

North Lincolnshire Local Plan Publication Draft (Regulation 19)

Sustainability Appraisal

Draft Environmental Report

October 2021

**North
Lincolnshire
Council**

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JBA Project Manager

Laura Thomas
JBA Consulting
Epsom House
Chase Park
Redhouse Interchange
Woodlands
Doncaster
DN6 7FE

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This report describes work commissioned by North Lincolnshire Council by letter dated 2 March 2017. Shantelle Friesen, Lucy Sumner, Eloise Eggleston and David Revill of JBA Consulting carried out this work.

Prepared by Shantelle Friesen BSc MSc
Environmental Consultant

..... David Revill BSc MSc MIES CEnv
Principal Environmental Consultant

..... Eloise Eggleston MEnvSci
Environmental Consultant

..... Lucy Sumner MSci
Environmental Consultant

Reviewed by Laura Thomas BA MRes PGCert
CEcol MCIEEM
Principal Environmental Consultant

Purpose

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	The Local Plan area	1
1.3	North Lincolnshire Local Plan	2
1.4	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment	3
1.5	Habitat Regulations Assessment	3
1.6	Structure of this Report	4
2	Sustainability context	5
2.1	Baseline characteristics of North Lincolnshire	5
2.2	Policies, plans and programmes	5
2.3	Key sustainability issues in North Lincolnshire	7
3	Sustainability Appraisal methodology	16
3.1	The Sustainability Appraisal process	16
3.2	Sustainability Appraisal framework	23
3.3	Appraisal of the Local Plan vision and spatial objectives	31
3.4	Appraisal of the proposed policies	31
3.5	Appraisal of the proposed site allocations	32
3.6	Site assessment methodology	38
4	SA findings for the Local Plan Vision and Spatial Objectives	40
4.1	Spatial Vision	40
4.2	Spatial objectives	43
5	SA findings for the Local Plan policies	47
5.1	A spatial strategy for North Lincolnshire	47
5.2	Meeting our housing needs	48
5.3	Delivering jobs and supporting our economy	49
5.4	Prosperous town centres	50
5.5	Supporting sustainable development in North Lincolnshire's countryside	50
5.6	Delivering a quality environment	51
5.7	Managing our historic environment	52
5.8	Creating sustainable communities and better places	52
5.9	Planning for a sustainable supply of minerals	54
5.10	Sustainable waste management	55
5.11	Connecting North Lincolnshire	56
5.12	Development Management	56
6	SA findings for the Local Plan site allocations and reasonable alternatives	58
6.1	Introduction	58
6.2	Housing site allocations	61
6.3	Employment site allocations	92
6.4	Reasonable alternative housing sites	105
6.5	Reasonable alternative employment sites	129
7	Cumulative effects	145
7.1	SA Objective 1: Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place	152
7.2	SA Objective 2: Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species	152

7.3	SA Objective 3: Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters	153
7.4	SA Objective 4: Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk	153
7.5	SA Objective 5: Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources	154
7.6	SA Objective 6: Improve local air quality	154
7.7	SA Objective 7: Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions	155
7.8	SA Objective 8: Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings	155
7.9	SA Objective 9: Reduce deprivation	156
7.10	SA Objective 10: Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire	156
7.11	SA Objective 11: Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities	156
7.12	SA Objective 12: Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy	157
7.13	SA Objective 13: Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities	157
7.14	SA Objective 14: Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources	157
8	Monitoring and next steps	159
8.1	Monitoring the predicted significant impacts of the Local Plan	159
8.2	Consultation	162
8.3	Next steps	162

List of Figures

Figure 1-1: North Lincolnshire Administrative Boundary	2
Figure 3-1: Key stages of Local Plan preparation and their link with the Sustainability Appraisal process (DCLG, 2014)	19
Figure 3-2: Development of the Sustainability Appraisal framework	24
Figure 6-1: Location of housing sites and employment sites in North Lincolnshire	60
Figure 6-2: Location of reasonable alternative housing sites in North Lincolnshire	109
Figure 6-3: Location of reasonable alternative employment sites in North Lincolnshire	132

List of Tables

Table 2-1: Summary of the key sustainability issues in North Lincolnshire	8
Table 3-1: Stages in the SA/SEA process as identified within Annex I of the SEA Directive	16
Table 3-2: Sustainability topics covered in the Sustainability Appraisal	17
Table 3-3: Stages in the SA process	18
Table 3-4: Definition of Sustainability Appraisal objectives, appraisal criteria and monitoring indicators	24
Table 3-5: Sustainability Appraisal objectives, appraisal criteria and monitoring indicators for North Lincolnshire	25
Table 3-6: Impact significance key	30
Table 3-7: Site assessment criteria for housing sites and employment sites	33
Table 3-8: Relationship between SA objectives and site assessment criteria	37
Table 3-9: Scoring scale used to quantify assessment outcomes	38
Table 4-1: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan Vision	40

Table 4-2: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the spatial objectives	46
Table 5-1: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the spatial strategy for North Lincolnshire theme	47
Table 5-2: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the policies under the meeting our housing needs theme	48
Table 5-3: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the delivering jobs and supporting our economy theme	49
Table 5-4: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the prosperous town centres theme	50
Table 5-5: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the supporting sustainable development in the countryside theme	50
Table 5-6: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the delivering a quality environment theme	51
Table 5-7: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the managing our historic environment theme	52
Table 5-8: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the creating sustainable communities and better places theme	52
Table 5-9: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the planning for a sustainable supply of minerals theme	54
Table 5-10: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the sustainable waste management theme	55
Table 5-11: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the connecting North Lincolnshire theme	56
Table 5-12: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the development management theme	56
Table 6-1: Summary of site assessment criteria used to assess housing and employment site allocations	58
Table 6-2: Committed housing site allocations	61
Table 6-3: Proposed housing site allocations	63
Table 6-4: SA assessment of the housing site allocations (committed and proposed)	64
Table 6-5: SA assessment scores for the housing site allocations	78
Table 6-6: Percentage of housing allocations per site assessment category	82
Table 6-7: Individual housing site ranking based on site assessment scores	83
Table 6-8: Summary of the results of the assessment of the housing site allocations	86
Table 6-9: Summary details of proposed employment site allocations	92
Table 6-10: SA assessment of proposed employment site allocations	93
Table 6-11: SA assessment scores for the proposed employment site allocations	96
Table 6-12: Percentage of proposed employment allocations per site assessment category	97
Table 6-13: Individual employment site ranking based on site assessment scores	98
Table 6-14: Summary of the results of the assessment of the proposed employment site allocations	99
Table 6-15: Summary details of reasonable alternative housing site allocations	105
Table 6-16: SA assessment of reasonable alternative housing sites	110
Table 6-17: SA assessment scores for the reasonable alternative housing sites	117
Table 6-18: Percentage of reasonable alternative housing sites per site assessment category	120
Table 6-19: Individual alternative housing site ranking based on site assessment scores	121
Table 6-20: Summary of the results of the assessment of the reasonable alternative housing sites	125
Table 6-21: Summary details of reasonable alternative employment site allocations	129
Table 6-22: SA assessment of reasonable alternative employment sites	133
Table 6-23: SA assessment scores and individual site rankings for the reasonable alternative employment sites	139

Table 6-24: Percentage of reasonable alternative employment sites per site assessment category	141
Table 6-25: Summary of the results of the assessment of the reasonable alternative employment sites	142
Table 7-1: Outcomes of the SA of the Publication Stage proposed policies	146
Table 8-1: Proposed criteria to be used to monitor predicted significant impacts of the Local Plan	159

Abbreviations

AAP	Area Action Plan
ALC	Agricultural Land Classification
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DPD	Development Plan Document
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
GIS	Geographical Information System
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
IHT	Institute of Highways and Transportation
LFRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
NLC	North Lincolnshire Council
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
RTPI	Royal Town Planning Institute
PRoW	Public Rights of Way
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SHELAA	Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment
SM	Scheduled Monument
SNCI	Site of Nature Conservation Importance
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
UK	United Kingdom
WFD	Water Framework Directive

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

North Lincolnshire Council is currently preparing a new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire. The Local Plan will set out a long-term vision, planning policies, and site allocations for the authority area up to 2038.

Plans such as North Lincolnshire's new Local Plan are subject to a process called Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The Sustainability Appraisal assesses the potential social, environmental and economic effects of the plan's proposals together with other 'reasonable alternatives' considered by the Council.

This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared by JBA Consulting to document the SA (incorporating a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)) of the Publication Draft of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan being prepared for Regulation 19 consultation.

1.2 The Local Plan area

North Lincolnshire is a predominantly rural unitary authority and is situated adjacent to the south bank of the Humber Estuary (see Figure 1-1). It borders North East Lincolnshire to the east, West Lindsey to the south, Bassetlaw to the south west, Doncaster to the west, and the East Riding of Yorkshire, and the City of Kingston upon Hull to the north. It encompasses an area of approximately 859km² and has a population of 170,786 (2016 figures). Around half of the area's population lives in Scunthorpe, whilst other main settlements in the area include Barton-upon-Humber, Brigg, Epworth, Crowle, Barrow-upon-Humber, and Winterton.

The settlement pattern is strongly influenced by the underlying geology, which has given rise to a series of escarpments running north-south across the area, interspersed by the wide, flat river valleys of the Trent and Ancholme. The geography of the area is shaped by the estuarine landscape of the Humber Estuary to the north and the River Trent, which flows northwards through the western half of the area. The main land use is agricultural farmland, which encompasses almost 90% of the land area. The land is of high agricultural quality, with more than half of it classified as 'the best and most versatile land'.

The Trans-Pennine railway cuts across the centre of North Lincolnshire, connecting the eastern coastal areas with the wider Yorkshire & Humber region to the west. The M180/A180/A160 is the principal route across the area, connecting east and west, and passing through the largest urban areas of Scunthorpe, Brigg, and South Killingholme. The A15 provides access to the north east of England and to the south, crossing the Humber Estuary at Barton-upon-Humber, the only crossing point on the estuary. Several major ports are situated along the estuary, including the Port of Immingham, the UK's largest port by tonnage, located just east of the authority boundary in North East Lincolnshire.

The estuary is an important wildlife site and is designated under UK and European legislation. Other important wildlife sites include Thorne/Crowle Moor and Hatfield Moor, which are also designated under UK and European legislation. Important areas of heritage in North Lincolnshire include the Isle of Axholme, an area extending west of the River Trent towards Doncaster, which is designated as an area of Special Historic Landscape Interest in the current North Lincolnshire Local Plan. The proportion of Grade I listed buildings is twice that of the national average, and North Lincolnshire's historic market towns add to the rich historic environment of the area. Many of the towns and villages in North Lincolnshire also benefit from Conservation Area protection.

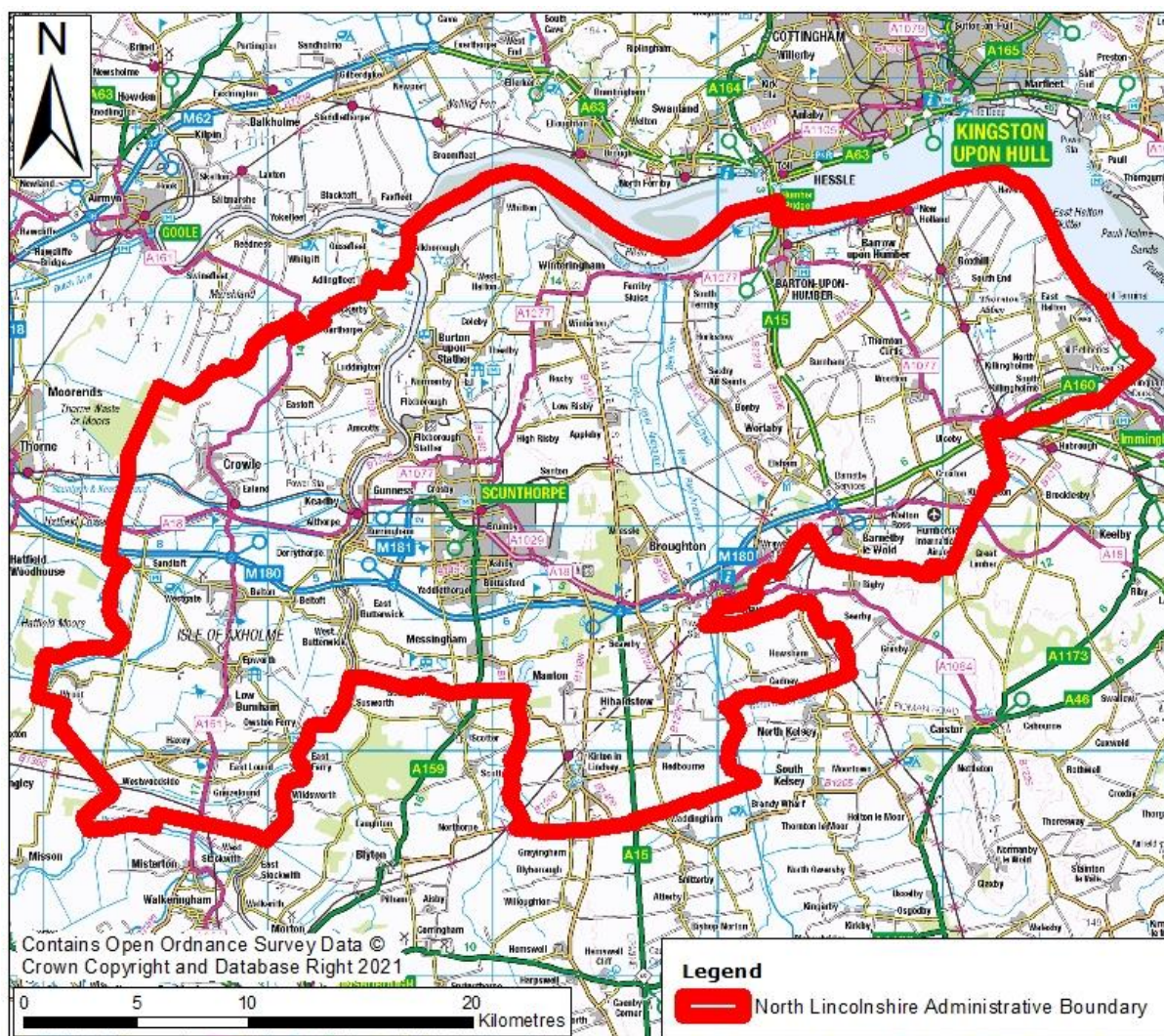


Figure 1-1: North Lincolnshire Administrative Boundary

1.3 North Lincolnshire Local Plan

The North Lincolnshire Development Plan comprises the Core Strategy (adopted in June 2011) together with 'saved' policies retained from the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (adopted May 2003), the Housing and Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) (March 2016), and the Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan (AAP) (May 2016).

North Lincolnshire Council is now preparing a new, single Local Plan for North Lincolnshire. Once adopted, it will replace the current Core Strategy, Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPDs, and Lincolnshire Lakes AAP.

North Lincolnshire Council published a new Local Development Scheme in April 2017, which sets out the Local Plan documents that will be prepared and a timetable for their preparation. The Council published an Initial Consultation document in February 2017 in order to raise stakeholder awareness of the Local Plan and to gain initial views on the issues that the Local Plan should address.

In 2018, the Council published its Issues & Options Consultation (Regulation 18) stage of the Local Plan. This set out its spatial vision and objectives, which together provided the framework for Local Plan policies, and its spatial strategy, which examined the key development issues of relevance to North Lincolnshire and identified a series of options for each policy area to deal with these issues.

The outcomes of this consultation process have informed the preparation of the Preferred Options document, guiding the further development and choice of options to address the issues that have been identified.

The Preferred Options (Regulation 18) stage Local Plan document sets out the Council's preferred policies to guide development in North Lincolnshire and identifies preferred sites for housing and employment use to meet future housing and jobs growth.

Consultation on the Preferred Options document was undertaken between February and March 2020. The consultation stages, together with available evidence and national planning policy, has helped to inform this Publication Draft (Regulation 19). Once complete, the council will formally submit the comments received and any further relevant evidence for Examination in Public, which will be subject to a series of public hearings by an independent Planning Inspector, to determine whether or not the Plan is 'sound'. Once determined the council can adopt and plan and bring it into force.

1.4 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, SA is mandatory for Development Plan Documents. For these documents it is also necessary to conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended) (2004 SI 1633), known as the 'SEA Regulations'. These Regulations were originally transposed from the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC), prior to the UK's departure from the EU. Therefore, it is a legal requirement for the North Lincolnshire Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan to be subject to SA and SEA throughout its preparation.

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Amendment) Regulations 2020 have modified a number of inspection requirements set out in the SEA Regulations that require responsible authorities to make physical copies of documents available for inspection at their principal office. This is particularly relevant to this stage of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan. Further details are described in Chapter 2.

The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both using a single appraisal process (as advocated in the National Planning Practice Guidance¹), whereby the requirements of the SEA Regulations can also be met through a single integrated SA process – this is the process that is being undertaken for the North Lincolnshire Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan. Therefore, the term 'SA' should be taken to mean 'SA incorporating the requirements of the SEA Regulations'.

1.5 Habitat Regulations Assessment

Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) land-use plans, including Development Plan Documents, are also subject to Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The purpose of HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of European sites and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of those sites. European sites comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and under UK Government policy, Ramsar sites.

The HRA for the North Lincolnshire Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan is being undertaken by JBA Consulting on behalf of the Council. While the HRA (JBA Consulting, 2021) is being reported separately to the SA, the findings have been considered in the SA, where relevant.

¹ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainabilityappraisal/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal-and-how-does-it-relate-to-strategic-environmentalassessment/>

1.6 Structure of this Report

This SA is structured into the following sections:

- Chapter 2 presents the context for the SA and how sustainability objectives set by other policies, plans, and programmes, baseline information, and the key environmental, social and economic issues facing North Lincolnshire have been taken into account when preparing this SA.
- Chapter 3 summarises the methodology used to carry out the SA, including the 'SA framework' (sustainability objectives and supporting assessment criteria) and site assessment criteria used to assess the Publication Draft Local Plan policies and site allocations, as well as any difficulties encountered in applying the methodology.
- Chapters 4 to 6 describe the results of the SA of each separate component of the Publication Draft Local Plan the vision and objectives (Chapter 4), policies (Chapter 5), and site allocations and reasonable alternative allocations (Chapter 6).
- Chapter 7 describes the sustainability effects of the Local Plan as a whole and cumulatively.
- Chapter 8 suggests a set of indicators that can be used to monitor the significant sustainability effects of implementing the Local Plan and sets out the next steps in the Local Plan and SA processes.

2 Sustainability context

2.1 Baseline characteristics of North Lincolnshire

A detailed review of the baseline characteristics in North Lincolnshire was undertaken during the preparation of the SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a). This report identified key environmental, social and economic conditions in the area, including information on the status and condition of notable environmental features; current and future predicted trends in the evolution of the environment, social and economic aspects; and issues and problems currently affecting the environment and population. The information used to characterise the baseline conditions was broadly strategic in nature, reflecting the high-level nature of the Local Plan. It was obtained from a broad range of sources and no new investigations or surveys were undertaken as part of the scoping process.

Where information was available, significant sustainability issues were highlighted. These key sustainability issues were then used to set the overarching SA framework – the SA objectives and supporting assessment criteria against which the Local Plan objectives and policies have been assessed. The purpose of this was to ensure that the key sustainability issues were fully reflected in the assessment of the sustainability of the Local Plan, with the Plan's proposal assessed to determine whether they would positively or negatively affect these issues at a strategic level.

The SA Scoping Report, including the baseline characteristics, key sustainability issues and SA framework were subject to public and stakeholder consultation in 2017. Comments received resulted in several minor changes to the SA framework, although the comments received were largely supportive of the SA work undertaken and the proposed assessment scope. This assessment scope was further tested through the Issues & Options (Regulation 18) consultation process, which included SA of the proposed Local Plan spatial objectives and strategic options. The relatively minor comments received from consultees on the SA confirmed that the SA scope and assessment framework remained robust.

The Preferred Options (Regulation 18) document provides a further detailed review of the baseline characteristics in North Lincolnshire. In doing so, it identifies 'key challenges' within the area to the successful delivery of the Local Plan.

As part of the Preferred Options stage of the SA, a review of the key sustainability issues identified at the scoping stage was undertaken and these issues were compared with the key challenges identified in the Preferred Options document, so as to ensure that the key issues identified remain holistic.

The Preferred Options SA was then subject to public and stakeholder consultation between February and March 2020. Comments received resulted in updates in reference to the latest government guidance and targets, most notably biodiversity net gain which will become mandatory when the Environment Bill is enacted. In general, the clarity and ease of reading was improved.

The Publication Draft (Regulation 19) document has considered the available evidence, provided in the Evidence Base on the Council's website, and national planning policy to ensure that the Local Plan has been prepared in accordance with the legal and procedural requirements and is 'sound'. This document will then be subject to further consultation before submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

2.2 Policies, plans and programmes

The North Lincolnshire Local Plan is greatly influenced by the requirements, aims and objectives of legislation and regulation, other policies, plans and programmes, and by broader sustainability objectives.

A review of relevant documents was undertaken as part of the SA scoping process and was further reviewed through the SA of the Issues & Options and Preferred Options and Site Allocations (Regulation 18) documents. The reviews sought to identify how wider strategic

objectives could influence the development of the Local Plan and the SA process. This information was also used to inform the development of the baseline review and the identification of key sustainability issues.

The full review of other policies, plans and programmes can be found in Appendix A of the SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a).

An additional review of other policies, plans and programmes has been conducted for the Publication Draft SA Report to identify if any relevant documents have been released since the SA Scoping Report so that they may be incorporated into the Publication Draft Local Plan.

The **National Planning Policy Framework** (NPPF) was revised in July 2018 and subsequently updated in 2019 and 2021. This document sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF is supported by planning practice guidance documents which have also been updated. The original implications outlined in the SA Scoping Report still stand. The additional requirement to seek opportunities for wider environmental net gain, in particular for biodiversity net gains, must be included in the Local Plan.

The **Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Amendment) Regulations** 2020 makes permanent the temporary changes introduced in July 2020. From 31st December, measures to remove the requirement to have documents relating to a Strategic Environmental Assessment available for an inspection at an address, and for copies to be available to be obtained from that address come into force. The existing inspection requirements have been replaced with a duty to make documents available on a public website where they can be downloaded, for the responsible authority to provide copies of documents by email where requested (or physical copies by mail where it is reasonable to do so in light of Covid-19 restrictions), and to provide a telephone number where enquiries about these documents can be made.

The **National Infrastructure Strategy** was published in November 2020 and sets out plans to transform UK infrastructure in order to level up the country, strengthen the Union and achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

The **Planning for the Future White Paper** was published in August 2020, which proposes reforms of the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process, bring a new focus to design and sustainability, improve the system of developer contributions to infrastructure, and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed. Consultation ran from August to October 2020.

The **Environment Bill** was first published in January 2020 and will bring into UK law environmental protections and recovery. Once enacted, biodiversity net gain will be mandated through the planning system and so, the Local Plan must ensure targets and mechanisms are included.

Several regulations have also been updated to reflect the UK exit from the European Union (EU):

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 – no policy changes, changes only to ensure habitat and species protection and standards are implemented in the same or equivalent way following the exit from the EU.
- The Environmental Assessments and Miscellaneous Planning (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 – no substantive changes are made to the way Environmental Impact Assessments or Strategic Environmental Assessment regimes operate, changes remove unnecessary references, for example to the UK being a Member State.

2.3 Key sustainability issues in North Lincolnshire

Analysis of the baseline information has enabled a number of key sustainability issues to be identified. A summary of these issues is provided in Table 2-1, together with consideration of how these issues might develop over time if the new Local Plan is not prepared.

Table 2-1: Summary of the key sustainability issues in North Lincolnshire

Sustainability topic		Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
Environmental	Landscape character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure on landscape character and condition from habitat fragmentation, urban intrusion and commercial agriculture intensification in all LCAs. • New development in the future could affect landscape character and quality, and also impact upon levels of tranquillity. • Intensification of agricultural practices are affecting traditional landscape features and rural landscape characteristics. • A lack of access to the countryside is a significant issue affecting recreation opportunities for local people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Economy: To maximise our current assets and develop new and existing offers to attract visitors to the area, alongside investment in infrastructure and ensuring we protect and enhance those assets that make North Lincolnshire an attractive place to visit. • Natural Environment: Protect and enhance our protected biodiversity and geodiversity sites. • Agricultural/Rural Economy: Promote a prosperous rural economy through sustainable business growth, agricultural diversification and rural growth that respects the character of the countryside.
	Biodiversity and nature conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sites designated for nature conservation are at risk of damage because of housing and commercial development pressure and associated water quality impacts and human disturbance. • North Lincolnshire is dominated by arable farmland and fields, with a decline in hedgerows in some areas – this habitat type favours only a small suite of species • The dominance of arable farmland contributes to eutrophication and water quality issues in many waterbodies, along with other sources of point and diffuse pollution. • Lack of agri-environment schemes and positive management activity hinders the reversal of habitat loss. • Fragmentation of land into many small sites creating isolated habitats, with species that cannot alter their distribution. • The increasing spread of invasive non-native species. • Effects of climate change may also pose a risk to flora and fauna as they cannot adapt to changing climatic conditions or shift their range in order to survive. • Coastal squeeze due to climate induced sea level rise may impact on intertidal habitats of the Humber. • Decline in waterbird populations from the Humber Estuary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Environment: Protect and enhance our protected biodiversity and geodiversity sites. • Natural Environment: Ensure biodiversity net gain of 10% is delivered alongside developments.

Sustainability topic		Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts to create habitat in North Lincolnshire are prevalent, for example through the Humberhead Levels Nature Improvement Area resulting in new wetland habitat. 	
	Water environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases in water demand are predicted to cause a water supply deficit in the future. The quality of North Lincolnshire's waterbodies is generally of moderate status, with pollution from surface water runoff within urban areas and agricultural land affecting water quality. Groundwater is vulnerable to pollution associated with contaminated land, with aquifers overlain by soils with high leaching potential. Further development could increase the amount of surface water runoff and cause further disturbance and degradation of the habitat and water quality of these watercourses. Flooding within North Lincolnshire has the potential to create pathways through which contamination sources could cause pollution. A large area of North Lincolnshire has a medium to high risk of flooding and are likely to experience an increase in the number of flood events due to climate change increasing rainfall intensity, as well as new areas becoming at risk of flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Risk & Development: To ensure that development is directed away from those locations which are most at risk from flooding.
	Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development on brownfield land or land at risk of contamination could cause the release of contaminants into groundwater or surface waters. Contaminated runoff could impact on environmental receptors such as nature conservation sites and reduce the water quality of watercourses such as the Humber Estuary. Demand for housing could potentially affect good quality agricultural land, reducing the amount of land in North Lincolnshire available for agriculture. There is a risk of compliance issues with environmental legislation, such as the WFD, due to potential risks to water quality from contaminants. Continued industrial activities could release contaminants into the environment through pollution incidents such as release of the chemicals or dust from quarrying. Loss of geodiversity through poorly planned development and lack of management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Environment: Protect and enhance our protected biodiversity and geodiversity sites.

Sustainability topic		Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
	Historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The intrinsic cultural value of the area plays a vital role in defining its distinctive character and identity and it should be conserved and protected. Some Scheduled Monuments, listed buildings and Conservation Areas are considered to be at risk and/or under threat. Development pressure will continue to threaten designated and undesignated heritage assets. Climate change has the potential to threaten heritage assets, in particular from flooding and erosion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Environment: Protecting our historic environment and heritage assets for everyone to enjoy now and in the future.
	Air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater pressures in air quality may occur in the future through increases in the population in North Lincolnshire, and associated development, increased traffic congestion, and agriculture. Continued emissions to air from manufacturing and extractive industries within North Lincolnshire could decrease air quality. Expansion of Humberside Airport and Humber Ports are likely to worsen air quality in the immediate area. Deterioration in air quality may lead to the introduction of more AQMAs to address local impacts on air quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Quality: To improve air quality in North Lincolnshire generated by heavy industry and traffic and ensure that development is directed away from areas with poor air quality.
	Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Lincolnshire's climate will change in the future, with increased summer temperatures, decreased summer rainfall, increased winter rainfall and increased frequency of severe weather events. Increased rainfall/severe weather events increase the flood risk, which is expected to result in adverse impacts on utility, residential, industrial and transport infrastructure with subsequent economic consequences. There is increased risk to public health due to increased summer temperatures and increased flood risk. Biodiversity may be negatively impacted by climate change, particularly along North Lincolnshire's watercourses. There is significant potential for and likely demand for growth in renewable energy provision in the area. Therefore, there is potential for conflict between renewable energy generation and other land uses and issues associated with environmental impacts. Energy demand and consumption is likely to rise as a result of increased population and development due to economic growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood Risk & Development: To ensure that development is directed away from those locations which are most at risk from flooding.

Sustainability topic		Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
Social	Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longer life expectancies, and higher birth rates than death rates are leading to a growing population. Significant pressure may arise from an increasing ageing population in North Lincolnshire, coupled with an outward migration of younger, educated, people. This has decreased the dependant population ratio, which is expected to decrease further in the future. Population increases leading to a substantial need for further housing and improved social, leisure, and transportation infrastructure, as well as increased demand for water. Within North Lincolnshire there is a lack of affordable, high quality housing. A growing population will place increased demand on a range of community services and facilities, and also increased competition for jobs. Accommodation for the Gypsy and Traveller community needs to be increased, and cultural awareness of Gypsies and Travellers needs to be increased. There are a number of health issues such as obesity that affect the community, which increases the vulnerability of the population and places further demands on community health services and facilities. Areas of deprivation create disparity across North Lincolnshire, particularly relating to poor accessibility in rural areas. Crime rates increased have in the last year, despite a decreasing trend observed from 2014 and 2015. Tackling crime remains a key priority in urban areas in Scunthorpe and the Crosby area. A low proportion of the population, aged 16 to 64, have achieved a degree due to a lack of access to higher education, and lack of graduate job opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population Changes: To meet the housing requirements of our growing, and increasingly older population. Housing Provision: Providing a sufficient supply of housing land and quality houses supported by infrastructure provision, in the right locations in North Lincolnshire to support economic growth, including meeting the needs for all our communities. Education & Skills: To protect, improve and increase the provision of education and skills infrastructure in North Lincolnshire, taking into account changing demographics, and growth patterns. Health & Wellbeing: To improve the health outcomes for all of North Lincolnshire's people by reducing levels of deprivation and ensuring everyone has access to opportunities for employment, services and to live healthier lives. Deprivation: To reduce deprivation locally and enable communities to flourish.
	Local economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Lincolnshire average income is slightly lower than the England national average. The manufacturing sector employs a much greater proportion of people compared to the national average, which is currently in decline, creating concerns for the sustainability of the industry in North Lincolnshire. Employment in the agricultural economy is also in decline in rural areas due to mechanisation, creating a low number of jobs in these areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross Boundary Working: To work with our neighbours and partners to deliver the Local Plan. Economic Development: Providing a sufficient supply of employment land, supported by infrastructure provision, in the right locations in North Lincolnshire to support economic growth, including meeting the requirement of our existing and emerging businesses

Sustainability topic	Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New industries within North Lincolnshire, such as the renewable energy industry, and technology and sciences, largely located on the South Humber Bank, should be increased to promote diversification of the local economy. 	<p>and sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment: To provide increased levels of employment within North Lincolnshire to support economic growth. Visitor Economy: To maximise our current assets and develop new and existing offers to attract visitors to the area, alongside investment in infrastructure and ensuring we protect and enhance those assets that make North Lincolnshire an attractive place to visit. Agricultural/Rural Economy: Promote a prosperous rural economy through sustainable business growth, agricultural diversification and rural growth that respects the character of the countryside.
Material assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a lack of accessibility and public transport infrastructure in rural areas. Car use is increasing, and the number of cars in North Lincolnshire is predicted to grow significantly in the future, which will place additional pressure on the road transport network in the area. Rural villages are important community hubs and the services they provide need to be protected and enhanced. The quantity and quality of green open space and recreational space provision is generally average. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town Centres: To protect and improve the vitality and viability of our town and district centres, in particular Scunthorpe town centre, in the light of changing shopping, leisure and working patterns, to ensure they remain key hubs for our communities and are more competitive against centres in neighbouring areas. Strategic Transport: Ensuring that our strategic transport network is improved to support our ambitions for growth and safer roads and to further develop our regional and national connectivity, working with our partners. Local Transport: Increasing opportunities for the use of sustainable modes of transport including public transport, cycling and walking, to access employment, services and for leisure and recreation, whilst reducing the need to use the private car. International Connections: Supporting our international connections by ensuring that transport access to our ports and airport is improved and maintained, in order to support increased growth. Digital Connectivity: Increase coverage for Superfast

Sustainability topic		Key sustainability issues	Key challenges
			Broadband connectivity within North Lincolnshire and ensure provision of digital infrastructure and telecommunications to support businesses and residents, taking advantage of new 5G networks and smart technologies.
	Waste and minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling in North Lincolnshire still remains relatively low even though rates exceed the regional and national average. Future population increases are likely to place increased pressure on waste management systems and facilities. New waste management measures should consider promotion of sustainable design to minimise waste generation and the impact on the environment. Lincolnshire's large mineral deposits continue to be exploited and represent an important economic activity in North Lincolnshire. Further increase in mineral extraction could place additional pressure on North Lincolnshire's transport networks, and potentially increase the risk of contamination of the environment, and impact the natural, built and historic environment. Continued exploitation of the North Lincolnshire's mineral resources should seek to contribute to the social and economic needs of North Lincolnshire whilst also ensuring robust environmental protection. Cessation of mineral exploitation, such as peat extraction, provides considerable opportunity to restore priority habitats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minerals: Ensure we meet the needs for aggregates and other minerals and protect existing resources from sterilisation, whilst managing the impacts of extraction on our landscape and communities. Waste: To promote management of waste in line with the waste hierarchy and ensure the protection of existing sites from non-waste development.

