect biodiversity, whilst also having potential for a significant impact in relation to climate change. Both options had the potential to contribute positively to the local economy.

Following conclusion of the Issues & Options consultation, North Lincolnshire Council further considered Option A, including identifying broad areas within the Landscape Character Assessment for renewable energy development. Through this process, the Council focused on directing development to areas with the most appropriate landscape characteristics for these forms of development, and this is reflected in the current policy.

The proposed policy accords with the requirements of the NPPF as it provides a positive strategy to encourage renewable and low carbon energy development and identifies suitable areas for these forms of development to help secure their delivery. The policy also directly supports another NPPF requirement, to facilitate community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy through neighbourhood planning. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable. As such, no further policy alternatives have been considered.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to conflict with the SA objectives in relation to landscape and biodiversity. Despite the provisions requiring renewable energy developments to demonstrate their environmental impacts and further support for such development to be assessed against other policy requirements, including policy DQE3p, which provides a comprehensive framework to protect and enhance biodiversity, there remains a risk that renewable energy development, particularly if large-scale or delivered at scale, could have negative effects. Conversely, increased renewable energy generation could positively contribute to climate change mitigation, by supporting the move towards decarbonisation of energy supply and providing new opportunities to strengthen and diversify the local economy. Given the significance of climate change and the overriding need to generate more renewable energy, the policy is an important mechanism to support North Lincolnshire to meet the future growth in energy (electricity) demand and to achieve its renewable energy generation targets (and associated carbon dioxide reduction targets).

The policy could be strengthened by more clearly setting out how local communities will be supported to identify and deliver wind energy development and could extend this provision to encompass other forms of renewable energy generation e.g., community-scale solar, hydropower and biomass, which would be further in-keeping with the requirements of the NPPF. The policy could also seek to incorporate provisions designed to support rural-based sustainable renewable energy development, which would support the rural economy and economic diversification.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusions; however, the additional focus on supporting small-scale rural-based sustainable renewable energy developments has strengthened the policy and may aid the rural economy and economic diversification.

Policy DQE9: Local Green Space

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	The policy will protect existing local green space from unsustainable development, which in turn is likely to support the conservation and possible enhancement of local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- Safeguarding of local green space has the potential to protect biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, including areas of high wildlife value. - The policy can contribute to the establishment and strengthening of a coherent network of wildlife sites and corridors, which in turn can support species resilience and adaptation to the effects of climate change.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of local green space has the potential to benefit both surface water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the reduction of flood risk, it can contribute to flood risk reduction and improved surface water management through incorporation of flood risk management schemes into green spaces, and this is something the policy actively promotes, provided the schemes do not adversely impact the primary function of the green space.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	Green space can benefit air quality by removing both particulate matter and gases from the air. Therefore, protection of existing green space is an important component of effective air quality management. However, this policy is not likely to improve local air quality conditions directly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	S/M/L	Green space can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas. Provision of community green space can also contribute to community and environmental resilience to the effects of climate change.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	Local green space includes areas of historic significance and so protection of such areas from unsustainable development has the potential to benefit the historic environment.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Green space can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion. Protection of existing green space can therefore support initiatives to reduce deprivation and the impacts of deprivation.
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Policy DQE9: Local Green Space

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	Local green space provides an important recreational and amenity resource for local communities and visitors and contributes to improved health and wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?		This policy is not likely to directly support economic growth or diversification, or the provision of new skills and job opportunities. However, green space can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy supports the protection of existing local green space, which is an important community facility. However, it does not explicitly seek to increase access to or provision of such facilities, and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to affect the management or exploitation of local mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two options for local green spaces were set out at Issues & Options stage. Option A focused on a criteria-based approach to ensure development proposals protected such areas, whilst Option B sought to designate local green space in the Local Plan. Both options largely had positive sustainability outcomes. Public consultation at this stage confirmed support for the protection of green space.

The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable. As such, no further policy alternatives have been considered.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the protection of local landscape character and conservation of biodiversity, and its contribution to climate change resilience and community health and wellbeing.

The policy could be strengthened by more explicitly defining how local communities will be encouraged to promote local green space and specifically by promoting the enhancement of existing local green space and designation of new green space areas. This would also further decouple the provision of local green space from development and highlight the inherent value of such areas to environmental and local community wellbeing. This would further strengthen the existing green space network and would potentially deliver significant benefits for the environment and local communities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy DQE9: Local Green Space

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy DQE10: Important Open Space

SA Objective **Impact** **Duration** **Assessment**

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy safeguards Important Open Spaces from development and ensures that development can only occur if there are no significant impacts on the character and appearance of the surrounding local area. - The policy has the potential to provide additional landscape benefits by requiring some development to "make a positive contribution" to the relevant Important Open Space.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- Safeguarding Important Open Spaces has the potential to protect biodiversity, including areas of high wildlife value. - The policy safeguards Important Open Spaces from development unless it can be shown there is no significant impact on biodiversity or that the area would be enhanced for the biodiversity benefits it provides
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of Important Open Spaces has the potential to benefit both surface water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the reduction of flood risk, it can contribute to flood risk reduction and improved surface water management.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		Open space can benefit air quality by removing both particulate matter and gases from the air. Therefore, protection of existing open space is an important component of effective air quality management. However, this policy is not likely to improve local air quality conditions directly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	Important Open Spaces can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas. Provision of community green space can also contribute to community and environmental resilience to the effects of climate change.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	- Important Open Spaces can include areas of historical significance or contain heritage assets and therefore safeguarding these areas from development has the potential to benefit the historic environment. - The policy specifically ensures that development in areas of Important Open Space would only be permitted where there are no significant adverse impacts on any heritage assets.

Policy DQE10: Important Open Space

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	- Important Open Spaces can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion. Protection of existing open space can therefore support initiatives to reduce deprivation and the impacts of deprivation. - The policy seeks to promote local community involvement in promoting Important Open Spaces through the development of neighbourhood plans. Such developments could contribute to increased community engagement and decision making.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	- Important Open Spaces can promote healthy and active lifestyles through the provision of recreational and amenity facilities. - The policy seeks to ensure effective protection of existing Important Open Spaces and also limits development in such areas to proposals for "appropriate recreational, community and nature conservation uses...". Such development could contribute to improved health and wellbeing outcomes in North Lincolnshire.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy is not likely to directly support economic growth or diversification, or the provision of new skills and job opportunities. However, open space can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy supports the protection of existing Important Open Space, which is an important community facility. However, it does not seek to inhibit all development on such areas, but rather limit such development through a series of policy provisions. Specifically, such development can only be for "appropriate recreational, community and nature conservation uses...". Provision of such development may increase access to important community services.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to affect the management or exploitation of local mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy DQE10: Important Open Space

Important Open Spaces differ from Local Green Space in that they have been identified by North Lincolnshire Council as opposed to the local communities. Two options for local green spaces were set out at Issues & Options stage. Option A focused on a criteria-based approach to ensure development proposals protected such areas, whilst Option B sought to designate local green space in the Local Plan. Both options largely had positive sustainability outcomes. Public consultation at this stage confirmed support for the protection of green space.

The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable. As such, no further policy alternatives have been considered.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the protection of local landscape character and conservation of biodiversity, and its contribution to climate change resilience and community health and wellbeing. The policy explains in detail the restrictions on development in order to safeguard open spaces; whilst the policy would allow development on Important Open Spaces if there is an overprovision of such space, this could only be possible subject to the other policy provisions, which seek to protect (and potentially enhance) the important environmental characteristics of the local area.

Whilst the policy is likely to provide a range of positive benefits, it could be further strengthened with additional detail on the measures required to reduce impacts on Important Open Spaces where development is permitted. In addition, the policy would achieve greater benefits if it required all development to “make a positive contribution”, rather than caveating this requirement to certain development. The policy could be further strengthened in relation to the biodiversity outcomes if it sought to link directly to Policy DQE3p, which provides a range of provisions to safeguard and enhance biodiversity, whilst also linking Important Open Space provision and protection with the defined Biodiversity Opportunity areas. Finally, the policy can be strengthened by supporting neighbourhood plans to identify IOS as can be done for Local Green Spaces.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Following changes to the policy, the majority of the assessment conclusions remain unchanged. However, the measures to require all developments to “make a positive contribution” to Important Open Space has further strengthened the policy resulting in likely positive impacts to safeguarding biodiversity and contribute to improved health and wellbeing in North Lincolnshire. Additionally, supporting neighbourhood plans to encourage local communities to promote IOS may contribute to increased community engagement and promote access to outdoor space.

Policy DQE11: Green Infrastructure Network

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to contribute towards maintaining local landscape character and sense of place by maintaining and improving existing green infrastructure in North Lincolnshire. - The policy has the potential to increase green infrastructure provision through new development proposals, which could contribute to enhancing local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	Green infrastructure provides benefits to biodiversity and therefore, protection of existing green infrastructure assets and creation of new green infrastructure has the potential to benefit biodiversity and contribute to a Nature Recovery Network in North Lincolnshire.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	Maintenance and improvement of both blue and green infrastructure has the potential to benefit surface water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration. This policy now specifically references that 'blue infrastructure' (i.e. open water and wetland habitats) is included in the definition of 'green infrastructure' in this policy.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	Protection and enhancement of green infrastructure can contribute to reduced risk of flooding by reducing surface runoff and promoting water infiltration.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	- Green infrastructure can benefit air quality by removing both particulate matter and gases from the air. Therefore, protection of existing green infrastructure is an important component of effective air quality management. By requiring new developments to contribute to the establishment of green infrastructure, the policy may result in improved air quality. - The increased provision of cycleways and public rights of ways may result in a decreased reliance on the private car, resulting in improved air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- Green infrastructure can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas. Provision of green space can also contribute to community and environmental resilience to the effects of climate change. - The increased provision of cycleways and public rights of ways may result in a decreased reliance on the private car, resulting in decreased greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	Green space includes areas of historic significance and so protection of such areas from unsustainable development has the potential to benefit the historic environment.

Social

Policy DQE11: Green Infrastructure Network

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Green infrastructure can reduce the impact of social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion. Protection of existing green space can therefore support initiatives to reduce deprivation and the impacts of deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓✓	S/M/L	Green Infrastructure can promote healthy and active lifestyles through the provision of green spaces for recreational and amenity activities and through connectivity assets such as public rights of way and cycleways. By requiring new developments to contribute to the establishment of green infrastructure, the policy will likely result in increased connectivity assets.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to support delivery of sustainable development that both protects and, where necessary, enhances the green infrastructure network in North Lincolnshire. - Green infrastructure can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy supports the maintenance and improvement of the green infrastructure network, ensuring good connections between open spaces. These connections which include public rights of way, bridleways, cycleways and waterways have the potential to also improve access to other services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to affect the management or exploitation of local mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two options for green infrastructure were set out at Issues & Options stage. Option A, which sought to develop a green and blue infrastructure strategy, scored better against sustainability objectives as it provided greater certainty that the infrastructure would achieve strategic aims. Option B proposed creation of new infrastructure through delivery of major development needs. It was determined that Option B offered a less strategic approach and could lead to greater uncertainty. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy DQE11: Green Infrastructure Network

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the protection of local landscape character and conservation of biodiversity, and its contribution to climate change resilience and community health and wellbeing.

The policy could be strengthened by making it more explicit that the policy provisions equally apply to blue infrastructure in North Lincolnshire. This additional clarity would support effective protection of aquatic habitats and support their sustainable use for recreation and amenity purposes. The policy can be further strengthened by requiring the incorporation of cycleways and footpaths into new developments and not simply requiring contributions. This would ensure improved long term connectivity via sustainable transport such as cycling and walking.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the additional clarification on blue infrastructure (open water and wetland habitats) supports the protection of aquatic habitats and their use in sustainable recreation and amenity, positively contributing to a number of environmental objectives.

Policy DQE12: Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy aims to protect trees, woodland and hedgerows by ensuring new developments retain these assets wherever possible, or by refusing planning permission for developments that result in harm to habitats such as ancient woodland and aged or veteran trees. - The policy specifically states that trees which contribute to local landscape character will be protected through the use of Tree Preservation Orders.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Trees, woodland and hedgerows are an important habitat for many species, and protection of these habitats has the potential to benefit biodiversity. - The policy requires certain new development to deliver new tree and hedgerow planting and maximise on-site tree canopy cover in line with local and/or national canopy cover targets, which is likely to contribute to improved biodiversity. - Development resulting in loss of ancient woodland will be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and in that case suitable compensation must be provided.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of trees, woodland and hedgerows has the potential to benefit both surface water quality and quantity by reducing surface runoff and promoting surface water infiltration.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	Whilst the policy does not explicitly promote the reduction of flood risk, it can contribute to flood risk reduction and improved surface water management.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?		Protection of trees, woodland and hedgerows can benefit air quality by removing both particulate matter and gases from the air.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	Protection of trees, woodland and hedgerows can contribute towards reducing the impact of climate change. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, planting trees can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	Ancient woodland and veteran trees are form part of the historic environment and are heritage assets in themselves. Protection of these features will serve to conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of important amenity trees and woodlands can support actions to reduce social deprivation and can contribute to improved health and wellbeing and community cohesion.
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Policy DQE12: Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	There is minor potential for protection of woodland to promote healthy and active lifestyles by providing an environment in which recreational activities such as walking, or cycling can take place.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy is not likely to directly support economic growth or diversification, or the provision of new skills and job opportunities. However, trees, woodland and hedgerows can have an economic impact, enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, generating employment opportunities, and benefit the health and wellbeing of the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the provision of community services or facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Alternatives to this policy were not considered during the Issues & Options stage. Additionally, no alternative options were considered through the consultation. However, support was given for a policy that values the importance of North Lincolnshire's trees, woodland and hedgerows.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives. The main benefits are in the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, habitats and species as well as heritage assets, local landscape character and climate change regulation.

The policy could be further strengthened by extending the protection to important aquatic habitats such as bogs, ponds, and ditches. The policy can also be strengthened by requiring new trees and hedgerows to be of similar species removed or native species.

