

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN**

**STATEMENT OF CONSULTATION (REGULATION 22  
STATEMENT)**

**NOVEMBER 2022**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This statement of consultation accompanies the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (Submission – Regulation 22). It has been prepared alongside the Local Plan and provides a summary of the consultation and engagement process undertaken up to the Publication stage (Regulation 19 Publication and Publication Addendum).
- 1.2 This Consultation Statement sets out how the Council has involved residents and key stakeholders in preparing the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020 to 2038 in accordance with Regulations 18 and 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 1.3 This statement meets Regulation 22 (1)(c) and demonstrates that consultation on the preparation of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan has been undertaken in accordance with the relevant Regulations and the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (August 2018).
- 1.4 The SCI document sets out how the Council will consult and involve the public and statutory consultees in planning matters. Full details of the current adopted SCI can be viewed here: <http://www.planning.northlincs.gov.uk/planningreports/statementofcommunityinvolvement/sciupdate/NewLocalPlanforNorthLincolnshireSCI-Adoption.pdf>

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 This Statement of Consultation describes how North Lincolnshire Council has undertaken community participation and stakeholder involvement in the production of the Local Plan, setting out how such efforts have shaped the Local Plan and the main issues raised by consultation / representations.
- 2.2 The Council began preparing a new Local Plan for North Lincolnshire in February 2017. The new Local Plan will set out the strategic vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the area, as well as, the planning policies which will guide future development. The Plan will look ahead to 2038 and identify the main areas for sustainable development growth. It establishes policies and guidance to ensure local development is built in accordance with the principles set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 2.3 The Local Plan will replace the adopted Core Strategy (June 2011), Housing & Employment Land Allocations Development Plan Document (HELADPD March 2016) and Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan (LLAAP May 2016) that currently make up the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the area and the remaining 'saved policies' from the North Lincolnshire Local Plan Adopted 2003.

## **3. Structure of Statement**

- 3.1 This statement of consultation comprises four sections:
- Section 1 is an introduction.

- Section 2 sets out the timeline which has been followed in preparing the Local Plan which was accordance with the up to date Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- Section 3 summarises the main issues raised during the consultation carried out under Regulations 18/19 and how the comments received have been considered by the Council.
- Section 3 is supported by Appendices detailing how and what consultation was undertaken, a summary of responses received at Regulation 18 and 20 stages and includes how the comments have been taken into account by the Council.
  - Appendices explain for each stage:
    - who was invited to make representations and how (Regulation 22 (1)(c)(i) and (ii))
    - a summary of the main issues raised by those persons (Regulation 22 (1)(c)(iii)) in Plan order and
    - how those issues have been addressed in the preparation of the Local Plan (Regulation 22 (1)(c)(iv)).

#### **4. Plan Production Timeline**

4.1 The creation of a new Local Plan requires a number of thorough and robust stages of consultation. This is to enable early and ongoing engagement with the local community, businesses and organisations to develop a comprehensive document, tailored to the needs of the area in terms of the spatial strategy and the policies required.

4.2 The timetable below outlines main consultation stages of the emerging Local Plan up until the Submission date of September 2022.

##### **Key Local Plan Stages Undertaken**

1: Initial Consultation Regulation 18 (February to April 2017)

As part of the initial preparation for the Local Plan, the Council carried out a statutory public consultation exercise on its 'Initial Consultation Local Plan. This consultation ran over six weeks asked a number of questions about how North Lincolnshire should be planned for the period up to 2036 and posed a number of questions to see if the existing planning strategy was still correct or if an alternative approach should be adopted. A 'Call for Sites' exercise was included asking the public and landowners if they have sites that they would wish to be considered for development in the new Local Plan. The Council would use this information as an evidence base. This was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

2: Issues & Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (January to March 2018)

The Council consulted on an Issues & Options Local Plan that set out the issues and options that needed to be addressed by the Local Plan for how we could plan for North Lincolnshire's future. This was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment. This combined the updated evidence

base, technical assessments, previous consultation responses and internal comments. Consultation was open for a 6-week period.

### 3: Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (February to March 2020)

This stage of public consultation ran for six weeks to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020. This was to gain views on the preferred draft planning policies and proposed site allocations that will guide decisions on planning applications for the future. It also gave North Lincolnshire Council an opportunity to publish emerging evidence base documents and demonstrate it had considered previous consultation responses and internal comments to support those decisions. It provided an opportunity for everyone to give their views before the Council drafted the final local plan for Publication stage. This was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

### 4: Plan amendments –2020

The Council took on board comments received during the Preferred Options Local Plan consultation which had elicited circa 1,800 separate individual comments. The majority of these were comments from residents in respect to preferred sites identified in the consultation and primarily objecting which, where appropriate and possible, were taken into account. Further evidence base documents were updated (e.g. SA/SEA) or commissioned (Whole Plan Viability Assessment) to improve the Local Plan ready for formal consultation/submission.

### 5: Publish the Plan (Pre-Submission Consultation Reg 19) – October/November 2021

A submission ready version of the plan was made available for stakeholders and the public to comment on for a minimum of 6 weeks. In accordance with the Local Plan Regulations, this consultation was formal and statutory seeking specifically the Plan's soundness for Examination in Public.

### 6: Publish the Plan (Publication Addendum) May to June 2022

A Publication Addendum version of the plan was made available for stakeholders and the public to comment on for a minimum of 6 weeks. In accordance with the Local Plan Regulations, this consultation was formal and statutory seeking specifically the Plan's focused proposed changes and soundness for Examination in Public.

### 7: Submission to the Secretary of State: November 2022

The Council assessed the comments received during the regulation 19 formal consultation and considered that the Local Plan is sound, therefore, can be submitted for Examination in Public (EiP).

## **5. Summary of Process and Main Issues**

5.1 North Lincolnshire Council began the process of producing a new Local Plan in November 2017. The following gives a summary of each stage from then to the current time. It summarises the main issues raised from each stage of the process; and how subsequent stages of the plan's preparation has addressed issues (or where this has not always been possible, what the Council's response was to the main issues raised). These stages are numbered as per those set out in the summary timeline above.

## **Stage 1 - Initial Consultation Regulation 18 (February to April 2017)**

5.2 As part of the initial Local Plan preparation, the Council carried out a public consultation exercise on its 'Initial Consultation Local Plan. This consultation ran over six weeks asked a number of questions about how North Lincolnshire should be planned for the period up to 2036, and if the existing planning strategy (LDF Core Strategy) was still correct or if an alternative approach should be adopted. A 'Call for Sites' exercise was included asking the public and landowners if they have sites that they would wish to be considered for development in the new Local Plan. The Council would use this information as an evidence base. This was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

5.3 Several different spatial questions were presented for future growth. These considered the approach and policies of the adopted Core Strategy including:

- Are the spatial vision and spatial objectives still appropriate?;
- How would you like to see North Lincolnshire grow? For example, we could continue to focus growth on Scunthorpe and the Market Towns (Core Strategy approach), or we could grow our villages;
- Four options for growth were set out. Of the four possible options which do you consider the most appropriate, or do you consider that an alternative option/approach should be examined?
- Four housing scenarios were outlined. Which one of the four housing scenarios do you consider appropriate for North Lincolnshire up to 2036 and why?
- Should we continue with the current Core Strategy approach of seeking to take full advantage of our location next to the Humber Estuary by developing the South Humber Gateway as well as focusing on Scunthorpe and other key strategic employment locations such as Humberside Airport and Sandtoft?

5.4 The document also considered the significant planning policy issues facing the area to 2036 and presented options to address these (where reasonable options existed). Issues considered included the approach to the protection of the countryside, affordable housing, retail and transport.

5.5 The Council was clear that at this time they had no preferred option and people's views were being sought on the preferred approach for the new local plan.

5.6 In accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement, the following measures were undertaken to publicise the consultation:

- a) Publication on the front page of the Council's website and through the bespoke new local plan website;
- b) Local press release (articles about the consultation appear on the Scunthorpe Telegraph website on 26<sup>th</sup> February and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017);
- c) Use of social media (such as Facebook);

- d) A number of staffed consultation events at various venues across North Lincolnshire. The events ran from 3pm to 7pm. Around 350 local people, who sought to put forward their views, visited these events. At the events local people were invited to take part in a “Planning for Real” exercise using a map of North Lincolnshire to identify where they thought development should take place;
- e) Four ‘Drop in Sessions’ in Scunthorpe and Brigg;
- f) Direct contact of all parties in the Local Plan database (over 4,000 individuals and organisations); and
- g) Specific contact of statutory bodies, including neighbouring authorities and all town and parish councils.

5.7 In addition, paper copies of the main consultation materials – the ‘Initial Consultation’ document, and Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report were made available at the Council’s main offices (deposit location).

5.8 Arrangements were made for representations on the Local Plan and its appraisals and assessments to be submitted on-line, by email and by letter with the option of using a consultation form that could be downloaded from the Council’s website or supplied by the Place Planning Team.

### **Initial Consultation Regulation 18 (February to April 2017) – Summary of Results**

5.9 A total of 102 respondents provided comments using the on-line questionnaire, via e-mail or in writing during the consultation period. Some 1,683 individual representations were received. These responses were from statutory agencies, individuals/residents, developers/landowners, town and parish councils and other local authorities. All responses were collated and analysed. A copy of the Summary of Consultation Responses Report setting out all of the details of this stage of the process can be found here [Appendix 1 Initial Consultation Details \(northlincs.gov.uk\)](#)/ Further details can be found at Appendix 1.

5.9.1 By way of a very brief summary, the most significant issues raised in the representations on the Initial Consultation document are as follows:

- The Local Plan should be backed up by an NPPF compliant evidence base. The most important documents referred to were: Settlement Survey, Brownfield Register and Study, Employment Land Review; Tourism Study; Business Needs/Markets Study, Economic Viability Assessment; Retail Study; Population Structures, Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Whole Plan Viability, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Natural Environment Evidence Base, Landscape Character Assessment, and Heritage Evidence Base.
- The majority of responses supported the existing Core Strategy Vision in terms of the ambition to promote North Lincolnshire as a global gateway for employment opportunities by taking advantage of its location next to the Humber Estuary, to have a “protected world class environment” as well as the concept of “thriving villages”. There were however many calls for amendments to reflect different stakeholders’ positions. For example some used this as an opportunity to challenge the spatial strategy and housing requirement, outlining their view that there was a lack of ability to meet the housing requirement

previously and as such a fresh approach was required, the wrong locations for housing growth were chosen last time and there should be more housing growth at key employment locations like the South Humber Gateway, more housing growth in the market towns and villages with less in Scunthorpe, and lack of environmental consideration.

