



# **NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN (2020 TO 2038)**

## **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

**November 2022**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### WHAT IS A LOCAL PLAN?

- 1.1 The law requires local planning authorities to prepare a development plan for their area. They are the main tool against which decisions on planning applications are made unless other material considerations dictate otherwise.
- 1.2 Local Plans are required to address the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change, and should set out the opportunities for development and clear policies on what will or will not be permitted and where. They should be based on meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods, local organisations and businesses in order to reflect a collective vision and set of agreed priorities for the sustainable development of the area.
- 1.3 Following changes in legislation and the introduction of the [Revised National Planning Policy Framework](#) (including the presumption in favour of sustainable development) in July 2021, Government has signalled a move away from the Local Development Framework system towards the production of single “Local Plans”. Producing separate documents is now considered to be an exception rather than the norm. It is considered highly desirable that local planning authorities should have an up-to-date plan in place.

### THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

- 1.4 The [Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) (as amended by the [Localism Act 2011](#)) (the 2004 Act) requires local planning authorities to prepare a Local Development Scheme (LDS) to set out what Local Plan related documents they intend to prepare and a timetable for their production and consultation in the period **2020 to 2023**.
- 1.5 It acts as a management tool for the plan-making process but is not subject to Independent Examination or formal public consultation.
- 1.6 The first LDS was adopted in 2006 and has since been subject to a number of previous reviews. This LDS is the latest version and reflects the change in the council's policy direction from a Local Development Framework to a single Local Plan; takes account of changing legislation and sets out a timetable for producing Local Plan documents. This LDS replaces all previous versions and will be published on the council's website.

### PROGRESS TO DATE

- 1.7 Since the publication of the first LDS, the council made good progress in preparing and adopting a number of the documents that make up the North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework. This includes three statutory Development Plan Documents (DPDs) – the Core Strategy DPD (June 2011); the Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPD (March 2016); and the Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan (May 2016). Four other documents, known as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), have also been adopted – Planning for Renewable Energy Development (November 2011), Planning for Solar Photovoltaic Development (January 2016), Planning for Health & Wellbeing (November 2016) and Lincolnshire Lakes Strategic Design Guide (November 2016).

## 2. CONTEXT

### THE PLANNING SYSTEM

- 2.1 The [2004 Act](#) introduced the Local Development Frameworks (LDF) system. This is a portfolio of documents that makes up the development plan for the council area. It comprised Development Plan Documents (DPD), Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
- 2.2 The Council has adopted a number of the documents that make up the North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework. This includes three statutory Development Plan Documents (DPDs):
  - [Core Strategy DPD \(June 2011\)](#)
  - [Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPD \(March 2016\)](#); and
  - [Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan \(May 2016\)](#).
- 2.3 The [Localism Act 2011](#) and the [Revised National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) 2021 changed the national planning system and the way in which plans are prepared. Some of these changes include:
  - the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies
  - the replacement of previous individual topic-based national Guidance and Policy Statements with the [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) and the [on-line Planning Practice Guidance \(PPG\)](#)
  - the introduction of neighbourhood planning

- a duty to co-operate with neighbouring authorities
- the production of new style Local Plans.

2.4 In this new system, single Local Plans have replaced Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) which contained a number of development plan documents. These new style plans still have to be prepared in line with national planning policy, set out a vision for future development, allocate land for development and protection and provide a policy framework for the determination of planning applications.

### 3. CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

The statutory development plan for North Lincolnshire currently consists of:

- **Local Development Framework - Core Strategy DPD:** This document, which was adopted in June 2011, sets out the long-term vision for North Lincolnshire and provides a blueprint for managing growth and development in the area up to 2026.
- **Local Development Framework - Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPD:** This document sets out site allocations for future housing development and where new employment opportunities will be located. It also defines town and district shopping centre boundaries to show where future retail development should take place and settlement development limits. It was adopted in March 2016.
- **Local Development Framework - Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan:** This document sets out the planning policy framework to deliver the Lincolnshire Lakes development in a consistent and properly planned way. This transformational regeneration project will create a number of high quality, sustainable village communities on land between the western edge of Scunthorpe and the River Trent, set within an attractive waterside environment with major opportunities for leisure, sport and recreation. It was adopted in May 2016.
- **Saved policies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (NLLP):** The NLLP was adopted in May 2003. The majority of its policies are still “saved”; although a number of have been replaced by the Core Strategy and Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPDs. These policies were saved by the Direction of the Secretary of State dated 17th September 2007. Details can be found on the Local Plan webpage. The NLLP Proposals Map still forms part of the statutory development plan.
- **Supplementary Planning Guidance & Supplementary Planning Documents:** The NLLP, Core Strategy DPD and Lincolnshire Lakes AAP are supported by a number of SPG/SPDs. These amplify a number of policies within each document by providing detailed policy guidance to assist developers and decision makers.