The NPPF states that all development resulting in the loss or deterioration of ancient woodland should be refused unless the circumstances are exceptional, and a suitable compensation strategy exists. The policy acknowledges that all development resulting in loss of ancient woodland should be refused unless the benefits outweigh the harm but does not state that suitable compensation must be provided. The policy should be updated to include this point.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy DQE12: Protection of Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the policy now acknowledges that all development resulting in loss of ancient woodland should be refused unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and that a suitable compensation strategy must be provided. The policy is strengthened by providing these additional safeguards for ancient woodland and veteran trees.

Managing our Historic Environment

Policy HE1: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- The policy states that it will support development proposals that protect designated heritage assets by protecting architectural and historic character, which can contribute to local character and sense of place. - The policy also states Policy also promotes protection of landscape and townscape features and view to and from the heritage assets, contributing to the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes. - Policy promotes preservation and enhancement of conservation areas by retaining architectural features that contribute to the landscape, mitigating negative impacts on townscape and landscape, reinforcing local distinctiveness of buildings and protecting trees. - Overall protection of the historic environment and heritage assets will have beneficial effects on North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes and maintain local character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy aims to protect trees, or where losses are proposed, demonstrate how such losses are appropriately mitigated against which may indirectly protect valuable habitat.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Policy HE1: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy provides a framework for conservation and enhancement of heritage assets, conservation areas, and archaeological remains. - The policy states that proposals that would result in unacceptable harm to heritage assets and their settings, will not be permitted. Harm to heritage assets should be minimised and mitigated. - The policy states that developments which could impact upon heritage assets must be accompanied by an appropriate historic environment assessment, this will allow a full understanding of the impacts of the development on the historic environment and identification of proper mitigation methods. - The policy promotes the preservation and enhancement of Conservation areas by ensuring development within or affecting the area take proper steps to retain features and mitigate their negative impacts. - The policy promotes the protection not only of heritage assets and conservation areas but also their setting in the landscape. - Priority is given to preserving archaeological remains through proper investigation view desk-based assessment and promotes the involvement of properly qualified personnel to undertake the mitigation measures. Where preservation is not possible, a strategy is in place to ensure archaeological remains are properly recorded in accordance with a written scheme of investigation.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of conservation areas can have economic benefits by enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure and generate employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy promotes providing access to heritage assets, in combination with the natural environment, potentially providing benefits for public health.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	- This policy has the potential to have a positive effect on a sustainable economy. Conservation and enhancement of conservation areas can enhance the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, and generating employment opportunities. - The policy also promotes providing access to heritage assets, in combination with the natural environment, potentially providing benefits for public health and tourism.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services or facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Policy HE1: Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0	This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Three options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. Each of these options aimed to protect heritage assets in North Lincolnshire. Option A would achieve this through specific policy provisions in the Local Plan that would encompass a wide range of designated and non-designated heritage features. Option B would utilise an overarching development management policy to achieve a similar outcome. Option C would rely on national guidance contained in the NPPF. The three options were assessed as likely to have similar sustainability outcomes, although Option A was considered to achieve more positive outcomes due to the greater certainty provided by the policy approach it promoted. The proposed policy is considered likely to achieve very similar outcomes to the three options assessed at Issues & Options stage.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives. The policy promotes the conservation of the historic environment, including heritage assets, conservation areas and archaeological remains and requires development proposals to take into account their impact on these features and to implement proper mitigation measures.

The policy can be strengthened by making references to particularly important heritage assets such as Listed Buildings and explain how the greater weight will be given to the protection of these sites, outlining that any harm is wholly unacceptable and should be avoided, not mitigated. The policy can further be strengthened by giving priority to conversions of heritage assets that place priority on sustainable design to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, while meeting the other requirements of the policy.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Changes to the policy have strengthened it by outlining the protection given to heritage assets and their setting and the requirement, in all cases, for harm to heritage assets to be minimised and mitigation. Promoting the conservation of designated and non-designated heritage assets and the wider historic environment. It also promotes provision of access to heritage assets, with potential benefits for a sustainable economy and public health.

Policy HE2: Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the protection of The Isle of Axholme which is designated for Special Historic Landscape Interest. - The policy restricts development proposals that would damage, destroy or adversely affect the historic landscape. - The policy requires new development to be designed in keeping with the traditional character of the area, and schemes to improve the historic landscape will be sought in conjunction with new development.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of historic landscapes can often have biodiversity and habitat benefits through protection of important biodiversity assets such as open agricultural land associated with the Ancient Open Strip Fields.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality or quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	By protecting a landscape represented by open agricultural fields, the policy may indirectly support flood risk management by protecting permeable landscapes.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	Given the agricultural nature of the Isle of Axholme landscape, the policy indirectly protects soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	L	Protection of trees, hedgerows, woodland or open green areas can reduce the impacts of climate change. Vegetation and soil can sequester carbon dioxide if managed correctly and can support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, trees can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy restricts development within the Axholme Special Historic Landscape Interest area that would adversely impact the historic landscape, contributing towards the conservation of the historic environment. - The policy requires new developments to be designed to reflect traditional character of building and utilise materials that are sympathetic to the locality, which can have a positive impact upon the setting of heritage assets.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Protection of Areas of Special Historic Landscape Interest can have economic benefits by enhancing the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure and generate employment opportunities.

Policy HE2: Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The policy permits development that provides outdoor sport and recreational facilities, which can contribute towards promoting a healthy and active lifestyle in North Lincolnshire.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to have a positive effect on a sustainable economy. Protection of Areas of Special Historic Landscape Interest can enhance the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, and generating employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options relating directly to the Isle of Axholme Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable. As such, no further policy alternatives have been considered.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives. The policy promotes the protection of the Isle of Axholme's historic landscape features, by restricting development that would have adverse effects. Requiring development to consider the character and materials used by buildings will mean that the landscape character of the area is properly conserved. Additionally, the policy may result in indirect flood protection and the protection of soil resources.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				

Policy HE2: Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Creating Sustainable Communities and Better Places

Policy CSC1: Health and Wellbeing				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure development effectively protects important community assets and does not adversely impact the environment through air, noise, vibration and water pollution; these provisions support the protection of local landscape character. - The policy supports improved access to greenspaces and open space, which if over utilised/increasingly utilised may result in a decrease in their condition.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy seeks to ensure development does not adversely impact the environment through air, noise, vibration and water pollution; these provisions supports the protection of biodiversity, habitats and species. - The policy seeks to improve accessibility to nature, accessible natural greenspaces and green infrastructure corridors and blue and green infrastructure; these provisions support the provision of green/ open space. However, the policy could result in greater numbers of people visiting both urban and rural areas of North Lincolnshire. An increase in visitors could lead to increased damage and disturbance to sensitive areas of nature conservation value, such as the Humber Estuary.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	M/L	The policy seeks to ensure development does not adversely impact the environment through water pollution.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy seeks to ensure development does not adversely impact the environment, including air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	This policy promotes increased access via sustainable modes of transportation, including access on foot or by bicycle. The promotion of improved infrastructure may result in decreased reliance on the private car and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy recognises the important role heritage plays in community wellbeing and sense of place. - The policy supports improved access to the historic environment. Improved access may also indirectly support heritage-based sustainable tourism. - This policy also supports safeguarding and enhancing heritage assets.
Social				

Policy CSC1: Health and Wellbeing				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- Areas of deprivation are often recorded as having lower lifestyle scores and lower life expectancies. By seeking to improve access to the countryside, promoting higher levels of physical activity and supporting the integration of community facilities including health, leisure and community facilities; the policy may contribute to a reduction in deprivation. - This policy also seeks to work with relevant stakeholders to reduce geographical inequalities in health through maximising the provision of affordable housing and regenerating poorer neighbourhoods within the area. - The policy seeks to create safe, secure and accessible environments for local people and visitors alike by using the 10 Active design principles and including safety measures that reduce actual and perceived opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour which should contribute to a decrease in deprivation and contribute positively to quality of life or community cohesion.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓✓?	S/M/L	This policy promotes healthy and active lifestyles through supporting the integration of health and leisure facilities, improved access to greenspace and open space and encourage and connect walking and cycling routes.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	M/L	This policy seeks to work with relevant stakeholders to maximise the provision of affordable housing.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	This policy supports the promotion of improved skills and employability through the application of the ten principles of Active Design incorporated into the policy, which includes the development of neighbourhoods and centres that have access to a range of facilities including education facilities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	This policy seeks to have access to a range of facilities including education, health, sport and leisure.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. Consultation at the Issues & Options stage demonstrated that there was overall support for including a policy for Health and Wellbeing in the Local Plan. There is no specific policy related to health and wellbeing in the NPPF. NPPF sets out the purpose of the planning system as being 'to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development'. Creating places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and wellbeing is recognised by the NPPF.				

Policy CSC1: Health and Wellbeing

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the increased access to local facilities, improved foot and cycle paths and increased environmental protection.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from a social and environmental perspective, have not resulted in any significant changes to the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy CSC2: Health Care Provision

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	M/L	Enhancements to open space may benefit habitats and associated biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	M/L	Enhancements to open space may result in improvements to water management and water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0	M/L	This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	L	Improvements to walking and cycling routes may result in long term improvements in air quality as a result of reduced reliance on private cars.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	L	- Improvements to walking and cycling routes may result in long term reductions in greenhouse gas emissions as a result of reduced reliance on private cars. - Enhancement of open space can reduce the impacts of climate change. Vegetation and soil can sequester carbon dioxide if managed correctly and can support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, trees can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy CSC2: Health Care Provision

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓✓?	M/L	- This policy aims to provide a high standard of access to healthcare services. Improved access, particularly for deprived areas, may result in an improvement in health outcomes and an indirect reduction in deprivation. - The policy is made stronger by requiring developments to make payments towards healthcare provision in areas with the greatest health care impact, including Scunthorpe, Barton Upon Humber, Brigg, Kirton in Lindsey, Broughton, Winterton, Crowle and Barrow upon Humber. As Scunthorpe has been identified as the location with the main pockets of deprivation, this policy supports a reduction of elements of deprivation in North Lincolnshire.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	M/L	This policy seeks to improve the health of residents with a primary focus of maintaining and increasing access to high quality healthcare facilities.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	- This policy indirectly supports the creation of new employment opportunities over the medium and long term, as the development of new health care facilities will also provide employment opportunities. The number of employment opportunities will be dependent upon the size and nature of the health care facilities. - Improved access to healthcare will support the local economy by increasing productivity within the local workforce.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	This policy directly supports the objective to increase access to a range of services, particularly healthcare services.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative was considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. However, there was overall support of including a healthcare policy within the Local Plan. The policy was created in order to meet the requirements of the NPPF. NPPF states strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development and make sufficient provision for community facilities such as health.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy CSC2: Health Care Provision

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the increased access to health care facilities which may result in a reduction in deprivation, and increased employment opportunities.

This policy may also result in reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improvements in biodiversity, air and water quality and flood risk; however, as these are not the main priorities of the policy, the impacts are not likely to be significant.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy CSC3: Protection and Provision of Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓?	M/L	This policy is aimed at improving the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities. The improved/increased provision of open space in particular will likely result in improvements in the quality of North Lincolnshire's urban landscape and sense of place, particularly in areas where there is an identified shortfall.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy does not directly aim to enhance biodiversity, habitats and species; increased provision of open space may indirectly increase wildlife habitats and biodiversity depending on the nature and design of the open space. - Additionally, the policy supports the protection of biodiversity and habitats by limiting adverse impacts to habitats by reason of noise, general disturbance, fumes or external lighting. - The policy requires any proposals resulting in the loss of existing natural green space or open space to enhance the natural environment through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity and ensure the protection or enhancement of the ecological network.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	M/L	The policy does not deal directly with improvements in water quality; however, increased provision of open space may indirectly improve water quality as a result of improved infiltration depending on the nature and design of the open space.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	M/L	The policy does not deal directly with improvements in water quality; however, increased provision of open space may indirectly improve flood risk as a result of improved providing permeable areas to alleviate surface water flooding.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	The policy does not deal directly with improvements in air quality; however, increased provision of open space may indirectly improve air quality depending on the nature and design of the open space.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	- Open space can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. In urban areas, open space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas. - Provision of open space can also contribute to community and environmental resilience to the effects of climate change. - Additionally, the policy promotes sustainable design; and by promoting local open space and facilities, the policy supports a reduction in the need to travel.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy does not directly support the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets; however, the increased provision of open space may result in improvements to the setting of heritage assets.

Social

Policy CSC3: Protection and Provision of Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓✓?	S/M/L	The policy directly supports the objective to reduce deprivation as it requires particular provision for safe open space, sports and recreation facilities to be sought that would benefit deprived groups.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy directly supports the objective as it promotes the protection and increased provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities. - The provision of open space proportionate to the scale of the development should help to enhance the overall quantity and quality of provision of recreational open space and facilities. - The policy indirectly promotes healthy lifestyles and active living by limiting the loss of playing fields and ensure that if there is a loss, that it will not cause or increase the deficiency in the area. - The policy also specifically requires fulfilment of the requirements of the Equality Act (2010) so that parks and playgrounds must be accessible for all and inclusive.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	The policy indirectly supports a sustainable economy as the increased provision of recreation facilities may result in new economic activities and increased employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	M/L	The policy directly supports increased access to recreational facilities and services.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy CSC3: Protection and Provision of Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities

Two options for the protection and provision of Local Green Space were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. Option A would utilise a criteria-based policy approach against which new development proposals would be assessed – new development meeting specified thresholds would be required to deliver new green space. This would lead to a development-orientated approach to delivery of new green space, whereby new green space would only be created if new development is delivered. Conversely, Option B would take a more strategic approach and would designate land as green space in the Local Plan. This approach would provide greater certainty that new green space would be created and would provide a more holistic approach to the identification and designation of green space.

Both options scored positively for all of the SA environmental objectives and for several of the social and economic objectives. Option B was considered likely to achieve more positive outcomes because areas of land would be specifically designated and protected as local green space and because there would be less of a link to the delivery of new development.

The proposed policy is assessed as likely to have similar sustainability outcomes as the two options considered at Issues & Options stage. However, the increased clarity on the scope and application of the policy has resulted in greater certainty in the likely sustainability outcomes and has resulted in significant positive effects in relation to healthy lifestyles and access to local services and facilities.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the environmental, social and economic objectives, although its main benefits are likely to be the improvement in healthy lifestyles, increased employment opportunities and access to recreational facilities, and environmental improvement including supporting improved biodiversity, water and air quality, and adaptation to climate change.