- Mixed response to the proposed new spatial strategy options, with no particular option leading the way. Most representations supported growth in the most sustainable locations where the infrastructure is appropriate for growth (a Balanced Strategy).
- Significant concerns were raised by many of the respondents to solely relying on Scunthorpe and the Market Towns to deliver the majority of the housing growth.
- In terms of the housing scenario options no preference was clear. It should be determined on a number of factors including housing completions, economic growth aspirations infrastructure and the five-year land supply.
- Broad support for continuing with the Core Strategy approach of seeking to take full advantage of our location next to the Humber Estuary by developing the South Humber Gateway as well as focusing on Scunthorpe and other key strategic employment locations such as Humberside Airport and Sandtoft.
- General support for the Council's recognition of the need for further work to inform the natural and built environment, affordable housing, town centre/retail floorspace.
- Significant concerns about the capacity of community infrastructure, in particular schools and health services.
- General support for the retention of settlement development limits.
- A number of proposals for road improvements were received:
  - Barton upon Humber bypass – it was felt this merits consideration as the town grows and traffic on the local road network becomes busier.
  - M180 access – it was considered that access is required on to the M180 from Burringham Road, Scunthorpe.
  - Scunthorpe Orbital Route – need to create an efficient orbital road around Scunthorpe from the M181- Skippingdale Retail Park - Winterton Road - Brigg Road to Ashby Ville.
  - A15 – an upgrade of the A15 to dual carriageway standard was felt to be overdue.
  - Epworth - the junction of High Street and the A161 - the main access to the strategic road network (M180/A18) - was highlighted as producing

a narrow bottleneck. It was considered that any increase in housing in Epworth would increase private transport and exacerbate this issue.

- HGV routing – it was suggested that HGV traffic should be restricted to main roads and be prevented from taking short-cuts through villages. A specific proposal was received seeking to place a weight restriction of a 7.5-ton vehicle limit on all roads through Barrow upon Humber, with the exception of Wold Road.

### **Sustainability Scoping Report and Habitat Regulations Assessment**

5.9.2 As set out above the Council also published its Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Habitats Regulations alongside the consultation. The SA methodology used to assess the consultation document is generally considered to be sound. The scoping report covered the majority of plans and programmes and includes an appropriate baseline. Some respondents put forward suggested changes to the baseline section (e.g. further information on key implementation strategies) and the sustainability framework (e.g. new/replacement indicators and sub-objectives) to strengthen the scope of the assessment. Natural England agrees with the European sites identified in the HRA evidence base document; and advised that Chowderness and Alkborough managed realignment sites should be considered as part of the Humber Estuary designated site as this would be in line with the NPPF paragraph 118. They note however that there is an error in section 1.1 in that the first stage of an HRA (sometimes called a screening assessment) should identify whether any parts of the local plan are capable of having a significant effect on a European site. It is the appropriate assessment where the Competent Authority needs to determine whether there are any adverse effects on site integrity.

### **Initial Consultation Regulation 18 (February to April 2017) – How were the Issues Raised Taken into Account?**

5.9.3 A revision was made to the draft vision to take into account the comments received from the consultation. The draft vision seeks to build on the council's broader ambitions, emerging evidence and national policy. It has sought to bring through those elements of existing vision that attracted support and consider them against the representations requiring change and the council's ambition and outcomes that North Lincolnshire is safe; well; prosperous; and connected. The vision is further developed as work on the Local Plan moves forward through its different stages and more certainty is gained about what, where, how and when new development will be delivered.

5.9.4 Responses in relation to the Spatial Strategy, Strategic Options and housing distribution the consultation identified the following clear messages that were then addressed in the Issues & Options Plan:

- There was no particular preferred option in terms of the Spatial Options for growth. In fact, analysis of the representations identified a new approach (a balanced approach) which allocated an element of growth to the most sustainable settlements in North Lincolnshire that has the existing

infrastructure for growth. Therefore, a new option should be identified in the next stage.

- In terms of housing growth many respondents had the view that account of market signals and employment growth should be given. The majority of respondents supported Scenario 2 (452 dwellings) and Scenario 4 (756 dwellings). A significant number suggested further growth should take place in the market towns and larger rural settlements to reduce the need to build on flood plains. Contrary to this there was also support for the continuation of the Lincolnshire Lakes development. This information would be considered alongside the emerging local housing needs evidence.
- Particular issues raised included the need for housing growth to be supported by the correct infrastructure with access to employment opportunities, key services and facilities by sustainable modes of transport including public transport. Also, housing mix and design need to be considered to meet the needs of North Lincolnshire population.

5.9.5 In terms of other issues included in the consultation, there were some other notable responses which have been reflected through subsequent drafting of the Issues & Options local plan policies. These were:

- Continued support for providing jobs at the South Humber Gateway, Scunthorpe, Sandtoft Airfield and Humberside Airport, but there should be more employment growth at key locations with good transport links close to junctions on the strategic road network.
- Ensuring that new retail development enhances the overall retail provision whilst protecting the area's town and district centres.
- In terms of the broad approach to the environment, there was strong recognition of the role played by area's natural and built environment and there was support for continuing with aims and objectives of the Core Strategy (2011) in the emerging North Lincolnshire Local Plan. Specific reference was made to the Core Strategy paragraph 11.10 and the need for it to be transposed to the new Local Plan.
- A number of respondents put forward suggestions for strengthening and/or updating the existing approach to the natural and built and environment. These included:
  - Updating and providing a more detailed policy approach to flood risk, particularly to reflect recent work undertaken as part of the Lincolnshire Lake project, including the Integrated Flood Risk & Drainage Strategy.
  - Undertaking a Green Infrastructure Strategy alongside the development of the Local Plan.

- Making specific references within the plan to appropriate redevelopment of brownfield land and sites affected by contamination, which ensure it is in line with NPPF.
  - Including specific reference to protecting and enhancing biodiversity for its own sake or promoting the preservation, restoration and re-creation of ecological networks, as specified by the NPPF.
  - Including greater reference to the wider historic environment, in addition to the built environment and landscape character.
  - The need to ensure protection of existing greenfield areas especially those of special historical and environmental significance.
  - There is a need to protect existing areas of open space/green space within existing settlements, and to include green space as part of new residential developments.
  - It was highlighted that any existing landscape designations will need to be reviewed to ensure that they comply with the requirements of the NPPF.
- It was noted that the Core Strategy was adopted prior to the publication of the NPPF, and the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) for Minerals; therefore it was recommended that the new Local Plan's policy approach should be updated to fully reflect them.
  - The protection of the open countryside outside the area's towns and villages was raised as key matter for the Local Plan to consider.
  - The provision of Doctors services and capacity of schools across the whole of North Lincolnshire was raised as an issue.
  - General support for the retention of settlement development limits.
  - A number of proposals for road improvements were received:
    - Barton upon Humber bypass – it was felt this merits consideration as the town grows and traffic on the local road network becomes busier.
    - M180 access – it was considered that access required on to the M180 from Burringham Road, Scunthorpe.
    - Scunthorpe Orbital Route – need to create an efficient orbital road around Scunthorpe from the M181- Skippingdale Retail Park - Winterton Road - Brigg Road to Ashby Ville.
    - A15 – an upgrade of the A15 to dual carriageway standard was felt to be overdue.

- Epworth - the junction of High Street and the A161 - the main access to the strategic road network (M180/A18) - was highlighted as producing a narrow bottleneck. It was considered that any increase in housing in Epworth would increase private transport and exacerbate this issue.
- It was considered that Broadband speeds are not appropriate and that some areas do not have a decent connection, in particular rural and remote places. Similarly, it was felt that mobile phone networks needed to be improved.

## **Stage 2 - Issues & Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (January to March 2018)**

- 5.9.6 The draft North Lincolnshire Local Plan – Issues & Options was issued for public consultation, for a six-week period from Monday 29th January to Monday 12th March 2018.
- 5.9.7 The Issues & Options paper set down options for the various spatial planning issues identified in the preliminary local plan engagement stage including the spatial vision, spatial objectives and policy approaches for the future of the North Lincolnshire and the policies, land allocations and mechanisms thought necessary to achieve this. The paper provided a portrait of North Lincolnshire and summarised the issues and other plans and strategies that the Local Plan would need to take account of.
- 5.9.8 The Issues & Options paper set out the scope and purposes of the Local Plan and the process for producing it. The paper set out some important choices that needed to be made about where development should place. It proposed four options for where to locate growth across North Lincolnshire and so meet the draft vision and aims and objectives.
- 5.9.9 A full summary of the representations was made available in August 2018. The consultation approach can be summarised as follows:
- An email/letter was sent to all registered parties on the council's Local Plan database setting out the content of the Local Plan and how to make comments.
  - There was an extensive social media presence and a focused engagement with 'hard to reach' groups such as young people.
  - A number of stakeholder workshops were undertaken with housebuilders and estate agents.
  - Elected Member events were undertaken.
  - A number of consultation events took place at various venues across North Lincolnshire. The events ran from 3pm to 7pm. Around 400 local people, who sought to put forward their views, visited these events.
  - Email to all libraries and local links and including the use computers to access the consultation questions.

## Stage 2 - Issues & Options Consultation Regulation 18 – Summary of Results & Response to Issues Raised.

5.9.10 The Issues & Options document set out **68** questions covering a number of topics to get views about the future of the area. Some of these included a range options for the overall spatial strategy, housing, the economy, environment, communities, minerals and waste. These were also set out in the accompanying questionnaire. **150 respondents** provided **3,604 individual responses** to these questions using the on-line questionnaire, via e-mail or in writing during the consultation period.