2.3.1 Likely evolution of the key sustainability issues without the new Local Plan

A wide range of key sustainability issues/key challenges have been identified. Many of these issues are relevant not only to North Lincolnshire, but also to the wider region and at a national level. These issues are influenced by a wide range of factors and their future evolution is difficult to predict.

The pressures causing these issues are likely to continue regardless of the adoption of the new Local Plan. However, the Local Plan does have a key role in delivering more sustainable outcomes and meeting sustainability challenges and provides an important opportunity to deliver new development that can help address local issues in the area. Nonetheless, it also needs to be recognised that the Local Plan may not impact on some of these issues directly and that any potential effects will be as a result of changes that occur as a result of Local Plan policies influencing wider development-related aspects. For instance, the Local Plan is not likely to directly affect levels of crime or many of the key health issues affecting local residents. However, by providing opportunities for development that generates new job opportunities, affordable housing and community facilities that benefit deprived communities, some of the causes of crime and poor health can begin to be addressed.

Without the adoption of the new Local Plan, existing policies in the current Core Strategy would continue, providing mechanisms that seek to contribute to addressing many of these issues, as would current national and international policy and legislation.

For instance, the adopted Core Strategy recognises the value and importance of the natural environment and includes policies that seek to protect and enhance these features, whilst requiring development to include provision to protect and improve biodiversity. This is also a strong theme of the NPPF, which includes provision to ensure that planning decisions effectively conserve and enhance the natural environment. In addition, there is a range of national and international environmental legislation that provides statutory protection for designated sites and specific habitats and species, and national environmental and planning policy and guidance that provides further protection for nature conservation sites, flora and fauna. Together, these provisions provide a wide ranging and multi-layered approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity in North Lincolnshire.

Such legislation, policies and planning guidance would continue to apply in the absence of the new Local Plan and as such, would continue to contribute to managing and mitigating these sustainability issues.

Notwithstanding this, the new Local Plan provides opportunities to define new policies that could address these issues more effectively. For instance, the new Local Plan offers an opportunity to provide more specific policies that could seek to better alleviate specific local biodiversity issues and provide further protection for sites of high nature conservation value, whilst further compelling new development proposals to deliver biodiversity net gains.

Therefore, the key sustainability issues/key challenges identified would remain in the future and are influenced by legislation and policy at a local, regional and national level, much of which extends outside the scope of planning policy. Policy provisions in the current Core Strategy would continue to apply for a period and many of these policies seek to deliver better sustainability outcomes – they will influence these sustainability issues in a positive way. These are directly supported by the NPPF. However, the new Local Plan provides an important opportunity to deliver specific policies that build upon this existing framework and better address many of these issues in a positive way, either directly or indirectly, through the provision of an up-to-date plan that reflects the latest requirements of the NPPF and delivers effective sustainable development.

2.3.2 Changes made to the Local Plan in response to the Sustainability Appraisal

The planning policy team has been open and receptive to changes and iterations in policies and sites and the appraisal. The scope of changes has been quite minimal and related to:

- Rewording of Local Plan policies
- Updating of supporting text
- Removal of Local Plan policies
- Deletion of sites from SA
- Updated monitoring indicators

There are likely to be changes that result from the consultation process. Many of the wording changes have strengthened the policies and the appraisal of the sites will set the framework for more detailed site assessments.

Public consultation on the Environmental Report took place for six weeks from February to March 2020. A list of comments was received from Natural England, Historic England, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, East Riding Council, and the Environment Agency and resulted in policy wording changes and most notably the inclusion of Biodiversity Net Gain. A full list of comments has not been included in the Appendices; however, the comments can be provided by the Council.

Amendments to the Publication Draft (Regulation 19 stage) Local Plan were made by North Lincolnshire Council and the Publication Draft Local Plan was then re-appraised, and the Environmental Report updated. This included assessing new policies SS9 – Land at North Killingholme Airfield, TC2 – Placemaking & Good Urban Design and H4 Specialist and Supported Housing, reasonable alternative housing sites submitted during the 2020 call for sites, additional housing sites and minor wording changes to strategic housing policies, SS7 Lincolnshire Lakes, DQE5 Managing Flood Risk and DQE6 Sustainable Drainage Systems, along with the addition of policy H4 relating to specialist housing and supported housing.

3 Sustainability Appraisal methodology

3.1 The Sustainability Appraisal process

Sustainability Appraisal is an iterative process that aims to identify the significant environmental, social and economic effects of a plan. For the North Lincolnshire Publication Draft (Regulation 19), this involves assessing the policies and site allocations, as well as any reasonable alternative policies and site allocations considered by North Lincolnshire Council, to identify the extent to which sustainable development is likely to be achieved.

The SA has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Regulations and follows good practice guidance produced by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM, 2004), Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG, 2014), and Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI, 2018).

3.1.1 Meeting legal requirements

Sustainability Appraisal is a compulsory requirement for Local Plans under Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This has since been amended by the Environmental Assessments and Miscellaneous Planning (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 to ensure it functions effectively following the UK's exit from the EU. Government guidance requires that SA incorporate the requirements of the SEA Regulations; in practice, SA and SEA follow similar methodologies and it is possible to combine them without losing the essence of either.

Annex I of the SEA Directive sets out the scope of information to be provided through the SA process, and can still be used to set the framework for assessment despite the UK's exit from the EU. This is shown in Table 3-1 below, which also identifies where in the SA process each requirement will be met.

Table 3-1: Stages in the SA/SEA process as identified within Annex I of the SEA Directive

SEA Directive requirements	Where in the SA
(a) an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes;	SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a)
(b) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme;	SA Scoping Report
(c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected;	SA Scoping Report
(d) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC;	SA Scoping Report
(e) the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation;	SA Scoping Report
(f) likely significant effects on the environment – issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape, and the interrelationship between these factors;	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
(g) the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan;	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
(h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)

SEA Directive requirements	Where in the SA
any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	
(i) a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10; and	SA Report (chapters 3 and 8)
(j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	SA Report

The full range of environmental receptors as detailed in the SEA Directive have been considered when developing the scope of the SA (see SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a) for a full summary description of the scope of the SA).

The Directive states that an assessment should identify the potentially significant impacts on '*biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic, material assets including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors*'. As an integrated SA and SEA is being undertaken, consideration of other 'sustainability' topics has also been made, and therefore the SA appraises issues including housing, transport, waste, social inclusion and deprivation, and economic and employment characteristics (see Table 3-2).

Table 3-2: Sustainability topics covered in the Sustainability Appraisal

SEA Directive and SA guidance requirements		Definition in relation to this SA
Environmental	Landscape	Local landscape character; protected and notable landscapes; key local landscape features.
	Biodiversity (including flora and fauna)	Designated nature conservation sites; protected and notable species and habitats; trends in condition and status.
	Water	Chemical and biological water quality; surface and groundwater resources; waterbody hydromorphology; flood risk.
	Soil (including geology)	Variety of rocks, minerals and landforms; the quantity and distribution of high-quality soil; land contamination.
	Cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)	Protected and notable heritage assets and their setting; human induced physical changes to the environment; pressures on the historic environment, heritage assets and their setting.
	Air	Air quality issues.
	Climatic factors	Regional climate patterns; trends in greenhouse gas emissions and the sources of these emissions; mitigation measures and adaptation options to manage climate change.
Social	Population	Where people live and work; population trends and demographics; housing; education; inequality and deprivation; key community facilities; accessibility.
	Human health	Trends and patterns in human health; recreation opportunities.
Economic	Economy	Local economic and employment conditions.
	Material assets	Critical transport and other infrastructure; community services; green infrastructure and open space.
	Waste	Waste collection and recycling patterns.
The interrelationship between the above factors		The relationship between environmental features and issues.

3.1.2 Stages in the Sustainability Appraisal process

The ODPM guidance sets out a five-stage process (A to E) to be followed (see Table 3-3). This Environmental Report builds upon the Scoping Report (Stage A) and covers stages B and C of the process wherein the context and objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal are identified, and the scope of the assessment is determined.

Table 3-3: Stages in the SA process

SA stages and tasks	Purpose		Where covered in the SA
Stage A	Setting the context and SA objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.		SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a)
Stage B	Developing and refining options and assessing effects		
	(B1) Test the plan proposals against the SA framework.	To identify potential synergies or inconsistencies between the objectives of the plan and the SA objectives and help in developing alternatives.	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
	(B2) Develop the plan options including reasonable alternatives.	To develop and refine strategic alternatives.	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
	(B3) Predict the effects of the options, including alternatives.	To predict the significant environmental effects of the plan proposals and alternatives.	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
	(B4) Evaluate the likely effects of the plan proposals and alternatives.	To predict the effects of the plan proposals and reasonable alternatives and assist in the refinement of the plan.	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
	(B5) Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects.	To ensure that adverse effects are identified, and potential mitigation measures are considered.	SA Report (chapters 4 to 7 and Appendix A)
	(B6) Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan.	To detail the means by which the environmental performance of the plan can be assessed.	SA Report (chapters 3 and 8)
Stage C	Preparing the Environmental Report		SA Report
Stage D	Consulting on the draft Local Plan and the Environmental Report		SA Report (consultation to be completed)
Stage E	Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan		SA Report (chapters 3 and 8) and Adoption Statement (to be prepared)

3.1.3 Relationship between the Local Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal

The relationship between the SA process and development of the Local Plan is summarised in Figure 3-1.

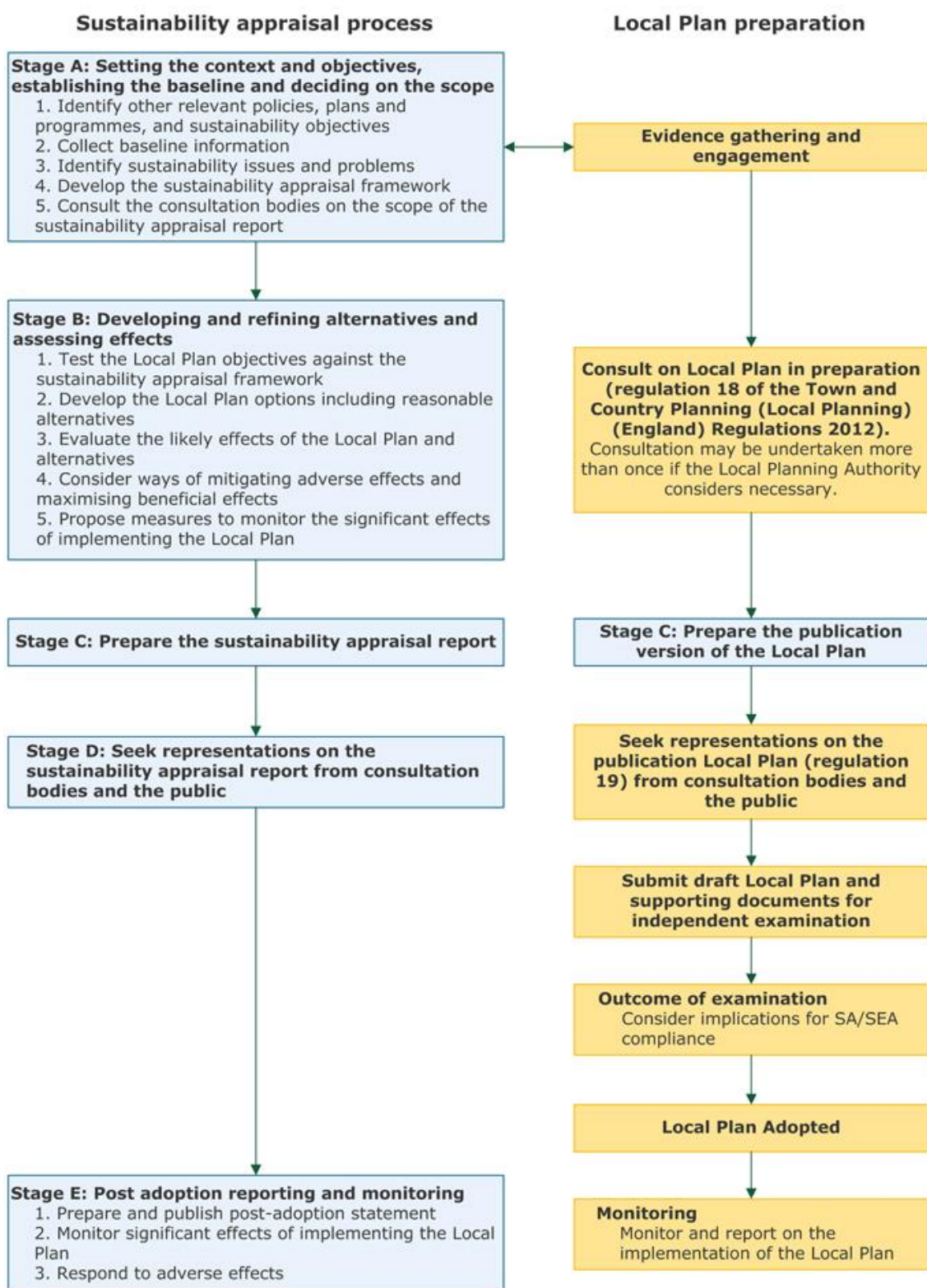


Figure 3-1: Key stages of Local Plan preparation and their link with the Sustainability Appraisal process (DCLG, 2014)

Issues and Options (Regulation 18) consultation

Development of the Local Plan is an iterative process involving a staged approach to the development of the final strategic objectives, policies and site allocations contained within the adopted Local Plan; at each stage in this process, consultation with the public and

stakeholders is undertaken to enable wider views to be taken into account and ensure the final outcomes reflect local priorities.

The Issues & Options (Regulation 18) stage of the Local Plan process set out the spatial vision and objectives for North Lincolnshire – which together provide the framework for Local Plan policies – and its spatial strategy – which examined the key development issues of relevance to North Lincolnshire and identified a series of options for each policy area to deal with these issues. Consultation with the public and other stakeholders on the draft Issues & Options document was undertaken in 2017.

The spatial strategy options were broadly grouped into eight ‘themes’ with a total of 26 associated spatial strategies included within the Issues & Options document. The options identified to deliver each of the spatial strategies were developed by North Lincolnshire Council in response to the key issues of relevance to the Local Plan and were considered the most appropriate options for dealing with these issues. The options were developed in accordance with NPPF guidance and therefore reflected NPPF requirements with respect to sustainable development; as such, they represented reasonable alternatives for delivering the spatial vision and supporting spatial objectives, being sufficiently distinct, realistic, and deliverable.

Each of the options proposed for these spatial strategies were assessed through the SA process to determine their potential economic, social and environmental impacts. The outcomes of this assessment were set out in an SA Report (JBA Consulting, 2017b). Consultation on the outcomes of this work was undertaken alongside the Issues & Options document.

The SA was used by North Lincolnshire Council to inform the choice of preferred options and the subsequent development of proposed policies that reflect these preferred approaches. Whilst the SA was an important source of information to inform this process, it was not the purpose of the SA to decide which option to take forward, but merely to provide information on the sustainability effects of these options for the plan-makers and to provide transparency.

Preferred Options (Regulation 18) Local Plan

North Lincolnshire Council has set out its preferred policies and site allocations/designations needed to deliver the plan’s vision and spatial objectives in its Preferred Options (Regulation 18) document. The policies and allocations identified in this document are based upon the findings from the Issues & Options stage and take into account consultee responses to the consultation undertaken at that stage.

The preferred policies seek to deliver the spatial objectives and directly reflect the spatial strategies set out in the Issues & Options document; the policies have been developed to deliver the preferred options identified at that stage. SA of the spatial strategy options therefore tested both the preferred options and ‘reasonable alternatives’ as required by Part 3 of the SEA Regulations.

SA of the preferred policies and any further ‘reasonable alternatives’ identified by the Council has been undertaken against the SA framework. Typically this involved direct assessment of each proposed policy against the SA objectives and then consideration of the assessment outcomes of any related spatial strategy options so as to demonstrate the potential effects had alternative options been taken forward to this Preferred Options stage. For many of the policies, the Council considered that there were no other reasonable policy approaches. This was because any other policy approach would not be in conformity with NPPF requirements or the preferred policy direction set out in the Issues & Options document (taking into account consultee views).

It should be recognised that the SA is not the only aspect taken into account when determining a preferred option and that other factors including conformity with national policy and public opinion will also be taken into account by the Council.

In addition, the Preferred Options (Regulation 19) document contains the updated spatial vision and spatial objectives for North Lincolnshire. The vision was refined following the

Issues & Options stage consultation and is assessed against the SA framework to determine the potential significant environmental, social and economic effects. The 14 spatial objectives, derived from the vision, have remained unchanged from the Issues & Options stage. These were assessed at that stage against the SA framework. A review of this assessment has been undertaken to ensure that the assessment outcomes remain robust.

Proposed site allocations for housing, employment and other development proposals have been determined by the Council through a staged process. The Council has prepared a Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) (NLC, 2019), which assesses the suitability of existing and potential development sites in the area. The SHELAA has been undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out in the Planning Practice Guidance accompanying the NPPF. This involves an assessment of each potential development site against a broad range of considerations, including national policy requirements and national and local designations.

Potential development sites were identified from a range of sources. This includes sites already allocated for residential or employment use in the existing Local Plan that have yet to be developed, committed sites, any other sites already going through the planning process and sites identified through a 'call for sites' process undertaken by the Council in February 2017 and March 2018.

Development sites assessed as being suitable for housing or employment use were then considered for inclusion in the Local Plan. All suitable sites identified through the SHELAA process that were not subsequently included in the Local Plan were considered as 'reasonable alternatives' for the purposes of the SA.

All proposed development sites and other 'reasonable alternative' sites have been assessed in this SA against a suite of 'site assessment criteria'. These criteria encompass a wide range of environmental, social and economic factors and have been developed to reflect the full scope of the SA objectives.

Draft criteria were developed by JBA Consulting and approved by North Lincolnshire Council. Criteria were developed under two broad categories:

- **Community facilities:** criteria assessing the acceptability of access to existing community services and facilities in North Lincolnshire.
- **Environmental features:** criteria assessing the risk of harm to the area's environmental features, assets and constraints.

It should be noted that there is not a one to one relationship between the site assessment criteria and the SA objectives; instead, one objective may be represented by a number of criteria and vice versa.

This assessment adopted a proximity approach to determining accessibility and risk based upon straight line distance between the development site boundaries and the nearest boundary of each assessment criteria. This acts as a proxy for accessibility based upon pedestrian travel times. Whilst it is acknowledged that straight line distance does not fully represent actual travel routes, distances or times (which may be longer than this), straight line distances have been used to ensure consistency in the assessment and because actual travel routes undertaken by individuals cannot be known, as it is dependent upon individual behaviours of residents and employees and impacts on local travel networks.

The outcomes of this assessment provide a broad indication of the potential suitability of development at each development site and whether such a development would be consistent with the related SA objectives; however, they do not indicate the significance of any effects of the Local Plan against the SA objectives.

Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan

The Publication Draft (Regulation 19) sets out North Lincolnshire Council's vision and objectives for the future development of the area, addressing needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure. It will also be a

basis for safeguarding the environment, adapting to climate change and securing good design. Its policies and site allocations will be used to guide decisions and investment on development and regeneration up to 2038. The policies and allocations in this document have been informed by the Preferred Options stage and take into account consultee responses gathered during the consultation period February and March 2020. A summary of the comments received is provided in the evidence base for the Plan.

The preferred spatial vision and objectives have been refined following consultation at the Preferred Options stage. The document also ensures that the most up to date available evidence and national planning policy is taken into account. The subsequent changes underwent a further SA utilising the SA framework and sites assessment criteria to determine if there were significant changes to the SA conclusions previously drawn.

A summary of how the Local Plan has emerged and the appraisal of reasonable alternatives is outlined in Table 3-4.

Table 3-4: Summary of SA and development of Local Plan and reasonable alternatives

Local Plan Stage	SA findings
Issues and Options	<p>The 14 spatial objectives were identified to have a range of positive and negative effects. Several of the objectives focused on growing the local economy or providing new housing and employment sites. These could have a range of negative impacts on environmental sustainability objectives but also positive impacts on the social and economic sustainability objectives. Spatial objectives aiming to protect and enhance the natural and historic environment were identified to have a wide range of positive effects across the sustainability objectives. There was potential for several of the spatial objectives to conflict with each other; therefore it was advised that the Local Plan would need to carefully balance these objectives to ensure that efforts to meet one objective would not disadvantage another.</p> <p>A total of 26 spatial strategies were put forward by the Council, each with varying numbers of options (two option, A or B or five options, A-E). Each option was assessed to identify potential negative effects and measures to reduce or avoid these effects were put forward.</p> <p>The Issues and Options Stage identified that the Local Plan should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include policies that specifically aim to protect and enhance important environmental features and resources. - Assess the environmental impacts of each proposed allocation. - Ensure that the design of new development is high-quality and sustainable, and includes measures to protect and enhance environmental features. - More clearly acknowledge the importance of areas outside designated sites for biodiversity to increase environmental protection. - Recognise that growth in tourist numbers could conflict with objectives relating to housing and could place additional demands on local services and facilities, to the detriment of residents. - Reduce the effects of new development on air quality and climate change by promoting use of sustainable materials, low carbon technologies, renewable energy generation, energy efficiency measures, and sustainable transport options. - New development should provide new areas of green and open space. - Recognise that population growth will occur and that new infrastructure, services, and facilities will be needed regardless of whether new development is delivered. <p>These findings provided information to North Lincolnshire Council to decide which option to take forward.</p>
Preferred Options	<p>The 14 spatial objectives from the previous stage underwent minor wording changes to the objective titles; however, a review of the changes determined that a new assessment was not warranted.</p> <p>The proposed policies were assessed and categorised into the 13 policy themes</p>

Local Plan Stage	SA findings
	<p>described in the Preferred Options document. Potential significant effects were identified and suitable mitigation measures to avoid or reduce the significance of the impacts were recommended.</p> <p>Proposed site allocations for housing, employment and other development proposals have been determined by the Council through a 'call for sites' in February 2017 and March 2018. There were several iterations of the SA as site allocations were altered as some proposed sites were not taken forward and reasonable alternative sites were added to the assessment. This included 61 sites from 2017 and a further 21 sites from 2018.</p> <p>The Preferred Options document details how reasonable alternatives were considered by the Council utilising the SA findings, consultation responses and other sources of information, such as newly published guidance. The consideration of reasonable alternatives has also been documented in Appendix A of the SA report. For many of the policies, the Council considered that there were no other reasonable policy approaches. This was because any other policy approach would not be in conformity with NPPF requirements or the preferred policy direction set out in the Issues & Options document (taking into account consultee views). In addition, many options were both taken forward to be incorporated into the policy. Many of the policies were also widely supported through the consultation.</p>
Publication Draft	<p>Three new policies were introduced (SS9 – Land at North Killingholme Airfield, TC2 – Placemaking & Good Urban Design and H4 Specialist and Supported Housing) and one policy was removed (DQE5 – Nature Conservation & Recreational Land Uses). The two policies removed offered limited significant impacts and the aims of the policy were reflected in other policies of the Local Plan. The remaining policies underwent minor wording changes, which have largely strengthened policies. Many of the updates reflected the introduction of Biodiversity Net Gain. Details of how recommendations from the SA have been taken forward in the development of the policies are provided in Appendix A. Minor wording changes were also made during the development of the Publication Draft and these were also assessed.</p> <p>The SA total scores for the housing and employment sites were influential in removing low scoring sites from the site allocations. An additional call for sites in 2020 was also completed and sites were assessed in May 2021.</p>

3.2 Sustainability Appraisal framework

The SA framework is used to identify and evaluate the potential sustainability effects associated with the implementation of the Local Plan. Developed at the SA scoping stage (see SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a) for further details on the development of the SA framework), the framework comprises a set of SA objectives that reflect the key environmental, social and economic issues identified through the baseline information review (see Figure 3-2). These objectives are supported by a series of appraisal criteria, which are used to measure the potential significance of the sustainability issues, and associated indicators, which can be used to monitor the effects of implementation of the Local Plan.



Figure 3-2: Development of the Sustainability Appraisal framework

Table 3-5 summarises the purpose and requirements of the SA objectives, appraisal criteria, and indicators.

Table 3-5: Definition of Sustainability Appraisal objectives, appraisal criteria and monitoring indicators

Item	Purpose
Objective	Provide a benchmark 'intention' against which the sustainability effects of the plan can be tested. They need to be fit-for-purpose and represent the key sustainability issues of relevance to the Local Plan area.
Appraisal criteria	Aid the assessment of impact significance. Provide a means of ensuring that key environmental and sustainability issues are considered by the assessment process.
Monitoring indicator	Provides a means of measuring the progress towards achieving the sustainability objectives over time. Needs to be measurable and relevant and ideally relies on existing monitoring networks.

3.2.1 Sustainability Appraisal objectives and appraisal criteria

Sustainability Appraisal objectives and appraisal criteria have been developed for each of the sustainability receptors (see Table 3-6). The spatial strategy vision and spatial objectives and the proposed policies have been assessed directly against these SA objectives to determine whether they have the potential to contribute towards or conflict with the achievement of each objective.

The SA objectives and appraisal criteria were informed and developed through the baseline appraisal undertaken during the scoping process and the key environmental protection and sustainability themes identified by the plans, programmes, and policies (PPP) review. These objectives were revised in response to comments received during the consultation phase on the SA Scoping Report (JBA Consulting, 2017a) and in light of additional baseline information.

The SA framework was used to assess the Spatial Objectives and Spatial Strategy Options at the Issues & Options, and Preferred Options and Site Allocations (Regulation 18) stages of the Local Plan. Public consultation on these stages of the Local Plan, including the accompanying SA Report, were undertaken by North Lincolnshire Council in 2018 and February-March 2020 respectively, and no substantive comments on the SA framework were received, indicating that the consultees, including the statutory consultees, considered the framework to be appropriate for the assessment of the Local Plan.

Further review of the SA framework was undertaken at this Publication Draft (Regulation 19) stage as part of the wider review of the sustainability context (see Chapter 2). However, the framework is considered to be robust and no substantive changes have been made since the Issues & Options or Preferred Options stages. The only minor change is in relation to the biodiversity and nature conservation chapter where biodiversity net gain has now been included as an additional appraisal criterion to reflect the upcoming requirements of the Environment Bill and its inclusion in the Local Plan itself.

Table 3-6: Sustainability Appraisal objectives, appraisal criteria and monitoring indicators for North Lincolnshire

SA receptor	SA objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicators
Environmental			
Landscape character	1	<p>Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance landscape character. • Safeguard setting of settlements and nationally important landscapes. • Protect and enhance areas of tranquillity. • Promote schemes designed to enhance landscape and built character into new development. • Minimise detrimental visual intrusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in quality of landscape character and condition. • The condition and quality of new characteristics introduced to the environment. • Percentage of open countryside. • Change in areas designated for their landscape value.
Biodiversity and nature conservation	2	<p>Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance designated sites including SPAs, SACs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs, NNRs, LNRs, LWSs and Local Geological Sites. • Protect and enhance priority habitats and species, and ancient woodland and veteran trees. • Contribute to the protection and creation of new priority habitats. • Promote biodiversity on farmland. • Avoid habitat fragmentation and increase connectivity of habitats. • Enhance community engagement with biodiversity. • Encourage protection and provision of green/open spaces. • Avoid the spread of invasive non-native species. • Ensure Biodiversity Net Gain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of designated sites. • Planning applications refused/granted in designated sites, green wedges, wildlife corridors, and other areas of biodiversity value. • Number of planning applications granted with conditions/obligations requiring biodiversity enhancement. • Area of biodiversity habitat delivered through strategic site allocations. • Percentage of land designated as nature conservation sites as a result of Local Plan policies. • Completed development that has resulted in the loss or creation/restoration of priority habitats. • Percentage of farmland with agri-environment schemes or within positive management agreements. • Biodiversity net gain delivered through development.
Water environment	3	<p>Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the achievement of WFD objectives. • Ensure sustainable management of water resources. • Protect and where possible improve drinking water quality. • Improve water quality in North Lincolnshire's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality of the area's watercourses. • Number of pollution incidents. • Number of SuDS schemes installed. • Number of schemes contributing to WFD objectives. • Percentage of waterbodies achieving 'Good' overall status and improving in status.

SA receptor	SA objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> watercourses. Enhancement and recreation of natural watercourses. Increase the use of (Sustainable Drainage Systems) SuDS. 	
	4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the risk of flooding to people and properties. Promote and increase the use of SuDS that result in Greenfield or better run-off rates. Only development appropriate to the Flood Zone shall take place. All new development takes account of the 2016 Climate Change allowances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of developments accompanied by a Surface Water Management Plans. Number of SuDS schemes installed. Percentage of households at risk of flooding. Number of new developments (in areas at risk of flooding) incorporating flood risk mitigation.
Land	5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce soil erosion and protect and enhance soil quality and quantity. Prevent the loss of Grade 1 and Grade 2 ALC land. Reduce contamination of soils from development, industry or agriculture. Promote the use of brownfield land for development where possible. Increase the remediation and regeneration of contaminated land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area of greenfield land, or land of high environmental value (important for flood management, biodiversity or climate change mitigation/adaptation), affected by development. Number of developments on brownfield land. Areas of ALC grading 1 and 2 lost to development. Number of land remediation schemes.
Air quality	6	Improve local air quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and improve local air quality. Promote measures that will remove the occurrence of AQMAs. Promote measures that will reduce the deposition and impacts of air pollutants on biodiversity. Reduce the impacts on air quality from transport. Prevent/mitigate the generation of air pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rate of transport modal shift across North Lincolnshire. Exceedances of air quality objectives. Nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate emissions. Deposition rates of air pollutants on land important for biodiversity and comparison to critical loads. Population living in AQMAs. Number of complaints received regarding odour nuisance.
Climate	7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver schemes that promote habitat and species resilience and adaptability to the effects of climate change, particularly regarding coastal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire. Improvements to quality and quantity of the Green Infrastructure network in North Lincolnshire.

SA receptor	SA objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicators
	greenhouse gas emissions.	<p>squeeze.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote measures that minimise greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency. Minimise the likely impacts of climate change through promotion of appropriate adaptation measures in new development. Promote the development of renewable energy generation. Promote water efficiency measures in new development. Reduce waste and increase re-use, recycling and energy produced of waste. Promote measures that reduce the need to travel and travel distances. Promote measures to reduce the need to travel by car. Promote use of public transport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New development achieving 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent' BREEAM or EcoHomes rating. Proportion of total electricity consumption from renewable sources. Energy and water use per household. Condition of designated sites. Waste to landfill, recycling and composting rates. Peak traffic flows. Number of public transport services and cycle routes created. % change in number of people using public transport.
Historic environment	8 Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and enhance designated and non-designated heritage assets, their settings and the wider historic environment. Reduce the number of heritage assets at risk. Maintain and enhance the character and distinctiveness of Conservation Areas and settlements. Promote high-quality design. Promote heritage-based sustainable tourism. Provide for increased access to and enjoyment of the historic environment. Promote heritage-led regeneration. Increase the social benefit derived from the historic environment. Protect and enhance the character and appearance of historic landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place. Support the sustainable use of historic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning applications granted/refused that affect the designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings. Loss of, or damage to, heritage assets including the historic landscape. Number of heritage assets on the Heritage at Risk and Lincolnshire Heritage at Risk registers. % change in number of visits to historic sites. Number of heritage assets provided with interpretation and made accessible to the public. Number of planning applications where archaeological investigations were required prior to and/or following planning approval. Number of archaeological reports and archives deposited with and added to the Historic Environment Record. Number of high-quality historic farmstead conversions.

SA receptor	SA objective		Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicators
			farmsteads. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain the hydrological conditions of water-dependent heritage assets particularly in the Trent and Ancholme Valleys, and Humberhead Levels.	
Social				
Population	9	Reduce deprivation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase community engagement and decision-making.Reduce poverty and social exclusion.Reduce crime and the fear of crime.Improve attainment levels in schools and increase access to higher education.Increase accessibility between urban and rural areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Local and sub-regional measurements of deprivation.Life expectancy between wards.Crime rates.Self-reported measure of people’s feeling of safety.Rates of participation of democratic processes.Inequality measures, such as education/attainment levels and wages.% BME working age people in employment.
	10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain and increase access to high quality healthcare facilities.Promote active and healthy lifestyles.Promote recreational and leisure opportunities and access to open space.Increase regular participation in physical activities and sport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Life expectancy rates.Death rates for cancer, circulatory disease, accidents and suicides.All-age all-cause mortality rates.Obesity levels.Number of people exercising regularly.Self-reported measure of people’s overall health and wellbeing.
	11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide an adequate supply of housing.Reduce homelessness.Make best use of existing housing stock.Provide quality and flexible homes that meet the needs of the community.Provide accommodation for the Gypsy and Traveller community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Number of housing completions and projected completions.Housing quality in new housing development based on Building for Life Assessments.Net additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches.Number of households living in temporary accommodation.Homelessness rates.
Economic				
Local economy	12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote retention of existing jobs and create new employment opportunities.Increase diversity in the range of job opportunities in rural communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development.New business registration rates.Employment rates.Proportion of unemployed economically active people.

SA receptor	SA objective	Appraisal criteria	Monitoring indicators
	employability, and diversify rural economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure an adequate supply of a range of sites in terms of types and quality for employment uses. Improve access to opportunities for education, learning and skills training for all sectors of the community. Support the creation of flexible jobs to meet the changing needs of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average earnings. Percentage of population that have attained a qualification of NVQ2 and above. Proportion of 18-24 year olds enrolled in training, full time education or employment. % of 16 year olds achieving 5+ GCSEs Grade A*-C. No. of residents attending university. Business surveys of staff/skills shortages.
Material assets	13 Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including healthcare, education, retail and leisure. Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community, cultural and leisure facilities. Maintain and enhance rural facilities. Increase voluntary and community infrastructure. Increase the quantity and improve the quality of green infrastructure and open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people with adequate access to key services (e.g. hospitals, health centres, residential homes, schools). Availability and accessibility of a range of community, cultural and leisure facilities. Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling. The amount and quality of open green space.
Mineral resources	14 Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the retention of mineral workings for biodiversity, landscape and the general public. Reduce the use of minerals and increase the reuse of material on and off site. Safeguard existing development from the environmental effects of mineral workings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total aggregates extracted from within North Lincolnshire. Amount of mineral extraction areas designated for environmental protection. Total aggregates used within North Lincolnshire. Environmental incidents from mineral extraction facilities. The area of mineral and waste sites restored to priority habitat.