The policy can be strengthened by requiring where applicable that open space be enhanced to support local wildlife.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The addition of enhancement of the natural environment through the provision of biodiversity net gain and protection or enhancement of the ecological network will be beneficial, as will the requirements to fulfil obligations under the Equality Act (2010). However, overall the impact of the assessment conclusion has not changed significantly.

Policy CSC4: Allotments

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy provides protection for existing allotment sites from inappropriate development; allotments provide an important component of many urban and rural landscapes.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	Allotments often support a range of wildlife and enhance community engagement with wildlife. By maintaining an adequate supply of allotments, the policy is indirectly protecting biodiversity and habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	Although the policy does not deal directly with flood risk, by maintaining the size and quality of available allotments in a local area, the policy indirectly protects permeable ground, which provides local flood risk benefits.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	By protecting allotments, the policy makes an important contribution to safeguarding soil resources within the urban landscape.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	S/M/L	Allotments represent important areas of open green space that provide localised improvements in air quality through the provision of vegetation cover that helps to filter and absorb airborne pollutants.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	S/M/L	- Allotments represent important areas of open green space; green space can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. - In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		- Allotments may represent important heritage features in their own right. - This policy does not deal with issues associated with the historic environment and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	- Allotments are important community facilities and promote community cohesion and wellbeing. - Allotments provide relief from social isolation. By protecting allotments, the policy indirectly supports a maintenance of deprivation levels. - Allotments are a good source of fresh local produce in areas of high social and economic deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The policy indirectly promotes healthy and active lifestyles as allotments contribute towards healthy eating and physical activity.

Policy CSC4: Allotments				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with a sustainable economy and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?		- The policy aims to protect from the loss of allotments and ensure that allotment replacements should cover a greater area when located in an area identified with a shortfall. This policy may directly or indirectly increase the provision of recreation and leisure opportunities in areas of high deprivation.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options for allotments have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. However, consultation at Issues & Options stage demonstrated that there was broad support for protecting and retaining existing allotments. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places, which enable and support access to allotments.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy has the potential to positively contribute to most of the SA environmental and social objectives; however, the policy impact is relatively neutral. The policy can be strengthened by requiring the replacement of allotments to cover a greater area when located in an area with an identified shortfall. This would be of particular benefit to areas of high deprivation.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy to require replacement of allotments to cover a greater area when located in areas identified with shortfall, has strengthened the policy, resulting in the likely positive impacts on promoting healthy and health active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.				

Policy CSC5: Golf Courses

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to ensure new golf course development does not adversely affect local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy includes provision to ensure that new golf course development does not adversely affect sites of nature conservation value. - Golf course development in degraded environments may offer opportunities to deliver a range of environmental enhancements. - The policy requires new developments or improvements to enhance the natural environment through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity to maximise contributions to the natural recovery network. This may contribute towards the long-term improvement biodiversity and connectivity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	- Golf course management can often have high water demand, which may result in negative impacts on local water resources. - The policy requires new developments or improvements to meet the needs for water sustainability. Though this encourages future sustainable management of water resources it is unlikely to make significant positive contributions to surface and groundwater sustainability of North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2, and 3a) from inappropriate development.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	Golf courses can represent important areas of open green space that provide localised improvements in air quality through the provision of vegetation cover that helps to filter and absorb airborne pollutants.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	S/M/L	- Golf courses can represent important areas of open green space; green space can play a role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Vegetation can sequester carbon dioxide and support a positive carbon balance. - In urban areas, green space can reduce urban heat island effect, which can also benefit surrounding areas.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to ensure new golf course development does not adversely affect sites of "archaeological or historic importance".

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Policy CSC5: Golf Courses				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	By supporting the development of golf courses, this policy supports developments that promote healthy and active lifestyles and increased recreational and leisure opportunities.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	- By supporting the development of golf courses, the policy supports the development of a range of high quality leisure facilities. - If developed on degraded land, the policy also supports the improvement of open space.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. The policy was created in order to meet the requirements of the NPPF. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should aim to provide, recreational and cultural facilities.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy has the potential to positively contribute to many of the SA environmental, social and positively economic objectives. Provisions within the policy seek to safeguard a range of environmental assets from inappropriate development, whilst new golf course development can represent important areas of green space that has the potential to benefit biodiversity and air quality and contribute to reduced carbon emissions in North Lincolnshire. The policy could be strengthened in a number of ways. Greater social benefits could be achieved by requiring new golf course developments to offer reduced rates for local residents with reduced means; the policy could also set out requirements for new development to deliver multiple-benefits, particularly in relation to the provision of high-quality wildlife habitats and through improvements in landscape character.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the addition of requirements for new developments to enhance the natural environment through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity may support contributions to the Nature Recovery Network and in turn improve habitats and local wildlife.				

Policy CSC6: Water Based Leisure

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to ensure new water-based leisure development does not adversely affect local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	The policy aims to ensure that developments do not "prejudice" ecological characteristics of the waterway or water area and its environs. This will help to protect biodiversity from inappropriate development.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	S/M/L	Whilst the policy does not specifically reference protection of water quality in the relevant watercourses and water areas, provisions requiring protection of biodiversity may indirectly benefit water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to ensure that there is no adverse effect on flood risk management infrastructure, its maintenance or operation and the development incorporates measures to mitigate and where possible reduce flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	This policy seeks to ensure new water-based leisure development does not adversely affect the historic environment.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it encourages the development of water-based recreational activities.

Policy CSC6: Water Based Leisure

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on access to community services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to provide, recreational and cultural facilities. Therefore, the policy is considered to accord with the requirements of the NPPF.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy includes several provisions that seek to ensure areas of amenity, landscape or ecological value are not adversely affected by water-based leisure development. However, the policy wording in relation to this could be improved so as to ensure that there is sufficient clarity regarding the level of protection provided. The policy also has the potential for positive social and economic impacts including increased employment opportunities and the promotion of active lifestyles. The policy can be strengthened by acknowledging the important wildlife designations located on the River Humber and River Trent and could include specific provision to ensure this type of leisure development does not adversely affect water quality in the receiving waterbodies. Specific provision could be included to ensure such leisure development does not adversely affect sites of archaeological value or historic importance.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have strengthened it from an environmental perspective as the policy now includes several provisions to ensure that areas of recreational activity do not adversely impact sites of archaeological value and historic importance or have an adverse effect on flood risk.

Policy CSC7: Commercial Horse Riding Establishments

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy seeks for developments to be of a scale and nature that they absorb into the local environment. - In addition, the policy includes a requirement for a landscaping scheme and boundary treatments, which further support the protection and enhancement of the rural landscape.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy aims to ensure that developments do not adversely affect protected or priority species or sites of nature conservation value. - In addition, the policy includes a requirement for proposals to retain dark corridors along landscape features to minimise impacts to bats and protected species. - The requirement for an integrated landscaping scheme provides opportunities to deliver ecological benefits.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	By requiring a minimum area of grazing land per horse or pony so as to ensure that there is sufficient grazing land to allow for good pasture management and rotational grazing; the policy will likely indirectly protect soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy aims to ensure that developments do not adversely affect sites of archaeological or historic importance. - The requirement for an integrated landscaping scheme provides opportunities to deliver benefits to features of historic importance.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	Increased access to commercial horse riding will result in improved access to active hobbies, which may indirectly result in more active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.

Policy CSC7: Commercial Horse Riding Establishments

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on access to community services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The policy was created in order to meet the requirements of the NPPF. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should aim to provide, recreational and cultural facilities. As such, the policy is considered to accord with the requirements of the NPPF.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the SA environmental, social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are likely to be economic diversification and the promotion of active lifestyles.

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to environmental objectives, including the protection of local landscape character, biodiversity, heritage and soil resources. The policy could be strengthened by setting out how integrated landscaping schemes can seek to achieve multiple benefits.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy CSC8: Education Facilities

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy seeks to support developments of a scale and design appropriate to the location and as such will likely contribute to the protection of urban and rural landscapes.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X/✓	S/M/L	- As with any development, there is the risk of adverse impacts to biodiversity, habitats and species, and particularly in relation to undesignated habitats. - This policy encourages development designs to include environmental enhancement to ensure effective protection of environmental features.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	M/L	New school development may increase stress on water resources in North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X?	M/L	New school development could adversely affect soil resources at a local scale.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	M/L	- New school development could adversely affect local air quality due to use of private cars as the principal means of accessing the school sites. - The policy seeks to mitigate this risk by requiring new developments to be accessible by public transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X/✓	M/L	- New school development could increase carbon emissions in North Lincolnshire associated with heating and lighting of the school buildings and the use of private cars as the principal means of accessing the school sites. - This policy encourages development designs to include low carbon design and renewable energy generation to ensure effective protection of environmental features.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	L	Improved access to high-quality educational facilities, particularly if located in more deprived areas, will contribute to a long term decrease in social deprivation.
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Policy CSC8: Education Facilities				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	M/L	By ensuring that educational facilities have sufficient areas of open space and playing fields, the policy may directly support the early promotion and education of active lifestyles in children.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy may result in increased employment opportunities in the education sector. - In addition, the policy supports opportunities to improve skills and employability by increasing education attainment levels.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the provision of increased educational services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. National planning policy states that a sufficient choice of school places must be available to meet the needs of existing and new communities and that Local Planning authorities should take a proactive, positive and collaborative approach to meeting this requirement and to development that will widen choice in education.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the SA social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are increased employment opportunities and increased access to educational facilities, which can contribute to reduced levels of social deprivation. The policy has several negative effects in relation to the environmental objectives. This is largely due to the potential for development of new school facilities on greenfield sites. It also needs to be recognised that private car usage is likely to increase as a result of new development. The policy could be strengthened by including a range of provisions requiring new school development to ensure effective protection of environmental features/assets and that the design of such development should seek to achieve multiple-benefits, including environmental enhancement, low carbon design and renewable energy generation.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to policy to encourage school developments to seek to achieve multiple benefits, has strengthened the policy, resulting in the likely protection of environmental features and assets.				

Policy CSC9: Nursery and Children's Day Care Provision

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with biodiversity, habitats and species, and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on water quality and water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	S/M/L	New childcare development could adversely affect local air quality due to use of private cars as the principal means of accessing the sites.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	S/M/L	New childcare development could increase carbon emissions in North Lincolnshire associated with heating and lighting of buildings and the use of private cars as the principal means of accessing the sites. However, the policy does promote the development of provision in locations with good public transport links.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	M/L	By ensuring that childcare facilities have sufficient areas of open space, the policy may directly support the early promotion and education of active lifestyles in children.

Policy CSC9: Nursery and Children's Day Care Provision

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports a sustainable economy through the increased provision of employment opportunities in the childcare sector. - Through increased provision of childcare, in locations with good public transport links, the policy supports working families.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy directly supports the objective as it supports increased access to a range of childcare facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. There is no specific policy related to children's day care provision in the NPPF. However, the NPPF sets out the purpose of the planning system as being 'to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development'. Creating places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being is recognised by the NPPF. Planning policies should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the SA social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are increased employment opportunities and provision of facilities and supporting active lifestyles.

The policy has a largely neutral impact on many of the environmental objectives. However, the policy may result in indirect negative impacts to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions associated with increased private car use. The policy could be strengthened by including specific provision requiring new childcare facilities to be located in areas with good public transport links.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the promotion of sites with good transport links has strengthened it slightly.

Policy CSC10: Community Facilities and Services

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on landscape character or quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to provide facilities that are accessible by public transport, cycling or on foot, which may result in a decreased reliance on private cars potentially resulting in decreased air pollutants.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to provide facilities that are accessible by public transport, cycling or on foot. This may result in a decrease in greenhouse gas emissions due to a decreased reliance on private cars.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	Increased provision and access to community facilities has the potential to contribute to decreased levels of social deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as increased provision and access to facilities may result in improved health and wellbeing.

Policy CSC10: Community Facilities and Services

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy will support the retention of existing employment and can create new economic and employment opportunities, which will contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy directly supports the objective as it seeks to provide a provision of community facilities and services that meet the needs of local residents. - Additionally, the policy seeks contributions from developers towards improvements or additional provision of community services and facilities arising from their development proposals.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the SA social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are increased employment opportunities and provision of facilities and supporting active lifestyles.
The policy has a largely neutral impact on the SA environmental objectives. However, the policy may indirectly improve air quality and greenhouse gas emissions as a result of facilities that are accessible by sustainable transport.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy CSC11: Entertainment and Cultural Facilities

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on landscape character or quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on active and healthy lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy CSC11: Entertainment and Cultural Facilities				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it supports a more diverse range of employment opportunities in North Lincolnshire.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	S/M/L	The policy directly supports the objective as it seeks to increase the provision of cultural/entertainment facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should aim to provide recreational and cultural facilities. The policy is therefore likely to accord with these broad requirements.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The impacts of this policy on the majority of the SA objectives is broadly neutral, which reflects the narrow focus of the policy. However, the policy has the potential to positively contribute towards a sustainable economy and increased provision of community facilities.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.				

Policy CSC12: Restaurants and Hot Food Takeaway Establishments

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on landscape character or quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	√?	S/M/L	- This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly. - The addition of the requirement for hot food takeaway developments to demonstrate that measures to prevent the discharge of Fats, Oil and Grease into the sewerage may indirectly result in improved water quality as there will be reduced negative impacts on the water treatment network and/or fewer direct releases into the water environment.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	X	S/M/L	- By permitting restaurant and hot food takeaway establishments the policy may encourage dietary choices that conflict with the objective to promote healthy lifestyles. - However, applications for hot food takeaway uses will be required to include a Health Impact Assessment, and where unacceptable adverse impacts on health are established, permission will not be granted.