Table 1: Initial Consultation (Regulation 18) – Questionnaire Responses		
Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate
1	Is there any other background or supporting evidence you think we need to support the Local Plan?	87 85%
2	Do you support the existing Core Strategy vision for North Lincolnshire, or do you have a different vision for the area?	79 77%
3	Do you agree that these issues highlighted are important issues facing your area today or are there any others that we have missed/should consider?	85 83%
4	How would you like to see North Lincolnshire grow? For example, we could continue to focus growth on Scunthorpe and the Market Towns, or we could grow our villages.	70 69%
5	Of the four possible options for the future approach to development, which do you consider the most appropriate, or do you consider that an alternative option/approach should be examined?	77 75%
6	Which one of the four housing scenarios do you consider appropriate for North Lincolnshire up to 2036 and why?	72 71%
7	Do you think the Local Plan's annual housing figure should be higher or lower than identified within the four scenarios and why?	60 59%
8	Where should our new housing be located?	74 73%
9	Does the affordable housing need figure of 219 per year provide an accurate requirement for North Lincolnshire?	71 70%
10	Are there any other issues regarding housing policy which could be considered by the Local Plan? If yes, please tell us	68 67%
11	How can we support the economy of North Lincolnshire to grow?	60 59%
12	Should we continue with the current Core Strategy approach of seeking to take full advantage of our location next to the Humber Estuary by developing the South Humber Gateway as well as focusing on Scunthorpe and other key strategic employment locations such as Humberside Airport and Sandtoft?	72 71%
13	Do we need to identify further employment land in addition to what is currently allocated and if yes, where should it be located?	67 66%

14	Do you think that the existing network of retail centres is appropriate?	70	69%
15	Are there any other issues regarding managing our employment land, retail offer and economy which you think should be examined?	70	69%
16	Is the current Core Strategy approach to managing our natural and built environment correct?	74	73%
17	What areas, locations or environments should we protect across North Lincolnshire?	60	59%
18	Are there any other issues regarding managing our environment which you think should be examined?	74	73%
19	Does your community have good access to local services such as health, education and leisure that are needed to support its social and cultural wellbeing?	71	70%
20	Are there any other issues regarding our communities and places which you think should be examined?	69	68%
21	Are there any other issues regarding managing our infrastructure which you think should be examined?	71	70%
22	Are there any improvements you think are required to North Lincolnshire's infrastructure to support growth? If yes, please tell us.	69	68%
23	What issues and challenges should be addressed by the development management policies?	43	42%
24	Is the approach of identifying development limits for settlements still appropriate? If not, what approach should be taken?	70	69%

5.9.11 In summary there was general support for the draft spatial vision and objectives. The vision was felt to be pro-growth and positive in its intent as well as covering all relevant issues that affect North Lincolnshire's communities. There were many respondents that provided detailed comments on the various different elements of the vision, for example, giving greater recognition to the needs of North Lincolnshire's rural communities, enhancing wildlife and increasing green spaces; promoting preventative health measures to improve the population's health and well-being; additional or new hospital provision to serve the area as well as increase care and respite facilities; and improving air quality through measures such as tree planting was put forward as a future issue to be covered.

5.9.12 In terms of the spatial objectives comments varied with some responses seeking greater clarity in order to aid interpretation, whilst others focused on specific spatial objectives and the Plan's strategic aims, priorities and overall spatial approach. A few respondents suggested reducing their number and making amendments to cover additional matters. One respondent felt that there were too many spatial objectives and suggested changes with some merged and others deleted.

5.9.13 Responses in relation to the Spatial Strategy, Strategic Options and housing distribution the consultation identified the following clear messages:

- In terms of the Spatial Strategy, overall, of the four options consulted on one clear option was preferred: E) A Balanced Approach. This was a new option that emerged from the Initial Consultation. Respondents considered that Option E provided the best approach to meeting North Lincolnshire's housing needs and boosting housing supply, as well as increasing delivery rates to support economic growth. In particular, it was felt that it would lead to a more even spread of housing across the area and have the greatest potential for meeting housing needs in rural and smaller communities.
- Certain representations require Scunthorpe & the Market Towns to be retained as the only locations for growth as these are the most sustainable locations supporting Scunthorpe's sub-regional role and the Lincolnshire Lakes development. Whilst another representation stated Option C was considered the most appropriate strategy for fulfilling this, as it would move away from relying on a large single site (Lincolnshire Lakes), by making land available in the right places.
- A combination of a new settlement and balanced growth in the villages ought to be the preferred approach. A garden village should be allocated in the eastern part of the area as it could deliver a large element of housing growth alongside the employment.
- The settlement hierarchy was generally supported as the Core Strategy hierarchy was not deliverable. Certain settlements were highlighted for consideration: Barton upon Humber and Brigg should have their own tier; Hibaldstow, Goxhill and Ulceby should be Large Service Centres; whilst Eastoft should be significantly higher as it has better facilities than settlement higher in the hierarchy (Wrawby).
- In terms of the housing requirement Option A: Baseline Population Growth and Option D Aspirational Growth were preferred. Option A would be sensible ensuring that growth was not too large in scale and would take place at an appropriate pace. Those who supported Options B thought it would be the closest in meeting the area's objectively assessed housing need (OAHN), and that based on the emerging standard methodology for OAHN should seek to deliver 452 dwellings per year. Option C was felt to be sufficiently ambitious to meet housing needs, whilst ensuring that the pace of growth is managed appropriately to allow essential supporting infrastructure to be provided to support it. There was a view that the Local Plan should be aspirational and as such, Option D should form the annual housing requirement for North Lincolnshire. This should be a minimum requirement. It would also significantly boost the supply of housing in line with national policy and would assist in addressing past under-delivery.
- Housing mix and density should be determined on a site by site basis. Adopting a generic or fixed housing mix or density target would be meaningless and may undermine the potential of some sites or render them undeliverable.

- Require developers to build bungalows, level access flats, multi-generational housing, sheltered housing or extra care housing as a proportion of all new housing developments.
- In terms of housing needs, the majority thought that the affordable housing requirement should be flexible to reflect what development could afford and having regard to other contributions rather than risk development being unviable. Around half also stated that Houses in Multiple Occupation should not be allowed to concentrate in particular areas. A similar number also said bespoke student accommodation should be provided.

5.9.14 In terms of other issues included in the scope of the consultation, there were some other notable responses as follows which have also been reflected through subsequent drafting of local plan policies:

- Support for retaining all existing undeveloped employment sites and providing additional allocations at key junction locations on the areas main strategic transport corridors (M180, A180, M181, A15);
- Support for continued over-allocation of employment land to support the South Humber Gateway and the Council's ambitions for economic growth;
- The impact of development at the South Humber Gateway on the Humber Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) will need to be addressed, alongside meeting the council's economic growth aspirations;
- The majority agreed that the Local Plan should support the area's rural economy and allow for opportunities for diversification in appropriate locations. This would ensure existing businesses are able to continue to operate and grow, as well as allow economic development opportunities of an appropriate scale and nature to come forward;
- Around three quarters support the current existing network of retail centres and the retail hierarchy, in particular the continued identification of Scunthorpe town centre as the area's main location for shopping, leisure and commercial;
- Over half agreed Town Centre boundaries should be amended to reflect changing retail patterns, and two thirds considered that the current market town and district centre boundaries were still appropriate;
- Overall, there was strong support for enhancing, maintaining and protecting, North Lincolnshire's biodiversity and geodiversity and designated sites should be protected. It was considered important not to just minimise impacts on biodiversity but provide for net gains in biodiversity to help meet the government commitment to help halt the overall decline in biodiversity, for example establishing resilient coherent ecological networks. Particular reference was made to DEFRA's 25 Year Environmental Plan (2018), the Natural Environment White Paper (2014) and the recommendations of the

Lawton Review (2010) as well as the draft NPPF and the Local Plan's Sustainability Appraisal;

- Overall, there was general support for protecting and enhancing North Lincolnshire's landscape character by the best means possible, with the continuation of the Core Strategy approach favoured by most representations;
- Over half of supported the creation of a green infrastructure strategy and the designation and protection of Local Green Space, open space and the retention and protection of Areas of Amenity Importance;
- Most respondents are supportive of including a Local Plan policy or policies on various forms of pollution (air, water, noise, odour and light).
- Around half supported a flexible flood risk policy approach in compliance with national and local policy (i.e., to not create flood risk on-site or elsewhere and to provide safe development) to development in flood risk areas.
- Around half supported the designation of areas within the Local Plan for renewable and low carbon energy development (for example wind turbines and solar photovoltaic) without detrimental harm to North Lincolnshire landscape character and residential amenity.
- The majority of respondents considered that opportunities for creating healthy communities should be included as part of new development with an aim of creating well balanced communities. This includes ensuring appropriate infrastructure (in particular health, and education infrastructure, community facilities and open space/play pitches), services and community facilities are provided.
- A majority of respondents stated that the council should seek to limit the number of hot food takeaways in some locations through planning policy, particularly where there is over concentration or are close to schools
- In terms of transport infrastructure, there was also support for projects such as duelling of the A15 south to Lincoln, new M181 junctions, improvements in the road and cycleway networks that link the South Humber Gateway employment area with surrounding settlements; new access arrangement for Sandtoft Business Park, and a direct rail service to London.
- Around two thirds of responses supported the retention (in some form) of development management policies.
- Over half supported the application of settlement development limits, with changes to reflect the updated spatial strategy.

Full responses can be viewed in the Summary of Written Representations (<https://m.northlincs.gov.uk/public/localplan/evidence/Appendix%20%20Issues%20and%20Options%20Consultation%20details.pdf>) that is available online and further detail is available in Appendix 2.

## **Sustainability Scoping Report and Habitat Regulations Assessment**

- 5.9.15 As set out above, the Council also published its Sustainability Appraisal alongside the consultation. The methodology used to assess the options is generally considered to be sound. The report covered the majority of plans and programmes and includes an appropriate baseline. Some respondents put forward suggested changes to the baseline section (e.g. further information on key implementation strategies) and the sustainability framework (e.g. new/replacement indicators and sub-objectives) to strengthen the scope of the assessment.
- 5.9.16 Specific reference was made to future development at the North Killingholme Airfield employment site and the issue for traffic to/from the site. It was considered traffic levels are increasing in this area and having an effect on local roads and residents. It was suggested a new road network needs to be provided in this area to allow better access to the site as well as the nearby ports.
- 5.9.17 Natural England considered that the strategic direction of the emerging Local Plan was unclear, and therefore difficult to assess through the SA process. It was considered that subsequent versions of the plan should include a specific chapter clearly setting out how its strategic aims have been carried forward from the overall vision. It was also suggested the evidence used to support the HRA (and its conclusion) should inform the SA process, particularly where they have similar effects on the interest features of SSSIs. Furthermore, it was stated that reasonable alternative site allocations should be considered via the SA/SEA process to select those that are less environmentally sensitive.
- 5.9.18 Historic England made comments in relation to section 2 of the SA Report related to the historic environment and the green infrastructure. It was highlighted that terminology covering heritage assets should be amended to ensure consistency with NPPF as well as the remainder of the SA. It was also suggested references should be included to the setting of heritage assets in subsequent versions of the SA, whilst inclusion of the SA objective in respect of the historic environment was welcomed. In relation to the area's green infrastructure network, it was felt that the SA should consider it, and its protection and enhancement via the use of appropriate indicators.
- 5.9.19 Historic England felt that there should be greater consideration given to the impact of greater economic activity and growth on the historic environment, heritage assets or their setting. The use of a single spatial objective in the Local Plan to cover all aspects of the environment could have implications for the SA and as such, it was recommended that the natural and historic environment should be covered by separate objectives in the plan. Furthermore, it was suggested other forms of development, not just housing could have a potential negative impact on the historic environment.
- 5.9.20 In terms of the Habitats Regulation Assessment most comments were generally satisfied with the approach. A number of documents were highlighted as being useful in assisting the development of the Local Plan. Natural England highlighted the importance of the strategic approach to mitigation of development on the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar site, established in the South Humber Gateway

Strategic Mitigation Strategy. It was considered that this strategy should be carried through into the emerging Local Plan and its accompanying Habitat Regulations Assessment.