### 4. NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN (2020 to 2038)

#### BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Reflecting the changes described in paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 (above), North Lincolnshire Council is progressing with the preparation of a single Local Plan document for its area. When finally adopted, it will replace the planning policy documents set out in paragraph 3.1 (above).
- 4.2 The new North Lincolnshire Local Plan will set out the amount and distribution of new development (the Spatial Strategy) providing a comprehensive and long-term planning framework for the area over the period up to 2038. It will also include planning policies for the determination of planning applications. A single Policies Map will define geographically the development proposals and have notations to allow for the application of planning policies. The timetable for its preparation is set out in Appendix 2.
- 4.3 The process of preparing the new Local Plan will enable on-going public consultation and engagement on a wide range of planning issues to take place. This will be undertaken alongside the council's Duty to Co-operate activities with the specific prescribed bodies, such as neighbouring Local Authorities.
- 4.4 The new Local Plan will be supported by a wide-ranging evidence base. This will include a full assessment of housing needs, an assessment of employment land requirements and a sustainable settlement survey, amongst others.

4.5 The new North Lincolnshire Local Plan will include the following:

- Vision and Objectives
- Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies
- Site Specific Land Use Allocations
- Development Management Policies
- Policies Map

4.6 As a unitary authority, North Lincolnshire Council is also a Minerals and Waste Planning Authority. This means it is responsible for preparing planning policies and determining planning applications for minerals and waste development. The new Local Plan will include policies for minerals and waste.

4.7 North Lincolnshire Council has already undertaken five periods of consultation: Initial Consultation (Regulation 18) in early 2017; Issues & Options (Regulation 18) from 29<sup>th</sup> January to 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Preferred Options (Regulation 18) from 14<sup>th</sup> February to 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Publication Draft (Regulation 19) from 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021 to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 and the Publication Addendum Draft (Regulation 19) from 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The findings of these consultations and the emerging evidence base have been used to develop the Plan at each stage and the plan is now ready to be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

#### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

4.8 Introduced by the Localism Act 2011, Neighbourhood Plans give communities the opportunity to develop a plan that allows them to deliver sustainable development they want and need in their neighbourhood.

4.9 However, these plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies set out in the Local Plan for the area. They are subject to Independent Examination and a referendum. Once adopted they become part of the development plan for North Lincolnshire and will be used to make decisions on planning applications within the area covered by the Neighbourhood Plan.

## 5. OTHER DOCUMENTS

#### SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE/DOCUMENTS (SPGs/SPDs)

5.1 North Lincolnshire Council currently has a number of adopted SPGs/SPDs. These documents can be used as a vehicle to aid in the successful delivery of development or infrastructure as well as to expand on policies set out in the development plan. They do not need to be listed in a council's Local Development Scheme, which means that they can be brought forward as circumstances change.

5.2 At the time of writing, it is not anticipated that any additional SPDs will be prepared. However, existing adopted SPGs/SPDs will need to be reviewed in light of policy changes in the new Local Plan and through the CIL process.

#### STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)

5.3 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the council will involve the community and stakeholders in preparing its Local Plan and when considering planning applications. It also sets out the levels of consultation that developers will be encouraged to undertake, before submitting an application, particularly those involving major or controversial proposals.

5.4 The council's first SCI was adopted in April 2006. A review was undertaken in 2010 following changes to the planning system with a revised version being adopted in July 2010. A further review has been undertaken due to changes in legislation regarding consultation requirements, which was adopted in August 2018. North Lincolnshire Council will continue to monitor the SCI to ensure it is in conformity with legislation and is effective.

#### AUTHORITY MONITORING REPORT (AMR)

5.5 The council will prepare an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). This should contain information on the production of the council's Development Plan Documents and assess the extent to which the development plan objectives and policies are being achieved. The AMR is published on the council website: [www.northlincs.gov.uk](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk).

#### EVIDENCE BASE

5.6 The National Planning Policy Framework states that Local Plans should be based on adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the plan area. Therefore, the new Local Plan will be supported by a wide range of information including background studies, research, surveys and public/stakeholder consultation feedback. The work to prepare these will be undertaken by the council, and where required, by external consultants. Other work may be undertaken in partnership with external bodies.