Policy CSC12: Restaurants and Hot Food Takeaway Establishments

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it promotes new employment opportunities at restaurant and hot food takeaway establishments.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options have been considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

The impacts of the policy on the SA objectives is broadly neutral. However, it could result in a negative impact in relation to community health and wellbeing as it may encourage poor dietary choices. The policy may have a positive effect on the local economy but providing new employment opportunities in the food sector. The policy could be strengthened by clarifying what would be considered an 'unacceptable concentration' of hot food takeaway establishments.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy may result in a minor positive impact on the water environment as a result of the prevention the discharge of fats, oil and grease into the sewerage which may indirectly improve water quality as there will be reduced negative impacts on the water treatment network and/or fewer direct releases into the water environment. The policy has been strengthened by clarifying the 'unacceptable concentration' of hot food takeaway establishments within the centre.

Policy CSC13: Burial Grounds and Cemetery Provision

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on landscape character or quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓?	M/L	- This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly. - The policy supports the protection of groundwater within principal aquifers and groundwater catchments used for drinking water supply.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy CSC13: Burial Grounds and Cemetery Provision

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with sustainable economy, improved skills and employability and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it ensures access to chapel and burial facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options considered by North Lincolnshire Council. National planning policy regarding promoting healthy and safe communities' states planning policies should provide social, recreational and cultural facilities the community needs. Local Policies are needed to ensure the needs of existing and new communities are met at a local level.

Assessment Conclusions

The impacts of the policy on the objectives are broadly neutral. The policy contributes to SA objective 13 as it supports access to important community facilities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the additional focus on protection of groundwater within the policy may contribute to the protection of North Lincolnshire's groundwaters and principal aquifers.

Policy CSC14: Churches, Prayer Houses and other Places of Worship

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on landscape character or quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports a decrease in deprivation as the development of new places of worship may result in increased community engagement and decision making.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy does not deal with issues associated with an active lifestyle; however, increased access to places of worship may indirectly contribute towards improved mental health of residents who utilise the facilities.

Policy CSC14: Churches, Prayer Houses and other Places of Worship

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0	S/M/L	This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it states that developments in the countryside should support community services, which may result in access and range of services in rural areas.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options considered by North Lincolnshire Council. National planning policy regarding promoting healthy and safe communities states planning policies should provide social, recreational and cultural facilities the community needs. Local Policies are needed to ensure the needs of existing and new communities are met at a local level.

Assessment Conclusions

The impacts of the policy on the SA objectives are broadly neutral; however, it may result in positive social and economic impacts including potential increased access to services and facilities, decreased levels of social deprivation and improved mental health outcomes.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy CSC15: Tourism and Visitor Attractions

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy indirectly supports the objective as it will permit designs provided it is appropriate to the site's location in terms of scale, design, layout and materials.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to support developments that do not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the areas of high wildlife value or provides measurable Biodiversity Net Gain. - In addition, the policy requires comprehensive master planning for large scale developments that should include environmental benefits and mitigation for any potential impacts. - Potential adverse impacts could arise on particularly sensitive sites (e.g. Humber Estuary) through the provision of tourist and visitor attractions that increase recreational pressures in the wider area.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Whilst the policy does not specifically reference protection of water quality in the relevant watercourses and water areas, provisions requiring protection of biodiversity may indirectly benefit water quality. - Large-scale tourism development could place additional stress on water resources in North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?		The policy requires new development to be located in "sustainable" locations, which should ensure that development is not located in areas at unacceptable risk of flooding.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?		- The policy requires new development to be located in "sustainable" locations, which should provide protection for important soil resources in North Lincolnshire. - Additionally, the policy requires large scale developments to articulate potential impacts and proposed mitigation.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	M/L	The policy could result in a negative impact on air quality in the area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	M/L	The policy could have an adverse effect upon climate change and greenhouse gas emissions in the area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is anticipated that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in the area.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?		- The policy indirectly supports the objective as it seeks to support developments that do not have an unacceptable adverse impact on heritage assets. - Additionally, the policy required comprehensive master planning for large scale developments that should include mitigation for any potential impacts.

Social

Policy CSC15: Tourism and Visitor Attractions

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	The policy supports the development of tourism and visitor attractions in the countryside and the development should support local employment and community services. This requirement may indirectly result in decreased deprivation in rural areas.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to more healthy and active lifestyles by promoting access to greenspaces as well as encouraging physical activities such as walking, cycling and running.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports the development as a sustainable economy as it seeks to promote employment opportunities that diversify the economy. - Additionally, requires developments to demonstrate that it enhances and complements existing visitor attractions or priorities in the area and supports the development of a year-round visitor economy and/or extends visitor stays, which may result in increased full-time permanent employment in both urban and rural economies.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the objective as it states that developments in the countryside should support community services, which may result in access and range of services in rural areas.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Two options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at the Issues & Options stage. Option A would support a growth in the visitor economy by focusing on expanding existing tourism sectors and existing tourist facilities. Option B would seek to diversify the tourism sector and encourage new tourist attractions and facilities. Both options were assessed as likely to have the same sustainability outcomes. Potential adverse effects were identified in relation to water resources, air quality and climate change, whilst an increase in visitor numbers could also place additional stress on housing provision and access to local services and facilities. Conversely, the assessment found that both options could have positive impacts on the local economy as the tourism sector grows, stimulating economic activity in a range of other support sectors (i.e., food, accommodation, retail, etc) and creating additional employment opportunities. This economic stimulus could help reduce social deprivation levels if new employment opportunities extended to the more deprived communities in North Lincolnshire.

The proposed policy is assessed as likely to have similar sustainability outcomes to the two options considered at Issues & Options stage.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy CSC15: Tourism and Visitor Attractions

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the SA environmental and economic objectives. In relation to the SA environmental objectives, the policy includes provisions to ensure new developments do not “not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the areas valuable natural, built or heritage assets and helps to enhance any affected asset”. However increased visitors to areas of high wildlife value, particularly if they are marketed more as tourist destinations, could put valuable habitat under pressure. Conversely, this could also lead to greater protection of such areas in order to safeguard their value as a visitor destination. As more visitors begin to travel to the area, there is likely to be an increase in road traffic, which could cause issues in relation to air pollution and climate change.

The policy is expected to increase economic activity and provide new economic opportunities, driving new job creation, which will benefit the local economy and support actions to reduce community deprivation in rural areas.

The policy could be strengthened by clarifying what is considered ‘adequate infrastructure’ and the meaning of ‘valuable natural asset’.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy CSC16: Hotel and Guest House Accommodation

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	The policy seeks to permit developments that are compatible with its surroundings in terms of siting, scale, design, materials and landscaping; therefore, it is likely that the policy will result in the protection and enhancement of local landscapes and maintenance of local character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	This policy specifically states that new hotels, guest houses and bed and breakfast accommodation will not be permissible close to the Humber Estuary to reduce biodiversity impact (e.g. recreational disturbance).
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	This policy specifically states that new hotels, guest houses and bed and breakfast accommodation will not be permissible close to the Humber Estuary due to reasons of high flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	The policy promotes high quality design by supporting developments that are compatible with its surroundings in terms of siting, scale, design, materials and landscaping which may indirectly conserve and enhance the historic environment and its settings.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on active and healthy lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy CSC16: Hotel and Guest House Accommodation

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	X?	S/M/L	By supporting the change of use of existing residential premises, the policy could indirectly result in decreased access to affordable housing, particularly in rural areas.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports the creation of new employment opportunities in both defined settlements and the open countryside. - In addition, the policy supports the diversification of job opportunities in rural communities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on access to community facilities and services in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The NPPF states planning policies and decisions should aim to provide, recreational and cultural facilities. The proposed policy is considered to accord with the requirements of the NPPF.

Assessment Conclusions

The impacts of the policy on the SA objectives are broadly neutral; however, it may result in positive effects in relation to protecting landscape character and conserving the historic environment as the policy includes provisions to ensure that new development is compatible with its surroundings, whilst development in the open countryside must ensure that it "does not have an adverse effect on the character and appearance of the open countryside". The policy could be further strengthened by requiring that new development seeks to enhance the character of its surroundings. The policy also has a positive effect on the local economy as it supports new job creation and economic diversification. In relation to housing provision, there is a risk that the policy could lead to reduced access to housing accommodation, particularly affordable housing, as the policy enables the conversion of residential dwellings to hotel and guest house accommodation. If carried out at scale, this could conflict with the objective to improve access to accommodation. The policy could be strengthened by ensuring that change of use of residential premises to hotel and guest accommodation would only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that the conversion will not reduce the availability of affordable housing in the surrounding area.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have strengthened it in relation to environmental SA objectives by preventing the development of hotel and guest house accommodation close to the Humber Estuary due to biodiversity and flood risk concerns.

Policy CSC17: Camping and Caravan Sites				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0	S/M/L	- New camping and caravan sites have the potential to adversely affect local landscape character, particularly in rural landscapes. - The policy seeks to limit impacts to local landscape character by ensuring that "there is no material adverse impact upon the...character of the locality". - New development must be suitably screened by existing landforms and/or the provision of a scheme of landscaping.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	S/M/L	- New camping and caravan development has the potential to cause damage and disturbance to important habitats and species through increased recreational pressure, particularly if situated in close proximity to sensitive sites, such as the Humber Estuary. - New development is likely to be located on greenfield sites and lead to a loss of biodiversity at these sites. - The policy could indirectly support the protection of biodiversity by requiring new development to provide a landscaping scheme which contributes to measurable Biodiversity Net Gain, which could include the provision of new or enhanced habitats.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		- As caravan sites must be supported by sewerage facilities, it is not likely that proposed developments will impact upon water quality. - Significant new development could increase stress on water resources in North Lincolnshire.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	This policy requires that camping and caravan sites are not located within an area with a high probability of flooding, unless a site specific flood risk assessment and flood emergency plan have demonstrated the risks can be adequately managed.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?		The policy could result in a negative impact on air quality in the surrounding area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is likely that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?		The policy could have an adverse effect upon climate change and greenhouse gas emissions in the area by increasing the numbers of tourism-related journeys undertaken. It is anticipated that the majority of journeys would be by car, as that is the dominant mode of travel in the area.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy CSC17: Camping and Caravan Sites				
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy does not deal with issues associated with deprivation; however, the policy may indirectly reduce deprivation, particularly in rural areas, through the provision of additional employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	The policy may indirectly support the promotion of active and healthy lifestyles by increasing access to leisure opportunities and access to open space.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with affordable housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	Camping and caravan sites can make an important contribute to the rural economy. By supporting the development of caravan and camping sites, the policy indirectly supports increased employment opportunities in the tourism and rural economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		As the policy aims to restrict development to essential facilities, the policy is not likely to result in increased access to a wide range of facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative options considered by North Lincolnshire Council. National planning policy regarding tourism and leisure developments states planning policies and decisions should enable sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments which respect the character of the countryside. Local Policies are needed to ensure the needs of existing and new communities are met at a local level.				
Assessment Conclusions				

Policy CSC17: Camping and Caravan Sites

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the social and economic objectives. Its main benefits are due to the potential for job creation and diversification of the rural economy, which has the potential to benefit local businesses and communities. Provision of camping and caravan may also encourage increased outdoor recreation, which may benefit objectives relating to healthy lifestyles and improved wellbeing. There is potential that increased development, particularly in rural areas, could adversely affect several of the environmental objectives. Large-scale development in particular could result in loss of, or disturbance to, sensitive habitats and species, particularly associated with greenfield development, and could result in a significant increase in car journeys, which could contribute to local air quality issues and associated carbon emissions. The policy could be strengthened by requiring all new development to protect sensitive ecological features and for landscaping schemes to directly support local wildlife.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have some minor benefits from an environmental perspective, particularly in relation to protecting sties from flooding.

Planning for a Sustainable Supply of Minerals

Policy MIN1: Mineral Supply Requirements				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	XX?	M/L	- Whilst the policy is principally focused on setting out the volumes of mineral supply that will be maintained in North Lincolnshire, it does also support the continued operation of existing minerals sites and the allocation of new sites. - Minerals extraction can have a significant adverse effect on surrounding landscape character and negatively impact on important views and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	XX?	M/L	- Existing operational and new minerals development can cause significant loss, damage and disturbance of sensitive habitats and species. - The policy has the potential to contribute to the safeguarding of the natural environment by only permitting new and existing mineral extractions where it does not result in a significant impact on the natural environment.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X	M/L	New minerals extraction sites have the potential to result in localised loss of soil resources in the affected areas.
6	Improve local air quality.	X	M/L	Existing and new minerals development has the potential to adversely affect local air quality through emissions of dust and particulate matter, and through combustion of fuel from machinery and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	XX?	M/L	Existing and new minerals development has the potential to increase greenhouse gas emissions through the physical extraction of minerals and through combustion of fuel from machinery and transport.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.

Policy MIN1: Mineral Supply Requirements

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to have a positive impact on the economy in North Lincolnshire. Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of minerals supports construction work, industry, food production and agriculture. Extraction of minerals can also create new employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on access to community facilities or services in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy states how North Lincolnshire will continue to support a supply of minerals in the short and long term, by ensuring there is an adequate landbank of minerals available. - Ensuring an adequate supply of materials can contribute towards ensuring sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.

Recommended Mitigation

The assessment has identified potential significant adverse impacts in relation to landscape and biodiversity. Whilst the policy is mainly focused on ensuring an adequate landbank of minerals in North Lincolnshire, it does also support the continued operation of existing minerals sites and the allocation of new sites. The policy could be strengthened by clearly stating that additional minerals allocations will only be permitted where they ensure effective protection of the natural environment.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council during the Issues & Options stage. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF, which requires relevant authorities to maintain an adequate supply to of minerals to meet local, regional and national requirements, and make provision in their Local Plans.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy primarily deals with the economic sustainability objectives. Ensuring a steady supply of minerals can ensure long term economic benefits for North Lincolnshire, providing a range of employment opportunities both directly (in the extraction of minerals) and indirectly (in the local industries using these minerals). This can in turn support actions to reduce social deprivation in the area. Conversely, the policy supports the continued operation of existing minerals sites and the allocation of new sites. Such sites can have a range of significant adverse effects of the environment, particularly in relation to local landscape character and visual amenity and can cause loss, damage and disturbance of sensitive habitats and species. Minerals extraction can adversely affect local air quality and can result in significant emissions of greenhouse gas emissions, during the extraction process and subsequent processing and transportation of extracted minerals. The policy could be strengthened by making it clear that new development will only be permitted where it does not result in a significant impact on the natural environment.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy MIN1: Mineral Supply Requirements

Whilst the policy has been strengthened to with inclusion of safeguarding of the natural environment by minimising the adverse effects mineral extractions have on habitats and species, it may not outweigh negative impacts to areas loss, damage and disturbance of sensitive habitats and species as a result of continued supply of minerals, and as such, it cannot be concluded that the will have a positive impact. Therefore, the impact of the assessment conclusion has not changed.