- 5.9.21 Several comments focused on several elements of the assessment. These related to the assessment of potential effects of recreational pressures, urbanisation and atmospheric pollution on the area's SPA, SAC and Ramsar sites.
- 5.9.22 With regard to urbanisation, it was stated that when considering use of development buffers around internationally designated sites, the planning authority will need to ensure that the size of the buffer is appropriate to the site in order to reflect the relative sensitivities of sites depending on their interest features along with other local factors. It was also suggested similar buffer zones could be use in relation to other sensitive areas, such as nationally designated sites.

## **Stage 2 – Issues & Options Consultation Regulation 18 – How were the Issues Raised Taken into Account**

- 5.9.23 Several revisions were made to the draft spatial vision and objectives to address the comments received. For the spatial vision this included giving greater recognition to the needs of North Lincolnshire's rural communities, enhancing wildlife and increasing green spaces; promoting preventative health measures to improve population's health and well-being; and improving air quality. In relation to the spatial objectives it was not viewed appropriate to reduce the number as highlighted. These objectives were deemed appropriate to deliver the vision, and the requirements of NPPF. Amendments were made to reflect representations including a minor changes as follows to SO3 include reference to 'a range of sites'; SO8 to include 'better paid jobs, improve skills'; to SO9 to include 'accessible childcare'; SO10 to include 'and create vibrant leisure and culture facilities for visitors and residents alike'; and SO11 to include 'safer environments and communities through' and 'and supporting businesses to adapt and decarbonise'.
- 5.9.24 The consultation on the spatial strategy and other strategic and non-strategic issues and options included some notable responses to inform the next stage of the local plan process which have been reflected through subsequent drafting of the preferred options local plan policies:
- In terms of the Spatial Strategy Option E – 'A balanced approach' was clearly supported. It was identified as the most clear and logical option, with development and growth taking place in the most sustainable locations. These are locations with good access to employment opportunities and where appropriate infrastructure, services and facilities are available to support it.
  - There was support for a five-tier hierarchy: Major Sub-Regional Town (Scunthorpe); Market Towns/Larger Service Centres; Larger Rural Settlements; Smaller Rural Settlements; and Countryside. However, the comments highlighted Barton upon Humber and Brigg should form their own tier with Market Towns differentiated from the Larger Service Centres to form a six-tier hierarchy.

- In terms of the preferred Settlement Hierarchy there were competing calls for different settlements to have a bigger slice of the cake. The preferred settlement hierarchy was informed by the consultation, and through other evidence including current population, overall settlement sustainability, the availability of potential developable land, physical constraints to development and existing infrastructure. A Settlement Survey (2019) was completed as the key baseline for the settlement hierarchy in the preferred options.
- The two favoured options for the plan housing requirement were Option A: Baseline Population Growth – 365 homes per year and Option D: Aspiration Economic Growth (Core Strategy) – 754 homes per year. The council undertook a Local Housing Needs Assessment (LHNA 2019) to update the housing need evidence base and inform the local plans housing target. Due to changes in NPPF the LHNA needed to consider the standard method to determine whether there are exceptional circumstances to justify an alternative approach. It concluded that there is no evidence and the housing target should be 419 net new homes per year in the preferred options.
- The housing distribution and allocations should be spread over the larger more sustainable settlement where adequate infrastructure already exists instead of focusing growth on the Scunthorpe Urban Area; the Lincolnshire Lakes Strategic Site, and the six Market Towns. A Strategic Housing & Employment Land Allocations Availability Assessment (SHELAA) determined the developable sites to deliver the housing requirement in the preferred options in accordance with the preferred spatial strategy.
- Housing mix and density should be determined on a site by site basis using the LHNA findings.
- There was overall support for continued over-allocation of employment land to maximise prospects of attracting new investment to the area alongside meeting the demands of new and developing industries. This will deliver nationally important sites like the South Humber Bank. The council produced economic forecasting to update the evidence base.
- There was support for allocating employment sites in the locations set out in the Core Strategy such as the South Humber Bank, North Killingholme Airfield, Scunthorpe Urban Area, Humberside Airport and Sandtoft Industrial Estates, but there should be additional allocations at locations adjoining the main highway network, provided that good transport links are in place. The SHELAA determines these allocations.
- Multiple comments through the options identified a clear requirement for a bespoke chapter for sustainable development in the countryside. This should cover issues such as the protection of best and most versatile agricultural land and rural enterprise (such as conversions of existing buildings and limited new build where required) within North Lincolnshire's countryside.
- There was clear support for retaining the current existing network of retail centres and the retail hierarchy and the town centre boundaries should be

reviewed against up to date evidence. The council commissioned an independent town centre study (2019) to consider the current health of the town centres and inform the preferred options policy. It concluded the majority of centres are performing well or moderately and therefore policies should seek to support the town centre in line with NPPF and not allocate sites or significantly amend town centre boundaries.

- Around half supported a biodiversity and geodiversity policy that should include buffer zones for where development is proposed adjacent to a designated site. The proposed approach considered a criteria-based policy to address this concern and should seek to protect and enhance international, national and locally designated biodiversity and geodiversity sites present within North Lincolnshire. The council also worked with the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership to produce Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping (BOM) for the preferred option policy and policies map in compliance with NPPF (para 174a) and the emerging Environment Bill.
- In terms of landscape protection, the majority supported to continue with the existing approach to landscape protection set out in the Core Strategy (June 2011) and saved North Lincolnshire Local Plan (May 2003) policies i.e. a criteria-based policy. There was a view that existing protected landscapes should be maintained. The council commissioned JBA Associates to undertake a review of the Landscape Character Assessment 1999 and include an assessment of locations in North Lincolnshire that are suitable to be included in a review of the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- A large proportion of favoured the creation of a Green Infrastructure Network in the area by linking existing natural green spaces, sports fields, landscapes, waterscapes, ecological networks, footpaths, and historic environments. Alongside the BOM the Council worked with GLNP to map a GI network for inclusion within a GI policy and inclusion on policies map.
- In terms of green spaces there was overall support for the designation of local green spaces (LGS) and the continued designation and protection of play pitches and important open spaces and amenity areas. An assessment of all LGS submissions through Call for Sites was undertaken against a methodology developed in accordance with NPPF to consider sites for designation in preferred options. All play pitches were reviewed through a new Play Pitch Strategy (2019) and all existing areas of amenity importance (previously LC11) were assessed against a locally derived methodology with a view to designate qualifying sites through a new Important Open Space policy.
- Many respondents felt that there should be complete coverage on climate change issues with policies set out that build on international and national treaties, agreements, policy, and guidance. A policy was progressed on climate change to cover the main issues raised. However, many of the issues raised will be covered by another specific policies (biodiversity, waste reduction, pollution etc). The climate change policy utilised the current corporate targets for carbon reduction taking into account international and national guidance.

Renewable energy proposals (primarily wind and solar PV) will be covered by a criteria based policy and the council commissioned JBA Associates to produce an evidence base to identify possible renewable energy opportunity areas in accordance with NPPF para 151b. There was overall support for designation of opportunity areas.

- Around half supported a flexible flood risk policy approach in compliance with national and local policy (i.e. to not create flood risk on-site or elsewhere and to provide safe development) to development in flood risk areas bearing in mind we have many existing settlements within flood risk areas. The continued review of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment fed into the process.
- There was overall support for criteria based policies to protect the areas historic environment.
- For minerals there was overall support for the proposed approach with the principle issues raised relating to the location of minerals development, cross-boundary collaboration between mineral planning authorities, maintaining sufficient mineral reserves and landbanks, and impacts on heritage of mineral development. An updated evidence base was produced to cover these points and addressed via the preferred options policies.
- In terms of waste the comments primarily centred on the issue of fly tipping, as well as the operation of the area's waste collection and management systems.
- Most respondents considered that opportunities for creating healthy communities should be included as part of new development with an aim of creating well balanced communities. A few policies are included in the preferred options local plan to address these issues, including policies on health and wellbeing, healthcare provision, open space sport and recreation, education provision, community facilities etc. Associated evidence documents were produced alongside including assessments of healthcare needs and capacity, school capacity, and a play pitch strategy.
- A clear view was provided that Sustainable Transport should have its own chapter and should include policies supporting, encouraging, maintaining, providing, and improving sustainable transport in the area, alongside securing contributions towards infrastructure improvements. The use of transport statements/assessments and travel plans were viewed as key tools in supporting modal shift away from the private car to walking, cycling and public transport as well as reducing the need to travel. Key transport projects were highlighted, and these will be included in the policies.
- There was overall support for the inclusion of Development Management policies. Of the topics highlighted the majority are already adequately addressed by other local plan policies. A policy to cover various forms of pollution (air, water, noise, odour, and light) in accordance with NPPF/PPG was particularly supported.

- There was overall support for the retention of settlement development limits and the inclusion of a criteria based policy. A methodology was drafted to consider all the sites in the light of the emerging spatial strategy and applied to the existing development limits and call site proposals.
- The recommendations of the Sustainability Appraisal were taken into account and the preferred policies drafted to meet these in most instances. This included wording, additional criteria and mitigation where necessary.