3.2.2 Assessing impacts and impact significance

The unmitigated impacts of the Local Plan spatial vision and spatial objectives and proposed policies on achieving the SA objectives have been identified through the analysis of the baseline conditions, key sustainability issues, and use of professional judgement.

The significance of effects has been scored using the 11-point scale summarised in Table 3-7. A significant impact (positive or negative) occurs where there is potential for a widespread, long-term effect that could cause a substantial change (increase or decrease) in the quality, health or condition of a particular resource, or in a particular socio-economic characteristic. Such effects are likely to have a major conflict with achievement of a particular sustainability objective, or conversely, make a major contribution to their realisation.

A minor impact occurs when changes are generally localised, short-term or insubstantial. These effects may conflict with (negative) or contribute to (positive) the relevant SA objective, but such aspects are not likely to have a major influence.

Where there was a high degree of uncertainty regarding the likelihood and potential significance of an impact (either positive or negative), it was scored as uncertain.

Table 3-7: Impact significance key

Impact significance	Impact symbol
Significant positive impact on the SA objective	✓✓
Tendency to a significant positive impact on the SA objective	✓✓?
Minor positive impact on the SA objective	✓
Tendency to a minor positive impact on the SA objective	✓?
Neutral impact on the SA objective	0
Tendency to a minor negative impact on the SA objective	X?
Minor negative impact on the SA objective	X
Tendency to a significant negative impact on the SA objective	XX?
Significant negative impact on the SA objective	XX
Positive and negative impacts on the SA objective	✓/X
Impact on the SA objective cannot be predicted (effects are too uncertain)	?

The spatial objectives and spatial strategy options have been evaluated in light of their potential cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects on the SA objectives. The assessment of these effects has been informed by the baseline data collected at the scoping stage, professional judgement and experience with other SEAs/SAs, as well as an assessment of national, regional and local trends.

Throughout the assessment the following has applied:

- Positive, neutral and negative impacts have been assessed, with uncertain impacts highlighted.
- The duration of the impact has been considered over the short, medium and long term where this is feasible.
- The reversibility and permanence of the impact has been considered where this is feasible.
- In-combination effects have also been considered.

Impact duration has been defined as follows:

- Short term: early stages of the plan period (0-5 years).
- Medium term: middle stages of the plan period (5-15 years).
- Long term: latter stages of the plan period (15 years+) and beyond where relevant.

3.3 Appraisal of the Local Plan vision and spatial objectives

The draft Local Plan vision and spatial objectives were set out by North Lincolnshire Council at the Issues & Options (Regulation 18) stage, during which they were assessed against the SA framework and were subject to public and stakeholder consultation.

Following conclusion of the Issues & Options stage, the Council refined the draft vision to take account of consultee comments and have included a preferred vision in the Preferred Options (Regulation 18) document.

The preferred vision has been assessed against the SA objectives and the outcomes of this assessment are presented in Section 4-1. Impact significance has been assessed using the 11-point scale summarised in Table 3-7.

The spatial objectives were not revised following consultation at the Issues & Options stage (beyond a few very minor changes to the wording of some of the objective titles) and the same objectives are presented in the Preferred Options document. The objectives were subject to SA at the Issues & Options stage and were assessed against the full suite of SA objectives.

Given that minor changes have been made to the spatial objectives since this assessment, it was decided to review the outcomes of the SA of the spatial objectives to determine whether the findings remain correct. The outcomes of this work are presented in Section 4-2.

3.4 Appraisal of the proposed policies

The Council's policies, as set out in the Publication Draft (Regulation 19) document, have been assessed against the SA framework. A summary of the findings is presented in Sections 5-1 to 5-13 in Chapter 5. Individual policy appraisal matrices are provided in Appendix A.

Each appraisal table includes the colour-coded score against each of the SA objectives, together with a concise justification for the score given. Reasonable alternatives to the preferred policy (where identified by the Council) and any significant sustainability issues associated with these alternatives are also described. Where potential significant effects have been identified, suitable mitigation measures to avoid or reduce the significance of such effects are recommended. An overarching appraisal conclusion is also provided, summarising the key findings of the assessment.

In relation to the assessment of 'reasonable alternatives', the Preferred Options document identified any specific alternative policies considered by the Council. All such policies have been assessed to determine whether they would give rise to different sustainability outcomes. Where specific policy alternatives have not been identified, the appraisal referred to any relevant strategic options set out at Issues & Options stage and the outcomes of the SA of these options. This provides a comparison of the findings of the SA for the preferred policy with those for the overarching strategic options that directly informed the choice and development of the preferred policies and subsequently the policies in the Publication Draft Local Plan

3.4.1 Limitations and difficulties encountered

Sustainability Appraisal is an important and valuable exercise in identifying and balancing sustainability effects against each other. However, it does not represent the entire analysis required to determine the acceptability of a plan objective or policy. Even where one policy scores positively in terms of sustainability, it may not be appropriate for other reasons that are not highlighted here.

Care must also be taken not to treat SA as a quantitative exercise. It is not simply a matter of how many potential positive or negative impacts are identified in the appraisal. For some objectives or options, one positive effect may outweigh several negative effects, and vice versa.

Interpretation of some proposed policies was required to enable the appraisal to be completed. Any assumptions made in this interpretation are described in the individual appraisal tables. Where required, clarification was sought from North Lincolnshire Council on the scope of individual objectives and options.

3.5 Appraisal of the proposed site allocations

The Publication Draft document sets out the Council's proposed site allocations for residential (Policy H1) and employment (policies EC1 and SS8) uses. The SA assesses each proposed site allocation against a holistic suite of 'site assessment criteria' organised under two broad categories: (1) existing community facilities; and (2) environmental features.

Each individual site allocation has been assessed to determine its proximity to the relevant assessment criteria. Proximity has been used to judge accessibility to the existing community facilities and risk of harm to the environmental features. Broadly speaking, the closer a proposed development site is to an existing community facility, the more accessible that facility is to the site residents/users. This provides a measure of the sustainability of that site, with the site considered more sustainable if it provides good access to a range of facilities. In relation to the environmental features, the converse is correct; proximity is used to judge risk of environmental harm or risk of an environmental issue affecting site residents/users. For the sake of this assessment, it has been assumed that the closer a site is to an environmental feature, the greater the risk of harm or the greater the risk of an environmental issue occurring. Again, this provides a measure of the sustainability of the site, with the site considered more sustainable if there are few environmental risks or issues.

The use of site assessment criteria is designed to ensure that the SA is proportionate to this stage of the planning process (allocation of sites for specific uses rather than a detailed planning application) and is risk-based (seeks to identify those sites more likely to contribute to the Local Plan having a significant effect).

A total of 29 site assessment criteria have been developed to assess proposed housing allocations and 23 criteria have been developed for employment allocations. The criteria used are broadly similar; however, several criteria developed for the housing allocations are not considered relevant for the employment allocations and have therefore been excluded.

The full criteria used are set out in Table 3-8. This includes details of how each criterion is defined and the distance thresholds used to measure accessibility or environmental risk. Table 3-9 provides a summary of the relationship between the criteria and SA framework objectives.

All 'reasonable alternative' sites identified through the Council's SHELAA process were subject to appraisal against the site assessment criteria. This SA Report details the outcomes of the assessment of the housing and employment allocations identified under policies H1/SS7 and EC1/SS8 respectively. It also describes the outcomes of the assessment of all other reasonable alternative housing and employment sites considered by the Council.

Table 3-8: Site assessment criteria for housing sites and employment sites

Site Assessment Criteria			Housing sites					Employment sites				
Ref	Criteria	Definition	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
Community facilities												
SAC1	GP surgery	NHS registered GP practices.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC2	Health centre	NHS health centres, clinics and hospitals.	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m
SAC3	Dentist	NHS registered dentist practices.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC4	Community centre	Publicly accessible community centres, village halls and libraries.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAC5	Primary school	Publicly funded and state primary schools (years 1-6) including community schools, foundation schools, academies, grammar schools, faith schools, and free schools.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAC6	Secondary school	Publicly funded and state secondary schools (years 7-11) including community schools, foundation schools, academies, grammar schools, faith schools, and free schools.	<400m	401-1000m	1001-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAC7	Further and higher education facility	Facilities providing FE courses including A-Levels.	<400m	401-1000m	1001-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Site Assessment Criteria			Housing sites					Employment sites				
SAC8	Town centre	Town and district centres are defined in the Local Plan.	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m
SAC9	Employment centre	Key centres of employment including town and district centres, business parks, retail parks and shopping centres.	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SAC10	Railway station	All operational railway stations. Not including tourist or heritage railways.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC11	Bus stop	All operational bus stops.	<200m	201-400m	401-600m	601-800m	>800m	<200m	201-400m	401-600m	601-800m	>800m
SAC12	Cycle route	All Council defined cycle routes.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	All Important Open Space and Local Green Space as defined in the Local Plan.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	All sports and recreation facilities as identified in the Local Plan. Not including private facilities.	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m	<400m	401-800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	>1600m
SAC15	Public rights of way	All PRoW as defined by the Council on the Definitive Map.	<200m	201-400m	401-600m	601-800m	>800m	<200m	201-400m	401-600m	601-800m	>800m
SAC16	Community recycling centre	All Council-operated recycling centres.	<800m	801-1200m	1201-1600m	1601-2000m	>2000m	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Site Assessment Criteria			Housing sites					Employment sites				
Ref	Criteria	Definition	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
Environmental features												
SAC17	Scheduled monument	All designated Scheduled Monuments.	All other sites	301-400m	201-300m	<200m	Intersects with designated site	All other sites	301-400m	201-300m	<200m	Intersects with designated site
SAC18	Conservation Area	All Council designated Conservation Areas.	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Within conservation area	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Within conservation area
SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife site	SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs and NNRs.	All other sites	N/A	N/A	Intersects with 'residential', 'rural residential' or 'all planning applications' SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs)	Intersects with designated site	All other sites	N/A	N/A	Intersects with 'all planning applications', 'rural non-residential', or 'water supply' SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs)	Intersects with designated site
SAC20	Ancient woodland	As identified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory.	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with designated site	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with designated site
SAC21	Locally designated wildlife site	All Council designated or approved Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance/Interest.	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with designated site	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with designated site
SAC22	Local Geological Site	All Council designated Local Geological Sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS).	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Intersects with designated site	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Intersects with designated site

Site Assessment Criteria			Housing sites					Employment sites				
SAC23	Water Framework Directive (WFD) surface waterbody	All classified WFD surface waterbodies. Not including groundwater bodies.	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with WFD waterbody	All other sites	401-600m	201-400m	<200m	Intersects with WFD waterbody
SAC24	Flood zones	As defined by the Council adopted SFRA.	N/A	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with Flood Zone 2 or 3	N/A	N/A	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with Flood Zone 2 or 3	N/A
SAC25	Source Protection Zones (SPZs)	As defined by the Environment Agency.	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with SPZ2 or 3	N/A	Intersects with SPZ1	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with SPZ2 or 3	N/A	Intersects with SPZ1
SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Scunthorpe AQMA.	All other sites	N/A	801-1200m	<800m	Intersects AQMA	All other sites	N/A	801-1200m	<800m	Intersects AQMA
SAC27	Designated mineral resources	As defined in the Local Plan.	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with Mineral Safeguarding Area Buffer Zone	Intersects with Mineral Safeguarding Area	N/A	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with Mineral Safeguarding Area Buffer Zone	Intersects with Mineral Safeguarding Area	N/A
SAC28	Agricultural productivity	As defined using Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grades 1-5.	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with ALC Grade 4 or 5	Intersects with ALC Grade 3	Intersects with ALC Grade 1 or 2	All other sites	N/A	Intersects with ALC Grade 4 or 5	Intersects with ALC Grade 3	Intersects with ALC Grade 1 or 2
SAC29	Greenfield land	As defined in the Local Plan.	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Intersects Greenfield land	All other sites	N/A	N/A	N/A	Intersects Greenfield land

Table 3-9: Relationship between SA objectives and site assessment criteria

SA receptor	SA objective		Linked site assessment criteria
Landscape character	1	Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC13 • SAC17 – SAC29
Biodiversity and nature conservation	2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC13 • SAC19 – SAC21 • SAC23 • SAC28 and SAC29
Water environment	3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC23 • SAC25
	4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC24
Land	5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC28 and SAC29
Air quality	6	Improve local air quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC26
Climate	7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All SAC
Historic environment	8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC17 and SAC18 • SAC20
Population	9	Reduce deprivation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC1 – SAC16
	10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC1 – SAC16
	11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	Not applicable
Local economy	12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC8 – SAC11 • SAC27 and SAC28
Material assets	13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC1 – SAC16
Mineral resources	14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAC27

3.6 Site assessment methodology

The assessment of the proposed site allocations and reasonable alternative sites ('development sites') was undertaken following a two-step process:

1. GIS-based analysis of proximity; and
2. Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the results from Step 1.

3.6.1 Step 1: GIS-based analysis of proximity

The proximity of each development site to the various assessment criteria was based on spatial analysis carried out using a Geographical Information System (GIS) (ArcGIS).

The distance between each development site and the nearest relevant community facilities and environmental features was measured and then assessed against the distance thresholds contained in Table 3-8. Use of proximity to a standard suite of criteria ensured consistency and transparency in the appraisal and determination of accessibility and risk.

Distance was measured in a straight line from the nearest boundary of the development site to the nearest boundary of each assessment criteria. Whilst it is recognised that the actual distance that site residents/users will need to travel to access the community facilities or environmental features would be greater than this, these actual distances cannot be determined because they are based on individual actions. Such analysis is beyond the scope of the SA and is more effectively considered at detailed planning application stage. However, use of straight-line distances provides an indication of distance and travel time, and ensures that the individual site assessments are undertaken on a like-for-like basis.

3.6.2 Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the results from Step 1

Each development site was given an overall sustainability score based upon the outcomes of the assessment at Step 1. Scores were allocated based upon proximity to each of the assessment criteria using the scoring system in Table 3-10. For example, if a proposed housing site was assessed as having 'good' access to a specific community facility (i.e., fell within the distance threshold specified for 'good' under that criteria), it was given a score of '1' for that criteria. All criteria were scored in this way. The scores for each site were then totalled.

A qualitative appraisal was then undertaken to further consider any potential issues identified during the proximity assessment. Whilst the criteria used do not directly assess a significant (positive or negative) effect in relation to the SA objectives, accessibility criteria assessed as being 'poor' or 'very poor' and risk criteria assessed as being 'high' or 'very high', provide an indication of where sustainability issues may be encountered and therefore warrant further consideration by the Council. Where a site scored 'very poor' or 'very high' for more than one criterion, further consideration of these issues was made.

Table 3-10: Scoring scale used to quantify assessment outcomes

Accessibility	Residential development					Employment development				
	Community facilities									
	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
	2	1	0	-1	-2	2	1	0	-1	-2
	Environmental features									
Risk	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
	2	1	0	-1	-2	2	1	0	-1	-2

3.6.3 Development of the site assessment criteria and distance thresholds

The site assessment criteria were developed in consultation with North Lincolnshire Council and took into account other site appraisal work being undertaken by the Council (i.e., SHELAA), relevant guidance and wider SA practice. An initial list of assessment criteria was developed to encompass the full range of SA objectives. Criterion included existing community facilities and services (i.e., primary and secondary schools, healthcare facilities, community centres, open space, etc), employment opportunities (employment centres, town and district centres, etc) and environmental features (heritage features, designated nature conservation areas, flood zones, etc). It should be noted that there is no one-to-one relationship between the site assessment criteria and SA objectives. Typically, a site assessment criterion is relevant to several objectives.

The choice of criteria was informed by good practice guidance (particularly RTP1, 2018) and through a review of the site assessment criteria used in the SA of other Local Plans for areas that exhibit similar characteristics to those in North Lincolnshire. The choice was further informed by the availability of relevant datasets and in an appropriate (GIS) format. Each criterion was carefully defined so that only relevant data was used in the subsequent assessment (see Table 3-7).

The distance thresholds applied to each criterion, used to assess good accessibility or scale of environmental risk, were then developed. Again, these distance thresholds were sense-checked against recommended thresholds provided in guidance and thresholds used in similar Local Plan SA work. Care was taken to ensure they reflected guidance whilst also taking into consideration the largely rural nature of much of North Lincolnshire. Guidelines on recommended walking distances to certain community facilities published by the Institute of Highways and Transportation (IHT, 2000) were applied. These guidelines indicate that the average walking journey is 1km and identify 'desirable', 'acceptable' and 'preferred' maximum walking distances. It also identified an average walking speed of 1.4m/s, which equates to a distance of approximately 400m in 5 minutes. Many of the assessment criteria utilise this 400m/5-minute extent to distinguish between the different distance thresholds i.e., <400m (less than 5 minutes walking time) equals 'very good' accessibility; 400-800m (5 to 10 minutes walking time) equals 'good accessibility, etc.

These draft criteria were then refined slightly through consultation with the Council and following initial testing of the criteria against a select group of site allocations. A final set of criteria was then presented to the Council for approval.

3.6.4 Limitations and difficulties encountered

The final suite of criteria used in the assessment took account of good practice guidance as well as wider SA practice and also reflected the availability of robust datasets that could be effectively used to represent community facilities and environmental features. The following limitations are relevant to the site assessment:

- All assessment work was desk-based.
- The assessment was undertaken using datasets provided by the Council or readily accessible from reputable sources i.e., MAGIC (<https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>).
- The assessment only considered community facilities and environmental features within or intersecting the North Lincolnshire administrative boundary.
- The siting, scale, form and appearance of development within each site boundary was unknown and therefore a full assessment is not possible at this stage.
- The outcomes of this assessment do not remove the requirement for more detailed appraisal at planning application stage, when further information on specific site proposals will be available.
- Where a proposed development site is located near multiple community facilities or environmental features under the same criteria, the assessment is based upon proximity to the closest facility/feature.

4 SA findings for the Local Plan Vision and Spatial Objectives

This chapter describes the findings of the SA in relation to the overarching spatial vision and supporting spatial objectives that set the context for the Publication Draft policies and site allocations.

4.1 Spatial Vision

The assessment of the spatial vision against the SA objectives is presented in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan Vision

Preferred Spatial Vision 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision specifically seeks to safeguard the natural environment, protect and enhance the landscape character and protect the countryside from inappropriate development. The vision states that all development will only take place in the most appropriate locations and will be planned and designed to the highest quality standards in a way that respects the local surroundings.
2	Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	✓✓?	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision makes it a clear aim to protect and enhance North Lincolnshire's natural environment. The vision specifically states that internationally, nationally and locally recognised wildlife sites will be respected, although the definition of 'respected' is not made clear. The vision states that biodiversity net gain and enhancement of the area's coherent ecological networks will be a requirement for all proposals where viability allows. The vision seeks to support and increase the visitor economy by taking advantage of the high-quality natural environment. This could result in increased use of protected sites and the countryside, potentially resulting in negative impacts on the biodiversity. However, increased use of protected sites may also result in increased focus on protecting and enhancing the sites.
3	Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision specifically aims to protect and enhance North Lincolnshire's natural environment which includes the water environment. As such, it is possible that the vision will result in the protection of surface and ground water. The vision supports the use of SuDS within developments for surface water management; therefore, the vision has the potential to result in the protection of the area's water resources.
4	Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk.	✓?	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision does not specifically address flood risk to existing communities; however, it does seek to ensure that new development addresses any flood risk. The vision seeks to protect the natural environment and requires a high standard sustainable design; therefore, the vision may indirectly result in a reduction in flood risk.
5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision aims to protect and enhance North Lincolnshire's natural environment, which should include its important soil resources. Additionally, the vision seeks to protect soil resourced from developments. As such, it is likely that the vision may have a positive effect in relation to the protection of soil resources.

Preferred Spatial Vision for North Lincolnshire				
6	Improve local air quality.	0	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision does not specifically address air quality. The vision seeks to protect the natural environment and requires a high standard sustainable design, and so the policy may indirectly result in improvements in air quality. However, this needs to be balanced against the principle aims of the vision, which focus on promoting high quality development. An increase in development may in turn have a negative effect on air quality. The vision does not make reference to transport, which is a principle source of air emissions in North Lincolnshire.
7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	✓?	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision specifically seeks to aims to mitigate the impacts of climate change and makes reference to a number of likely impacts. The vision aims to promote high energy efficiency within new and existing development to ensure impacts and effects of climate change are mitigated. Specific provision is made to support increased renewable and low carbon energy generation in the area; however, it is acknowledged that such provision needs to be balanced with potential environmental impacts. The vision aims to increase opportunities for cycling and walking, which may indirectly result in a decreased reliance on the private car. The vision aims to support low carbon modes of transport. The vision seeks to promote a range of industry, including energy intensive manufacturing and food processing. A key element of the vision is to promote the visitor economy, which could lead to increased carbon emissions.
8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision seeks to support and increase the visitor economy by taking advantage of the high-quality built environment, cultural heritage and history. This may result in increased use and damage to heritage assets and their setting. However, increased use may also result in increased protection of heritage assets, including those with a declining status. The vision aims to protect and enhance North Lincolnshire's built and historic environment and for developments to respect the internationally, nationally and locally recognised areas of nature conservation importance, particularly those based around the Humber Estuary.
Social				
9	Reduce deprivation.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision requires that all new development contributes towards the creation of safer places, which will likely contribute towards reducing deprivation. The vision aims to increase the NVQ Level 4 attainment, or the highest possible levels of employment, which will likely contribute to improved employability and a reduction in deprivation. A key theme of the vision is sustainable growth of the economy, with a specific aim to create 11,500 new jobs, which could lead to increased prosperity.

Preferred Spatial Vision for North Lincolnshire				
10	Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision seeks to provide good access to quality open spaces, play and sporting facilities, access to the countryside, increased opportunities for cycling and walking and good quality health facilities. This could result in improved health and active lifestyles across North Lincolnshire.
11	Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision seeks to deliver 8,380 new homes, which will include the provision of affordable housing and a range of housing choices
Economic				
12	Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	✓✓?	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision specifically seeks to develop a "competitive, diverse and high value economy with increased levels of prosperity and higher employment levels." It also provides specific support for several key sectors of the local economy, including manufacturing and food processing. The vision seeks to support and increase the visitor economy by taking advantage of the high quality natural and built environment, cultural heritage and history. This may result in increased employment opportunities and diversifying employment in the rural economy. Additionally, the Vision seeks to create 11,500 new and highly skilled jobs in sustainable, innovative and growing sectors with a focus on diversifying the economy. The Vision aims to increase the NVQ Level 4 attainment which will likely contribute to improved employability.
13	Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	✓	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision seeks to provide good access to quality open spaces, play and sporting facilities, access to the countryside, increased opportunities for cycling and walking and good quality health facilities.
14	Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	✓✓?	S/M/L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spatial Vision seeks for North Lincolnshire to continue to play its part in producing the steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet national and local needs whilst seeking to ensure their efficient and sustainable use.
Recommended Mitigation				
No likely significant negative impacts have been identified; therefore, no mitigation is required.				
Reasonable Alternatives Considered				
<p>The Issues & Options consultation included a Draft Spatial Vision for North Lincolnshire. This was subject to public and stakeholder consultation, through which a range of comments were received. As a result, the Preferred Spatial Vision included some changes to address the comments received and to fully reflect the Council's ambitions, emerging evidence and national policy. The Draft Spatial Vision was similar in scope to the Preferred Vision and as such was likely to deliver similar sustainability outcomes. However, the Preferred Vision has been strengthened and focused in several areas, which may lead to a greater certainty in the sustainability effects that would occur. The Preferred Options document acknowledges that the vision will continue to be refined as the Local Plan is progressed further, which may lead to greater certainty in the outcomes predicted.</p>				
Assessment Conclusions				

Preferred Spatial Vision for North Lincolnshire

The Spatial Vision is anticipated to have an overall significant and positive effects on almost of the environmental, social and economic objectives. The single exception to this is in relation to North Lincolnshire's soil resources, which are not specifically referenced in the vision; however, it is possible that soils may benefit indirectly through increased environmental protection and enhancement. Notwithstanding this, it is recommended that specific provision is included in the vision to protect soil resources, which are fundamental to the area's rural economy. In addition, other areas of the vision could be strengthened to provide greater certainty of the sustainability outcomes. In particular, the vision could be improved to more clearly set out a need to protect the area's water resources and aquatic environment and to reduce flood risk to existing communities. In addition, the Council could more clearly state the importance of reducing and mitigating the impacts of climate change, by driving the requirement for energy efficiency within new and existing development, low carbon modes of transport and a significant increase in renewable energy generation to meet UK Government ambitions.

Assessment Conclusions – Publication Draft

This policy continues to have the potential to positively contribute to environmental, social and economic objectives. Updates to the vision may result in cumulative long term increases in biodiversity net gain. The changes to the vision to protect soil resources from developments, support low carbon modes of transport and promote high energy efficiency within new and existing development, has strengthened the policy, resulting in likely positive impacts to environmental objectives.

4.1.1 Assessment outcomes

The vision for North Lincolnshire sets out a general aspiration for development in the area to take place in a sustainable way, supported by social, economic and environmental aspirations, which will enable North Lincolnshire to be an attractive place to live, work and invest.

The vision is likely to have positive effects in relation to most of the SA objectives. Minor positive effects are expected in relation to SA objectives 1 (landscape), 3 (water quality and water resources), 5 (soil resources), historic environment (8), social deprivation (9), healthy and active lifestyles (10), affordable housing (11), and community facilities and services (13), with potential for a positive effect identified for objectives 4 (flood risk) and 7 (climate change). The potential for significant positive effects is predicted in relation to SA objectives 2 (biodiversity), 12 (sustainable economy) and 14 (mineral resources). In relation to objective 6 (air quality), the SA considered the impact of the vision would likely be neutral. The vision is not likely to have any significant adverse effects in relation to the SA objectives.

The vision refers to high quality and sustainable economic, housing, educational and green infrastructure developments that will likely have positive effects in relation to those SA objectives (11, 12, 13).

Several of the effects of the vision are subject to some uncertainty since their achievement will depend on the details of specific policies and site allocations in the Local Plan, which are designed to implement them. The effects of these policies and site allocations are examined later in this SA report.

4.2 Spatial objectives

Fourteen spatial objectives are included in the Publication Draft document. These are the same objectives included in the Preferred Options document at the previous stage of the Local Plan development. These objectives underwent SA at that stage and were subject to public and stakeholder consultation.

A review of the outcomes of the SA of the spatial objectives at Issues & Options and Preferred Options stage has been undertaken. The review indicates that the assessment remains comprehensive and therefore a new assessment is not warranted at this stage. A summary of the assessment outcomes is repeated below and in Table 4-2.

4.2.1 Appraisal summary

The appraisal has identified a range of potential impacts, which are summarised as follows:

- Spatial objectives 1 to 5 are broadly focused on growth and development. The SA has identified that these objectives present a range of potential negative impacts on the environmental sustainability objectives, and on biodiversity and water resources/quality in particular. It is likely that greater economic activity and new development (new housing, employment sites and supporting infrastructure), together with a larger population, will increase the risk of disturbance, damage and loss of habitats (North Lincolnshire's habitats currently experience damage and fragmentation due to development pressure), whilst increasing demand for water (water supply is already forecast to be in deficit in the future) and potentially reducing water quality (current water quality is generally moderate and is often impacted by pollution from agricultural and urban runoff).
- Conversely, spatial objectives 1 to 5 would have largely positive social and economic effects. The local economy (currently reliant upon manufacturing and agricultural sectors) would benefit significantly from new development and infrastructure provision across the area, as well as initiatives to diversify and strengthen the rural economy. The local population would also benefit significantly from new housing development across the district, which would seek to deliver a wide range of high quality, well designed housing that meets the demands of differing groups (including older people and Gypsy and Traveller communities). This is particularly important given the predicted increase in population. Access to key local services and facilities would also be positively affected, although there is a risk that new house building (and associated population increase) would not be matched by an increase in provision of local services, placing existing facilities under increased pressure. Levels of social deprivation would also benefit from these spatial objectives due to increasing availability of accommodation, new job opportunities, and greater access to services.
- Efforts to tackle the causes and impacts of climate change may be adversely affected by several of the spatial objectives that seek to promote and increase economic activity and new development. Whilst the spatial objectives do focus on reducing flood risk and encourage more prudent use of local resources, including energy and waste, there is a risk that the benefits achieved would be outweighed by the impacts of a growing population, economy, and supporting development. The impacts of climate change could affect a wide range of other aspects of the area, including the natural environment and public health.
- Several of the objectives have the potential to conflict with each other. Aims to protect the natural and historic environment could conflict with objectives to promote economic growth and new development. The Local Plan would need to carefully balance the focus and stimulus of each objective, and underpinning policies, so as to ensure that delivery of one is not to the disadvantage of another.
- The objective to protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment is predicted to have the widest positive outcomes. It would directly benefit the environmental sustainability objectives but would also have positive outcomes for social aspects, including public health and access, and also help to strengthen the local economy. The only negative impact identified is in relation to housing provision, as greater protection could conflict with proposals for new house building.
- Objectives to promote aspirations and increase quality of life for residents and visitors alike may have a significant positive effect in relation to social deprivation and public health. These objectives would increase the provision of, and access to, educational, social, sporting, health, recreational, and cultural facilities; encourage greater economic prosperity; and reduce inequality in North Lincolnshire. The aim to improve access to education would be particularly important due to relatively poor attainment levels in the area. The impacts of these objectives in relation to

other sustainability considerations, including environmental factors, would be largely neutral.

- Flood risk would benefit from objectives to tackle the effects of climate change but would be largely unsupported by the other spatial objectives. There is a considerable focus on reducing flood risk to new development (by seeking to locate new development away from floodplains), but the objectives largely fail to promote measures to reduce flood risk to existing communities, meaning that they would likely fail to contribute to tackling a factor behind social deprivation in North Lincolnshire.
- Mineral resources would largely be unaffected by most of the spatial objectives but would benefit significantly due to an emphasis on the sustainable management and exploitation of the existing resources.

Table 4-2: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the spatial objectives

Spatial Objectives		SA Objectives													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Growing Our Economy	✓/X	X	X	0	X	X	X	✓/X	✓	0	0	✓✓	✓	0
2	Enabling Sustainable Communities to Flourish	✓/X	X	X	0	0	X	X	✓/X	✓	0	✓✓	✓	✓	0
3	Meeting Our Housing Need	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	✓	0	✓✓	✓✓	X	0
4	Delivering Infrastructure for Growth	X	X	X	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0
5	Supporting Our Rural Areas and Countryside	0	X	X	0	X?	✓/X	✓/X	0	✓	0	✓	✓✓	✓✓	0
6	Protecting and Enhancing Our Natural, Built and Historic Environment	✓✓	✓✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	0	✓	X	✓	✓	0
7	Promoting High Quality Design	✓✓?	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	0
8	Raising Aspirations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	0	✓✓	✓	0
9	Improved Enabling Quality of Life	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	X	✓	✓✓	✓✓	0	✓	✓✓	0
10	Developing Our Visitor Economy	✓	✓/X	X	0	0	X	X	✓✓	0	✓	X	✓✓	X	0
11	Planning for Climate Change	0	✓✓?	✓	✓✓?	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	X?	✓/X	0	0
12	Efficient Use of Our Resources	0	✓	✓✓	0	✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	0	X?	✓/X	0	✓
13	Ensuring Minerals Supply	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
14	Delivering Sustainable Waste Management	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	0	0	✓/X	✓	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0

5 SA findings for the Local Plan policies

This chapter of the SA Report describes the findings of the assessment in relation to the effects of the policies. The policies appraised below are split into the 13 policy 'themes' that they are grouped under within the Publication Draft document so that the combined effects of the policies within each theme are clearly shown.

The policy approaches considered by the Council and a summary of their likely sustainability effects are described in the following sections, focussing on those effects which are likely to be significant.

The full appraisal of each individual policy is provided in Appendix A.

5.1 A spatial strategy for North Lincolnshire

Table 5-1: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the spatial strategy for North Lincolnshire theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SS1	Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
SS2	Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire	✓✓?	✓	X	X?	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	0
SS3	Development Principles	✓✓	✓✓?	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
SS4	Neighbourhood Planning in North Lincolnshire	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	✓?	✓	0
SS5	Overall Housing Provision	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
SS6	Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
SS7	Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes	✓?	✓/X	X?	✓	X	X	X	✓/X	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	0
SS8	Employment Land Requirement (including Strategic Employment Sites)	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS9	Land at North Killingholme Airfield	X	X	✓/X	✓/X	0	X	X	0	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS10	Strategic Site Allocation – South Humber Bank	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	0	X	X	✓	0	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS11	Development Limits	✓	✓?	0	0	✓	✓/X	✓?	0	0	✓?	X?	0	✓	✓?

The SA identified a range of sustainability outcomes associated with the policies grouped together under the 'spatial strategy' theme.

In relation to the social objectives (SA objectives 9 to 11), the assessment predicted mainly minor positive or neutral impacts, although significant positive effects were predicted in relation to SA Objective 9 (social deprivation) and SA Objective 11 (housing provision) in particular. In relation to the economic objectives (SA objectives 12 to 14), the assessment

identified mainly minor positive or neutral effects; however, in relation to Objective 12 (local economy), several significant positive effects were predicted.

The SA identified a range of positive, negative and neutral impacts for the SA environmental objectives (SA objectives 1 to 8). In particular, positive effects were predicted for SA objectives 1 (landscape) and 2 (biodiversity), which reflects the inclusion of specific provisions that seek to protect the natural environment, or facets of the natural environment, within many of these policies. Potential minor negative effects were also predicted, particularly in relation to SA objectives 3 (water quality and water resources), 6 (air quality) and 7 (climate change). This is primarily due to a lack of specific policy protection for the water environment and recognises that the policies promote significant new development that has the potential to generate a range of emissions to water and air that have the potential to affect all of these environmental criteria.