Policy MIN2: Mineral Safeguarding

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	Application of Mineral Safeguarding Areas restricts non-minerals development in the affected areas, which indirectly protects existing landscape character in these areas.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy may indirectly protect soil resources in mineral safeguarding areas from inappropriate development.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy MIN2: Mineral Safeguarding				
9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with social deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to have a positive effect on a sustainable economy by ensuring important mineral resources are safeguarded and therefore remain available for future economic exploitation.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on access to community facilities and services in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the safeguarding of important mineral resources by restricting development from Mineral Safeguarding Areas, ensuring sustainable management of mineral resources in the short to long term. - Ensuring measures are in place to extract minerals prior to non-mineral development contributes towards the sustainable management of mineral resources,
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council during the Issues & Options stage. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy defines Mineral Safeguarding Areas in North Lincolnshire, but this does not enable the subsequent extraction of minerals in these areas. Instead, it focuses on ensuring that inappropriate development is not permitted in these areas, unless there is an overriding requirement for such development. Whilst this assessment considers that the principal effects of this policy will be economic, the policy may provide indirect protection for existing landscape character and soil resources in the affected areas.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.				

Policy MIN3: Mineral Extraction

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy ensures that mineral extraction developments manage and enhance the natural and historic environment and provides protection for North Lincolnshire's rural and urban landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place. - Where an impact on the natural environment is likely, appropriate mitigation must be provided.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy ensures impacts to the natural environment are identified , mitigated and enhanced - Where an impact on biodiversity is likely, appropriate mitigation and enhancement must be provided, for example through biodiversity net gain through the restoration of the extraction site.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy ensures that mineral extraction developments will manage, conserve and enhance the natural environment, including water quality and resources. - The natural environment is considered to include surface and groundwater quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy seeks to ensure that mineral extraction working will not increase the potential of flood risk or surface water flooding; however, it is unlikely that the policy will result in a reduction in flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X?	S/M/L	- Large areas of North Lincolnshire are composed of good quality agricultural land. New minerals development could result in the loss of good quality agricultural land and local soil resources. - The policy supporting text states that the applicant will be expected to provide detailed information of the likely significant effects of the development on soil; however, it does not state that mitigation measures will be required. - The policy ensures that mineral extraction developments will manage, conserve and enhance the natural environment, including soil quality and resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	S/M/L	The policy states that mineral extraction developments must ensure that residential amenity and human health is protected from air quality issues.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	S/M/L	- This policy sets out the framework that will support decision-making on the acceptability of new minerals development. - The policy seeks to ensure that any carbon emissions are identified and minimised to an acceptable level and are offset where practicable. This may also reduce the impacts developments will have on climate change, however, there are still likely to be residual impacts of mineral extraction. - Whilst the policy seeks to ensure effective protection of the natural environment, it does not reference climate change or acknowledge the role minerals extraction can have on contributing to the causes of climate change, principally the significant carbon emissions associated with minerals extraction.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	The Policy ensures that mineral extraction developments will manage, conserve and enhance the historic environment as appropriate.

Policy MIN3: Mineral Extraction

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with social deprivation and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to have a positive effect on a sustainable economy by ensuring that mineral extraction developments are managed in a sustainable manner, by ensuring essential infrastructure is protected, and transportation of materials is carried out using sustainable modes of transport.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The policy requires developments for mineral extraction to demonstrate the extent quality, significance and need for the resources to be extracted, which contributes to sustainable management of mineral resources by ensuring that management controls are in place before minerals are extracted. - Ensuring that infrastructure is protected and minerals transported via sustainable methods will increase the long term sustainability of North Lincolnshire's natural resources.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council for this policy. The NPPF requires planning policies to 'set out criteria set out criteria or requirements to ensure that permitted and proposed operations do not have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human health, taking into account the cumulative effects of multiple impacts from individual sites and/or a number of sites in a locality'.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy MIN3: Mineral Extraction

This policy seeks to set out a framework to support sustainable minerals development by providing safeguards against inappropriate adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment, local communities and essential infrastructure. As such, the policy supports several of the SA environmental objectives as effective application of the policy should ensure minerals development is only undertaken in a manner that protects important environmental features or ensures effective mitigation of any adverse effects. However, the policy could be further strengthened by providing additional clarity over what is considered the 'natural environment' so as to ensure that this protection extends to all facets of the environment, including water quality and water resources and soil quality and soil resources. The policy does not make reference to climate change or acknowledge the significant carbon emissions associated with minerals extraction. The policy should seek to require all minerals development include provision to minimise and/or offset their carbon emissions. In relation to the SA economic objectives, the policy is largely positive as it will promote the minerals industry in North Lincolnshire and ensure the sustainable management of minerals resources.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The policy now requires developments to identify and minimise carbon emissions, which has reduced the level of negative impacts of the policy. However mineral extraction developments will still likely produce greenhouse gases and as such the policy will still have a negative impact. The changes to the policy to include the management, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including water and soil quality and resources, has strengthened the policy, resulting in likely positive impacts on the enhancement of biodiversity objective.

Policy MIN4: Recycled and Secondary Aggregates

SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- By prioritising sites already associated with the mineral industry or waste management, the policy indirectly provide protection for landscapes in areas outside of these sites. - The policy ensures that recycled and secondary aggregates development cannot conflict with an approved site restoration scheme.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	By prioritising sites already associated with the mineral industry or waste management, the policy indirectly provide protection for biodiversity, habitats and species in areas outside of these sites.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with water quality and quantity and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flooding and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	By prioritising sites already associated with the mineral industry or waste management, the policy indirectly provide protection for soil resources in areas outside of these sites.

Policy MIN4: Recycled and Secondary Aggregates

6	Improve local air quality.	X	S/M/L	Recycling and secondary aggregates development has the potential to adversely affect local air quality through emissions of dust and particulate matter, and through combustion of fuel from machinery and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	S/M/L	- Recycling and secondary aggregates development has the potential to increase greenhouse gas emissions through the physical processing of minerals and through combustion of fuel from machinery and transport. - Recycling of aggregates may reduce the requirement for extraction of primary aggregates, which is likely to have a significantly larger carbon footprint.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	By prioritising sites already associated with the mineral industry or waste management, the policy indirectly provide protection for heritage features in areas outside of these sites.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to promote a sustainable economy by contributing towards sustainable development through the use of recycled and secondary aggregate over primary aggregate, which can have long term benefits. - Promotion of secondary aggregate processing facilities has the potential to create new jobs and contribute towards diversifying the economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓	S/M/L	- Promoting the use of secondary aggregates over primary aggregates can have long term benefits to the sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's by increasing the amount of primary aggregates available in North Lincolnshire. - Requiring developments of temporary facilities for recovering and recycling of inert materials to demonstrate that materials will be recycled and reused will increase the amount of recycled and secondary aggregates available.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Policy MIN4: Recycled and Secondary Aggregates

No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council for this policy. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy primarily deals with the economic sustainability objectives and the assessment considers there is potential for a significant positive effect in relation to promoting a sustainable economy in North Lincolnshire and ensuring sustainable management of the area's mineral resources. The policy seeks to ensure that facilities and developments to process recycled and secondary aggregates make use of existing minerals or waste sites, which indirectly affords protection for areas outside of these sites from such development. The assessment considers there is potential for adverse effects in relation to air quality and climate change associated with emissions from the secondary and recycled aggregates industry, although it acknowledges that use of such resources over primary aggregates is likely to have a lower carbon footprint.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Policy MIN5: Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas/Hydrocarbons)

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X?	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction is likely to have an adverse effect on local landscape character and visual amenity. - The policy states that adverse impacts on the environment should be avoided or mitigated.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X?	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction, both conventional and unconventional, is likely to have an adverse effect on biodiversity at the affected sites and in the local area. - The policy states that adverse impacts on the environment should be avoided or mitigated. - The policy requires proposals to demonstrate how they will provide benefits to the natural environment, such as biodiversity enhancement. However, there is no certainty that the enhancement will outweigh any negative impacts as a result of damage and disturbance to biodiversity. - Where contamination has occurred as a result of extraction enough remediation of the site must be employed following decommissioning. However, there is no certainty that remediation will outweigh the negative impacts to the environment during commission.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction, both conventional and unconventional, has the potential to adversely affect surface and groundwater quality. - The policy states that adverse impacts on the environment, such as water quality, should be avoided or mitigated.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X?	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction has the potential to adversely affect soil resources at the affected sites. - The policy states that adverse impacts on the environment should be avoided or mitigated.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction has the potential to adversely affect local air quality. - The policy states that adverse impacts on the environment should be avoided or mitigated.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓/X	S/M/L	- New oil and gas extraction will contribute to climate change and increase greenhouse gas emissions through the extraction, processing and subsequent use of fossil fuels. - A local supply of fossil fuels may reduce the requirement for the import of fossil fuels, potentially reducing the associated carbon footprint.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

Policy MIN5: Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas/Hydrocarbons)

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy may result in increased employment opportunities in the Energy Minerals sector.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓?	S/M/L	The policy supports sustainable energy mineral extraction by only supporting mineral extraction where benefits significantly outweigh negative impacts.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options were considered for this policy by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy seeks to set out a framework to guide energy mineral extraction development in North Lincolnshire. It includes safeguards designed to minimise the risk of an adverse impact on the local environment or local communities or requires effective mitigation where an impact cannot be avoided. However, overall, the assessment considers that new oil and gas development is likely to have an adverse effect on many of the SA environmental objectives. The policy could be strengthened by providing a more robust statement regarding the mitigation of adverse impacts that requires new development to ensure impacts are not only mitigated by deliver environmental enhancement. In addition, the policy could be strengthened by the addition of a requirement to remediate any contaminated sites following decommissioning.

In relation to climate change, the extraction of hydrocarbons has a range of negative effects, not least, the release of greenhouse gas emissions associated with the extraction, processing and use of these hydrocarbons. However, a local supply of fossil fuels could reduce the requirement for the import of these fuels and the assessment acknowledges that use of such resources is likely to have a lower carbon footprint.

The assessment also found positive effects in relation to social deprivation and the local economy through the provision of new economic activities and associated job opportunities.

Policy MIN5: Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas/Hydrocarbons)

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The addition of mitigation measures and enhancement of the natural environment through the provision of biodiversity enhancement and contamination remediation, while beneficial, may not outweigh negative impacts to the natural environment as a result of energy mineral exploration and production, and as such, it cannot be concluded that the will have a positive impact to SA environmental objectives. Therefore, the impact of the assessment conclusion has not changed.

Policy MIN6: Mineral Sites

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character through the development of new minerals sites.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to adversely affect biodiversity through the development of new minerals sites. - The policy requires new developments to fully mitigate its environmental impacts and enhance the natural environment through the provision of measurable net gains to biodiversity; however, there is no certainty that the net gains will outweigh any negative impacts as a result of increased damage and disturbance to biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	New minerals development could result in a direct and/or cumulative impact on water quality and quantity.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓/X	S/M/L	- By focusing new minerals development in these sites, the policy reduces the potential for minerals development in areas containing important soil resources. - However, minerals development at these sites has the potential to adversely affect soil resources in the development area.
6	Improve local air quality.	X	S/M/L	- Increased minerals development in North Lincolnshire has the potential to have an adverse effect on local air quality during both construction and operation of the developments. - New development could lead to increased emissions to air from energy use, waste generation, and transport.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X	M/L	New minerals development has the potential to contribute to climate change through a substantial increase in carbon emissions both during construction and occupation of the developments.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		- By focusing new employment development in these sites, the policy reduces the potential for adverse impacts on important heritage assets. - Conversely, the policy is not likely to make a direct contribution to the protection or enhancement of heritage assets.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by providing access to new employment opportunities (both during construction and operation of the development).
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Policy MIN6: Mineral Sites

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓	S/M/L	- The safeguarding of existing minerals development and promotion of new minerals development contribute towards delivering a sustainable economy. - Identifying additional minerals sites can contribute towards promoting a sustainable economy and improve skills and employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to services and facilities, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓	S/M/L	The policy directly supports the sustainable management of mineral resources in North Lincolnshire by setting out where such development will be permitted.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative policy options were considered for this policy by North Lincolnshire Council. However, alternative sites for mineral extraction have been considered by the Council. These sites were assessed by the Council as likely to have significant environmental constraints and were therefore not considered to be a reasonable alternative. All mineral extraction sites are likely to cause a range of environmental risks and issues and it is likely that all sites would be assessed as having similar sustainability outcomes.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy seeks to safeguard existing minerals sites and allocates three new sites for minerals development. The policy is likely to have positive economic effects as minerals extraction represents an important component of the local economy and new minerals sites provides new opportunities for economic growth and new jobs creation. This in turn could support actions to reduce social deprivation in North Lincolnshire. In relation to the SA environmental objectives, the policy has the potential to have a range of adverse effects. New minerals development has the potential to negatively impact on landscape character, biodiversity, water quality, air quality and climate change. These issues should be considered in detail at planning application stage and appropriate mitigation incorporated into the design and delivery of new employment development so as to reduce any such adverse effects. The policy could be strengthened by requiring new development to fully mitigate its environmental impacts and deliver environmental benefits as is required for other employment development in North Lincolnshire.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy MIN6: Mineral Sites

The addition of enhancement of the natural environment through the mitigation of environmental impacts and provision of biodiversity net gain, while beneficial, may not outweigh negative impacts to biodiversity as a result of mineral developments, and as such, it cannot be concluded that the will have a positive impact. Therefore, the impact of the assessment conclusion has not changed.