### **Stage 3 - Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (February to March 2020)**

5.9.25 The Council consulted on the Preferred Options Local Plan for six weeks to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020. This was to get views on the preferred draft planning policies and proposed site allocations that will guide decisions on planning applications for the future. It also gave North Lincolnshire Council an opportunity to publish emerging evidence base documents to support those decisions such as the Local Housing Needs Assessment (2019), Settlement Survey (2019), Retail & Leisure Study (2019) and so forth. This was accompanied by an Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment. Although an informal stage, it provided an opportunity to ask a few specific questions in respect to both the policies and evidence base before the Council drafted the final plan for Publication stage (Regulation 19).

5.9.26 National Planning policy encourages early, proportionate and effective engagement between plan-makers and communities, local organisations and business, infrastructure providers and operators and statutory consultees. Therefore, within each stage of the plan-making i.e. formal and informal consultation other engagement work has been undertaken to ensure as many residents, organisations and businesses are informed as much as possible.

5.9.27 The consultation provided the first opportunity for the council to outline its preferred approach for the following

- Introduction
- Spatial vision and spatial objectives
- Spatial Strategy including a settlement hierarchy and strategic housing and employment policies
- Housing policies, and site allocations
- Employment policies and allocations
- Town centre and retail policies
- Countryside policies
- Environmental policies
- Historic Environment policies
- Sustainable Communities policies
- Minerals & Waste policies
- Connection policies
- Delivering Infrastructure
- Monitoring Framework
- The Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment.

5.9.28 The consultation identified sufficient housing sites to deliver the housing target of 419 dwellings per annum over the plan period up to 2036 (8,380 new homes) and a plan period employment land requirement of 190 hectares to ensure sufficient land is identified to grow the economy.

5.9.29 Housing sites were proposed in accordance with the settlement hierarchy and spatial distribution around the area, and in accordance with national planning policy.

5.9.30 Alongside the Preferred Options consultation, a third Call for Sites exercise was undertaken. This allowed landowners, developers and/or agents to put forward land to be considered for potential site allocations within the emerging Local Plan. They were able to submit sites for a variety of uses including:

- Housing (including market housing, affordable housing & self-build housing)
- Employment (including office, light industrial, general industrial & warehousing)
- Development limit changes
- Retail/Town Centre Uses
- Sports/Leisure/
- Travellers Sites
- Local Green Space/Important Open Space
- Waste Management; and
- Minerals Extraction.

5.9.31 This stage was undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Adopted Statement of Community Involvement. The consultation process can be summarised as follows:

- All of the information and documents were available to view on the Local Plan website;
- Hard copies of all of the Local Plan were made available to view at the main council offices;
- All contacts on the Local Plan Database received notification via email;
- The Council's Communications Team issued press releases and ran articles on social media (e.g. Facebook) which were re-posted regularly;
- A meeting was undertaken with all NLC Elected Members and Town & Parish Council meetings were attended;
- Press releases were issued to local media outlets. An article about the Preferred Options consultation appeared on the Scunthorpe Telegraph's website on;
- Town and parish councils were contacted with a view to them advertising the Preferred Options consultation and the consultation events via their newsletters, websites and social media.
- A few internal meetings were held with NLC stakeholders as well as external bodies (e.g. Education and Environment Agency);
- An officer attended the North Lincolnshire Place Board and Property Forum to present.

5.9.32 Consultation events were held where interested parties could come and view the plan and speak to officers (the events for Burton upon Stather and Goxhill had to

be cancelled at the last minute due to Covid-19 lockdown measures). These were in the following locations:

- Ulceby Village Hall - 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Barton upon Humber Baysgarth School – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Brigg Angel Suite - 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Epworth Imperial Hall - 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Winterton Community Centre - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Bottesford Pavilion - 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Scunthorpe Central Library – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Haxey Memorial Hall - 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Kirton in Lindsey Town Hall - 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020
- Crowle Library - 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

5.9.33 Comments could be made using the online consultation system and in writing by post or email.

### **Stage 3 - Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (February to March 2020) – Summary of Results & Response to Issues Raised**

5.9.34 A total of around 1,883 individual responses were received from 165 individuals following the close of the consultation.

5.10 The key issues arising from the consultation are:

- Broadly supportive responses from the statutory bodies recommending additional technical work and some policy refinements to address environmental, flood risk, strategic highways and heritage matters. These included finalisation of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Sequential Test and Exceptions Test, Assessment of Site Allocations on Strategic Road Network, Historic Environment Evidence Base, South Humber Bank Mitigation Strategy Update etc.
- Majority support for the Spatial Vision but detailed comments were provided for inclusion (including greater recognition of the natural environment, net gain, and public health). The main criticisms were made by planning consultants and land agents related to the spatial strategy and housing distribution and that the vision failed to meet their or their client's needs to deliver housing on their sites.
- Majority support for the Spatial Objectives but there was a requirement for additions/amendments. One representation was concerned that 'Spatial Objective 3: Meeting Our Housing Need (Best Place to Live)' should be identified ahead of 'Spatial Objective 2: Enabling Sustainable Communities to Flourish'; and a number of the objectives should have recognition of the natural environment and net gain included.
- Multiple representations supported Wootton's status in the hierarchy and that it should not have anymore growth as the infrastructure and services cannot take it. However, a representation from the development industry requires

Wootton to be included with a higher settlement hierarchy tier and housing land allocated adjoining its development limits due its overall sustainability.

- Broad support for the preferred Spatial Strategy and settlement hierarchy. However, there was concern that there is too much reliance on the Lincolnshire Lakes Strategic site. The housebuilding industry challenged its deliverability within the plan period.
- Concern that no sites have been allocated in smaller rural settlements (as identified in Policy SS2p). No objection to the principle of the majority of growth being located in the main towns and service centres. However, the plan should recognise the role housing can play in supporting smaller rural communities, as advocated by paragraph 78 of the NPPF (2019).
- Overall support for the continuation of settlement development limits to clearly identify where growth is acceptable. Some representations seek further changes to these limits, whilst some, primarily from the development industry propose their removal which will allow development to come forward adjoining settlements where needs evidence is available.
- Representations requesting that settlements should be included within higher tiers of the settlement hierarchy including Eastoft, Goxhill, Kirton in Lindsey, Messingham, Scawby, Winteringham (not an exhaustive list).
- Concern that there is still insufficient growth allocated to the Market Towns and villages, primarily from the housebuilding industry and their representatives. One particular comment supports the allocation of a new settlement close to the South Humber Bank in addition to growth in the settlements close by.
- A number of representations scrutinised the locally objectively assessed needs policy approach set out in the spatial strategy, these were primarily from the development industry on the grounds that it is not aspirational enough and does not correlate with the council's own economic evidence base in the Economic Growth Plan that seeks to deliver high levels of jobs. The views of local residents were more favourable stating that the housing figure is correct.
- Various representations from and on behalf of the development industry promoting a wide range of sites adjacent to settlement development limits.
- Concern why a 1 April 2017 base date for the Plan. By the time the Plan is submitted, examined and adopted it is unlikely to have 15 years left to run contrary to paragraph 22 of NPPF.
- In terms of the proposed housing allocations representations in objection were received particularly in terms of highways impacts and lack of supporting infrastructure (schools, doctors' surgeries, drainage/surface water flooding). The sites that received the highest number of representations were: H1P-23 Haxey, H1P-24p Messingham, and H1P-26 Burton upon Stather.

- The development industry has concerns the housing mix and density policy (H2p) should not be prescriptive and should be flexible to consider local circumstances.
- Concern the affordable housing qualifying criteria as it is not justified by a robust evidence base.
- The Government is proposing to remove the ability of LPAs to set higher energy efficiency standards than those in Building Regulations. The Council does not need to include a policy (policy SS3) in relation to the need to set standards of sustainable construction and design, as this will be provided by national standards.
- Overall support for the town centre and retail policies, including a request for a new positive place making policy should.
- Brigg Power Station, and Sandtoft Airfield should be a strategic employment allocation given their scale location and importance.
- Overall support for the South Humber Bank Strategic Site Allocation, however there were requests that further information on the mechanism for the provision of mitigation is outlined to demonstrate a strategic approach. This was set out in the previous mitigation strategy.
- Overall support for the employment allocations, but site specific concerns were raised in relation to two sites at Barnetby Top (EC1-7p/8p) and A15 Barton interchange (EC1-6p), as this resulted in significant greenfield development of open countryside.
- The list of Landscape Enhancements does not give any indication of what is required at the named sites.
- The Environment Agency requested a redraft of the Managing Flood Risk policy (DQE6) and provided suitable new policy wording.
- A number of representations proposing new designations for Local Green Space (LGS) in Barrow upon Humber and Goxhill.
- A number of representations proposing and opposing 'Important Open Space' designations in Barrow upon Humber, Belton and Scawby, and a challenge to the designation in its entirety.
- The Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust acknowledging and supporting the inclusion of mandatory net gain for biodiversity within the policies but requiring a higher percentage, and for it to be a requirement of numerous other policies.
- Significant representations concerning a relief/link road to the south of Barton upon Humber.

- Representations from Highways England and Historic England requesting if specific evidence base documents were available and have been produced and how these have been utilised to agree the land allocations.
- General support for the inclusion of a renewable energy opportunity area. However Natural England requested that the designation was amended to consider the impacts this type of development could have on the habitats and mitigation on the South Humber Bank. Historic England requested further detail of the Renewable Energy Opportunity Mapping Study, which is not included on the evidence base page. They stated it is not possible to provide a full assessment at this stage without greater detail, including the Mapping Study, to then assess if the areas within Policy DQE9p are acceptable.
- A representation required that the Preferred Options would review the stranglehold that the current LC14 - Area of Special Historic Landscape Interest exerts upon development in Central and South Axholme in spite of comments by leading planning consultants in support of planning applications and admissions by planning officers that the far reaching policy cannot be defended and is based upon outdated Miller's Report (1999).
- A number of representations requiring that the operational Biffa Landfill site at Roxby / Winterton is designated as a Local Nature Reserve on the Policies Map.
- New sites or revised site boundaries - following the close of the consultation, a total of 136 new or revised site boundaries were put to the Council for consideration, and therefore required to be assessed and considered through the Publication version of the Local Plan.
- Sport England suggest that the policy CSC1 is amended to include a criterion that states that new development of (over a certain level i.e. number of houses, area etc) shall include a health impact statement setting out how the principles of Active Design and the principles of policy CSC1p have been incorporated into the new design.