The assessment also identified that many of the policies are likely to have both positive and negative effects in relation to several of the SA objectives, particularly SA objectives 1 (landscape) and 2 (biodiversity). Whilst the policies incorporated provisions designed to minimise or mitigate the risks to the natural environment, it is likely that significant new development will still present a range of risks to the environment and adverse impacts may still occur. However, these risks can be mitigated further through the simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, which require new development to effectively protect and potentially enhance local environmental characteristics.

5.2 Meeting our housing needs

Table 5-2: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the policies under the meeting our housing needs theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
H1	Site Allocations	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
H2	Housing Mix & Density	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
H3	Affordable Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓?	✓/X	0
H4	Specialist and Supported Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓	0
H5	Housing for Older People	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓	0
H6	North Lincolnshire's Travelling Communities	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	✓	✓?	✓✓	0	0	0
H7	New Agricultural Workers or Forestry Dwellings	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓✓	✓	0	0
H8	Replacement, Alteration & Extensions to Dwellings in the Open Countryside	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	0
H9	Self-Build & Custom Build	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0
H10	Flats Above Shops & the Use of Vacant Buildings for Housing	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	0
H11	Backland & Tandem Development	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
H12	Houses in Multiple Occupation	✓?	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓/X	✓?	✓	0	✓✓	0
H13	Children's Homes	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓?	0	0	✓	0

The Publication Draft document contains 13 policies that are grouped under the 'meeting housing needs' theme. The policies set out the new housing requirement in North Lincolnshire and identify the sites where this requirement will be met. The policies also consider specific facets of housing within the area, including the provision of affordable housing, suitable sites for Travelling communities and new agricultural or forestry workers dwellings.

The SA identified neutral impacts for many of the policies. In particular, mainly neutral impacts were predicted in relation to policies H2, H9 and H13. Many of the policies were considered likely to have minor positive or the potential for minor positive effects in relation to several of the SA objectives. Many of the policies were predicted to have positive impacts on SA Objective 1 (landscape), 9 (social deprivation), 10 (healthy and active lifestyles), 11 (affordable housing), and 12 (local economy).

Several adverse impacts were predicted in relation to policy H1, which sets out the proposed housing site allocations in North Lincolnshire. The assessment recognised that the delivery of over 8,000 new homes across more than 90 sites is likely to result in adverse effects on a range of environmental characteristics, at both an individual site level and cumulatively. Whilst simultaneous application of other proposed policies (particularly relevant policies under the 'delivering a quality environment' theme), would provide opportunities to ensure effective mitigation for any adverse effects, the scale of development is such that residual adverse effects are likely to remain.

5.3 Delivering jobs and supporting our economy

Table 5-3: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the delivering jobs and supporting our economy theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
EC1	Employment Land Supply	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	0
EC2	Existing Employment Areas	✓	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
EC3	Defined Industrial Buffer Areas	✓	✓✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
EC4	South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
EC5	Wharves	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0
EC6	Supporting the Rural Economy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
EC7	A Sustainable Visitor Economy	✓	✓/X	X?	0	0	X?	X?	✓	✓?	0	X?	✓	X?	0

A total of seven proposed policies are included in the Publication Draft within the 'delivering jobs and supporting the local economy' theme. The policies set out where new employment sites will be delivered and policy provision to support key facets of North Lincolnshire's economy, including the rural economy, port development, and the tourism and the visitor economy.

The SA identified that many of the policies were likely to have either minor positive or neutral effects on the SA objectives. In particular, all of the policies were considered likely to be beneficial in relation to SA Objective 9 (social deprivation) and 12 (local economy), with most policies also contributing to objectives 1 (landscape) and 2 (biodiversity). A significant impact in relation to biodiversity was predicted for policy EC4, which aims to promote a landscape-led approach to industrial development in the South Humber Bank area. The provisions contained within this policy would maintain existing important biodiversity features, whilst providing a valuable opportunity to deliver large-scale habitat creation.

However, several negative impacts were predicted in relation to policy EC1, which sets out the employment land allocations in North Lincolnshire. Whilst the policy has sought to mitigate risks to the environment through careful site selection, the provision of significant new employment infrastructure is likely to have an overall adverse effect on several facets of the environment, including landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and climate change. These risks can be mitigated further through the simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, which require new development to effectively protect and potentially enhance local environmental characteristics.

5.4 Prosperous town centres

Table 5-4: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the prosperous town centres theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
TC1	Retail Hierarchy & Town Centre & District Centre Development	✓?	0	✓?	0	0	X?	X?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓	0
TC2	Placemaking & Good Urban Design	✓✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	X?	X?	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	0

The Publication Draft contains two policies within the 'prosperous town centres' theme. The policies are anticipated to have an overall positive effect on several of the SA objectives. They support the protection of urban landscapes and townscapes and are likely to 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. In addition, there could be positive impacts on health and wellbeing and improved housing supply.

Potential adverse effects on air quality (SA Objective 6) and climate change (SA Objective 7) were also predicted due to possible increased car usage.

5.5 Supporting sustainable development in North Lincolnshire's countryside

Table 5-5: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the supporting sustainable development in the countryside theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
RD1	Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside	✓	✓/X	0	0	✓	0	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓?	0

A single policy was included in the Publication Draft under this theme. It sought to set out a clear framework to enable specific types and forms of development in the countryside

outside of defined settlement limits to support the growth of the rural economy and jobs creation in rural areas.

The policy was anticipated to have a neutral or minor positive effect in relation to all of the SA objectives. A potential exception to this was 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 has been strengthened through provisions that ensure new development is permitted only where it safeguards and enhances existing biodiversity, in particular requiring measurable net gains in biodiversity.

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

5.6 Delivering a quality environment

Table 5-6: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the delivering a quality environment theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DQE1	Protection of Landscape, Townscape & Views	✓✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0
DQE2	Landscape Enhancement	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0
DQE3	Biodiversity & Geodiversity	✓✓?	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0	✓/X	0	0
DQE4	Local Nature Reserves	✓	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0	✓/X	0	0
DQE5	Managing Flood Risk	✓?	✓?	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓	0	0	0	X?	✓/X	0	0
DQE6	Sustainable Drainage Systems	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0
DQE7	Climate Change & Low Carbon Living	✓?	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	✓	0
DQE8	Renewable Energy Proposals	X?	X?	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0
DQE9	Local Green Space	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	0
DQE10	Important Open Space	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0
DQE11	Green Infrastructure Network	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓?	0
DQE12	Protection of Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0

The 'delivering a quality environment' theme contains 12 policies covering a wide range of local environmental objectives including protection of biodiversity and geodiversity, protection of urban and rural landscapes, flood risk management, renewable energy generation, and protection and provision of greenspace.

The SA identified that the proposed policies would have largely positive outcomes in relation to all of the SA environmental, social and economic objectives. Several significant positive impacts or potential significant impacts were predicted across almost the full range of policies within this theme (9 of the 12 policies), with policies DQE2 (landscape enhancement), DQE3 (biodiversity and geodiversity) and DQE11 (green infrastructure) assessed as being particularly positive.

A potential minor adverse impact was identified for policy DQE5 (managing flood risk) in relation to SA Objective 11 (housing provision) as it was felt that the application of the policy could constrain the delivery of new housing development in certain circumstances. In addition, minor adverse impacts were identified for policy DQE8 (renewable energy provision) in relation to SA objectives 1 (landscape) and 2 (biodiversity). Whilst this policy would require renewable energy development proposals to demonstrate their potential impacts on the local landscape and biodiversity, and also seeks to encourage renewable energy development into areas of existing industrial/urban land use, and therefore potentially away from more environmentally sensitive locations, there remains a residual risk that provision of new renewable energy facilities has the potential to adversely affect these environmental characteristics. Such risks are most effectively managed at planning application stage when detailed information on the type, scale and location of individual development proposals is available.

In addition, the simultaneous application of other Local Plan policies, particularly other policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, would likely mitigate the risk of a significant adverse impact and would require such developments to effectively protect and manage relevant aspects of the natural environment.

5.7 Managing our historic environment

Table 5-7: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the managing our historic environment theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
HE1	Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment	✓✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0
HE2	Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest	✓✓	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0

The 'managing our historic environment' theme contains two proposed policies; policy HE1 seeks to both conserve and enhance heritage features in the area and policy HE2 provides additional provisions to protect the Isle of Axholme Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest.

The SA identified that both policies have the potential for a significant positive effect in relation to SA objectives 1 (landscape) and 8 (historic environment). In addition, policy HE2 in particular was found to have potential benefits for a range of other SA environmental objectives and could also benefit the local economy (SA Objective 12) as additional landscape enhancement of this area could increase the desirability and investment potential of adjacent areas, increasing local property values, supporting recreation and tourism expenditure, and generating employment opportunities. This could in turn provide positive benefits in relation to social deprivation (SA Objective 9).

Given the specific focus of these two policies, the assessment considered that the policies would be largely neutral in relation to many of the other SA objectives.

5.8 Creating sustainable communities and better places

Table 5-8: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the creating sustainable communities and better places theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
CSC1	Health & Wellbeing	✓?	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓?	✓✓?	✓	✓?	✓	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
CSC2	Health Care Provision	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
CSC3	Protection & Provision of Open Space, Sports & Recreation Facilities	✓✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓✓	0
CSC4	Allotments	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	0
CSC5	Golf Courses	✓	✓	X?	0	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC6	Water Based Leisure	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	✓	0	✓	0	0
CSC7	Commercial Horse Riding Establishments	✓	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	✓?	0	✓?	0	✓	0	0
CSC8	Educational Facilities	✓?	✓/X	X?	0	X?	X?	✓/X	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC9	Nursery & Children's Day Care Provision	0	0	0	0	0	X?	X?	0	0	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC10	Community Facilities & Services	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓✓	0
CSC11	Entertainment & Cultural Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	0
CSC12	Restaurants & Hot Food Takeaway Establishments	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	✓	0	0
CSC13	Burial Grounds & Cemetery Provision	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
CSC14	Churches, Prayer Houses & Other Places of Worship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	0
CSC15	Tourism & Visitor Attractions	✓?	✓?	✓/X	✓?	✓?	X?	X?	✓?	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC16	Hotel & Guest House Accommodation	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	0	✓	0	0	X?	✓	0	0
CSC17	Camping & Caravan Sites	0	X	0	✓	0	X?	X?	0	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	0

The Publication Draft included 17 policies within the 'creating sustainable communities and better places' theme. These policies covered a wide range of local policy provisions including community health and wellbeing, protection and provision of open space and recreation facilities, protection and provision of allotments, new education and childcare facilities, and a range of tourism focused policies.

The SA identified a wide range of sustainability outcomes. Several of the policies (CSC1 to CSC3) were assessed as likely to have a breadth of positive effects. In particular, policy CSC3 (protection and provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities) was assessed as having the potential to deliver significant positive effects for landscape (SA Objective 1), social deprivation (SA Objective 9), healthy and active lifestyles (SA Objective 10) and access to services and facilities (SA Objective 13).

Several of the policies were assessed as having the potential for minor adverse impacts. In particular, policy CSC8 (education facilities) was found to have adverse effects in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives as new school development could increase damage or disturbance to the environment at a local level. However, simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, could mitigate any potential adverse effects by requiring new

development to effectively protect and potentially enhance the local environmental characteristics.

In addition, policy CSC12 (restaurants and hot food takeaways) was assessed as having a negative impact in relation to community health (SA Objective 10) as the increased provision of such establishments could encourage dietary choices that conflict with the objective to promote healthy lifestyles. Finally, several adverse effects or potential adverse effects were identified in relation to policy CSC17 (caravan and camping sites) as new camping and caravan development, particularly delivered at a large-scale or clustered together with similar development, would have the potential to cause damage and disturbance to important habitats and species and also contribute to lower air quality as a result of emissions from private vehicles. Again, the simultaneous application of other proposed policies could effectively mitigate these risks and require such development to demonstrate how these environmental risks will be mitigated and/or managed.

5.9 Planning for a sustainable supply of minerals

Table 5-9: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the planning for a sustainable supply of minerals theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
MIN1	Mineral Supply Requirements	XX?	XX?	0	0	X	X	XX?	0	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
MIN2	Mineral Safeguarding	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓
MIN3	Mineral Extraction	✓	✓	✓	0	X?	✓	X	✓	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓
MIN4	Recycled & Secondary Aggregates	✓	✓?	0	0	✓?	X	X	✓?	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
MIN5	Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas / Hydrocarbons)	X?	X?	X?	0	X?	X?	✓/X	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	✓✓?
MIN6	Mineral Sites	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
MIN7	Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction	X?	✓?	0	0	X?	0	0	X?	0	0	0	✓?	0	✓
MIN8	Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	✓

The 'planning for a sustainable supply of minerals' theme contained eight proposed policies that sought to ensure existing and new minerals development in North Lincolnshire is effectively managed in the long-term, whilst also providing policy provision to facilitate new hydrocarbon development and the recycled and secondary aggregate industry.

The SA identified a range of positive and negative effects in relation to these policies, including significant positive effects for several of the SA economic objectives and potentially significant negative effects for several of the SA environmental objectives.

In particular, policy MIN1 (minerals supply) was found to have several potential adverse effects in relation to landscape (SA Objective 1), biodiversity (SA Objective 2) and climate change (SA objective 7), together with several minor adverse effects in relation to other SA environmental objectives. 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. These potential environmental risks are reflected in the assessment of policy MIN6, which allocates existing and new minerals development in the area. Such development has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character and sensitive biodiversity and can also generate significant emissions to air during the extraction, processing and

transportation of minerals, which can affect local air quality and contribute substantial greenhouse gas emissions. However, these risks can be mitigated further through the simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, which require new development to effectively protect and potentially enhance local environmental characteristics.

All of the policies were considered likely to have a range of positive economic benefits, with several of the policies also likely to benefit levels of social deprivation in North Lincolnshire by safeguarding existing employment uses and creating new employment opportunities.

In addition, all of the policies were likely to make a positive contribution to SA Objective 14 and support the sustainable management of minerals.

5.10 Sustainable waste management

Table 5-10: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the sustainable waste management theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
WAS1	Waste Management Principles	✓/X	✓?	0	0	0	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS2	Waste Facilities	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	X	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS3	Waste Management Provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS4	Safeguarding Existing Waste Sites & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	0
WAS5	Wastewater Treatment	X?	✓/X	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0
WAS6	Waste Management in Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
WAS7	Restoration & Aftercare	✓	✓✓?	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0

The Publication Draft included seven policies within the 'sustainable waste management' theme. These policies encompassed a range of waste-related aspects including the provision of new waste management facilities, wastewater treatment works, and requirements for new development to ensure adequate waste management provision.

Overall, the SA identified neutral impacts for many of the policies. However, a range of both positive and negative effects were found. In particular, policy WAS1, which set out the waste management principles that new development will be required to follow, was assessed as having the potential for both positive and negative effects in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives. Whilst the policy sought to mitigate potential environmental risks associated with waste management, thereby offering some environmental protections, the assessment considered that there remained potential for residual adverse effects.

Policy WAS7, which requires waste management development, including landfilling and land raising, to provide adequate site restoration and aftercare on completion of operations, was considered to have potential for a range of minor positive effects as such restoration/aftercare plans could include provisions to benefit environmental aspects including landscape character, water quality, air quality and climate change. Policy WAS7 is also considered to have the potential to deliver significant positive effects to biodiversity.

Such areas could also represent areas of community open space that could provide health and wellbeing benefits in the long-term.

5.11 Connecting North Lincolnshire

Table 5-11: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the connecting North Lincolnshire theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
T1	Promoting Sustainable Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
T2	Promoting Public Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0
T3	New Development & Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓?	✓	0
T4	Parking	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0
T5	Cycle & Motorcycle Parking	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	0
T6	Freight	X	X?	X?	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
T7	Safeguarding Transport Infrastructure	X	X	X	0	X?	✓?	X?	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0
T8	Safeguarding Aviation	0	0	0	0	0	X?	X?	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	0

The 'connecting North Lincolnshire' theme contained seven proposed policies covering aspects including new highways and freight development, parking provision and the promotion of public transport.

The SA identified that many of these policies would have largely neutral impacts, particularly in relation to several of the SA environmental objectives. However, minor positive effects were found for SA objectives 6 (air quality) and 7 (climate change) as the majority of policies sought to either reduce the need for vehicular travel or promote public transport over private car use, and therefore could contribute to improved air quality and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, all of the policies were considered likely to have a positive effect in relation to access to services and facilities (SA Objective 13) as they sought to facilitate improved access by a range of means, including appropriate siting of new development and a requirement for development to facilitate access to public transport.

Several minor adverse impacts were identified, particularly in relation to policy T7, which safeguards several strategically important highway routes across North Lincolnshire. These schemes were considered likely to have negative effects in relation to several facets of the environment, including landscape, biodiversity, water quality and climate change. Simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, could mitigate any potential adverse effects by requiring such development to effectively protect and potentially enhance the local environmental characteristics.

5.12 Development Management

Table 5-12: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the development management theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DM1	General Requirements	✓✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
DM2	Temporary Buildings	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
DM3	Environmental Protection	✓	✓	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	0	0
DM4	Telecommunications & Broadband	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓✓	0
DM5	Advertisements & Shop Fronts	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0

The five proposed policies within the 'development management' theme covered a range of policy provisions. This included the need for all development to achieve high quality sustainable design that contributes positively to the local environment and local communities (Policy DM1) and the requirement for development proposals to demonstrate that environmental risks have been evaluated and appropriate measures taken to minimise the risks (Policy DM3).

The SA identified that the policies within this theme would have largely neutral or minor positive effects in relation to all of the SA objectives. However, a small number of significant positive effects were identified: policy DM1 (general requirements for development) was assessed as likely to have a significant effect in relation to landscape (SA Objective 1) as the policy required all new development to positively contribute to local character, landscape and townscape; in addition, policy DM4 (telecommunications and broadband) was assessed as likely to have a significant positive effect in relation to access to community facilities and services (SA Objective 13) as improved telecommunications infrastructure throughout North Lincolnshire would improve people's ability to communicate.

5.13 Delivering infrastructure

Table 5-13: Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the delivering infrastructure theme

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
ID1	Delivering Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

This policy provides a 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.

6 SA findings for the Local Plan site allocations and reasonable alternatives

6.1 Introduction

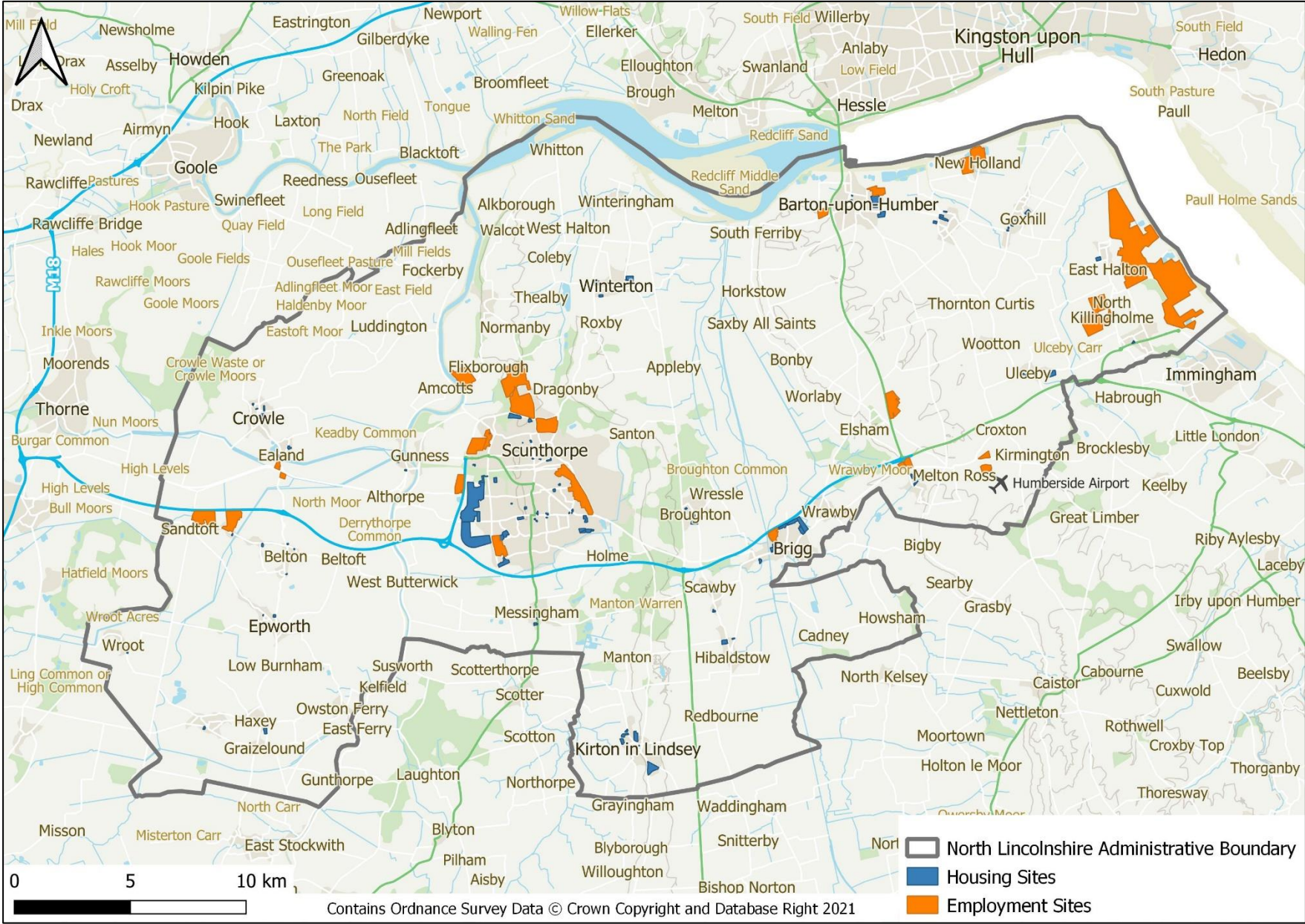
Assessment of the proposed housing and employment sites (identified under policies H1/SS7 and EC1/SS8, respectively) has been undertaken against the suite of site assessment criteria (see Section 3.5 for full details of these criteria). A summary of these criteria is provided in Table 6-1. The location of the housing and employment site allocations is shown in Figure 6-1.

Table 6-1: Summary of site assessment criteria used to assess housing and employment site allocations

Site Assessment Criteria		
Ref	Criteria	Definition
SAC1	GP surgery	NHS registered GP practices.
SAC2	Health centre	NHS health centres, clinics and hospitals.
SAC3	Dentist	NHS registered dentist practices.
SAC4	Community centre	Publicly accessible community centres, village halls and libraries.
SAC5	Primary school	Publicly funded and state primary schools (years 1-6) including community schools, foundation schools, academies, grammar schools, faith schools, and free schools.
SAC6	Secondary school	Publicly funded and state secondary schools (years 7-11) including community schools, foundation schools, academies, grammar schools, faith schools, and free schools.
SAC7	Further and higher education facility	Facilities providing FE courses including A-Levels.
SAC8	Town centre	Town and district centres are defined in the Local Plan.
SAC9	Employment centre	Key centres of employment including town and district centres, business parks, retail parks and shopping centres.
SAC10	Railway station	All operational railway stations. Not including tourist or heritage railways.
SAC11	Bus stop	All operational bus stops.
SAC12	Cycle route	All Council defined cycle routes.
SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	All Important Open Space and Local Green Space as defined in the Local Plan.
SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	All sports and recreation facilities as identified in the Local Plan. Not including private facilities.
SAC15	Public rights of way (PRoW)	All PRoW as defined by the Council on the Definitive Map.
SAC16	Community recycling centre	All Council-operated recycling centres.
SAC17	Scheduled monument	All designated Scheduled Monuments.
SAC18	Conservation Area	All Council designated Conservation Areas.
SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife site	SACs, SPAs, Ramsar sites, SSSIs and NNRs.
SAC20	Ancient woodland	As identified on the Ancient Woodland Inventory.
SAC21	Locally designated wildlife site	All Council designated or approved Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance/Interest.
SAC22	Local Geological Site	All Council designated Local Geological Sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS).
SAC23	Water Framework Directive (WFD) surface waterbody	All classified WFD surface waterbodies. Not including groundwater bodies.
SAC24	Flood zones	As defined by the North Lincolnshire Council adopted Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).
SAC25	Source Protection Zones (SPZs)	As defined by the Environment Agency.
SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Scunthorpe AQMA.

Site Assessment Criteria		
SAC27	Designated mineral resources	As defined in the Local Plan.
SAC28	Agricultural productivity	As defined using Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) grades 1-5.
SAC29	Greenfield land	As defined in the Local Plan.

Figure 6-1: Location of housing sites and employment sites in North Lincolnshire



6.2 Housing site allocations

The Publication Draft contains policy provisions setting out the predicted housing requirement for North Lincolnshire and the site allocations to meet this requirement. Policy H1 'Site Allocations' provides a list of 114 housing site allocations, including 79 committed sites and 35 proposed sites, which include two strategic sites that comprise the residential parts of the proposed Lincolnshire Lakes new village development (proposed under policy SS7).

The 114 housing site allocations have been assessed against the full suite of site assessment criteria following the methodology described in Chapter 3.

The committed and proposed housing site allocations are presented in Table 6-2 and Table 6-3. A summary of results of the site assessment for the housing allocations is presented in Table 6-4. H1C-6 has been divided into three sites: Lakeside (north), Lakeside (south west) and Lakeside (south east). Table 6-5 provides a summary of the results of the sustainability scores for each proposed housing site allocation (based upon the scoring system shown in Table 3-9). The percentage of sites within each site assessment category ('very good', 'good', 'poor', etc) for each of the site assessment criteria is shown in Table 6-6. Individual sites have then been ranked according to their sustainability scores, with the results shown in Table 6-7.

Table 6-2: Committed housing site allocations

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
H1C-1	Scunthorpe	Plot 29 Hebden Road
H1C-2	Scunthorpe	Former Crosby Primary School, Frodingham Road
H1C-3	Scunthorpe	Land at the Council Depot, Station Road
H1C-4	Scunthorpe	Methodist Church Frodingham Road
H1C-5	Scunthorpe	Land at 1-3 Cliff Gardens Phase1
H1C-6	Scunthorpe	Lakeside
H1C-6	Scunthorpe	Lakeside
H1C-7	Scunthorpe	Land south of Ashby Turn Primary Care Centre, The Link
H1C-8	Scunthorpe	Land Rear, Ashby Link, The Link, Scunthorpe
H1C-9	Scunthorpe	Land off Bottesford Road
H1C-10	Scunthorpe	Site of the Lilacs Warwick Road
H1C-11	Scunthorpe	Land off Burringham Road
H1C-12	Scunthorpe	Former Priory Lane Infants School
H1C-13	Scunthorpe	Land at Dartmouth Road
H1C-14	Scunthorpe	Land Rear of 38 & 40 Wille Road
H1C-15	Scunthorpe	22-24 Cole Street
H1C-16	Scunthorpe	Woods along Scotter Road
H1C-17	Scunthorpe	Land rear of 50-72 Bellingham Road
H1C-18	Scunthorpe	Former Coal Yard Grange Lane South
H1C-19	Scunthorpe	Land at Trent View House
H1C-20	Scunthorpe	Glanford Park Football Stadium, Jack Brownsword Way
H1C-21	Scunthorpe	Former Magistrates Court, Corporation Road
H1C-22	Scunthorpe	The Riveter, 50 Henderson Avenue
H1C-23	Barton	Land to the rear of 13-19 Pasture Road
H1C-24	Barton	Coach and Horses Inn 86 - 88 High Street, Barton
H1C-25	Barton	Land adjacent to White Swan, Butts Road
H1C-26	Brigg	Island Carr
H1C-27	Brigg	Falcon Cycles, Bridge Street, Brigg, DN20 8NQ
H1C-28	Brigg	Former Falcon Cycles Bridge Street Brigg Phase 2

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
H1C-29	Brigg	Silversides Lane
H1C-30	Brigg	6 Market Place
H1C-31	Barnetby le Wold	Land at Windsor Way, Barnetby-le-Wold
H1C-32	Barnetby le Wold	Victoria Road
H1C-33	Barrow upon Humber	Former Spencer Group Mill Lane
H1C-34	Barrow upon Humber	Land off Ferry Road/Chestnut Rise
H1C-35	Barrow upon Humber	Land north of Ferry Road East
H1C-36	Broughton	Land at Burnside
H1C-37	Broughton	The Red Lion
H1C-38	Belton	Belwood Lodge, King Edward street
H1C-39	Belton	Westgate Road
H1C-40	Belton	Land off king Edward Street
H1C-41	Belton	Land adjacent 1 Belgrave Close
H1C-42	Belton	Belton Garden Centre, Sandtoft Road
H1C-43	Crowle	Land adjacent 28 North Street
H1C-44	Crowle	Land adjacent to 17 Low Cross Street
H1C-45	Epworth	3a-8 Harris View
H1C-46	Epworth	The Sycamores, Battle Green
H1C-47	Goxhill	Land off Howe Lane and Hawthorne Gardens, Goxhill
H1C-48	Goxhill	Land east of Strathdee, Barrow Road
H1C-49	Goxhill	Orchid House, Howe Lane
H1C-50	Goxhill	Land north of 6 Thornton Road
H1C-51	Goxhill	Conway, Thornton Road
H1C-52	Hibaldstow	Willow Farm, East Street
H1C-53	Hibaldstow	Land to the West of Station Road
H1C-54	Hibaldstow	Brook House Farm, Church Lane
H1C-55	Hibaldstow	Land north of Wheelgates, Brigg Road
H1C-56	Kirton in Lindsey	Gleadells Mill Station Road
H1C-57	Kirton in Lindsey	Land west of Station Road
H1C-58	Kirton in Lindsey	North of Spa Hill
H1C-59	Kirton in Lindsey	Land north of Ings Road
H1C-60	Messingham	13 High Street
H1C-61	Messingham	68 High Street, Messingham
H1C-62	Messingham	Land off Scotter Road
H1C-63	Winterton	Land to the rear of North Street and Cemetery Road,
H1C-64	Winterton	Land at Top Road
H1C-65	Winterton	Land south of Coates Avenue
H1C-66	Winterton	5 Northlands Avenue
H1C-67	Ulceby	Land north of Front Street, Ulceby
H1C-68	Ulceby	Land rear of new convenience store, off Church Lane, Ulceby
H1C-69	Ulceby	Land rear of Church Lane Ulceby
H1C-70	Ulceby	Land off Station Road
H1C-71	Ulceby	Land at Riseholme, Spruce Lane
H1C-72	Ealand	7 Lakes Industrial Estate, Crowle Wharf
H1C-73	Ealand	7 Lakes Industrial Estate, Crowle Wharf
H1C-74	Keadby	Old Railway Sidings, A18 from Althorpe to Gurness
H1C-76	Scawby	West Street
H1C-77	Wrawby	Land adjacent to Ridgeway House, Mill Lane

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
H1C-78	Wrawby	Land off Applefields
H1C-79	Wrawby	Land at Kettleby Lane

Table 6-3: Proposed housing site allocations

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
SSH1	Scunthorpe	West of Scunthorpe
SSH2	Scunthorpe	West of Scunthorpe
H1P-1	Scunthorpe	Phoenix Parkway Phase 1
H1P-2	Scunthorpe	Phoenix Parkway Phase 2
H1P-3	Scunthorpe	Land at Burringham Road
H1P-4	Scunthorpe	Land at former South Leys School, Enderby Road – Phase 1
H1P-5	Scunthorpe	Land at former South Leys School, Enderby Road – Phase 2
H1P-6	Scunthorpe	Moorwell Road
H1P-7	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Former Ashby Market
H1P-8	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Land at Lakeside Parkway
H1P-9	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Former Sandfield House
H1P-10	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Former Rustys Car Garage
H1P-11	Scunthorpe	Brumby Resource Centre, East Common lane
H1P-12	Barton	Pasture Road South
H1P-13	Barton	Land off Barrow Road
H1P-14	Brigg	Land north of Atherton Way
H1P-15	Brigg	Land at Western Avenue
H1P-16	Brigg	Wrawby Road Phase 2
H1P-17	Brigg	Wrawby Road Phase 1
H1P-18	Brigg	Land at Horstead Avenue
H1P-19	Barnetby le Wold	Land at Kings Road
H1P-20	Barrow upon Humber	Land off Ferry Road
H1P-21	Broughton	Land off the B1207
H1P-22	Crowle	Land to the east of Fieldside
H1P-23	Crowle	Land off Mill Road
H1P-24	Crowle	Land off Fieldside
H1P-25	Epworth	Yealand Flats
H1P-26	Haxey	Land at Field House
H1P-27	Kirton in Lindsay	Land at Former RAF
H1P-28	Ealand	Land adjacent to Ivy House Farm, on Main street.
H1P-29	East Halton	Land off Mill Lane
H1P-30	Scawby	Land south of Main Street
H1P-31	South Killingholme	Land at School Road
H1P-32	Westwoodside	Land south of Doncaster Road
H1P-33	Wroot	Land at Field Lane

Table 6-4: SA assessment of the housing site allocations (committed and proposed)

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community facilities																Environmental features												
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facility	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
Committed sites																													
H1C-1																													
H1C-2																													
H1C-3																													
H1C-4																													
H1C-5																													
H1C-6 (north)																													
H1C-6 (south west)																													
H1C-6 (south east)																													

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Environmental features													Community facilities															
	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29	SAC16	SAC15	SAC14	SAC13	SAC12	SAC11	SAC10	SAC9	SAC8	SAC7	SAC6	SAC5	SAC4	SAC3	SAC2	SAC1
	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land	Community Recycling Centre	Public Rights of Way	Sports Facilities	Open Space	Cycle Route	Bus Stop	Railway Station	Employment Centre	Town Centre	Further Education Facility	Secondary School	Primary School	Community Centre	Dentist	Health Centre	GP Surgery	
H1C-68	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-69	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-70	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-71	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Light Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-72	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Yellow	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Light Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-73	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
H1C-74	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green
H1C-75	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green