Policy MIN7: Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X?	S/M/L	The policy may result in negative impacts on landscape character; however, the level of impact is dependent upon the size of the borrow pits, the restoration and aftercare proposals and the proximity of sensitive receptors.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy may result in negative impacts on biodiversity and habitats; however, the level of impact is dependent upon the size of the borrow pits, the habitats present in the location of the borrow pit, and the restoration and aftercare proposal. - The policy requires the restoration of Borrow Pits to provide biodiversity enhancement to contribute to the Nature Recovery Network in North Lincolnshire and ensure biodiversity enhancement. - The policy states that developments must conduct an assessment of environmental impacts of the development and ensure appropriate mitigation is provided.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X?	S/M/L	By its very nature, a borrow pit involves the extraction of soil resources for use on a construction site. As a result, the policy may result in negative impacts to soil resources. However, impacts are likely to be minimised by the implementation of restoration and aftercare proposals.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with air quality and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	X?	S/M/L	The policy may result in negative impacts on buried archaeology; however, the level of impact is dependent upon the size of the borrow pits, the habitats present in the location of the borrow pit, and the restoration and aftercare proposal.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Policy MIN7: Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is unlikely to have an impact on active and healthy lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to support employment opportunities by supporting borrow pits required for construction projects.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓	S/M/L	The policy supports the sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources as it supports more sustainable extraction adjacent to constructions sites as opposed to requiring material to be imported or requiring the use of unviable deposits.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council for this policy.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential for a range of adverse effects in relation to several of the environmental objectives. Borrow pits could lead to an impact on local landscape character, biodiversity, soil resources and buried archaeology. The policy could be strengthened by clearly requiring such development to fully assess the environmental impacts of the development and ensure appropriate mitigation is provided. Borrow pits could represent an important wildlife habitat post-development and the policy could be further strengthened by stating that restoration works should include biodiversity enhancement.

The policy contributes positively to the economic sustainability objectives, supporting local mineral extraction (rather than import from outside the authority area) and associated construction activities.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy may result in a minor positive impact on the natural environment as a result of the restoration and biodiversity enhancement of Borrow Pitts which may provide important wildlife habitats post-development resulting in likely positive impacts on the enhancement of biodiversity objective.

Policy MIN8: Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	L	- Potential for positive impact on landscape in North Lincolnshire through requiring proposals to include restoration plans that seek to make a positive contribution to Landscape character and quality. - The policy seeks for restoration to make a positive contribution to landscape character and quality that is in keeping with the character and setting of the local area.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	L	The policy seeks for restoration to make a positive contribution to biodiversity and wildlife conservation, that is locally relevant to the site to support wider green infrastructure and ecological networks. The policy requires site restoration plans to address the long-term management and monitoring of restoration. The policy may make a positive contribution to the natural environment by securing the long-term enhancement of biodiversity. By supporting progressive working and phased restoration, the policy may indirectly reduce the length of time local wildlife is impacted by mineral extraction activities by providing restoration works sooner to support local wildlife and biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	L	Potential for positive impact on the quality and quantity of water in North Lincolnshire's surface waters through requiring proposals to include restoration plans that seek to make a positive contribution to water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	L	The policy seeks to have flood water management incorporated into the restoration plan. As such, the policy may result in a decrease in flood risk within the surrounding area.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	L	The policy seeks to have positive contributions towards soils incorporated into the restoration activities.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	L	Potential for positive impact on local air quality in North Lincolnshire's through requiring proposals to include restoration plans that seek to make a positive contribution to air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with greenhouse gas emissions and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	L	Potential for an indirect positive impact on the setting of heritage assets through restoration plans seeking to make a positive contribution to landscape character and quality.

Social

Policy MIN8: Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	L	This policy has the potential to reduce deprivation in North Lincolnshire through requiring proposals to include restoration plans that seek to promote recreational facilities, which can therefore support initiatives to reduce deprivation and the impacts of deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	L	The policy has the potential to promote health and active lifestyles by requiring proposals to include restoration plans that seek to promote recreational facilities including promotion of access to nature through public rights of way, which can encourage exercise and other health activities.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	L	- The policy may indirectly support employment opportunities for those involved in the restoration activities. Additionally, further employment opportunities may be created by supporting restoration plans that promote recreational facilities. - Additionally, site restored to support local wildlife and habitats can often be used for outdoor recreation including walking and cycling.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		The policy may result in a long term increased access to recreational facilities. However, given the frequency of mineral extraction restoration activities, the impact is likely to be negligible.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓	L	The policy has the potential to ensure that North Lincolnshire's mineral resources are sustainably managed by ensuring that proper restoration and aftercare measures are in place. This will encourage the long-term sustainability of mineral extractions in North Lincolnshire.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternative options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council for this policy.				
Assessment Conclusions				

Policy MIN8: Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites

The policy has the potential to have wide-ranging environmental, social and economic benefits. The promotion of restoration plans that seek to make a positive contribution towards environmental objectives can mitigate the potential negative impacts of mineral management in North Lincolnshire. The use of restoration plans can also contribute towards the long term sustainable management of mineral resources by ensuring that mineral sites are properly decommissioned after the end of their life. The policy may also indirectly result in associated employment opportunities.

The policy could be strengthened by clarifying what is considered a 'timely manner'.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy, while beneficial from an environmental perspective, have not resulted in any changes the previous assessment conclusions.

Sustainable Waste Management

Policy WAS1: Waste Management Principles				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the protection of North Lincolnshire's landscape by ensuring that new developments are designed and located in a way that avoids "unacceptable adverse impacts" on the landscape. - However, the policy may still result in adverse impacts on landscape character and visual amenity.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy has been strengthened by requiring new waste developments to mitigate any impacts on the natural environment and provide landscape and biodiversity enhancements where feasible.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy may result in reduced air quality as a result of the transportation and processing of waste. - However, by supporting the development of an integrated network of local waste management facilities, the policy may result in decreased transport requirements, in turn reducing impacts to air quality associated with the transport of waste.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓/X	S/M/L	- Depending on the nature of the waste management facility, it is possible that the policy may result in contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, particularly through waste incineration and landfills. - However, by supporting the development of a network of local waste management facilities, the policy may result in decreased transport requirements, in turn reducing the emissions associated with waste transport vehicles.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the protection of North Lincolnshire's historic environment by ensuring that new developments are designed and located in a way that avoids "unacceptable adverse impacts" on heritage assets. - However, the policy may still result in adverse impacts on landscape character and visual amenity.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Potential for a minor indirect benefit to reducing deprivation by ensuring that new developments proposals relating to waste do not adversely impact upon amenity.

Policy WAS1: Waste Management Principles

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to promote a sustainable economy in North Lincolnshire through promotion of re-use and recovery of waste materials, which could potentially have economic value.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	Policy has the potential to increase access to waste management facilities by supporting the development of a network of local waste management facilities in accessible locations.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

A range of different options for waste management were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. This included options relating to identifying sites for waste management and options for managing the impacts of waste development. Both sets of options were considered likely to have positive effects in relation to most of the SA environmental objectives, neutral effects for the social objectives and positive economic effects.

The proposed policy has been assessed as likely to have broadly similar sustainability outcomes to these options. However, the policy, whilst acknowledging the requirement for waste development to avoid unacceptable impacts on specified environmental assets, does mean that some adverse effects are likely.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential to have wide-ranging environmental, social and economic benefits. The policy sets out a framework for managing waste in North Lincolnshire, generally encouraging the minimisation of waste production, and re-use and recovery of waste materials. The policy sets out 9 principles to govern and control waste management in North Lincolnshire, including the requirement that waste be managed in accordance with the waste hierarchy. The principles set out can have environmental, economic and social benefits ensuring sustainable waste management into the future. The policy encourages development in accessible locations, which can contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste transportation and the impact on climate change.

The policy could be strengthened by ensuring that new development fully mitigates its environmental impacts and that it seeks to deliver environmental benefits where feasible, such as through an appropriate landscaping scheme or new habitat creation.

Assessment Conclusions- Publication stage

Policy WAS1: Waste Management Principles

The changes to the policy to include mitigation of impacts on the natural environment and provide landscape and biodiversity enhancements where feasible, has strengthened the policy, resulting in likely positive impacts on the enhancement of biodiversity objective.

Policy WAS2: Waste Facilities

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy promotes the protection of North Lincolnshire's landscape by requiring new developments to demonstrate that they have taken the landscape impacts into consideration. - In addition, the policy requires demonstration that restoration and aftercare has been considered, which may contribute towards improvements to landscape quality.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to support this objective by requiring that new developments occur in areas already designated for waste management or on areas that have previously been developed on. - In addition, the policy requires demonstration that restoration and aftercare has been considered, which may contribute towards improved habitats and biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓?	L	The policy has the potential to support this objective by requiring that new developments occur in areas already designated for waste management or on areas that have previously been developed on.
6	Improve local air quality.	0	S/M/L	This policy seeks for developments to address impacts associated with odours and dusts.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	S/M/L	- New waste management development is likely to generate substantial greenhouse gas emissions. - This policy seeks for developments to consider mitigation methods to reduce/prevent greenhouse gas emissions; however, there are still likely to be residual impacts.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to protect heritage assets North Lincolnshire by requiring that new developments occur in areas already designated for waste management or on areas that have previously been developed on.

Social

Policy WAS2: Waste Facilities				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	- Potential for a minor indirect benefit to reducing deprivation by ensuring that new developments proposals relating to waste do not adversely impact upon amenity. - This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy may also create new economic activities and employment opportunities associated with the collection, management and processing of waste.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	Policy has the potential to increased access to services in North Lincolnshire by ensuring that developments consider the suitability of the site access and egress arrangements.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
During the Issues & Options stage, North Lincolnshire Council developed policy options for 'Identifying sites for Waste Management' and 'Managing the Impact of Waste Management'. Both sets of options were considered likely to have positive effects in relation to most of the SA environmental objectives, neutral effects for the social objectives and positive economic effects. The proposed policy has been assessed as likely to have similar sustainability outcomes to these options. The UK Government policy for waste management is set out in the National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW). The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPW. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.				
Assessment Conclusions				

Policy WAS2: Waste Facilities

The policy has the potential to have wide-ranging environmental, social and economic benefits. The policy deals with sustainable management of waste facilities and sets out matters that should be taken into consideration when determining where new waste facilities should be developed. The policy concords with the requirements set out in the NPPW. The NPPW states that waste facilities should consider 'air emissions, including dust' however the policy only states 'dust'. The policy should be updated to include the term 'air emissions' to ensure clarity.

The policy has the potential to result in negative impacts on climate change as a result of substantial greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste development. The policy can be strengthened by requiring new developments to consider and include mitigation for greenhouse gas emissions.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The policy now requires developments to consider mitigation methods to reduce/prevent greenhouse gas emissions, which has reduced the level of negative impact of the policy. However, waste management facilities will still likely produce greenhouse gases and as such the policy will still have a negative impact.

Policy WAS3: Waste Management Provision

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	By seeking to achieve net self-sufficiency in waste management, this policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities in the waste management sector
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Policy WAS3: Waste Management Provision

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	The policy may also create new economic activities and employment opportunities associated with the collection, management and processing of waste.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to increase access to waste management facilities by supporting the development of a network of local waste management facilities in accessible locations.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

A range of options for waste management were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. This included options relating to identifying sites for waste management and options for managing the impacts of waste development. Both sets of options were considered likely to have positive effects in relation to most of the SA environmental objectives, neutral effects for the social objectives and positive economic effects. Given that the proposed policy focuses on establishing the objective of net self-sufficiency in waste management rather than setting out how this objective will be achieved, the impact of the policy in relation to the SA environmental objectives is considered to be neutral.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is likely to have neutral impacts in relation to the SA environmental objectives. This is because the policy sets an objective to achieve net self-sufficiency in waste management by increasing capacity in North Lincolnshire but does not set out how this will be achieved or what policy controls will be placed on new waste management development. However, the policy will require an increase in waste management capacity in the area, which will have a number of social and economic effects. In particular, the policy is likely to create new economic activities and employment opportunities associated with the collection, management and processing of waste, which in turn will increase access to waste management facilities and can support initiatives to reduce social deprivation in North Lincolnshire.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy were minor and did not alter the conclusions from the previous assessment.

Policy WAS4: Safeguarding Existing Waste Sites & Infrastructure

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Policy WAS4: Safeguarding Existing Waste Sites & Infrastructure

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy contributes to a sustainable economy by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy seeks to maintain access to waste facilities by ensuring that facilities located in strategic locations are protected from further development. - The policy was updated to include additional safeguarded facilities (detailed in the supporting text), which will likely contribute further to maintaining access to waste facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The UK Government policy for waste management is set out in the National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW). The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPW. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy seeks to safeguard existing waste management facilities in North Lincolnshire. As such, the policy is assessed as having neutral impacts in relation to the SA environmental objectives. Safeguarding existing waste management sites, which represent important community facilities and sources of employment, has the potential to benefit several of the social and economic SA objectives.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The policy was updated to include additional safeguarded facilities however, the updates did not alter the conclusions of the previous assessment.

Policy WAS5: Wastewater Treatment

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0	S/M/L	The policy supports developments that will not have significant adverse impacts to visual amenity or landscape character. However, it does not require improvements to visual amenity and as such the impacts are likely neutral.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓/X	S/M/L	- The policy requires that proposals for new wastewater treatment facilities demonstrate that 'there would be no deterioration in the ecological status of the affected watercourse'. However, localised adverse impacts on aquatic biodiversity may occur. - Improved wastewater management could support improvements in water quality in receiving watercourses, which would benefit aquatic ecology.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to protect and improve the quality and quantity of water in North Lincolnshire's surface waters by requiring new developments to demonstrate that there 'would be no significant impacts on the condition, functionality or safety of water supply'. - Improved wastewater management could support improvements in water quality in receiving watercourses.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓	S/M/L	The policy requires new development to demonstrate that there would be no increase risk in flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓		The policy includes provision to ensure no significant adverse effects on local communities due to odours and other emissions.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to reduce deprivation in North Lincolnshire by ensuring that new wastewater treatment developments do not significantly adversely impact upon the quality of life for local communities. - Requiring that developments do not adversely impact upon the functionality and safety of water supply can also contribute towards reducing deprivation by ensuring that people have access to safe, clean water.
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Policy WAS5: Wastewater Treatment				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with healthy and active lifestyles and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0	S/M/L	This policy is not likely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with access to community services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
The UK Government framework for wastewater management is set out in the 'National Policy Statement for Waste Water'. The document sets out the Governments 'Key Policy Objectives', including 'sustainable development' and 'To improve water quality in the natural environment'. The policy complies with the requirements set out in this document, and with the requirement set out in European Directives such as the Water Framework Directive. As such, no alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The policy has the potential to provide a range of environmental benefits. It seeks to ensure that new wastewater treatment development is delivered in a manner that does not have a significant adverse impact on the environment of the receiving watercourses and provides support for wider environmental objectives, such as those under the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Improved wastewater treatment in North Lincolnshire, including the future replacement of existing facilities with new, modern technologies that achieve a higher standard of treatment may delivery longer term benefits for water quality, air quality and aquatic ecology. However, the assessment considers that new treatment facilities are likely to have a minor adverse impact on local landscape character and it is recommended that the policy is strengthened by including provision requiring all such development to include an appropriate landscaping scheme to protect landscape character and visual amenity.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
Updates to the policy require developments to mitigate any adverse negative impacts on visual amenity or landscape character. As a result, the impacts on the landscape objective (objective 1) have been assessed as neutral.				