5.10.1 A Summary Written Representations report of the main issues will be published alongside the Regulation 19 Local Plan in October 2021 and is available to view here:

<https://m.northlincs.gov.uk/public/localplan/evidence/Appendix%203%20Preferred%20Options%20Consultation%20details.pdf>. Further detail is found at Appendix 3 also for ease of reference.

### **Stage 3 - Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (February to March 2020) – How were the Issues Raised taken into account?**

5.10.2 The council reviewed the comments from the Preferred Options consultation and a revised of the Local Plan was prepared for the Publication version. In terms of the main amendments made to address the previous consultations representations the following provides a brief overview:

- Spatial Vision & Spatial Objectives – No significant changes were made to either the Spatial Vision or Spatial Objectives. Amendments were made to reflect the representations primarily in terms of national planning policy guidance and for clarity and/or fact. Including greater recognition of the natural environment, mandatory net gain, and public health recognition in both the Spatial Vision.
- In terms of the Spatial Objectives amendments were made to ‘Spatial Objective 6, 9 and 10, to include greater recognition of the natural environment, nature recovery networks and biodiversity net gain. SO11 Planning for Climate Change was totally re-written so that its clearer and the role of flood risk infrastructure/risk management schemes is recognised in accordance with the representation from the Environment Agency.
- A draft Statement of Common Ground was published (badged as a ‘living document’) setting out the cross-boundary strategic issues with neighbouring authorities, prescribed bodies and other relevant organisations. Such matters have been subject to ongoing discussions with the appropriate prescribed bodies and organisations.
- Plan period – the plan period was extended from 2036 to 2038 to ensure 15 years minimum from adoption in accordance with NPPF.
- Settlement Hierarchy – A review was undertaken of all the comments received challenging the preferred spatial strategy, proposed housing allocations, proposed development limits and new sites submitted through ‘Call for Sites’. This incorporated an assessment of the existing evidence base (Settlement Survey, SHELAA). Based on this it was determined that the Settlement Hierarchy in Policy SS2 – Spatial Strategy should be amended.
- Housing requirement – A review was undertaken of the Local Housing Needs Assessment in order to provide evidence that the standard method figure should be used or if there is evidence of exceptional circumstances to justify an alternative approach which also reflects current and future demographic trends and market signals.
- Housing Requirement – The plan target retaining the standard method target of 396dpa but in line with PPG the requirement has been expressed as a range with the bottom of the range being the figure as derived by the standard methodology for calculating 5YHLS, but allocations made at the top of the range.
- Housing Requirement – To meet objectively assessed needs, an average of 396 additional dwellings a year are required between 2020 and 2038.
- Housing supply – Monitoring of permissions was updated to use 1st April 2021 data and allocations were identified for the settlements where supply from deliverable/developable sites was insufficient to meet the plan period requirement. A new 5YHLS Statement was prepared to demonstrate deliverability and to ensure compliance with the revised definition as per the

changes to NPPF in 2021. Due to some housing commitments gaining Planning Permission the Spatial distribution of housing sites has slightly changed from the preferred options stage mainly in Hibaldstow and Belton.

- The new and revised sites were all (re)assessed in line with the site selection methodology.
- Housing Allocations – There were some notable allocations deleted and some new allocations . The main changes are:-
  - The Lincolnshire Lakes Strategic Site housing allocations was reduced to 2,150 as the updated evidence base identified that a reduced figure was deliverable in the new plan period.
  - The housing allocation proposed off Darby Road in Burton upon Stather was removed due to significant public objections and concerns about the site allocation.
  - The housing allocation off North of Brigg Road Messingham has been removed due to significant public objections and a planning application being submitted on the site which was refused.
  - The site in New Holland was removed due to objections raised by the Environment Agency due to the issues with Flood Risk.
- Employment allocations – There were no notable objections to the proposed employment sites. Therefore, no amendments were made. There was no evidence provided that Brigg Power Station, and Sandtoft Airfield should be a strategic employment allocation given their scale location and importance. These sites were not deemed to have enough national importance to be viewed as strategic.
- South Humber Bank - A review has been undertaken of the South Humber Bank Mitigation Strategy to ensure it is up to date and robust and reflects the slightly amended new policy position and any changes resulting from the Able Marine Energy Park and Able Logistics Park.
- Flood Risk - The Environment Agency request for a redraft of the Managing Flood Risk policy (DQE5) was agreed and the policy was amended to incorporate the new policy wording they suggested in their representation. Additional wording was also suggested to the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) policy (DQE6). The wording exacted suggested was included in the policy.
- Town centre and retail - A new placemaking policy was included, and the Retail and Leisure Study has been updated to align with the new plan period (2020 – 2038).
- Historic Environment Evidence Base – In order to overcome Historic England's objection a bespoke Historic Environment evidence base document was brought together to demonstrate that there was a clear decision making

process for the choice of land allocations in accordance with NPPF, PPG and Historic England guidance.

- Strategic Road Network - A transport evidence base considering the Plan and its development aspirations was completed to support the Plan, to ensure that the SRN can safely and efficiently support the delivery of the Plan (including housing and employment land supply).
- Barton Relief Road – At present vehicles travelling through Barton upon Humber can suffer from congestion at peak times. To reduce this impact, a new link road will be constructed as part of the Barrow Road allocation to provide the first phase of the link road between A1077 and Caistor Road.
- Infrastructure capacity – The majority of the responses raised concerns around the capacity of the areas infrastructure to accommodate further development. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan has been updated with the latest information on such matters and work has been undertaken looking at both the strategic and local road network. Allocations in the plan now have developer requirements as well as being subject to policies in the plan that would require contributions (such as schools, transport, highways etc).
- Viability – A whole plan viability exercise was prepared by the Council (2020) which informed the drafting of several policies in the plan e.g. affordable housing policy, qualifying criteria, and the range.
- Development Limits - Minor amendments have been made to some settlement development limits to ensure consistency with the methodology and respond to comments received during the preferred options consultation.
- Landscape Character – In order to address representations about the Landscape Character Assessment and Area of Historic Landscape Interest policy being based on old evidence a review has been undertaken and a new update LCA (incorporating AHLI) has been produced.
- DQE2p: Landscape Enhancement – It was agreed that the supporting text should include an indication of what is required at the named sites. This was addressed through the addition of a table.
- Mandatory net gain for Biodiversity – A review was undertaken of the evidence base and policy to ensure there was adequate inclusion of mandatory net gain for biodiversity. Policy DQE3 was reviewed to ensure it meets planning guidance and other policies were amended to ensure it is carried forward in the plan (DM1) to meet the numerous similar representations made by the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.
- Local Nature Reserves – A review was undertaken to determine whether the sites suggested for LNR designation (of which the Biffa site at Roxby/Winterton was the most significant) should be designated. It is not for the local plan to designate sites. It should only reflect sites that are already designated. No amendments were made to the Policies Map.

- Local Green Space - Following the completion of the assessment of Local Green Space one additional area was added to the Policies Map to reflect an error. Inset 36 Scunthorpe was amended to change the playing field designation to the south of Brumby Resource Centre to DQE10: LGS. The proposed LGS designation of the former playing fields at York Road in Kirton in Lindsey was removed from Inset 27 as on reassessment of the LGS it did not meet the criteria for designation.
- Important Open Space – In order to address the objection to policy DQE11 in its entirety a reassessment of the designation was undertaken against NPPF and PPG and it was determined that the policy should remain as it assists in delivering various elements including achieving healthy and inclusive places (para 91), and provide social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs (para 92). A number of objections to proposed designations and new designations were submitted and reviewed against the site selection methodology. Designations at north of Millfields Way in Barrow upon Humber, east of dismantled railway in Belton, Kingsley House in Goxhill, and north of Water Lane in Winterton were removed.
- Policy DQE9 Renewable Energy Proposals / Renewable Energy Opportunity Area – As part of the preparation of the Statement of Common Ground and local plan preparation the Council engaged in discussions with Historic England to discuss their objection to the renewable energy opportunity area and wording in policy and provided a copy of the Renewable Energy Opportunity Area evidence base document. The outcome of the discussions outlined that Historic England still retained their objection saying the approach is unsound as the evidence, in their view, is not robust enough and there needs to be a more robust evaluation of the likely impact upon the heritage assets of the area, reflected within policy DQE9. Since this would require a detailed site by site assessment considering multiple effects upon the significance of multiple assets, it would be problematic to produce a map based document that is fit for purpose. Given this the only option was to remove the Renewable Energy Opportunity Area from the Policies map and delete the reference in policy DQE9 that states “Proposals for wind and solar energy development will be permitted if: the development is located in one of the following broad areas as identified on the Policies Map: Industrial landscape – at the South Humber Bank strategic employment site; Northern Lincolnshire Edge – to the east and north of the Scunthorpe & Bottesford Urban Area.”
- Health and Wellbeing - Policy CSC1p was amended to include greater recognition of the Active design principles in line with Sports England’s representations.
- Protection and Provision of Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities – Policy CSC3p a supporting table was amended to prevent any conflict with the proposed policy and any surplus of outdoor sports facilities. The Policy was also amended to include a criterion that proposals that result in the loss of a sport facility will be supported where there is an up to date and robust evidence base in the form of a Playing Pitch Strategy or Built Sports Facility that clearly

evidences that the specific sport facility that will be lost by the development is genuinely surplus to both current and future sporting re-equipment's.

- Commercial Horse Riding Establishments- Policy CSC7p was amended to include a section which ensures proposals do not adversely affect protected or priority species or sites of nature conservation value or archaeological or historic importance.
- Restaurants and Hot Food takeaways- Policy CSC12 was amended to include the new use classes which changed in September 2020 and to add a bullet to ensure that any new proposals incorporate measures to manage and mitigate the amount of fats, oils and grease entering the sewers.
- Promoting Sustainable Transport - Policy T1p Connecting North Lincolnshire and Policy T3p New development and Transport- the council is working closely with Highways England to supplement the evidence base required to deliver the Local Plan's strategic housing and employment sites to ensure when developments are promoted the Strategic Road Network can safely and efficiently support the plans.
- Minerals Allocations - Policy MIN6p - Concerns were raised with regard to MIN6-10 (consented site), MIN 6-17 (proposed allocation) and MIN6-18 (extent of search) in relation to the historic environment as the sites are adjacent to the Old Witheringham Roman Settlement. It was queried as to what extent the council archaeologist had been involved with regard to the MIN6-18 area of search. It was considered that the setting and related remains impacts of MIN6-17 allocation required assessment. It was questioned as to whether the Roman site extends beyond the scheduled area. Further work on this has been carried out to address these concerns through a Heritage Assessment paper which looks in detail at the allocated sites and its impact on the Historic Environment.
- The proximity of MIN6-15p, Cove Farm, Westwoodside (Extension) (Sand) (Area of Search) to the Haxey Turbary SSSI and the Hatfield Ditched SSSI was noted. It was stated that as these are both wetland sites and that a hydrological assessment should be carried out to determine the risks of mineral extraction in this area on the SSSIs.