- 5.7 As part of the Duty to Co-operate and dealing with cross-boundary or sub-regional issues the council will work closely with its neighbouring local authorities and stakeholders. These include Local Enterprise Partnerships and Government bodies (e.g. Environment Agency, Historic England, and Natural England).

**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (SA)/STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA)/HABITAT REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT (HRA)**

- 5.8 All policies and proposals contained within the new Local Plan will be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and also a Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment where appropriate. This involves scoping reports and assessments throughout the preparation of the Local Plan to ensure an iterative approach.

**6. RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 6.1 The timetable for preparing policy documents set out in this LDS is based on several assumptions. There are uncertainties about these factors that should be recognised as they could lead to revisions to the programme.
- 6.2 Project management identifies the risks and sets out a number of mitigation measures (see Table 1, below) that can be put in place to monitor and manage them throughout the preparation of the plan; this has been reflected in the new Local Plan’s project management arrangements. This approach recognises the need to manage the requirements for efficiency and progress the plan in line with the government’s clear priority to seek comprehensive Local Plan coverage across the country.
- 6.3 The council will monitor all potential risks to the Local Plan process. Where necessary, the timetable for the preparation of the new Local Plan will be amended or updated via review of the LDS. Progress in meeting the milestones set out in the LDS will be assessed via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) (see section 7).

**Table 1: Risk Assessment**

	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Staffing Resources</b>	Resources may be required to facilitate the delivery of major projects in North Lincolnshire.	Work programmes will be kept under regular review.
	The Localism Act 2011 gives powers to Town and Parish Councils to prepare Neighbourhood Plans and the council has a duty to assist with the preparation of these. A number are already under preparation in the area with potential for further interest.	Where appropriate resources will be drawn from other parts of the Investment and Delivery service and the wider Economy and Environment Directorate.
	Further Government spending cuts may have implications for staffing resources	As above.
	<b>Risk Level: Medium</b>	
<b>Duty to Cooperate (joint working and wider stakeholder resources)</b>	The council is required to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with all stakeholders with an interest in the plan, including statutory stakeholders who also will be at risk of needing to find resource savings.	Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders and Duty to Co-operate bodies will take place. This will ensure time scales for their involvement are identified at an early stage, including when responses/input will be necessary.
	<b>Risk Level: Medium</b>	
<b>Planning Inspectorate resources and Examination</b>	The Local Plan will be subject to Examination by an independent Planning Inspector.	Comparative Local Plan hearings are monitored to identify issues causing additional work. Where required, further work may be undertaken to avoid delays.
	Programming of public examinations depends on the availability of Inspectors.	Recent experience of examinations hearings will be drawn upon.
	The Planning Inspector may require modifications or more work to be undertaken during the examination to	

	make the plan “sound” and/or legally compliant.	
	<b>Risk Level: High</b>	
<b>Inability for the Planning Inspectorate to deliver hearings and reports on time</b>	This would affect the Examination and adoption of the Local Plan.	No contingency as the Planning Inspectorate is the sole body able to undertake this process.
	<b>Risk Level: High</b>	
<b>Potential changes to national planning system through the Planning for the Future White Paper</b>	The Government may bring forward a major overhaul of the local plans system requiring compliance with new legislation. The local plan may have to be taken forward differently.	Changes in Government policy as well as good practice are monitored on an ongoing basis by officers to identify any likely changes/effects on the Local Plan. Where appropriate early work will be undertaken to meet any emerging policy or good practice.
	Depending on the timing of the enactment of legislation (and court decisions arising from such changes) proposed changes and/or modifications to the plan may be required.	An assessment will be undertaken as soon as practicable to identify any revisions that may be necessary to the Local Plan.
	<b>Risk Level: High</b>	
<b>Covid-19 Pandemic</b>	The Covid-19 pandemic has affected local plan preparation due to social distancing measures impacting on the ability of people congregating together at consultation events or examinations in public.	The council will utilize appropriate consultation methods including virtual exhibitions, digital consultations, video conferencing, social media and providing documents for inspection on a public website.
	<b>Risk Level: High</b>	
<b>Devolution and sub-regional spatial planning</b>	The Government’s devolution of power from Whitehall to local areas may result in further powers being devolved including planning powers which require resources and governance arrangements in place.	The council will continue to be closely integrated into and contribute to any strategies that emerge at the Humber and Greater Lincolnshire levels.
	<b>Risk Level: Medium</b>	Changes resulting from the devolution of planning powers may require changes in local strategy.
<b>Response to consultations</b>	An unprecedented high response to a consultation about a particular issue(s) may require further evidence base and/or redrafting of the plan that was not previously envisaged.	Issues arising from consultation responses will be identified and where necessary plans for additional work will be drawn (if needed).
	<b>Risk Levels: High</b>	
<b>Legal challenge</b>	Before adoption of the Local Plan, there is a period of six weeks for any legal challenge to be made.	Legal advice will be sought at key points throughout the Local Plan process.
	If the Local Plan is subject to such a challenge, the decision of the Courts could result in part or the entire plan being quashed and significant delay to having an adopted Local Plan in place.	Soundness and Legal Self-Assessments (using Planning Advisory Service templates) will be undertaken to ensure that the preparation of the new Local Plan is legally compliant.
	<b>Risk Levels: Low</b>	
<b>Potential change arising from advice and best practice</b>	The Local Plan process is reviewed against best practice and outcomes of plans elsewhere. This may result in additional evidence base matters and, depending on the scale of the work, impact on the timetable.	Any additional work that is likely to delay the Local Plan timetable will be scrutinised for relevance and legal advice sought if needed.
		Progress will be monitored via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