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Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																								
	Environmental features												Community facilities												
	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29	SAC10	SAC9	SAC8	SAC7	SAC6	SAC5	SAC4	SAC3	SAC2	SAC1		
	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land	Railway Station	Employment Centre	Town Centre	Further Education Facility	Secondary School	Primary School	Community Centre	Dentist	Health Centre	GP Surgery		
H1P-23	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green		
H1P-24	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Light Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green		
H1P-25	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Green	Green		
H1P-26	Yellow	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow		
H1P-27	Light Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Light Green	Light Green	Yellow	Light Green	Green	Light Green		
H1P-28	Red	Green	Red	Green	Light Green	Green	Light Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Light Green	Red	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		
H1P-29	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green		
H1P-30	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Light Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Light Green	Red	Red	Red	Red		
H1P-31	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Light Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green		

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																			
	Environmental features										Community facilities									
	SAC29	Greenfield Land									SAC16	Community Recycling Centre								
	SAC28	ALC Grade									SAC15	Public Rights of Way								
	SAC27	Mineral Resources									SAC14	Sports Facilities								
	SAC26	AQMA									SAC13	Open Space								
	SAC25	Source Protection Zone									SAC12	Cycle Route								
	SAC24	Flood Zone									SAC11	Bus Stop								
	SAC23	WFD Surface Waterbody									SAC10	Railway Station								
	SAC22	Local Geological Site									SAC9	Employment Centre								
	SAC21	Locally Designated Wildlife Site									SAC8	Town Centre								
	SAC20	Ancient Woodland									SAC7	Further Education Facility								
	SAC19	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site									SAC6	Secondary School								
	SAC18	Conservation Area									SAC5	Primary School								
	SAC17	Scheduled Monument									SAC4	Community Centre								
H1P-32											SAC3	Dentist								
H1P-33											SAC2	Health Centre								
SSH1											SAC1	GP Surgery								
SSH2																				

Table 6-5: SA assessment scores for the housing site allocations

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community facilities	Environmental features	Total score
Committed sites			
H1C-1	3	14	17
H1C-2	22	20	42
H1C-3	21	15	36
H1C-4	23	19	42
H1C-5	22	15	37
H1C-6 (north)	5	12	17
H1C-6 (south west)	9	4	13
H1C-6 (south east)	4	6	10
H1C-7	21	21	42
H1C-8	22	21	43
H1C-9	20	19	39
H1C-10	9	19	28
H1C-11	19	18	37
H1C-12	21	22	43
H1C-13	13	6	19
H1C-14	7	15	22
H1C-15	19	16	35
H1C-16	11	5	16
H1C-17	7	18	25
H1C-18	8	19	27
H1C-19	15	20	35
H1C-20	4	11	15
H1C-21	22	17	39
H1C-22	19	22	41
H1C-23	25	7	32
H1C-24	25	12	37
H1C-25	25	7	32
H1C-26	24	14	38
H1C-27	22	13	35
H1C-28	20	13	33
H1C-29	4	12	16
H1C-30	25	13	38
H1C-31	-1	10	9
H1C-32	4	12	16
H1C-33	-11	13	2
H1C-34	-8	2	-6

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community facilities	Environmental features	Total score
H1C-35	-9	9	0
H1C-36	-10	3	-7
H1C-37	-8	13	5
H1C-38	-5	18	13
H1C-39	-13	14	1
H1C-40	-4	18	14
H1C-41	-9	11	2
H1C-42	-26	8	-18
H1C-43	14	8	22
H1C-44	12	12	24
H1C-45	12	11	23
H1C-46	19	12	31
H1C-47	1	11	12
H1C-48	-6	10	4
H1C-49	3	12	15
H1C-50	-2	10	8
H1C-51	0	12	12
H1C-52	2	14	16
H1C-53	-2	14	12
H1C-54	2	9	11
H1C-55	-4	14	10
H1C-56	8	20	28
H1C-57	11	17	28
H1C-58	17	16	33
H1C-59	12	17	29
H1C-60	15	15	30
H1C-61	8	19	27
H1C-62	4	18	22
H1C-63	7	7	14
H1C-64	5	7	12
H1C-65	6	7	13
H1C-66	10	7	17
H1C-67	-5	13	8
H1C-68	-4	13	9
H1C-69	-4	13	9
H1C-70	-10	13	3
H1C-71	-6	13	7
H1C-72	-9	8	-1

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community facilities	Environmental features	Total score
H1C-73	-11	8	-3
H1C-74	4	11	15
H1C-75	1	8	9
H1C-76	-4	12	8
H1C-77	-10	14	4
H1C-78	-5	15	10
H1C-79	-9	14	5
Proposed sites			
H1P-1	10	4	14
H1P-2	10	11	21
H1P-3	-2	7	5
H1P-4	10	8	18
H1P-5	6	8	14
H1P-6	-6	9	3
H1P-7	22	21	43
H1P-8	8	6	14
H1P-9	21	25	46
H1P-10	21	21	42
H1P-11	13	19	32
H1P-12	21	2	23
H1P-13	16	7	23
H1P-14	18	17	35
H1P-15	12	18	30
H1P-16	11	16	27
H1P-17	13	16	29
H1P-18	9	22	31
H1P-19	0	10	10
H1P-20	-9	8	-1
H1P-21	-7	8	1
H1P-22	15	12	27
H1P-23	14	13	27
H1P-24	15	12	27
H1P-25	20	13	33
H1P-26	-10	13	3
H1P-27	8	17	25
H1P-28	-9	8	-1
H1P-29	-11	10	-1
H1P-30	-12	14	2

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community facilities	Environmental features	Total score
H1P-31	-4	17	13
H1P-32	0	11	11
H1P-33	-13	10	-3
SSH1	12	6	18
SSH2	-6	5	-1

Table 6-6: Percentage of housing allocations per site assessment category

Site Assessment Criteria:	Percentage Score				
	Community facilities				
	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
SAC1	35	23	15	6	21
SAC2	47	9	4	3	36
SAC3	15	18	11	9	47
SAC4	47	22	14	2	15
SAC5	47	29	15	3	7
SAC6	10	29	20	3	37
SAC7	3	6	9	5	77
SAC8	39	9	4	7	41
SAC9	47	17	7	10	19
SAC10	13	10	8	6	63
SAC11	84	13	1	1	1
SAC12	34	17	18	3	28
SAC13	78	17	3	0	2
SAC14	72	20	6	1	1
SAC15	55	15	8	3	19
SAC16	37	12	3	3	44
Site Assessment Criteria:	Environmental features				
	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
SAC17	92	2	4	2	0
SAC18	91	n/a			9
SAC19	51	n/a		49	0
SAC20	93	2	2	3	0
SAC21	59	6	10	19	5
SAC22	99	n/a			1
SAC23	72	9	8	11	0
SAC24	n/a	82	n/a	18	n/a
SAC25	77	n/a	19	n/a	4
SAC26	82	n/a	5	11	2
SAC27	20	n/a	21	59	n/a
SAC28	25	n/a	0	43	32
SAC29	42	n/a			58

Table 6-7: Individual housing site ranking based on site assessment scores

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
H1P-9	21	13	25	1	46	1
H1C-8	22	7	21	5	43	2
H1C-12	21	13	22	2	43	2
H1P-7	22	7	21	5	43	2
H1C-2	22	7	20	9	42	5
H1C-4	23	6	19	12	42	5
H1C-7	21	13	21	5	42	5
H1P-10	21	13	21	5	42	5
H1C-22	19	22	22	2	41	9
H1C-9	20	19	19	12	39	10
H1C-21	22	7	17	24	39	10
H1C-26	24	5	14	39	38	12
H1C-30	25	1	13	48	38	12
H1C-5	22	7	15	34	37	14
H1C-11	19	22	18	18	37	14
H1C-24	25	1	12	61	37	14
H1C-3	21	13	15	34	36	17
H1C-15	19	22	16	30	35	18
H1C-19	15	29	20	9	35	18
H1C-27	22	7	13	48	35	18
H1P-14	18	26	17	24	35	18
H1C-28	20	19	13	48	33	22
H1C-58	17	27	16	30	33	22
H1P-25	20	19	13	48	33	22
H1C-23	25	1	7	98	32	25
H1C-25	25	1	7	98	32	25
H1P-11	13	35	19	12	32	25
H1C-46	19	22	12	61	31	28
H1P-18	9	50	22	2	31	28
H1C-60	15	29	15	34	30	30
H1P-15	12	38	18	18	30	30
H1C-59	12	38	17	24	29	32
H1P-17	13	35	16	30	29	32
H1C-10	9	50	19	12	28	34
H1C-56	8	53	20	9	28	34
H1C-57	11	43	17	24	28	34
H1C-18	8	53	19	12	27	37
H1C-61	8	53	19	12	27	37
H1P-16	11	43	16	30	27	37
H1P-22	15	29	12	61	27	37
H1P-23	14	33	13	48	27	37
H1P-24	15	29	12	61	27	37
H1C-17	7	58	18	18	25	43

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
H1P-27	8	53	17	24	25	43
H1C-44	12	38	12	61	24	45
H1C-45	12	38	11	72	23	46
H1P-12	21	13	2	115	23	46
H1P-13	16	28	7	98	23	46
H1C-14	7	58	15	34	22	49
H1C-43	14	33	8	88	22	49
H1C-62	4	65	18	18	22	49
H1P-2	10	46	11	72	21	52
H1C-13	13	35	6	106	19	53
H1P-4	10	46	8	88	18	54
SSH1	12	38	6	106	18	54
H1C-1	3	71	14	39	17	56
H1C-6 (north)	5	63	12	61	17	56
H1C-66	10	46	7	98	17	56
H1C-16	11	43	5	110	16	59
H1C-29	4	65	12	61	16	59
H1C-32	4	65	12	61	16	59
H1C-52	2	73	14	39	16	59
H1C-20	4	65	11	72	15	63
H1C-49	3	71	12	61	15	63
H1C-74	4	65	11	72	15	63
H1C-40	-4	84	18	18	14	66
H1C-63	7	58	7	98	14	66
H1P-1	10	46	4	112	14	66
H1P-5	6	61	8	88	14	66
H1P-8	8	53	6	106	14	66
H1C-6 (south west)	9	50	4	112	13	71
H1C-38	-5	90	18	18	13	71
H1C-65	6	61	7	98	13	71
H1P-31	-4	84	17	24	13	71
H1C-47	1	75	11	72	12	75
H1C-51	0	77	12	61	12	75
H1C-53	-2	81	14	39	12	75
H1C-64	5	63	7	98	12	75
H1C-54	2	73	9	85	11	79
H1P-32	0	77	11	72	11	79
H1C-6 (south east)	4	65	6	106	10	81
H1C-55	-4	84	14	39	10	81
H1C-78	-5	90	15	34	10	81
H1P-19	0	77	10	79	10	81
H1C-31	-1	80	10	79	9	85
H1C-68	-4	84	13	48	9	85

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
H1C-69	-4	84	13	48	9	85
H1C-75	1	75	8	88	9	85
H1C-50	-2	81	10	79	8	89
H1C-67	-5	90	13	48	8	89
H1C-76	-4	84	12	61	8	89
H1C-71	-6	93	13	48	7	92
H1C-37	-8	98	13	48	5	93
H1C-79	-9	100	14	39	5	93
H1P-3	-2	81	7	98	5	93
H1C-48	-6	93	10	79	4	96
H1C-77	-10	106	14	39	4	96
H1C-70	-10	106	13	48	3	98
H1P-6	-6	93	9	85	3	98
H1P-26	-10	106	13	48	3	98
H1C-33	-11	110	13	48	2	101
H1C-41	-9	100	11	72	2	101
H1P-30	-12	113	14	39	2	101
H1C-39	-13	114	14	39	1	104
H1P-21	-7	97	8	88	1	104
H1C-35	-9	100	9	85	0	106
H1C-72	-9	100	8	88	-1	107
H1P-20	-9	100	8	88	-1	107
H1P-28	-9	100	8	88	-1	107
H1P-29	-11	110	10	79	-1	107
SSH2	-6	93	5	110	-1	107
H1C-73	-11	110	8	88	-3	112
H1P-33	-13	114	10	79	-3	112
H1C-34	-8	98	2	115	-6	114
H1C-36	-10	106	3	114	-7	115
H1C-42	-26	116	8	88	-18	116

6.2.1 Summary of housing site assessment results

A summary description of the outcomes of the site assessment process is provided in Table 6-8. This also includes recommendations requiring further consideration or assessment in relation to specific constraints or risks identified through the site assessment process.

Table 6-8: Summary of the results of the assessment of the housing site allocations

Site Assessment Criteria			Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
Community facilities	SAC1	GP surgery	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>Assessment against these criteria considered accessibility to public healthcare facilities.</p> <p>The assessment identified that many of the sites scored Good or Very Good for criterion SAC1 (58%) and SAC2 (56%), indicating reasonable walking access (<15 minutes) to these facilities. Most of these sites are located in the principal town and district centres. There is a risk that new development in these areas could increase pressure on current healthcare resources and cause new or exacerbate existing capacity issues. Despite this for both criteria, a significant proportion scored Poor or Very Poor, SAC1 (27%) and SAC2 (39%). This indicates that there are healthcare accessibility issues that should be considered further.</p> <p>In relation to criterion SAC3, a significant proportion (56%) of the sites scored Poor (>1.2km from a dentist practice) or Very Poor (>1.6km). The majority of these are located in local centres and villages in rural areas, particularly in the central and eastern areas of North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>Eighteen of the sites scored Very Poor for all three criteria, with a further twenty-four sites scoring Very Poor for at least two criteria.</p>	<p>Existing healthcare capacity in town and district centres should be assessed to determine whether there is capacity for the proposed new development. The requirement for additional healthcare provision in rural areas should be assessed, particularly in rural areas in central and eastern North Lincolnshire. Consideration should be given to improved public transport services for rural areas to support access to healthcare facilities.</p>
	SAC2	Health Centre			
	SAC3	Dentist practice			
	SAC4	Community centre	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>This assessment considered accessibility to community social hubs i.e., community centres and town/village halls. These hubs are central to community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The assessment showed that the majority (69%) of the sites scored Good or Very Good against this criterion, indicating less than 10 minutes walking access to a community hub. 17% of the proposed sites scored Poor (>1.2km from a community hub) or Very Poor (>1.6km). The majority of these sites are located in central or north eastern parts of North Lincolnshire.</p>	<p>Adequate access to, and provision of, vibrant, high quality and well-functioning community hubs should be a key objective of the Local Plan. All communities should have easy (pedestrian) access to a community hub. Consideration should be given to improved public transport services for rural areas to support access to community hubs.</p>
	SAC5	Primary schools	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>These three criteria considered accessibility to education facilities, including primary, secondary, and further education establishments. The majority (76%) of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to primary schools. Only 10% scored Poor or Very Poor.</p> <p>However, in relation to secondary schools, only 39% scored Good or Very Good, despite the distance thresholds being greater for access to secondary school establishments than primary schools. A total of 40% of the sites scored Poor or Very Poor for access to a secondary school.</p> <p>In relation to SAC7, 82% of the sites scored Poor or Very Poor for access to a FE establishment.</p>	<p>The assessment identified several issues in relation to adequate access to education facilities. There appears to be reasonable access to primary schools, whilst access to secondary schools is mixed. The Council should ensure new housing sites do not cause capacity issues in relation to primary school facilities and should further consider secondary school provision. In relation to FE establishments, access is poor and further consideration should be made for the provision of such establishments.</p>
	SAC6	Secondary schools			
	SAC7	Further and higher education facilities			

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
	SAC8	Town centre	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13). This criterion assessed accessibility to community services and facilities, including general leisure and retail requirements, as represented by access to a defined town and district centres. A total of 48% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a town centre, indicating less than 15 minutes walking access. 48% of the sites also scored Poor or Very Poor.	Consideration should be given to rural community access to key services and facilities. Assessment should be made to identify gaps in service provision and strategic opportunities to establish new facilities in rural areas. Consideration should be given to improved public transport services for rural areas to support access to community facilities and services.
	SAC9	Employment centre	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13). This criterion assessed accessibility to general employment sites, as represented by key centres of employment including town and district centres, business parks, retail parks and shopping centres. A total of 64% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to an employment centre. The majority of these sites are located within existing town and district centres. Conversely, 19% of sites scored Very Poor for access, indicating a journey of greater than 2km, meaning pedestrian access probably not possible for most residents. All of these sites located in rural parts of North Lincolnshire.	The Council should seek to improve access to employment sites and should seek to deliver new or improve existing employment sites in rural areas (subject to other considerations e.g., environmental constraints). In addition, rollout of high-speed internet access in rural areas and support for flexible working, will provide important support to rural workers and reduce the need for travel to central employment locations. As for the other site assessment criterion, the Council should also consider improvements to public transport, particularly in rural areas to provide better access to employment centres.
	SAC10	Railway station	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13). These two criteria considered access to public transport facilities. In relation to SAC10, only 23% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a railway station (i.e., <10 minutes walking distance). Conversely, 69% of sites scored Poor (>1.2km) or Very Poor (>1.6km) for access to a railway station. These results demonstrate the relatively limited rail access in North Lincolnshire, which is represented by the Trans-Pennine route that passes through central North Lincolnshire in an east-west direction, with few branch connections. In relation to SAC11, 97% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a bus stop, with no sites scoring Poor or Very Poor. Therefore, walking access to bus transport is acceptable.	Accessibility to rail travel is generally poor and the Council should work with rail authorities and UK Government to determine whether there are opportunities to improve rail services and accessibility to the rail network. In relation to bus transport, walking access is acceptable; however, to promote greater use of bus transport, further consideration should be made regarding the routes and frequency of buses, so as to maximise accessibility to key community facilities and services and employment centres.
	SAC11	Bus stop		
	SAC12	Cycle route	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13). This criterion assessed accessibility to all Council defined cycle routes. Accessibility to such routes is important for both access to employment and key community services and facilities, and also	Increased participation in cycling and improved access to defined cycle routes should be a key objective of the Local Plan

Site Assessment Criteria			Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
			economy (12), Material assets (13).	access for leisure and recreation purposes. Increasing access to cycle routes could deliver a range of sustainability benefits, including improved health and reduced carbon emissions from transport and associated improvements in air quality. A total of 51% of the sites had Good or Very Good access to a defined cycle route. Conversely, 31% of sites were assessed as Poor or Very Poor.	given the range of community benefits this would deliver. The Council should assess current cycle route provision and work with local partners to improve the strategic network, particularly in rural areas and between residential areas and main employment sites in North Lincolnshire.
	SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to publicly accessible open space. Such areas are important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. They are also important components of local landscapes and important biodiversity assets. Almost all of the sites (95%) scored Very Good (<5 minutes walking distance) or Good (<10 minutes) for access to at least one area of open space. Two sites scored Very Poor, one committed site H1C-42 and one proposed site H1P-33. This reflects the geographic spread and wide diversity of existing open space in North Lincolnshire.	Whilst these results are largely positive, the Council should further consider provision of open space throughout the authority area due to the multiple benefits such areas provide and the contribution these areas can make to achieving multiple Local Plan objectives. In particular open space should be provided in rural locations, such as Wroot and Belton. The Council should also consider capacity issues in areas where multiple new development is proposed, so that existing areas of open space do not exceed an appropriate capacity that reduces their quality or value.
	SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed accessibility to community sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields. It did not consider private facilities likely to require private membership for access. The assessment showed that 92% of the proposed sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a sports/recreation facility. One committed site (H1C-42) scored Very Poor and another committed site scored Poor, H1C-29. Access to such facilities is vital to support improvements in community wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and supports several other key objectives e.g., landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and carbon emissions.	The assessment results demonstrate good provision of publicly accessible sports/recreation facilities. However, as for SAC13, the Council should consider further provision of facilities throughout the authority area due to the multiple benefits these areas provide. Capacity issues should also be considered in areas where multiple new development is proposed.
	SAC15	Public rights of way	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to defined public rights of way (footpaths and bridleways). These are important community assets, connecting areas and communities, facilitating access to key services and facilities, and supporting a range of recreation and leisure pursuits. They are also important components supporting community health and wellbeing. The assessment showed that 70% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to at least one public right of way, indicating less than 5 minutes walking distance. Conversely, 22% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor (>10 minutes walking distance).	North Lincolnshire benefits from a widespread and comprehensive network of public rights of way. However, the Council should seek opportunities to further enhance and expand this network so that all residential sites can gain good access to a public footpath. The Council should require all new development to contribute to the footpath network, with larger-scale development looking to fill any key network gaps.

Site Assessment Criteria			Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
	SAC16	Community recycling	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to Council-operated community recycling centres, including household waste recycling sites. The assessment found that 49% of sites have Good or Very Good access (<1.2km), with 47% of sites with Poor or Very Poor access (>1.6km).	Improved waste management and increased waste recycling should be key objectives of the Local Plan. Community access to recycling sites is very important to improve recycling rates and the Council should consider the need for additional provision, particularly in rural areas. The Council should also consider the requirement for all new large-scale development to contribute to the network of recycling sites.
Environmental features	SAC17	Scheduled Monument	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Historic environment (8).	These two criteria considered access and risk to key heritage assets in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that 94% of sites represent Low or Very Low risk to a Scheduled Monument (SAC17) and 91% of sites represented a Very Low risk to a Conservation Area. No proposed sites were located within the boundary of a Scheduled Monument, whilst ten sites were located within a Conservation Area.	The Council should promote high quality design for all new development that is sympathetic to local landscape character, including historic landscape considerations. In addition, the Council should work with partners, including Historic England, to assess threats to historic features, including risks due to damage and disturbance from local residents and visitors and identify appropriate means to mitigate these risks.
	SAC18	Conservation Area			
	SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Climate (7).	These three criteria assessed accessibility and risks to a range of important nature conservation features, including designated wildlife sites and areas of ancient woodland. These features represent key biodiversity assets and heritage features (ancient woodland) and support a wide range of other environmental, social and economic components, including community health and wellbeing and the local tourism and visitor economy. The assessment identified that the vast majority of proposed sites are Low or Very Low risk to all three criteria. No sites were located within a nationally or internationally designated wildlife site or an ancient woodland. However, a total of 49% of sites intersected with SSSI IRZs, six sites intersected a locally designated wildlife site and a further twenty-two are located within 200m of a site.	Whilst the assessment was generally positive, indicating most sites do not represent a significant risk to these biodiversity assets, it did identify some risks in relation to a small number of proposed sites in proximity to locally designated wildlife sites. The Council should review the requirement for development at these sites; if considered necessary, then appropriate policy provision should be made to ensure that such development fully mitigates any ecological impacts and delivers ecological enhancement so as to effectively safeguard the conservation interests of these sites and to enable the Council to fulfil its nature conservation duties.
	SAC20	Ancient woodland			
	SAC21	Locally designated wildlife sites			
		SAC22	Local geological site	Landscape (1), Climate (7)	This criterion considered accessibility and risk to local geological assets, including Council-defined local geological sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). One site was found to intersect with a local geological site, H1P-1. The assessment identified that all of the other housing sites scored

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
			Very Low risk, indicating that they do not intersect with a designated site.	consideration of the proposals. The Council should consider those sites in close proximity to the assets to ensure policy provision will protect and enhance this geological site as there may be increased pressure on access to these sites as a result of new development.
SAC23	WFD waterbody	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed risk to Water Framework Directive (WFD) waterbodies; these represent the main watercourses in North Lincolnshire and are protected under the provisions of the WFD. Watercourses provide a wide range of services and functions; they are key components of the landscape and provide water resources for local communities and businesses; they support biodiversity and are key heritage features. They are also important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. The assessment identified that 81% of sites are Low or Very Low risk in relation to a WFD waterbody. No sites were assessed as Very High risk (intersect a waterbody), whilst 11% of sites were considered to be High risk (within 200m of a waterbody).	The Local Plan should support the objectives of the WFD and ensure effective policy provision to protect, and ideally enhance, all watercourses in North Lincolnshire.
SAC24	Flood zones	Landscape (1), Flood risk (4), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed the risk of flooding to new development using the Council-defined flood zones from the North Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The assessment showed that 82% of the sites were Low risk (outside Flood Zones 2 or 3), whilst 18% were High risk (within Flood Zone 2 or 3) and therefore are at risk of flooding.	The Council should assess the risk of flooding to all sites; where a site is at risk of flooding, now or in the future, the Council should ensure appropriate design to mitigate this risk.
SAC25	Source Protection Zone (SPZ)	Landscape (1), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion considered risks to groundwater Source Protection Zones, which are important areas supporting local and regional potable water supplies. The assessment identified that 77% of sites were Very Low risk and are located outside of a SPZ. 4% of sites were located within SPZ1 (inner zone), indicating there is a risk that ground pollution could rapidly enter groundwater aquifers.	The Council should assess the risks represented by proposed sites within SPZ1 and ensure that all such development fully mitigates any risks to the aquifer, both during construction and occupation of these sites.
SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Landscape (1), Air quality (6), Climate (7).	There is one AQMA in North Lincolnshire, in Scunthorpe Town Centre. This assessment identified that 11% of sites are within 800m of the AQMA area, whilst 2 sites (H1C-3 and H1C-17) are within the AQMA area. New development in an AQMA can exacerbate existing air quality pollution issues and undermine actions to improve air quality.	Further consideration should be given within the Local Plan to mitigate the risks to air quality posed by all new development and particularly development in or close to the AQMA area. Policy provision should be made to minimise private car usage in such areas and promote alternative means of transport.
SAC27	Designated mineral resources	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Local economy (12), Mineral	This criterion considered accessibility and risks to defined strategically important minerals resources as defined by Mineral	The Council should assess the risks represented by the housing sites within these

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
			resources (14). Safeguarding Areas. Minerals extraction forms a key component of the local economy and these areas have been defined to minimise inappropriate development that might hinder the future exploitation of these resources. The assessment identified that 20% of sites are located outside of a safeguarding area and therefore represent Very Low risk to minerals resources. However, 59% of sites intersected with a safeguarding area, representing a High risk, and a further 21% of sites are within a defined buffer zone around a safeguarding area.	safeguarding areas and ensure that all such development fully mitigates any risks.
	SAC28	Agricultural productivity	Landscape (1), Land (5), Climate (7), Local economy (12). This criterion assesses risk to important soil resources and agricultural productivity in North Lincolnshire. It uses the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), which splits agricultural land into 5 main zones, with zones 1-3 representing the most productive land (with 1 representing the best land). Agriculture in a central component of the economy in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that 25% of the sites are Very Low risk to agricultural productivity, being located outside of any of the five ALC gradings. No sites were located within ALC Grade 4 or 5, however 43% intersected with ALC Grade 3 and 32% with ALC Grade 1 or 2.	The Council should assess all proposed development sites and consider the need for any development on land classified as ALC Grade 1-3. Preference should be made for sites located outside Grade 1-3 land so as to protect agricultural productivity in the area.
	SAC29	Greenfield land	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Land (5), Climate (7). This criterion assessed whether a proposed development site is located on undeveloped (greenfield) land. Greenfield land represents a valuable component of the local landscape, supports soil resources in the area and is home to a range of important and protected wildlife. Greenfield land adsorbs rainfall, reducing flood risk and improving water quality in receiving waters, filters air pollutants, and sequesters carbon. It also represents important open space and is a component of community health and wellbeing. The assessment identified that 42% of the sites are not on greenfield land, whilst 58% of sites are located on greenfield land.	The Council should assess the requirement for development on greenfield land. Presumption should be in favour of development on previously developed (brownfield) land. Where development on greenfield land is justified, effective and robust policy provision should be made within the Local Plan to ensure all environmental and social impacts associated with such development are fully mitigated and that new development seeks to deliver enhancements wherever feasible.

6.3 Employment site allocations

The Publication Draft sets out proposed employment site allocations in North Lincolnshire under Policy EC1 (employment land supply) and SS8 (strategic employment sites). Policy EC1 allocated nine sites (including one site – EC1-1 – which is split over multiple, closely located sites), whilst policy SS8 includes three, large-scale strategic employment sites.

The proposed employment site allocations have been assessed against the full suite of site assessment criteria following the methodology described in Chapter 3.

The allocated employment sites are presented in Table 6-9. A summary of the site assessment results for the employment allocations is presented in Table 6-10. Table 6-11 provides a summary of the results of the sustainability scores for each proposed employment site allocation (based upon the scoring system shown in Table 3-9). The percentage of sites within each site assessment category for each of the site assessment criteria is shown in Table 6-12. Individual sites have then been ranked according to their sustainability scores, with the results shown in Table 6-13.

Table 6-9: Summary details of proposed employment site allocations

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
EC1-1	Scunthorpe	Normanby Enterprise Park
EC1-2	Scunthorpe	Land north of Tesco
EC1-3	Kirmington	Humberside Airport
EC1-4	Kirmington	Humberside Airport
EC1-5	Sandtoft	Sandtoft Business Park
EC1-6	Barton upon Humber	Land to the north west of the A15 Barton Interchange
EC1-7	Barnetby Top	Land to the south of Barnetby Top Interchange and to the west of the A18
EC1-8	Barnetby Top	Land to the south of Barnetby Top Interchange and to the east of the A18
EC1-9	M180 Junction 2	Land to the south of Crowle gyratory

Table 6-10: SA assessment of proposed employment site allocations

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria																			
	Community facilities										Environmental features									
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facility	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				
EC1-1																				

[illegible]

[illegible]

Table 6-11: SA assessment scores for the proposed employment site allocations

Site ref:	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community facilities	Environmental features	Total score
EC1-1	-9	20	11
EC1-1	-9	22	13
EC1-1	-5	21	16
EC1-1	-7	24	17
EC1-1	-7	23	16
EC1-1	-7	23	16
EC1-1	-1	18	17
EC1-2	5	13	18
EC1-3	-9	10	1
EC1-4	-9	8	-1
EC1-5	-14	-1	-15
EC1-6	6	5	11
EC1-7	-2	6	4
EC1-8	-2	13	11
EC1-9	-8	2	-6
SS8-2	-3	15	12
SS8-3	-4	12	8
SS9	-8	2	-6

Table 6-12: Percentage of proposed employment allocations per site assessment category

Site Assessment Criteria:	Percentage Score				
	Community facilities				
	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
SAC1	0	5.6	16.7	22.2	55.6
SAC2	5.6	11.1	0	0	83.3
SAC3	0	0	5.6	0	94.4
SAC4	n/a				
SAC5					
SAC6					
SAC7					
SAC8	0	5.6	0	5.6	88.9
SAC9	n/a				
SAC10	0	11.1	11.1	5.6	72.2
SAC11	61.1	22.2	16.7	0	0
SAC12	44.4	11.1	16.7	11.1	16.7
SAC13	27.8	27.8	44.4	0	0
SAC14	0	11.1	22.2	33.3	33.3
SAC15	27.8	38.9	16.7	5.6	11.1
SAC16	n/a				
Site Assessment Criteria:	Environmental features				
	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
SAC17	83.3	5.6	5.6	5.6	0
SAC18	100.0	n/a			0
SAC19	77.8	n/a		22.2	0
SAC20	88.9	5.6	0	5.6	0
SAC21	5.6	11.1	22.2	22.2	38.9
SAC22	94.4	n/a			5.6
SAC23	83.3	0	0	5.6	11.1
SAC24	n/a	72.2	n/a	27.8	n/a
SAC25	61.1	n/a	38.9	n/a	0
SAC26	100.0	n/a	0	0	0
SAC27	55.6	n/a	5.6	38.9	0
SAC28	33.3	n/a	5.6	11.1	50.0
SAC29	50.0	n/a			50.0

Table 6-13: Individual employment site ranking based on site assessment scores

Site	Site Assessment Criteria					Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank	Total score	
EC1-2	5	2	13	9	18	1
EC1-1	-7	9	24	1	17	2
EC1-1	-1	3	18	7	17	2
EC1-1	-5	8	21	5	16	4
EC1-1	-7	9	23	2	16	4
EC1-1	-7	9	23	2	16	4
EC1-1	-9	14	22	4	13	7
SS8-2	-3	6	15	8	12	8
EC1-1	-9	14	20	6	11	9
EC1-6	6	1	5	15	11	9
EC1-8	-2	4	13	9	11	9
SS8-3	-4	7	12	11	8	12
EC1-7	-2	4	6	14	4	13
EC1-3	-9	14	10	12	1	14
EC1-4	-9	14	8	13	-1	15
EC1-9	-8	12	2	17	-6	16
SS9	-8	12	2	17	-6	16
EC1-5	-14	18	-1	18	-15	18

6.3.1 Summary of employment site assessment results

A summary description of the outcomes of the employment site assessment process is provided in Table 6-14. This also includes recommendations requiring further consideration or assessment in relation to specific constraints or risks identified through the site assessment process.