#### **Stage 4- Regulation 19 Consultation North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020 – 2038 (Publication)**

- 5.11 The Local Plan sets a vision and a broad spatial planning policy framework for North Lincolnshire (the plan area) up to 2038, as well as the necessary development sites and infrastructure to make this happen. It will be used to make decisions on future planning applications. Once adoption it will replace both the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003 and Core Strategy/Housing & Employment Land Allocations DPD/Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan. The Publication version is the final version of the Plan before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for an independent examination in public.

5.12 This 7-week consultation was launched on 15 October 2021 and ended on 3rd December 2021. The plan, the proposed submission documents and all of the supporting evidence base, including the supporting Policies Map, Publication version of the SA Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment, were made available for technical comments on whether they met the soundness and legal tests as set out in the Planning legislation. The Publication stage was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Community Involvement and a Statement of Representation Procedure was published (for the Publication Version of the Local Plan.

5.13 The consultation responses were predominately received through the online Representation Form which was produced in line with regulation guidance. Responses were also submitted, via email or via post using the representation form. Open text submissions were also received via email and post and were accepted as responses. A number of Omission sites were also submitted as part of this consultation process. The consultation approach and techniques can be summarised as follows.

- All of the information and documents were available to view on the Local Plan website;
- Hard copies of all of the Local Plan were made available to view at the Scunthorpe Central Library.
- All contacts on the Local Plan Database received notification via email;
- The Council's Communications Team issued press releases and ran articles on social media (e.g. Facebook) which were re-posted regularly;
- A meeting was undertaken with all NLC Elected Members and Town & Parish Council meetings were attended;
- Press releases were issued to local media outlets.
- Town and parish councils were contacted with a view to them advertising the consultation and the consultation events via their newsletters, websites and social media.
- A few internal meetings were held with NLC stakeholders as well as external bodies (e.g. Education and Environment Agency);

Consultation events were held where interested parties could come and view the plan and speak to officers. These were in the following locations:

Venue	Date	Time
Baysgarth School, Barton upon Humber	Wednesday 3 November 2021	3.45pm to 7.15pm
The Pavillion, Bottesford	Wednesday 10 November 2021	2.45pm to 7pm
The Angel Suite (Ballroom), Brigg	Tuesday 9 November 2021	2.45pm to 7pm
Crowle community Hub	Thursday 4 November 2021	3pm to 7pm
Imperial Hall, Epworth	Thursday 11 November 2021	3.30pm to 7.15pm
Haxey Memorial Hall, Haxey	Monday 15 November 2021	3pm to 7pm
Town Hall Kirton in Lindsey	Tuesday 2 November 2021	3pm to 7pm
Scunthorpe Central, Scunthorpe	Monday 22 November 2021	2.45pm to 7.15pm
Ulceby Village Hall, Ulceby	Wednesday 17 November 2021	3pm to 7pm

Venue	Date	Time
Old School Hall Community Centre, Winterton	Wednesday 24 November 2021	2.45pm to 7.15pm

### **Regulation 19 Consultation North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020 – 2038 (Publication) – Main Issues raised pursuant to Regulation 20**

5.14 By the close of publication, the Council received a total of 230 respondents providing 888 individual responses. The representations will be published upon submission of the Local Plan and a summary of main issues raised during the consultation stage are shown in Appendix 4. All representations made by 5pm on the 3 December 2021 will be submitted to the Secretary of State for consideration by the Planning Inspector. Following the conclusion of the Regulation 19 consultation, the Council opted to conduct a Regulation 19 Addendum consultation to address evidence changes and a handful of focussed matters.

#### **5.15 The main issues raised from the Publication Draft were: -**

<b>Issues</b>
<p><b>Barton Link Road Technical Note &amp; A1077 Corridor Improvements Technical Note:</b> This evidence document was only published at the end of the sixth week of the public consultation. The consultation was extended by one further week to allow further consideration. This approach has received substantial objections from respondents through the consultation period and has raised concerns about the soundness and legal compliance of the Local Plan.</p> <p>Objections have been received about the link road and how it is being considered within the Local Plan. Policy T7 Safeguarding Transport Infrastructure identifies and recommends that this route is safeguarded. Need further clarification on approach and route.</p>
<p><b>North Lincolnshire 5 Year Housing Land Supply:</b> A number of representations have been received challenging the council's five-year housing land position and how this has been calculated.</p>
<p><b>Development at Haxey:</b> The proposed developed at Land at Field House (H1P-26) for 75 dwellings has received significant objection from residents and the parish council due to drainage, access and impacts on the historical landscape.</p>
<p><b>Development at Barrow upon Humber:</b> The Parish Council have objected to the amount of housing growth being proposed within the village due to limited infrastructure.</p>
<p><b>Sustainability Appraisal and Spatial Vision:</b> The SA has assessed the delivery of 8,380 homes (this was the figure identified at the preferred options) instead of 7,128 homes. This has demonstrated that 8,380 homes are sustainable and should be considered as part the Local Plan as this would support the delivery of the five-year land supply. The figure was reduced due to three sites in Barton upon Humber being removed. The major modification</p>

<b>Issues</b>
would need to be reconsulted on prior to the submission of the Local Plan being submitted to the Secretary of State.
<b>Relationship between Housing and Economic Growth:</b> Policies SS5 Overall Housing Provision, SS6 Spatial Distribution of Housing Sites and H1 Site Allocations have received a larger of number of objections due to the housing needs not considering the economic growth aspiration of the plan. Further justification is needed to demonstrate why this approach has been adopted. The current approach uses the standard method approach which does not take account of economic growth.
<b>Delivery of Lincolnshire Lakes:</b> Objections have been received regarding the scale and delivery of Lincolnshire Lakes and the impact this will have on housing supply and delivery. Several representations have identified that affordable housing needs will not be met due to viability issues.
<b>Flexibility within the Housing Supply:</b> Several representations have objected to the soundness of the plan due to limited flexibility in the housing supply. It has been recommended that the council allocate more housing sites within the plan to provide additional flexibility across the plan period.
<b>Settlement Hierarchy:</b> Concerns raised regarding the spatial distribution of housing sites specifically that there is no justification regarding the change within the evidence base including the SA.
<b>Inclusion of Windfall Allowance:</b> There is no policy within the emerging Plan that would consider any potential windfall development opportunities which may arise. Comments state the Plan is not effective in its ability to main a sufficient and adequate supply of new homes.
<b>Sandtoft Logistics Site (EC1-5):</b> Support for the site being allocated for employment uses. In addition, they would like to see the site being included as strategic allocation within the plan. They are also seeking a B2 (general industrial uses) for the site.
<b>Development Limits:</b> Need to be more flexible to provide further windfall and infill development opportunities to support five-year land supply across the plan period.
<b>Development in Epworth:</b> concerns regarding limited development opportunities in Epworth due to the historic landscape designation being too restricted. The town is sustainable and can accommodate more housing growth. However there has also been objections to the proposed housing site being considered within the historic landscape area.
<b>Former South Leys Schools:</b> Objections to the allocation due to impact it would have on the existing dance school.
<b>Sustainability Appraisal:</b> Objections to the SA due to alternatives land use allocations not being considered and rejections of alternatives have not been included within the appraisal.
<b>Severn Trent:</b> Support the plan however have suggested several sites should be included within the first 10 years of the plan due to limited capacity within their network.
<b>Affordable Housing Delivery:</b> Objections to the policy not providing enough opportunities to deliver the affordable housing need identified within the HENA. The policy will only deliver 10% on sites of more than 10 dwellings. These will

<b>Issues</b>
mainly be affordable home ownership due to the requirements of the NPPF. How will other tenures be delivered?
<b>Density:</b> Objection received on the methodology uses to calculate density from gross to net. New guidance has been suggested to be considered (RICS Measurement of Land for Development and Planning Purposes (1st edition 2021). Using this RICS guidance).
<b>Older people accommodations:</b> Further allocations for older people should be allocated to support the aging population or more flexibility to be included within the policy including the use of rural exception sites for older people.
<b>Brigg Link Road:</b> Objections to the requirement for the developer to pay a financial contribution for the Brigg Link Road if the developer has delivered part of the link road on their site. Concerns also raised regarding deliverability of all the Brigg sites as these are current allocations that have not been delivered through the current adopted plan.
<b>Plan Wide Viability Appraisal:</b> Objections to the plan wide viability appraisal not including a typology for older people/ specialist housing. These schemes usually cost more than an open market build and a nil contribution to affordable housing should be included within the policy due to development viability.
<b>Mineral Extraction (RD1):</b> Does not support energy mineral extraction in the open countryside. This is contrary to the NPPF and the Minerals PPG which states that mineral can only be worked where they are found.
<b>Area of special historic landscape area:</b> Objection to the area being too large and restricted and is stopping development taking place in sustainable locations. However, objections have also been received from Historic England regarding development being proposed within designated area.
<b>Mineral's extraction:</b> Objection received from Lincolnshire County Council regarding mineral supply and data for the plan period not being achieved. NLC do not have enough sites to meet the existing and projected supply and demand up to 2038. This is contrary to the NPPF.
<b>HRA:</b> Issues raised regarding the HRA due to insufficient detail being provided on the South Humber Bank strategic employment site on mitigation measures.

