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## A SPATIAL VISION FOR NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

### Introduction

- 4.1 At the heart of the Local Development Framework and the Core Strategy, is the spatial vision for North Lincolnshire. This vision and associated spatial objectives aim to address the issues that face the area and provide a framework for the policies that will guide development in North Lincolnshire over the next 15 years up to 2026.

### The Spatial Vision

- 4.2 The agreed spatial vision for the future development of North Lincolnshire is:

*“By 2026, North Lincolnshire will be the north of England’s Global Gateway. It will have a strong economy, thriving towns and villages, a protected world class environment and will be a place where people are proud to live”*

- 4.3 The Core Strategy’s spatial vision provides the direction needed to deliver the spatial aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy and the four shared ambitions up to 2026, which has been highlighted in chapter 3. The vision also takes into account the spatial aspects of other plans, strategies and programmes at regional, sub-regional and local level that deal with urban renaissance, housing, regeneration, economic development, the protection and enhancement of a world class environment including climate change, transport, investment, health, culture and safety, amongst other matters

### Spatial Objectives

- 4.4 The 10 spatial objectives set out below show how the spatial vision will be delivered. Many of these objectives are identified as priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy or reflect other key strategies such as the Regional Spatial Strategy.

#### **Spatial Objective 1: An Area Wide Renaissance**

- 4.5 **To deliver area wide renaissance in North Lincolnshire which creates a step change in the area’s role both regionally and nationally and creates a high quality of life for the area’s residents, with Scunthorpe providing the sub-regional focus for development supported by the market towns of Barton upon Humber, Brigg, Crowle, Epworth, Kirton in Lindsey and Winterton.**

- 4.6 The delivery of area wide renaissance is a key priority for the Sustainable Community Strategy to create an area that is thriving. The Local Development Framework will provide the planning policy framework for the delivery of area renaissance programmes in North Lincolnshire. In Scunthorpe major transformational projects including a new town centre, The Pods sporting and leisure facility, Baths Hall and the regeneration of Doncaster Road, and the Lincolnshire Lakes will further strengthen its role as a sub-regional town and provide key economic drivers for North Lincolnshire as a whole. The market towns and rural areas will also be transformed through improvements to the environment in ways that reflect the diverse heritage of the area. It will also help to change perceptions of North Lincolnshire.
- 4.7 The renaissance will help to improve the quality of life for North Lincolnshire's people by ensuring that they have access to housing, employment, transport, services, open space and other everyday facilities, all within a high quality environment. This programme of positive change will be delivered by working closely with key stakeholders and the local community.

### **Spatial Objective 2: Delivering the Global Gateway**

- 4.8 **To secure North Lincolnshire's major growth potential in the Yorkshire and the Humber region based on the benefits of the unique opportunities provided by the South Humber Bank ports, Humberside Airport, Doncaster Robin Hood Airport and the area's transport network.**
- 4.9 The South Humber Bank ports of Grimsby and Immingham, together with the international airports of Humberside and Doncaster Robin Hood, are recognised in the Northern Way Growth Strategy and the Regional Spatial Strategy as key economic drivers not only in North Lincolnshire but for the Yorkshire and Humber region and the United Kingdom. Their growth and development will be supported to provide an ideal location for industrial growth and secure up to 10,000 high quality jobs, which collectively will maintain and strengthen the area's economy. Key to this will be ensuring that appropriate infrastructure and investment is put in place to support their development as well as secure improved access to these key locations.
- 4.10 This will involve working with partners including neighbouring North East Lincolnshire Council, port operators, the Highways Agency, the airport operators, Network Rail, freight operators, transport operators, existing businesses and others to ensure that the appropriate road, rail and water infrastructure needed to maximise the opportunities is delivered. Work with investors and existing businesses located on the South Humber Bank will also continue to ensure that the development of the site is supported by the private sector.