**Risk Levels: Medium**

**7. MONITORING & REVIEW**

- 7.1 It is vital that timely progress is made with the new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire, therefore monitoring will play an important role.
- 7.2 The council will prepare an Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) regularly. This should contain information on the production of the council's Development Plan Documents and assess the extent to which the development plan objectives and policies are being achieved. The AMR will:
- track how the council is performing against the timescales set out in the LDS, and measure the progress being made in respect of the documents being prepared;
  - review the effectiveness of the adopted planning policies;
  - monitor the extent to which policies and targets in adopted documents are being achieved against key Government and local indicators;
  - provide an up-to-date list of documents, in preparation and adopted, and indicate the timetable for future reviews of those documents.
- 7.3 It is anticipated that all monitoring information and progress reports will be published on the council's website as soon as practical. Any delays or revisions to the council's programme of work will be highlighted in the Authority Monitoring Report and reflected in any future review of this LDS.

**8 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES**

- 8.1 The new Local Plan and its preparation will be led and co-ordinated by the council's Place Planning Team. They will be supported by other staff within the council's Investment and Delivery function. It is expected that contributions will also be required from members of other services.
- 8.2 The Local Plan will be prepared on a project basis with a team of officers led by the Place Planning Specialist. Consultation arrangements, as defined in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement 2018, will be co-ordinated by the team using other resources of the council as appropriate.

**9. FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 9.1 You can find full information about North Lincolnshire's planning policies, and latest information on the new Local Plan, on the council's web site: [www.northlincs.gov.uk](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk)

- 9.2 Alternatively, please contact:

Place Planning  
Investment and Delivery  
Economy and Environment  
North Lincolnshire Council  
Church Square House  
30 – 40 High Street  
Scunthorpe  
DN15 6NL

Tel: 01724 296448

E-mail: [localplan@northlincs.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@northlincs.gov.uk)