#### **Stage 4 – Publication Draft Local Plan (Regulation 19) (October to December 2021) – How were the Issues Raised taken into account?**

- 5.16 The Publication Version of the Local Plan was the preferred strategy, and the plan that it is intended to submit to the Planning Inspectorate for examination. However, in response to a handful of representations made during the consultation a focussed number of changes were proposed to the Local Plan therefore a further round of consultation was carried out in the Publication Addendum

#### **Stage 5- Regulation 19 Consultation North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020 – 2038 (Publication Draft Addendum)**

- 5.17 As previously stated, the Publication Version of the Local Plan was the preferred strategy, and the plan that it is intended to submit to the Planning Inspectorate for examination. However, in response to a handful of representations made during the consultation a focussed number of changes are proposed to the Local Plan. To ensure the proposed changes to the Local Plan are fully considered by the Inspector as part of the submission plan, a Regulation 19 Consultation took place on the Publication Version Addendum of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020-2038 alongside the

updated policies map, updated proposed submission documents and associated evidence base. This consultation gave the community and stakeholders an opportunity to comment on the proposed modifications only. Appendix 8 of this summarises the proposed changes.

- 5.18 This 6-week consultation was launched on 30th May 2022 and ended on 11th July 2022. Consultation included the addendum plan, the proposed submission documents and some of the supporting evidence base, including the supporting Policies Map which had proposed changes to them:- Revised Local Plan 2020-2038 Key addendum, Revised 05 - Barnetby le Wold Inset Map, Revised 07- Barton upon Humber Inset Map and New 07a - Barton Upon Humber Proposed Link Road Map. All representations made during the consultation periods for the Regulation 19 Publication Draft Local Plan and the Regulation 19 Publication Draft Addendum Local Plan will be submitted, alongside the Local Plan, to the Secretary of State.
- 5.19 The Publication addendum version of the SA Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment, were made available for technical comments on whether they met the soundness and legal tests as set out in the Planning legislation. The Publication addendum stage was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Community Involvement and a Statement of Representation Procedure was published (for the Publication Version of the Local Plan).
- 5.20 The consultation responses were predominately received through the online Representation Form which was produced in line with regulation guidance. Responses were also submitted, via email or via post using the representation form. Open text submissions were also received via email and post and were accepted as responses. A number of comments which did not relate to the proposed changes were also submitted as part of this consultation process. These have been logged on a separate database to those comments which did relate to proposed changes therefore it will be up to the Inspector if they wish to consider these or not.
- 5.21 -All of the information and documents were available to view on the Local Plan website;
- Hard copies of all of the Local Plan were made available to view at the Scunthorpe Central Library;
  - All contacts on the Local Plan Database and those who had commented on the Publication Draft stage received notification via email;
  - The Council's Communications Team issued press releases and ran articles on social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) which were re-posted regularly;
  - Press releases were issued to local media outlets.
  - Statutory consultees including Town and parish councils were contacted
  - A few internal meetings were held with NLC stakeholders as well as external bodies (e.g. Historic England and Environment Agency);
- 5.22 Due to the nature of the consultation covering proposed specific changes one consultation event was held in Barton upon Humber as this was an area which was most affected by some of the proposed changes. This event was held on Monday 20th

June 2022 in the School Hall, Baysgarth School, Barton Upon Humber, DN18 6AE 4pm to 7.15pm to allow local people and others to come along to give their views.

**Regulation 19 Consultation North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2020 – 2038  
(Publication Draft Addendum)**

- 5.23 By the close of publication draft addendum consultation, the Council received a total of 49 respondents providing 105 individual responses on the proposed addendum changes. The representations and a summary of main issues raised during the consultation stage have been published upon submission of the Local Plan on the Evidence page at Statement of Consultation [Appendix 5](#). All representations made during the consultation periods for the Regulation 19 Publication Draft Local Plan and the Regulation 19 Publication Draft Addendum Local Plan will be submitted, alongside the Local Plan, to the Secretary of State.
- 5.24 Some of the main comments raised were:-
- An objection was raised to paragraph 2.4, as the list of investment projects anticipated during the local plan period, does not include the V Net Zero Pipeline Scheme.
  - An objection was made to some development in areas including Barton upon Humber and Broughton on the grounds that these will have a negative impact on the natural environment.
  - Highways England requested confirmation of an accurate number of dwellings to be delivered over the period of the local plan, as some discrepancies exist between the figure contained in paragraph 5.8 (7,937) and that contained in chapter 3 (7128). Additionally, they requested a list of all allocations with up-to-date information on the quantum for development at each site.
  - An objection was made to Policy SS7, based on the importance of the site of historic importance. It was suggested that the Lincolnshire Lakes Development offers opportunities for a better understanding of North Lincolnshire's dynamic wet / dry landscapes. As such Historic England propose that a staged process of archaeological investigation based upon deposit modelling is essential to the effective management of archaeological risks given the complex character of buried landscapes below the flat modern ground surface.
  - Historic England welcomed the addition of the following criteria in Policy H1P-20: "including protecting and enhancing the important approach views of the tower of the Grade 1 church of the Holy Trinity". Additionally, they also welcomed in Policy H1P-23 the addition of the following criteria: "including the retention and sympathetic reuse of the pair of cottages on the site, which are non-designated heritage assets".
  - Barnetby Parish Council are supportive of the amendment to remove EC1-7 as they felt that the site is unsuitable for the purposes of any development. The Parish Council, in consultation with residents, would support the removal of the site from the Local Plan, and not used for any other future development. Furthermore, the Parish Council argue that the site is not suitable for employment in the interest of traffic safety and it is important that the area remains free flowing for traffic when accidents occur on the M180.

- One objection to the policy was made on the basis that site reference EC1-7 should be reinstated as an allocated employment site. A further objection was made to the amendment contained in this policy as it was felt that it was not effective, as the required infrastructure necessary to support the haulage industry may not be delivered over the plan period given the deletion of Site Reference EC1-7. It was intimated that it is imperative that the Local Plan can support the provision of development that meets the changing need of the freight and logistics sector, and as such the reinstatement of Site Reference EC1-7 as an Allocated Employment Site (specifically for a service station and lorry park) is critical to achieving this.
- An objection was raised to the proposed change to Policy CSC2 Health Care Provision regarding the reduction in the "cut in" point from 11 or more dwellings to 10 or more and by increasing S.106 contributions by £56 per dwelling, as it was felt that this is an additional cost which will be passed on to the purchasers of dwellings. It was argued that there was no evidence to justify this increase.
- Lincolnshire County Council support the chapter, confirming that the updated evidence and policies set out an appropriate and sound approach to the provision of Minerals for the duration of the plan period.
- Main comments were in relation to the Barton Link Road and its proposed route and the need to address the impact of increased traffic from Wren Kitchens. Queries regarding the funding of the road was also raised.
- Areas of High landscape Value were also raised and how the proposed road would impact on the proposed AONB area extension.
- Significant comments were received on this paragraph as part of the Addendum Consultation Further objection was made to the amendment contained in Paragraph 14.47 as it was believed that there is no objectively assessed need for the road and that due to this, inappropriate development in the countryside would result. Furthermore, there was an objection made on the assertion in paragraph 14.47 that Barton Upon Humber can only accommodate an additional 583 dwellings prior to any link road being implemented and made operational.
- Concern was raised with the proposed link road due to the effects on the area round the proposed upgrading of Caister Road. Furthermore, it was felt that the hamlet of Deepdale is likely to dramatically affected during the upgrade works. There was also concern that there is no guarantee that HGVs would be forced to use the relief road, and would still continue to travel through the centre of Barton Upon Humber. Concern was also raised regarding the proposed route and its impact on the proposed extension to the AONB.
- The main comments raised, that were related to Evidence Base Barton Link Road and Technical Note, included:
- The objection to this policy was made on the basis that the respondent did not feel that the policy had been positively prepared as the evidence used was not proportionate to the outcome of the policy. The respondent argued that despite the Council highlighting a range of documents that had been used to inform the 'BARTON LINK ROAD TECHNICAL NOTE #2 (25/03/2022)', a significant number of those were not available as part of the Council's evidence base. Furthermore, it was felt that there had not been sufficient consultation with the public on the proposed link road. As such it was suggested that the lack of proper process undermines the integrity of the Barton Link Road policy, and a suggested action was to publish all referenced documents for a full consultation in accordance with the local plan regulations. Accordingly, these documents should be subject to a separate 6-week consultation.

- Natural England has concerns over the Habitats Regulations Assessment based on the following issues: The approach to functionally linked land / urbanisation, recreational disturbance and emissions / air quality.

5.25 19 comments from 13 individuals or organisations sent comments which did not relate to any of the proposed changes. As stated, these have been logged separately for the Inspector to decide if they can be considered.

## **Appendices**

The Appendices set out the requirements of Regulation 22(1)(c)(i) to (iv).

The Council has undertaken five rounds of consultation under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) since its decision to commence work on a new local plan in 2017. These consultations have been documented in the main body of this report, including the dates and brief summary of the scope and content of each stage. In brief these are considered as being:

- Stage 1 – Initial Consultation Local Plan (Regulation 18) (+SA & HRA)
- Stage 2 – Issues & Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (+SA & HRA)
- Stage 3 – Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18) (+SA & HRA)
- Stage 4- Publication Draft (Regulation 19) (+SA & HRA)
- Stage 5 Publication Draft Addendum (Regulation 19) (+SA & HRA)

The Appendices clarifies which bodies and persons were invited to make representations, who responded and examples of how that was undertaken.

The main body of the report also summarises the number of responses received and highlights some of the pertinent comments. A precis of the main issues raised is contained. This includes the response of the Council indicating how such comments were taken into account in the next stage of Plan preparation.

### **Appendix 1 - Stage 1 – Initial Consultation Local Plan (Regulation 18)**

Copy of consultation letter and email  
 Copy of press release  
 Copy of Facebook advert  
 Copy of website page  
 Consultation Summaries  
 List of Respondents & Agents

### **Appendix 2 – Issues & Options Local Plan (Regulation 18)**

Copy of consultation email and letter

Copy of press release  
Copy of website page  
Issues and Options Consultation  
Summaries  
List of Respondents

### **Appendix 3 – Preferred Options Local Plan (Regulation 18)**

Copy of consultation email and letter  
Copy of press release  
Copy of website page  
Summary of Responses from Preferred Options Consultation  
List of Respondents and Agents

### **Appendix 4 – Publication Local Plan 2020 – 2038 (Regulation 19)**

List of Consultees  
Copy of consultation email and letter  
Copy of press release  
Copy of website page  
Summary of Responses from Publication Draft (Reg19) Consultation  
List of respondents and Agents

### **Appendix 5 - North Lincolnshire Local Plan – Publication Draft Addendum Consultation (Regulation 19)**

List of consultees  
Copy of consultation letter and email  
Copy of press release  
Copy of website page  
Consultation Summaries  
List of Respondents and Agents