### **Spatial Objective 3: Delivering Better Homes**

- 4.11 **To provide a sufficient quantity and range of good quality homes that are well designed, affordable, sustainable, located close to everyday services and meet the needs of North Lincolnshire's people.**
- 4.12 The provision of housing is a central issue for the Local Development Framework to deliver major change in North Lincolnshire. Future supply of housing will reflect the requirements set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy and will address the challenges of a growing population, increasing number of households and the need to support economic growth.

- 4.13 This will be achieved by prioritising locations for new housing developments that best contribute to creating sustainable, balanced communities and supporting the area's transformation. In support of this an appropriate mix, type and tenure of housing in a range of locations, including affordable and special housing needs will be provided across North Lincolnshire. Where appropriate, the use of previously developed land and vacant or underused buildings will be encouraged. All new housing developments should contribute to the creation of quality living environments.
- 4.14 To ensure that everyone has access to a place to live, a range of appropriate, developable sites for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation will be provided.
- 4.15 In delivering this objective, the council will work closely with local communities, developers, landowners and social housing providers.

#### **Spatial Objective 4: Creating Greater Economic Success**

- 4.16 **To create a strong, competitive and diverse economy by encouraging business growth and employment opportunities supported by the delivery of strategic employment sites and improvement of the range and level of skills by developing a higher education sector.**
- 4.17 This will be delivered through the identification of key strategic locations for economic development and a robust framework that supports growth. Among the key locations that will be identified are the South Humber Bank, Humberside Airport, the Scunthorpe Urban Area (including the town centre) and Sandtoft Industrial Estate. These locations will be developed in partnership with the private sector and developers, port and airport operators, Yorkshire Forward, the Highways Agency and others to ensure that these locations can be accessed and the development potential achieved.
- 4.18 A strong rural economy is also vital to the future of North Lincolnshire; therefore the sustainable diversification of the rural economy will be supported to ensure that rural areas remains vibrant. North Lincolnshire will be promoted as a quality visitor and sustainable tourism destination by taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the area's high quality environment, including our landscapes and countryside, culture and history.
- 4.19 Developing skills is a key priority for the Sustainable Community Strategy to help build an adaptable and highly skilled workforce to meet the area's future economic challenges and meet the needs of business. As part of this agenda the development of a higher education sector in North Lincolnshire will be supported. This will also deliver a key component of the Scunthorpe urban renaissance programme.

#### **Spatial Objective 5: Creating Thriving Towns and Villages**

- 4.20 **To develop Scunthorpe town centre as a strong sub-regional shopping, leisure and cultural focus for North Lincolnshire, and support and develop thriving service centres in our market towns and improve key rural services in our villages.**
- 4.21 As part of the urban renaissance programme, Scunthorpe town centre will see a number of changes over the coming years to reinforce its role as the main centre for North Lincolnshire. The development of new retail, market and cultural quarters will work in harmony to enhance the town's role as a regional centre. The Local Development Framework will help deliver a policy framework that supports this and will identify key sites in the town centre area for future development.

- 4.22 The role of North Lincolnshire's six market towns – Barton upon Humber, Brigg, Crowle, Epworth, Kirton in Lindsey and Winterton - as key service centres will be supported by a policy framework that encourages the maintenance and enhancement of services in the towns to ensure that the needs of the surrounding communities are met. Opportunities for rural economic diversification in the area's rural communities will also be supported.

### **Spatial Objective 6: Protecting and Enhancing The World Class Environment**

- 4.23 **To conserve and enhance our world class environments of the Humber Estuary and Crowle Moors and improve our other natural, historic and built landscapes as well as guiding changes in a way which reduces and takes proper account of environmental impact, climate change and sea level rise.**
- 4.24 North Lincolnshire's natural, built and historic environment makes the area very attractive as a place to live, work, visit and invest. The Local Development Framework will create a policy framework that safeguards, enhances, and promotes North Lincolnshire's internationally, nationally and locally recognised areas for nature conservation importance and biodiversity, including the Humber Estuary and Crowle Moors. The framework will pay particular regard to the maintenance, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats and species as well as the creation of new habitats and the development of a green infrastructure network.
- 4.25 The Framework will also support the need to tackle climate change and its effects by encouraging sustainable development. New development will be safe from flooding and the risks of flooding to existing development will be reduced and managed in a sustainable manner consistent with other spatial planning objectives.
- 4.26 The Framework will also work towards ensuring that the best of North Lincolnshire's built environment and townscapes are protected and enhanced to maintain the local scene and distinctiveness. Within this it will ensure the area's historic environment and assets are conserved, protected, enhanced and managed appropriately and to be better utilised to help deliver other objectives of the strategy.