Policy WAS6: Waste Management in Development

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy WAS6: Waste Management in Development

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with employment and a sustainable economy and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to increase access to waste management facilities by ensuring that waste infrastructure is incorporated into major development proposals.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The UK Government framework for waste management is set out in the National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW). The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPW. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy is likely to have neutral impacts in relation to almost all of the SA objectives. The exception is in relation to access to facilities as the policy promotes the integration of waste infrastructure into new major development.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy WAS7: Restoration & Aftercare				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to protect and enhance the quality of North Lincolnshire's landscape, by requiring temporary waste management development proposals to detail 'the proposed landform, landscaping and planting and how they respond to the context of the surrounding topography and vegetation.' - Requiring details of how they respond to the context of the surrounding topography and vegetation will ensure that restoration schemes maintain local character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓?	S/M/L	- The policy requires temporary waste management development to improve and connect with the existing green infrastructure network in North Lincolnshire and ensure biodiversity enhancement. - The policy requires development proposals to respond to the priorities within the Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping and contribute to a Nature Recovery Network, through strategic biodiversity enhancement coherent and resilient ecological networks may be established in line with Greater Lincolnshire Nature Strategy.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- Landfill leachates can negatively impact groundwater if not managed effectively. The policy indirectly supports the protection of groundwater quality by requiring proposals to detail management of 'liquids'. - The supporting text also states that the restoration schemes will have to introduce measures to prevent infiltration, which should minimise the volume of contaminated liquids.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with flood risk and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with soil resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to improve air quality by requiring developments to include measures to manage their emissions, including gases.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by requiring developments to include measures to manage their gas emissions. - This may also reduce the impacts developments will have on climate change.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with climate change and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Social				

Policy WAS7: Restoration & Aftercare				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	Policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by improving and connecting green infrastructure that can be utilised for informal recreation, which can alleviate the pressures of social deprivation.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire by improving and connecting green infrastructure that can be utilised for informal recreation. This could promote sports or other activities such as running and walking.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with employment and a sustainable economy and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with services and facilities and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The UK Government framework for waste management is set out in the National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW). The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPW. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable. As such, no further policy alternatives have been considered.				
Assessment Conclusions				

Policy WAS7: Restoration & Aftercare

This policy has the potential to positively contribute to several of the environmental and social objectives. The policy seeks to ensure that waste management development sites are effectively restored at the end of their operational lifetimes and that this restoration delivers environmental (primarily biodiversity) and community (increased recreation and amenity) benefits, whilst ensuring effective environmental protection from ongoing pollution issues. Monitoring of the site after restoration is important to ensure there are no lasting negative impacts from the waste management facility, and the policy states that developments would be required to create a programme of aftercare and monitoring.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy have not impacted the overall conclusion; however, the addition of requirements for new developments to respond to the priorities within Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping may support contributions to the Nature Recovery Network and in turn improve habitats and local wildlife.

Connecting North Lincolnshire

Policy T1: Promoting Sustainable Transport

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related air pollution in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	L	- This policy could support actions to reduce social deprivation by increasing access to public transport. - By supporting walking and cycling modes of travel, the policy can contribute to improved community health and wellbeing, which can reduce the impacts of social deprivation.
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Policy T1: Promoting Sustainable Transport

10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	L	- The prioritisation of pedestrian and cycle access within new development will reduce reliance on private cars for local residents. - By supporting walking and cycling modes of travel, the policy can contribute to improved community health and wellbeing.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.

Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	L	This policy could support the local economy by increasing access to public transport, increasing accessibility to employment sites in North Lincolnshire.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in greater provision of public transport, particularly in rural areas, contributing to an increase in community infrastructure.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

A number of options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at the Issues & Options stage. Each of these options aimed to reduce the need to travel by private car and to encourage people to choose more sustainable forms of transport, which are primarily walking, cycling and use of public transport services. Option A required new developments to demonstrate how they would facilitate walking and cycling and the use of public transport through a Transport Statement. Option B required that new development make available information on walking, cycling and public transport links to all new residents. Option C sought contributions from development to support sustainable transport choices. All three options had largely neutral effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives but would lead to benefits in relation to air quality and climate change due to a potential reduction in the use of private cars. In relation to the social and economic SA objectives, the three options were assessed as having largely positive effects, with Option C assessed as having a significant positive effect in relation to promoting healthy lifestyles. This was due to the greater certainty provided by Option C, which would have ensured that development directly contribute to the delivery of identified infrastructure requirements. This approach was considered more holistic and strategic. The proposed policy is predicated to have similar sustainability outcomes to the options considered at Issues & Options stage. However, in relation to healthy and active lifestyles, the assessment considers that the impact would be minor positive rather than a significant positive effect largely due a lack of detailed information in the policy setting out how its key aims will be delivered and the scale of delivery.

Assessment Conclusions

Policy T1: Promoting Sustainable Transport

This policy is anticipated to have largely neutral effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives. Reducing the need to travel by private car may have positive impacts upon air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. The policy is also expected to have a positive impact upon the promotion of healthy lifestyles in the area, by seeking to prioritise walking and cycling in new developments over car use. In addition, the policy promotes increased access to public transport, which may benefit social deprivation and support the local economy. The policy could be strengthened by providing further details on how the policy will be applied to new development and which development proposals will be affected. At present, it is unclear how and where this policy will be applied, and so there is some uncertainty in the sustainability outcomes it may achieve.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy at the Publication Draft stage and as such the previous conclusions have not changed. However, the policy will be strengthened as a result of the Integrated Transport Strategy (ITS) that is currently being drafted and will align with the new Local Plan.

Policy T2: Promoting Public Transport

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related air pollution in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of public transport and a reduction in private car usage.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of public transport and a reduction in private car usage.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	L	This policy could support actions to reduce social deprivation by increasing access to public transport.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy T2: Promoting Public Transport

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	L	This policy could support the local economy by increasing access to public transport, increasing accessibility to employment sites in North Lincolnshire and improving business-related travel.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in greater provision of public transport, particularly in rural areas, contributing to an increase in community infrastructure.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy is anticipated to have largely neutral effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives. Increasing access to public transport and improving public transport services could reduce the need to travel by private car, which may have positive impacts upon air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, increased access to public transport may benefit social deprivation and support the local economy by increasing access to employment sites and enhancing business-related travel.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The changes to the policy while likely beneficial, in particular the inclusion of "JustGo North Lincs", have not resulted in changes to the significance of the impacts of the policy as compared to the previous assessment.

Policy T3: New Development and Transport

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related air pollution in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of public transport and a reduction in private car usage.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of public transport and a reduction in private car usage.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	L	This policy could support actions to reduce social deprivation by increasing access to public transport.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy T3: New Development and Transport

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	L	This policy could support the local economy by increasing access to public transport, increasing accessibility to employment sites in North Lincolnshire and improving business-related travel.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	The policy could result in greater provision of public transport, particularly in rural areas, contributing to an increase in community infrastructure.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

Several options were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at the Issues & Options stage. Each of these options aimed to reduce the need to travel by private car and to encourage people to choose more sustainable forms of transport, which are primarily walking, cycling and use of public transport services. Option A required new developments to demonstrate how they would facilitate walking and cycling and the use of public transport through a Transport Statement. Option B required that new development make available information on walking, cycling and public transport links to all new residents. Option C sought contributions from development to support sustainable transport choices.

All three options had largely neutral effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives but would lead to benefits in relation to air quality and climate change due to a potential reduction in the use of private cars. In relation to the social and economic SA objectives, the three options were assessed as having largely positive effects, with Option C assessed as having a significant positive effect in relation to promoting healthy lifestyles. This was due to the greater certainty provided by Option C, which would have ensured that development directly contribute to the delivery of identified infrastructure requirements. This approach was considered more holistic and strategic.

The proposed policy is predicated to have similar sustainability outcomes to the options considered at Issues & Options stage. However, in relation to healthy and active lifestyles, the assessment considers that the impact would be minor positive rather than a significant positive effect largely due a lack of detailed information in the policy setting out how its key aims will be delivered and the scale of delivery.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy is anticipated to have largely neutral effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives. Increasing access to public transport and improving public transport services could reduce the need to travel by private car, which may have positive impacts upon air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, increased access to public transport may benefit social deprivation and support the local economy by increasing access to employment sites and enhancing business-related travel.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Policy T3: New Development and Transport

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy T4: Parking

SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment
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Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	The policy states clear standards for the provision of facilities incorporating electric cars and ultra-low emission vehicles. An improved charging network could result in increased ownership of these vehicles, which would likely to improve local air quality by reducing emissions arising from private car use.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	The policy ensures that a given proportion of all parking spaces are given over to electric or ultra-low emissions vehicles. An improved charging network could result in increased ownership of these vehicles, reducing associated greenhouse gas emissions from private transport.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Policy T4: Parking				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	- The policy seeks to provide adequate parking in new developments, including parking for people with mobility impairments. - The policy requires new parking development to make adequate provision for electric cars and ultra-low emission vehicles, which will increase accessibility to locations and facilities by people who use these modes of transport. - Ensuring new development proposals include adequate parking provision is likely to make local facilities more accessible and increase the number of individuals who have access to these facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy is anticipated to have largely neutral effects in relation to the environmental, social and economic objectives. However, by requiring improved parking and charging facilities for electric cars and ultra-low emission vehicles, the policy could support improvements in local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emission from private car use. Also, ensuring that new development includes adequate parking provision, including parking for people with mobility impairments, could increase access to local community facilities and services.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.				

Policy T5: Cycle and Motorcycle Parking

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related air pollution in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of bicycle and motorcycle travel and a reduction in private car usage.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased use of bicycle and motorcycle travel and a reduction in private car usage.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	M/L	By supporting cycling modes of travel, the policy can contribute to improved community health and wellbeing.

Policy T5: Cycle and Motorcycle Parking

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	M/L	Increasing the provision of cycle and motorcycle parking can contribute to increased community access to services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy is anticipated to have largely neutral effects in relation to the environmental, social and economic objectives. However, by encouraging improved bicycle and motorcycle parking facilities, the policy could support improvements in local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emission from private car use. Also, ensuring new development includes adequate parking provision could increase access to local community facilities and services.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy T6: Freight

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	M/L	New rail freight related development is likely to adversely affect local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X?	M/L	- New rail freight related development has the potential to adversely affect sensitive habitats and species. - Increased use of waterways also has the potential to adversely affect sensitive habitats and species, and potentially designates sites, in particular the Humber Estuary.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X?	S/M/L	The policy may indirectly negatively impact water quality as a result of an increased probability of accidental contamination from spills/leaks as a result of increased use of the waterways for freight transport.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	M/L	Encouraging increased use of rail or water freight, which emit less airborne pollutants than road freight (weight for weight) is likely to result in reduced air pollution.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	M/L	Encouraging increased use of rail or water freight, would likely result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	M/L	- Encouraging increased use of rail or water freight, which emit less airborne pollutants than road freight (weight for weight) is likely to result in reduced air pollution. Improvements in air quality may reduce instances of respiratory diseases. - Reduced road freight could reduce lorry-related road accidents.

Policy T6: Freight

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on housing provision in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	- Increased provision of rail and water freight services and facilities will increase transport options for related industries and businesses and could potentially reduce transport-related costs. - Increased development around existing port and rail infrastructure could result in increased employment levels in rural parts of North Lincolnshire. - Increased development around ports and railways could also lead to a diversification in the rural economy, rendering it less vulnerable to fluctuations in the wider economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	M/L	If the policy results in a larger proportion of freight being transported by rail or over water, it could cause less road congestion, potentially making public services more accessible.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0	M/L	This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

This policy has the potential to deliver a range of sustainability outcomes. A negative effect is predicted in relation to landscape as new rail and freight infrastructure is likely to adversely affect local landscape character and visual amenity in the affected areas. In addition, such development may also have an adverse effect on biodiversity. The policy could be strengthened by requiring new development to effectively mitigate its environmental impacts and to include a robust landscaping scheme that delivers both landscape screening and biodiversity enhancement. Increased use of rail and water-based freight could have a positive effect in relation to air quality and climate change as this may reduce transport-related air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Increased freight facilities could also benefit the local economy, facilitating new economic activities and supporting associated jobs growth. In turn, this could benefit levels of social deprivation in North Lincolnshire.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

Following changes to the policy, the majority of the assessment remains unchanged. However, the increased use of waterways for movement of freight may result in negative impacts to water quality, sensitive habitats and species and potentially designated sites, including the Humber Estuary.

Policy T7: Safeguarding Transport Infrastructure

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	X	M/L	New road infrastructure is likely to adversely affect local landscape character and visual amenity.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	X	M/L	Provision of new road infrastructure is likely to adversely affect biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	X	M/L	- New road infrastructure development may result in a cumulative impact on water quality and quantity. - Surface water runoff from roadways may result in negative impacts on water quality as a result of road contaminants.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	X?	M/L	New transport infrastructure affecting greenfield land will likely have an adverse effect on soil resources in North Lincolnshire.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	The policy may result in localised improvements in air quality, particularly where infrastructure is intended to reduce traffic flows, particularly HGVs, through town centres.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	M/L	Improved road infrastructure is likely to further encourage travel by private car, which could lead to an increase in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy T7: Safeguarding Transport Infrastructure

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	M/L	Safeguarding transport infrastructure could support economic growth and improve accessibility to employment sites. As such, the policy may support increased employment opportunities and a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	M/L	- Safeguarding transport infrastructure could increase accessibility to community services and facilities. - In addition, some of the safeguarded infrastructure will include a provision of pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, which may increase sustainable access to services and facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.