Table 6-14: Summary of the results of the assessment of the proposed employment site allocations

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
Community facilities	SAC1	GP surgery	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	Assessment against these criteria considered accessibility to public healthcare facilities. The assessment identified that only a small number of proposed employment sites scored Good (6%) for criterion SAC1, whilst 6% and 11% scored Good or Very Good respectively for SAC2. In relation to SAC3, no sites scored Very Good or Good. Conversely, the vast majority of sites scored Very Poor for all three criteria. Poor access to such facilities is likely to lead to a reliance on private car usage to access these facilities and also places strain on healthcare provision by increasing the need for and journey time for ambulance services.	Good employee access to healthcare facilities during the working week is an important consideration. The Council should assess the allocation of employment sites in relation to access to healthcare facilities to determine whether alternative employment sites (with good access) should be considered further and whether new healthcare facilities close to key employment areas should be supported. The requirement for additional healthcare provision in rural areas should be assessed, particularly in rural areas in central and eastern North Lincolnshire. Consideration should be given to improved public transport services for rural areas to support access to healthcare facilities.
	SAC2	Health Centre			
	SAC3	Dentist practice			
	SAC8	Town centre	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed employee accessibility to community services and facilities, including general leisure and retail requirements, as represented by access to a defined town and district centres. A total of 6% of the proposed employment sites scored Good for access to a town centre (no sites scored Very Good), indicating less than 15 minutes walking access. Conversely, 6% scored Poor and 89% scored Very Poor for pedestrian access. Poor access to town centres will increase reliance on private car usage to enable employees to access key services and facilities during the working week.	Consideration should be given to employee access to key services and facilities. Assessment should be made to ensure new employment sites are located close to key service centres. Where gaps in service provision are identified, consideration should be made to provide new facilities close to principal employment sites, particularly in rural areas. Consideration should be given to improved public transport services for rural areas to support access to community facilities and services.
	SAC10	Railway station	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12),	These two criteria considered employee access to public transport facilities. Over-reliance on private car as the principal means of travel to work has led to a range of environmental and social issues, including air pollution, reduced physical activity, and increasing social deprivation.	Accessibility to rail travel is generally poor and the Council should work with rail authorities and UK Government to determine whether there are
	SAC11	Bus stop			

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
			Material assets (13).	<p>Instead, provision should be made to enable and encourage employees to use public transport (as well as walking and cycling) to access work. In relation to SAC 10, only 11% scored Very Good for walking access to a railway station (i.e., <10 minutes walking distance). Conversely, 78% of sites scored Poor (>1.2km) or Very Poor (>1.6km) for access to a railway station. These results demonstrate the relatively limited rail access in North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>In relation to SAC11, 83% of employment sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a bus stop. No sites scored Poor or Very Poor. Walking access to bus transport is therefore reasonable.</p>	<p>opportunities to improve rail services and accessibility to the rail network. In relation to bus transport, walking access is acceptable; however, to promote greater use of bus transport, further consideration should be made regarding the routes and frequency of buses to key employment sites, so as to maximise accessibility to key community facilities and services and employment centres.</p>
	SAC12	Cycle route	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed accessibility to all Council defined cycle routes. Accessibility to such routes is important as it helps enable employees to cycle to work. Increasing access to cycle routes could deliver a range of sustainability benefits, including improved health and reduced carbon emissions from transport and associated improvements in air quality. A total of 55% of the proposed employment sites had Good or Very Good access to a defined cycle route. Conversely, 28% of sites were assessed as Poor or Very Poor.</p>	<p>Increased participation in cycling and improved access to defined cycle routes should be a key objective of the Local Plan given the range of community benefits this would deliver. The Council should assess current cycle route provision and work with local partners to improve the strategic network, particularly in rural areas and between residential areas and main employment sites in North Lincolnshire. Policy provision should be made to require all new development to incorporate high-quality bicycle access and safe storage facilities.</p>
	SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed access to publicly accessible open space. Such areas are important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. They are also important components of local landscapes and important biodiversity assets.</p> <p>A total of 56% of proposed employment sites scored Very Good (<5 minutes walking distance) or Good (<10 minutes) for access to at least one area of open space. Conversely, no sites scored Poor or Very Poor. This reflects the geographic spread and wide diversity of existing open space in North Lincolnshire and indicates that such space will be readily accessible to employees using the new employment sites.</p>	<p>Whilst these results are largely positive, the Council should further consider provision of open space throughout the authority area due to the multiple benefits such areas provide and the contribution these areas can make to achieving multiple Local Plan objectives. The Council should also consider capacity issues in areas where multiple new employment development is proposed, particularly if also close to new housing development, so that existing areas of open space do not exceed an appropriate capacity that reduces their quality or value.</p>

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
Environmental features	SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed accessibility to community sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields. It did not consider private facilities likely to require private membership for access.</p> <p>The assessment showed that 11% of the proposed employment sites scored Good for access to a sports/recreation facility (no sites scored Very Good). Conversely, 67% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor. Access to such facilities is vital to support improvements in community wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and supports several other key objectives e.g., landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and carbon emissions.</p> <p>Good access for workers will encourage healthy lifestyles during the working week and can alleviate work-related stress and anxiety, which can improve economic productivity.</p>	The assessment results demonstrate that provision of publicly accessible sports/recreation facilities close to proposed employment sites is relatively low. The Council should further consider provision of facilities throughout the authority area due to the multiple benefits such areas provide and should also consider capacity issues in areas where multiple new development is proposed.
	SAC15	Public rights of way	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed access to defined public rights of way (footpaths and bridleways). These are important community assets, connecting areas and communities, facilitating access to key services and facilities, and supporting a range of recreation and leisure pursuits. They are also important components supporting community health and wellbeing and can help facilitate pedestrian and bicycle access to employment sites.</p> <p>The assessment showed that 66% of proposed employment sites scored Good or Very Good for access to at least one public right of way, indicating less than 5 minutes walking distance. Conversely, 17% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor (>10 minutes walking distance).</p>	North Lincolnshire benefits from a widespread and comprehensive network of public rights of way. However, the Council should seek opportunities to further enhance and expand this network so that all employment sites can benefit from good access to a public footpath. The Council should require all new development to contribute to the footpath network, with larger-scale development looking to fill any key network gaps.
	SAC17	Scheduled monument	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Historic environment (8).	<p>These two criteria considered access and risk to key heritage assets in North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The assessment identified that 90% of proposed employment sites represent Low or Very Low risk to a Scheduled Monument (SAC17) and 100% of sites represented a Very Low risk to a Conservation Area. No proposed sites were located within the boundary of a Scheduled Monument. As such, risks to these heritage features are considered to be largely acceptable.</p>	The Council should promote high quality design for all new development that is sympathetic to local landscape character, including historic landscape considerations. In addition, the Council should work with partners, including Historic England, to assess threats to historic features, including risks due to damage and disturbance from local residents and visitors and identify appropriate means to mitigate these risks.
	SAC18	Conservation Area			

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
	SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Climate (7).	<p>These three criteria assessed accessibility and risks to a range of important nature conservation features, including designated wildlife sites and areas of ancient woodland. These features represent key biodiversity assets and heritage features (ancient woodland) and support a wide range of other environmental, social and economic components, including community health and wellbeing and the local tourism and visitor economy.</p> <p>The assessment identified that 78% of employment sites were Very Low risk in relation to internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites, whilst 22% of employment sites were assessed as High risk (no sites were scored Very High risk).</p> <p>In relation to SAC20, 94% of sites were assessed as Low or Very Low risk. One site was assessed as being within 200m of an area of ancient woodland.</p> <p>In relation to SAC21, 17% of employment sites were Low or Very Low risk, whilst 61% of sites were assessed as either High or Very High risk. Of these, 6 of the employment sites intersect a locally designated wildlife site.</p>	<p>Whilst the assessment was generally positive in relation to nationally/internationally designated wildlife sites and ancient woodland, it did identify some risks in relation to locally designated wildlife sites, with a substantial number of proposed employment sites intersecting such a designated site. The Council should review the requirement for development at these sites; if considered necessary, then appropriate policy provision should be made to ensure that such development fully mitigates any ecological impacts and delivers ecological enhancement so as to effectively safeguard the conservation interests of these sites and to enable the Council to fulfil its nature conservation duties.</p>
	SAC20	Ancient woodland			
	SAC21	Locally designated wildlife sites			
	SAC22	Local geological site	Landscape (1), Climate (7)	<p>This criterion considered accessibility and risk to local geological assets, including Council-defined local geological sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS).</p> <p>The assessment identified that 94% of the proposed sites scored Very Low risk, indicating that they do not intersect with a designated site. However, one site (EC1-4p) intersects a local geological site and is assessed as having Very High risk. Notwithstanding this, this site has received full planning permission and therefore has previously been subject to detailed scrutiny.</p>	The Local Plan should ensure effective protection of local geological sites to ensure such sites are not subject to inappropriate or unsustainable development.
	SAC23	WFD waterbody	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	<p>This criterion assessed risk to Water Framework Directive (WFD) waterbodies; these represent the main watercourses in North Lincolnshire and are protected under the provisions of the WFD. Watercourses provide a wide range of services and functions; they are key components of the landscape and provide water resources for local communities and businesses; they support biodiversity and are key heritage features. They also important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities.</p> <p>The assessment identified that 83% of sites are Low or Very Low risk in relation to a WFD waterbody. However, 11% of sites were assessed as Very High risk (intersect a waterbody), whilst 6% of sites were considered to be High risk (within 200m of a waterbody).</p>	The Local Plan should support the objectives of the WFD and ensure effective policy provision to protect, and ideally enhance, all watercourses in North Lincolnshire.

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
	SAC24	Flood zones	Landscape (1), Flood risk (4), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed the risk of flooding to new development using the Council-defined flood zones from the North Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The assessment showed that 72% of the proposed sites were Low risk (outside Flood Zones 2 or 3), whilst 28% of sites were High risk (within either Flood Zone 2 or 3) and therefore are at risk of flooding.	The Council should assess the risk of flooding to all sites; where a site is at risk of flooding, now or in the future, the Council should ensure appropriate design to mitigate this risk.
	SAC25	Source Protection Zone (SPZ)	Landscape (1), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion considered risks to groundwater Source Protection Zones, which are important areas supporting local and regional potable water supplies. The assessment identified that 61% of sites were Very Low risk and are located outside of a SPZ. 39% of sites were located in SPZ2 (outer zone) or 3 (total catchment). No sites were located within SPZ1 (inner zone).	The Council should assess the risks represented by proposed sites within SPZ2 and 3 and ensure that all such development fully mitigates any risks to the aquifer, both during construction and occupation of these sites.
	SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Landscape (1), Air quality (6), Climate (7).	There is one AQMA in North Lincolnshire, in Scunthorpe Town Centre. This assessment identified that 100% of proposed sites are more than 1.2km from the AQMA area and therefore considered to be Very Low risk.	Further consideration should be given within the Local Plan to mitigate the risks to air quality posed by all new development and particularly development in or close to the AQMA area. Policy provision should be made to minimise private car usage in such areas and promote alternative means of transport.
	SAC27	Designated mineral resources	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Local economy (12), Mineral resources (14).	This criterion considered accessibility and risks to defined strategically important minerals resources as defined by Mineral Safeguarding Areas. Minerals extraction forms a key component of the local economy and these areas have been defined to minimise inappropriate development that might hinder the future exploitation of these resources. The assessment identified that 56% of proposed sites are located outside of a safeguarding area and therefore represent Very Low risk to minerals resources. None of the sites are within a safeguarding area; however, 39% of sites (7 sites) are within a defined buffer zone around a safeguarding area and are therefore assessed as High risk.	The Council should assess the risks represented by proposed sites within these safeguarding areas and ensure that all such development fully mitigates any risks.
	SAC28	Agricultural productivity	Landscape (1), Land (5), Climate (7), Local economy (12).	This criterion assesses risk to important soil resources and agricultural productivity in North Lincolnshire. It uses the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), which splits agricultural land into 5 main zones, with zones 1-3 representing the most productive land (with 1 representing the best land). Agriculture is a central component of the economy in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that 33% of proposed sites are Very Low risk to agricultural productivity, being located outside of any of the five ALC	The Council should assess all proposed development sites and consider the need for any development on land classified as ALC Grade 1-3. Preference should be made for sites located outside Grade 1-3 land so as to protect agricultural productivity in the area.

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary	Recommendations
				gradings. However, 11% of sites intersected ALC Grade 3 land and a further 50% of sites intersected ALC Grade 1 or 2 land.	
	SAC29	Greenfield land	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Land (5), Climate (7).	<p>This criterion assessed whether a proposed development site is located on undeveloped (greenfield) land. Greenfield land represents a valuable component of the local landscape, supports soil resources in the area and is home to a range of important and protected wildlife. Greenfield land adsorbs rainfall, reducing flood risk and improving water quality in receiving waters, filters air pollutants, and sequesters carbon. It also represents important open space and is a component of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The assessment identified that 50% of the proposed sites are not on greenfield land, whilst 50% of sites are located on greenfield land.</p>	The Council should assess the requirement for development on greenfield land. Presumption should be in favour of development on previously developed (brownfield) land. Where development on greenfield land is justified, effective and robust policy provision should be made within the Local Plan to ensure all environmental and social impacts associated with such development are fully mitigated and that new development seeks to deliver enhancements wherever feasible.

6.4 Reasonable alternative housing sites

North Lincolnshire Council has considered a range of alternative sites for housing allocation. This was primarily undertaken through its Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) (NLC, 2019), which was undertaken following Planning Practice Guidance accompanying the NPPF. This process involved an assessment of each potential development site against a broad range of considerations, including national policy requirements and national and local designations.

Potential development sites were identified from a range of sources. This included a 'call for sites' process undertaken by the Council in February 2017, March 2018 and March 2020. Development sites assessed by the Council as being suitable for housing use were then considered for inclusion in the Local Plan.

However, not all potentially suitable sites identified through the SHELAA process have been subsequently included as proposed sites in the Local Plan. Such sites are therefore considered to be 'reasonable alternatives' for the purposes of the SA.

A total of 101 reasonable alternative sites have been assessed and are presented in Table 6-15. This includes 61 sites identified through the 2017 call for sites, 24 sites identified through the 2018 call for sites and 16 sites in 2020. The location of these alternative housing sites is shown in Figure 6-2.

The reasonable alternative housing sites have been assessed against the full suite of site assessment criteria following the methodology described in Chapter 3.

A summary of the results of the site assessment for the reasonable alternative housing sites is presented in Table 6-16. Table 6-17 provides a summary of the results of the sustainability scores for each alternative housing site (based upon the scoring system shown in Table 3-9). The percentage of sites within each site assessment category ('very good', 'good', 'poor', etc) for each of the site assessment criteria is shown in Table 6-18. Individual sites have then been ranked according to their sustainability scores, with the results shown in Table 6-19.

Table 6-15: Summary details of reasonable alternative housing site allocations

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
SHELAA 2017		
0UT66	Haxey	Land south of 38 High Street
19H34	Messingham	Land at Hewson Street
1K1R1	Scawby	Home Farm Buildings, Main Street
2D1B1	Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area	14/16 Collum Lane, Ashby
3QEPH	Goxhill	Land at North End
3YNE7	Hibaldstow	Land off Redbourne Road
42LZR	Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area	Land at Moorwell Road/Scotter Road
4J2QR	Messingham	Land off Holme Lane
54XK7	South Killingholme	Land at Town Street
55NUT	Brigg	Land off Bigby High Road
62PO6	Appleby	Ermine Farm
7EY2W	Barrow upon Humber	Land South of New Holland Road
8N3AI	Kirton in Lindsey	Kirton in Lindsey
A33D4	Wootton	Land off Cherry Lane
AA5NZ	Barrow upon Humber	Land off Wold Road
DBHNC	Barnetby le Wold	Land off Railway Street

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
DE0ZG	Wootton	Yard Opposite The Nags Head, Thornton Road
DO1YP	Wrawby	Tongs Farm
EOANO	Owston Ferry	Land off Melwood View, Epworth Road
FS41X	Wrawby	Land off the A18
G3ESX	Goxhill	The Farm, North End
GA4YB	Hibaldstow	Site to the rear of 104 Redbourne Road
GD1W7	Westwoodside	Land adjacent Springfield
GRXT2	Broughton	Land off Brigg Road
H5HNT	Broughton	Land off Estate Avenue
HD8G9	Hibaldstow	Field off Hunts Lane
HJO3T	Brigg	Bigby High Road
HYZY4	Kirmington	Land rear of Almshouses, Main Street
I9MDI	Kirton in Lindsey	Field Adjacent Lautrec, Grayingham Road
IA36Q	Eastoft	Land to the west of Yorkshireside, Eastoft DN17 4PG
IHII2	Kirton in Lindsey	Land at North Cliff Road
JB10O	Barnetby le Wold	The Railway Inn, 28 King's Road
JBL6V	Haxey	land adj. 51 the nooking Haxey DN9 2LJ
K41O0	Wrawby	Manor Farm, Brigg Road
KI8NC	Kirmington	Land at Manor Farm
M0QOV	Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area	Land at Burringham Road.
NMR1A	Scawby	Land adjacent to Lyndhurst, Messingham Lane
NTXK7	Luddington	Land at Eastoft Road
ONF5F	Alkborough	Land at Huteson Lane
OXN8G	Messingham	Land off Brigg Rd
PGXG4	Worlaby	Worlaby Hall Farm
PWJTW	Brigg	Land off Westrum Lane.
QBUJQ	Winterton	Land west of North Street
QN4UT	Westwoodside	Land to the north of Brethergate
SMZS7	Luddington	Land off Eastoft Road
SXWT0	Redbourne	Land at Carr Lane
SY9VD	Wroot	The Old Rectory, High Street, Wroot
T76WI	Brigg	Land off Burgess Road.
T8DJY	Eastoft	Cherry Tree Farm
TGEEX	Brigg	Land off Pingley Meadow.
U3RQ1	Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area	The Former Scunthorpe Telegraph Offices and Printing Works, 20-28 Doncaster Road
VDX6O	Ulceby	Land at the rear of the former Brocklesby Ox site, Church Lane
VU5F0	Ealand	Land off Spen Lane/A161
WA75K	Westwoodside	The Croft, 10 Commonside
WL5TW	Ealand	Land at Seven Lakes Industrial Estate
WNRR8	Winterton	Land off Park Street

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
WOVBD	Hibaldstow	Land at West Street
WWJBT	Kirmington	Land at Main Street
XKDYP	Brigg	Land to the south of Wrawby Road
Y2EX6	Goxhill	Land on the north side of Gatehouse Rd
ZF4BB	Kirmington	
SHELAA 2018		
YQVKI	Wrawby	Land off Barton Road
2LH6C	Ulceby	Land north of Station Road
RONCY	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Land North of Doncaster Road
OI177	Barrow upon Humber	Land at Ferry Road
8J6RH	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	LDC (Formerly the Education Development Centre)
Z16EY	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Former Ashby Market Site
5TQ6R	Barton upon Humber	St Mary's Cycle Works
2RGG4	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Riddings Library/Youth/Community Centre
E4Q3W	Wrawby	Land off Melton Road
MSXXB	Hibaldstow	Land north east of Ings Lane
7DCOC	Broughton	Land at Hillside Road
1POP7	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Sandfield House
7JNXA	Burton upon Stather	Land off Darby Road
JE3QV	Kirmington	Land to north of East End
2SIQJ	Messingham	Land east of Scotter Road
ZYF3P	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Haworth Close Amenity Area
Y71ON	Messingham	Land behind Goosewood, Scotter Road
EKUVV	Messingham	land to the east of 107 Brigg Road
K4XSR	Wrawby	Land to the east of Tunnel Road
O1AJX	Wroot	Warehouse rear of Dovecot House
OJUTW	Haxey	Field off Church Lane
L6FFV	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Scunthorpe Market Buildings
0WTT3	Keadby	Old Railway Sidings, west of A18
SMAQ2	Brigg	Land at Engine Street
Call for sites 2020		
CFS0300082	Barnetby le Wold	Land to the west of Kings Road
CFS0300105	Barton upon Humber	Land to the south of Humber Bridge Industrial Estate
CFS0300097	Broughton	Land between Estate Avenue and Scawby Road
CFS0300100	Broughton	Land to the east of Estate Avenue
CFS0300019	Crowle	Land to the west of Commonside
CFS0300011	Eastoft	Harrisons Builders Yard, Luddington Road

Site reference	Settlement	Site location
CFS0300112	Goxhill	Land to the south of Horsegate Field Road
CFS0300086	Haxey	Land to the west of Graizelound Field Road
CFS0300027	Hibaldstow	Land at Manton Lane
CFS0300016	Kirton in Lindsey	Land to the east of Station Road
CFS0300055	Kirton in Lindsey	Land to the west of North Cliff Road
CFS0300057	Messingham	Land at Egton Avenue
CFS0300096	Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area	Land to the west of Westburn Way
CFS0300009	Westgate	Land to the north of 160 Westgate Road
CFS0300064	Westwoodside	Land to the north of Cove Road
CFS0300058	Wrawby	Land to the west of Little Lane and Vicarage Road

Figure 6-2: Location of reasonable alternative housing sites in North Lincolnshire

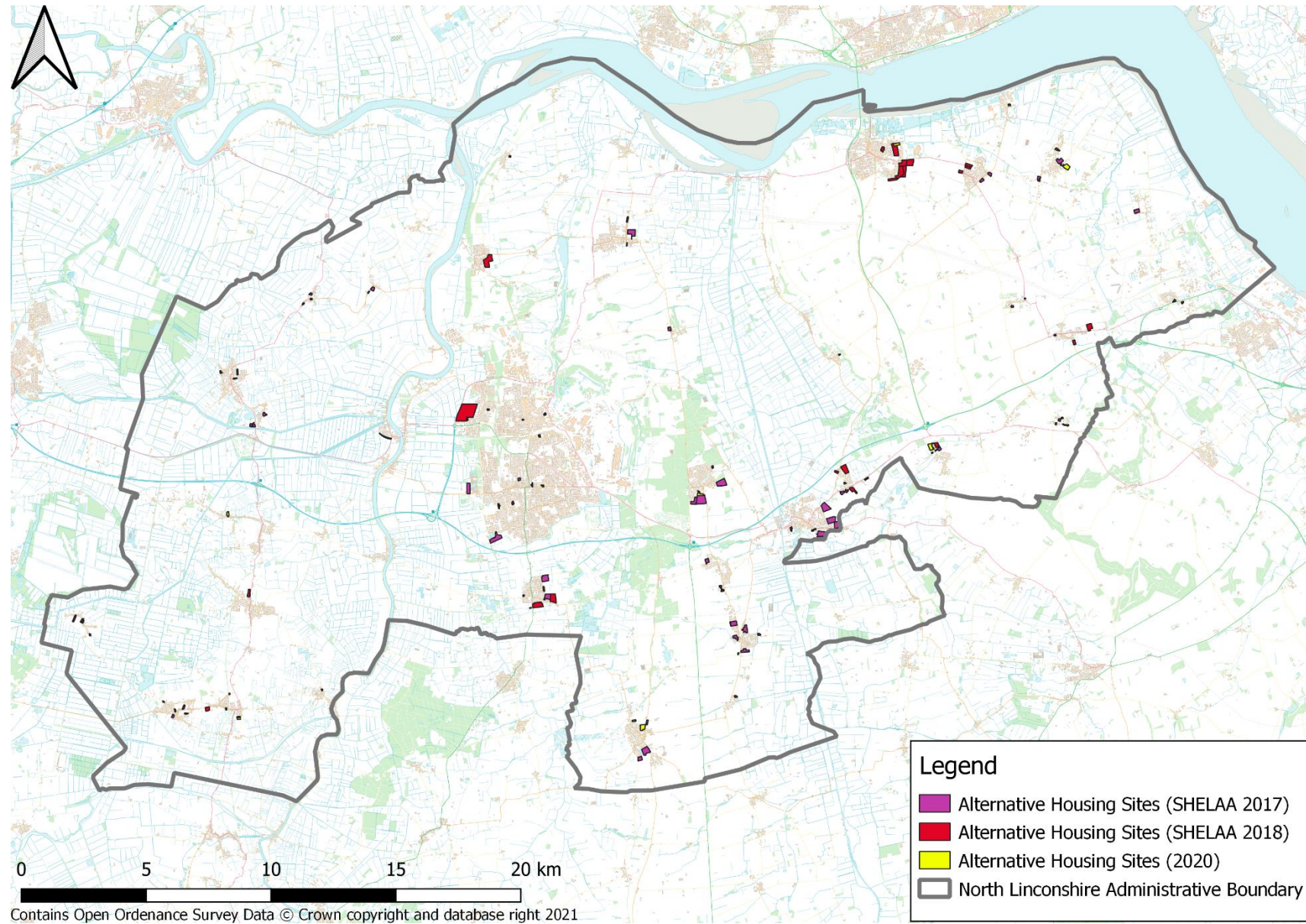


Table 6-16: SA assessment of reasonable alternative housing sites

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities															Environmental Features													
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
SHELAA 2017																													
GA4YB																													
U3RQ1																													
2D1B1																													
62PO6																													
DE0ZG																													
T8DJY																													
DO1YP																													
0UT66																													
HD8G9																													
T76WI																													
42LZR																													
NMRIA																													
SMZS7																													
SXWT0																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																	Environmental Features											
	Community Facilities																												
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
SY9VD																													
WA75K																													
VDX60																													
JB100																													
QN4UT																													
KI8NC																													
HYZY4																													
WWJBT																													
TGEEX																													
PGXG4																													
I9MDI																													
JBL6V																													
GD1W7																													
WL5TW																													
7EY2W																													
QBUJQ																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features														
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
1K1R1																													
IHII2																													
NTXK7																													
PWJTW																													
WOVBD																													
FS41X																													
ONF5F																													
19H34																													
K4100																													
OXN8G																													
AA5NZ																													
3QEPH																													
54XK7																													
GRXT2																													
M0QOV																													
XKDYP																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities																Environmental Features												
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
3YNE7																													
IA36Q																													
ZF4BB																													
VU5F0																													
DBHNC																													
G3ESX																													
4J2QR																													
Y2EX6																													
WNRR8																													
A33D4																													
8N3AI																													
55NUT																													
H5HNT																													
EOANO																													
HJO3T																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features														
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
SHELAA 2018																													
Y710N																													
2LH6C																													
JE3QV																													
SMAQ2																													
O1AJX																													
OJUTW																													
YQVKI																													
7JNXA																													
2SIQJ																													
EKUVV																													
K4XSR																													
7DCOC																													
MSXXB																													
E4Q3W																													
OI177																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities																Environmental Features												
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
ZYF3P																													
2RGG4																													
1POP7																													
L6FFV																													
8J6RH																													
Z16EY																													
5TQ6R																													
RONCY																													
0WTT3																													
Call for sites 2020																													
CFS030 0082																													
CFS030 0105																													
CFS030 0097																													
CFS030 0100																													
CFS030 0019																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities																Environmental Features												
	SA1	SA2	SA3	SA4	SA5	SA6	SA7	SA8	SA9	SA10	SA11	SA12	SA13	SA14	SA15	SA16	SA17	SA18	SA19	SA20	SA21	SA22	SA23	SA24	SA25	SA26	SA27	SA28	SA29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
CFS030 0011																													
CFS030 0112																													
CFS030 0086																													
CFS030 0027																													
CFS030 0016																													
CFS030 0055																													
CFS030 0057																													
CFS030 0096																													
CFS030 0009																													
CFS030 0064																													
CFS030 0058																													

Table 6-17: SA assessment scores for the reasonable alternative housing sites

Site	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community Facilities	Environmental Features	Total Score
SHELAA 2017			
GA4YB	-7	14	7
U3RQ1	22	23	45
2D1B1	21	23	44
62PO6	-16	11	-5
DE0ZG	-10	13	3
T8DJY	-10	12	2
DO1YP	-2	14	12
OUT66	-4	11	7
HD8G9	0	9	9
T76WI	12	18	30
42LZR	-4	9	5
NMRIA	-14	12	-2
SMZS7	-15	12	-3
SXWT0	-15	14	-1
SY9VD	-12	9	-3
WA75K	0	14	14
VDX60	-4	17	13
JB100	2	12	14
QN4UT	0	14	14
KI8NC	-12	12	0
HYZY4	-12	12	0
WWJBT	-12	10	-2
TGEEX	18	16	34
PGXG4	-14	7	-7
I9MDI	9	15	24
JBL6V	-9	10	1
GD1W7	0	14	14
WL5TW	-6	7	1
7EY2W	-12	11	-1
QBUJQ	8	9	17
1K1R1	-14	14	0
IHII2	10	14	24
NTXK7	-12	12	0

Site	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community Facilities	Environmental Features	Total Score
PWJTW	15	15	30
WOVBD	-1	14	13
FS41X	-10	14	4
ONF5F	-8	6	-2
19H34	3	18	21
K4100	-5	14	9
OXN8G	-1	14	13
AA5NZ	-11	7	-4
3QEPH	-3	12	9
54XK7	-9	15	6
GRXT2	-6	13	7
M0QOV	-4	10	6
XKDYP	14	15	29
3YNE7	-3	14	11
IA36Q	-10	12	2
ZF4BB	-14	9	-5
VU5F0	-8	11	3
DBHNC	1	17	18
G3ESX	-3	11	8
4J2QR	2	14	16
Y2EX6	2	13	15
WNRR8	15	7	22
A33D4	-8	16	8
8N3AI	13	12	25
55NUT	23	15	38
H5HNT	-9	5	-4
EOANO	0	11	11
HJO3T	1	18	19
SHELAA 2018			
Y71ON	0	18	18
2LH6C	-15	18	18
JE3QV	-12	8	-4
SMAQ2	25	10	35
O1AJX	-14	11	-3
OJUTW	-4	12	8

Site	Site Assessment Criteria		
	Community Facilities	Environmental Features	Total Score
YQVKI	-9	15	6
7JNXA	-1	13	12
2SIQJ	6	18	24
EKUVV	3	14	17
K4XSR	-10	15	5
7DCOC	-9	12	3
MSXXB	-2	6	4
E4Q3W	-9	14	5
OI177	-8	7	-1
ZYF3P	14	16	30
2RGG4	17	25	42
1POP7	21	25	46
L6FFV	18	19	37
8J6RH	12	19	31
Z16EY	22	23	45
5TQ6R	25	6	31
RONCY	10	10	20
0WTT3	0	9	9
Call for sites 2020			
CFS0300082	1	12	13
CFS0300105	15	5	20
CFS0300097	-9	8	-1
CFS0300100	-9	9	0
CFS0300019	8	10	18
CFS0300011	-9	13	4
CFS0300112	-1	11	10
CFS0300086	-10	10	0
CFS0300027	-5	14	9
CFS0300016	6	16	22
CFS0300055	13	14	27
CFS0300057	6	13	19
CFS0300096	3	8	11
CFS0300009	-14	4	-10
CFS0300064	-6	12	6
CFS0300058	-7	15	8

Table 6-18: Percentage of reasonable alternative housing sites per site assessment category

Site Assessment Criteria:	Percentage Score				
	Community facilities				
	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
SAC1	18.8	27.7	9.9	5.9	37.6
SAC2	23.8	6.9	4	3	62.4
SAC3	9.9	8.9	7.9	3	70.3
SAC4	34.7	30.7	10.9	1	22.8
SAC5	46.5	30.7	11.9	6.9	4
SAC6	3	17.8	7.9	5	66.3
SAC7	1	6.9	6.9	3	82.2
SAC8	20.8	2	2	5	70.3
SAC9	25.7	3	1	2	68.3
SAC10	8.9	8.9	6.9	1	74.3
SAC11	75.2	19.8	4	1	0
SAC12	35.6	15.8	12.9	4	31.7
SAC13	70.3	21.8	1	2	5
SAC14	65.3	23.8	6.9	0	4
SAC15	63.4	17.8	7.9	2	8.9
SAC16	22.8	11.9	3	4	58.4
	Environmental features				
	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
SAC17	88.1	5	3	4	0
SAC18	96	n/a			4
SAC19	84.2	n/a		15.8	0
SAC20	94.1	1	3	2	0
SAC21	63.4	12.9	10.9	10.9	2.0
SAC22	100	n/a			0
SAC23	18.8	27.7	9.9	5.9	37.6
SAC24	n/a	72.3	n/a	27.7	n/a
SAC25	76.2	n/a	22.8	n/a	1.0
SAC26	79.2	n/a	18.8	2.0	0
SAC27	18.8	n/a	14.9	66.3	n/a
SAC28	9.9	n/a	0	38.6	51.5
SAC29	18.8	n/a			81.2

Table 6-19: Individual alternative housing site ranking based on site assessment scores

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
1POP7	21	6	25	1	46	1
U3RQ1	22	4	23	3	45	2
Z16EY	22	4	23	3	45	2
2D1B1	21	6	23	3	44	4
2RGG4	17	10	25	1	42	5
55NUT	23	3	15	19	38	6
L6FFV	18	8	19	6	37	7
SMAQ2	25	1	10	71	35	8
TGEEX	18	8	16	16	34	9
8J6RH	12	18	19	6	31	10
5TQ6R	25	1	6	94	31	10
T76WI	12	18	18	8	30	12
PWJTW	15	11	15	19	30	12
ZYF3P	14	14	16	16	30	12
XKDYP	14	14	15	19	29	15
8N3AI	13	16	12	48	25	16
CFS030 0055	13	16	12	48	25	16
I9MDI	9	22	15	19	24	18
IHII2	10	20	14	26	24	18
2SIQJ	6	25	18	8	24	18
WNRR8	15	11	7	89	22	21
19H34	3	28	18	8	21	22
RONCY	10	20	10	71	20	23
CFS030 0016	6	25	14	26	20	23
HJO3T	1	34	18	8	19	25
DBHNC	1	34	17	14	18	26
Y71ON	0	37	18	8	18	26
2LH6C	-15	97	18	8	18	26
CFS030 0105	15	11	3	99	18	26
QBUJQ	8	23	9	78	17	30
EKUVV	3	28	14	26	17	30

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
CFS030 0057	6	25	11	62	17	30
4J2QR	2	31	14	26	16	33
CFS030 0019	8	23	8	85	16	33
Y2EX6	2	31	13	43	15	35
WA75K	0	37	14	26	14	36
JB100	2	31	12	48	14	36
QN4UT	0	37	14	26	14	36
GD1W7	0	37	14	26	14	36
VDX60	-4	53	17	14	13	40
WOVBD	-1	44	14	26	13	40
OXN8G	-1	44	14	26	13	40
DO1YP	-2	48	14	26	12	43
7JNXA	-1	44	13	43	12	43
3YNE7	-3	50	14	26	11	45
EOANO	0	37	11	62	11	45
CFS030 0082	1	34	10	71	11	45
HD8G9	0	37	9	78	9	48
K4100	-5	58	14	26	9	48
3QEPH	-3	50	12	48	9	48
0WTT3	0	37	9	78	9	48
CFS030 0096	3	28	6	94	9	48
G3ESX	-3	50	11	62	8	53
A33D4	-8	65	16	16	8	53
OJUTW	-4	53	12	48	8	53
CFS030 0112	-1	44	9	78	8	53
GA4YB	-7	63	14	26	7	57
0UT66	-4	53	11	62	7	57
GRXT2	-6	60	13	43	7	57
CFS030 0027	-5	58	12	48	7	57
54XK7	-9	69	15	19	6	61
M0QOV	-4	53	10	71	6	61

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
YQVKI	-9	69	15	19	6	61
CFS030 0058	-7	63	13	43	6	61
42LZR	-4	53	9	78	5	65
K4XSR	-10	78	15	19	5	65
E4Q3W	-9	69	14	26	5	65
FS41X	-10	78	14	26	4	68
MSXXB	-2	48	6	94	4	68
CFS030 0064	-6	60	10	71	4	68
DE0ZG	-10	78	13	43	3	71
VU5F0	-8	65	11	62	3	71
7DCOC	-9	69	12	48	3	71
T8DJY	-10	78	12	48	2	74
IA36Q	-10	78	12	48	2	74
CFS030 0011	-9	69	11	62	2	74
JBL6V	-9	69	10	71	1	77
WL5TW	-6	60	7	89	1	77
KI8NC	-12	85	12	48	0	79
HYZY4	-12	85	12	48	0	79
1K1R1	-14	92	14	26	0	79
NTXK7	-12	85	12	48	0	79
CFS030 0100	-9	69	9	78	0	79
SXWT0	-15	97	14	26	-1	84
7EY2W	-12	85	11	62	-1	84
OI177	-8	65	7	89	-1	84
CFS030 0097	-9	69	8	85	-1	84
NMRIA	-14	92	12	48	-2	88
WWJBT	-12	85	10	71	-2	88
ONF5F	-8	65	6	94	-2	88
CFS030 0086	-10	78	8	85	-2	88
SMZS7	-15	97	12	48	-3	92
SY9VD	-12	85	9	78	-3	92

Site	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
O1AJX	-14	92	11	62	-3	92
AA5NZ	-11	84	7	89	-4	95
H5HNT	-9	69	5	98	-4	95
JE3QV	-12	85	8	85	-4	95
62PO6	-16	100	11	62	-5	98
PGXG4	-14	92	7	89	-7	99
CFS030 0009	-14	92	2	100	-12	100

6.4.1 Summary of reasonable alternative housing sites assessment results

A summary description of the outcomes of the site assessment process is provided in Table 6-20.