**APPENDIX 1: NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN (2020 to 2038) - DOCUMENTS TO BE PREPARED**

<b>North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038)</b>			
<b>Subject &amp; Scope:</b> This document sets out North Lincolnshire Council's spatial vision, objectives and strategy for the growth and development of its area. It includes a range of Strategic Development Policies, Site Specific Land Allocations, Development Management Policies and a Local Plan Policies Map.			
<b>Plan Period</b>	2020 to 2038	<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document
<b>Chain of Conformity</b>	National Planning Policy Framework National Planning Practice Guidance Relevant Council Plans and Strategies	<b>Geographic Coverage</b>	North Lincolnshire (whole administrative area)
<b>Replaces</b>	North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework – Core Strategy DPD (June 2011); North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework - Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPD (March 2016) North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework - Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan (May 2016) North Lincolnshire Local Plan – Saved Policies (May 2003)		
<b>Organisational Lead</b>	Place Planning	<b>Political Lead</b>	Cabinet Member for Environment & Strategic Planning; Full Council (Adoption only)
<b>Internal Resources</b>	Place Planning Team supported by relevant staff from the council's Investment and Delivery function and other services.	<b>External Resources</b>	Other support will be required from a range of stakeholders, in particular those with responsibility for infrastructure delivery.
<b>Production Timetable</b>			
<b>Commence Preparation of Local Plan</b>			December 2016
<b>Development of Evidence Base and Initial Public/Stakeholder Awareness Raising - Complete</b>			February/March 2017
<b>Preparation and Consultation on Sustainability Appraisal – Scoping Report (5 weeks) - Complete</b>			March 2017
<b>Analysis of Evidence Base, Initial Public/Stakeholder Consultation &amp; Sustainability Appraisal – Scoping Report. - Complete</b>			March/April 2017
<b>Preparation of Issues &amp; Options Consultation Document - Complete</b>			May to August 2017
<b>Issues &amp; Options - Public and Stakeholder Consultation (6 weeks) (Regulation 18) - Complete</b>			January/February 2018
<b>Consideration and Analysis of Comments received on Issues &amp; Options Consultation Document - complete</b>			March to December 2018
<b>Preparation of Preferred Options Consultation Document - complete</b>			January to September 2019
<b>Preferred Options Document – Public &amp; Stakeholder Consultation (6 weeks) (Regulation 18) - complete</b>			February to March 2020
<b>Consideration/Analysis of Comments received on Preferred Options Document - complete</b>			April to May 2020
<b>Preparation of Pre-Submission Draft version of the Local Plan - complete</b>			June 2020 to September 2021
<b>Publication &amp; Formal Public/Stakeholder Consultation on Draft Local Plan (6 weeks) (Regulation 19)-complete</b>			October to December 2021
<b>Consideration of representations and any Minor Modifications (if required)</b>			December 2021 to March 2022
<b>Publication Version Addendum of the Local Plan (Regulation 19) (6-week consultation) on proposed modifications only</b>			May to July 2022
<b>Submission to the Secretary of State (Planning Inspectorate) for independent examination</b>			November 2022
<b>Preparation for Independent Examination</b>			November to February 2022
<b>Independent Examination Hearing Sessions</b>			To be confirmed expected February to March 2023
<b>Receipt of Inspector's Report</b>			May 2023
<b>Consideration of Inspector' Report and preparation of Local Plan – Adoption Draft</b>			May to June 2023
<b>Consideration by Full Council and Formal Adoption</b>			July 2023
<b>Monitoring &amp; Review Process</b>			Authority Monitoring Report

<b>Statement of Community Involvement</b>			
<b>Subject &amp; Scope:</b> This document sets out the standards and approach to involving stakeholders and the community in the production of the Local Plan. It also includes standards for community involvement in planning applications, in particular those that are considered major applications.			
<b>Plan Period</b>	-	<b>Status</b>	Development Plan Document
<b>Chain of Conformity</b>	Required under the Planning and Compulsory Act 2004 (as amended)	<b>Geographic Coverage</b>	North Lincolnshire (whole administrative area)
<b>Organisational Lead</b>	Place Planning	<b>Political Lead</b>	Cabinet Member for Environment & Strategic Planning; Full Council (Adoption only)
<b>Internal Resources</b>	Place Planning supported by relevant staff from the council's Economy & Growth function and other services.	<b>External Resources</b>	Other support will be required from a range of stakeholders, in particular those with responsibility for infrastructure delivery.
<b>Production Timetable</b>			
			April 2017
<b>Public and Stakeholder consultation on Draft SCI Document (4 weeks)</b>			January/February 2018
<b>Consideration of representations and preparation of final document</b>			February 2018
<b>Adoption of Final SCI</b>			August 2018
<b>Monitoring &amp; Review Process</b>			Authority Monitoring Report

Appendix 2 - North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) - Timetable																																																																																																										
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North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) - Key Milestones

Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - Key Milestones

- 1. Pre-Production (Regulation 18) - Evidence Gathering & Initial Public/Stakeholder Consultation
- 2. Production (Regulation 18) – Issues and Options Consultation and ongoing stakeholder/public engagement
- 3. Production (Regulation 18) - Preferred Options Consultation and ongoing stakeholder/public engagement
- 4. Publication (Regulation 19) - Publication for Draft Local Plan for formal consultation on soundness (6 weeks)
- 5. Publication Addendum (Regulation 19)- Publication for Draft Local Plan for formal consultation on proposed modifications only (6 weeks)
- 6. Submission (Regulation 22) - Submission of the Draft Local Plan for independent examination
- 7. Examination (Regulations 23 to 25) - Independent examination of Draft Local Plan by Planning Inspectors
- 8. Inspector's Report (regulation 25) - Receipt and consideration of Planning Inspector's report
- 9. Adoption (Regulation 25) - Local Plan adopted by Council and brought into use
- Preparation (All Documents)



- 10. Draft Statement of Community Involvement - Public & Stakeholder Consultation (4 weeks)
- 11. Statement of Community Involvement - Adoption