Assessment Conclusions

The policy has the potential to adversely affect several of the SA environmental objectives. New road infrastructure is likely to impact upon local landscape character and visual amenity, biodiversity and water quality. This is due to potential loss of greenfield land and the risk of surface runoff from roads affecting water quality in receiving waters. Improved road transport infrastructure could also lead to an increase in private car travel and associated increase in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions. Conversely, several of these safeguarded highway schemes could reduce congestion issues and help alleviate issues associated with transport-related air pollution. Positive effects are predicted in relation to the SA economic objectives, with improved transport infrastructure benefitting businesses and industry in the area and improve accessibility to employment sites, whilst access to community services and facilities may also be improved. The policy could be further improved by stating that all such highway development should ensure that its environmental impacts are fully mitigated. In addition, the policy could ensure pedestrian and cycling routes are incorporated into all proposed highway schemes.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Policy T8: Safeguarding Aviation				
SA Objective	Impact	Duration	Assessment	
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		- The policy will safeguard existing land use and landscape characteristics at specified aviation locations across North Lincolnshire. - The policy does not explicitly promote new aviation development, rather, it seeks to will prevent inappropriate alternative forms of development; therefore, it is unlikely to have an impact on local landscape character.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		Safeguarding existing aviation development in North Lincolnshire is not likely to impact upon biodiversity.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		The policy is unlikely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	X?	S/M/L	The policy may contribute to localised reduction in air quality associated with emissions from vehicles and other aviation development; this could become more significant in the future should air traffic growth continue as a result of increased emissions from flights and associated car journeys and new supporting development.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	X?	S/M/L	Safeguarding aviation infrastructure could lead to further growth in air traffic, which could lead to an increase in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions. Air travel has a disproportionate climate change impact.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy will safeguard historic airfields associated with the Second World War from inappropriate development
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.

Policy T8: Safeguarding Aviation				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- Safeguarding aviation infrastructure could safeguard jobs and support economic growth in North Lincolnshire. - Provision of effective international transport infrastructure could promote international business and trade. - The policy may support increased employment opportunities and a sustainable economy.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓?	S/M/L	Safeguarding aviation infrastructure will maintain and potentially increases opportunities for overseas travel.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council at Issues & Options stage. However, the Issues & Options stage consultation process identified support for a policy safeguarding existing aviation sites from inappropriate development.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The policy has the potential to have a range of effects in relation to the SA environmental objectives. There is potential for positive economic impacts by safeguarding existing aviation-related development and associated jobs, which could also lead to new business and jobs growth. This could contribute to a reduction in social deprivation and also maintain good access to overseas travel for local residents and businesses. In addition, the policy protects several historic airfields associated with the RAF and Second World War. However, maintaining and potentially increasing air travel has the potential to adversely affect local air quality and also increase greenhouse gas emissions, which would conflict with the air quality and climate change SA objectives. The policy could be strengthened by highlighting the impact air travel has on climate change and by promoting measures to reduce and mitigate these impacts so as to support more sustainable air travel and sustainable growth in air travel.				

Policy T8: Safeguarding Aviation

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

There were no changes to the policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.

Development Management

Policy DM1: General Requirements

SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire’s urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓✓	S/M/L	• The policy has the potential to protect and enhance North Lincolnshire’s landscape and maintain local character as it requires all new developments to positively contribute to local character, landscape and townscape. • All developments must respect and enhance the character and local distinctiveness of an area, the policy sets out requirements that developments must adhere to in order to achieve this. • Requiring developments to respect existing topography, landscape character and identity can benefit landscape in North Lincolnshire. • Other requirements set out in the policy will also positively contribute towards protecting and enhance North Lincolnshire’s urban and rural landscapes.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	• The policy has the potential to protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species by requiring developments to incorporate and retain natural features such as hedgerows, trees, ponds and watercourses. • Additionally, it seeks to enhance the environment through measurable biodiversity net gains.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire’s surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	• This policy has the potential to protect and improve water quality by requiring developments to demonstrate that levels of potentially polluting emissions will not pose a threat to surface or ground water in North Lincolnshire. • The incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems may result in improvements in water quality.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		• The policy is unlikely to have an impact on flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire’s important soil resources.	✓?	S/M/L	• By requiring development to make efficient use of land, the policy may result in a decreased development on greenfield sites, which could reduce impacts on soil resources.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	S/M/L	• This policy has the potential to improve air quality by requiring developments to demonstrate that levels of polluting emissions, including smoke, fumes, gases and dust, do not pose a danger. • Requiring non-residential developments in residential areas to prove that there will not be a negative change in the release of odorous emissions, will contribute towards improving air quality.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	L	• This policy seeks to reduce long term greenhouse gas emissions through the incorporation of sustainable design.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	• This policy has the potential to conserve and enhance the historic environment by requiring developments to incorporate historic features such as trees, buildings and structures.
Social				

Policy DM1: General Requirements				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	- Policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by requiring developments to demonstrate that amenities that neighbouring communities rely on are not harmed as a result of the development. - Additionally, the policy supports the development of safe environments.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	By requiring well designed developments that incorporate natural and historic features, the policy may support improvements in mental health as a result of improved local surroundings and safe environments.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	M/L	- Allowing non-residential developments in residential areas can promote a sustainable economy through supporting and encouraging the growth of small businesses. - Ensuring that non-residential developments do not adversely impact upon their surrounding environment, can contribute towards the long term sustainability of those developments.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to increase access to a wide range of services and facilities by requiring developments to ensure places and buildings are accessible to all.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with mineral resources and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The policy contributes towards the environmental, social and economic sustainability objectives. Environmental objectives are achieved through increased protection of landscape, biodiversity, heritage, air quality and water quality. The policy also contributes towards reducing deprivation, by ensuring that non-residential developments do not adversely impact upon the quality of life of the neighbouring community. The policy can be strengthened by requiring new developments to incorporate sustainable design, such as high quality insulation, so as to reduce long term greenhouse gas emissions. The policy can be further strengthened by requiring developments to design against crime.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				

Policy DM1: General Requirements

This policy continues to have the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives. Updates to the policy may result in cumulative long term increases in biodiversity net gain. The additional focus on sustainable design, SUDs, alongside establishing Natural Recovery Networks, may result in improvements of habitat and habitat connectivity for local wildlife.

Policy DM2: Temporary Buildings

SA Objective

Impact

Duration

Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓?	S/M/L	- The policy has the potential to protect and enhance the quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes by ensuring that newly erected temporary buildings do not adversely impact upon the amenity of the landscape. - New developments for temporary buildings may be required to landscape the development in order to mitigate its visual impact on the landscape.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to contribute to reduced deprivation by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy DM2: Temporary Buildings				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	This policy contributes to a sustainable economy by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on community access to services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The overall aim of the policy is to ensure that temporary buildings do not adversely impact upon the amenity of an area, and that they do not continue to operate past the period of their useable life. The policy has the potential to positively contribute towards the protection of local landscape character as it includes provision to ensure that such development does not have a detrimental impact on the surrounding landscape. In addition, the policy can support the local economy by safeguarding existing employment activities and potentially creating new activities, which can also support actions to reduce social deprivation.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.				

Policy DM3: Environmental Protection

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	The policy sets out the need for new development proposals to demonstrate that they have effectively evaluated and minimised adverse environmental impacts.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to protect and enhance biodiversity by ensuring that new developments do not adversely impact upon air quality, light pollution, noise pollution and water quality which can in turn adversely impact upon biodiversity and species.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to protect and improve water quality in North Lincolnshire by restricting development that would have an adverse impact on water quality. - The policy has the potential to improve the quality and quantity of water through encouraging opportunities for water environment improvements.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to impact upon risk of flooding in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to maintain or improve local air quality, by ensuring that new developments do not have an adverse impact upon air quality, proposals will require air quality impact assessment to demonstrate this. - Requiring air quality assessments for developments that may significantly increase air pollution can potentially improve air quality by identifying negative impacts and required mitigation.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓	S/M/L	Requiring new developments to restrict the amount of air pollution they create can potentially contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	The policy has the potential to prevent and/or reduce deprivation by requiring developments to minimise pollution (air, water, noise, light) that can have adverse impacts upon human receptors.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	While the policy does not deal directly with healthy and active lifestyles, the policy may result in indirect improvements in resident's health by reducing the potential likelihood of being adversely affected by environmental pollution.

Policy DM3: Environmental Protection				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓?	S/M/L	This policy supports a sustainable economy by ensuring that new development effectively evaluates and mitigates its environmental impacts.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on community access to services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The overall aim of the policy is to ensure that new developments do not have adverse impacts upon air, land and water quality, and also assess vibration, heat, light and noise pollution. The policy primarily focuses on the adverse impacts of pollution on human health and local amenities. The policy could be further strengthened with the inclusion of provisions that more directly focus on the adverse impacts of new development and associated environmental pollution on environmental receptors including landscape, biodiversity, climate change and heritage, which can all be significantly impacted by adverse impacts on air, land and water quality.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
The changes to the policy to include the measures for protection and enhancement of water quality and quantity, has strengthened the policy, resulting in likely positive impacts on the sustainable management of water resources and the protection of the water environment.				

Policy DM4: Telecommunications and Broadband

SA Objective Impact Duration Assessment

Environmental

1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	✓?	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related air pollution in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased access to remote working and e-commerce and a reduction in private car usage.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	M/L	The policy could result in a reduction in transport-related greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire as a result of increased access to remote working and e-commerce and a reduction in private car usage.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the historic environment in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Social

9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to reduce deprivation by addressing geographic and socio-economic discrepancies in access to high-speed broadband, contributing towards the ease with which people can communicate with one another and access services and facilities.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓?	S/M/L	Improved telecommunications infrastructure can support increased access to online healthcare and wellbeing advice and services.

Policy DM4: Telecommunications and Broadband

11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
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Economic

12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓	S/M/L	- This policy has the potential to promote a sustainable economy through increasing employability by improving access to jobs through methods such as online job adverts, working remotely, and online education and training. - Potential to improve the economy by making North Lincolnshire a more attractive location for new businesses to set up due to the comprehensive telecommunications network.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to increase accessibility to community services and facilities by improving people's ability to communicate.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Recommended Mitigation

No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.

Reasonable Alternatives Considered

No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The NPPF states that planning policies should support the expansion of electronic communications networks. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.

Assessment Conclusions

The overall aim of the policy is to ensure that new development incorporates telecommunications infrastructure so that residents and businesses in North Lincolnshire have access to modern, high-speed communication services. The policy also attempts to regulate new telecommunications developments and ensure they do not adversely impact upon the landscape of an area. The NPPF states that 'Planning policies and decisions should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including next generation mobile technology (such as 5G) and full fibre broadband connections.' Whilst this policy is in keeping with the requirements of the NPPF, it does not make specific mention to improving next generation mobile technology infrastructure. The policy should be updated to include mention of mobile communication for the sake of clarity and to ensure full compliance with the NPPF is assured.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage

The policy now outlines requirements to improve next generation mobile technology infrastructure.

Policy DM5: Advertisements and shop fronts				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	✓	S/M/L	- The policy supports the SA objective by ensuring that advertisements and shop fronts are sympathetic to the character of the area and contribute to the visual appearance of the street. - Restricting solid shutters that present a blank frontage can also contribute towards maintaining local character and sense of place.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	This policy has the potential to conserve and enhance the historic environment by ensuring that advertisements and shop signs that relate to listed buildings or conservation areas are subject to the requirements of the relevant designations.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy DM5: Advertisements and shop fronts				
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on access to community services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council. The NPPF states that advertisements should be controlled through the planning process. The proposed policy directly accords with the requirements of the NPPF. A policy that does not accord with these requirements would not be considered reasonable.				
Assessment Conclusions				
The overall aim of the policy is to ensure that shop fronts and advertisements are in keeping with the character and appearance of their location, and the building to which they relate. The policy refers to proposals relating to listed buildings and conservation areas and ensures that advertisements and shop fronts follow requirements set out relating to the designations. The policy ensures the protection of sense of character in urban areas and ensures that signs with illumination do not adversely affect the amenity of the local area.				
Assessment Conclusions – Publication Stage				
There were no changes to the Policy and as such the conclusions remain the same.				

Delivering Infrastructure

Policy IDP1: Delivering Infrastructure				
SA Objective		Impact	Duration	Assessment
Environmental				
1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire’s urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on landscape character in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire’s surface and groundwaters.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on flood risk in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire’s important soil resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on soil resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
6	Improve local air quality.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on air quality in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on climate change in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	0		This policy has the potential to conserve and enhance the historic environment by ensuring that advertisements and shop signs that relate to listed buildings or conservation areas are subject to the requirements of the relevant designations.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on social deprivation in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.

Policy IDP1: Delivering Infrastructure				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	0		This policy does not deal with issues associated with housing provision and therefore is unlikely to have an impact, either directly or indirectly.
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on the local economy in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on access to community services and facilities in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	0		This policy is not likely to have an impact on mineral resources in North Lincolnshire, either directly or indirectly.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
No alternatives to this policy were considered by North Lincolnshire Council.				
Assessment Conclusions				
This policy provides a policy mechanism enabling North Lincolnshire Council to require new development to deliver wider infrastructure needs, as set out in an accompanying Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The policy itself does not specify what, where or how this infrastructure will be delivered, rather it includes a framework to guide development in the application of the policy. As such, the policy is assessed as having neutral impacts in relation to all of the SA objectives. Actual sustainability impacts will be specific to individual developments and the associated infrastructure they are required to deliver or contribute towards. Delivery of new infrastructure could provide a range of social and economic benefits but may also pose a risk to sensitive environmental features.				