Table 6-20: Summary of the results of the assessment of the reasonable alternative housing sites

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
Community facilities	SAC1	GP surgery	<p>Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).</p> <p>Assessment against these criteria considered accessibility to public healthcare facilities. The assessment identified that 47% of sites scored Good or Very Good for criterion SAC1, indicating reasonable walking access (<15 minutes) to these facilities. As for the proposed housing sites, the majority of sites are located in the principal town and district centres. Therefore, there remains a risk that new development in these areas could increase pressure on current healthcare resources and cause new or exacerbate existing capacity issues. Conversely, 45% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor for this criterion. The majority of these sites are located in more rural areas and local centres. Such localities do not enjoy the same level of coverage in healthcare provision as more urban areas.</p> <p>In relation to SAC2, 30% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to an NHS health centre; however, a significant proportion (65%) scored Poor or Very Poor, indicating that there are healthcare accessibility issues that should be considered further, should such sites be considered further through the Local Plan process.</p> <p>In relation to criterion SAC3, a significant proportion (73%) of the sites scored Poor (>1.2km from a dentist practice) or Very Poor (>1.6km). The majority of these are located in local centres and villages in rural areas, particularly in the central and eastern areas of North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>Just over a third of all alternative housing sites scored Very Poor for all three criteria, with a further 28 sites scoring Very Poor for at least two criteria.</p>
	SAC2	Health Centre	
	SAC3	Dentist practice	
	SAC4	Community centre	<p>Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).</p> <p>This assessment considered accessibility to community social hubs i.e., community centres and town/village halls. These hubs are central to community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The assessment showed that 65% of the sites scored Good or Very Good against this criterion, indicating less than 10 minutes walking access to a community hub, whilst 24% of the sites scored Poor (>1.2km from a community hub) or Very Poor (>1.6km). The majority of these sites are located in central or north eastern parts of North Lincolnshire.</p>
	SAC5	Primary schools	<p>Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).</p> <p>These three criteria considered accessibility to education facilities, including primary, secondary, and further education establishments.</p> <p>The majority (77%) of proposed sites scored Good or Very Good for access to primary schools. Only 11% scored Poor or Very Poor.</p> <p>However, in relation to secondary schools, only 21% of sites scored Good or Very Good, whilst the majority of sites (71%) scored Poor or Very Poor for access to a secondary school.</p> <p>In relation to SAC7, only 8% of sites have Good or Very Good access to a FE establishment, whilst the vast majority (85%) of the sites scored Poor or Very Poor.</p>
	SAC6	Secondary schools	
	SAC7	Further and higher education facilities	
	SAC8	Town centre	<p>Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).</p> <p>This criterion assessed accessibility to community services and facilities, including general leisure and retail requirements, as represented by access to a defined town and district centres.</p> <p>Only 22% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a town centre, indicating less than 15 minutes walking access. Conversely, 75% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor. The majority of these sites were located in rural areas in North Lincolnshire.</p>
	SAC9	Employment centre	<p>Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12),</p> <p>This criterion assessed accessibility to general employment sites, as represented by key centres of employment including town and district centres, business parks, retail parks and shopping centres.</p> <p>Approximately one third (30%) of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to an employment centre. The majority of these sites are located within existing town and district centres. Conversely, 70% of sites scored</p>

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
		Material assets (13).	Very Poor for access, indicating a journey of greater than 2km, meaning pedestrian access probably not possible for most residents. All of these sites are located in rural parts of North Lincolnshire.
SAC10	Railway station	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	These two criteria considered access to public transport facilities. In relation to SAC 10, only 18% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a railway station (i.e., <10 minutes walking distance). Conversely, 75% of sites scored Poor (>1.2km) or Very Poor (>1.6km) for access to a railway station. These results demonstrate the relatively limited rail access in North Lincolnshire, which is represented by the Trans-Pennine route that passes through central North Lincolnshire in an east-west direction, with few branch connections.
SAC11	Bus stop		In relation to SAC11, 95% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a bus stop, with no sites scoring Poor or Very Poor. Walking access to bus transport is therefore acceptable; however, to promote greater use of bus transport, further consideration should be made regarding the routes and frequency of buses, so as to maximise accessibility to key community facilities and services and employment centres.
SAC12	Cycle route	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed accessibility to all Council defined cycle routes. Accessibility to such routes is important for both access to employment and key community services and facilities, and also access for leisure and recreation purposes. Increasing access to cycle routes could deliver a range of sustainability benefits, including improved health and reduced carbon emissions from transport and associated improvements in air quality. A total of 51% of the sites had Good or Very Good access to a defined cycle route. Conversely, 35% of sites were assessed as Poor or Very Poor.
SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to publicly accessible open space. Such areas are important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. They are also important components of local landscapes and important biodiversity assets. The vast majority of sites (92%) scored Very Good (<5 minutes walking distance) or Good (<10 minutes) for access to at least one area of open space. Only 7% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor.
SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed accessibility to community sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields. It did not consider private facilities likely to require private membership for access. The assessment showed that 92% of the sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a sports/recreation facility. Conversely, only 4% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor. Access to such facilities is vital to support improvements in community wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and supports several other key objectives e.g., landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and carbon emissions.
SAC15	Public rights of way	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to defined public rights of way (footpaths and bridleways). These are important community assets, connecting areas and communities, facilitating access to key services and facilities, and supporting a range of recreation and leisure pursuits. They are also important components supporting community health and wellbeing. The assessment showed that 81% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to at least one public right of way, indicating less than 5 minutes walking distance. Conversely, only 11% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor (>10 minutes walking distance).
SAC16	Community recycling	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to Council-operated community recycling centres, including household waste recycling sites. The assessment found that one third (35%) of sites have Good or Very Good access (<1.2km), with 62% of sites with Poor or Very Poor access (>1.6km).

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
Environmental features	SAC17	Scheduled monument	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Historic environment (8).	These two criteria considered access and risk to key heritage assets in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that 93% of proposed sites represent Low or Very Low risk to a Scheduled Monument (SAC17) and 96% of sites represented a Very Low risk to a Conservation Area. No proposed sites were located within the boundary of a Scheduled Monument; however, four sites were located within close proximity to a Scheduled Monument. In addition, four sites were located within a Conservation Area. Should any of these sites be taken forward for allocation for housing within the Local Plan, careful consideration will be required with regards to potential impacts on heritage features and the historic environment.
	SAC18	Conservation Area		
	SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Climate (7).	These three criteria assessed accessibility and risks to a range of important nature conservation features, including designated wildlife sites and areas of ancient woodland. These features represent key biodiversity assets and heritage features (ancient woodland) and support a wide range of other environmental, social and economic components, including community health and wellbeing and the local tourism and visitor economy. The assessment identified that the vast majority of sites are Low or Very Low risk to all three criteria. No sites were located within a nationally or internationally designated wildlife site or an ancient woodland. However, two sites intersected a locally designated wildlife site and a further 11 are located within 200m of such a site.
	SAC20	Ancient woodland		
	SAC21	Locally designated wildlife sites		
	SAC22	Local geological site	Landscape (1), Climate (7)	This criterion considered accessibility and risk to local geological assets, including Council-defined local geological sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). The assessment identified that all of the sites scored Very Low risk, indicating that they do not intersect with a designated site.
	SAC23	WFD waterbody	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed risk to Water Framework Directive (WFD) waterbodies; these represent the main watercourses in North Lincolnshire and are protected under the provisions of the WFD. Watercourses provide a wide range of services and functions; they are key components of the landscape and provide water resources for local communities and businesses; they support biodiversity and are key heritage features. They also important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. The assessment identified that 47% of sites are Low or Very Low risk in relation to a WFD waterbody. A total of 43% of sites were assessed as Very High risk (intersect a waterbody) or High risk (within 200m of a waterbody).
	SAC24	Flood zones	Landscape (1), Flood risk (4), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed the risk of flooding to new development using the Council-defined flood zones from the North Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The assessment showed that 72% of sites were Low risk (outside Flood Zones 2 or 3), whilst 28% were High risk (within Flood Zone 2 or 3) and therefore are at risk of flooding.
	SAC25	Source Protection Zone (SPZ)	Landscape (1), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion considered risks to groundwater Source Protection Zones, which are important areas supporting local and regional potable water supplies. The assessment identified that 76% of sites were Very Low risk and are located outside of a SPZ. Only one site was located within SPZ1 (inner zone), indicating there is a risk that ground pollution could rapidly enter groundwater aquifers.
	SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Landscape (1), Air quality (6), Climate (7).	There is one AQMA in North Lincolnshire, in Scunthorpe Town Centre. This assessment identified that none of the sites are within the AQMA area, whilst two sites are within 800m of the AQMA area. New development in an AQMA can exacerbate existing air quality pollution issues and undermine actions to improve air quality.

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
	SAC27	Designated mineral resources	<p>Landscape (1), Climate (7), Local economy (12), Mineral resources (14).</p> <p>This criterion considered accessibility and risks to defined strategically important minerals resources as defined by Mineral Safeguarding Areas. Minerals extraction forms a key component of the local economy and these areas have been defined to minimise inappropriate development that might hinder the future exploitation of these resources.</p> <p>The assessment identified that 19% of sites are located outside of a safeguarding area and therefore represent Very Low risk to minerals resources. 19% of the sites are within a safeguarding area; however, 66% of sites are within a defined buffer zone around a safeguarding area,</p>
	SAC28	Agricultural productivity	<p>Landscape (1), Land (5), Climate (7), Local economy (12).</p> <p>This criterion assesses risk to important soil resources and agricultural productivity in North Lincolnshire. It uses the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), which splits agricultural land into 5 main zones, with zones 1-3 representing the most productive land (with 1 representing the best land). Agriculture is a central component of the economy in North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>The assessment identified that only 10% of the sites are Very Low risk to agricultural productivity, being located outside of any of the five ALC gradings. However, 39% of sites intersected ALC Grade 3 land and a further 51% of sites intersected ALC Grade 1 or 2 land.</p>
	SAC29	Greenfield land	<p>Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Land (5), Climate (7).</p> <p>This criterion assessed whether a proposed development site is located on undeveloped (greenfield) land. Greenfield land represents a valuable component of the local landscape, supports soil resources in the area and is home to a range of important and protected wildlife. Greenfield land adsorbs rainfall, reducing flood risk and improving water quality in receiving waters, filters air pollutants, and sequesters carbon. It also represents important open space and is a component of community health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The assessment identified that only 19% of the sites are not on greenfield land, whilst 81% of sites are located on greenfield land.</p>

6.5 Reasonable alternative employment sites

North Lincolnshire Council has considered a range of alternative sites for employment use. This was carried out through its SHELAA process (NLC, 2019), which included an assessment of each potential development site against a broad range of considerations, including national policy requirements and national and local designations.

Potential employment sites were identified from a range of sources. This included a 'call for sites' process undertaken by the Council in February 2017 and March 2018 and March 2020. Development sites assessed by the Council as being suitable for employment use were then considered for inclusion in the Local Plan.

However, not all potentially suitable sites identified through the SHELAA process have been subsequently included as proposed employment sites in the Local Plan. Such sites are therefore considered to be 'reasonable alternatives' for the purposes of the SA.

A total of 61 reasonable alternative employment sites have been assessed within this SA (Table 6-21). The location of these alternative employment sites is shown in Figure 6-3.

The reasonable alternative employment sites have been assessed against the full suite of site assessment criteria following the methodology described in Chapter 3.

A summary of the results of the site assessment for the alternative employment sites is presented in Table 6-22. Table 6-23 provides a summary of the results of the sustainability scores for each alternative employment site (based upon the scoring system shown in Table 3-9) and ranks each site according to their sustainability scores. The percentage of sites within each site assessment category ('very good', 'good', 'poor', etc) for each of the site assessment criteria is shown in Table 6-24.

Table 6-21: Summary details of reasonable alternative employment site allocations

Site reference	Site location	Settlement
1HHJV	Land east of A15, Elsham	Barnetby Top
K052F	Land at south of M180 Junction 5 "Barnetby Interchange"	Barnetby Top
9XSIA	Land off Falkland Way	Barton upon Humber
0CZB9	Land to the north of Wren Kitchens, Falkland Way	Barton upon Humber
MXLQZ	Between Ferriby Road, A15, Westfield Road and Gravel Pit Lane	Barton upon Humber
OAUYZ	Land to the west of Mill Lane	Brigg
AAAA2	Land at Burringham Road	Gunness
5VTAQ/VTJA4	Land at Crowle Wharfe	Ealand
61UTT	East of Wharf Road	Ealand
I9QP5	Land to the north of the Elsham Industrial Estate and to the west of the A15	Elsham Industrial Estate
UYPFV	East of Belton Road	Epworth
1RC40	Church Farm, High Street	Flixborough
YNJ43	Church Farm, High Street	Flixborough
RIIFW	Land east of Stather Road	Flixborough
86UP3	South of Horsegate Field Road	Goxhill
EW3VR	Land at Goxhill Aerodrome	Goxhill
PCM78	Land to the West	Humberside Airport
0WTT3	Land to the south of the railway, Keadby and to the west of the A18	Keadby
XTCGW	Land at Keadby Power Station	Keadby

Site reference	Site location	Settlement
ZF4BB	Junction of Limber Road, Habrough Lane	Kirmington
592ZL	Land to the rear of Station Road Industrial Estate	Kirton in Lindsey
X3FDW	Land at and adjoining Beechcroft, Station Road	Kirton in Lindsey
JWG30	Willow Springs Fishery, Holme Lane	Messingham
7HMAF	Northfield Rd	Messingham
ONISU	Killingholme Power Station, Chase Hill Road, North Killingholme	North Killingholme
4FZYZ	East Halton Road	North Killingholme
ILVTO	Land west of East Halton Road	North Killingholme
DWZH6	Land near old runway at North Killingholme airfield	North Killingholme
JDK33	Crook Mill Road	North Killingholme
0QC4D	Land off Station Road	Owston Ferry
AAAA7	Low Melwood Quarry	Owston Ferry
EOANO	East of Mellwood View	Owston Ferry
R1NGX	Land to North of Station Road, Owston Ferry, adjacent to poultry farm	Owston Ferry
DAGAT	Pyewipe Farm, Redbourne Road	Redbourne
5FNOZ	Site A: land to south of Belton Road and Sandtoft Road	Sandtoft
XFZH8	Site C: land to south of Belton Road and Sandtoft Road	Sandtoft
49ZW8	Site B: land to south of Belton Road and Sandtoft Road	Sandtoft
7SFUU	East of High Levels Bank Road	Sandtoft
XJPU5	West of River Torne and south of the M180	Sandtoft
GA6LM	GEFCO Site, north of Belton Road	Sandtoft
4LG95	Land off High Levels Bank	Sandtoft
NET41	Land south of Ingram Gardens, West Street	Scawby
M1PDK	Land to the south of Doncaster Road, West of the M181 and north of railway	Scunthorpe
0XCVJ	Park Ings Farm, Flixborough	Scunthorpe
LV744/C1C4Z	East of Bessemer Way	Scunthorpe
P4XUF/ANMD9	Former Yorkshire Electricity Depot, Dudley Road	Scunthorpe
532Z5	Land off Mannaberg Way, Bessemer Way and Normanby Road, Sawcliffe Industrial Estate	Scunthorpe
FYFTH	Wentworth Road, South Park Industrial Estate	Scunthorpe
7Q2RO	North of Dawes Lane	Scunthorpe
91GRT	Trent Remine	Scunthorpe
7KHM6	Railway Land, Dawes Lane	Scunthorpe
T9E73	Land to the south of Sluice Road	South Ferriby
1JGW3	Habrough Rd	South Killingholme
AAA11	Land off A1077	Ulceby
K9CRM	Land to west of A160 - Ryehill Farm, Killingholme Road	Ulceby
5XSAB	Mill Farm	West Butterwick
TACME	Cross Hill	Westwoodside
Z86DT	Land off Leys Lane	Winterton
FM9OP	Land off Coates Avenue	Winterton
A33D4	East of Cherry Lane	Wootton
ZAVXP	Ellerholme Farm, Wroot Road, Finningley	Wroot

Figure 6-3: Location of reasonable alternative employment sites in North Lincolnshire

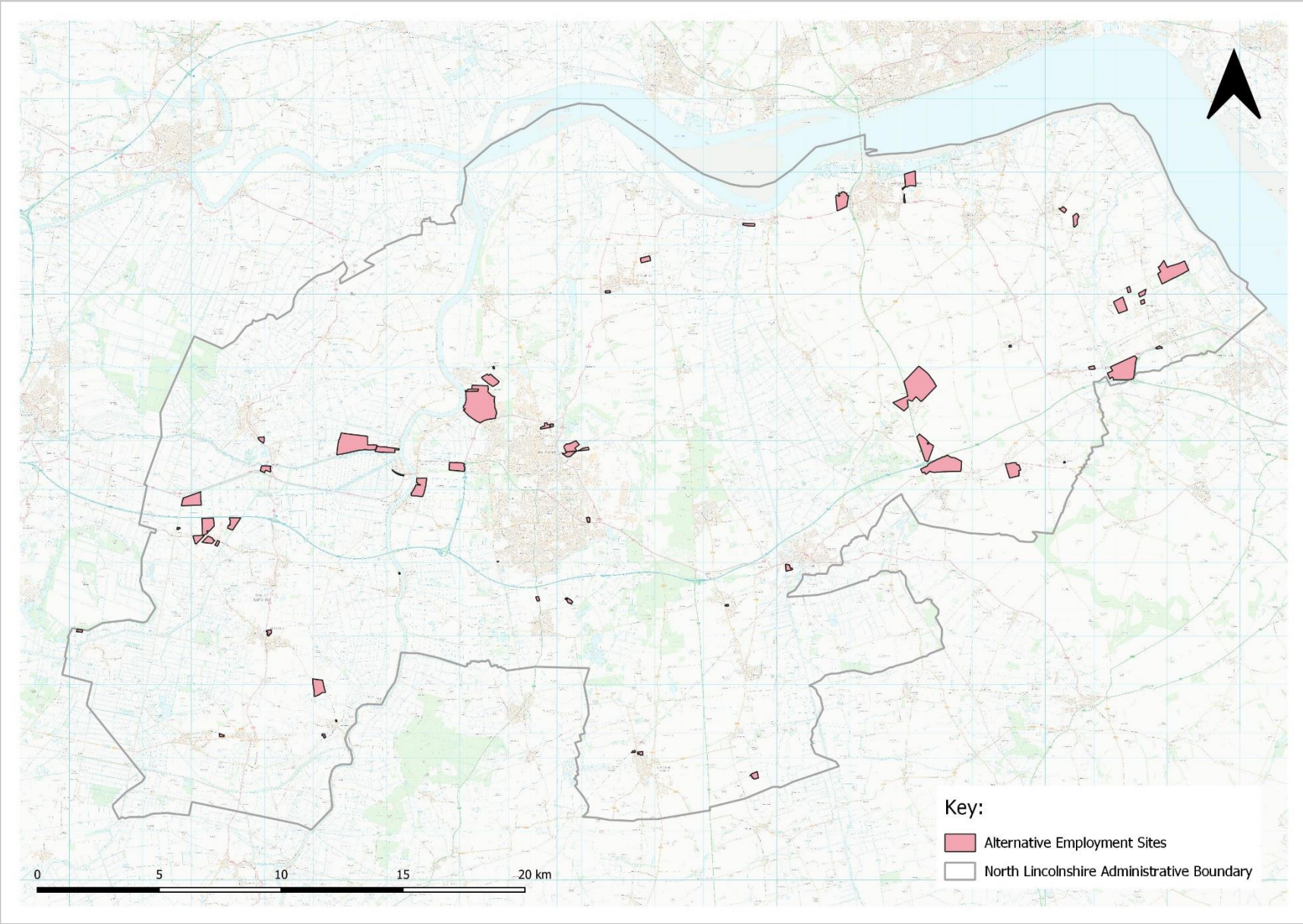


Table 6-22: SA assessment of reasonable alternative employment sites

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																													
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features															
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29	
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land	
7SFUU																														
0QC4D																														
5FNOZ																														
OAUYZ																														
JWG30																														
DAGAT																														
ZAVXP																														
49ZW8																														
XFZH8																														
AAAA7																														
EW3VR																														

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																																									
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features																											
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29													
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land													
7HMAF	Yellow	Green	Red	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red													
ZF4BB	Red	Red	Red							Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red							
UYPFV	Green	Green	Green							Green	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red							
XJPU5	Red	Red	Red							Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red						
5XSAB	Green	Red	Red							Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Green						
5VTAQ VTJA4	Red	Red	Red							Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Green	Green	Red	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red						
AAAA2	Yellow	Red	Red							Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red		Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red						
P4XUF ANMD9	Red	Green	Red							Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue		Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Green	Green						
AAA11	Red	Red	Red														Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Red	Red	Red
M1PDK	Red	Green	Red														Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
NET41	Red	Red	Red														Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red
0XCVJ	Green	Yellow	Red														Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Red	Red	Red

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features														
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
Z86DT																													
1RC40																													
61UTT																													
LV744																													
C1C4Z																													
YNJ43																													
TACME																													
1JGW3																													
532Z5																													
86UP3																													
A33D4																													
EOANO																													
592ZL																													

[illegible]

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																												
	Community Facilities														Environmental Features														
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20	SAC21	SAC22	SAC23	SAC24	SAC25	SAC26	SAC27	SAC28	SAC29
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland	Locally Designated Wildlife Site	Local Geological Site	WFD Surface Waterbody	Flood Zone	Source Protection Zone	AQMA	Mineral Resources	ALC Grade	Greenfield Land
FYFTH																													
GA6LM																													
K9CRM																													
0WTT3																													
R1NGX																													
T9E73																													
DWZH6																													
X3FDW																													
9XSIA																													
1HHJV																													
PCM78																													
ILVTO																													

Site Ref:	SA Site Assessment Criteria																			
	Community Facilities										Environmental Features									
	SAC1	SAC2	SAC3	SAC4	SAC5	SAC6	SAC7	SAC8	SAC9	SAC10	SAC11	SAC12	SAC13	SAC14	SAC15	SAC16	SAC17	SAC18	SAC19	SAC20
	GP Surgery	Health Centre	Dentist	Community Centre	Primary School	Secondary School	Further Education Facilities	Town Centre	Employment Centre	Railway Station	Bus Stop	Cycle Route	Open Space	Sports Facilities	Public Rights of Way	Community Recycling Centre	Scheduled Monument	Conservation Area	Nationally Designated Wildlife Site	Ancient Woodland
4FZYZ																				
0CZB9																				

Table 6-23: SA assessment scores and individual site rankings for the reasonable alternative employment sites

Site Ref:	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
UYPFV	16	1	14	16	30	1
X3FDW	13	3	16	10	29	2
592ZL	8	5	19	2	27	3
7Q2RO	0	21	22	1	22	4
EOANO	4	12	18	3	22	4
91GRT	4	12	18	3	22	4
532Z5	5	9	16	10	21	7
FM9OP	13	3	7	43	20	8
OAUYZ	16	1	4	54	20	8
86UP3	4	12	13	21	17	10
7HMAF	-2	30	18	3	16	11
P4XUF/ANMD9	-1	26	17	6	16	11
TACME	2	17	14	16	16	11
9XSIA	8	5	7	43	15	14
1JGW3	-4	32	17	6	13	15
0WTT3	4	12	9	36	13	15
61UTT	5	9	8	41	13	15
A33D4	-4	32	16	10	12	18
5XSAB	-1	26	13	21	12	18
NET41	-1	26	13	21	12	18
Z86DT	1	20	11	27	12	18
MXLQZ	7	7	5	52	12	18
FYFTH	-6	42	17	6	11	23
0CZB9	7	7	4	54	11	23
1RC4O	-5	36	15	14	10	25
EW3VR	-4	32	14	16	10	25
0QC4D	0	21	10	32	10	25
LV744/C1C4Z	0	21	10	32	10	25
R1NGX	0	21	10	32	10	25
AAAA2	4	12	6	49	10	25
0XCVJ	5	9	4	54	9	31
K052F	2	17	6	49	8	32
7KHM6	-7	45	14	16	7	33

Site Ref:	Site Assessment Criteria				Total score	Overall Rank
	Community Facilities	Community Facilities Rank	Environmental Features	Environmental Features Rank		
1HHJV	-5	36	12	26	7	33
AAA11	-5	36	11	27	6	35
4FZYZ	-9	48	14	16	5	36
M1PDK	-5	36	10	32	5	36
JWG30	-3	31	8	41	5	36
ZF4BB	-6	42	9	36	3	39
YNJ43	-5	36	7	43	2	40
DAGAT	-14	55	15	14	1	41
ILVTO	-12	51	13	21	1	41
XTCGW	2	17	-1	63	1	41
JDK33	-16	57	16	10	0	44
I9QP5	-9	48	9	36	0	44
PCM78	-9	48	9	36	0	44
K9CRM	-7	45	7	43	0	44
RIIFW	-7	45	6	49	-1	48
DWZH6	-13	53	11	27	-2	49
5VTAQ/VTJA4	-6	42	4	54	-2	49
T9E73	-5	36	3	59	-2	49
5FNOZ	-17	63	11	27	-6	52
AAAA7	-13	53	7	43	-6	52
GA6LM	-18	64	11	27	-7	54
49ZW8	-16	57	9	36	-7	54
XFZH8	-16	57	7	43	-9	56
7SFUU	-14	55	5	52	-9	56
ONISU	-12	51	3	59	-9	56
ZAVXP	-16	57	4	54	-12	59
XJPU5	-16	57	3	59	-13	60
4LG95	-16	57	-1	64	-17	61

Table 6-24: Percentage of reasonable alternative employment sites per site assessment category

Site Assessment Criteria:	Percentage Score				
	Community facilities				
	Very good	Good	Moderate	Poor	Very poor
SAC1	10.9	12.5	20.3	9.4	46.9
SAC2	15.6	14.1	3.1	1.6	65.6
SAC3	1.6	6.3	9.4	6.3	76.6
SAC4	n/a				
SAC5					
SAC6					
SAC7					
SAC8	15.6	9.4	3.1	4.7	67.2
SAC9	n/a				
SAC10	9.4	7.8	6.3	4.7	67.2
SAC11	37.5	23.4	12.5	6.3	20.3
SAC12	32.8	10.9	10.9	6.3	39.1
SAC13	35.9	35.9	12.5	7.8	7.8
SAC14	20.3	28.1	14.1	12.5	25.0
SAC15	48.4	20.3	6.3	9.4	15.6
SAC16	n/a				
Site Assessment Criteria:	Environmental features				
	Very low	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
SAC17	79.7	3.1	4.7	10.9	1.6
SAC18	100	n/a			0
SAC19	70.3	n/a		28.1	1.6
SAC20	96.9	1.6	0	1.6	0
SAC21	48.4	9.4	10.9	15.6	15.6
SAC22	98.4	n/a			1.6
SAC23	57.8	7.8	4.7	26.6	3.1
SAC24	n/a	60.9	n/a	39.1	n/a
SAC25	62.5	n/a	31.3	n/a	6.3
SAC26	87.5	n/a	4.7	1.6	6.3
SAC27	15.6	n/a	9.4	75.0	0
SAC28	7.8	n/a	4.7	43.8	43.8
SAC29	25.0	n/a			75.0

6.5.1 Summary of reasonable alternative employment sites assessment results

A summary description of the outcomes of the site assessment process is provided in Table 6-25.

Table 6-25: Summary of the results of the assessment of the reasonable alternative employment sites

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
Community facilities	SAC1	GP surgery	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>Assessment against these criteria considered accessibility to public healthcare facilities. The assessment identified that only a small proportion (23%) of alternative employment sites scored Good or Very Good for criterion SAC1, whilst 30% scored Good or Very Good respectively for SAC2. In relation to SAC3, only 8% of sites scored Very Good or Good. Conversely, the vast majority of sites scored Very Poor for all three criteria.</p> <p>Poor access to such facilities is likely to lead to a reliance on private car usage to access these facilities and also places strain on healthcare provision by increasing the need for and journey time for ambulance services.</p>
	SAC2	Health Centre		
	SAC3	Dentist practice		
	SAC8	Town centre	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed employee accessibility to community services and facilities, including general leisure and retail requirements, as represented by access to a defined town and district centres.</p> <p>A total of 25% of the alternative employment sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a town centre, indicating less than 15 minutes walking access. Conversely, 5% of sites scored Poor and 67% scored Very Poor for pedestrian access.</p> <p>Poor access to town centres will increase reliance on private car usage to enable employees to access key services and facilities during the working week.</p>
	SAC10	Railway station	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	<p>These two criteria considered employee access to public transport facilities. Over-reliance on private car as the principal means of travel to work has led to a range of environmental and social issues, including air pollution, reduced physical activity, and increasing social deprivation. Instead, provision should be made to enable and encourage employees to use public transport (as well as walking and cycling) to access work.</p> <p>In relation to SAC 10, only 9% scored Very Good for walking access to a railway station (i.e., <10 minutes walking distance), with a further 8% scoring Good. Conversely, 72% of sites scored Poor (>1.2km) or Very Poor (>1.6km) for access to a railway station. These results demonstrate the relatively limited rail access in North Lincolnshire.</p> <p>In relation to SAC11, 61% of sites scored Good or Very Good for access to a bus stop, whilst 27% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor.</p>
	SAC11	Bus stop		
	SAC12	Cycle route	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Local economy (12), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed accessibility to all Council defined cycle routes. Accessibility to such routes is important as it helps enable employees to cycle to work. Increasing access to cycle routes could deliver a range of sustainability benefits, including improved health and reduced carbon emissions from transport and associated improvements in air quality.</p> <p>A total of 44% of the employment sites had Good or Very Good access to a defined cycle route. Conversely, 45% of sites were assessed as Poor or Very Poor.</p>
	SAC13	Publicly accessible open space	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	<p>This criterion assessed access to publicly accessible open space. Such areas are important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and recreation activities. They are also important components of local landscapes and important biodiversity assets.</p> <p>A total of 72% of proposed employment sites scored Very Good (<5 minutes walking distance) or Good (<10 minutes) for access to at least one area of open space. Conversely, 15% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor.</p>
	SAC14	Sports and recreation facilities	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10),	<p>This criterion assessed accessibility to community sports and recreation facilities, including playing fields. It did not consider private facilities likely to require private membership for access.</p> <p>The assessment showed that 48% of the employment sites scored Very Good or Good for access to a</p>

	Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
Environmental features			Material assets (13).	sports/recreation facility. Conversely, 37% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor. Access to such facilities is vital to support improvements in community wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and supports several other key objectives e.g., landscape character, biodiversity, air quality and carbon emissions. Good access for workers will encourage healthy lifestyles during the working week and can alleviate work-related stress and anxiety, which can improve economic productivity.
	SAC15	Public rights of way	Climate (7), Social deprivation (9), Healthy and active lifestyles (10), Material assets (13).	This criterion assessed access to defined public rights of way (footpaths and bridleways). These are important community assets, connecting areas and communities, facilitating access to key services and facilities, and supporting a range of recreation and leisure pursuits. They are also important components supporting community health and wellbeing and can help facilitate pedestrian and bicycle access to employment sites. The assessment showed that 69% of employment sites scored Very Good or Good for access to at least one public right of way, indicating less than 5 minutes walking distance. Conversely, 25% of sites scored Poor or Very Poor (>10 minutes walking distance).
	SAC17	Scheduled monument	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Historic environment (8).	These two criteria considered access and risk to key heritage assets in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that 83% of employment sites represent Low or Very Low risk to a Scheduled Monument (SAC17) and 100% of sites represented a Very Low risk to a Conservation Area. One site was located within the boundary of a Scheduled Monument, with a further six sites in close proximity to a Schedule Monument.
	SAC18	Conservation Area		
	SAC19	Internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Climate (7).	These three criteria assessed accessibility and risks to a range of important nature conservation features, including designated wildlife sites and areas of ancient woodland. These features represent key biodiversity assets and heritage features (ancient woodland) and support a wide range of other environmental, social and economic components, including community health and wellbeing and the local tourism and visitor economy. The assessment identified that 70% of employment sites were Very Low risk in relation to internationally and nationally designated wildlife sites. Conversely, 28% of employment sites were assessed as High risk and one site (4LG95) was located within the boundary of a designated site. In relation to SAC20, 98% of sites were assessed as Low or Very Low risk. One site was assessed as being within 200m of an area of ancient woodland. In relation to SAC21, 58% of employment sites were Low or Very Low risk, whilst 31% of sites were assessed as either High or Very High risk. Of these, two of the employment sites intersect a locally designated wildlife site.
	SAC20	Ancient woodland		
	SAC21	Locally designated wildlife sites		
	SAC22	Local geological site	Landscape (1), Climate (7)	This criterion considered accessibility and risk to local geological assets, including Council-defined local geological sites and Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). The assessment identified that 98% of the proposed sites scored Very Low risk, indicating that they do not intersect with a designated site. However, one site (AAAA7) intersects a local geological site and is assessed as having Very High risk.
	SAC23	WFD waterbody	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed risk to Water Framework Directive (WFD) waterbodies; these represent the main watercourses in North Lincolnshire and are protected under the provisions of the WFD. Watercourses provide a wide range of services and functions; they are key components of the landscape and provide water resources for local communities and businesses; they support biodiversity and are key heritage features. They also important social hubs and support community health and wellbeing and a wide range of leisure and

Site Assessment Criteria		Relevant SA Objective(s)	Assessment summary
			recreation activities. The assessment identified that 65% of sites are Low or Very Low risk in relation to a WFD waterbody. However, two sites were assessed as Very High risk (intersect a waterbody), whilst a further 26% of sites were considered to be High risk (within 200m of a waterbody).
SAC24	Flood zones	Landscape (1), Flood risk (4), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed the risk of flooding to new development using the Council-defined flood zones from the North Lincolnshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The assessment showed that 61% of the sites were Low risk (outside Flood Zones 2 or 3), whilst 40% of sites were High risk (within either Flood Zone 2 or 3) and therefore are at risk of flooding.
SAC25	Source Protection Zone (SPZ)	Landscape (1), Water environment (3), Climate (7).	This criterion considered risks to groundwater Source Protection Zones, which are important areas supporting local and regional potable water supplies. The assessment identified that 62% of sites were Very Low risk and are located outside of a SPZ. 31% of sites were located in SPZ2 (outer zone) or 3 (total catchment). In addition, four sites were located within SPZ1 (inner zone) and were therefore assessed as having Very High risk.
SAC26	Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Landscape (1), Air quality (6), Climate (7).	There is one AQMA in North Lincolnshire, in Scunthorpe Town Centre. This assessment identified that 87% of sites were more than 1.2km from the AQMA area and therefore considered to be Very Low risk. However, four sites were located within the AQMA (Very High risk) and a further site was located within 800m of the AQMA (High risk).
SAC27	Designated mineral resources	Landscape (1), Climate (7), Local economy (12), Mineral resources (14).	This criterion considered accessibility and risks to defined strategically important minerals resources as defined by Mineral Safeguarding Areas. Minerals extraction forms a key component of the local economy and these areas have been defined to minimise inappropriate development that might hinder the future exploitation of these resources. The assessment identified that 16% of sites were located outside of a safeguarding area and therefore represent Very Low risk to minerals resources. None of the sites were within a safeguarding area; however, 75% of sites were within a defined buffer zone around a safeguarding area and are therefore assessed as High risk.
SAC28	Agricultural productivity	Landscape (1), Land (5), Climate (7), Local economy (12).	This criterion assesses risk to important soil resources and agricultural productivity in North Lincolnshire. It uses the Agricultural Land Classification (ALC), which splits agricultural land into 5 main zones, with zones 1-3 representing the most productive land (with 1 representing the best land). Agriculture is a central component of the economy in North Lincolnshire. The assessment identified that only 8% of employment sites were Very Low risk to agricultural productivity, being located outside of any of the five ALC gradings. However, 44% of sites intersected ALC Grade 3 land and a further 44% of sites intersected ALC Grade 1 or 2 land.
SAC29	Greenfield land	Landscape (1), Biodiversity (2), Land (5), Climate (7).	This criterion assessed whether a proposed development site is located on undeveloped (greenfield) land. Greenfield land represents a valuable component of the local landscape, supports soil resources in the area and is home to a range of important and protected wildlife. Greenfield land adsorbs rainfall, reducing flood risk and improving water quality in receiving waters, filters air pollutants, and sequesters carbon. It also represents important open space and is a component of community health and wellbeing. The assessment identified that only 25% of the sites were not on greenfield land, whilst 75% of sites were located on greenfield land.