### **Spatial Objective 7: Efficient Use and Management of Resources**

- 4.27 **To ensure the efficient use of resources, maximising recycling of minerals and waste products, minimising pollution, maintaining and improving air, soil and water quality, and employing sustainable building practices in new development.**
- 4.28 The Local Development Framework will achieve this by providing a policy framework that supports the reduction in the consumption of non-renewable resources. This includes fossil fuels, land, soil and minerals. As part of this it will be important to ensure that the use of suitable previously developed land is maximised, where possible. The framework will also support measures to minimise pollution and improve air, soil and water quality, and ensure that adequate infrastructure is available to serve new development. It will also promote the use of renewable energy and more energy efficient developments.
- 4.29 The Framework will identify mechanisms for reducing the level of waste produced and the amount of waste being sent to landfill in North Lincolnshire from all sources. Where appropriate sites for new waste facilities to meet the waste management targets and apportionments identified in the RSS will need to be identified. Detailed policies regarding waste matters will be included in a Minerals & Waste DPD.

### **Spatial Objective 8: Promoting Community Health and Well Being**

- 4.30 **To promote an improvement in the health and well being of North Lincolnshire's people by maintaining and providing quality open spaces, play and sports facilities, better access to the countryside and improved health facilities.**
- 4.31 Community well being and improving the health of North Lincolnshire's residents is an important priority for the Sustainable Community Strategy and the local community. Therefore, the Local Development Framework will set a planning policy framework that encourages the protection and improvement of sport, play and recreation facilities as well as key open spaces. It will also support the delivery of new facilities that will be required as a result of any growth in North Lincolnshire or as a result of the renaissance programmes. This will involve working with developers, other council services and organisations like Sport England to identify the level of provision needed.
- 4.32 In respect of health, the Local Development Framework will set a framework for the delivery of high quality health facilities. This will involve working closely with NHS North Lincolnshire as well as the Northern Lincolnshire & Goole Hospitals NHS Trust to identify future requirements for new/enhanced facilities.

### **Spatial Objective 9: Connecting North Lincolnshire**

- 4.33 **To improve North Lincolnshire's transport network to ensure that the area's major economic development opportunities are well served and that local residents have high quality access to key services and facilities without increasing the need to travel.**
- 4.34 Poor access to North Lincolnshire's major development opportunities is a barrier to growth. The successful delivery of the Council's priorities and those of other key partners will depend on investment in the transport network and infrastructure. The Council will work closely with developers, the Highways Agency, transport providers and operators and neighbouring local authorities by focusing on:
- Improving the strategic highway network, particularly the M180/A180/A160 corridor and the A15
  - Improving the main rail links in North Lincolnshire, particularly the South Humber Main Line
  - Improving surface access to Humberside Airport, especially by public transport
  - Ensuring the development of a high quality public transport network.

### **Spatial Objective 10: Creating A Quality Environment**

- 4.35 **To transform North Lincolnshire's image by ensuring that all new development exhibits a high standard of design and architectural quality that respects and enhances the distinctive landscapes and townscapes of North Lincolnshire's towns and villages.**
- 4.36 The design of new development will contribute to the future image and perception change of North Lincolnshire. It should make the best of its surroundings, be accessible to all sections of the community, contribute to an enhanced feeling of safety and security, maximise resource efficiency, minimise pollution and waste. Poor quality design will not be acceptable.