7 Cumulative effects

A summary of the predicted cumulative effects of the proposed policies is provided in Table 7-1. A description of these effects in relation to each of the SA objectives is then provided in section 7-1 to 7-14.

Table 7-1: Outcomes of the SA of the Publication Draft proposed policies

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SS1	Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
SS2	Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire	✓✓?	✓	X	X?	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	0
SS3	Development Principles	✓✓	✓✓?	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
SS4	Neighbourhood Planning in North Lincolnshire	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	✓?	✓	0
SS5	Overall Housing Provision	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
SS6	Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
SS7	Strategic Site Allocation – Lincolnshire Lakes	✓?	✓/X	X?	✓	X	✓/X	X	✓/X	✓	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	0
SS8	Employment Land Requirement (including Strategic Employment Sites)	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS9	Land at North Killingholme Airfield	X	X	✓/X	✓/X	0	X	X	0	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS10	Strategic Site Allocation – South Humber Bank	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	0	X	X	0	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	0
SS11	Development Limits	✓	✓?	0	0	✓	✓/X	✓?	0	0	✓?	X?	0	✓	✓?
H1	Site Allocations	✓/X	✓/X	X	X?	0	X	X	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
H2	Housing Mix & Density	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓	0	0
H3	Affordable Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓	✓?	✓/X	0
H4	Specialist and Supported Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓	0
H5	Housing for Older People	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓	0
H6	North Lincolnshire's Travelling Communities	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	✓	✓?	✓✓	0	0	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
H7	New Agricultural Workers or Forestry Dwellings	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓✓	✓	0	0
H8	Replacement, Alteration & Extensions to Dwellings in the Open Countryside	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	0
H9	Self-Build & Custom Build	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	0
H10	Flats Above Shops & the Use of Vacant Buildings for Housing	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	0
H11	Backland & Tandem Development	✓	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	0
H12	Houses in Multiple Occupation	✓?	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓/X	✓?	✓	0	✓✓	0
H13	Children's Homes	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓?	0	0	✓	0
EC1	Employment Land Supply	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	0
EC2	Existing Employment Areas	✓	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
EC3	Defined Industrial Buffer Areas	✓	✓✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
EC4	South Humber Bank – Landscape Initiative	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
EC5	Wharves	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0
EC6	Supporting the Rural Economy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
EC7	A Sustainable Visitor Economy	✓	✓/X	X?	0	0	X?	X?	✓	✓?	0	X?	✓	X?	0
TC1	Retail Hierarchy & Town Centre & District Centre Development	✓?	0	✓?	0	0	X?	X?	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓	0
TC2	Placemaking & Good Urban Design	✓✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	X?	X?	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	0
RD1	Supporting Sustainable Development in the Countryside	✓	✓/X	0	0	✓	0	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓?	0
DQE1	Protection of Landscape, Townscape & Views	✓✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	✓	✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DQE2	Landscape Enhancement	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0
DQE3	Biodiversity & Geodiversity	✓✓?	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0	✓/X	0	0
DQE4	Local Nature Reserves	✓	✓✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0	✓/X	0	0
DQE5	Managing Flood Risk	✓?	✓?	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓	0	0	0	X?	✓/X	0	0
DQE6	Sustainable Drainage Systems	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓	0	0	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0
DQE7	Climate Change & Low Carbon Living	✓?	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓?	✓	✓?	✓	0
DQE8	Renewable Energy Proposals	X?	X?	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0
DQE9	Local Green Space	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	0
DQE10	Important Open Space	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0
DQE11	Green Infrastructure Network	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓?	0
DQE12	Protection of Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows	✓	✓✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0
HE1	Conserving & Enhancing the Historic Environment	✓✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	0
HE2	Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest	✓✓	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓✓	✓?	✓	0	✓?	0	0
CSC1	Health & Wellbeing	✓?	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓✓?	✓✓?	✓	✓?	✓	0
CSC2	Health Care Provision	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
CSC3	Protection & Provision of Open Space, Sports & Recreation Facilities	✓✓?	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓✓?	✓✓	0	✓?	✓✓	0
CSC4	Allotments	✓?	✓	0	✓?	✓	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	✓	0	0	✓?	0
CSC5	Golf Courses	✓	✓	X?	0	✓	✓?	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	✓	✓	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
CSC6	Water Based Leisure	✓	✓	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	✓	0	✓	0	0
CSC7	Commercial Horse Riding Establishments	✓	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	✓?	0	✓?	0	✓	0	0
CSC8	Educational Facilities	✓?	X/✓	X?	0	X?	X?	X/✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC9	Nursery & Children's Day Care Provision	0	0	0	0	0	X?	X?	0	0	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC10	Community Facilities & Services	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓✓	0
CSC11	Entertainment & Cultural Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓✓	0
CSC12	Restaurants & Hot Food Takeaway Establishments	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	✓	0	0
CSC13	Burial Grounds & Cemetery Provision	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
CSC14	Churches, Prayer Houses & Other Places of Worship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	0
CSC15	Tourism & Visitor Attractions	✓?	✓?	✓/X	✓?	✓?	X?	X?	✓?	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0
CSC16	Hotel & Guest House Accommodation	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	0	✓	0	0	X?	✓	0	0
CSC17	Camping & Caravan Sites	0	X	0	✓	0	X?	X?	0	✓?	✓	0	✓	0	0
MIN1	Mineral Supply Requirements	XX?	XX?	0	0	X	X	XX?	0	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
MIN2	Mineral Safeguarding	✓?	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓
MIN3	Mineral Extraction	✓	✓	✓	0	X?	✓	X	✓	0	0	0	✓	0	✓✓
MIN4	Recycled & Secondary Aggregates	✓	✓?	0	0	✓?	X	X	✓?	✓	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓
MIN5	Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas / Hydrocarbons)	X?	X?	X?	0	X?	X?	✓/X	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	✓✓?
MIN6	Mineral Sites	X	X	X?	0	✓/X	X	X	0	✓?	0	0	✓✓	0	✓✓

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
MIN7	Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction	X?	✓?	0	0	X?	0	0	X?	0	0	0	✓?	0	✓
MIN8	Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	✓?	0	✓?	0	✓
WAS1	Waste Management Principles	✓/X	✓	0	0	0	✓/X	✓/X	✓/X	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS2	Waste Facilities	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	X	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS3	Waste Management Provision	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	✓	0
WAS4	Safeguarding Existing Waste Sites & Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	0
WAS5	Wastewater Treatment	X?	✓/X	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓?	0	0	0	0	0
WAS6	Waste Management in Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0
WAS7	Restoration & Aftercare	✓	✓✓?	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0
T1	Promoting Sustainable Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0
T2	Promoting Public Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0
T3	New Development & Transport	0	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	0	0	✓?	✓	0
T4	Parking	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0
T5	Cycle & Motorcycle Parking	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓?	0
T6	Freight	X	X?	X?	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0
T7	Safeguarding Transport Infrastructure	X	X	X	0	X?	✓?	X?	0	0	0	0	✓	✓	0
T8	Safeguarding Aviation	0	0	0	0	0	X?	X?	✓?	✓?	0	0	✓	✓?	0
DM1	General Requirements	✓✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	✓?	✓	0

Policy		SA Objective													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DM2	Temporary Buildings	✓?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	0	0	✓	0	0
DM3	Environmental Protection	✓	✓	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	0	✓?	0	0
DM4	Telecommunications & Broadband	0	0	0	0	0	✓?	✓?	0	✓	✓?	0	✓	✓✓	0
DM5	Advertisements & Shop Fronts	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0
ID1	Delivering Infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

7.1 SA Objective 1: Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly positive or neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. In particular, significant positive effects or potentially significant effects are predicted in relation to policies SS2, SS3, DQE1, DQE2, DQE3, HE1, HE2, CSC3 and DM1. Policies SS2 and SS3 set out the proposed Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire and the overarching Development Principles, respectively. Policies DQE1, DQE2p and DQE3p set out policies in relation to landscape protection, landscape enhancement and biodiversity and geodiversity respectively, whilst policies HE1 and HE2 concern protecting the historic environment and the Isle of Axholme Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest, respectively. Policy CSC3 sets out the policy in relation to the protection of open space and sports and recreation facilities, and policy DM1 considers general planning requirements.

Several policies were assessed as having the potential for a negative effect in relation to this SA objective. Minor negative effects were predicted for policies SS8, EC1, MIN6, T6 and T7. Policies SS8 and EC1 concern the allocation of employment land in North Lincolnshire, including strategic employment sites. Policy MIN6 sets out the Council's proposed minerals sites allocations, whilst policies T6 and T7 concern new freight infrastructure and highway infrastructure, respectively.

A potential significant negative effect is predicted in relation to policy MIN1, which seeks to ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals across the plan period, from both existing operational sites, additional allocations and new sites.

Many of the proposed policies specifically incorporate controls on new development proposals, requiring development to either assess its impact on the local landscape and provide appropriate mitigation or demonstrate that it will not have an unacceptable adverse effect on the local landscape. Several policies require development proposals to deliver landscape enhancement and several require the delivery of appropriate landscaping schemes to screen development and mitigate impacts on landscape character and visual amenity. This embeds landscape protection within many of the policies, which is further supported through the simultaneous application of the principal landscape protection policies DQE1 and DQE2.

Given the range of landscape protection provided across the range of proposed policies, it is considered that overall there will be a minor positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 1.

7.2 SA Objective 2: Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species

In relation to SA Objective 2, which seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, the SA identified that the Local Plan will have predominantly minor positive or neutral effects. In addition, significant impacts or potential significant impacts are predicted for policies SS3, EC3, EC4, DQE3, DQE4, and DQE12. The policies pre-fixed DQE are set out under the Local Plan theme 'delivering a quality environment' and seek to provide policy provisions to protect biodiversity (and geodiversity) in North Lincolnshire, as well as designated nature conservation sites and wildlife features (trees, woodland and hedgerows).

Minor negative effects are predicted in relation to policies SS8 (employment land requirements), EC1 (employment land supply), which allocates specific employment sites in North Lincolnshire, DQE9 (renewable energy), CSC8 (educational facilities), CSC17 (caravan and camping sites), MIN5 (hydrocarbons), MIN6 (minerals sites), MIN7 (borrow pits and ancillary development), T6 (freight development) and T7 (new highways development).

A potential significant adverse effect is predicted in relation to policy MIN1, which sets out the supply of minerals across the plan period, from both existing operational sites, additional allocations and new sites.

Positive and negative effects are predicted for a small number of policies, many of which are under the spatial strategy theme in the Local Plan, which set out the overarching strategic policies that will apply to new development proposals. Whilst many of these policies include provision that requires new development to effectively manage adverse impacts on the natural environment or biodiversity specifically, it is considered that on balance, increased development and an increasing population is likely to have negative effects on biodiversity.

Simultaneous application of policies DQE3 to DQE4p, which represent the principle policies affording protection and enhancement of biodiversity in North Lincolnshire, together with the requirements of the Habitat Regulations and other wildlife policy and legislation should ensure that any development proposals do not have a significant negative effect on biodiversity in the area.

A significant number of policies are assessed as likely to have a neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. Typically, such policies set out specific design requirements for new development, rather than proposing new development, or are likely to be applied in locations (urban centres) where risks to biodiversity are generally lower.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed policies will have a neutral to minor positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 2.

7.3 SA Objective 3: Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters

The majority of proposed policies are assessed as likely to have either a neutral or a minor positive effect on this SA objective. No significant positive effects are predicted, which perhaps reflects the lack of a specific policy encompassing the protection of water quality or water resources in North Lincolnshire. However, approximately a third of the policies are assessed as likely to have a minor positive effect or have the potential for a minor positive effect.

Several policies are predicted to have a minor adverse effect or the potential for an adverse effect. These policies are mainly grouped under the spatial strategy theme, although several policies under the creating sustainable communities and minerals themes have the potential for a negative impact. Policies under the housing needs theme are predicted to have largely neutral impacts, which reflects the requirements to effectively protect the environment incorporated into many of these policies. The policies under the delivering jobs and supporting the local economy theme are also predicted to have neutral impacts or minor positive impacts, which again reflects the policy requirements to demonstrate risks to the water environment have been effectively addressed. Despite these policy requirements, development provided for under policies H1 (housing allocations) and EC1 (employment allocations) in particular could put additional pressure on water resources and water quality in North Lincolnshire, particularly given growing concerns over water demand and a water supply deficit in the future.

Notwithstanding this, an overall mixed neutral to minor positive cumulative effect is predicted in relation to SA Objective 3.

7.4 SA Objective 4: Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new developments are at risk

Flood risk is a significant issue in North Lincolnshire with extensive areas located within areas at high risk of flooding from main rivers and the sea, including the Humber, Trent and Ancholme.

Overall, the majority of Local Plan policies are predicted to have a neutral or minor positive effect in relation to this SA objective. Significant positive effects are predicted for policies

SS3 (development principles), DQE5 (managing flood risk) and DQE6 (sustainable drainage systems).

Potential minor negative effects are predicted for policies SS2 (spatial strategy), SS5 (overall housing provision), SS6 (spatial distribution of housing sites) and H1p (housing allocations). However, simultaneous application of policies DQE5 and DQE6, as well as national policy and guidance on flood risk and provisions in the North Lincolnshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), should ensure that all new development effectively manages flood risk.

Therefore, in relation to SA Objective 4, which considers the risk of flooding to both new development and existing communities, the proposed Local Plan policies are anticipated to have a neutral to minor positive cumulative effect.

7.5 SA Objective 5: Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources

The high-quality soils in North Lincolnshire support two of the principal components of the local economy: agriculture and minerals extraction. Effective protection of soil quality is therefore fundamental to the long-term, sustainable management and growth of the economy and the wellbeing of many local communities, particularly in rural areas, whilst also of vital importance to the environmental health of the area.

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly neutral or minor positive effect in relation to this SA objective. No significant positive effects are predicted, which reflects the lack of a specific policy in relation to the protection of soil resources in North Lincolnshire.

Minor adverse effects or potential minor adverse effects are predicted in relation to several policies: SS7 (Lincolnshire Lakes strategic site allocation), CSC8 (educational facilities), MIN1 (minerals supply), MIN3 (minerals extraction), MIN5 (hydrocarbons), MIN7 (borrow pits and ancillary development) and T7 (transport infrastructure). Several of these policies are grouped under the sustainable supply of minerals theme and the SA reflects the potential conflict between safeguarding the current and future supply of a range of economically important minerals and the objective to protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources. These policies should be considered further to ensure effective policy provision is incorporated to mitigate any adverse effects on soil resources, particularly the best and most versatile soils or soils in highly sensitive natural environments.

Overall, it is considered that there will be a neutral to minor positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 5.

7.6 SA Objective 6: Improve local air quality

Overall, the SA identified that the majority of Local Plan proposed policies would have a neutral or minor positive effect in relation to SA Objective 6. Approximately a third of policies are predicted to have a minor positive effect or have the potential for a minor positive effect in relation to air quality; many of these policies are within the connecting North Lincolnshire themes, which sets out transport-related policies, and the sustainable development in North Lincolnshire's countryside and creating sustainable communities themes. The policies within the connecting North Lincolnshire theme set out the policy provisions guiding new transport infrastructure or the requirement for new housing and employment development to incorporate effective transport or transport-related infrastructure. Many of these policies embed a presumption in favour of sustainable transport, requiring development to minimise the requirement for travel and providing adequate provision to encourage access to public transport. Given the impact that private car usage has on air quality, prioritising other modes of transport has the potential to deliver local air quality improvements.

Notwithstanding this, 18 policies are predicted to have a minor adverse effect or the potential for a minor adverse effect in relation to this objective. The majority of these policies are grouped under the spatial strategy and minerals supply themes. The SA

considers that many of the spatial strategy policies, which set the strategic policy objectives for North Lincolnshire and the overall scale of development and growth, do not provide adequate safeguards in relation to air quality. In relation to minerals development, the SA acknowledges the potentially substantial air quality issues that large-scale minerals extraction can have, including the processing and transportation of minerals resources. Again, it is concluded that these policies do not effectively ensure minerals development, particularly new minerals development, adequately mitigates these risks.

7.7 SA Objective 7: Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Climate change is a global issue that will have a range of adverse effects in North Lincolnshire, such as increased pressures on water resources, biodiversity and landscape character, increased fluvial flood risk, increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such droughts and overheating in the summer, changes in agricultural productivity, and increased risks to community health and wellbeing. The UK Government has set challenging greenhouse gas emissions targets and published even more challenging ambitions; however, significant and far-reaching work needs to be done if emissions reduction targets are to be met.

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a wide range of sustainability outcomes in relation to climate change. Approximately a quarter of the policies are predicted to have a neutral effect, whilst just over a third of policies are assessed as having a positive effect or potential for a positive effect. Conversely, almost a quarter of policies are predicted to have an adverse effect or potential for a minor effect, with one policy, MIN1 (minerals supply), assessed as having potential for a significant adverse impact.

All of the policies grouped under the delivering a quality environment theme are predicted to have a positive effect in relation to this objective, with Policy DQE7, which specifically considers climate change and low carbon living, assessed as likely to have a significant positive effect. In addition, several of the policies under the creating sustainable communities and connecting North Lincolnshire themes are predicted to have largely positive effects. Many of these policies seek to deliver development that manages and mitigates climate change risks, whilst the transport-related policies promote low carbon modes of transport in preference to private car usage.

Several of the policies grouped under the spatial strategy and minerals supply themes are predicted to have minor negative effects. Many of these policies propose significant new development in the short to medium terms, which will lead to significant greenhouse gas emissions during both the construction and the operation/occupation of the development. Existing and new minerals development in particular has the potential to generate significant greenhouse gas emissions. This is reflected in the potential significant negative impact predicted for policy MIN1; 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. However, MIN1 fails to recognise the potential significant emissions associated with such development and does not contain any provisions requiring minerals development to effectively manage or mitigate its climate change impacts.

Given the range of policy provision across the policies and the range of associated effects that are predicted, it is considered that overall there will be a minor negative to a minor positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 7.

7.8 SA Objective 8: Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly positive or neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. In particular, significant positive effects are predicted in relation to policies HE1 and HE2, which represent the principal policies in

relation to protection of the historic environment and the Isle of Axholme Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest, respectively.

A potential minor negative effect is predicted in relation to policy MIN7, which sets out the policy in relation to borrow pits and ancillary minerals development, which could adversely affect an archaeological remains disturbed by the development.

Many of the proposed policies specifically incorporate controls on new development proposals, requiring development to either assess its impact on natural or built environment, including the historic environment, and provide appropriate mitigation or demonstrate that it will not have an unacceptable adverse effect. Several policies require development proposals to deliver enhancements. This embeds protection within many of the policies, which is further supported through the simultaneous application of the principal landscape protection policies HE1 and HE2.

Given the range of protection provided for the historic environment across the range of proposed policies, it is considered that overall there will be a minor positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 8.

7.9 SA Objective 9: Reduce deprivation

In relation to SA Objective 9, which seeks to reduce social deprivation in North Lincolnshire and the causes of social deprivation, such as poverty and social exclusion, crime and the fear of crime, education attainment and access to training, services and facilities, the SA identified that the Local Plan will have predominantly minor positive effects, with several policies predicted to have significant positive effects.

No policies are predicted to have a negative effect, with the exception of policy H12, which considers houses in multiple occupation; this policy could indirectly result in the concentration of deprived social groups.

Overall, it is considered that the proposed policies will have a minor positive to significant positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 9.

7.10 SA Objective 10: Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly positive or neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. In particular, significant positive effects or potentially significant effects are predicted in relation to policies DQE11, CSC1 and CSC3. Policy DQE11 sets out North Lincolnshire Council's objective to maintain and improve the green infrastructure network in the area; good access to high-quality green space is a key component underpinning the multi-faceted approach to promoting healthy and active lifestyles and by requiring new developments to contribute to the establishment of green infrastructure, the policy will likely result in improved access. Policy CSC1 concerns community health and wellbeing, whilst policy CSC3 also supports access to open space and sports and recreation facilities. Both policies are likely to support more positive health outcomes for local communities.

A minor negative impact is predicted in relation to policy CSC12; by permitting restaurant and hot food takeaway establishments, the policy may encourage dietary choices that conflict with the objective to promote healthy lifestyles.

Given the range of policy provisions contained within the Publication Draft Local Plan, it is considered that overall there will be a minor positive to significant positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 10.

7.11 SA Objective 11: Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly minor positive or neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. However, significant positive

effects are predicted in relation to 10 policies, which are grouped under the spatial strategy and housing needs themes.

The potential for minor negative effects are identified in relation to three policies: EC7 (sustainable visitor economy), where increased visitor demand for accommodation could compete with housing provision for local communities and policy; DQE5 (managing flood risk), where the policy has the potential to constrain the delivery of new housing development; and CSC16 (hotel and guest house accommodation), where change of use of existing residential premises, could indirectly result in decreased access to affordable housing, particularly in rural areas.

Overall, it is considered that there will be a minor positive to significant positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 11.

7.12 SA Objective 12: Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy

Overall, the SA identified that the majority of Local Plan proposed policies would have a minor positive or significant positive effect in relation to SA Objective 12. Two thirds of the proposed policies are assessed as having a minor positive effect or potential for a minor positive effect, whilst a further six policies are assessed as likely to have a significant positive effect. These positive effects are predicted across almost the full range of policy themes.

Significant positive effects are predicted in relation to policies: SS2 (spatial strategy), SS8 (employment land requirement), SS9 (South Humber Bank strategic site allocation), EC1 (employment land supply), MIN1 (minerals supply), MIN4 (recycled and secondary aggregates) and MIN6 (minerals site allocations).

Potential minor negative effects are predicted for policies DQE3 (biodiversity and geodiversity), DQE4 (local nature reserves) and DQE5 (managing flood risk), although these effects are balanced against potential positive effects on the local economy associated with these policies.

7.13 SA Objective 13: Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities

The assessment identified that the Local Plan policies will have a predominantly positive or neutral effect in relation to this SA objective. A total of 35 policies are assessed as having a minor positive effect or potential for a minor positive effect, whilst 46 policies are assessed as having a neutral impact.

Of particular note, significant positive effects are predicted in relation to the following six policies: SS2 (spatial strategy), H12 (houses in multiple occupation), SCS3 (open space, sports and recreation facilities), CSC10 (community facilities and services), CSC11 (entertainment and cultural facilities) and DM4 (telecommunications and broadband).

Minor adverse effects or potential minor adverse effects are noted in relation to two policies: H3 (affordable housing), where an increasing population and increased affordable housing provision could cause increased demand for certain services and facilities; and EC7 (visitor economy), where increased visitor demand for services and facilities could have an adverse impact on the provision of such services/facilities for local communities.

However, given the range of policies promoting access to services and facilities across the range of policy themes, it is considered that overall there will be a minor positive to significant positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 13.

7.14 SA Objective 14: Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources

The majority (85%) of proposed policies are assessed as likely to have a neutral impact in relation to this SA objective. This is because most policies do not concern the management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources or are unlikely to affect mineral resources, either directly or indirectly.

Many of the policies under the sustainable supply of minerals theme are predicted to have a significant positive effect or potential for a significant positive effect, with several other policies predicted to have a minor positive effect. Together these policies seek to promote the sustainable management of minerals and their future exploitation.

No adverse effects are predicted.

Overall, the Local Plan policies are considered likely to have a significant positive cumulative effect in relation to SA Objective 14.

8 Monitoring and next steps

8.1 Monitoring the predicted significant impacts of the Local Plan

The significant sustainability effects of implementing a Local Plan must be monitored in order to identify unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action. The SA Framework contained in this report includes suggested indicators in order to monitor each of the sustainability objectives. These are shown in Table 8-1 below; however, these may not all be collected due to resource limitation and difficulty in data availability or collection.

Guidance stipulates that it is not necessary to monitor everything included within the SA Framework, but that monitoring should focus on significant sustainability effects.

Upon adoption, the Local Plan will be accompanied by an Adoption Statement, which will outline those monitoring indicators most appropriate for future monitoring of the Plan in line with Regulation 16 of the SEA Regulations 2004.

Table 8-1: Proposed criteria to be used to monitor predicted significant impacts of the Local Plan

SA receptor	SA objective	Monitoring indicators
Landscape character	1 Protect and enhance the integrity and quality of North Lincolnshire's urban and rural landscapes, maintaining local character and sense of place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in quality of landscape character and condition. The condition and quality of new characteristics introduced to the environment. Percentage of open countryside. Change in areas designated for their landscape value.
Biodiversity and nature conservation	2 Protect and enhance biodiversity, habitats and species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition of designated sites. Planning applications refused/granted in designated sites, green wedges, wildlife corridors, and other areas of biodiversity value. Number of planning applications granted with conditions/obligations requiring biodiversity enhancement. Area of biodiversity habitat delivered through strategic site allocations. Percentage of land designated as nature conservation sites as a result of Local Plan policies. Completed development that has resulted in the loss or creation/restoration of priority habitats. Percentage of farmland with agri-environment schemes or within positive management agreements. Biodiversity net gain delivered through development.
Water environment	3 Protect and improve the quality and quantity of the water in North Lincolnshire's surface and groundwaters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality of the area's watercourses. Number of pollution incidents. Number of SuDS schemes installed. Number of schemes contributing to WFD objectives. Percentage of waterbodies achieving 'Good' overall status and improving in status.
	4 Reduce the risk of flooding to existing communities and ensure no new	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of developments accompanied by a Surface Water Management Plans. Number of SuDS schemes installed. Percentage of households at risk of flooding.

SA receptor	SA objective	Monitoring indicators
		developments are at risk.
Land	5	Protect North Lincolnshire's important soil resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new developments (in areas at risk of flooding) incorporating flood risk mitigation. • Area of greenfield land, or land of high environmental value (important for flood management, biodiversity or climate change mitigation/adaptation), affected by development. • Number of developments on brownfield land. • Areas of ALC grading 1 and 2 lost to development. • Number of land remediation schemes.
Air quality	6	Improve local air quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of transport modal shift across North Lincolnshire. • Exceedances of air quality objectives. • Nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate emissions. • Deposition rates of air pollutants on land important for biodiversity and comparison to critical loads. • Population living in AQMAs. • Number of complaints received regarding odour nuisance.
Climate	7	Reduce the impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total greenhouse gas emissions in North Lincolnshire. • Improvements to quality and quantity of the Green Infrastructure network in North Lincolnshire. • New development achieving 'good', 'very good' or 'excellent' BREEAM or EcoHomes rating. • Proportion of total electricity consumption from renewable sources. • Energy and water use per household. • Condition of designated sites. • Waste to landfill, recycling and composting rates. • Peak traffic flows. • Number of public transport services and cycle routes created. • % change in number of people using public transport.
Historic environment	8	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning applications granted/refused that affect the designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings. • Loss of, or damage to, heritage assets including the historic landscape. • Number of heritage assets on the Heritage at Risk and Lincolnshire Heritage at Risk registers. • % change in number of visits to historic sites. • Number of heritage assets provided with interpretation and made accessible to the public. • Number of planning applications where archaeological investigations were required prior to and/or following planning approval. • Number of archaeological reports and archives deposited with and added to the Historic Environment Record. • Number of high-quality historic farmstead conversions.
Population	9	Reduce deprivation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local and sub-regional measurements of deprivation.

SA receptor	SA objective	Monitoring indicators
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life expectancy between wards. Crime rates. Self-reported measure of people's feeling of safety. Rates of participation of democratic processes. Inequality measures, such as education/attainment levels and wages. % BME working age people in employment.
	10 Promote healthy and active lifestyles in North Lincolnshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life expectancy rates. Death rates for cancer, circulatory disease, accidents and suicides. All-age all-cause mortality rates. Obesity levels. Number of people exercising regularly. Self-reported measure of people's overall health and wellbeing.
	11 Improve access to affordable housing and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures within local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of housing completions and projected completions. Housing quality in new housing development based on Building for Life Assessments. Net additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches. Number of households living in temporary accommodation. Homelessness rates.
Local economy	12 Promote a sustainable economy, improve skills and employability, and diversify rural economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of completed retail, office and leisure development. New business registration rates. Employment rates. Proportion of unemployed economically active people. Average earnings. Percentage of population that have attained a qualification of NVQ2 and above. Proportion of 18-24 year olds enrolled in training, full time education or employment. % of 16 year olds achieving 5+ GCSEs Grade A*-C. No. of residents attending university. Business surveys of staff/skills shortages.
Material assets	13 Increase access to a wide range of services and facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of people with adequate access to key services (e.g. hospitals, health centres, residential homes, schools). Availability and accessibility of a range of community, cultural and leisure facilities. Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling. The amount and quality of open green space.
Mineral resources	14 Ensure sustainable management of North Lincolnshire's mineral resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total aggregates extracted from within North Lincolnshire. Amount of mineral extraction areas designated for environmental protection. Total aggregates used within North Lincolnshire. Environmental incidents from mineral extraction facilities. The area of mineral and waste sites restored to priority habitat.

8.2 Consultation

A key aspect of the SA process is consultation. The SA process provides a mechanism to ensure that stakeholder engagement requirements are achieved by providing interested parties/organisations and the public an opportunity to inform the process and comment on decisions taken. Stakeholder engagement also ensures that economic, environmental, and social issues, constraints and opportunities are identified and assessed throughout the development of the Local Plan.

This Sustainability Appraisal Report will form part of the public consultation on the Publication Draft Local Plan. It will be sent to the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) and will be available for view on North Lincolnshire Council's website alongside the Publication Draft Local Plan.

8.3 Next steps

The Sustainability Appraisal Report will now be published for public and stakeholder consultation alongside the Draft Local Plan. The Draft Local Plan and SA Report will then be submitted for independent examination.

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Appendices

A Sustainability appraisal of proposed policies

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Registered Office
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SKIPTON
North Yorkshire
BD23 3AE
United Kingdom

+44(0)1756 799919
info@jbaconsulting.com
www.jbaconsulting.com
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